

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Maddie Brouillette

Date: 03/29/24

DAS Assignment #1

Name of the defendant: Dianna Gonzales

License number of the defendant: 819999

Date action was taken against the license: August 18, 2020

Type of action taken against the license: 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.*

Dianna Gonzales was working at a cardiac unit employed as a Progressive Cardiac Care Unit nurse. On February 10, 2017, Dianna failed to titrate the Dopamine IV drip that she had administered to a patient. She also did not document the administration of the Dopamine. This made it difficult to keep the patient's blood pressure in the appropriate parameters. These actions could have injured the patient. This led to an incomplete medical record and a lack of important information for other healthcare workers to provide further care to the patient. Dianna's same patient she was caring for was supposed to receive a dextrose bolus at 5:33am. Instead, Dianna gave the patient juice and graham crackers. The patient's blood glucose level was 20 mg/dl, and Dianna failed to notify the physician. Dianna also failed to recheck the patients blood glucose level after administering the juice and crackers. Dianna demonstrated inappropriate nursing care that could have caused adverse difficulties. On February 10, 2017, Dianna had a different patient with a fever of 101.7. Dianna failed to recheck the temperature after she administered Tylenol. She also did not notify the physician about the patient's fever. The same patient reported of a fever at 101.0 and 101.7 the next day. Dianna failed to administer Tylenol. This could have injured the patient, because she was not helping to change the patient's condition. The next day, after attention was set on Dianna, she stated that she could have documented better.

Due to Dianna's actions, she received Reprimand with Stipulations. She was ordered to take a board online course about board orders within 30 days and 5 other online courses within a year. These courses included a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics, medication administration, physical assessment, nursing documentation, and sharpening critical thinking skills. Dianna was also ordered to work in the state of Texas for a minimum of 68 hours per month for the next 2 years. Dianna failed to complete these courses within one year of the charges. This led to her license being revoked.

- *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.*

When Dianna did not titrate the Dopamine IV drip, this could have caused harm to the patient. This action by Dianna resulted in ineffective treatment to the patient. I believe Dianna should have taken time to titrate the Dopamine IV drip and should have administered it correctly. Failure of documentation led to an incomplete medical record and important information needed to further care for the patient. Failure to document can cause harm to the patient as other healthcare providers can not see that important information before caring for that patient. Dianna should have documented everything as soon as she administered the IV drip. When Dianna failed to notify the physician about the blood glucose level, this also caused harm to the patient. The patient could have needed further care if the physician knew the exact information. The patient was not treated for his critical blood glucose reading. Dianna should have notified the physician right away and took his orders to help better care for this patient. When Dianna failed to treat the next patient's fever, this caused harm to the patient. By doing this, there will be no change in the patient's condition. Diana should have looked at the physician's order and if there was no order for Tylenol, she should have notified the physician right away.

- *Identify ALL universal competencies were violated and explain how.*

Standard precautions were violated as Dianna did not prepare her patients medication correctly. Safety and security was also violated as Dianna failed to document. Documentation is critical for each patient so the healthcare team knows what care was provided. Critical thinking was violated as Dianna failed to give a dextrose bolus to the patient in need of it. Dianna also failed to listen to the patients needs as she failed to recheck the patients blood glucose level, and she also failed to treat her patient's fever. Dianna also violated her professional role when she did not notify the physician when she needed to.

- *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.*

If a prudent nurse were to see Dianna not titrate the medication, they would jump in and remind her to do so and double check her. The nurse could do this in a way of it being a nice, friendly reminder. If a nurse saw Dianna administer this to the patient still without titration, the nurse should report this and check on the patient. The patient should be priority as many nursing errors can result in a patient losing their life. If a nurse notices another patient not documenting, they should report the nurse, even if they just suspect something. Documentation is vital to healthcare. It helps all team members stay on track of what care is provided to each patient. If a nurse notices not caring for the patient correctly, they could remind the nurse to care for the patient as we are all a team, but if there is any lack of caring to the patients, I believe the charge nurse should be notified immediately and there should be correct care given to the patient immediately. What Dianna did should have never happened. There are no excuses as all of these actions can cause harm to the patient.