

Covenant School of Nursing  
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment  
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Addison Fassauer

Date: 05/15/2021

DAS Assignment # 3

Name of the defendant: Tammy Lee Chavis

License number of the defendant: RN 578480

Date action was taken against the license: 09/10/2013

Type of action taken against the license: Revoked

*Use the space below to describe the events which led to action taken against the license. If multiple charges were in play, be sure and cite them, e.g. drug diversion, HIPAA violation, abandonment, forfeiture on student loans, etc.*

The first charge that was put into action was on or before March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Tammy Chavis was practicing at Carondelet St. Joseph Hospital, Tucson, Arizona. Tammy administered Methotrexate to a patient who had a PH level in urine that was lower than 5. A PH level cannot be lower than a 7 when administering Methotrexate. This is a safety administering standard for this medication. In Tammy Chavis EMAR, she documented she gave 12,000 mg of this medication. This is 10 times greater than the dosage that the physician ordered. Within 3 days of receiving the medication the patient died from toxicity.

The Second charge that was put into action was on or before August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Tammy Chavis provided false information to the Texas Board of Nursing Online Renewal Document Registered Nurse. She declared Texas as her home state. She was working full time at Carondelet St. Joseph Hospital, Tucson, Arizona. This resulted into a violation of Nurse Licensure compact rules.

The Third charge that was put into action was on or before August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009 through January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Tammy Chavis violated the Nurse Licensure compact rules by failing to apply for a license in the State of Arizona despite Texas no longer being her state of residence. She was working as a Director of Nurses in Arizona at Manor care and was permanently employed at Carondelet St. Joseph Hospital. These occupations are both located in Tucson, Arizona. During this time, Tammy kept renewing her license in Texas instead of applying for a license in the state of Arizona.

*Use the space below to provide a description of measures you think could have prevented any action being taken against the license and/or would have prevented harm to the patient, if harm occurred.*

The first charge was a huge medication error. She should have used her checks for medication administration. This patient was put into harm's way which cost them their life.

The second and third charge are pretty similar in action. Tammy should have applied for a new license in Arizona instead of performing illegal actions for years. She would still be nurse till this day if she simply performed the simple task of applying to get a license in Arizona.

*Use the space below to describe what action you think a prudent nurse would take as the first to person to discover the event described, in other words, you are the one who discovers the patient has been harmed by the nurse or you have discovered the impairment or criminal activity cited in the disciplinary action.*

As a nurse you are unable to see everything. These actions by Tammy were completely avoidable. She could have followed the seven rights of medication administration. She also could of check on her patient and be able to see the warning signs of toxicity. If I was the next nurse on the shift and was able to see the patient EMAR, I would immediately call the physician and tell the charge nurse. 12,000 mg is an insane amount for any medication.

Personally, I am not sure how to discover Tammy Chavis actions about her license.