

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: **Gabrielle Rodriguez** Date: **07/27/2021** DAS Assignment # 1 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: **Sharon Marie Barstow** License number of the defendant: **RN 681331**

Date action was taken against the license: **08/14/2012**

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.

While working at Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital, Sharon Barstow medicated over 10+ patients with their PRN medication Tylenol PM that contained Benadryl, to sedate them during her shifts. Her crime took place over a 21- day period starting on August 31st, 2011 through September 20th, 2011. During one of her shifts, Barstow was persistent with one of her patients to take Tylenol PM even after the patient refused the medication multiple times. This act is considered chemically restraining patients. Barstow also failed to account for medications. On September 10th, Barstow removed Percocet on two occasions for a patient. At 2110, the patient refused Percocet and also refused the medication at 0612 the following morning. Barstow not only failed to administer the medication, but she also did not return the medication to waste it. On September 14th, Barstow removed a patient's ordered dose of Chlordiazepoxide during two separate occasions at 0916 and 0942 and also failed to account for the medication since each dose was never administered or wasted properly. The registered nurse also committed wrongful practice such as improper use of medical supplies, patient records, improper/incomplete documentation, committing acts that adversely affect patients physical or

psychosocial welfare. These actions lead to the Registered Nurse's license to be suspended and later on revoked.

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.

I believe the only measures that could have prevented the actions taken by the registered nurse multiple times would be a mandatory daily report from patients. If these patients had the option to give a daily report of their care and nurse each shift, it would be obvious that Barstow's patients were always sleeping. She also may have refrained from chemically restraining her patients since they need to be alert and awake to provide a report. Further restrictions on medications being accessed by nurses, Barstow was able to access the same medication order twice within a 30 minute or less time frame without any intervention from another nurse's approval.

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 a prudent nurse were to discover the events that Sharon Barstow were taking against her patients' wishes, it is her job to report the activity to the next chain of command and continue to follow the chain of command until actions are taken to end harm against the patients. If the nurse also walked into the patient's room while Barstow was persistently trying to medicate the patient against their wishes, the prudent nurse would need to immediately intervene to protect the patient and report Barstow.