

## Hyperkalemia: Nurse Ignores Doctor's Orders.

Nine hours after chemo the patient was drowsy, confused and disoriented. The nurse phoned the physician to report his potassium was 8.9 and the physician ordered Kayexalate given immediately.

After astutely reporting to the physician, however, the nurse neglected to transcribe the physician's order and never gave the medication. The patient died in the ICU three days later.

The family's lawsuit in the District Court, Ada County, Idaho settled for an undisclosed amount. [Figueredo v. St. Alphonsus Reg. Med. Ctr.](#), 2007 WL 2749158 (Dist. Ct. Ada Co. Idaho, July 16, 2007).