

## Ethics #2

Were Sandy's comments wrong? If so, what was her offense?

Yes, her comments were wrong. You should never discuss patients and what had happened to them because you are breaking HIPPA laws. She also assumed that Laura was drunk and receiving something to calm her down when that was not the case, she also offended the husband.

Was she merely rude, or is there possible cause for litigation?

There is possible causing for litigation, she may have to pay a fine because she broke a HIPPA law. HIPPA is patient privacy so it should be kept between patient and healthcare workers, even if you were to tell a coworker what happened, you should never use their name.

### Ethical Analysis steps

1. The problem is that sandy assumed that Laura was drunk and assumed that she was taking medication to calm her down.
2. Some solutions would be for sandy to apologize to the family for assuming something had happened to Laura. She could do nothing at all and wait for her supervisor to say something. She could talk to her supervisor, and they could come up with a solution and see if she will be facing a fine.
3. I would say the best thing for her to do was to go to her supervisor and admit what she has done and figure out what to tell the family and if she will have to pay a fine for breaking a law.
4. I would say this solution is the best solution because she is in the wrong and the patient's husband has already filed a complaint. According to the patient care book, it says HIPPA is to protect the privacy rights of patients and that they cannot release or share the medical history unless it is written consent but that does not mean you can go and share with your friends.