

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Alina Mills Date: 08/21/2023

DAS Assignment # 1 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Melvia J.F. Dominy License number of the defendant: 229908

Date action was taken against the license: June 12th, 2012.

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.

Charge I.

While employed as a RN and as a Telemetry Technician, Melvia turned off her patient's telemetry monitoring and it remained off for more than 5 hours. During this time the patient experienced a change in cardiac rhythm that went on for more than 23 minutes. Upon being approached and informed about the change in cardiac rhythm, Melvia responded with "I just missed it. Bad me." Unfortunately, the patient suffered a cardiac arrest and 6 hours later was pronounced dead. Melvia did not maintain patient safety. Continuing, Melvia failed to take the appropriate interventions after the patient's change in cardiac rhythm in a timely manner leading to the death of her patient.

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.

Firstly, Melvia should have protected her patient by verifying the patient's telemetry monitoring was working. Telemetry monitoring is very important for patients at risk for abnormal arrhythmias and potential heart concerns. Secondly, upon being informed of the mistake and the abnormal heart rhythm the patient was having, Melvia should have not only acted in remorse upon the weight of the situation, but immediately informed the doctor and followed any protocols the doctor or charge nurse would recommend.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

Safety and Security was violated because Melvia failed to provide necessary heart monitoring. Melvia also violated Critical Thinking, once informed of the patient's abnormal heart rhythm that had gone on for 23 minutes, Melvia should have intervened and reassess her patient and informed the doctor and or charge nurse as deemed necessary, this failure to intervene ultimately led to the patient's death and the revoking of her license.

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 immediately set up the patient's telemetry leads and verified that the monitor was working. I would then inform Melvia about the incident along with the charge nurse to allow for a necessary intervention. I would hope that the charge nurse and Melvia would be able to handle the patient's medical needs from there.