

Covenant School of Nursing  
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment  
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Ty Skiles

Date: 9/11/2023

DAS Assignment # 4

Name of the defendant: Meredith Roman

License number of the defendant: 612039

Date action was taken against the license: 2/11/2014

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.*

Professional nursing license 612039 was revoked due to a singular charge of incompetence that followed a finding of facts issued on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013. There were 3 findings that amalgamated into the charge of incompetence which led to the revocation of professional nursing license 612039. The first finding that led to the revocation of professional nursing license 612039 was patient abandonment. Meredith Roman failed to return to her home unit on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007, after delivering one of her patients to a separate unit for test screenings, despite being instructed to do so beforehand. During this time, Meredith Roman had other patients she was accountable for, and this abandonment forced her peers to assume care over her assignments. The 2<sup>nd</sup> finding that led to the charge against the revocation of Meredith Roman's professional nursing license was fabrication of documentation. It was discovered that Meredith Roman had routinely failed to chart the vital signs of her patients from December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005, to November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007. After being asked about the situation, Meredith Roman admitted to not properly documenting vital signs and instead substituting proper results with "creative charting" instead. The 3<sup>rd</sup> finding that led to the revocation of Meredith Roman's professional nursing license was failure to properly assess a patient in critical status. Despite acknowledging that a patient's monitor alarm was going off, Meredith Roman ignored the issue, and proceeded to leave her patient without performing any nursing interventions or focused assessments. One of Mrs. Roman's peers then noticed that the patient had slipped into ventricular fibrillation and CPR was initiated.

*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.*

I believe that to prevent the revocation of professional nursing license 612039, Meredith Brooks needed to be much more thorough with the way she approached patient care. To prevent the 1<sup>st</sup> finding, Meredith Roman should have implemented better time management skills. Had she called the collaborative unit beforehand to establish a time for drop-off, she wouldn't have had any issues, and she could've then returned to her home unit. To prevent the 2<sup>nd</sup> finding, Meredith Roman needed to be more thorough with her charting.

Vital signs are pieces of crucial information to healthcare professionals and must be monitored carefully. Without knowing her patients' vital signs, there is no way Meredith Roman could have safely administered medications or performed accurate nursing assessments. To prevent the 3<sup>rd</sup> finding that led to the revocation of her professional nursing license, Meredith Roman needed to listen to her patient's monitor alarm and perform the proper focused assessment required for the situation. Had Meredith Roman identified her patient's arrhythmia, the patient wouldn't have required CPR.

*Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.*

With the 1<sup>st</sup> finding that led to the revocation of professional nursing license 612039, Meredith Roman violated the universal competencies of communication, critical thinking, and professional role. The universal competency of communication was violated when Mrs. Roman failed to use the resources provided by her employer to establish a connection with her peers in neighboring units. Mrs. Roman violated the universal competency of professional role when she failed to contact a staff member of the department that was accepting the patient. Had she done this, she could have easily dropped her patient off inside the department and returned to her other assignments. The universal competency of critical thinking was violated when Meredith Roman failed to prioritize the care of her other assigned patients rather than staying with her transported patient. The universal competencies violated by the second finding that led to the revocation of professional nursing license 612039 includes physical safety and security, critical thinking, and documentation. Meredith Roman violated the physical safety and security of her patient when she failed to acquire accurate and current vital signs prior to medication administration. Without knowing her patient's current vital signs, Mrs. Roman violated the 7 rights of medication administration, because it would have been impossible for her to have the right reason for administration. Mrs. Roman violated the universal competency of critical thinking when she failed to use current vital signs for determining the effectiveness of her nursing interventions. Without this crucial information, it would be impossible for Meredith Roman to know whether her patients were physically stable or not. Without documenting her patients' vital signs, Meredith Roman was unable to properly scan medications in the eMar, or document any changes found while reassessing patients for the effectiveness of nursing interventions. With the 3<sup>rd</sup> finding, Meredith Roman violated the universal competency of critical thinking when she failed to properly assess her patient following the alarming of their monitor.

*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 believe that the appropriate course of action for a prudent nurse to take in the first situation that led to the revocation of professional nursing license 612039 would be to inform the charge nurse and split the assignments of patient care between whatever nurses were available. This would ensure that all of Mrs. Roman's patients were provided with care and being actively monitored during Mrs. Roman's absence from the unit. If I had been the nurse that discovered Meredith Roman had been fabricating the documentation of her patients' vital signs, I would inform both the charge nurse and hospital administrators. I believe that this is an unacceptable nursing practice, and it puts patients directly at risk for severe harm. Had I been the nurse to discover the 3<sup>rd</sup> finding which led to the revocation of professional nursing license 612039, I would go assess the patient and perform CPR if necessary. While doing this, I would use a vocera to issue an emergency call to my peers in the same unit. This would help bring the situation to the attention of my peers and provide the patient in critical status with the most effective level of care.