

# Covenant School of Nursing

## Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

### Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Rafaella Colmenero

Date: 8/30/2024

DAS Assignment # 2

Name of the defendant: Mercy Alberta Mayson

License number of the defendant: 675372

Date action was taken against the license: 5/2/2019

Type of action taken against the license: Reprimanded with Stipulations

- *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.*

Multiple actions occurred that led to action being taken against Mercy Mayson's license. The actions that occurred include the following:

- Did not notify provider that the infant patient had a low blood glucose
- Did not notify provider that the infant patient was showing unstable temperature patterns
- Ordered and collected a complete blood count (CBC) without obtaining a doctor's order beforehand.

Mayson responded to the actions stated above saying that all of the abnormal signs above were corrected with nursing intervention that she performed. She explained that she followed the hospital's protocol by sending the needed glucose tube to the lab for testing and feeding the infant formula, which corrected the blood glucose. In regard to the unstable temperatures that were documented, Mayson says that it was due to the infant's father taking the infant out of the swaddle. Mayson says that she provided patient/family teaching by explaining to the family the importance of keeping the infant warm and the actions that would occur if the infant continued to display abnormal temperature readings. She says that the temperatures were then corrected after the education was provided. Lastly, Mayson testified that her action of not getting a doctor's order from the provider prior to ordering and obtaining a CBC was simply due to the fact that she was acting within the nature of the hospital. The nature being that it was normal for the lab to be drawn on the infant and for the provider to be notified the next day, since the infant was asymptomatic for infection. She did say that if the infant was symptomatic, that she would have notified the provider before obtaining the CBC on her own.

Although Mayson claims to have followed the protocol put in place, it is still important for the provider to be notified in case a medical emergency would have taken place. In the event of an emergency, not having prior knowledge of the abnormalities found would have depleted the provider of the information needed in order to provide the medical attention needed in a timely

manner. As for not obtaining the order from the provider, it is important to always remember that nurses must keep awareness for what needs to have an order in order for them to carry out certain actions/interventions.

- *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 measure that could have been taken by Mayson to prevent any action being taken against her license would have been to simply notify the provider of the patient's status despite the nursing interventions that were performed. In documentation, it is important to remember how it would look if you were to only read the findings of the patient. Seeing the conditions of the patient in her care would raise concern and it is clear that the provider should have known. Although Mayson did provide care that resulted in the patient's status improving, it is still imperative that the provider know in the case that the patient suddenly starts declining. In notifying the provider, it could also be explained with the interventions that Mayson had done. This way the provider has an idea of why the findings were the way they were while also keeping in mind the abnormalities in case emergent medical assistance was needed from him for that patient.

Another fix that could have prevented action being taken would be to just obtain the doctor's order before obtaining any lab work. This prevents an order from being forgotten just as it happened in her case and would have completely taken away this offense from her case.

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

When analyzing the actions of Mercy Mayson, it is clear that she violated the critical thinking universal competency, specifically the elements of the SBAR as well as decision making.

Although Mayson considered the situation of the patient and provided nursing interventions that did help her patient, critical thinking should have prompted her to let the provider know what was going on. Even if the patient gained stability after the interventions provided it was still of great importance to let the provider know in case immediate emergency attention was needed for that patient. If something were to have happened, the provider would have had to take time to be updated on what was happening thus taking time away from the attention that was needed. Her poor decision making could have resulted in the patient being harmed.

Lastly, because Mayson failed to inform the provider of the patient's abnormal findings, she wasn't able to get a recommendation on what to do, thus violating the SBAR element. Not having a recommendation is one thing, but she also went about her own recommendation without obtaining proper orders which also violates the SBAR element. This action is a clear violation because in order to protect her license there needed to have been an order.

- *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 nurse to discover the actions taken by Mercy Mayson, I would first provide my own nursing advice to her to let the provider know, in a respectful manner of course, and then if I felt that the patient was in a condition that required further care I would make sure that they are in a stable condition. After making sure that the patient was stable, I would go to the charge nurse to express my concern with the actions of Mayson and explain everything that I did prior to talking to her.