

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Hannah Wright
#4

Date: 11.17.2023

DAS Assignment

Name of the defendant: Jennifer Lundy
675111

License number of the defendant:

Date action was taken against the license: 11.08.2011

Type of action taken against the license: Suspend/Probate

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.*

On October 15th, 2011, Jennifer Lundy was working as a charge nurse for Cedar Lake Nursing Home. During this time, Lundy claims that she was experiencing severe anxiety and insomnia, partnered with chronic pain. On this day, Lundy was sent home and described as having “confusion, slurred speech, disorganization” and she made false documentations by charting in the incorrect patients charts multiple times. When asked about her behavior that was out of character and unusual, as well as being unfit for professional nursing, Lundy explained that after not being able to sleep due to pain, she took a tablet of prescribed Methadone - which alters how the brain responds to pain in the body, therefore explaining her different behavior. Her supervisor then reported this event.

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.*

The nursing profession is severely understaffed, but the ideal action would have been for Lundy to call in and take a day to rest. It isn't beneficial to the patients or staff to have a charge nurse that is not fully alert and dedicated to doing diligent work. It can result in fatalities if her judgment is impaired as well as inaccurate charting. As tough as the shift adjustment would have been, it would have been safer for her to be home. Also, taking any mind altering medications while on shift is dangerous and ill intended. It was prescribed, but that does not mean that while on shift it is the most ideal time and place to take.

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

Safety and Security - Promote Trust and Respect: broke trust and respect to patients by entering an altered state of mind and working a shift sleep deprived and not fully dedicated to the practice

Critical Thinking - Decision Making: in an aspect of critical thinking, Lundy made poor decisions by taking medication that would affect her mind while on shift

Documentation - Any Narrative: falsely and inaccurately documented on the wrong patient's charts

Professional Role - Interaction: due to her altered state, Lundy was not able to interact in a professional or productive way with staff

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.*

As a prudent nurse, I would immediately report to the superior due to the severity of her impairment. I would do it immediately in order to prevent any mis-documentation or patient harm if a nurse were to ask about something regarding a patient. Since I can't physically undo or stop the behavior, the best thing in this situation would be to report it to my superior and follow procedure in documenting the report.