

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 : **FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**
:
:
JANET MCGRORTY, R.N. : Order 0000464
RESPONDENT. :

Division of Enforcement Case #07 NUR 230

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

Janet McGrorty
2615 N. 59th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53210-2240

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

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Janet L. McGrorty (D.O.B. 5/27/51) is duly licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a professional nurse (license # 88651). This license was first granted on 8/21/84.

2. On May 18-19, 2007, Respondent was a traveling nurse working at Wheaton Franciscan-All Saints Hospital, Racine, Wisconsin, and was assigned to the intensive care unit, from 7 PM to 7 AM. At 6 PM on May 18, 2007, patient L.S., a woman born in 1956, was admitted to the ICU through the emergency department, and Respondent was assigned to her care. The patient was hypotensive and had been diagnosed with altered mental status and hyperkalemia; the patient's blood pressure had been stabilized with dopamine and was to be watched closely.

3. During her shift, Respondent obtained two IV bags from the pharmacy, one containing norepinephrine in a 5% dextrose solution, and the other a normal saline solution, from the pharmacy. The norepinephrine bag was obtained without a physician's order. While under her supervision, both bags' contents became contaminated with insulin.

4. During Respondent's shift, the patient's orders called for hourly blood pressure checks. Respondent charted these, and recorded that the lowest blood pressure was 86/40. Respondent also conducted other blood pressure checks during her shift, obtaining some readings of the patient's systolic pressure which were in the 70's; she did not chart any of these readings and did not take any action upon them, although they represented a change in the patient's condition.

5. During her shift, Respondent charted that she had administered 8 units of insulin to the patient, subcutaneously, at 12:05 AM. It was noted following Respondent's shift that the patient's labeled insulin had not been opened. Respondent could not account for the source of the insulin administered to the patient.

6. At 0400, Respondent noted and charted that the patient was somnolent, a significant change in the condition of this diabetic patient. Respondent did not take any action to deal with this change, such as calling the intensivist physician on duty. After Respondent's shift had ended, a laboratory report was received showing that the patient's glucose level was 6, as of 6 AM.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

By the conduct described above, respondent is subject to disciplinary action against her license to practice as a nurse in the state of Wisconsin, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(b), (c) and (d), and Wis. Adm. Code § N 7.03(1)(a), (b), and (c).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that :

1. Janet McGrorty, R.N., is REPRIMANDED for her unprofessional conduct in this matter.
2. The license of Janet McGrorty, R.N., to practice as a nurse in the state of Wisconsin is LIMITED as follows:
 - a. It is Respondent's responsibility to arrange for satisfactory written reports from supervisors to be provided to the Department Monitor on a quarterly basis, as directed by the Department Monitor, for a period of not less than two years and continuing until the Board, in its discretion, determines that they are no longer necessary to achieve the goals of protection of the public and rehabilitation of Respondent. These reports shall assess Respondent's work performance, and shall

include the number of hours of active nursing practice worked during that quarter. It is a violation of this Order for Respondent's work performance to be unsatisfactory in any respect.

- b. Respondent shall report to the Board (through the Department Monitor) any change of employment status, residence, address or telephone number within five (5) days of the date of a change.
- c. No later than November 30, 2010, Respondent shall demonstrate successful completion of the following: 7 hours of continuing education in prevention of medication errors, which shall have been pre-approved by the Board or its designee. The Board approves the course "Medication Errors—Detection and Prevention" offered by the Learning Extension of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, and Respondent may propose other courses which are substantially equivalent.
- d. No later than November 30, 2010, Respondent shall demonstrate successful completion of the following: 6 hours of continuing education in monitoring critically ill patients, including diabetics, which shall have been pre-approved by the Board or its designee.
- e. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order and all other subsequent orders immediately to supervisory personnel at all settings where Respondent works as a nurse or care giver or provides health care, currently or in the future.

3. 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 demonstrate timely compliance with the ordered continuing education as set forth above, Respondent's license may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be **SUSPENDED**, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent demonstrates completion of the continuing education.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall pay the costs of investigating and prosecuting this matter, in the amount of \$550, within 120 days of this Order. If not paid, Respondent's license shall be **SUSPENDED** without further notice or hearing, until they are paid in full, together with any accrued interest.

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By: 
A Member of the Board

October 14, 2010
Date