

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Hope Robnett

Date: 4/12/23

DAS Assignment # ___4___ (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Rhonda Marie Bassett

License number of the defendant: 662490

Date action was taken against the license: 17 – Jan - 13

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with Stipulations

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.

While working at Heritage Park Surgery Center in Sherman, Texas; Ms. Rhonda Bassett failed to document in her patient's medical record an assessment following a procedure that required the patient to receive conscious sedation and an epidural. Ms. Bassett failed to document if the patient met the criteria for discharge indicating that the patient's sensation and movement had returned following the procedure. After the procedure was completed, the patient was transferred to the recovery area where the patient was left unattended and proceeded to get out of bed. The patient fell and injured their head, which prompted for a CT to make sure there was no brain injury from the fall.

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.

The nurse should first have gone through all the necessary protocols with the patient, including informing the patient about the procedure and all the paperwork that shows the patients provides their consent to the procedure and that they had been briefed on all the necessary risks. The nurse should have then immediately documented this interaction and filed the necessary paperwork indicating the patients understanding. After the procedure, the nurse should have done a thorough assessment of the patient to test their level of sensation and movement. After a procedure, a patient should never be left unattended for reasons like this, it puts the patients in a greater risk for harm because they're still under sedation and aren't completely aware of their surroundings or situation.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

The most critical in this instance was the patient's safety and security. If the nurse had taken the necessary precautions and protocols for this patient, they would probably not have fallen or even tried to get out of bed

and sustained an injury to the head. From this instance, you can tell that the nurse disregarded standard precautions. There are certain protocols that are followed following a procedure, especially ones that involve patients being sedated and other separate protocols that personnel follow for patients who receive an epidural. The nurse didn't document the necessary information indicating if this patient was even considered stable enough to be left unattended or their steadiness to be discharged.

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 first would have spoken to the nurse about leaving her patient unattended without verifying that the patient was stable enough to be left alone, either by performing an assessment to check the patient's sensation and movement. Going off that assessment will indicate whether it's okay to leave the patient by themselves. The nurse would also need to go back and document her findings on the patient, that will tell other healthcare providers how the patient's condition is improving or not and ultimately define whether the patient is stable enough to be discharged.