

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Emily Autry

Date: 5/18/21

DAS Assignment # 3 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Linda Morris

License number of the defendant: 590600

Date action was taken against the license: 6/29/2011

Type of action taken against the license: Voluntary Surrender

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.

Linda Morris was charged for taking Hydrocodone from the hospital and/or her patients and abusing them while working as a Registered Nurse. Not only did Linda admit to taking Hydrocodone, but she also said that she took about 10 pills within a 6-hour period. She put all of her patients in a huge amount of danger by working under the influence of drugs. The hydrocodone affected her ability to work because she was lightheaded and feeling dizzy during that time. Because of this, Morris voluntarily surrendered her license to be a Registered Nurse and now must remain sober for 12 months in order to get it back.

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.

Linda could have easily prevented this by not taking drugs from the hospital and breaking the code of being a nurse. She could have also prevented this if she would have gotten help from a rehab facility sooner. As a nurse you know what is right and wrong, therefore, she knew she can not do something like that and not expect any consequences. I am glad she voluntarily surrendered her license and is getting help for her drug addiction, but it does not change the fact that she put patients at risk. In my opinion she was very lucky she did not hurt any of the patients while working under the influence.

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.

If I were a nurse that was working with Linda and I noticed that she was stealing medication from the hospital, I would tell the charge nurse and let them handle it from there. If I knew that she was at work taking care of patients while being on drugs, I would report her immediately. I could not sit back and watch her ruin her life

and potentially her patients' lives. Also, if the hospital were to find out that I knew about what Linda had been doing and did not report it, I would most likely lose my license as well.