

Name of defendant: Leslie Gail Harris

License number of defendant: 726513

Date action was taken against the license: December 12th 2016

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with stipulations

1. Mrs. Harris was taking multiple different drugs (opioids and over the counter pain reliever) to treat her chronic pain. She then was coming to work and caring for patients in an altered state of mind. These drugs were causing drowsiness, confusion, slurred speech, and falling asleep on the job. The side effects of these drugs could have caused very harmful repercussions for her patients.
2. The measures I would have taken to prevent any action being taken against the license: I first would have not been taking opioids, while caring for patients. And the reason for not taking opioids while caring for my patients, would have been due to the side effects that come along with taking it. This nurse does state that she was taking Motrin to treat her pain and nothing more, however we clearly know Motrin does not cause these side effects at all. Motrin is a pain reliever, but does not cause slurred speech, drowsiness or falling asleep.
3. The universal competencies that were violated here: Human caring was violated due to the fact that she was in an altered state of mind, when caring for her patients. I think that is very disrespectful towards each patient she had those certain days. She was putting their lives in danger. Professional role was also violated due to her appearance (falling asleep on the job, falling over, confused). The way she was interacting with her coworkers and patients (slurring her speech and confusion).
4. The action I think a prudent nurse would have taken: First I would have confronted this nurse just by the way she was acting. Second I would let the charge nurse know what I am witnessing and last I think she should be sent home after drug testing her. NO ONE should ever ever ever be taking care of another individual in an altered state of mind.. that is how you risk causing harm to a patient or put their lives in danger.