

> On Sun, Jan 2, 2011 at 1:35 PM, <chuffine@u.washington.edu

> <mailto:chuffine@u.washington.edu>> wrote:

>

> Becky

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> This is really painful stuff. I read the blog including McC's
> note. Please do realize that the set up here if reviewed by
> psychiatrists would be judged and totally appropriate and they
> would find Dr. McC very non-vulnerable.

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> The issue really isn't about consent at all as he was evidently an
> involuntarily hospitalized patient and was said to be very ill. I
> have no idea what they thought was his condition and if the
> medications were appropriate for such a condition, or even if
> their diagnosis was correct. I would presume they thought it was
> and would be able to defend their diagnostic judgment with ease.
> The nature of the medications they were using, and thinking of
> using, would indicate that they thought he had a psychotic illness
> of some sort for which in psychiatry, curing symptoms reigns
> supreme over a collaborative approach. Parents who objected to
> medical treatment they would see as at best ill informed and at
> worst impaired themselves.

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> I know the age of consent and 'parent initiated treatment' laws
> well. These were not involved here. What I do not know is the
> rights of parents with a very impaired child 13 and older who is
> involuntarily hospitalized. I would assume that you would retain
> all parental rights and forbidding certain medications would have
> to be honored short of a court order.

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> I assume that your demand that he not be given antipsychotics was
> clear, but was it ever presented to them in writing? Did you ever
> see a court order in the involuntary process and were you involved
> in that at all? Did you ever hear that they were going to court to
> get a judge to over rule your objections? If they never went to
> court and you can document your refusal to let them use
> antipsychotics you may have a case, but you may also find that the
> law is fuzzy in this arena.

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> This is my best appraisal of the situation. Be careful, and please
> keep this e-mail exchange confidential. Call me if you want more
> clarification as e-mail is sooo non-confidential.

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> CH