

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Carmen Garcia

Date: 3/27/23

DAS Assignment # 2 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Carol Foster Wertheim

License number of the defendant: 702395

Date action was taken against the license: November 10th, 2015

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.

The nurse in this case was found diverting and misappropriating medications, specifically fentanyl and Xanax. She was dispensing these medications in very frequent doses, did not document the administration of these drugs to the patients and did not follow the policies and procedures needed for wasting the remaining medication leaving them unaccounted for.

- ***Diversion***
- ***Misappropriation***

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.

In the order, it states that the opportunity for compliance was given to the nurse but she still failed to comply. In my opinion, the nurse knew what she was doing and what the consequences would be. I think she could have looked for help for herself if she knew she had a problem and was not thinking straight or making good decisions. She also could have stopped to take a moment to consider what her choices would lead to and how they would effect herself and her patients.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

In my opinion, I believed she violated the human caring part of the universal competencies by not treating her patients with respect and dignity. She also violated the professional role and critical thinking universal competencies because of the diversion. She put her patients at risk by not documenting whether the patients were or were not receiving the medications which leaves room for the possibility of overdose if another nurse were to give the patient the next dose or even have the

opposite effect which would be that the patient was not receiving what they needed. Patient safety should be a nurses priority and in this case it wasn't.

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.

I would report the nurse and whatever happened immediately. This nurse acted selfishly and did not consider her patients. Her patients may have experienced unnecessary pain due to her choices. I believe someone who engages in these behaviors should be held accountable.