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State of Wisconsin
Before the Board of Nursing

In the Matter of the Disciplinary Proceedings Against

Kathleen Meitner, LPN	Final Decision and Order
Respondent	LS0108073NUR

The parties to this proceeding for purposes of s. 227.53, Stats., are:

Kathleen Meitner, LPN
8194 Arpin Richfield Road
Arpin WI 54410

Board of Nursing
Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935
Madison WI 53708

Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935
Madison WI 53708

The parties having agreed to the attached stipulation, the Board of Nursing makes the following:

Findings of Fact

1. Kathleen Marie Meitner, L.P.N., ("Respondent") was born on February 7, 1951, and is licensed to practice practical nursing in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 24483, first granted on December 8, 1981.
2. On June 15, 1998, Respondent was employed at Marshfield Center, a nursing home, as a licensed practical nurse.
3. At approximately 5:30 a.m. on June 15, 1998, Respondent discovered Resident AB, an 88 year-old diabetic woman, unresponsive in her wheelchair in her room. Respondent performed a STAT blood sugar level on Resident A, and obtained a result of "Lo." That result indicated to Respondent that Resident AB's blood sugar level was less than 30 mg/dl.
4. Respondent recognized that prompt action was required to elevate the Resident's blood sugar level, and she administered a tube of Glutose oral glucose to Resident AB, placing the glucose under the resident's tongue, and called for assistance.
5. The instructions on the tube of Glutose clearly warn against administering the glucose to an unconscious person, or a person who is not capable of swallowing.
6. It is below standards of minimal competence of nursing practice to administer oral glucose to an unconscious patient.

Conclusions of Law

1. The Board of Nursing has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to s. 441.07, Stats.

2. Respondent's conduct in administering oral glucose to an unconscious patient was a violation of s. N 7.03(1), Wis. Admin. Code.

Order

Now, therefore, it is ordered that Kathleen Marie Meitner be and hereby is reprimanded.

It is further ordered that within nine months of the date of this Order, Kathleen Marie Meitner shall successfully complete 6 hours of continuing nursing education approved by the Board or its designee on the topic of managing diabetic crises, including hypoglycemic episodes.

It is further ordered that Respondent shall be responsible for all costs associated with completing the education required by this Order.

For purposes of this Order, the Board's designee is:

Department Monitor

Division of Enforcement

P.O. Box 8935

Madison WI 53708

Violation of any term of this Order may result in the summary suspension of the license previously granted to Kathleen Marie Meitner, L.P.N.

Dated this 6th day of December, 2001.

Wisconsin Board of Nursing

Ann Brewer, RN

A Member of the Board