

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :

RENEE BLANCHETTE, R.N., :  
RESPONDENT. :

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
LS0611163NUR

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05 NUR 189

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Renee Blanchette, R.N.  
3961 County Highway G  
Stanley, WI 54678

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

Board of Nursing  
Department of Regulation & Licensing  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Board of Nursing. The Board has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Renee Blanchette, R.N., (“Respondent”) was born on December 3, 1960, and is licensed to practice professional nursing in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 99233, first granted on April 1, 1988.
2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Board of Nursing is 3961 County Highway G, Stanley, Wisconsin, 54768.
3. At all times relevant to this action, Respondent was working as a registered nurse at Clark County Health Care Center, Owen, Wisconsin.
4. Patient T.P. was a male, born July 26, 1909. He was roommate with Patient W.M.

5. Patient W.M. was a male, born September 19, 1920. He was roommate with Patient T.P.

6. Patient T.P. was admitted to Clark County Care Center from an assisted living facility on March 17, 2005. On admission, he was oriented to person and time, but not to place; he was blind from macular degeneration, and non-ambulatory due to rheumatoid arthritis and right hip avascular necrosis.

7. At approximately 5 a.m. on March 26, 2005, Respondent mistook Patient T.P. for Patient W.M., and applied a 50 mcg. Duragesic patch intended for Patient W.M. to Patient T.P.

8. Respondent was not familiar with either Patient T.P. or Patient W.M., and she failed to read the name on Patient T.P.'s "do not resuscitate" wrist band.

9. At approximately 10:30 a.m. on March 27, 2005, nursing staff were unable to rouse Patient T.P. for breakfast, and auscultation of the lungs demonstrated crackles with respiration. A nurse discovered the Duragesic patch on Patient T.P., bearing Patient W.M.'s name, Respondent's initials, and the date and time of administration.

10. Patient T.P. was taken to the hospital, and admitted with a diagnosis of aspiration pneumonia. On consultation with his family, supportive measures were discontinued on April 5, 2005, in favor of palliative measures. Patient T.P. died on April 7, 2005.

11. The minimally acceptable standard of nursing care requires the nurse to confirm that the correct medication is being administered to the correct patient, in the correct dose, at the correct time, by the correct route of administration.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. The conduct described in paragraphs 7 and 8, above, constitutes a violation of Wisconsin Administrative Code § N 7.03(1).

### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Renee Blanchette, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

2. Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in the state of Wisconsin is LIMITED by the condition that, within six months from the date of this Order, she shall successfully complete the National Council of the State Boards of Nursing continuing education course "Medication Errors: Detection and Prevention" and provide satisfactory evidence to the Board that she has done so.

- a. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs associated with completion of this required education.
- b. Proof of successful completion of the required continuing education shall be mailed to:

Department Monitor  
Division of Enforcement  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935  
Telephone (608) 267-3817  
Fax (608) 266-2264

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

3. Respondent shall, within 180 days from the date of this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of Five Hundred Seventy-Five (\$575.00) dollars. Payment shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, and mailed to:

Department Monitor  
Division of Enforcement  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935  
Telephone (608) 267-3817  
Fax (608) 266-2264

4. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to pay the costs as ordered or fails to comply with the ordered continuing education, the Respondent's license(#99233) SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

5. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

Wisconsin Board of Nursing

By: Marilyn Kaufmann  
A Member of the Board

11/16/06  
Date