

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Shayla-Marie Brown

03/24/2023

DAS Assignment # 1 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Michelle Casey Brownlow

License number of the defendant: 880249

Date action was taken against the license: 01/24/2019.

Type of action taken against the license: Revoked

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.

Michelle Casey Brownlow, a registered nurse in Dallas, Texas was cited for 3 different charges that occurred while she was a Neurovascular Intensive Care Unit nurse. Mrs. Brownlow's first charge occurred in 2016 where she failed to complete any assessments, narrative notes, or neurological checks. In her failure to do so, Mrs. Brownlow placed the patient in severe danger by not establishing a baseline status to reference in case of a neurological emergency. I would consider this abandonment as she neglected to assess her patient or examine them in any way.

Her second charge is in regard to an acute ischemic stroke the patient suffered an acute ischemic stroke, by not doing an assessment on the patient initially, she failed to identify the warning signs of the impending neurological emergency and failed to document that it happened. By not doing these things, Mrs. Brownlow abandoned her patient yet again.

In her third charge, Mrs. Brownlow incorrectly set an IV pump to infuse saline at a slower rate of 20 cc/hour than the ordered 50 cc/hour. Whether she realized she did this or not, she documented that she set it to infuse at 50 cc/hour thus creating a medical error. She also improperly titrated a medication and administered it to a patient, creating another medical error.

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.

For the error in her first and second charge of abandonment, the nurse could have prevented the harm caused to the patient by ensuring that every patient she sees initially gets an assessment as part of their admissions procedure.

For her third charge I believe she could have prevented her medical error that resulted in her license being revoked if she had performed her 7 rights of medication administration. If she had stopped to double check the dosage, route and how much was being infused she would have caught her error.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

Mrs. Brownlow violated Physical Safety and Security by not adhering to the 7 Rights of Medication Administration and Critical Thinking by not performing an assessment on the patient as part of the SBAR.

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 was present during Mrs. Brownlow's shifts where these errors occurred and noticed the patient was missing any and all assessments upon admissions, I would perform my own assessments on the patient as necessary then alert the necessary authorities for Mrs. Brownlow's negligence. If I also stumbled across her patient that was being infused at an incorrect rate, I would check their eMAR to verify the true rate and alert the property authorities to ensure she is reprimanded for being negligent and causing harm to her patients. I would advocate for all of her patients that were being neglected.