

Diversion: Nurse Fired For Giving Narcotic, Ibuprofen To Co-Worker.

An LPN who was also a certified drug and alcohol counselor gave medication to a co-worker at the addiction clinic where they both worked. The co-worker said he had a headache.

The US District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin upheld the facility's right to fire her, that is, the facility was not just trying to take away her retirement benefits as she claimed.

The co-worker had a lengthy personal history of addiction, but him having an addictive background was not a necessary factor for the facility to be able to fire her. She also claimed it was not the opioid propoxyphene but garden-variety ibuprofen she gave him, but that was also a non-issue in the court's judgment. Diversion of medication without a prescription is grossly inappropriate conduct. Zocher-Burke v. Quality Addiction Management, Inc., 2007 WL 2821989 (E.D. Wisc., September 27, 2007).