

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE

COPY
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Probate Division

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
 Plaintiff,)
)
 vs.)
)
 WB: WILLIAM BIGLEY)
)
 Defendant.)

OCT 28 2008

Clk of the Trial Court

Case No. 3AN-08-00493 PR CI

*** CONFIDENTIAL ***

This hearing was public.
Jim Gottstein

VOLUME II

TRANSCRIPT OF MOTION HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE SHARON GLEASON
Superior Court Judge

Anchorage, Alaska
May 14, 2008
10:17 A.M.

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE STATE: Timothy M. Twomey, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
1031 West 4th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

FOR THE DEFENDANT: James B. Gottstein, Esq.
Law Project for Psychiatric Rights
406 G Street, Suite 206
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

1 3AN6308-79

2 10:17:01

3 THE COURT: Okay. We are back on record in a
4 case involving Mr. Bigley, who is present here in the
5 courtroom. And we have Mr. Twomey and Mr. Gottstein.

6 And I received paperwork from you,
7 Mr. Gottstein, yesterday. And in it, it indicated you
8 had not yet received the chart. Has that been
9 remedied, or what is the status there?

10 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Your Honor, I received -- it
11 was there when I got back from my supreme court oral
12 argument, so yesterday.

13 THE COURT: All right. And I see a rather
14 lengthy witness list. And I am concerned about the
15 timeframe. So -- and it looks like three are simply
16 to have available for cross examination of the
17 materials you submitted, which I have reviewed; is
18 that correct?

19 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Yes, Your Honor. I really
20 only have three witnesses I plan to call.

21 THE COURT: Dr. Jackson, Dr. Hopson, and
22 Camry Altaffer (phonetic)?

23 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Altaffer.

24 THE COURT: Altaffer. All right.

25 Mr. Twomey, are you ready to proceed?

1 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Yes, ma'am. And I gave them
2 to Mr. Twomey.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Twomey, you have a copy, as
4 well?

5 MR. TWOMEY: Yes. I received them this
6 morning, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Do I have Grace Jackson on the
8 phone?

9 THE WITNESS: Yes.

10 THE COURT: All right. Good morning,
11 Ms. Jackson. My name is Judge Gleason. We have you
12 on a speakerphone here in a courtroom in Anchorage,
13 Alaska.

14 You have been called as a witness on behalf
15 of the respondent, William Bigley. It is a matter
16 here where I have the lawyer from the state and
17 Mr. Gottstein present.

18 I am going to be recording your testimony
19 here in just a moment. I will administer an oath to
20 you. But any questions first?

21 THE WITNESS: No.

22 THE COURT: All right. If you'd raise your
23 right hand, please.

24 (Oath administered.)

25 THE COURT: If you would then please state

1 MR. TWOMEY: Yes, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: All right. And who would you
3 seek to call first, Mr. Gottstein?

4 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Dr. Jackson. And her number
5 is area code 910/208-3278.

6 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

7 So did I indicate until noon today we could
8 go, or did I -- is that what I had indicated? Or did
9 I make any indication?

10 I have to go to an event at noon or there
11 about. So we'll see where we are time-wise. I know
12 it's an important issue for your client,
13 Mr. Gottstein. If we need to find more time in the
14 next couple of days, we can do so. So let's see what
15 progress we can make up until noon.

16 MR. GOTTSTEIN: You indicated noon.

17 THE COURT: I did. All right. That was my
18 recollection, but I didn't see it in the log notes.

19 All right.

20 We are a little late getting started, which
21 was not really my fault, but my reality, anyway.

22 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Your Honor, I gave the clerk
23 exhibits for this morning.

24 THE COURT: I have them right here. A
25 through F; is that correct?

1 and spell your full name.

2 THE WITNESS: Grace Elizabeth Jackson.
3 That's G-R-A-C-E, Elizabeth, E-L-I-Z-A-B-E-T-H,
4 Jackson, J-A-C-K-S-O-N.

5 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.
6 Go ahead, please, Mr. Gottstein.

7 DR. GRACE JACKSON
8 called on behalf of the respondent, testified
9 telephonically as follows on:

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. GOTTSTEIN

12 Q Thank you, Dr. Jackson. First off, did you
13 send me a copy of your curriculum vitae?

14 A Yes, I did.

15 Q And it's 11 pages?

16 A I believe that is correct, yes.

17 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I'd move to -- it's
18 Exhibit A. I would move to admit.

19 THE COURT: Any objection there?

20 MR. TWOMEY: No, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right. A will be admitted.
22 (Exhibit A admitted.)

23 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Should I give this to the
24 clerk at this point?

25 THE COURT: That's fine. You can hold on to

1 it, and we'll get it later, if that's easier for you.

2 BY MR. GOTTSTEIN

3 Q Okay. And if I might just take care of the
4 other part of it, too. Did you also send me
5 essentially an analysis of the neuroleptics,
6 neurotoxicity of -- oops, I didn't number it -- 19
7 pages.

8 A Yes, that's correct.

9 Q And is that your work?

10 A Yes, that is my work.

11 Q And this analysis is true to the best of your
12 knowledge?

13 A That's correct.

14 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I would move to admit that,
15 Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: That is Exhibit E?

17 MR. GOTTSTEIN: E.

18 THE COURT: All right. Any objection to E,
19 Mr. Twomey?

20 MR. TWOMEY: No, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right. E will be admitted.
22 (Exhibit E admitted.)

23 BY MR. GOTTSTEIN

24 Q Thank you, Dr. Jackson. Could you briefly
25 describe to the court your experience, training --

1 training, education and experience?

2 A Certainly. I attended medical school at the
3 University of Colorado between 1992 and 1996.

4 Following that, I entered and successfully
5 completed residency in psychiatry, which was performed
6 actually within the U.S. Navy. And that residency was
7 performed -- well, the internship was in 1996 through
8 '97, the residency 1997 through 2000.

9 Subsequent to completing that residency
10 program, I served as an active duty psychiatrist in
11 the U.S. military. I actually transitioned out of the
12 military in the spring of 2002, and I have been
13 actually in self-employed status since 2002 working at
14 a variety of different positions in order to have some
15 flexibility for research, lecturing, writing, and
16 clinical work, and also forensic consultation.

17 Q Could you describe -- so have you published
18 papers?

19 A Yes. I have published papers in peer-review
20 journals. I have contributed chapters to other books
21 which have been edited by other mental health
22 professionals, both in this country and overseas.

23 And I am also the author of my own book,
24 which I published in the year 2005.

25 Q And what was the name of that book?

1 A That book is called Rethinking Psychiatric
2 Drugs, a Guide for Informed Consent.

3 Q And have you testified as an expert --
4 testified or consulted as an expert in
5 psychopharmacology cases?

6 A Yes. I have served as a consultant in a
7 number of cases involving psychiatric rights similar
8 to this case.

9 Also involving disputes over the use of
10 medications versus alternative treatments in regards
11 to child treatments. I've served as a consultant to
12 families or their doctors in other states in order to
13 assist in the preparation of different treatment
14 plans.

15 And I've also been involved as an expert
16 witness in consulting on product liability cases.

17 Q Were you qualified as an expert in
18 psychiatric and psychopharmacology in what's known as
19 the Myers case in Alaska here in 2003?

20 A Yes, I was.

21 Q And did Dr. Moser testify I think something
22 like that you -- that you knew more about the actions
23 of these drugs on the brain than any clinician he knew
24 in the United States?

25 MR. TWOMEY: Objection, hearsay, Your Honor.

1 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. I'm getting a lot
2 of beeps on my phone. Can you hear me all right?

3 THE COURT: Yes.

4 But, Mr. Gottstein, your response to the
5 hearsay objection?

6 MR. GOTTSTEIN: It's actually in the
7 testimony that was filed, I believe.

8 THE COURT: Well, then the testimony speaks
9 for itself.

10 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Okay.

11 THE COURT: So you can go forward.

12 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I would move Dr. Jackson as
13 an expert in psychiatry and psychopharmacology.

14 THE COURT: Any objection there, Mr. Twomey,
15 or voir dire?

16 MR. TWOMEY: No, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: All right. Then I will find the
18 doctor so qualified in those two fields.

19 Go ahead, please, Mr. Gottstein.

20 BY MR. GOTTSTEIN

21 Q Dr. Jackson, in preparation for this case,
22 have you reviewed the -- what's known as the -- well,
23 the affidavit of Robert Whitaker?

24 A Yes, I have.

25 Q And what is your opinion on that affidavit?

1 A I believed it was very truthful. I thought
2 it was a very accurate presentation of the history of
3 this specific class of medications which we are
4 discussing in this case, the antipsychotic
5 medications.

6 And also a very succinct but accurate
7 description of some of the problems that have emerged,
8 not only in the conduct of the research, but also in
9 terms of the actual lived experience of patients. So
10 I felt it was a very accurate and very clear
11 presentation of the information as I understand it
12 myself.

13 Q Now, would it be fair to say that this
14 information is not generally shared by most clinicians
15 in the United States?

16 A Oh, I think that would be a very fair -- very
17 fair statement.

18 Q And why would you say that is?

19 A Well, I think we have a short time here.
20 It's really a broad subject. But quite succinctly
21 what has happened is that the educational process
22 throughout medicine, not just psychiatry, and also the
23 continuing medical education process, even when
24 physicians have completed the first steps of their
25 training, have actually presented a very biased

1 depiction of the history, or actually omitting the
2 history of many medications.

3 So a lot of this is a reflection of the
4 educational process, both in the first stages of
5 medical school and residency, and then what is
6 occurring in the medical literature even now.

7 Q Let me stop you right there just for a
8 minute. So were you trained in this way?

9 A Yeah. I was -- absolutely. I was trained in
10 the traditional sense that basically serious --
11 especially severe -- quote, severe mental illness or
12 mental illnesses are diseases of the brain which
13 require chemical treatments, i.e., medication
14 treatments, and that in most cases, these medications
15 must be used on a very chronic or even permanent
16 basis.

17 Q And did something happen to cause you to
18 change your mind or question that information?

19 A Lots of things happened. Probably one of the
20 most important things is that I was fortunate enough
21 to be trained -- or be training in a location that
22 exposed me to some additional information.

23 In other words, some of the history, and also
24 some of the alternative work which could be done that
25 might be effective. So that was one part, is I did

1 begin to have an exposure to a different perspective.

2 But the most -- probably the most important
3 thing for me was the lived reality of my patients,
4 just opening my eyes and really paying attention to
5 see whether or not people were improving.

6 Q I'm sorry; I missed that a little bit. Could
7 you go into that a little bit further, what you found?

8 A Sure. Well, what really happened is that
9 internship -- I should probably just back up and say
10 that I regard -- in retrospect, I look at the
11 educational process as really an indoctrination.

12 And I think it's rather unique or heroic when
13 people can begin to examine things more critically.
14 And I was just lucky enough to have an exposure to
15 some individuals who allowed me to do that.

16 But more specifically, I began to see that in
17 clinic after clinic, whatever setting I was moving
18 through, I was seeing the patients were in fact not
19 improving, that in most cases, in fact, patients were
20 getting sicker and sicker.

21 And there are two ways to react to that. One
22 could either blame that on the underlying illness and
23 say that we just don't have treatments yet that are
24 effective, or one could even begin to pay attention
25 and ask a broader question or more pointed question,

1 gee, is it possible that there's something about the
2 way we are approaching these phenomena that is in fact
3 getting in the way of recovery?

4 And once I began to ask that question, I
5 basically had a 180-degree turnabout in terms of how I
6 had to practice ethically and according to science.

7 Q And did that result in a -- I think you kind
8 of testified to this -- in a change in direction more
9 towards researching this issue?

10 A Oh, absolutely. Well, basically, it resulted
11 in two things. It resulted in a great deal of
12 conflict between myself and most conventional
13 settings. It's why I'm an independent practitioner
14 and not a person enjoying an academic appointment or
15 an appointment in a facility.

16 So it really made -- I had to make a firm
17 decision, was I going to be truthful to science or was
18 I going to go after a \$200,000 a year job with nice
19 perks and the respect of my colleagues?

20 So it was very clear to me that in order to
21 honor the dictum first do no harm, I had to really
22 stay truthful to the science. And that's really what
23 necessitated my breakaway. So that's why I'm really
24 an independent person who does my own research and
25 tried to just help where -- you know, where the help

1 is actually needed or asked for.

2 Q Thank you. And so then, just to kind of fill
3 in then this, it's Exhibit C, your neurotoxicity
4 analysis, that would be some of your, you know, more
5 recent work, is that correct, or current state of your
6 research into this issue?

7 A Yeah. Fairly current.

8 I am trying to finish a second book this
9 year. And what has really happened over the past two
10 years is that I try to do clinical work to keep myself
11 current with that.

12 But I also step aside. And probably every
13 single day, I am working on the most current research
14 in the field in order to, you know, lecture and to
15 also write this second book.

16 What really happened about four years ago is
17 I began to appreciate the fact that most physicians --
18 and this isn't just a criticism of psychiatry, by any
19 means. But most of us ignore something which is
20 called target organ toxicity. We don't pay attention
21 to how the treatments we're using might actually be
22 adversely affecting the very target we are trying to
23 fix or help improve or repair.

24 So in my case, about two years ago, I started
25 to just begin focusing on the most current research

1 phenomena as brain diseases.

2 The second thing that happened was the birth
3 of something called evidence-based medicine. This
4 was -- actually sort of became official through the
5 Journal of the American Medical Association and other
6 major journals to really elevate an importance, not
7 the actual day-to-day observations that a doctor would
8 be making and not the actual science of what causes
9 illness, but clinical trials that are aimed at just
10 improving or changing symptoms.

11 The third thing that happened was something
12 that is called direct consumer advertising in 1997,
13 which again was trying to market these drugs and make
14 them more popular or appealing to the public.

15 And the fourth big thing that has really
16 changed is something called the preemption doctrine.
17 And also, the Daubert litigation.

18 Daubert was a supreme court decision in 1993
19 that has really made it quite difficult for toxic tort
20 litigation to occur, so that the implications of that
21 for doctors -- and they don't realize this. It's very
22 much behind the scenes -- is that the pharmaceutical
23 industry began publishing as many papers that they
24 could as fast as possible in the journals in order to
25 meet the Daubert standard of something called weight

1 that looked at the brain-damaging effects of different
2 kinds of interventions. And that is really what I've
3 been focusing on.

4 So the document that you have there is a
5 reflection of some of that research. I should say
6 that it's not completely up to date, because some of
7 the research I've been doing more recently even
8 demonstrates that these drugs are more toxic than what
9 I have written in this report.

10 Q Okay. Thank you. I want to get to that --
11 get to that also a little bit more. But I'm also --
12 are there other reasons why clinicians are not really
13 understanding this -- this state of affairs?

14 A Sure. Well, I think there are so many things
15 that happened.

16 I'll just take my example. I went to medical
17 school in 1992, graduated in '96, and did my residency
18 until 2000. This was a very pivotal time in what was
19 occurring within the mental health field and also
20 within the United States culturally. And if I just
21 picked, like, maybe four key things.

22 One is the government decided to name this
23 decade the decade of the brain. In doing so, it sort
24 of attached a governmental license or the
25 (indiscernible) of sanctioning regarding these

1 of evidence or preponderance of the evidence.

2 So essentially what happened in the 1990s is
3 that the journals, more than ever before in history,
4 became a tool of marketing, a marketing arm for the
5 drug companies. And drug companies shifted in terms
6 of previous research in the United States.

7 Most of the research had previously been
8 funded by the government and conducted in academic
9 centers. In the 1990s, that was pretty much over, and
10 most of the funding is now coming from the
11 pharmaceutical industry. So that's really in a
12 nutshell what happened in the 1990s when I was
13 training.

14 Now, where are we now? What that means is
15 that the journals that most doctors are relying upon
16 for their continuing information continued to be
17 dominated by pharmaceutical industry funded studies
18 and by papers which are being written, if not entirely
19 by the drug companies, then by authors who have part
20 of their finances paid for by the drug companies.

21 And while I don't believe that it's
22 necessarily going to buy us the information in an
23 article, I think trials have to be funded by someone.
24 Unfortunately what has happened is that there have
25 been too many episodes of the suppressed information,

1 so that doctors cannot get the whole truth.

2 Q Well, I want to follow up on that. What do
3 you mean by suppressed information?

4 A Well, one of the things that has happened
5 repeatedly, and again, most doctors don't realize
6 this, is that the pharmaceutical industry has not been
7 forthcoming in terms of surrendering all of the
8 information to the Food and Drug Administration that
9 they were by law I believe, or at least under ethics,
10 required to do.

11 For instance, in January of this year, the
12 New England Journal of Medicine published a very
13 important article that had been done. Actually, one
14 of the key authors was a former reviewer at the Food
15 and Drug Administration, who is now back in private
16 practice, or somewhere.

17 And he and his co-authors had actually had
18 access and reviewed the clinical trial database on the
19 antidepressant medications. And they found that
20 31 percent of the trials were never published. So
21 31 percent of that information was never reported in
22 the journals so that doctors could see it.

23 Okay. Well, you might say who cares. The
24 point of it is that within that 31 percent, had they
25 been published, the overall risk benefit understanding

1 of this category of medications would have been
2 changed. Instead of favoring these drug treatments,
3 it would have altered the whole face of the journals,
4 and potentially the use of these medications would
5 have become more limited.

6 Because that 31 percent of the information
7 was showing that the medications were, A, not terribly
8 effective or not more effective than placebo at all,
9 and, B, it really began to reveal the full scope of
10 the hazard. So by not publishing all this
11 information, there is a false view of efficacy and
12 safety.

13 I should say the same thing has happened with
14 Vioxx. The same thing has happened with the
15 cholesterol-lowering drugs. This is an epidemic right
16 now, which is a real crisis in the integrity of
17 medicine. It's not just psychiatry.

18 Q Does the same thing happen with respect to
19 the neuroleptics?

20 A Absolutely, the same thing has happened with
21 respect to the neuroleptics. I think you're a perfect
22 example of someone who has tried to work to bring some
23 of this hidden material to the forefront, because I
24 still think there are concerns among professionals,
25 and I hope among the public, that the Food and Drug

1 Administration still may not have seen all of the
2 actual data that has been generated in the actual
3 trials. So it is a continuing problem and a
4 continuing concern.

5 And yes, I believe that most people -- I'll
6 give you an example. When I was working in the VA
7 clinic a couple summers ago in Oregon, I attended a
8 dinner lecture where a speaker for a specific
9 antipsychotic medication slipped out some information
10 that I thought was extremely important. He said that
11 the FDA and the public still has not seen information
12 on Abilify, Aripiprazole, another antipsychotic.

13 And he alluded to the fact that there was a
14 severe problem with cardiac toxicity, but he would not
15 go any further. He was speaking on behalf of another
16 company. But he said that it would be possible to
17 contact him and perhaps he could share that
18 information.

19 Well, my point is, why are the rest of the
20 doctors not getting this information that Abilify is
21 eight times more toxic to the heart than the other
22 antipsychotics? I sort of filed that away in the
23 background of my head and said, boy, you know, I'd
24 like to have this information.

25 But the point is, doctors are not getting the

1 information. And that's a real problem both for them
2 and it's a problem for their patients.

3 Q Is it fair to say that you've really devoted
4 your life to -- or your work at this point to
5 ferreting out this sort of information and making it
6 available?

7 A Right. As best I can. And you know, it's --
8 it's really sort of a Catch 22. I would love to have
9 the respect of my peers. I would love to be at
10 Harvard teaching. You know, I would love to be an
11 academic able to teach medical students.

12 But unfortunately, the system is so skewed
13 still in the direction of the pharmaceutical companies
14 and their products that I can't, you know, even get a
15 foot in the door.

16 So yes, I am full-time researcher trying to
17 do my best to understand this material accurately, and
18 fairly, and objectively, and then to actually act
19 responsibly in response to that knowledge.

20 Q So in reviewing this information, is it
21 important to carefully look at the data and analyze
22 what's actually presented?

23 A It's extremely important to look at the
24 methodology. I don't think -- unless a person is
25 actually working at the Food and Drug Administration

1 or one of the actual clinical trial researchers, you
2 know, actually producing the data that you would
3 actually -- that a person like myself would have
4 access to the raw data.

5 But what I can analyze and ask questions
6 about is to go to people who have either performed
7 these studies, or when I read the published studies,
8 which is usually what I have access to, to really use
9 good critical thinking in terms of analyzing the
10 methods that have been used.

11 And you might -- I'm not sure if we're going
12 to have time to discuss methodology, but this is one
13 of the key things that any physician really has to pay
14 attention to.

15 It's not just the fact that there might be 10
16 or 20 studies that say a particular medication is
17 either good, bad, or indifferent. It's actually
18 important to -- you know, before even looking at that
19 conclusion, to address how the study was performed so
20 that one can make a well-informed and an appropriate
21 judgment as to whether or not the conclusion should
22 even be considered.

23 Q And so without going too much into it, could
24 you describe a couple of methodological concerns that
25 you have with respect to the second generation of

1 neuroleptic studies of which Risperdal is a member?

2 A Certainly. One of the things that has
3 happened is that the database or the research
4 (indiscernible), which is actually used to approve
5 medications in this country, psychiatric medications,
6 and then used to continue to argue in their favor,
7 especially in product liability litigation or in a lot
8 of cases. That data set is very limited in terms of
9 generalizability.

10 What most people don't realize is that when a
11 drug is being approved, the people performing the
12 research want to pick the healthiest or the least sick
13 or the least damaged patients, so that they can try
14 and produce good outcomes. So that is one of the main
15 concerns that all of us doctors have about clinical
16 trials is that we recognize the fact that the
17 generalizability is limited.

18 What do I mean by that? Well, they usually
19 want to pick people who don't have additional
20 illnesses, such as diabetes, heart disease, lung
21 problems, liver disease.

22 Well, that's going to rule out a large number
23 of people who are actually existing in the real world,
24 because once they've been on many of these
25 medications, they are guaranteed to have some of these

1 problems.

2 Number two is they eliminate the use of
3 additional drugs, meaning additional medication.
4 Well, that eliminates another huge portion of the
5 United States population, because most of the people
6 who are being seen in mental health settings are
7 actually receiving more than one, and in some cases,
8 you know, as many as 10 or even 20 medications for
9 various conditions.

10 So it makes it very difficult to extrapolate
11 to the real-world setting the information that they
12 get or they find in a clinical trial.

13 Another problem is the length of a clinical
14 trial. A clinical trial usually is cut off at six
15 weeks. That's it. And the drug companies understand
16 and actually choose the six-week cut off for a very
17 good reason. They know that generally speaking, they
18 can't continue to produce favorable results after six
19 weeks.

20 And then another big problem with these
21 methodologies is the fact that they really are
22 enrolling people who have previously been receiving
23 medications.

24 So what does that mean and why does that
25 alter or bias the results? Well, one of the problems

1 in the antipsychotic medication literature, as in the
2 antidepressant literature, is the fact that patients
3 are brought into the study and they have previously
4 been taking a medication, in some cases right up to
5 the day that they enter the study.

6 And then the first seven to ten days in most
7 of these trials involve taking the patients off of
8 those previous or pre-existing medications. So seven
9 to ten days, the person is abruptly cut off from their
10 previous drug.

11 Now the real stage of the trial begins. So
12 that first seven- to ten-day window is something that
13 is called a washout. And sometimes what they'll do is
14 they'll give everybody a sugar pill in those first
15 seven to ten days and call it a placebo washout.

16 Now, the use of the term washout has two
17 meanings. Washout meaning whatever other drugs the
18 person may have been taking before, those are supposed
19 to wash out of the system. And the second part -- and
20 the second meaning of washout is that if someone
21 begins to improve too much in those seven to ten days,
22 they are removed from the study.

23 Q So may I interrupt you?

24 A Sure.

25 Q Are you saying that when people are withdrawn

1 from the drugs they were taking previously and they
2 improve when they get taken off the drugs, then they
3 are eliminated from the study?

4 A That's right. They take them out of the
5 study. Because they only want to have people
6 remaining in the study who are going to continue to
7 look -- you know, either continue to look bad on the
8 placebo if they continue to stay -- if they are
9 randomized to the placebo part of the trial.

10 Or if they are then switched back on to an
11 active medication, something chemically active instead
12 of a sugar pill, their withdrawal symptoms, having
13 been cut off of a previous drug, will hopefully
14 respond to having another drug that was similar to the
15 previous drug, you know, put back into their system.

16 So you understand completely, they remove
17 people -- and this is important in terms of this case.
18 Because for instance, in the Zyprexa trials, a full
19 20 percent of the people improved so much in the first
20 seven to ten days when they were taken off their
21 previous drugs that they kicked all those people out
22 of the trial.

23 If they had retained them in the trial, they
24 could not have gotten results that made Zyprexa look
25 like it was any better than a sugar pill. It would

1 trials that I have seen in the regular journals, I
2 have no reason to believe that anything other than
3 this procedure has been used repeatedly.

4 In other words, the placebo washout and
5 actually switching people or removing people who
6 improve too much, it's sort of a standard protocol
7 that you have a certain score in terms of symptoms.
8 And if people don't meet that cutoff, in other words,
9 they begin to improve too quickly, they don't get to
10 stay in the study.

11 So I have no reason to believe that
12 Risperidone was any different than Zyprexa in terms of
13 this method of eliminating people who -- and you know,
14 favoring or biasing the result of the study.

15 Q In the interest of moving forward, is it fair
16 to say there are other methodological problems with
17 these studies?

18 A Oh, absolutely. What many of these studies
19 will do is to allow certain concomitant treatments.
20 In other words, certain additional medicines during
21 the study so that you can't really be sure that the
22 results they are claiming are the result of the actual
23 interventional drug. For instance, Risperdal instead
24 of a benzodiazepine or an antihistamine.

25 Another thing is the way that the data

1 have biased the results in favor of the sugar pill.

2 Q So now, did you -- did you analyze the
3 studies that the FDA used in --

4 THE COURT: And I am going to cut off here
5 and say what would be helpful to me, Mr. Gottstein, is
6 as I understand it, API is proposing Risperdal here,
7 correct?

8 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Yes.

9 THE COURT: And so if we focused exclusively
10 on that, I think given our time constraint and the
11 proposal, I think that would be the most helpful for
12 me.

13 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Well, Your Honor, one of the
14 problems is that we didn't know until Monday that --
15 you know, that it was Risperdal.

16 THE COURT: But now that we do, if we could
17 focus on that, I think that would help.

18 BY MR. GOTTSTEIN

19 Q Well, are all these -- are all these things
20 that you mentioned also applicable to the Risperdal
21 studies?

22 A As far as I know. And I have no reason to
23 believe from what I've read in the literature -- I
24 haven't had time to read the FDA review on Risperidone
25 as I have done with olanzapine. But based on the

1 themselves get reported. And one of the things that
2 is frequently done is to use something called LOCF, or
3 last observation carried forward. So what that means
4 is if you were to enter a study for instance, and they
5 started you on Risperdal, and you start to have a
6 severe side effect, let's say Parkinsonian symptoms,
7 and you dropped out of the study at two weeks, but the
8 study is supposed to end at six weeks, they will carry
9 forward your score to the six-week mark.

10 Now, this will sometimes -- people will
11 actually drop out when they have a higher score and
12 they'll carry that forward, as well. But the use of
13 LOCF statistics, especially when they carry forward
14 people who are dropping out on placebo, those are
15 people who are dropping out because they are in
16 withdrawal. They have been cut off from a previous
17 drug.

18 And so they carry forward an end result,
19 which is not a reflection of the underlying illness,
20 let's say, but a reflection of this introductory bias,
21 the placebo washout.

22 So the fact they report all of these LOCF
23 data, meaning the fact that they are just carrying
24 forward the results or the statistics from people who
25 drop out of the study early, biases the results in

1 favor of the drug, when in fact it's not an accurate
2 reflection of what's really going on in the study.

3 And that happens quite often, and that
4 certainly happened in the Risperdal/Risperidone
5 literature.

6 Q So just to kind of finish up this part, would
7 it just generally be fair to say that it would be
8 pretty difficult for a practicing psychiatrist in
9 clinical practice to have this information that you
10 are providing to the court?

11 A Oh, it would be almost impossible. It's --
12 it would be something you would really have to devote
13 your study to.

14 And actually, you know, not only would it be
15 difficult for the ordinary doctor to know this is
16 going on, but he or she would read what is published
17 in the regular journals and see that the results are
18 promising, like 70 to 80 percent response rates,
19 meaning a good response with patient satisfaction, et
20 cetera.

21 And then he or she would be in the real-world
22 setting, and maybe be lucky see 30 or 40 percent of
23 the patients able to even tolerate the drug. So it
24 not only is something that would be hard for doctors
25 to know, but what they're actually being exposed to is

1 so far removed from reality that they are very
2 unlikely to understand what is going on in the real
3 world.

4 Q Okay. So what is going on in the real world?
5 What is the impact of drug -- well, specifically
6 Risperdal on patients?

7 A Well, the real effects in the real world
8 are -- are really in two categories. And as a doctor,
9 you know, I am sort of thinking in terms of safety
10 first. I sort of think of, boy, what do I really have
11 to look out for here if somebody comes into my office
12 and they are receiving this medication or I am asked
13 to begin it?

14 So one of the things that, you know, we are
15 really talking about is safety. Are people dying on
16 these drugs? Do people die from taking Risperidone?
17 Yes. People are actually experiencing shorter life
18 spans.

19 Initially it was felt that the life spans for
20 people on medications like Risperidone were perhaps
21 shortened maybe ten or 15 years. And I think that's
22 even been elevated in the most recent government
23 studies to more like 20- or 25-year shorter life
24 spans. So instead of a male -- and we're usually
25 talking about, you know, males with mental illness,

1 would probably be living, you know, if they were
2 lucky, 72, 74 years of age for men in the United
3 States these days. And we are really talking about
4 something which drops the lifespan down into the 60s.

5 So at the worst what is going on is that we
6 are actually contributing to morbidity, actually
7 shortening people's life spans. And that's -- and
8 that is either through an acute event like a stroke or
9 a heart attack or something called a pulmonary
10 embolism, or we are talking about more chronic
11 illnesses that eventually take their tolls, things
12 like diabetes and heart failure.

13 So at the very worst, what is going on in the
14 United States is an epidemic of early suffering or
15 mortality that was not present before these
16 medications were being used, you know, by such a
17 prevalence -- in such high numbers.

18 The second thing that is going on is that we
19 are arguably worsening the long-term prognosis of
20 people, and in directions that were not previously
21 seen or talked about. And I think my affidavit speaks
22 to this. And also Mr. Whitaker's affidavit speaks to
23 the history and the actual historical outcomes when
24 individuals were being offered something other than
25 just the medication or the priority on medication.

1 And so that is the other big thing in terms of what's
2 going on.

3 What's going on is that people are suffering
4 in great numbers, and that people are dying early, and
5 that people are having what might have previously been
6 a transient, that is a limited episode, converted into
7 a chronic and more disabling form of experience.

8 Q Is -- are these drugs brain damaging?

9 A Well, I try and not sound like I am, you
10 know, really off -- off my rocker. Because people
11 probably wouldn't like it if I actually used a term
12 for what's happening.

13 But I sort of say we have unfortunately
14 contributed to a population of CBI patients, meaning
15 chemically brain injured.

16 I was in the military, so I am very used to
17 TBI patients, traumatic brain injury from, you know,
18 concussions and explosions and what's going on in Iraq
19 and Afghanistan.

20 But what is the elephant in the room that
21 people aren't addressing in psychiatry and neurology
22 is this population of CBI, chemically brain injured.

23 So yes, I actually would say that what we
24 have created, and I think Mr. Bigley is an example of
25 this, is that we are creating dementia on a very large

1 scale.

2 Q And that's -- isn't -- that's a lot of what
3 you referred to as your affidavit, but Exhibit E here,
4 your neurotoxicity paper addresses, isn't it?

5 A Yes, that's correct. That's really the
6 tragedy of me being born at the time I happened to be
7 born and having to actually live through this and
8 watch this still happening.

9 But that is, in a nutshell, these are not
10 antipsychotics and they are not neuroleptics. They
11 are prodementics. Or they are medications that are
12 actually contributing to an epidemic of dementia.

13 I think the states will probably be
14 bankrupted by this in about 20 years. But we are a
15 little bit away from that so far.

16 Q So is that associated with cognitive
17 declines?

18 A Oh, this is associated with cognitive
19 decline, it's associated with behavioral decline,
20 where people really have a hard time, you know,
21 modulating self-control and actually modulating their
22 anger and modulating their emotional expression. So
23 cognitive and behavioral.

24 Q Now, are there physical negatives associated
25 with these drugs, not just -- you mentioned brain --

1 not been satisfied.

2 One of the interesting things about
3 Risperidone compared to some of the other drugs, also,
4 is that it seems to have an association with tumors of
5 the pituitary, prolactinomas. And as prolactin levels
6 stay elevated, men experience sexual side effects,
7 breast enlargement.

8 But there's also been a long risk, not only
9 in terms of the bones, osteoporosis, but whether or
10 not the prolactin itself could, you know, have any
11 other effect say on the heart or be a reflection of
12 heart damage.

13 So Risperidone is sort of unique in terms of
14 this connection to brain tumors or the pituitary
15 tumor. So that is one thing.

16 The other thing that Risperidone, like the
17 other newer medication, is known for is diabetes. So
18 that is one of the main concerns. Not that diabetes
19 can't be treated or can't be regulated in some way,
20 but because of the fact diabetes itself presents risk
21 for further damage to the brain.

22 And I think it's only in the past, say, three
23 or four years that researchers in the Netherlands have
24 been publishing a series of papers that really
25 demonstrates some of the early dementia changes that

1 damage to the brain, but --

2 THE COURT: And here again, I have to say,
3 it's more helpful for me to hear specifically about
4 the drug that the state's proposing in this case.

5 BY MR. GOTTSTEIN

6 Q Is what you're -- Dr. Jackson, is your
7 testimony -- does it apply to Risperidone?

8 A Certainly. One of the things that's been
9 interesting about Risperidone is that it was the
10 first, quote, unquote, new or -- well, I should back
11 up and say it's actually the second of the newer,
12 quote, unquote, atypicals. The first one was approved
13 in the United States in 1989.

14 But Risperidone is usually referred to as the
15 first of the new drugs. That's a little bit
16 incorrect. But Risperidone was approved by the Food
17 and Drug Administration in 1993, and really entered
18 use in 1994.

19 What's been clear in the published studies
20 since its entry into the market is that it is probably
21 the closest to some of the older drugs. 6-milligram
22 and above doses, it replicates Haldol. So even the
23 notion that this is a newer and safer medication has
24 been completely borne out by neuroscience research,
25 that that was a hopeful expectation that has really

1 occur in people with diabetes, even if their sugars
2 have been fairly well controlled.

3 So diabetes itself is tipping into more than
4 just an endocrine disease, but it is becoming a
5 neurological disorder as well.

6 Risperidone, like the other antipsychotics
7 new and old, but especially these newer medicines,
8 like Seroquel, which is another one, and Risperidone
9 all present risks for other damages to the endocrine
10 system, like the thyroid gland.

11 And when you actually disrupt thyroid
12 hormone, you also contribute to further damage to the
13 brain in terms of dementia and cognitive abilities.
14 So Risperidone does that, as well.

15 The other thing with all these medicines,
16 there is the risk for strokes and for heart attacks,
17 and also for leg clots and pulmonary edema. So the
18 risk for sudden death is always there. And that's
19 certainly one of the big concerns with Risperidone.

20 So diabetes, thyroid disease, heart disease,
21 sudden death, you know, osteoporosis, breast
22 enlargement, sexual changes, and the fact that many of
23 these other problems in the body, again, have an
24 indirect but a potentially very significant effect on
25 the brain function itself. So those are concerns.

1 Risperidone in animal studies, because we
2 really haven't been doing this yet in humans, also has
3 been shown to increase the levels of a protein called
4 apolipoprotein D, like delta. And this in some
5 studies has been connected with an increased
6 deposition of something called amyloid, amyloid
7 protein or amyloid plaques. And this is one of the
8 main causes or markers of Alzheimers dementia.

9 So we have some good evidence from the animal
10 studies to understand why it is that patients who
11 already have Alzheimers dementia or people with
12 dementia who have been placed on medicines like
13 Risperidone deteriorate faster and have a progression
14 of their underlying dementia in terms of the actual
15 brain tissue changes themselves.

16 So Risperidone unfortunately seems to be a
17 medicine that I predict probably in about four or five
18 years, you will see the neurologist will say, hey,
19 people are getting Alzheimers on this medication, or
20 changes that are precursor to Alzheimer's. I am
21 predicting that in about four or five years, that that
22 may be something that we begin to see.

23 There is already a black box warning on these
24 drugs, including Risperidone, that these drugs are not
25 to be used in elderly people who already have

1 The use of the term antipsychotic was really
2 an historic euphemism, once it became unacceptable to
3 mention what these drugs were really doing.

4 And in fact, what was very important is that
5 in the '60s, and probably throughout the 1960s,
6 doctors were being encouraged it actually give high
7 enough doses of these drugs to cause brain damage, to
8 actually cause Parkinsonian symptoms. And they were
9 trained to believe that until you produced
10 Parkinsonian symptoms in a patient, the drugs were not
11 yet at the level that would actually improve the
12 psychosis itself.

13 And that has since been borne out as
14 something that was a complete fallacy and a huge
15 mistake. So one thing --

16 Q If I can stop you.

17 A Sure.

18 Q Did you -- and we kind of want to move a
19 little bit faster, if we can. If you can try and
20 really focus on the exact question I ask.

21 A Sure.

22 Q But did you -- you reviewed some of
23 Mr. Bigley's history for this, didn't you?

24 A Yes, I did.

25 Q And was that that kind of dosing given to

1 dementia. But what you're not being told is that
2 these are medications that are actually causing
3 dementia in people who don't already have it.

4 Q Okay. Now, you refer to them sometimes as
5 antipsychotics. Would you call -- does Risperidone
6 have an antipsychotic property?

7 A Well, I think what these medications do is
8 that they -- they actually will stop annoying
9 behaviors. And they can make a person so confused or
10 sedated, they can actually inhibit so much brain
11 activity, either electrically or chemically, that the
12 symptoms which some people call psychotic or
13 schizophrenic seem to be at bay. So from that
14 standpoint, people, you know, have called them
15 antipsychotics.

16 But there is nothing specific about the
17 effects of any class of medication in psychiatry,
18 either a medication is slowing down brain function and
19 brain process or it is speeding them up and enhancing
20 certain brain functioning and processes.

21 So this whole class of medication which had
22 been historically referred to as neuroleptics or
23 antipsychotics, are in fact medications that are
24 chemical lobotomizers. And I tried to mention some of
25 that history in my affidavit.

1 Mr. Bigley during that period?

2 A Yes. You had shared with me some of the --
3 some of the records. And I have to say it was limited
4 due to our time constraints.

5 But the very first hospitalization was -- I
6 just about fell out of the chair when I saw what had
7 happened. I think at one point he was receiving 60,
8 that's 60, 20 milligrams of Haldol three times a day
9 is I think what I read in the record.

10 The dose of Haldol that is now recognized as,
11 quote, blocking enough dopamine receptors to produce
12 antipsychotic effects, meaning the dose that would
13 typically be thought to be helpful, is 5 milligrams.
14 He was receiving 60 milligrams. So he was receiving a
15 dose that was guaranteed to actually cause Parkinson's
16 disease, and that dose has been shown.

17 So the short answer to your question is I
18 looked at the doses. And in my opinion, that was
19 really the beginning of, you know, a long demise.

20 Q Did -- do you recall if those records
21 indicated that Mr. Bigley's symptoms continued in
22 spite of doses that induced Parkinsonism?

23 A Right. That's why I think the doctor --
24 well, I know it did, because the doctors themselves
25 were surprised, which made me appreciate the fact that

1 I was reading a record from 1980 and another record
2 from 1981.

3 Backing up 27 years ago, 28 years ago, the
4 doctors apparently had been trained in this -- still
5 in the philosophy of care that you administer until
6 you get these side effects. And once you see those
7 side effects, you know the psychosis will be
8 eradicated.

9 And so when the doctor wrote the note, his
10 delusions continue in their severity and same
11 intensity despite the fact he now has Parkinson side
12 effects, I'm reading to myself, oh, this is
13 fascinating. This is what they used to teach doctors
14 is that they had to give doses to produce Parkinson's
15 in order to heal the psychosis.

16 But of course, they eventually learned that
17 that did not heal the psychosis. In fact, for many
18 people, including Mr. Bigley, it seemed to make things
19 worse.

20 Q So is that -- does Risperdal cause psychosis
21 in some people?

22 A Sure. All of these medications cause
23 psychosis in people. Because of the fact that as you
24 damage the brain and you leave unresolved the initial
25 cause of a person's psychosis, you are really not

1 treating the initial problems.

2 I know that Mr. Whitaker has also explained
3 some of this in his affidavit. But the thinking had
4 always been that as you block certain receptors in the
5 brain, research demonstrates that the body reacts to
6 that. And as much as you may try to block something,
7 the brain tries to increase or up-regulate some of
8 those receptors.

9 And so some patients appear to become more
10 sensitive to those changes. And as their brain
11 responds or adapts to the presence of the drug, it can
12 sometimes go the opposite direction and make the
13 initial symptoms worse. That is called
14 supersensitivity psychosis.

15 Q So is it fair to say that drugs like --
16 including Risperdal cause psychosis when it's given
17 and also when it's withdrawn?

18 A It can be both, either. And it's also fair
19 to say that what many people go on to demonstrate is
20 something which is called tardive, that's
21 T-A-R-D-I-V-E, in many different formations, or many
22 different varieties.

23 For instance, there have been papers written
24 on the subject of tardive psychosis. And what that
25 means is it's a delayed onset. Tardive basically

1 means delayed onset. So for tardive psychosis, the
2 implication is that you might start off thinking that
3 you have things licked and that you've really
4 delivered something that seemed to improve things.

5 Q So --

6 A But then as -- yeah, as time wears on, things
7 actually are being induced or stirred up by the drug
8 itself.

9 Q So as I understand it, the withdrawal
10 psychosis symptoms are caused by changes in the brain
11 as a result of the drug such as Risperdal; is that
12 correct?

13 A Right. I should preface.

14 Q Okay. And --

15 A Yeah.

16 Q And then over time, is it possible if someone
17 is off the drugs for a fairly lengthy period of time
18 that the brain will then re-adjust and the symptoms
19 will go away?

20 A They are not only possible, but actually been
21 demonstrated in many cases. The key here is to
22 understand how to actually assist people who are
23 trying to come off of medications if they're still
24 taking them, and how to deliver effective intervention
25 so that they're not left with no help or no treatment

1 at all.

2 Q So is it fair to say that when someone comes
3 off these drugs, that they -- they ought to be given a
4 fair -- that their initial condition would worsen and
5 they ought to be given, you know, a fairly lengthy
6 period of time to see where they can get to off the
7 drugs?

8 A I think that's fair. I think there are two
9 phases to drug withdrawal. There is an immediate
10 phase which reflects changes as the drug is actually
11 leaving the brain. And that can take some time. And
12 also changes in the brain receptors, you know, the
13 ones that I mentioned previously that seem to increase
14 in number as the drug is being taken and given. But
15 that is sort of an immediate phase of withdrawal.

16 There is a longer-term phase of withdrawal in
17 terms of what the brain has experienced in terms of
18 rewiring or anatomic structural damage. And so that
19 long-term phase of withdrawal means that someone might
20 appear to be better for a while, and then five or six
21 months later might have some setbacks.

22 And many people unfortunately are still not
23 trained enough to understand the fact that the
24 recovery process, the rehabilitation or repair of the
25 brain actually can require many months. So I think it

1 would be fair to say that withdrawal takes some time.

2 Q Okay. I'm going to try to move it to another
3 topic here.

4 THE COURT: And, Mr. Gottstein, just to give
5 you a head's up, we've been close to an hour here. So
6 what's your timeframe?

7 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Well, I -- I'm really
8 concerned about that, too, and especially we've got --
9 I think this is important, obviously, and I know Your
10 Honor does, too.

11 One of my big concerns is I've got people
12 standing by for cross examination.

13 THE COURT: So maybe we need to finish up. I
14 have really tried to indicate several times that
15 hearing about medications generally is not as helpful
16 as hearing about what is -- what the state's proposal
17 is in this particular case.

18 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Well, and I understand, Your
19 Honor, that she is actually saying all of this applies
20 to Risperdal.

21 BY MR. GOTTSTEIN

22 Q But one of the things that the state's
23 proposed is -- or the hospital has proposed is to
24 include a benzodiazepine, I think Ativan, was it, and
25 Clonopin I think. What can you say about that

1 combination?

2 A Well, I don't think the combination is
3 anything that really eliminates or speaks to the
4 problems I've already identified. It certainly is not
5 going to prevent Risperidone's effects in terms of
6 causing, you know, or enhancing dementia that's
7 already there. It's not going to prevent diabetes.
8 It will prevent the other problems.

9 So while I think it's better to use perhaps
10 benzodiazepine briefly for someone who is having
11 certain kinds of problems, its addition in this case,
12 in no way avoids the concerns or the problems of
13 Risperidone by itself.

14 Q Okay. Now, you indicated before that you
15 reviewed I think the -- was it the submission for
16 representation hearing and attachments to that?

17 A I have to go back to the documents. I
18 reviewed the affidavits I believe by --

19 Q Was one of those Paul Cornils?

20 A Yes. Mr. Cornils is the one that I have
21 read, and the affidavit by -- is it Bassman or
22 Bassman?

23 Q Bassman, Dr. Bassman.

24 A Dr. Bassman. And also have read
25 Mr. Whitaker's affidavit and portions of the record,

1 yes.

2 Q Now, do you have any comments about
3 Mr. Cornils' affidavit?

4 A Well, I thought the plan that Mr. Cornils had
5 outlined was an exceedingly thorough, and one that I
6 was, to be quite honest, envious of. If I were in the
7 situation of API or a provider at that facility, I
8 would want to have many of Mr. Cornils' and plans like
9 this.

10 So I thought this looked like a very solid
11 and a very reasonable proposal, you know, as a first
12 step.

13 Q Okay. And from what you can tell, how much
14 of -- what do you think is seen in Mr. Bigley's
15 behavior is a result of brain damage from the drugs?

16 A Gosh, I think at this point it becomes very
17 difficult to separate out in my opinion what would be
18 appropriate outrage at what had happened even 28 years
19 ago and what's biological. I think it's -- it's
20 reasonable to address both psychological contributions
21 and the biological. So I can't give you an exact
22 answer to that.

23 Q Okay. Now, do you think that it's wise to
24 continue with this neuroleptic medication for -- at
25 this point?

1 A I think it would be very unwise for a lot of
2 reasons.

3 Q Okay. And finally, this I think will be my
4 last question. What would you say about if -- about
5 Mr. Bigley saying, quote, you just wanted to throw me
6 in a cage, lock me up like an animal, take all my
7 money, and try to poison me, end quote?

8 A Well, if one just heard that without
9 understanding the context or this person's history,
10 one might think that sounds a bit outrageous or a bit
11 extreme. But having read even the few notes from this
12 person's medical history, I would say that sadly
13 enough, that's exactly what has been happening to this
14 man for 28 years.

15 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I have no further questions,
16 Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Thank you.

18 Mr. Twomey, go ahead, please.

19 MR. TWOMEY: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor.

20 DR. GRACE JACKSON
21 testified telephonically as follows on:

22 CROSS EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. TWOMEY

24 Q Dr. Jackson, have you ever practiced medicine
25 in the State of Alaska?

1 A No, I have not.

2 Q Are you familiar with the standard of care
3 for physicians practicing psychiatry in Anchorage,
4 Alaska?

5 A Actually, I sort of don't know how to respond
6 to the words standard of care. That is a legal term.
7 But maybe if you explain what you mean by that, I
8 could answer your question more clearly.

9 Q Are you critical of psychiatrists based on
10 the fact that they prescribe neuroleptics?

11 A I'm not critical of psychiatrists per se. I
12 am critical of the lack of attention or consideration
13 of informed consent and science.

14 Q Would you agree that psychotropic medication
15 is widely accepted within the psychiatric community as
16 an effective treatment for psychosis, particularly
17 schizophrenia?

18 A Oh, I would agree that it has wide
19 acceptance. But I would disagree with the imputation
20 or the inference that it is, you know, effective.

21 Q And that's despite the fact that the Food and
22 Drug Administration has approved these medicines?

23 A No. It's based on the fact that the Food and
24 Drug Administration, by its own admission, doesn't
25 receive all the information that they need to even

1 weigh on the safety or effectiveness of these drugs.

2 Q So you are critical of the process, is that
3 correct, in terms of approving these drugs?

4 A Oh, I am critical of the process of
5 approving, and I am critical of the process of
6 oversight after they are approved, and I am critical
7 of the way in which they are used.

8 Q Have you ever met Mr. Bigley?

9 A No, I have not.

10 Q Have you reviewed his entire medical history?

11 A No. I have reviewed some select portions of
12 it.

13 Q Are you being paid for your testimony today?

14 A Yes. I will be paid for my testimony.

15 Q What do you charge?

16 A Usually I charge \$2,000 for a full day of
17 court hearings, or \$1,000 for a half a day. And
18 Mr. Gottstein or the Law Project for Psychiatric
19 Rights had agreed to compensate me according to my
20 usual wage or rate of \$1,000 for a half a day.

21 Q How much time have you spent reviewing and
22 preparing for today's testimony?

23 A Probably about ten hours. Those are not
24 being reimbursed, by the way. I am only being paid
25 for my testimony today.

1 Q What is your understanding of what it is that
2 the state is proposing to do with regard to Mr. Bigley
3 at this point?

4 A Well, my understanding of the situation is
5 that the state was going to be doing business as
6 usual. And that is to continue sort of the in and out
7 cycle of hospitalizations, revamping previous or new
8 treatment plans, and then discharging, and then sort
9 of repeating that process over again as it might
10 become necessary.

11 Q And what do you base that understanding upon?

12 A I have looked at the records. I have also
13 reviewed -- let me see if I can cite the right
14 document for you, because I want to be sure I
15 understand how it's been referenced.

16 Mr. Gottstein had sent me a copy of the
17 motion for less-intrusive alternatives. And
18 basically, I am basing my understanding of the state's
19 proposal on that motion.

20 Q Does Mr. Bigley suffer from dementia?

21 A I really can't diagnose Mr. Bigley from being
22 in North Carolina, not having reviewed his full
23 medical records and not having met with him.

24 But I can say that from what I know already
25 of his previous treatments and from what I have seen

1 in the records that have been made available to me, I
2 would say it would not be unreasonable to suggest that
3 he is chemically brain injured at this point.

4 And there are elements which would support an
5 argument for dysmentia, if not dementia. There are
6 two different ways of using that term. But I would
7 hesitate -- to answer your question, Mr. Twomey, I
8 would not want to apply a diagnosis in a haphazard
9 fashion on a patient I have not met.

10 Q Does Mr. Bigley have diabetes at this point
11 in time?

12 A There is nothing I have seen in the records
13 that were given to me that showed diabetes. But on
14 the other hand, I should say there is nothing that
15 demonstrates he has been tested for the same.

16 Q Would you agree with me that many drugs have
17 side effects, yet it is still appropriate for
18 physicians to prescribe such medicines?

19 A Oh, I -- sure, I would agree that many, many
20 medications have side effects. And their use really
21 is dependent upon an accurate and fully informed
22 consent. Unfortunately, that is lacking in the case
23 of most psychiatric drugs.

24 Q Is it your opinion that Risperidone should
25 not be prescribed in any case?

1 A I would have to think about that. You sort
2 of catch me off guard. There may be some uses that we
3 have not fully thought through.

4 For instance, I would have to review the
5 literature on cancer and see if Risperidone has some
6 possible uses in cancer.

7 But for the current indication of attempting
8 to assist a person with psychotic symptoms, let's say,
9 I would be concerned about its use as really taking
10 people further away from the intended result.

11 Q Have you ever prescribed Risperidone in your
12 practice?

13 A Certainly I did when I was in my medical
14 school -- in medical training, and while I was in the
15 service.

16 And if I have been -- in studying since that
17 time, the Department of Corrections or in the
18 Veteran's Administration system, where people were
19 previously on that drug, I do not endanger people by
20 abruptly stopping therapies or treatments.

21 But I have not started any patients on
22 Risperidone since I came to the realization of what
23 these medications are doing and what the alternatives
24 are.

25 Q And what did you come --

1 Q Are you able to quantify in Mr. Bigley's case
2 any of the risks presented by Risperidone at this
3 point in time?

4 A I'm sorry; your question was quantify?

5 Q Yes. In terms of likelihood or percentage.

6 A Oh, likelihood or percent. Gosh, you know,
7 that is an interesting question. I don't think I've
8 ever been asked that before. I don't typically
9 quantify for anyone percentages of what might happen.

10 But I'll tell you, there is one exception,
11 and that is in terms of what's been published on the
12 possibility of tardive, T-A-R-D-I-V-E -- tardive
13 dyskinesia. And to address that, I should probably
14 mention that one of the studies that I have found very
15 important, you know, since it was published in 2006 is
16 a study that found that Risperidone and the other
17 drugs like it actually had a 5 percent prevalence of
18 tardive dyskinesia. This was just in the first years
19 of their use.

20 And for people who have been on the
21 medications for longer than just starting them, you
22 know, for just being on them brand-new, say like
23 within the first month, 20 percent of the patients on
24 drugs like Risperidone had already developed tardive
25 dyskinesia.

1 A (Indiscernible.)

2 Q I'm sorry. When did you come to the
3 realization --

4 A The first awareness was in 2001. But I
5 really crystallized that view, so about 2001, and then
6 2002.

7 Q Okay. So am I correct in understanding that
8 since that date, you have not started any of your
9 patients on Risperidone?

10 A That's correct.

11 Q Okay. But you have continued patients on
12 Risperidone; is that correct?

13 A Certainly. I would not endanger people by
14 abruptly stopping treatments that other doctors have
15 begun.

16 Q Okay. What dangers are presented by what you
17 say, abruptly stopping treatment?

18 A Well, if a person is not going to have care
19 from a doctor who will be able to monitor the
20 interruption or cessation of therapy, some patients
21 can have problems. So that would be the main one, is
22 to be able to have continued oversight, to not just
23 cut people off and not be able to see how they're
24 doing as the medication is actually leaving their
25 system.

1 So I usually tell people that you know there
2 is, you know, a real risk, not just an imaginary risk,
3 that the new drug, including Risperidone, is a
4 medicine that can cause tardive dyskinesia, even in
5 the first years of use. And I think it's really
6 important for patients to know that that is a real
7 risk.

8 So as high as 5 to 20 percent of the patients
9 on Risperidone will develop tardive dyskinesia
10 symptoms in the first years of use.

11 Q Is that a risk that is commonly understood in
12 the psychiatric community?

13 A No, not at all. Most doctors ignore this.
14 They don't really pay attention to it.

15 That's why this paper was so important when
16 it was published. It was published by Jose DeLeon in
17 2006 in Kentucky. And it was based on doing a
18 cross-sectional survey of inpatients and outpatients
19 over 500 patients that were participating in another
20 study.

21 And fortunately, these authors are the people
22 doing the study. Once they were finding that so many
23 people on the new drugs, even people who had just
24 started the new drug, were having tardive dyskinesia,
25 they took the time to write it up and publish it.

1 It's not commonly known, but it should be.
 2 Q Does Mr. Bigley suffer from tardive
 3 dyskinesia?
 4 A I don't know. I haven't evaluated him in
 5 person to know if he has those symptoms. I haven't
 6 seen them mentioned in the records that were shown to
 7 me. I have seen references to Parkinsonian symptoms
 8 before. And Parkinsonian symptoms, even if they are
 9 historical, are believed to place people at greater
 10 risk for developing or having tardive dyskinesia, as
 11 well.
 12 Q Are you able to quantify the risk of tardive
 13 dyskinesia in Mr. Bigley's case at this point?
 14 A Oh, I would -- quite realistically, I would
 15 say that he should have tardive dyskinesia. It is
 16 astounding to me that he doesn't already have it.
 17 And I would say that there is a high
 18 likelihood that Mr. Bigley will have it within the
 19 next five to ten years if he's placed back on
 20 Risperidone.
 21 There is also a high likelihood he is simply
 22 just going to die in the next five years if he is
 23 placed on Risperidone. I don't think that's really
 24 unreasonable or irrational to make that comment based
 25 on what he's had before.

1 having problems opening.
 2 I have looked at and reviewed the affidavit
 3 of Dr. Bassman, the affidavit of Mr. Cornils. I have
 4 reviewed the motion for less-intrusive alternative. I
 5 have reviewed Mr. Whitaker's affidavit.
 6 And I have also reviewed portions of the
 7 medical history. And I can tell you exactly which
 8 ones I have seen. I have seen hospital records from
 9 the initial hospitalization dated -- date of admission
 10 was April 15. That's 4/15/1980, the discharge
 11 summary.
 12 I have then reviewed the admission -- or I'm
 13 sorry, the discharge note, discharge summary from a
 14 hospitalization which was in February of 1981 through
 15 May of 1981.
 16 And I believe the last portion of the records
 17 that I had been sent would be the hospital record --
 18 this was February of 2007, API hospitalization No. 68.
 19 And then again, I think the last thing that I
 20 had seen was a medical progress note which was signed
 21 by a Dr. Lucy Curtis dated March 16, 2007, and an API
 22 contact of March 19, 2007 with regard to blood tests
 23 for Depakote.
 24 And that is the extent of the records that I
 25 have seen. Oh, I have also seen the log -- log sheet

1 Q Exhibit E, your analysis of neuroleptic
 2 toxicity, has that been peer reviewed?
 3 A Oh, that document itself has not been peer
 4 reviewed, but all the studies that I have cited have
 5 been peer reviewed and appear in mainstream or major
 6 journals.
 7 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I have nothing further for
 8 you. Thank you.
 9 THE COURT: Mr. Gottstein.
 10 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Yes.
 11 DR. GRACE JACKSON
 12 testified telephonically as follows on:
 13 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
 14 BY MR. GOTTSTEIN
 15 Q Dr. Jackson, I would like to just briefly go
 16 through maybe what you reviewed. Did you review
 17 the -- I think it was called submission for
 18 representation hearing and exhibits to that, including
 19 the affidavit of -- affidavits of Mr. Whitaker,
 20 Dr. Bassman, Paul Cornils, and then the medical
 21 records attached to that?
 22 A I don't believe I know -- I can tell you what
 23 I've looked at. I don't believe I've looked at
 24 everything you might be citing because it was a very
 25 large document, that I communicated to you I was

1 from Monday, May 12th, 2008.
 2 Q Okay. Thank you. Now, you testified that --
 3 that it would be preferable I think to gradually
 4 withdraw someone from Risperidone because of problems
 5 with abrupt withdrawal; is that correct?
 6 A Right. I think a lot of that depends on
 7 context. It's hard to make a general statement. It
 8 depends on the previous dose and if there is an
 9 emergency situation.
 10 Q Now, what about if someone refuses to take
 11 it?
 12 A If someone refuses to take it, again, I think
 13 it depends on the context. I think if someone is
 14 refusing to take it, there is no reason to start it
 15 over again for the sake of doing a withdrawal. It
 16 really depends on the context.
 17 Q Okay. With respect to tardive dyskinesia, is
 18 this 5 -- 5 percent, is that considered cumulative for
 19 example, that 5 percent per year? So the second year
 20 would tend to be 10 percent, third year 15 percent?
 21 Is that your understanding?
 22 A Well, I believe the idea of cumulative risk
 23 really came out of a Yale study, and was mostly
 24 speaking about the older antipsychotic medicines.
 25 Nobody that I know of has yet published data on

1 cumulative incidents or the cumulative, you know, risk
2 for the newer medications.

3 And the study that I had just briefly
4 mentioned, Jose DeLeon study that was published two
5 years ago, was unfortunately not able to really give
6 us an incidence or cumulative incidence. It was more
7 a cross-sectional shotgun, people who had never been
8 on the drugs who were just newly started.

9 And 5 percent of those people who were just
10 beginning these new drugs developed tardive dyskinesia
11 early in the course of their exposure. In that study,
12 20 percent of those who had already been on the
13 atypicals for just a short period of time had TD.

14 Q Thank you. And then Mr. Twomey asked you
15 about your analysis not being peer reviewed. That was
16 true of your analysis of olanzapine in 2003 in the
17 Myers case, isn't it?

18 A That's correct, that analysis
19 (indiscernible).

20 Q And that is your analysis of olanzapine,
21 which is Zyprexa? Has that been borne out by
22 subsequent studies and revelations?

23 A It's actually been borne out in terms of the
24 attachment of black box warnings that pretty much were
25 pertinent to my testimony.

1 THE COURT: He can be excused. That's fine.
2 That's fine, Mr. Bigley. You can be excused.
3 You're all right.

4 All right. So, Dr. Bassman, do you have
5 cross examination?

6 MR. TWOMEY: Well, I may not, Your Honor,
7 depending on whether we can have a stipulation that
8 Dr. Bassman is not familiar with the standard of care
9 here in Anchorage.

10 THE COURT: Any disagreement with that?

11 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I think you should explore
12 that with Dr. Bassman.

13 THE COURT: All right. I cannot go after
14 12:00 today. I just have to go on record in that
15 regard.

16 MR. TWOMEY: Your Honor, my preference would
17 be to --

18 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I don't think that that's
19 relevant to his testimony.

20 THE COURT: Well, you can certainly explore
21 the issue on cross. The standard of care in Alaska, I
22 think --

23 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I would stipulate to that.

24 THE COURT: All right. That Dr. Bassman is
25 not familiar with the standard of care as to what

1 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Okay. I have no further
2 questions.

3 THE COURT: Follow-up at all on those topics,
4 Mr. Twomey?

5 MR. TWOMEY: I have nothing further, Your
6 Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much,
8 Dr. Jackson. You can be excused at this time.

9 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Bye bye.

11 THE WITNESS: Bye bye, now.
12 (Witness excused.)

13 THE COURT: Your next witness is Dr. Hopson.

14 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Your Honor, I've --
15 Dr. Bassman and Mr. Whitaker both had to adjust their
16 schedules to be available for a cross examination.
17 I'm wondering if maybe we could do their cross
18 examination now.

19 THE COURT: Do you have questions for either
20 Dr. Bassman -- it was Dr. Bassman or who else?

21 That's fine. Go ahead.

22 MR. BIGLEY: I'm truly sorry, okay.

23 THE COURT: That's all right. Go ahead.

24 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Bill -- he would like to be
25 excused.

1 issue specifically?

2 MR. TWOMEY: As to the administration of
3 Risperidone by psychiatrists in the State of Alaska.

4 THE COURT: I am showing Dr. Bassman as a
5 Ph.D., correct?

6 MR. GOTTSTEIN: And his testimony was really
7 on less-intrusive alternatives.

8 THE COURT: So Dr. Bassman is not testifying
9 about medication administration at all? I mean, I'd
10 have to go back and look at his affidavit.

11 MR. GOTTSTEIN: There's some in there. But
12 it's mainly about --

13 THE COURT: But he is a psychologist, not a
14 psychiatrist?

15 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Correct.

16 THE COURT: So your proposed stipulation,
17 just to state it again, Mr. Twomey?

18 MR. TWOMEY: Well, one moment, Your Honor. I
19 want to take a look at Dr. Bassman -- or Ronald
20 Bassman's affidavit. If I could have a stipulation
21 that Ronald Bassman is not a medical doctor, but he
22 is --

23 THE COURT: That's fine.

24 MR. TWOMEY: That his affidavit goes only to
25 the issue of a less-restrictive alternatives.

1 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Less intrusive, I think.
 2 MR. TWOMEY: Less-intrusive alternative.
 3 THE COURT: All right. Is that the entirety
 4 of your proposed stipulation?
 5 MR. TWOMEY: Yes, Your Honor.
 6 THE COURT: All right. That Dr. Bassman is
 7 not a medical doctor, and his affidavit is intended to
 8 focus exclusively on the less-intrusive alternative.
 9 Am I stating it correctly, your position, Mr. Twomey?
 10 MR. TWOMEY: Yes, Your Honor.
 11 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Gottstein, is
 12 that stipulation acceptable?
 13 MR. GOTTSTEIN: That's fine.
 14 THE COURT: All right. So that then with
 15 that stipulation, Mr. Twomey, you are not seeking to
 16 have Dr. Bassman for cross; am I correct?
 17 MR. TWOMEY: That's correct, Your Honor.
 18 THE COURT: That brings us then next,
 19 Mr. Gottstein, there was another individual you
 20 indicated.
 21 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Yes. Mr. Whitaker.
 22 MR. TWOMEY: If we could have a stipulation,
 23 Your Honor, that Mr. Whitaker is a journalist and not
 24 a medical doctor.
 25 THE COURT: Any disagreement with that

1 proposed stipulation?
 2 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Well, I can stipulate that he
 3 is not a medical doctor. But he is also an expert in
 4 the study in analyzing clinical trials. He actually
 5 had a business that did that, that was so well thought
 6 of that it was purchased. So he's an expert in the
 7 analysis of clinical studies.
 8 THE COURT: The state's proposing the
 9 stipulation that Dr. Whitaker is a journalist.
 10 MR. GOTTSTEIN: It's Mr. Whitaker.
 11 THE COURT: I'm sorry, Mr. Whitaker. And I
 12 see that as the first phrase of paragraph 1, that he
 13 is a journalist. So there is no dispute there; is
 14 that correct?
 15 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Correct.
 16 THE COURT: And what is the balance of the
 17 stipulation that, Mr. Gottstein, you were proposing?
 18 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Well, I think the affidavit
 19 speaks for itself. But I would just -- and it talks
 20 about his history of and expertise in analyzing
 21 clinical studies.
 22 THE COURT: From the perspective of a
 23 journalist; is that agreeable?
 24 MR. GOTTSTEIN: But he also had a business of
 25 analyzing clinical studies, and people paid money to

1 get that -- those analyses.
 2 THE COURT: Is that discussed in the --
 3 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I think that it is. 1D.
 4 THE COURT: 1D. On what page is that?
 5 MR. GOTTSTEIN: It's the first page.
 6 THE COURT: Oh, I see. So --
 7 MR. TWOMEY: Well, Your Honor, I'll stipulate
 8 that he owned a company from 1994 to 1998 when he sold
 9 the company. And --
 10 THE COURT: It reported on the clinical
 11 development of new drugs?
 12 MR. TWOMEY: Yes.
 13 THE COURT: All right. Is that agreeable?
 14 That's what the individual said in that affidavit.
 15 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Yeah. And I certainly would
 16 stipulate to that. Also he is an expert on this -- on
 17 the analysis of clinical studies.
 18 MR. TWOMEY: Well, the analysis of clinical
 19 studies is not at issue in this case, Your Honor. I
 20 propose that we stipulate that Mr. Whitaker has no
 21 direct testimony pertaining to Mr. Bigley or the
 22 treatment proposed for Mr. Bigley in this case.
 23 THE COURT: How about -- does the affidavit
 24 simply speak for itself? I mean, I haven't heard
 25 anything yet that's not in the affidavit. You

1 certainly have the right to cross if there are topics
 2 you wanted to explore. But is it --
 3 MR. GOTTSTEIN: (Indiscernible.)
 4 THE COURT: Well, no. But --
 5 MR. TWOMEY: I am not really particularly
 6 interested in cross examining this witness on issues
 7 that don't relate to Mr. Bigley.
 8 THE COURT: Is there any reference at all in
 9 this to Mr. Bigley? As I understand it, there is
 10 none.
 11 MR. GOTTSTEIN: No.
 12 THE COURT: All right. So, Mr. Twomey, can
 13 the affidavit stand as written?
 14 MR. TWOMEY: Yes.
 15 THE COURT: No stipulation from either side?
 16 It's simply he is the journalist as indicated in his
 17 affidavit. All right. Very good.
 18 Then that brings us to -- Mr. Twomey, do you
 19 seek to cross examine Mr. Cornils on his affidavit?
 20 MR. TWOMEY: Yes, Your Honor.
 21 THE COURT: All right. And then who else is
 22 available right now?
 23 MR. GOTTSTEIN: We've got Dr. Hopson and
 24 Ms. Altaffer here.
 25 THE COURT: All right. Well, what can we

1 A Yes.
 2 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Okay. No further questions.
 3 THE COURT: Okay. Any redirect? We're done.
 4 MR. TWOMEY: I'm not sure where we were, Your
 5 Honor. I think I was questioning.
 6 THE COURT: I think you might have been.
 7 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Oh, I thought -- I thought we
 8 were on cross.
 9 THE COURT: Oh, no. The clerk agrees with
 10 you there, Mr. Twomey. Go right ahead. I think I
 11 was, and that's what got us a little off track there.
 12 So go right ahead.
 13 DR. RAYMOND HOPSON,
 14 testified as follows on:
 15 RE-CROSS EXAMINATION
 16 BY MR. TWOMEY
 17 Q Dr. Hopson, have you had an opportunity to
 18 review the affidavit of Robert Whitaker?
 19 A Yes.
 20 Q All right. Do you have any comments upon the
 21 conclusions set forth in his affidavit?
 22 A I would have to see his direct conclusions
 23 again. It's been a few weeks. However, I would
 24 disagree with them.
 25 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Objection, Your Honor, in

1 that's the next question.
 2 Anything further today, Mr. Twomey?
 3 MR. TWOMEY: No, Your Honor.
 4 THE COURT: All right. And 10 to 12, will
 5 that complete -- that is an extra two hours,
 6 Mr. Gottstein. I am going to assume that is more than
 7 sufficient. Am I reasonable in that assumption?
 8 MR. GOTTSTEIN: I think it should be.
 9 THE COURT: Well, I guess it has to be, is
 10 what I am indicating.
 11 MR. GOTTSTEIN: Oh, okay. Yeah.
 12 You said you wanted to cross examine
 13 Mr. Cornils?
 14 MR. TWOMEY: Yes, Your Honor. Or yes.
 15 THE COURT: All right. So he will be
 16 available, as well, tomorrow.
 17 So 10:00 a.m. tomorrow. We can go off
 18 record. Thank you all. We'll see you tomorrow.
 19 Thank you.
 20 (Off record.)
 21 12:06:22
 22
 23
 24
 25

1 terms of this would not be based on again the Daubert
 2 objection.
 3 THE COURT: Well, he's indicated he's not --
 4 I guess I don't find Dr. Hopson's testimony in this
 5 particular point that helpful when he indicated he
 6 hadn't reviewed this in a few weeks. So if there is
 7 specific points you wanted to bring up, and then we
 8 can see.
 9 But I have to leave here. So what we can do
 10 is continue this tomorrow. I want to give each side
 11 an opportunity.
 12 I also don't want to have the doctor
 13 inconvenienced any more than necessary. So what is
 14 your thought on how to proceed?
 15 MR. TWOMEY: How much more time do you have
 16 available?
 17 THE COURT: Negative five minutes.
 18 MR. TWOMEY: Well, then I guess we will have
 19 to come back tomorrow.
 20 THE COURT: I can do 10:00 a.m. tomorrow. Is
 21 that convenient for both sides? And we can take up
 22 Dr. Hopson then. I apologize for that. But let's do
 23 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.
 24 And then you'll have an opportunity if you'd
 25 like to look at the affidavit again, knowing that

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 2 I, Jeanette Blalock, hereby certify that the
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 5 Case No. 3AN-08-00493 PR, In the Matter of WB: William
 6 Bigley, Motion Hearing held May 14, 2008, transcribed
 7 by me from a copy of the electronic sound recording,
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