

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Mendoza, Crystal Date: October 30, 2024 DAS Assignment # 2

Name of the defendant: Michelle Ann Montague

License number of the defendant: 910105

Date action was taken against the license: September 10, 2021

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.*

Throughout her practice as an RN, Michelle Ann Montague displayed unprofessional actions that ultimately led to the revocation of her nursing license. The following actions taken by the nurse were, misappropriate use of the medication Dilaudid while caring for the patient it was ordered for, for own private use. After acknowledging her wrong in participating in the misuse of a narcotic, the nurse failed to display self-control on another occasion and partook in the misuse of the medication Oxymorphone and Oxycodone in which she failed her drug test testing positive for the use of both medications.

While partaking in the use of the medications Dilaudid, Oxymorphone, and Oxycodone, the nurse jeopardized the patient's safety. The use of the medications can alter her judgement and decisions and ability to think critically, increasing not only the risk of harming the patient but also increasing the risk of committing a medication error. Ultimately, the nurse displayed unprofessionalism and unethical actions that could have caused poor patient care and medication errors.

- *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 nurse to have provided safe patient care and partaken in ethical actions, it was essential for the nurse to seek help for the misuse of medications that were ordered for the patient. The nurse did own up to the use of Dilaudid however, the nurse should have immediately notified her charge nurse for someone to help her treat her patients in a safe manner and sought help immediately. Recognizing she had these urges; the nurse could have notified her nursing manager to take the necessary steps to not only take care of herself but also to make better ethical decisions and maintain patient safety. Ultimately, the nurse needed to recognize how her actions jeopardized her patient's safety and relied on her supervisors when she began to have these urges.

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

Michelle Ann Montague failed to meet the following universal competencies, critical thinking, professional role and human caring.

Critical thinking was the main universal competencies to have been failed to meet. The nurse violated critical thinking by partaking in the use of drugs that are known to affect the brain when it comes to making decisions. Having participated in this action, the nurse altered her ability to make decisions regarding the care of her patients. Not only did it affect her ability to make decisions, it also affected her ability to evaluate and intervene with appropriate assessments needed to attend to the patient's needs and symptoms they could present with. Ultimately, the nurse failed to meet the critical thinking competency by putting herself in a state to be unable to make decisions, putting her patients at a higher risk for a decline in health.

Human Caring competency was failed to be met by the nurse by participating in the use of drugs that can affect her judgement and ability to care for her patients. By participating in the use of drugs, the nurse's ability to care for her patient's decrease because of the impairment of her ability to make rational decisions based on what the patient declares they need. Despite the nurse's ability to critically think because of the use of the drugs, her ability to not meet the patient's needs based on their symptoms because of her inability to make decisions violates her ability to care for the patient therefore failing to meet the human caring competency.

Professional Role was failed to be met by Mrs. Montague because of her inability to manage equipment or supplies effectively by using medication that not only belonged to her patients, but also taking medication that was being dispensed by the hospital. Mrs. Montague's use of these medications makes her untrustworthy to handle the supplies for the use of her patients. Along with incorrectly using the supplies dispensed, the nurse also impairs her ability to manage equipment effectively therefore increasing the risk of a medication error and potentially causing harm to the patient.

- *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.*

Upon discovering Mrs. Montague partake in the actions of misusing medications that were for her patients for her own use, I would notify the charge nurse to prioritize the safety of her patients and ensure that their needs have been met and are effectively receiving the proper treatment. I would also talk to Mrs. Montague and let her know that she is putting her patients at a risk for harm, if she truly acknowledges and understands how her actions affect her ability to not only properly care for her patients but also her ability to advocate for her patients, I will help her seek help. If Mrs. Montague does not take her opportunity to better herself to better her care for her patients, I would notify the state board to help decrease the chances of Mrs. Montague increasing the risk of harm to future patients. Overall, I believe we are all human and make mistakes; however, despite admitting to one of her actions, Mrs. Montague was putting her needs before the need of her patients when she chose to do it again instead of seeking help and therefore increased the risk for decline of health in her patients.