

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Rory Foutz

Date: January 24 2023

DAS Assignment # 2

Name of the defendant: Albert, Regina Denise

License number of the defendant: 669725

Date action was taken against the license: 04/05/2018

Type of action taken against the license: Enforced Suspension

Use the space below to describe the events which led to the action(s) 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.

1. Mrs. Albert in 2014 failed to timely document a patient's Post Dialysis Assessment by 6-7 hours, creating a situation where the pt may not have received needed care.
2. On at least 2 accounts in 2016 and 2017 Mrs. Albert called in prescriptions of Zolpidem for herself using the names and license numbers of 2 separate physicians.

As a result of the first 2 violations Mrs. Albert was required to enroll in TPAPN, take a 6 hour nursing jurisprudence and ethics course, a 6-hour course in nursing documentation, and 3.6 hour course on "sharpening critical thinking". Lastly, Mrs Albert was allowed to only practice in Texas.

3. While on TPAPN Mrs. Albert tested positive for Tramadol on January 29, 2018.

As a result of the 1/29/2018 violation Mrs Albert's license to practice was suspended until she completed the TPAPN program and had been cleared as safe by TPAPN if so required. Upon completion the suspension would be stayed and she would be placed on probation.

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.

As far as I read, no harm to a pt actually occurred and I have little idea as to how to prevent drug abuse as it is a problem that plagues our society and no one has so far found a good solution. Perhaps Nurses should not have access to physician DEA numbers, perhaps nurses should be required to submit to more regular drug testing? Considering that nurses have stressful jobs, easy access to drugs, and the safety of vulnerable populations are placed in their care, regular drug testing of nurses really is not a bad or unreasonable idea in my opinion.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

Mrs. Albert failed to protect the pt from physical harm when she failed to document and if also failed in this regard if she ever presented to work under the influence of a drug.

She violated professional role when she used physician license numbers to fraudulently procure drug prescriptions.

She clearly violated the Documentation requirement.

The real problem is that one someone has a substance abuse disorder, you do not know when they will violate any or all of the competencies due to their impairment.

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.

As for the documentation error, I might just mention it to the nurse and then pay attention to see if the behavior is corrected. If not corrected, I would report to the charge nurse.

If I knew a nurse had fraudulently called in prescription drugs I would call TBON, the physicians, her employer and the police. There is no excuse or tolerance for criminal behavior.