

Documentation: Pain To Be Noted As Reported By The Patient.

According to the Court of Appeals of Minnesota, it is misconduct serious enough to justify termination for a nurse to document the severity of the patient's pain without asking the patient himself or herself to verbalize a subjective rating of his or her pain.

In documenting the patient's pain, it is for the patient, not the nurse, to assign a number on a scale of 1 to 10 if a 1 to 10 numerical scale for pain documentation is the formula in use at the hospital. **Johnson v. Allina Health System, 2010 WL 3463640 (Minn. App., September 7, 2010).**