

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Star Harlin

Date: August 29, 2023 DAS Assignment # 2 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Tamra Harris Williams

License number of the defendant: 604776

Date action was taken against the license: 01-13-2018

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.

Miss. Williams has several charges against her and the first one being that when taking care of a patient she received a doctors order to give a patient Morphine and when she dispensed the dose she took more than what the doctor had prescribed for the patient. The second charge against Miss. Williams is that she took Morphine and Versed out of the pyxis but failed to document that she had given it to her patient. Another time while dispensing medication from the pyxis, she failed to follow protocol on wasting the amount she did not need to use before she gave the medication. The final charge against Miss. Williams is when she took it upon herself to take Morphine and Hydronmophone from the pyxis without an physicians order.

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.

Miss. Williams showed unprofessional behavior in the way she handled her medications. She should have been more diligent in making sure her documentation was done so that the next caregiver or physician could be up to date with what is going on with the patient and what the patient has been given so that if more needs to be ordered they can give it without harming the patient. When Miss. Williams took out the order medication and did not waste the proper amount she could have harmed her patient for giving more of the dose then what was prescribed and it also makes you wonder if she did not properly waste the medication what she did with it to begin with so if she would have properly wasted the medication properly or with another nurse present she would have protected her license better. Then there is the final charge of her taking medications out of the pyxis without an doctor's order, this can lead to people suspecting her of neglect or abuse because we do not know what she had intended to do with the medications she took.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

Miss. Williams broke one of the most important rules a nurse can have and that is the 7 rights of medication administration. She did not document when she gave a dose of the medication, what time she gave it, or the route she had given it. Documenting all these things is very important to keep in the chart because it protects our license in the long run, but it also protects the patient and keeps the chart up to date so future caregivers can look back and see what was done with the patient. Her decision making was either selfishness or laziness and this broke that trust and respect that patients expect nurses to have. She showed lack of professionalism by not following proper protocol on wasting her medications correctly and lacked communication with her coworkers about to get another set of eyes on her doing it. She also broke communication because she was not safe while handing strong medications that could cause serious harm to a patient by not wasting, not documenting, and taking medications from the pyxis without a proper order to do so. She also broke critical thinking due to her giving medication to a patient without documenting anything about the medications and she did not document if she did any kind of assessment before or after giving the morphine to the patient and this is very important to do so since morphine is an opioid. Overall Miss. Williams was not professional in role as a nurse and in her actions showed that she can be untrustworthy and does not protect her patients.

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.

If I were a nurse what worked alongside Miss. Williams, I would keep her accountable in doing the right thing as well as making sure the charge nurse became aware of what had been going on with the medication errors. Miss. Williams behavior showed neglect to the patient and as nurses we are supposed to help care for people and help them get better. I would be suspicious that some of her activity was her keeping some of the medications to herself then it going to where it was supposed to be going and this would need to be reported immediately for the safety of the patients.