

Nurse faces prison for a deadly error, her colleagues worry

Research online and find a recent medical error that made the news. Answer the following questions.

What happened in the incident?

The patient was supposed to get Versed, a sedative intended to calm her before being scanned in a large, MRI-like machine. But Vaught accidentally grabbed vecuronium, a powerful paralyzer, which stopped the patient's breathing and left her brain-dead before the error was discovered.

Who was involved?

38-year-old nurse named Vaught. A trainee that wasn't mentioned. The patient 75 year old Charlene Murphy.

What were the ramifications for the patient and/or staff?

Unfortunately, due to this mistake the 75 year old patient Charlene Murphy passed away. The acting nurse that made the mistake is facing possible felony charges of reckless homicide and felony abuse of an impaired adult. Vaught faces up to 12 years in prison. The Tennessee Board of Nursing revoked her license and almost certainly ended her nursing career.

Reflect on the incident and think about some causes and possible interventions that could have prevented the error.