

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Emanuel Cabrera

Date: 7/29/2021

DAS Assignment # 2 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Stephen L. Atherton

License number of the defendant: 684562

Date action was taken against the license: 9/10/2019

Type of action taken against the license: Probated Suspension

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 nurse was in an impaired state, engaged in use of Morphine and Marijuana, misappropriated Meperidine, withdrew excess Meperidine or without a physician's order, was observed asleep while on duty, didn't follow the procedure for wastage of Demerol, withdrew excess Demerol or without a physician's order, failed to administer medication in a timely manner, misappropriated Demerol.

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.

This nurse had many different violations and could have done a better job at each point. The major measure the nurse could have taken was to not get involved in the use of drugs. Most of the violations stemmed from dependency on drugs and mishandling. In nursing you must remain vigilant in your role and avoid downfalls like drug use. This type of impairment can only harm patients. It is also a big problem given that nurses are constantly working with medications.

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.

A prudent nurse would immediately report these actions to the appropriate parties. This can be extremely detrimental in the job of a nurse. Not only will it harm your ability to do your job, but it can lead to affecting the actual health of patients. If you begin to take medication that was supposed to go to a patient, it can have adverse effects or create non-effective treatment. Giving the patient too much or too little can lead to harm of a patient and possibly even death. That is why it is important to report this conduct immediately to prevent these negative results.