

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Jasmine Luna

Date: 3/28/2024

DAS Assignment # 1

Name of the defendant: Soosan Anil, RN

License number of the defendant: 726665

Date action was taken against the license: October 22, 2015

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with stipulations and a fine

- *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.*

In 2015, Soosan Anil, RN, faced disciplinary action against her license for her misconduct at Seton Medical Center in Austin, Texas. She faces two counts of misconduct that led to an investigation on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing. Anil's first charge occurred on December 9, 2013. Anil falsified documentation for a patient under her care. Without assessing her patient's heart, she documented a false heart rate in the medical record. Anil claims that her medical assistant inputted the false heart rate of "150 [bpm] at 0400" so she corrected the information to "140" bpm. Anil's choice of action jeopardizes her patient's health and safety. The patient's medical record states their heart rate is 150 bpm then 140 bpm, which indicates tachycardia. By inputting this false heart rate, the patient's baseline data is inaccurate and can lead to harmful results. Anil deliberately compromised patient care, which can lead to incorrect care plans and medication administration. For Anil's second charge that occurred on September 25, 2014, Soosan Anil failed to report her patient's hypoglycemic levels of 53 mg/dl and 48 mg/dl to the physician. Like her misconduct in 2013, Anil went against the documentation competency. Anil failed to document patient assessments and nursing interventions. According to Anil, the patient was ordered for a clear liquid diet and a TPN with insulin. In addition, an accucheck reading was ordered for the patient four times a day. Based on the first two readings, the patient was reported to have

low levels of glucose but was not showing signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia. According to Anil, she intervened by attempting to raise her patient's glucose levels by providing fruit juice and three sugar packets after the checks. Anil's failure to notify the physician regarding the patient's glucose levels is outright dangerous. The patient was on TPN with insulin, which puts the patient at risk for further complications of hypoglycemia. By attempting to raise the patient's sugar level with fruit juice and sugar packets, this does not ensure quality care is being provided to the patient. Just like her charge in 2013, failure to document assessments and interventions, can lead to incorrect care plans, baseline data, and medication administration.

- *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.*

For the first charge, Soosan Anil may have believed that she was doing the correct thing by fixing her medical assistant's mistake. However, falsifying patient information, especially vital signs, is unprofessional, fraudulent, and risky. She should have assessed the patient's heart rate at that time, instead of presuming and falsifying the rate. After assessing the heart, Anil should have documented the new heart rate in the patient's medical record in a new separate entry. At the bare minimum, she should have properly corrected or documented the medical assistant's entry to her hospital's policy. For the second charge, Soosan Anil attempted to raise her patient's blood sugar levels by administering fruit juice and sugar packets. On top of that, she failed to document her findings and interventions. Anil's misconduct is unethical, misleading, and dangerous. After the first Accucheck, Anil should have notified the physician about the patient's glucose level of 53 mg/dl. From there, the physician would have ordered Anil to provide appropriate interventions or medications. Afterward, Anil should have documented her assessment, physician orders, and nursing interventions.

Identify ALL universal competencies were violated and explain how.

Documentation- For the first charge, Anil's unprofessional action in her profession of nursing was likely to defraud and injure the patient under her care. Anil believed that her medical assistant made a documentation error regarding the patient's heart rate. Instead of performing a new assessment and inputting the correct heart rate, Anil deliberately falsified the patient's heart rate. For the second charge, Anil's failure to document her assessments and interventions affects the patient's quality of care. Since the patient had low glucose levels,

proper documentation should have been done so that health personnel would be aware of hypoglycemia. In addition, documenting nursing interventions will ensure that proper procedures or protocols are being followed.

Professional role- Anil was unprofessional by defrauding patient information, failing to document assessments and interventions on the patient's medical record. She failed to notify the patient's physician about low glucose levels, therefore compromising quality health care. Anil went against her hospital's policy and the ANA code of ethics for nurses, thus violating the professional role competency.

Critical Thinking- Anil's falsified heart rate will likely lead to the patient not receiving quality care or adverse outcomes. If baseline data is falsified, then information to base care, medicine administration, or procedures is jeopardized, thus leading to improper decision-making. Anil did not prioritize patient safety. Instead of notifying the physician of the health issue, she decided to intervene based on her own judgement. Although she provided the patient with sugar, she did not account for the insulin in the TPN, which can lower the patient's blood sugar after consumption. In addition, Anil did not document in the patient's medical record, which can hinder critical thinking and decision-making.

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 I were the first person to discover Anil's first count of unprofessional actions, I would assess the patient's heart. I would perform a cardiovascular assessment, obtain a heart rate, and document my findings. Secondly, I will report Anil's misconduct and, if any, patient abnormalities to the charge nurse or the next person on the chain of command. Finally, I will respectfully go to Anil and communicate with her about her actions and ways to prevent future mistakes. For Anil's second set of actions, I would first assess the patient's blood sugar. I would check the patient's glucose levels. If the glucose level were still low, I would notify the physician. Next, I would implement the physician's order. If not, at minimum, I would immediately notify the patient's assigned health personnel of the patient's health situation. Next, I would document my findings and interventions. After prioritizing the patient's health, I would report Anil's unprofessional actions to the charge nurse. Next, I would respectfully communicate with Anil about her behavior and ways she can improve as a nurse. Based on the two

charges, Anil has repeatedly violated the documentation competency, therefore I would report her to the state board.