

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Hannah Wright
#3

Date: 11.10.2023

DAS Assignment

Name of the defendant: Brenda Baggs
653074

License number of the defendant:

Date action was taken against the license: 10.27.2011

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with Stipulations

- 1. 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.***

Brenda Baggs was working at Corpus Christi Medical Center in Corpus Christi as a staff nurse in 2008 when this event took place. On November 19th, Baggs took Ambien and Tylenol #3 out of the medication system - however Baggs did not do this with medical or physician orders. She withdrew two Ambien tablets, each 5 milligrams, four times during her shift. She withdrew two Tylenol #3 tablets, each 300 milligrams, twice as well. None of the withdrawals from the system had an order in place. After withdrawing the medications, Baggs failed to document any of the administration on any of the patients. This was believed to be to deceive the pharmacy and medical system. Baggs turned in her two week notice of employment, but was informed that due to "finding discrepancies" she would be unable to carry out her shifts during those two weeks. An evaluation was performed on Baggs once the hospital was aware, and there were no signs found of a chemical dependency. They ordered that she continue psychiatric care.

- 2. 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.***

Orders are vital to protecting the patient and the nurse when it pertains to medications, especially those that fall within a narcotic class. These specific medications could cause severe adverse effects that could go against the medical regimen in place, as well as causing dependency and abuse for a patient not needing to take those medications. The system in place could have had precautions in place to not allow the nurse to pull the medication without an order, but this could be dangerous in emergency situations requiring medication. I feel that the best medication would have been stricter and more intense teaching, but even with the most

vital education and prevention measures, nurses can find ways to bypass and divert medications.

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

1. Safety and Security - 7 Rights of Medication: failed to ensure the right reason and the right documentation by withdrawing medications without orders and failing to document
2. Safety and Security - Promote Trust and Respect: failed to create trust with the patient by administering medications that could harm the patient and result in fatalities
3. Documentation - Save All Documentation: did not document administration of medication or how the patient tolerated the medication after peak level
4. Professional Roles - Manage Supplies Efficiently and Economically - gave medications unnecessarily and did not follow hospital procedures on managing medications

4. 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.

The most vital thing to do in this instance, if I was the nurse finding Baggs withdrawing without orders, would be to divert the situation before the patient received the medications. A prudent nurse would attempt to try to stop Baggs and immediately call for help from the charge nurse to avoid any harm to the patient. If Baggs had already administered the medication, the prudent nurse would alert the charge nurse and monitor the patient for adverse effects, alerting the physician in the process. The next steps would be to complete a report on the instance and follow the chain of command if it went without consequences.