

## injection of kenalog

Posted by ann - 18 Nov 2005 02:56

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Please, please help! I am showing many symptoms of Arachnoiditis following an injection of Kenalog into the interspinous ligament. I am having immense difficulty proving to the medics that I am suffering real and excruciating pain. I had two MRIs at Hereford Hospital and because they were negative the doctors are saying it can't be Arachnoiditis. (This has been going on now for almost two years and I am now being labelled a malingerer.) Am I correct in thinking that there are only certain specialist centres able to perform the correct T2 weighted scan as I am positive that the scans I had were just the normal bog standard ones. Where oh where can I get the correct scan done. I can find no information whatsoever and the doctors won't even discuss it anymore. I am now getting desperate and to cap it all I am now having my incapacity benefit stopped due to the absence of medical proof that I do have a debilitating condition. Incidentally, I also have ME which the doctors are now saying isn't ME but is all part of being an illness obsessed neurotic which I most certainly am not! (before all this happened I was a very keen rider and kept two horses. Being unable to ride is horrendous. I DO NOT WANT to be like this!!! Please can you help me. Any advice much appreciated. Many thanks

Alison.

hi doc, came in a email,

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## Re:injection of kenalog

Posted by Kim - 18 Nov 2005 22:37

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Hi Ann

If you can pass this on to Alison if she doesn't watch the forum.

Do I need to say anymore than I have heard this story countless times over the last 10-12 years. Practically word for word. It doesn't get better or easier to have to listen too or indeed read about these problems and feeling powerless to help.

I can say things like keep faith with yourself. It is the system that is wrong not your own mind.

With regards to benefits, there is a Commissioners ruling on medical reports not substantiating claimants own symptoms. I will try to dig this out over the weekend and let you quote it. A non qualified adjudicator cannot believe a medical report (or lack of one) above your statement of claim.

Point two: there is a Prof up here in Liverpool who is an expert on ME and I have had good personal reports about him. It would be possible to get an out of area referral to see him. (The money follows the patient these days) and I could help with that as well.

Point three: ASK to see a consultant psychiatrist - they can determine wether you have organic or non organic symptoms. It worked wonders last time I supported someone to do just that.

Point four: Distraction Therapy - try to find small tasks you can do when ever the pain is getting on top of you. I use to love horses and it was a riding accident which started this train of events many years ago.

You have to beat them with your own strength of mind, and there are many people who will help you do just this, not least Ann.

Failing this, just incase you don't believe me, we can get an out of area referral to see DocSarah, even if it is a bit of a hike down to Plymouth!

Sadly, no-one can take your pain away but we can give you the weapons for a better quality of life than you have right now.

Lastly and sadly you are not alone, there are thousands like you. Even Dr Charles Burton recognises the damage Kenalog can cause!

Bye for now

Kim

Post edited by: Kim, at: 2005/11/18 22:39

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## Re:injection of kenalog

Posted by DocSarah - 25 Nov 2005 17:17

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Hi Alison

MRI scans showing arach. can be done anywhere but it takes a neuroradiologist to spot it usually and they may not look for it unless it is queried on the request form.

Whilst it's unlikely to get arach. from injection into interspinous ligaments, it is certainly worth checking it out. It may be that you have reacted to the injection as part of the ME.

Kim is right to suggest getting an opinion from a psychiatrist as this may be very helpful in squashing the 'malingerer' label. It certainly shouldn't be allowed for any other specialist to label you, they are simply not expert in that field.

Sorry to hear you are having such trouble. Sadly, you are far from alone! I was told for 15 years there was nothing wrong with me, until they finally found out about my spinal stenosis, arthritis, etc.etc.

Doctors should treat the patient, NOT the test results!!!

Hope that helps, and do get in touch again if I can answer any questions.

Regards,

DocSarah

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