

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Abigail West

Date: 11/1/2024

DAS Assignment # 2

Name of the defendant: Reba Joyce Clark

License number of the defendant: 701261

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

Type of action taken against the license: Voluntary surrender

- *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 November 16, 2019, a patient came into the office that had fallen that day. Nurse Reba did not take the patient's vitals after it was reported that the patient had vomited, lost consciousness, was restless, hot and cyanosis was noted around the patient's mouth. Nurse Reba stated she was unable to get a blood pressure but documented a pulse. Nurse Reba failed to do any assessments and also failed to notify the physician of the patient's status. The patient passed away later on that day.

- *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.*

I would have obtained a full set of vital signs and the proper assessments this patient needed. Nurse Reba stated she could not get the patient's blood pressure because the patient's blood pressure cuff was not working. I would have gotten the patient another cuff and obtained the patient's blood pressure. I would have also obtained a respiratory assessment due to the patient having cyanosis around the mouth and a neurological assessment due to the patient losing consciousness. I would have then notified the physician about any vital sign and assessment findings.

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

Critical thinking was violated when Nurse Reba failed to obtain a full set of vitals and failed to do proper assessments. If these would have been done there could be a chance that the patient would not have passed away.

Documentation was violated by not documenting a full set of vital signs and the patient's signs and symptoms observed. Nurse Reba also failed to notify the physician of the change in the patient's status.

- *Use the space below to describe what action you think a prudent nurse would take as the first 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.*

A prudent nurse would have immediately obtained a full set of vitals and done a respiratory and neurological assessment. The physician would have been notified and the correct precautions would have been taken in order to keep this patient alive.