

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Davy Gomez **Date:** 3/24/23 **DAS**
Assignment: (#1)

Name of the defendant: Gary A. Berglund **License number**
252752

Date action was taken against the license: 6/9/15
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.

Gary Berglund performed a physical assessment on his patient but did not document his patient's oxygen saturation. He stated in his hearing that the patient had no complaints of shortness of breath but that the patient was less alert than usual. He also did not reassess nor notify the patient's primary physician when the pulse oximeter stated the patient's rate at 46%. Instead, Berglund listened to her lungs and stated that he didn't hear any signs of congestion. He then contacted the Assistant Director of Nursing and administered an as needed nebulizer treatment. After the treatment, the patient's oxygen saturation was at a 68% which led to her being transported to an acute care facility. Berglund's actions prevented his patient from receiving the proper medical interventions and exposed his patient to harm by performing an ineffective breathing treatment.

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.

Berglund caused unnecessary and preventable harm to his patient. First, he should have documented every assessment so that her medical record wasn't incomplete. Once the pulse oximeter read a 46%, he should have tried another finger, sat the patient up, assessed capillary refill, look for cyanosis, assessed the patient's mouth and throat, ask the patient to take deep breaths, etc. However, 46% is alarmingly low so if the other finger was still that low, the fastest way to get oxygen to the blood is to administer oxygen through an oxygen device. The incident could have been prevented if Berglund documented every encounter with the patient, administered oxygen through an effective device, and then contacted the physician once his patient was stable.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

Berglund neglected to Document which is mandatory and is legally a nurse's duty to perform. Berglund did not perform thorough assessments to rule out hypoxia. Berglund lacked in critical thinking, especially when the oxygen saturation was at a 46% and all he did was administer a nebulizer breathing treatment.

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.

If I discovered Berglund's harm after the incident, the first action to take would be notifying the concern to the charge nurse. If no action was taken, I would still be uncomfortable with the situation and I would go to the director of the unit and also write a written report on the incident that occurred. If I discovered the incident during the harm, it is my duty to step in, administer oxygen, and provide proper care for that patient.