

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Kaci Penick

Date: 09/07/2023

DAS Assignment # 3

Name of the defendant: Ronald Brent Amonett

License number of the defendant: 720298

Date action was taken against the license: 11/08/2016

Type of action taken against the license: Enforced suspension

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.

(Drug Diversion)

On May 2, 2010, Ronald Brent Amonett, a registered nurse employed at Medical Center Hospital in Odessa, Texas, was involved in the inappropriate use of Morphine. The finding was made following a drug screen provided by Ronald, which indicated a positive result for Morphine.

Additionally, Ronald Amonett participated in the TPAPN program in November 2011 and withdrew Dilaudid from the Pyxis system. He did not adhere to the guidelines set forth by Medical Center Hospital on the proper disposal of unused medications. The incident started when a medical staff member found the unused portion of the medication in the bathroom. Ronald, in turn, broke the provisions of the TPAPN agreement by failing to show up for numerous drug tests.

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.

In addition to providing patient care, Ronald is responsible for following all rules set forth by the hospital. Ronald's decision to take Morphine prevents him from recognizing symptoms or changes in his patients, which may also hinder his ability to make accurate and valuable decisions. His choice to use Morphine not only endangered his patients but also had a negative impact on his health. If Ronald was struggling with drug addiction, I think his best course of action would have been to get help from a specialist. Not only would this aid in his addiction recovery, but also prevent the endangerment of his patients and the suspension of his licenses.

Furthermore, Ronald should have followed the facility's policy and procedures regarding the wastage of the remaining medication. The unused portion of a drug should immediately be discarded. This scenario could have been averted if he had taken the time to dispose of the medication properly.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

Critical Thinking: Universal Competencies under the section "Critical Thinking" addresses the topic of decision-making. In my opinion, Ronald's choices demonstrated a deficiency in his overall ability for decision-making. Ronald's choices to use narcotics while holding a professional license in the healthcare field, as well as his failure to appropriately dispose of a medication, should be deemed dangerous. Each scenario had the potential to bring harm not only to him but also to his patients.

Professional Role: Ronald's lack of professionalism was apparent in his decision-making process, as he failed to comply with the rules and regulations regarding the appropriate wastage of unused medications. Furthermore, his decision to engage in self-medication with drugs, despite possessing a professional medical license, demonstrated a deficiency in good judgment.

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.

As a healthcare professional, if I observed Ronald exhibiting signs of impairment while providing patient care, I would have taken the initiative to reach out to him and request to take over his duties. My initial course of action would be to remove him from the patient's room to alleviate any potential threat he may pose to the patient. With regard to Ronald's poor decision to neglect the proper disposal of the medication, it is essential to remind him of the established rules and regulations that we must adhere to. Additionally, it is imperative to emphasize the potential repercussions that might follow in the event of non-compliance with these policies. If I failed to change Ronald's decision, I would proceed to inform the charge nurse about his actions.