

This article demonstrates how a nurse got distracted during a medication pass and gave a client the wrong medication, resulting in her passing away due to the error. The woman lived in the long-term care facility after a hospital stays for complications of metastatic ovarian cancer and a history of bipolar disorder (Nurse Case Study: Woman's death caused by medication administration error). Her family could not take care of her at home. However, the family had several complaints of the staff not caring for her properly (Nurse Case Study: Woman's death caused by medication administration error). During an evening medication pass, an agency nurse was working on medications for a resident when she got distracted by another resident who needed assistance from another room (Nurse Case Study: Woman's death caused by medication administration error). The nurse went to help the resident. When she returned to continue the medication pass, she placed extra medication in another resident's medication pass. She did not realize the error (Nurse Case Study: Woman's death caused by medication administration error). Even when the resident specifically stated that she had never taken that many medications before, the nurse proceeded to tell the resident it was the correct medication and continued to administer the medication (Nurse Case Study: Woman's death caused by medication administration error). Not long after, the administration staff told the nurse the resident was unresponsive and had her sent out to the hospital. Three days later, she passed away due to a medication error (Nurse Case Study: Woman's death caused by medication administration error).

This journal relates to class material from this week because it shows that the nurse was possibly performing professional negligence.

What I have learned about myself this week as a nursing student is that if I get distracted while doing medication and am unsure of what medication is in the cup or if I do not remember what patient the medication goes to, do not administer the medication start over. I would instead start over than take the chance of harming one of my patients and ending up in trouble or losing my license possibly.

Reference:

*Nurse Case Study: Woman's death caused by medication administration error.* (n.d.). Retrieved September 26, 2021, from <https://www.nso.com/Learning/Artifacts/Legal-Cases/Nurse-Case-Study-Medication-administration-error-at-long-term-facility-the-cause-of-elderly-woman-s>.