

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Stephanie Mata

Date: 3/24/2023

DAS Assignment # 1

Name of the defendant: Gus Julius Belitzer JR.

License number of the defendant: 250158

Date action was taken against the license: 12/11/2013

Type of action taken against the license: Suspend/Probate

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.

Gus Belitzer JR. had his registered nursing license suspended and was placed on probation for failure to assess and make the necessary interventions regarding the care of Patient MRN 3487723. This patient had a history of Muscular Dystrophy, Congestive Heart Failure and had been admitted for abdominal pain and CHF.. The patient underwent an EGD and was transferred to the Post Anesthesia Care Unit under Mr. Belitzer's care. The patient's initial blood pressure reading was low so Mr. Belitzer placed the patient in Trendelenburg position. Then the patient's oxygen saturation decreased and Mr. Belitzer failed to inform the physician. He then proceeded to administer 500mL of IV fluids. The patient then began experiencing respiratory and cardiac arrest for which he was coded and placed on a mechanical ventilator. Consequently, he was unable to be weaned from the ventilator and expired approximately 2 ½ months later.

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 feel that he Mr. Belitzer performed another blood pressure reading to confirm the initial findings, performed all necessary assessments based on the patients symptoms and diagnosis and recent procedures, this outcome for the patient could have been prevented. If the nurse would have used his critical thinking skills and made appropriate decisions for care and communication to the proper personnel according to policy, then the actions taken against him could have been prevented. .

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

Mr. Belitzer violated:

1. *Critical Thinking* by not making proper decision making, evaluating and revising interventions taken or needed, or doing the proper assessments related to the patient's symptoms in order to help treat the patient and improve quality of care. He also failed to notify HCP and/or the charge nurse.
2. *Human Caring* because he did not listen to the patients needs or treat the patient with respect or dignity by not following the proper nursing interventions to improve the patient's condition.
3. *Professional Role* because by failing to do all necessary nursing interventions and assessments required based on symptoms he did not conduct with his patient in a professional and efficient manner. He also failed to notify proper personnel of findings.
4. *Communication* because he failed to utilize resources to communicate findings and actions taken to assist 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.

Had I been the nurse to have discovered the new complications that the patient was experiencing, I would have repeated the blood pressure reading, performed cardiac assessment, perform a lung assessment, and assess oxygen saturation levels. I would have repositioned the patient, repeat blood pressure check to see if I was still getting a low reading. I would have investigated and reviewed any medications that had been given or procedure recently performed on the patient as well as diagnosis' and made my clinical nursing interventions based on what I discovered in the patient's medical records. Should the HCP need to be notified immediately I would have done so, or if the charge nurse needed to be notified first then that's what I would have done. I would have asked the patient about any other history to get to know and learn my patient. I don't think IV fluids should have been given because of his history of CHF. So, I would have made sure to review the medication. Orders and instructions and made sure to use my critical thinking as the prudent nurse to be sure the orders won't cause further harm to the patient based on what I know and have assessed and visibly witnessed.