

# Covenant School of Nursing

## Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

### Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Amber Morrow

Date: 4/24/2024

DAS Assignment # 2

Name of the defendant: Dakota Buehring, RN

License number of the defendant: 768385

Date action was taken against the license: 8/02/2022

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.*

Dakota Buehring received multiple charges for taking illegal drugs and being under the influence while taking care of patients. Dakota Buehring's first charge was for being seen with slurred speech, unsteady gait, forgetfulness, and drowsiness. She was showing signs of being under the influence on the job, which could impair her ability to take care of patients, and potentially harm her patients.

The second charge was for the illegal use of hydrocodone, which resulted in Dakota taking a drug test that came back positive. The nurse was putting her patients in potential harm by being impaired on the job, and not being able to safely take care of her patients.

The third charge occurred when Dakota Buehring was sent to the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses, and she had to take a drug test, which showed that it was positive for Tramadol. The nurse took the Tramadol from one of her family members that was prescribed too.

Dakota also had an incident of not verifying and accurately documenting at home medications in a nursing facility. She also instructed the staff to administer a dose of medication that was against the doctor's orders. This resulted in the patient having too high of a dose of Lorazepam. All the charges resulted in Dakota Buehring's license to be 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.*

Actions that could have prevented these instances would be to tell the charge nurse immediately when observing a staff member under the influence at work. I would also report this before the nurse takes

care of any patients to prevent harm to the patients. Another action I would take is to send the nurse to the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses to get her help before the addiction becomes worse. A measure I would take to prevent the patient from receiving too much Lorazepam is to verify the doctor's orders and question the nurse when seeing that the dose does not match with the physician's orders.

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

**Safety and security** -The nurse violated trust and respect by being under the influence while working at the hospital, which put the patients in potential danger by not being able to recognize signs and symptoms of their conditions, and not being able to my accurate decisions. The nurse also gave the wrong dose of a medication and did not document accurately.

**Critical thinking**- The nurse was not able to perform accurate decision making by being under the influence of drugs. The nurse gave the wrong dose of medication that was against the physician's orders.

**Human caring**- The nurse did not treat the patients with respect and dignity because she was under the influence which impaired her ability to properly take care of the patient's and meet their needs. Being too impaired at work prevented the RN from recognizing signs and symptoms of the patient's conditions, which is not treating the patient with respect and dignity.

**Professional role**- The nurse violated the professional role by being impaired at work, and not being able to take proper care of patients. She was also unable to interact with the staff because she was slurring her speech and being unsteady.

- *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 first action I would take when discovery these infractions would be to confront Dakota about being impaired at work and remind her that her actions are putting her patients in danger. I would then immediately report to the charge nurse that my colleague is showing signs of being under the influence while taking care of patients. It would be important to report this immediately because it would prevent potential harm to the Nurse's patients. The Nurse would also be sent to TPAPN to receive help for her drug addiction. The physicians would also be notified about Dakota's medication and documentation error.