

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: **Meghan Schmitt** Date: **11/11/2022** DAS Assignment # 3 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: **Laurie Ann Fallon** License number of the defendant: **611840**

Date action was taken against the license: **March 20, 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.

There were a few charges that led to the defendants license being revoked, including: appearing drowsy and confused and therefore attempting to administer pain medication to the wrong patient, failing to administer medications to a patient as ordered by the physician, failure to accurately document the administration of Norco and failed to waste properly under the facility's policy, and became non-compliant with a previous order (Warning with Stipulations) issued by the Texas Board of Nursing.

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.

There are a few measures that could have prevented the license from becoming revoked. First, the defendant should not work while lacking complete cognitive function, the defendant was seen drowsy and confused and almost administered the wrong medication to a patient. While working under stressful conditions, you should always make sure to check the medication at least three times, to make sure medication administration is safe and accurate. Second, the defendant should follow the physician's orders regarding treatment, a nurse should not ignore medications in the patient medical record. Third, documentation and wastage should always be done accurately and comply with hospital policy. Lastly, the defendant could have prevented action against the license, if they had followed through with the stipulations regarding their first order given by the Texas Board of Nursing.

As we can see above, there were quite a few universal competencies violated by the defendant. First, safety and security, the defendant threatened patients' wellbeing by 1) attempting to administer wrong medications and 2) not administering medications as stated in the patient medical record. The defendant did not accurately give patients their 7 rights regarding medication administration. Second, critical thinking, the defendant did not make legal, ethical, professional or evidence-based decisions when regarding medication administration to their patients. Third, documentation, the lack of accuracy regarding administration of a medication and the lack

of proper wastage, puts the nurse at risk for 1) not properly following a physician's orders and 2) not giving the patient a report that would allow other healthcare professionals to understand the patient's wellbeing and overall health accurately. Lastly, professional role performance, there was a lack of responsibility and accountability upon the defendants' actions, not only from unsafe medication administration practices, but the lack of being professional and accountable with the responsibilities towards the Texas Board of Nursing.

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.

A prudent nurse would notify a charge nurse or any administrator of a higher position to report that the defendant was not following hospital protocol or the acts and responsibilities of a nurse. This is especially true regarding questioning of: not documenting properly, not applying safe medication administration practices and failing to be coherent while working with patients. It is imperative that while we work with the lives of our general public, we always question practices that could lead to harm or death of those we are caring for.