

Disciplinary Action Summary Presentation

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Shannon Spring Balentine

Registered Nurse

License Number- 704162

Date action was taken against the license: 12/10/2019



Incident of Negligence

On or around March 14, 2018, RN Shannon Balentine was found asleep on duty while holding an infant, who then slipped down her legs. This lack of alertness posed a serious risk to patient safety, potentially delaying critical assessments and medical intervention.



Failure to Document

On March 14, 2018, Shannon Balentine did not document the incident where an infant slipped from her legs while she was asleep on duty. This left the medical record incomplete, preventing other healthcare providers from being aware of the event. Lack of documentation could have led to missed assessments, delayed care, and increased risk of harm to the infant.



Consequences of the Incidents

Shannon Balentine's failure to remain alert and failure to document the incident led to a serious lapse in patient care, putting the infant and other patients at risk. These actions violated the standard of care expected of an RN. As a result, her nursing license received a warning with stipulations to ensure future compliance.



Preventive Measures to Ensure Patient Safety

- Prioritize Well-Being
- Adequate Rest
- Mental Health Care
- Implementing Regular Break on Shifts
- Supportive Work Environment
- Document As Soon As Possible



Universal Competencies Violated

- **Patient Safety**- Balentine's lack of alertness hindered her ability to provide effective monitoring and timely interventions, increasing the risk of harm to multiple patients.
- **Human Caring**- Balentine's lack of focus compromised her ability to provide attentive, compassionate care, undermining the essential nursing value of human caring.
- **Documentation**- Balentine's incomplete and delayed documentation violated the standard for accurate record-keeping, which is crucial for patient safety, continuity of care, and legal protection.



Universal Competencies Violated Continued

- **Communication**- Balentine's failure to document the incident hindered effective communication, preventing the care team from being fully informed about the patient's condition and impacting care decisions.
- **Clinical Judgement and Decision Making**- Balentine's failure to stay alert and respond to the situation compromised her ability to make timely, informed decisions, demonstrating a lack of clinical judgment and decision-making skills.



Proper Response to Nurse Misconduct

A **prudent nurse** must take **immediate action** when discovering patient harm or impaired behavior.

Steps include:

- **Assessing the patient** and ensuring they receive necessary medical attention.
- **Reporting the incident** to supervisory staff for investigation.
- **Accurately documenting** the event and potential risks.
- **Maintaining professionalism, confidentiality, and prioritizing patient safety** while following facility protocols.