

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

MARY K. PISULA, R.N., :
RESPONDENT. :

Order 0000529

Division of Enforcement Case #07 NUR 407

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

Mary K. Pisula
5442 Oriole Lane
Stevens Point, WI 54481

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. Mary Kay Pisula, R.N., (D.O.B. 9/12/1959) is duly licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a professional nurse (license # 116780). This license was first granted on 7/12/1994.

2. In November, 2007, Respondent was employed as a home care nurse by Ministry Home Health Care, Marshfield, Wisconsin. On 11/3/07, Respondent conducted a home visit of patient for the purposes of teaching a family member how to care for the patient's abdominal surgical wound, and checking the patient's condition. She subsequently charted the visit, noting that she was unable to visualize the wound as the wound vacuum is intact and the patient stated that it was changed the previous day. The dressing was described as intact and without drainage.

Respondent charted: "Daughter states she has been doing dressing change independently to LVAD site. Daughter states if you have my father on for a visit for tomorrow there is no need for you to come as I will have already done everything" and "daughter is EMT demonstrated competency care of site to LVAD site and IV care." Respondent also charted hearing the daughter conduct a loud and profane telephone conversation in the home, during the visit, and represents to the Board that she departed the home and did not complete her charting immediately, because of the apparent family discord and resulting chaos. The charting was started on 11/3/07, and completed at 2158 on 11/5/07.

3. The patient later experienced an episode of low blood pressure and low VAD flow, unrelated to his abdominal surgical wound, was taken to the hospital at 1930 on 11/3/07, and died in the early morning hours of 11/4/07.

4. Respondent charted the following as having occurred at 1:00 PM on 11/4/07: "Contacted patient states does not need an SN [skilled nurse] visit today, stated his daughter is doing the dressing change to LVAD sites and also able to do tubing changes to IV, spoke with daughter who is an EMT states no need for SN today 'I have already done everything'."

5. Respondent represents to the Board that what actually occurred on 11/4 was that she telephoned the home in the morning and "a family member answered the phone stated no need to make a visit, and hung up. I believe this is where I charted patient called in error."

6. The Board finds that the Respondent's charting described in paragraph 4, above, whether contributed to by the chaotic nature of this seriously ill patient's home on 11/3/2007, or otherwise, was unacceptable. The Board, in determining appropriate discipline, considers that Respondent was discharged as a result of this incident, has taken a workshop dealing with documentation, and is enrolled in a BSN completion program.

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) and Wis. Adm. Code § N 7.04(6) and (15).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the attached Stipulation is accepted, and Mary K. Pisula, R.N., is REPRIMANDED for her unprofessional conduct in this matter.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall pay the costs of investigating and prosecuting this matter, in the amount of \$400, within 120 days of this Order. If not paid, Respondent's license may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED without further notice or hearing, until they are paid in full, together with any accrued interest.

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By: Latan Shier
A Member of the Board

11-4-10
Date

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