

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Nicholas Castilleja

Date: 04/06/2023

DAS Assignment # ____3____ (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Cole, Charlene Sue

License number of the defendant: 691866

Date action was taken against the license: 06/12/2018.

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's license was severely reprimanded through a consent order issued by the Oklahoma board of Nursing in Oklahoma City. Her license was then suspended a month later by the same committee. The nurse was employed by The University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas and worked in the Brazario County Jail for two years and eight months. During this time, the nurse failed to notify and refer a patient with a blood pressure of 186/106, to a physician. This patient did have a history of hypertension. Instead, she chose to document the patient felt fine and requested that the patient move to a cooler single cell. The next shift, he presented with a blood pressure of 237/102. She did not transfer her documented vitals and notes to the patient's medical record. Her response to the findings was that they were understaffed and she was simply filling in. She also stated that the patient denied any distress. She wrote down the cause of his elevated blood pressure and perspiration was because he was detained and placed in a hot patrol car. She stated that she asked about home medications and informed the detention officers to notify her of any changes. She then handed her notes to the following shift. She also failed to accurately document a patient's glucose level of 390, instead putting the value as 39. She also failed to notify the physician of the elevated glucose level and instructed the patient to eat dinner before returning to be retested. When asked about the findings, she denied incorrectly recording it, and added that the patient had insulin scheduled but held it due to the patient's hypoglycemia. She also agreed that she gave the dinner tray and admitted to failing to document the glucose values into the patient's medical record. The nurse failed to appear in court to address these allegations after receiving plenty of notifications.

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.

First, she should have communicated both instances of her findings to the physician or charge nurse, and then documented the findings accurately into their medical records. If she did make a mistake, she could have owned up to the mistake after realizing the error made. She also needed to administer the correct treatment or

intervention to both the hypertensive patient and patient with an elevated glucose level and monitored closely with reassessments.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

She violated the 7 rights of medication by choosing not to administer the insulin without notifying the physician regarding the order. She also violated communication between the patient and the physician regarding vitals, interventions, and documentation. She dismissed the patient's hypertension, instead of teaching the patient about signs and symptoms that may deal with home medications and critical aspects of hypertension. She did not communicate either patient's findings to the physician or charge nurse. She also did not utilize critical thinking and treat the patient's hypertension, nor reassess the patient after supposedly finding an alternative to cool down the patient. She did not utilize critical thinking when she informed the patient with a high glucose reading, to eat and then retest after incorrectly documenting the glucose level. This, along with the scrap paper that was never documented into the patient's chart, violated the documentation competency. She also violated human caring when she did not involve either patient in their plan of care for treatment, but instead rushed both situations without properly attending to them.

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 have reassessed the patient's blood pressure, then documented the elevated blood pressure and notified the physician of the patient's vitals and administered treatment if needed. I would also check with the nurse that received the report, to see if anything else needed to be addressed. In the case of the patient with high glucose, I would have retested the glucose level immediately, then documented the level. Also, I would have documented the retest and ensured that I monitored the patient's intake. I would also have notified the physician regarding the nurse's actions regarding the patient's care.