

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Mercedes Villalovos

Date: February 3, 2023

DAS Assignment # 3 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Roger Kenneth Blackman

License number of the defendant: 606012

Date action was taken against the license: June 21, 2010

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with Stipulations

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.

Around April 24th, 2008, Blackman was employed by St Joseph Regional Health Center as a Staff Nurse. On or around this time, while Blackman was working his shift, he showed signs of confusion, diaphoresis, he attempted to remove sutures with a staple remover, he wandered from patients' rooms confused with patients medications. Blackman also went on to document patients paperwork illegibly, he tried to connect a primary line to a secondary line without a connector. With all of these symptoms, patient's families became concerned and reported Blackman ordered wrong labs for the wrong patient. Staff reported Blackman saying he'd be okay if he didn't have to think so fast. It later came to light that Blackman had taken Morphine from the medication dispensing system and failed to document he had taken out that medication for a his patient, he then took the syringe of morphine into another patient's room where he left the syringe on top of the counter filled with 1/2ml. Blackman was then removed from his shift, and it was later discovered that staff found out he had insomnia and he had been prescribed Ambien. The night prior to Blackman's shift, he had trouble sleeping and took his prescribed Ambien at bedtime and without realizing he went on to take another dose which led him to show signs and symptoms of odd behaviors during his shift. After the incident, Blackman was very apologetic and has since then only taken his prescription in the presence of his wife to make sure he has his appropriate dose.

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.

I believe Blackman could have been more cautious when taking his prescribed medication. He could have gotten a pill organizer/ planner to help assist with taking his appropriate dose. Staff members could have also been more aware of Blackmans odd behaviors and could have checked on him or reported him for further evaluation.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

-Safety and Security: ID patient

Blackman failed to identify patients when attempting to administer morphine.

-Safety and Security: Promote Trust and Respect

Due to Blackmans strange behavior, he failed to provide trust for his patient's family.

-Critical Thinking: Decision Making

While Blackman was attempting to remove sutures, he thought it would be appropriate to remove sutures with a staple remover.

-Documentation: eMAR Medication Scan

Blackman failed to document he had taken out morphine for a patient.

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 a prudent nurse, I would have intervened and made sure Blackman was capable of caring for his patients. I would have then reported his strange behavior to the charge nurse so he/she could have taken further action and assess Blackman. Lastly, I would have taken the time to care for Blackman's patients.