

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Bron Fitzgerald

Date: 4/5/2025

DAS Assignment #1

Name of the defendant: Christine Solly, RN License number of the defendant: 1005013

Date action was taken against the license: 8/8/2023

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 each of them, e.g. drug diversion, HIPAA violation, abandonment, etc.*

Christine Solly had multiple occurrences of unprofessional actions while in the clinical setting of Texas Vista Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas, which led to her license revoke. These unprofessional actions were recorded on the dates of January 11, 2022, as well as August 31, 2022, and these unprofessional actions included: mishandling of narcotics while on the clinical floor, suspicion of being inebriated or under the influence of narcotics and controlled substances while in the call of duty, misappropriating fentanyl and morphine belonging to the facility or patients thereof, and failure to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. These occurrences all lead to a dangerous clinical environment and exposed the patients to a risk of harm due to the inaccurate placement of medication, in which medical personnel need to account for and know the location of.

The misappropriation of fentanyl and morphine from this case is very significant as both medications are very potent narcotics. In this situation Christine Solly is not only putting herself at risk but is putting all patients on the floor at risk of being exposed to very powerful drugs which in some cases can cause death. Also, with the misappropriation of these narcotics it effects the entire nursing staff as now there is incorrect findings within the medication dispensing system, and no known location of where these drugs might have been taken to.

In addition to the displacement of narcotics Christine Solly also seemed as if she was under the effect of said controlled substances. For this situation she is not only breaking health policy as a nurse but also breaking the policy of keeping the patients safe and cared for as she was under

the influence. From the effects of the drugs this could lead to her being unable to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.

Christine Solly also failed to follow the proper precautions and prevention methods regarding both the placement and proceeded use of narcotics in this situation. With the misappropriation of both fentanyl and morphine Christine also went on to conclude that she was giving the meds to a patient who hadn't taken any pain like medicine for three days on the day the incident initially occurred.

In conclusion, nurse Christine Solly was negligent of multiple narcotic precautions and prevention methods, as well as being negligent of herself performing her job inebriated, and for not following the proper protocol which resulted in the numerous great risks for the patients within the facility.

- *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.*

There are multiple measures that could have been taken in the case of Christine Solly to prevent her from having her license revoked. First, the nurse should have investigated the serious effects that narcotics have on both the mind and body when improperly used and in this case abused. Furthermore, coming from nursing school she would at least have had a baseline knowledge on the fact that fentanyl is one of the most addicting drugs we have in the medical profession, and she could have acted in the safe and professional way in which she is called to do as a nurse and if any correlation between her and the drug come into contact she is to follow the facility's safety protocols. Also, in the specific case of nurse Solly just the simple action of being reported by a fellow nurse for rehabilitation or even herself checking into a rehab facility for her problem could not have only solved the problem of misuse of the medication but also the displacement of the drugs in the facility.

In addition, Cristine Solly should have followed the facility procedures for displacement of drugs and adhered to her patients correctly and this entire list of charges would have been prevented. The nurse could have also deferred the strong narcotics of a specific patient to another nurse if she didn't feel well suited or up to the task of both handling and administering these medications.

- *Identify ALL universal competencies (4-5) that were violated and explain how in detail to reflect your understanding and importance of the universal competencies.*

Competencies that were violated in this case were safety and security, communication, critical thinking, and documentation.

Safety and security were violated in this case with more than one occurrence. In the misappropriation of the narcotics the nurse then puts all patients of the facility at risk for potential harm as well as her own coworkers. Further, the nurse also was inebriated on the job yet again putting patients at risk of unnecessary harm and violating the role as a caregiver that the nurse has as well as violating the medication rights the RN was supposed to follow.

Communication was violated when the RN did not speak up regarding the displacement of the medications, as well as explicitly lying to other coworkers about false medication administration to a patient who did not require these certain medications.

Critical thinking was violated as the RN did not prioritize patient safety within the facility, and the proper protocol to follow when dealing with certain medications in this instance narcotics. Christine Solly should never have taken medication from the medicine supply room without the intent to administer it to a patient, and if anything should have seriously evaluated the ways she could have asked for help as well as the outcome of her actions.

Documentation was violated as the nurse never even performed documentation for the medication taken out of the medicine supply room and the facility, and fraudulent documentation also occurred from the nurse after being questioned on the whereabouts of said medications.

- *Use the space below to describe what actions 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.*

In this situation the first thing I would do if I were to observe these actions is immediately go and report these obscenities to the charge nurse as well as file an incident report sheet regarding the nurse's actions. After doing this, I would then calmly and professionally pull Christine Solly to the side and communicate what I had witnessed and see if there was any intellectual thought behind her actions and if there was any confusion or differences from what I had witnessed. Finally, after taking what I think are all the initial actions needed to protect both the patients and faculty, I would also report Christine Solly to the State of Texas Nursing Board.