

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

JENNIFER L. GUSTAFSON, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

:  
:  
:  
:  
:

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
LS# 0506091NUR

03 NUR 270

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stats. sec. 227.53 are:

Jennifer L. Gustafson, R.N.  
W10207 Cty Rd JJ  
Wautoma, WI 54982

Wisconsin Board of Nursing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

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

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties in this matter, Jennifer L. Gustafson, R.N. personally, and James E. Polewski, Attorney for Complainant, agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Board of Nursing.

The Board has reviewed the Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Jennifer L. Gustafson (D.O.B. March 17, 1975) is duly licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse (license # 129066). This license was first granted on March 24, 1998.

2. Jennifer L. Gustafson's latest address on file with the Department of Regulation and Licensing is W10207 Cty Rd JJ, Wautoma, WI 54982.

3. On September 13, 2004, Respondent was in charge of caring for a patient that was recovering from an exploratory laparotomy following an abdominal stab wound. The patient had two physician's orders for two Patient Controlled Analgesia ("PCA") epidurals written on two separate pages of the MAR. Respondent saw the physician's order for morphine IV PCA, but failed to look at the second page of the MAR and did not see the physician's order for Ropivacaine 0.15% with Fentanyl 3 mics/cc. IV PCA. Respondent also failed to notice that the morphine was to be started only after the Ropivacaine had been discontinued.

4. The patient's PCA epidural syringe needed to be replaced, and Respondent mistakenly placed a morphine IV PCA syringe into the PCA pump instead of the correct Ropivacaine 0.15% with Fentanyl 3 mics/cc. IV PCA syringe.

5. Four hours later, the Respondent discovered the medication error when she went to replace the syringe again. During this time, the patient had received approximately 45 ccs of morphine. Respondent informed the physician and anesthesiologist on call of the medication error, the patient was transferred to the ICU, and observed for any side effects. The patient suffered no negative side effects.

6. Respondent failed to follow the hospital's policy for administering PCA medications because she failed to have another nurse verify the medication. The hospital's policy requires a nurse to verify the medication with the physician's order, to compare the medication that is being placed in the PCA machine with the medication that is being removed from the PCA

machine, and to have a second nurse verify the medication.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing is authorized to enter into the attached stipulation, pursuant to sec. 227.44 (5) Wis. Stats.
2. By failing to verify that the medication that she was placing in the PCA machine was the medication that the physician had ordered, Jennifer L. Gustafson, R.N. is subject to disciplinary action against her license to practice as a registered nurse in the state of Wisconsin, pursuant to sec. 441.07(1)(c) Wis. Stats, and sec. N 7.03(1)(b) Wis. Adm. Code.

### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Respondent Jennifer Gustafson is REPRIMANDED.
2. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, pay to the Department of Regulation and Licensing COSTS of this proceeding in the amount of \$482.54 (Four Hundred Eighty-two dollars and 54 cents) pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.22(2). Payment shall be mailed or delivered to the Department Monitor.
3. Respondent shall, within nine (9) months from the date of this Final Decision and Order, submit acceptable documentation of successful completion of a minimum of six (6) hours of continuing education pre-approved by the Board or of other training pre-approved by the Board in the area of Medication Administration.
4. Acceptable documentation of completion of continuing education shall include: certification from the sponsoring organization as well as a statement signed by Respondent verifying her attendance at the course and completion of course requirements.
5. Respondent will be responsible for paying the full cost of attendance at these courses.
6. The Department Monitor is the individual designated by the Board as its agent to coordinate compliance with the terms of this Order, including receiving reports and coordinating all requests for approval of education or other petitions. The Department Monitor may be reached as follows:

Department Monitor  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8935

This Order shall become effective on the date of its signing.

Wisconsin Board of Nursing

By: Jacqueline Johnsrud, RN  
A Member of the Board

June 9, 2005  
Date