

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Joanna Laguna

Date: 11/07/22

DAS Assignment # ____3____ (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Zucca, Amanda Fay

License number of the defendant: RN 837920

Date action was taken against the license: 14 – Jun -16

Type of action taken against the license: Enforced 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.

Charges for drug diversion. This case accuses nurse Zucca of posing as her brother to obtain prescription medications through telephone communication. The nurse used her brother's name and the M.D.s name and DEA number in order to obtain such medications as Gabapentin and Tylenol #4. This is a fraudulent act intended to divert drugs for personal use as she also admits to experiencing mental breakdowns and substance abuse.

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.

Assess self needs and seek professional help if needed. One of the big things taught in nursing school is to assess our own self-needs to make sure we are emotionally and physically healthy, especially since we work in a highly stressful environment. This does not only protect the nurse but also the patients and coworkers. To prevent harm, know one's limitations and if needed, find help from a professional that will legally prescribe ways to help better the nurse's mental situation without having to find shortcuts and illegal means. Acquisition of unprescribed medications and use of it may be detrimental to public health and safety by causing impaired nursing care.

Use the space below to describe what action you think a prudent nurse would take as the first 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.

As a prudent nurse, I would have to report this incident to the charge nurse as it is a fraudulent act, which is recognized as a criminal offense. Unfortunately, even if the knowledge of her mental status is known, it is still important to protect those involved from harm. Consequently, offers of appropriate help can be prescribed for the nurse if it is found that her mentality is factual. And if needed, as both a peer and a nurse, I would extend a hand to help if ever she needed social, emotional, or physical support.