

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Lauren Dane Date:08/31/2023

DAS Assignment # 2 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: William Cross License number of the defendant: 872609

Date action was taken against the license: 7/19/2018.

Type of action taken against the license: Reprimand 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.

Cross was working as an RN in the ED at The Medical Center of Plano in Plano, TX in August of 2016. An infant pt presented to the ED for head injury secondary to being hit with a softball. The nurse triaged this pt and determined they fit the criteria for a triage level of ESI-4. The pt was then sent to wait in the waiting room, but shortly after, the pt's head began to swell. The nurse claimed the infant was stable in triage and was acting appropriate for their age, with a minor abrasion to the forehead and nose. The nurse stated this in their documentation, and reevaluated the pt after the change of condition was noticed and was promptly escalated to a higher level of acuity and sent to CT for the scan. The scan showed a brain bleed. The pt then had to be transferred to a pediatric hospital for a higher level of care.

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.

It seems like they could've been more diligent and or observant with their assessment of the pt. The nurses' stipulations were taking a series of classes, including one on physical assessments and critical thinking, which I think both of these were appropriate given the situation. If the nurse didn't feel confident in their ability to assess and triage a pediatric patient, I think if they had reached out to their educator and potentially set up a class or received education on assessing pediatric patients before the event occurred, this could've prevented the delay of care for this infant.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

This nurse violated the Critical thinking competency by not thinking critically during their assessment of this patient, subsequently missing that there was a potential for a bleed. With any significant head injury, a brain bleed and potentially a CT or Xray should be anticipated.

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.

A prudent nurse, after discovering the pt was under-triaged and that care was delayed, would've reported this incident to the CN and a Datix or incident report would've been made on this nurse.