

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Talia Rivera

Date:06/13/21

DAS Assignment # 2 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Lorri Carol Morales

License number of the defendant: 734594

Date action was taken against the license: 10/25/18

Type of action taken against the license: Suspend/Probate

Lorri Carol Morales's nursing license was suspended/probated after many errors while caring for patients. On May 22, 2008, Morales documented false vital signs to the patient's record. This could have potentially harmed the patient in the future because accurate vital signs were not taken. The respondent, Lorri, states she had misplaced the index card of written vital signs of the patient. She stated the patient would not keep the automatic blood pressure cuff on and had to take vitals manually. On that same day, Lorri had a drastically unsafe infusion rate of dopamine that was above the maximum dose recommended. The patient soon complained of chest pain, had an elevated blood pressure, and became diaphoretic. On August 20, 2008, working in a different facility, Morales did not make complete nursing home visits and falsely documented those as completed nursing home visits. She also submitted timecards for her hours indicating she visited the patients. On September 8, 2008 through September 24, 2008, at the same facility, Lorri, again, documented inaccurate events such as visiting patients, which she did not do.

Many measures could have taken place to prevent the action taken against the license. The first measure would have been to take accurate vital signs one last time instead of documenting false vital signs. Before leaving the room after starting the infusion, Lorri could have prevented harm to the patient by checking the pump rate and making sure it was infusing at the right rate. Lastly, Lorri Morales could have visited the patients in the nursing home instead of falsely documenting. The patients from the nursing home could have been harmed due to the careless nurse not visiting and checking up on them.

If a prudent nurse sees the vital signs are inaccurate, the nurse will retake the vital signs and document at the patient's bedside or make sure the correct information is put into the patient's chart. After finding a patient who has been on a dangerously high infusion rate of dopamine, a prudent nurse would stop the infusion and assess the patient. A prudent nurse would check the patient's vital signs and listen to the patient's heart sounds due to the chest pains. The prudent nurse would then find who was last liable for the patient and the life-threatening infusion. Visiting the patients at the nursing home, assessing them, and making sure the patients are comfortable is what a prudent nurse would do to prevent any harm. These conflicts and events would be taken to the charge nurse and to higher authority to ensure the original nurse responsible for these patients receives the consequences for these errors.