

# Covenant School of Nursing

## Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

### Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Eddie Hernandez

Date: 9/1/22

DAS Assignment # 1

Name of the defendant: Mary Chavez

License number of the defendant: 724988

Date action was taken against the license: February 21, 2018

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with Stipulations and Fine

On or about Oct. 15, 2015, Nurse Chavez falsely documented an order to discontinue a Farrell bag used to ventilate feeding tube systems. This was done without physician's consent or notification. This action resulted in an inaccurate medical record that was likely to injure the patient because subsequent care givers would not have accurate and complete information to base their decisions. Nurse Chavez responded that the patient's mother was concerned because the Ferrell bag backed up. Nurse Chavez said that the mother did not want to use the Ferrell bag anymore as a result. Nurse Chavez said that she replied that she would need a doctor's order to remove the bag. She stated that she informed the EPIC nurse, called the physician, and received an order stating that it was okay to remove the bag. For her actions, Nurse Chavez was given a warning, fined, and required to complete remedial education courses in the following areas: nursing jurisprudence and ethics, nursing documentation and critical thinking skills.

In light of the fact that Nurse Chavez claims that she informed the EPIC nurse and called the physician to ask that the tube be removed, there was clearly a very big communication failure between the nurse and the physician. This is a common root cause for medical errors that can at times have disastrous consequences. Luckily in this case there was no harm done to the patient. This error also falls within the scope of a documentation failure. Nurse Chavez falsely documented that she got orders from the physician to remove the tube. This action was clearly outside the scope of professional nursing guidelines for documentation.

A prudent nurse is required to report any known incidences of false documentation. I think the first step a nurse should take it to make sure that the patient is in no immediate danger as a result of the action taken by the other nurse. The next step should be to immediately notify the charge nurse and ask for his or her assistance to notify the proper authorities.