

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Samantha Torrez

Date: 5/1/22

DAS Assignment # 1

Name of the defendant: Barbara Anastasia Algaier

License number of the defendant: 6933022

Date action was taken against the license: 2/14/2012

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.

Throughout Babara Anastasia Algaier's career as a nurse had been caught multiple times taking medications such as Fentanyl, Morphine, Hydrocodone, Lorazepan, Demerol, Dilaudid, and Propoxyphene from the Accudose Medication Dispensing System for patients but failed to document the administration of medications in the patients medical record. Algaier also had taken a drug screen that revealed Morphine to be in her system without a valid prescription. Algaier also admitted the use of narcotics she misappropriated from facilities she was assigned through an agency she had been employed at. She also misappropriated Fentanyl from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System three separate times. The use of these drugs by a Registered Nurse while on duty could impair the nurse's ability to make rationale, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgements, and decisions regarding patient care therefore putting the patient in potential danger. Based on these multiple charges the board relied on Adopted Disciplinary Guidelines for Criminal Conduct and on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Nurses with Substance abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder, for Lying and Falsification, and for Fraud, Theft and Deception.

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. Consider which universal competencies were violated

I agree with the actions that tried to help prevent Algaier's license getting revoked. Giving her chance after chance to redeem herself and her failing to do so is very heartbreaking. This is obviously someone who has a problem and is unable to keep it under control. To be surrounded by these narcotics on her day to day basis must have been difficult for her to deal with while trying to better herself. It is very easy to fall into the same bad habits especially having so much going on.

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.

Some measures I would have taken if I were the first person to discover Algaier's criminal activity I would notify my charge nurse of any and every time I saw Algaier wrongfully taking medication. I would encourage Algaier to seek help. I would have asked her what is going on in her life and be an ear to listen to and maybe try to understand what is driving to make these certain decisions. Maybe she had a stressful event happening in her life and did not know how to cope with it on her own which then spiraled into her addiction of using the narcotics. Checking in is something I would have done because you never know what someone is going through. It is also my responsibility to be my patients advocate and to protect my patients to the best of my ability.