

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Michael Tejada
____3____ (1-4)

Date: 2/3/2023

DAS Assignment #

Name of the defendant: Mary Jessica Mertins
617852

License number of the defendant:

Date action was taken against the license: 4/26/12

Type of action taken against the license: Voluntary Surrender

Mary was observed exhibiting impaired behavior that showed she had slurred speech, difficulty walking and difficulty understanding. She showed up back to work late from lunch and while she was out she had hit a curb. The big thing that was noted was the fact that the Defendant was observed ordering the wrong meds for patients. This clarifies why she was seen exhibiting these behaviors: she engaged in the use of narcotics and she was further drug tested and tested positive.

I think the use of narcotics could have been avoided if she had been more open with her fellow nurses. I think she may have suffered from depression or something along those lines. Had she spoke with her fellow nurses, they might have been able to get her some help and avoid the use of narcotics. I feel like if she had more self control, to control her ability to reach out she would have definitively been in a better spot to deal with her stress and depression. Lastly as a Family Nurse Practitioner I assume she had a good education and she knew of the teachings and readings about narcotics. I think that she should have reverted back to these and sought education and guidance.

Mary violated safety and security because she did not promote trust and respect and she also failed to adhere to the 7 rights because she diverted patient medication. She also violated communication because she failed to learn about the dangers of narcotics misuse. Next, she violated human caring, again because she failed to deliver medication to her patients and she was under the influence of narcotics so she failed to be in a right state of mind. Lastly, she violated her professional role her appearance and interaction with her peers and patients was skewed.

*If I was the first nurse that saw Mary, I would have reported right away. They let her go to lunch and come back under the influence still. This should have been stopped before she left for lunch. I think her co-workers failed her in a way because they failed to **PROTECT MARY AND OTHER PEOPLE ON THE ROAD!!***