

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Cristen Moreno Date: 10/10/2021 DAS Assignment # 2 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Martin Ruiz Alaniz

License number of the defendant: 676510

Date action was taken against the license: 05/13/2014

Type of action taken against the license: Reprimand with Stipulations

At the time, Martin was employed for two years and seven months at Connally Memorial Medical Center as a Registered nurse. On June 19th, 2013, Martin administered the medication Dilantin, an anticonvulsant, 1GM (IVP) intravenous push to a patient. The verbal order Martin received was for Dilantin 1000 mg IV as a loading dose. Loading doses are an initial higher dose before dropping down to a lower maintenance dose. This is usually for drugs that are eliminated from the body slowly. According to policy and procedures, Dilantin should be given at a rate to not exceed 50 mg per minute. Martin gave the large dose medication intravenously too fast, therefore causing the patient to experience sudden cardiac arrest. The patient required cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the nurse's actions caused the patient unnecessary harm.

Had the nurse checked with the physician again for the specific rate for the loading dose instead of just administering the medication, he could have avoided the error. Although he did take full responsibility for the error and harm done to the patient, when dealing with medications intravenously you have to be extra careful because studies have shown that errors increase with IV push medications compared to IV infusions.

Considering this patient experienced sudden cardiac arrest, I would perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation if I were to find them first. I would then try to help figure out what caused that to happen and when the nurse realized his error, we would report it to the charge nurse. Considering he was very cooperative and agreed that it was his fault and caused harm, I do think he would just take responsibility and that is why the action taken against his license was reprimanding with stipulations. It was an error that could have been made by anyone, I personally don't think it was deliberate.