

THE STATE OF OHIO,)
) SS: JAMES R. WILLIAMS, J.
COUNTY OF SUMMIT.)

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

JENNIFER M. JACOB,)
INDIVIDUALLY AND AS)
EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF)
AMY A. STANLEY,)

Plaintiffs,)

v.)

Case No. CV 95 051742

AKRON CITY HOSPITAL, et al.,)

Defendants.)

- - -

Videotaped deposition of UGO GALLO, M.D., taken
by the Plaintiffs as if upon cross-examination
before Angela R. Zanghi, a Stenographic Reporter and
Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio, at
the law offices of Buckingham, Doolittle &
Burroughs, 50 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio, on
Monday, the 29th day of January, 1996 commencing at
10:00 a.m., pursuant to notice and agreement of
counsel.

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STIPULATIONS

It is stipulated by and between counsel for the respective parties that this deposition may be taken in stenotypy by Angela R. Zanghi, that her stenotype notes may be subsequently transcribed in the absence of the witness; and that all requirements of the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure with regard to notice of time and place of taking this deposition are waived.

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I N D E X

Cross-Examination by Mr. Czack

Page 5

OBJECTIONS:

By Mr. Schobert

Pages 7, 9, 16, 24,
29, 34, 40, 49,
53, 55, 60, 63,
65, 69, 73, 74,
78, 82, 87, 89,
91, 93, 94

By Mr. Strong

Page 93

EXHIBITS:Plaintiffs'Marked

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- - -

1 UGO E. GALLO, M.D.,
2 a Defendant herein, called by the Plaintiffs for the
3 purpose of cross-examination, as provided by the
4 Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure, being by me first
5 duly sworn, as hereinafter certified, deposes and
6 says as follows:

7
8 MR. CZACK: Let the record reflect
9 this is the videotaped discovery deposition
10 of Dr. -- Is it pronounced Ugo --

11 THE WITNESS: Correct.

12 MR. CZACK: -- Gallo, a Defendant in
13 the case of Jennifer Jacob, Executrix,
14 versus Akron City Hospital. This
15 deposition's being taken by notice.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. CZACK:

18 Q. Doctor, would you give the Court Reporter your full
19 name and spell your last name.

20 A. Ugo Enesto Gallo, G-a-l-l-o.

21 Q. And what's your current business address, Doctor?

22 A. 525 East Market Street, Akron, Ohio, Department of
23 Emergency Medicine, I believe it to be the City
24 Campus. It previously was on both campuses.

25 Q. Okay. What's your date of birth, Doctor?

1 A. 10/31/1959.

2 Q. Doctor, I represent the Estate of Amy Stanley. I'm
3 going to be asking you some questions here today.

4 A couple of rules I want to establish right now
5 so that everybody is clear. It's important you
6 answer out loud so that the Court Reporter can take
7 down what your response is. Okay?

8 A. Okay.

9 Q. If you don't understand the question I ask, tell me
10 that so I can repeat it and make it clear for you.
11 Fair enough?

12 A. Fair.

13 Q. If you don't know an answer to a question, don't
14 feel you have to answer every single question. If
15 you don't know, feel free to explain why you don't
16 know of just the fact that you do not know the
17 answer. Okay?

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. If there -- At any time during the deposition you
20 feel like there's something you want to change or
21 add to a previous answer that you gave, feel free to
22 stop me, we can go back and talk about that area.
23 All right?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Now, have you ever been deposed before?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. How many occasions?

3 A. Two prior.

4 Q. All right. Do you recall approximately the time
5 that those depositions were taken, what year?

6 MR. SCHOBERT: To the best of your
7 knowledge. Let me have a line of objection
8 to anything that may refer to any previous
9 litigation if he was involved. If that's
10 okay, Mike.

11 MR. CZACK: That's fine.

12 MR. STRONG: All right. Go ahead. To
13 the best of your knowledge, Doctor, just
14 tell him what you remember.

15 A. I think in 1993 and December of 1995.

16 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) December of '95?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. Okay, Were you defendants in those cases or were
19 you a witness?

20 A. First one I'm not sure what I was classified as.

21 MR. SCHOBERT: I think you were
22 actually a witness. That's my
22 recollection.

24 A. Then I was defendant.

25 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) The one in December of '95 you are a

1 defendant?

2 A. Right.

3 Q. Do you recall is that case here in Summit County,
4 filed in Summit County?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Does it relate to your services at Akron City
7 Hospital?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Doctor, what did you review in preparation for your
10 deposition today?

11 A. The medical records.

12 Q. Okay. That would be the December 6th, 1993
13 Emergency Room admission of Amy Stanley?

14 A. The visit that Dr. -- December, yeah, 26th, 1993.

15 Q. Okay. Have you reviewed any other medical records
16 in this case or regarding Amy Stanley?

17 A. Just briefly reviewed the subsequent visit with
18 Jeff.

19 Q. Okay. The one where she came in two days later,
20 December 8th of '93?

23 A. Correct.

22 Q. All right. Did you look at the death certificate
23 and autopsy?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. All right. Anything else you've looked at other

1 than what you've told me here today in terms of
2 medical records?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Are there any other papers, or records, reports, or
5 summaries that you've reviewed in preparation for
6 this deposition today?

7 MR. SCHOBERT: I'm going to object to
8 the extent of any work product information
9 I have presented to him. Doctor, is there
10 any -- other than medical records and
11 anything that I have provided to you, is
12 there anything else you've reviewed?

13 A. No.

14 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. You have -- And I don't want
15 you to tell me what it is -- You have looked at
16 something, though, that Mr. Schobert has provided
17 you?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. All right. Did you review any periodicals, or
20 treatises, or medical books in preparation for this
21 deposition?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Doctor, are you married or single?

24 A. Married.

25 Q. All right. Tell me about your educational

1 background.

2 A. Starting from college?

3 Q. College, sure.

4 A. Went to Ohio Northern University September of 1977
5 and graduated in July of 1982 with a Bachelor of
6 Science in Chemistry. In August of that same year I
7 had a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. Then
8 matriculated to The University of Cincinnati College
9 of Medicine. Graduated in June of 1986. Started my
10 residency in emergency medicine at Akron City
11 Hospital and completed that training in 1989 and was
12 asked to stay on as teaching staff at Akron City
13 Hospital.

14 Q. That would have been in 1989?

15 A. Correct. July 1st, 1989.

16 Q. We have -- Mr. Schobert has provided us with a copy
17 of your CV. There's -- It's a three-page document,
18 is that correct, Doctor?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. Okay. Is this CV current in terms of appointments,
21 trainings, certifications, or is there anything you
22 feel that you want to add to this orally here today?

23 MR. SCHOBERT: Take a moment, as we
24 explained it may have been a couple of
25 years old. It's my mistake.

1 A. I do have -- Let's see. Let's go page by page.
2 How's that? I am now as far as current
3 appointments, I'm an associate professor of
4 emergency medicine. I guess as attending physician
5 Department of Emergency Medicine would be SUMMA
6 Health System would be correct, both campuses, City
7 Hospital and St. Thomas.

8 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay.

9 A. I am Board Certified. It was December, I don't
10 remember what year, if it was '93. I don't really
11 recall.

12 Q. Your Board certification?

13 A. Board Certified.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. I'm no longer on the Trauma Committee as of January
16 -- January 1995. I am presently, though, on the
17 Respiratory Committee at the hospital.

18 Q. Akron City or both?

19 A. SUMMA Health Systems.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. I guess it's no longer called Summit County Medical
22 Society. It's now called, I guess, Greater Akron
23 Medical an -- I don't know the exact name. It was
24 changed. And I am no longer a member of the
25 American Medical Association.

1 Q. Doctor, can you find out for me when your -- you
2 became Board Certified and let Mr. Schobert know?

3 A. Yes.

4 MR. CZACK: Can you mark this as
5 Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 2, please, for the
6 record.

7 (Plaintiffs' Deposition Exhibit 2
8 marked for identification.)

9 MR. SCHOBERT: Is there anything else
10 while she's doing that?

11 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) One second. You got to wait until
12 she's ready.

13 A. Sorry. I've given lectures at other hospitals,
14 national lectures that aren't on here. I could get
15 you those dates. I thought this would be my -- This
16 is actually my very first CV. The second one I
17 thought was on file. This is not it.

18 Q. Okay. You have another CV that you have on file?

19 A. Yes. It would be with Dr. Wilson, our department
20 chairman.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. Again, that's like at best two-years old.

23 Q. Okay. Could you get me that one that would have
24 some of these --

25 A. Lectures and that?

1 Q. Correct.

2 A. Sure, I'd be glad to.

3 Q. Who are you current employed with, Doctor?

4 A. Excuse me, Mr. Czack. I don't mean to interrupt
5 you. It says on the fax six, I guess, pages. Six.
6 So I guess maybe it didn't all come over.

5 Q. Okay.

8 MR. SCHOBERT: We will provide you,
9 Mike, with anything and if there's any
10 follow-up questions maybe we can do it by
11 written form. If nothing else, I mean, I
12 think he has given you the essence of this
13 -- You've given him where you've been
14 professionally, your professional education
15 and all that?

16 THE WITNESS: Correct.

17 MR. SCHOBERT: So any additional
18 materials might be lectures and that type
19 of thing?

20 THE WITNESS: Correct.

21 MR. CZACK: That's fine.

22 MR. SCHOBERT: I'll provide that to
23 you. If there is a problem let me know.

24 MR. CZACK: Lectures, you know,
25 publishings, and then that date that we

1 talked about. Okay?

2 MR. SCHOBERT: We'll get that for you.

3 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) You're currently employed where,
4 Doctor, or who are you employed by?

5 A. SUMMA Emergency Associates.

6 Q. And how long have you been employed by SUMMA
7 Emergency Associates?

8 A. That's a new entity as of January of this year.

9 Q. As of January of '96?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. All right. Who were you employed by prior to
12 January of '96?

13 A. Akron Emergency Physicians Associates, Inc.

14 Q. And how long were you employed by them?

15 A. Since July 1, 1989.

16 Q. And that's who you were employed by when you
17 rendered treatment to Amy Stanley in this case,
18 correct?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. Are you a partner or were you a partner of Akron
21 Emergency Physicians, or a shareholder?

22 MR. SCHOBERT: In 1993?

23 MR. CZACK: 1993.

24 A. I had voting shares.

25 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) All right. You had that in 1993?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. Now, in 1993 Akron Emergency Physicians Associates,
3 part of that group -- or that group staffed the
4 Emergency Room Department at Akron City, is that
5 correct?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. Did any other entity, or corporation, or group
8 provide Emergency Room physicians to Akron City at
9 that time?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Did Akron City -- Other than residents, did Akron
12 City have attending physicians that staffed that
13 Emergency Department?

14 A. No.

15 Q. And you still are staffing the -- This new entity is
16 still staffing Akron City, correct, the Emergency
17 Department?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. Now, you say you do some teaching, Doctor. That is
20 where at, Northeastern Ohio University?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. And what courses do you teach there?

23 A. We're a training program at Akron City Hospital. I
24 have residency in emergency medicine. We give
25 didactic lectures during the year to the residents.

1 It's not necessarily at the med school. We're an
2 affiliate with the med school. I have an
3 appointment through that affiliation.

4 Q. How long have you been an instructor?

5 A. 1993 or 4. '94. June of '94.

6 Q. All right. Now, you've told me about a case in
7 which you were just deposed in December of '95 which
8 you're a party defendant.

9 Were you ever a party to a lawsuit prior to
10 that that you're aware?

11 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Again, note
12 my continuing objection to all prior
13 lawsuits.

14 A. No.

15 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Do you know Dr. Colette Willins?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. All right. How do you know her, Doctor?

18 A. She's a resident at Akron City Hospital.

19 Q. And I understand she was present on the evening of
20 December 6th, morning of December 7th, 1993?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. Did Colette Willins actually see and examine Amy
23 Stanley that evening?

24 A. Yes, she did.

25 Q. Were you ever with Colette Willins when she

1 physically examined and spoke to Amy Stanley?

2 A. The initial history and physical, no.

3 Q. At some point later in the evening you were in the
4 room together with her?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. On how many occasions.

7 A. Once.

8 Q. All right. And how long would the two of you have
9 been in there together minute-wise? And I
10 understand it's an approximation.

11 A. Five to ten minutes.

12 Q. Did any other physician examine or see Amy Stanley
13 that evening other than yourself and Dr. Willins?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Can you -- Do you know how long Colette Willins took
16 the initial history and examination of Amy Stanley
17 the time you were not in there?

18 A. It was a typical intern --

19 MR. SCHOBERT: Well, answer his
20 question specifically first. Do you know a
21 specific amount of time?

22 A. I would say ten to fifteen minutes.

23 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. And that would have been
24 prior to the time that you and her saw her together,
25 correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Had you ever worked with Colette Willins prior to
3 that evening?

4 A. I may have worked one or two shifts prior.

5 Q. You're not sure?

6 A. I don't remember. Specifically in the Emergency
7 Department with her under my guidance, maybe once or
8 twice. I had interactions with her when she was on
9 family practice and other services when I called her
10 down to the Emergency Department for consultations
11 or other admissions prior to that.

12 Q. Okay. You did not know Colette Willins other than
13 the professional relationship within the hospital?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. How do the residents in training there work in the
16 Emergency Department at least back in December of
17 '93?

18 A. I'm not sure what you're asking.

19 Q. What was Colette Willins' job that evening?

20 A. We're a teaching institution. Her job is to see
21 patients, make an initial assessment by taking a
22 history and physical, come back to the attending who
23 is responsible for that particular side or resident
24 depending on the time of the day, and discuss that
25 case then with the attending. And after that

3 discussion to determine whether an emergency exists
2 and basically teachings on what you should think of,
1 being is this an emergency, you know, a patient
4 who comes for evaluation.

5 And then my responsibility is to go and see the
6 patient and make sure the assessment that the
7 resident or intern took is, indeed, accurate as far as
8 what she told me.

9 Q. Okay. Do you have any independent recollection of
10 this process going on that evening outside of what's
11 in the medical records? By process I mean the
12 process of the resident seeing the patient, you and
13 her discussing, doing the teaching part, then you
14 going and doing the actual assessment yourself.

15 A. Do I have any --

16 Q. Any independent recollection outside the medical
17 records.

18 A. I know it occurred. Is that what you mean?

19 Q. Well, do you have -- Do you have in your mind a
20 memory or recollection of what occurred that evening
21 without looking at the medical records?

22 A. I know I talked to her. I know I went into the room
23 and saw the patient. I know I came back and made
24 notes on the chart and we discussed the patient's
25 presentation, and I remember those things.

1 Q. Okay. Do you recall that evening, Doctor, if it was
2 an extremely slow evening, a slow evening, an
3 average evening, busy, or extremely busy for the
4 Emergency Department?

5 A. No, I do not.

6 Q. Do you recall what time Amy Stanley came into the
7 hospital that night?

8 A. I know it had to be after 11:00 since that's when my
9 shift started.

10 Q. Your shift started at 11:00?

11 A. About 2300 if I remember correctly.

12 Q. And you were scheduled to work until what time?

13 A. 8:00 a.m.

14 Q. The following morning?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. From the 11:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. shift the next
17 morning were there any other attending physicians
18 on duty that evening?

19 A. At that time, yes.

20 a. Who would that have been?

21 A. The only one I know for sure is Dr. Weigand since
22 his name is on the demographic information. Other
23 than that, I don't have any independent
24 recollection.

25 Q. Okay. The fact that Dr. Weigand's name is on there,

1 does that indicate he would have been there that
2 evening?

3 A. He was working the medical side from 3:00 p.m. until
4 1:00 a.m. or 12:00 midnight.

5 Q. Okay. I'm sorry, I didn't hear the first. He was
6 working where?

7 A. Basically because his name's on the chart the way
8 it's designated he was working the blue side.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. And our shifts would go from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
11 This being December, most likely that shift went
12 from 3:00 p.m. to midnight. It may have been until
13 1:00 a.m. but I don't recall it.

14 Q. Okay. You're talking about the shift that Dr.
15 Weigand was on?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. You mentioned he worked on the blue side. Can you
18 explain that to me.

19 A. That would be the major medical side.

20 Q. And you would have -- What was your side called?

21 A. Mine basically would have been the back hall and to
22 help out if there is an area that was seeing, you
23 know, a disproportionate amount of patients on
24 one side.

25 Q. Would you switch back and forth different weeks?

1 would you be on the blue side some weeks and he
2 would be on the other side?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. Do you know who came in for Dr. Weigand after he
5 left after midnight on the blue side?

6 A. That was me.

7 Q. That was you?

8 A. (Indicating.)

9 Q. Is there any way we can tell whether that was a busy
10 night or slow night from the chart?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Is there any other records or in the Emergency
13 Department log that's kept that lists how many
14 patients came in that particular evening that we can
15 measure that against?

16 A. There is a log.

17 Q. Where's that log maintained, do you know?

18 A. Being that this is a couple years, I have no idea.
19 I know for the first month or two they're kept
20 behind the nurses' station. Other than that, I
21 don't know where they're kept.

22 Q. Okay. So this particular evening you were there and
23 Dr. Willins was there. Was Dr. Willins assigned to
24 work specifically with you or would she rotate
25 through the Emergency Room?

3 A. Specifically with me.

2 Q. All right. Did you have any other residents that
1 worked specifically with you that evening?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Do we know what night of the week this was, Doctor?

6 A. Not just by looking, no.

5 Q. Okay. Are there certain nights of the week that are
8 busier than others in the Emergency Department,
9 generally? I understand that's not a hard and fast
10 rule. But generally are there some nights that are
11 more busy --

12 A. I would say the first weekend in every month.

13 Q. How about full moons, is that true that hospitals
14 get busier during full moons? Have you noticed that?

15 A. It seems that way. I don't know.

16 Q. There's no scientific reason why?

17 A. I think they actually had a publication on that. I
18 think it is just coincidental or luck.

19 Q. Now, Dr. Willins had just begun, it's my
20 understanding, in the Emergency Department rotation
21 in December. Does she meet with you before she
22 begins work in that department so that --

23 A. She would have met either with the residency
24 director at that time or one of the chief residents
25 to be oriented to the department and the process

1 that goes on in the department.

2 If that would have been my first shift with
3 her, I would have, you know, said basically this is
4 how I do things and would like things done.

5 Q. Okay. You would have sat down with her and
6 explained that --

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. -- if not that night then -- then one of the prior
9 nights in December?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. And ultimately, as I understand it, you as the
12 attending physician in the Emergency Department has
13 responsibility for the care of the patient, correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. Have you ever been -- And I have to ask this. Have
16 you ever been suspended from the practice of
17 medicine, Doctor?

18 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Go ahead,,
19 Doctor.

20 A. No.

21 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Have you ever had your privileges
22 suspended from any institution?

23 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

24 A. No.

25 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) When did you first learn that Amy

1 Stanley died?

2 MR. SCHOBERT: To the extent that
3 there's any protected activity at the
4 hospital that might have resulted in his
5 knowledge, I've instructed him not to talk
6 about that. I don't know whether you can
7 answer.

8 MR. CZACK: I guess generally let me
9 -- And you can object if you feel the need
10 to.

11 MR. SCHOBERT: Well, yeah. I mean,
12 there are certain things I just won't let
13 him answer because it's protected, and
14 certain activities always result in review
15 and certain unfortunate outcomes always
16 result in review regardless of whether
17 everything was done appropriately or not.
18 That is protected. To the extent that that
19 occurred I won't let him answer questions
20 about those activities. But if you can
21 answer generally when you first learned of
22 her death, give him a time frame.

23 A. Probably several months after.

24 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) After December of '93?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. Okay. And again, without getting into some of the
2 things that occurred, was this something in passing
3 somebody told you or was it something more formal
4 that -- that occurred that made you aware of that?

5 MR. SCHOBERT: You can answer that.

6 A. More formal.

7 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Dr. Willins has testified that you
8 told her that you and her might be hearing from
9 lawyers about Amy Stanley dying. Do you recall
10 that?

11 A. I received a 180-day letter.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. When I received that letter I went to the computer
14 system of her transcribed dictations and looked up
15 that patient's name and the date that I saw --
16 saw her and I made a note to see if I saw the
17 patient independently or if I did see the patient
18 with a resident. Since I did see it with Dr.
19 Willins, I informed her that I did receive this note
20 and that she should not discuss this case and if any
21 discussions she has should be with the attorneys of
22 the hospital.

23 Q. Okay. So actually your first notice of this lady
24 dying is, what, the more formal notice you told me
25 about or the 180-day letter?

1 A. The more formal.

2 Q. All right. But you didn't go to Dr. Willins until
3 you got this 180-day letter, is that -- or at least
4 you didn't have this conversation with her until
5 then?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. Did Dr. Willins say anything to you when you told
8 her this?

9 A. If she did I do not recall what she said.

10 Q. You don't recall what she said?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. Where did this conversation take place, if you
13 remember?

14 A. In the hospital probably in a private place.
15 Specifically where, I do not recall.

16 Q. Doctor, I'm going to show you what's been marked as
17 Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 1. And this is --

18 A. I have a copy.

19 Q. Right. I've given you a copy of it. The reason I'm
20 using my records here is because I've numbered the
21 pages down in the right-hand corner.

22 A. These are numbered as well.

23 Q. Right. And that's the Xerox copy that Mr. Schobert
24 provided us with. So when we refer to these records
25 we'll use the little number in the right-hand

1 corner, at least I will to make it easier for you
2 and everybody else.

3 A. Okay.

4 Q. Have you talked to Colette Willins in 1996 or late
5 1995?

6 MR. SCHOBERT: About this case or in
7 general?

8 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) About this case, correct. About
9 this case.

10 A. No.

11 Q. Have you read her partial deposition that was taken
12 a couple of weeks ago?

13 A. I did not have an opportunity to review it.

14 Q. Have you discussed Amy Stanley -- Amy Stanley's
15 December 6th, 1993 admission with Colette Willins
16 other than the time you met with her about the
17 180-day letters or other than the date of December
18 6th '93?

19 A. You mean her visits and not the admission, right?
20 No.

21 Q. I'm sorry. Not the admission date. The Emergency
22 Room visit.

23 Prior to December 6 '93 you never saw Amy
24 Stanley as a patient?

25 A. Not to my knowledge.

1 Q. And you've not looked at any other medical records
2 of Amy Stanley since this lawsuit was instituted, I
3 think you said that earlier, other than the December
4 8th records and the autopsy?

5 MR. SCHOBERT: Other than what you
6 already told him you looked at, have you
7 looked at anything else?

8 A. No.

9 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Doctor, are there any written
10 Emergency Department guidelines or standards that
11 are published by any medical groups or organizations
12 that are relevant to the facts of this case?

13 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Go ahead.

14 A. I'm not sure what you're asking.

15 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. With regard to chest pain
16 evaluation, are there Emergency Room guidelines or
17 standards that are published?

18 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

19 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) If you're aware of them.

20 A. There's, I mean -- There's a lot of standards
21 published by, you know, journals. I mean, different
22 colleges have, you know, guidelines.

22 Q. Okay. Any of the Boards that you are certified by
24 or the committees that you are on, do any -- are you
25 aware of any of those?

1 MR. SCHOBERT: Well, maybe you can
2 break that down into two questions, first
3 of all. I mean, are you asking whether,
4 first of all, any Boards -- he's told you
5 he's certified by the American Board of
6 Emergency Room Physicians.

7 MR. CZACK: Okay.

8 MR. SCHOBERT: They have the Board
9 certification.

10 A. There is a large, you know, I guess outline of what
11 you should do with someone who has chest pain or
12 other, you know, symptoms.

13 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. I wasn't trying to trick you.
14 That's all I was trying to ask you. There is a --
15 something they publish. Do you know what the formal
16 name of that is?

17 A. No, I do not.

18 Q. Have you ever read those standards or those
19 guidelines before?

20 A. Yes, I have.

21 Q. Would you have a copy of those anywhere in your
22 office?

23 A. No.

24 Q. And those are published by or put out by the --

25 A. American College of Emergency Room Physicians.

1 Q. Do you regularly subscribe to any emergency medicine
2 journals or manuals?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Which ones?

5 A. Annals Of Emergency Medicine, North American Clinics
6 Of Emergency Medicine, JAMA. There is a quarterly,
7 I don't remember, I guess Emergency Medicine Topics.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. I believe that's the name of it.

10 Q. Are there any texts that you regularly refer to in
11 your practice of emergency medicine?

12 A. Being a teaching hospital, the two texts that are
13 used as references are Tinelly's Textbook Of
14 Emergency Medicine.

15 Q. How do you spell --

16 A. I don't know.

17 Q. Tinelly's?

18 A. Tinelly. And the other is The Textbook By Rosen.

19 Q. And these are used in your -- your teaching?

20 A. These are references.

21 Q. Do you have these in your office?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. The night of December 6th, 1993 and morning December
24 7th of '93 did you speak to anybody else from Amy
25 Stanley's family that -- that you recall?

1 A. No, I did not.

2 Q. So with regard to this Emergency Room visit, the
3 only person you spoke to concerning this patient
4 was the patient herself?

5 A. And Dr. Willins.

6 Q. All right. Do you know any members of Amy Stanley's
5 family outside of -- outside your professional
E practice?

9 A. Professional practice, no.

10 Q. Okay. Have you ever come in contact with any of Amy
13 Stanley's family members at any time?

1: A. Yes.

1: Q. Okay. When was that?

1: A. Last year.

1: Q. All right. And under what circumstances did that
1: occur?

1 A. They came in as a patient.

18 Q. Okay. Do you know who that was?

1 A. No. I don't remember -- All I know is I found out
2 that she was related after I went into the room.

2 Q. Okay. How did you find that out?

2 A. She asked that another physician examine her.

2 Q. Okay. And there was no other conversations between
2 the two of you after that?

25 A. No.

1 Q. Okay. Looking at the exhibit you have in front of
2 you, Doctor, Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 1. When you
3 first when in to see Amy Stanley which pages of that
4 chart would you have had present already? Which of
5 those pages would you have had in front of you?

6 A. Page No. 1, Page No. 3, Page No. 4, Page No. 5, Page
7 No. 6. That's all.

8 Q. Okay. And pages -- Page 1 would have been completed
9 at that time when you had it in the chart?

10 A. Possibly.

11 Q. Okay. Do you recall in this case whether it was
12 or wasn't?

13 A. No, I do not.

14 Q. All right. Is it normally completed by the time you
15 see the patient?

16 MR. SCHOBERT: Only if you know.

17 A. I'd say a majority.

18 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) All right. Page 3, the
19 authorization page, normally you've got some
20 signature from the patient by the time you see the
23 patient?

22 A. I believe that's the back of Page 4.

23 Q. Okay. And then 4, 5, and 6, those would have been
24 partially completed by the time you saw the patient?

25 A. What do you mean by completed?

1 Q. Well, all the writing we see on them now, would all
2 of that writing have been there the first time you
3 saw Amy Stanley that evening?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Okay. Tell me what entries you have physically made
6 in the record, handwritten entries have you made.

7 A. On Page 5 where it has under reassessment, that is
8 my handwriting.

9 Q. Right next to reassessment there?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. All right. Where else do we see your writing in --
12 in Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 1?

13 A. My signature on that same page.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. And my signature on Page 9.

16 Q. Okay. Tell me what Pages 7, 8, and 9 are. Those
17 are, what, transcribed --

18 A. That's a transcribed dictation that was performed by
19 Dr. Willins.

20 Q. And what does all that information evidence?

21 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

22 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) What is that information?

23 A. That's the history and physical and other
24 information that would be pertinent to a patient's
25 visit to the Emergency Department.

1 Q. Okay. Let -- Let me ask you this, Doctor. The
2 information that's in that transcribed dictation,
3 Pages 7, 8, and 9, is that something that's prepared
4 with information that's acquired only by Dr. Willins
5 or is that information -- or is that transcription a
6 compilation of information from you and Dr. Willins?

7 A. That would be mainly information from Dr. Willins.
8 If there was -- I had done a dictation there would
9 have been a, you know, note to that effect.

10 Q. Okay. So this mainly came from Dr. Willins'
11 examination and review of the patient?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. The information that's contained in this
14 transcription, though, is something Dr. Willins
15 would have shared with you at some point when you
16 and her met before discharging the patient?

17 A. This dictation was not transcribed prior to her
18 discharge.

19 Q. Right. I understand that. But the information
20 that's contained therein that Dr. Willins had, she
21 would have shared that with you before discharging
22 the patient, correct?

23 A. Excuse me. Correct.

24 Q. All right. Have you looked at the Stow Fire
25 Department records, Doctor? Have you seen those?

1 A. No.

2 MR. CZACK: Do you have a copy of
3 those, Jeff, because I don't?

4 MR. SCHOBERT: Here.

5 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Take a moment to look at those,
6 Doctor, if you would.

7 A. Okay.

8 (Witness reviews documents.)

9 A. Okay.

10 Q. Have you ever seen that record before?

11 A. No.

12 Q. All right. And that record that you're looking at
13 is the Stow -- I'm sorry, what's the caption on top?

14 A. Stow Fire Department Emergency Medical Service
15 Report.

16 Q. And what's the date on that, if it's on there?

17 MR. SCHOBERT: I think it's up here in
18 the corner.

19 A. 12/6/93.

20 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) And that's for patient Amy Stanley?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. Did that record ever become a part of Amy Stanley's
23 chart at the Akron City Emergency Room as far as you
24 know?

25 A. It never was.

1 Q. Okay. And as far as you're aware or -- Strike
2 that.

3 You've never seen that before today?

4 A. Other than Jeff informing --

5 Q. Other than when you -- Right.

6 A. -- me before this morning.

7 MR. SCHOBERT: We went over that
8 today.

9 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. So you've never seen that
10 before today?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Does the fire department record from the local
13 rescue squads and EMT units normally become a part
14 of the hospital emergency patient chart?

15 A. This here?

16 Q. Normally. I guess generally I'm asking general
17 procedure.

18 A. If the patient would not have been transported
19 this would not become part of the medical record.

20 Q. In this case because the patient was not
21 transported it is not a part of the record?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Okay. Doctor, do you know -- And I asked Dr.
24 Willins this -- the page -- first page of
25 Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 1, you've been in the

1 Emergency Room there for awhile at Akron City, do
2 you know who takes that information? Is that a
3 triage nurse that takes that information and types
4 it in the chart or is that a clerk or could that be
5 either one in certain situations?

6 A. This specific information --

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. -- would be a clerk.

9 Q. Does that person have any medical training
10 whatsoever?

11 A. Other than maybe, you know, medical terminology, I
12 don't believe so.

13 Q. All right. And that would also include the
14 information contained on Page 2, is that accurate?

15 MR. SCHOBERT: That it's done by this
16 clerk individually?

17 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Done by a clerk person or
18 registration person.

19 A. I guess the only thing as far as diagnosis or chief
20 complaint, that may be information that she obtained
21 from the chart that would be marked Page 4.

22 Q. Okay. Now --

23 MR. SCHOBERT: I think it's a
24 question. Did you answer his question
25 about whether this particular page --

1 A. Again, here it says diagnosis.

2 MR. SCHOBERT: All right.

3 A. I'm not sure where they got that. I'm not sure if
4 that's the final diagnosis or is that the, you know,
5 pretreatment. That I don't know.

6 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. We're talking about high
7 blood pressure/chest pains?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. Do you recall in this case when you saw Amy Stanley
10 whether that information was in there when you saw
11 her chart; high blood pressure/chest pains?

12 A. I do not recall.

13 Q. Okay. Seeing that we now know that Amy Stanley was
14 not brought in by the fire department, do you know
15 how she -- she came in that evening, Doctor?

16 A. She came in by private vehicle by herself.

17 Q. Okay. Can you tell me what the term differential
18 diagnoses means?

19 A. My interpretation of that would be possibilities o
20 different diagnostic entities that may be possible
21 based on the patient's presenting symptoms.

22 Q. Do you as an Emergency Department physician use this
23 differential diagnoses principle?

24 A. I'm not sure what you mean by principle.

25 Q. Well, you just defined what it is. Is it used in

1 the Emergency Department?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. It's something you teach or when you did do
4 instruction?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Something you would talk about with students?

7 A. And residents.

8 Q. Have you ever heard of the term index of suspicion
9 in medicine?

10 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Go ahead.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. What does that mean to you?

13 A. A likelihood or possibility or probability of
14 something occurring.

15 Q. Now, at 2340 Dr. Willins ordered 75 milligrams of
16 Vistaril and a pulse oximeter reading. Were you
17 consulted before those orders were made, Doctor?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And did you concur in those things being done?

20 A. I concurred with the pulse Ox. The Vistaril being
21 administered was my suggestion.

22 Q. And before this patient was discharged you were
23 consulted and you discussed the discharge
24 instructions, correct?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. Did you concur with the discharge orders and the
2 treatment that was given in this case?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Why did you suggest Vistaril be given, Doctor?

5 A. This patient's major complaint was she could not
6 relax. Vistaril is a mild medication for anxiolytic
7 complaints.

8 Q. Do you give that often in the Emergency Room, is
9 that something you give --

10 A. No.

11 Q. By the time this patient was discharged did the
12 Vistaril accomplish what it was intended to
13 accomplish?

14 A. Without looking at the records themselves, I believe
15 they did.

16 Q. Please feel free at any time, Doctor, I don't want
17 you to talk off the top of your head, feel free to
18 stop and look at the record.

19 A. I believe so.

20 Q. You believe it did?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. Okay. That's based on -- Did you find a particular
23 note in the record that makes you believe that or is
24 that just your recollection?

25 A. Partly my recollection and partly the fact that the

1 nurse did make 'a mention that the patient was still,
2 you know, at the time of discharge complaining or
3 voicing that she still felt anxious, and that's the
4 other part of it.

5 Q. Okay. I guess maybe you didn't understand my
6 question.

7 MR. SCHOBERT: I think there was some
8 mix up. I'm confused.

9 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) The Vistaril is intended basically
10 to -- for lay purposes, to calm her down?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. All right. Did it calm her down the way you
13 intended it to at the time of discharge?

14 A. I believe so for the reasons that I stated earlier.

15 Q. For the reasons you just stated. All right.

16 Why did Dr. Willins order the pulse oximeter?

17 A. Because the triage note is that the patient
18 complained of shortness of breath. She did not
19 voice this complaint to myself nor Dr. Willins in
20 our questioning. And just to confirm that she was
21 not hypoxic a pulse Ox was ordered.

22 Q. Could Vistaril lower one's blood pressure?

23 A. It potentially can.

24 Q. All right. The dictated portions, Pages 7, 8, and
25 9, are those dictated in every case, Doctor, at

1 Akron City Hospital?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Do you have any handwritten notes concerning Amy
4 Stanley that -- that are outside the chart?

5 A. Outside of this exhibit?

6 Q. Right.

7 A. No.

8 Q. I'm talking about the evening you saw her notes.

9 A. No.

10 Q. And as I understand it, these notes on Page 7, 8,
11 and 9 were transcribed after the patient was -- was
12 discharged from the hospital. Is that correct?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. Who types that up, Doctor, do you know?

15 A. Personnel hired by the hospital for transcription.

16 Q. And it's important, I presume, that these summaries
17 are -- are accurate?

18 A. I would say that would be safe to assume.

19 Q. Okay. Who's responsible, if anybody, to proofread
20 these summaries for accuracy?

21 A. It would be me.

22 Q. And did you proofread these summaries after they
23 were prepared?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. We've talked about the pages that you have made

1 entries in this record, Doctor. Can you please read
2 for me on Page 5 your -- your reassessment of the
3 patient.

4 A. It would be my assessment of the patient. "Patient
5 with pressured speech complains of jaw pain
6 secondary to dental work today. Developed chest
7 pain after vomiting this evening. Apparently did
8 not eat until dinnertime. Negative" -- I can't
9 read mine. It's not a good copy.

10 MR. SCHOBERT: Mine isn't much better.

11 A. "Negative pain. Cold sweats. Positive smoking
12 history of one pack per day now down to one pack per
13 week. As far as negative history of coronary artery
14 disease."

15 Q. And then there are some numbers there to the right?

16 A. Which I do not know what those mean.

17 Q. Okay. Those are not your entries?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. Now, when was this reassessment made in terms of --
20 of the timing of her --

21 A. This assessment would have been made after Dr.
22 Willins made her initial assessment, discussed the
23 case with me, then we went back and after I examined
24 the patient would have come back out to the work
25 area, talked some more and I would have made this

1 quick note.

2 Q. Okay. So after Dr. Willins saw the patient herself
3 these notes here are when you went back in to see
4 the patient yourself?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. We don't know the time of these notes, though,
7 correct? There's no time entered in anywhere that
8 we can tell what time it is?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. At some point you and Dr. Willins formulated or
11 thought about a diagnosis of this patient?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. When would that have occurred, Doctor, in terms of
14 these --

15 A. A preliminary working diagnosis after I discussed
16 the case with Dr. Willins after her findings. The
17 final impression would have been determined after I
18 saw the patient and examined her.

19 Q. Okay. What was the preliminary working diagnosis
20 that you and Dr. Willins considered?

21 A. All of them?

22 Q. Every single one of them, yes.

23 A. Being it's a teaching hospital, I mean, with this
24 person coming in and the fact she is a resident and
25 is supposed to be taught and learn from this, I

1 presented it more than one way. You can look at
2 what is it's presentation from a life-threatening
3 versus nonlife-threatening, cardiac versus
4 noncardiac etiology of her complaints.

5 Q. That's how you presented it to her?

6 A. Correct. I said when someone comes in with these
7 complaints there are things you should think of.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. And our job is to determine is it life-threatening
10 versus nonlife-threatening. Of the life-threatening,
11 the chest discomforts or whatever, and then use it
12 as a small mini-lecture topic to discuss.

13 Q. Okay. And chest discomfort's important because
14 there is always a possibility that could be a
15 catastrophe?

16 A. The patient never really described chest discomfort.
17 She complained of intrascapular pain and shoulder
18 pain.

19 Q. We'll get into that in a second. So you gave a sort
20 of a mini-discussion or lecture with Dr. Willins?

21 A. True.

22 Q. What was the working diagnosis that you and her came
23 up with at that time?

24 A. Based on the most probable cause would have been a
25 viral illness, gastroenteritis, esophageal spasm,

1 hiatal hernia, biliary disease including
2 cholelithiasis, cholelithostitis, pancreatitis
3 based on the signs, symptoms, and history taken --
4 took -- taken by her and then myself.

5 Q. Now, this working diagnosis was made when, before
6 you saw the patient or after you also saw the
7 patient?

8 A. It was expanded after I saw the patient.

9 Q. Right. So this working diagnosis you just gave me
10 was part of a discussion between you and Dr. Willins
11 before you made your assessment?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. All right. And how is it that you recall these
14 diagnoses? Is this something you just remember from
15 this patient --

16 A. Something --

17 Q. I'm sorry?

18 A. It's common. A good Emergency physician would
19 think of those things.

20 Q. Okay. Did you think of those things then or --

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. -- did you think of those now that you've looked at
23 the record?

24 A. I thought of them at that time.

25 Q. **All** right. But they're not entered anywhere in the

1 record, correct?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. All right. And did you consider anything of cardiac
4 origin at that time?

5 A. It was considered.

6 Q. Okay. So that would have also been part of your
7 working diagnosis you just gave me?

8 A. As far as a probable, no. It was a possibility.

9 Q. All right. Well, none of these were probable at
10 that time, can we assume that? They were all
11 possibilities until you worked further with the
12 patient?

13 A. That would be fine.

14 Q. Okay. Then after this -- this working list, and
15 that's what a differential diagnosis list is sort
16 of, isn't it? Just so I understand.

17 A. Basically you have a patient coming in with
18 symptoms, based on those symptoms what is remote,
19 what is possible, what is probable.

20 Q. Okay. All right. So then after you and Dr. Willins
21 had discussed this at some point then you go in and
22 see the patient yourself?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. By yourself. Can you tell me, Doctor, what you
25 consider to be some of the primary coronary artery

risk factors?

4 A. Family history of coronary artery disease, it's
5 debated whether it's someone of age less than 60
6 or greater than 60. Smoking history, diabetes,
7 hypertension, hypercholesterolia, and whether the
8 patient themselves have a history of coronary disease.

9 Q. And the first thing you said age less than 60 or
10 more than 60. What distinction does that have?

11 A. Some people will say that it doesn't make a
12 difference if the person's older or younger than 60
13 as far as that being a risk factor. Some people say
14 that it should be somewhat remote as far as family
15 member that has cardiac disease at a younger age is
16 of significance.

17 Q. Okay. Being in the Emergency Department for six
18 years I'm sure you've seen a gamut of complaints and
19 illnesses and quote unquote, emergencies. What are
20 the most common, and this is just your opinion, the
21 most common causes of chest pain that you've seen in
22 the Emergency Room?

23 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Go ahead,
24 Doctor.

25 A. Musculoskeletal, pulmonary processes, bronchitis,
pneumonia, pleurisy. I think those would be the most
common if you went by diagnoses.

1 Q. Okay. And in an Emergency Department setting the
2 history is important, is it not?

3 A. It's very important.

4 Q. And the different ways you can obtain history I
5 presume are from -- obviously from the patient,
6 talking to the patient?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Talking to if the patient's family is there and you
9 need information from them the patient may not have
10 you sometimes use that as -- as a source?

11 A. If it's needed.

12 Q. Okay. What about outside physicians, attending
13 family physicians, do you ever use that as a source
14 of history?

15 A. When it's felt that the attending physician would
16 need to be contacted, the case would be discussed
17 and at times the history -- there's history that he
18 provides that would be helpful.

19 Q. Okay. What circumstances would you consider calling
20 an attending physician?

21 A. Someone needs to be admitted, someone needs a
22 follow-up within 24 hours.

23 Q. Is there a general guidelines or procedures, written
24 guidelines or procedures at Akron City that deal
25 with calling attending family doctors?

1 A. Not to my knowledge.

2 Q. What are the common signs and symptoms of a patient
3 who's having an acute MI, Doctor?

4 A. Chest pain that is described as a pressure,
5 tightness, heaviness, dull, aching discomfort.

6 Q. Where?

7 A. Classically it's thought to be retrosternal, behind
8 the breast bone. Maybe associated with radiation
9 to different parts, typically to the left side. As
10 far as arm, inner aspect is classically taught. It
11 could be referred anywhere.

12 Q. Any other areas that would radiate to classically?

13 A. Neck, jaw, shoulder. A person would complain of
14 shortness of breath, nausea, occasionally vomiting,
15 cold sweats.

16 Q. Anything else?

17 A. It could be anything. Pleuritic chest pain in
18 someone over the age 70 occurs in two to three
19 percent, depends on your age. I mean, there's all
20 these -- all these possibilities.

21 Q. Okay. Is blood pressure a factor at all?

22 A. It's classically referenced in -- in books that the
23 blood pressure may be elevated. My personal
24 experience in treating many MIs, I would say it
25 appears in maybe ten percent of the patients.

1 Q. How about anxiety?

2 A. That is one of the things that is listed towards the
3 end.

4 Q. Okay. I think we can both agree that not all
5 patients who are having an acute MI present with
6 all of these complaints, can we agree to that?

7 A. I would agree to that.

8 Q. As an Emergency Department doctor what tests,
9 studies, imaging modalities, whatever, are available
10 to you to confirm or rule out an acute MI?

11 A. If they were indicated, you can order to rule out
12 sometimes none of the tests that can be ordered,
13 which can be an EKG, a blood count, enzymes, can be
14 ordered but they don't always rule out a cardiac
15 event.

16 Q. The EKG, electrocardiogram you're talking about?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. So the main ones would be the EKG and the -- the
19 enzymes?

20 A. Enzymes are really, you know, they're a test that
21 can be done. But they do not rule in rule out and
22 are not used in the decision making whether someone
23 does or does not have an MI. It's based on their
24 history and presentation.

25 Q. Okay. What is -- Explain to me what an

1 electrocardiogram is, Doctor.

2 A. It is an electrical tracing of the heart. Basically
3 it's depending on where the electrodes are it's how
4 those electrodes perceive the electrical activity
5 of the heart.

6 Q. And how long does it take for that study to be
7 completed on a patient?

8 A. If there's no complications, I would say probably 30
9 seconds.

10 Q. Okay. It's not invasive or painful to a patient?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Those were available in December of '93 at Akron
13 City Hospital?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Were the nurses aware -- Nurses are aware that that
16 study or that test is available, are they not?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. What are the benefits of that test? What does --
19 What does it tell *you* if there's a positive reading
20 or abnormal reading?

21 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Go ahead.

22 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) What can it show you, I guess?

23 A. It can show you if there's nothing wrong or felt to
24 be nothing wrong. It may show nonspecific changes.
25 It could show evidence of ischemia.

Q. As an attending doctor at -- attending Emergency
Room doctor at Akron City in December of '93 did you
have the power and authority to admit patients to
the hospital?

A. I cannot admit patients.

Q. What's the procedure for having a patient admitted
that you felt needed to be admitted?

A. I would discuss the case with that person's
attending.

Q. All right. Suppose the patient didn't have an
attending.

A. Depending on what their complaint is, you may make a
referral to a specific specialty if that's what was
needed, or based on zip code a patient can be
referred to an internist.

Q. What if somebody needed to be admitted immediately
and you couldn't get ahold of the attending, what's
the procedure then?

A. Patients can always be stabilized and cared for in
an Emergency Department.

Q. Okay. Before the admission is done?

A. Correct.

Q. Are there written rules and regulations that were in
effect in December of '93 concerning Emergency
Department physician's admission of patients and the

1 procedure you had to follow?

2 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Go ahead.

3 A. I don't understand the question.

4 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) The procedure you just talked about,
5 what we just talked about very generally, are there
6 written guidelines that you had to follow in --

7 A. I'm sure there is, but I don't know specifically.

8 Q. Okay. You went back in and assessed Amy Stanley at
9 some point later after you had this discussion with
10 Dr. Willins, and you've read for us into the record
11 what your notes say. What happened after that then,
12 Doctor? You came back out, you said you filled in
13 the chart with the notes you read to us. What
14 occurred from there?

15 A. I spoke with Dr. Willins and felt that her
16 assessment was pretty much on line and I was in
17 agreement with her assessment.

18 Q. Okay. Why don't we step back a second. What was
19 Dr. Willins' assessment?

20 A. That the patient presented with the symptoms that
21 she has documented and felt that her jaw pain was
22 secondary to her dental work, felt that the nausea
23 and vomiting was related to her having the dental
24 procedure and the medication for that procedure.
25 And that's about it in a nutshell.

1 Q. Now, you earlier told me about the differential
2 diagnosis that you and Dr. Willins had put together.
3 I didn't hear those as being part of that
4 differential diagnosis; jaw pain secondary to dental
5 work.

6 A. I said that was partial at that time.

7 Q. Okay. But those were part of that differential at
8 that time?

9 A. What could be the cause.

10 MR. SCHOBERT: We're mixing up times.

11 Are you talking about the later time or
12 earlier time? You were referencing both.

13 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Right. I'm talking -- Let me make
14 it clear for you, Doctor. Earlier when you and Dr.
15 Willins put together this working set of diagnoses
16 where you gave me probably six or seven different
17 things, was this something you and her arrived at or
18 just you, the ones you read for me?

19 A. Both.

20 Q. Both of you.

21 A. I would have asked her and whatever she didn't fill
22 in I would have filled in.

23 Q. Okay. I guess I was neglecting my duty. Let me go
24 back. When you asked her initially the working
25 diagnoses, what was her working diagnoses?

1 A. The jaw pain was related to the dental procedure.

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. The nausea and vomiting was possibly related to the
4 dental procedure or a GI or viral component.

5 Q. All right.

A. That's it.

7 Q. Okay. And then you filled in all these other things
8 you told me?

9 A. And more.

10 Q. And more. Is there anything else you can think of
11 that you also filled in that you haven't told me?

12 A. Specifically?

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. The jaw pain, the differential could be -- could
15 have been the dental work itself, could be that she
16 has a problem with her jaw as far as the joint, the
17 TMJ, that she had an otologic problem, could this
18 represent pathology in the posterior pharynx, could
19 this be an unusual presentation for heart.

20 Q. Okay. Now, we'll go ahead to where I was before.
21 You now came back, entered your assessment in the
22 chart and then met with Dr. Willins and discussed a
23 final diagnosis, correct?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. And it was at that time -- I think I cut you off

1 before -- that you said that you felt she was pretty
2 much on with her assessment that she gave initially?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. And that assessment would be noted on Page 9 of
5 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 1?

6 MR. SCHOBERT: Use his with the page
7 numbers.

8 A. Those are impressions.

9 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. Is that different than a
10 diagnoses?

11 A. It's what our thought was and what is the most
12 likely probable explanation for her presentation.

13 Q. Okay. Is there a difference between a diagnosis and
14 an impression for purposes of this chart?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. All right. Explain to me what the difference is.

17 A. Impression is my medical opinion of what the
18 person's complaints add up to. A diagnosis, the way
19 I would look at it is something that was used for --
20 I don't know what the right term is -- coding.

21 Q. I'm sorry what, coding?

22 A. Coding and that type of stuff.

23 Q. Not Codeine the medicine. Coding, c-o-d-i-n-g?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. Okay.

1 A. This is an opinion, that's what it is, the
 2 impression. What's why it specifically states
 3 impression.

4 Q. All right. Doesn't hold any less significance than
 5 the quote unquote diagnosis for medical purposes,
 6 does it?

7 A. I believe not.

8 Q. Okay. And these impressions that were typed in
 9 here, that's something that Dr. Willins obviously
 10 would have dictated into her machine and would have
 11 been entered in there, but those are things that you
 12 and her not came up with and concurrent with.
 13 correct?

14 A. I guess so.

15 Q. Well, you don't sound sure. I don't want you to
 16 guess. If --

17 A. I'm not sure if I used those exact words.

18 Q. Which ones are you not sure about?

19 A. I don't know if I would have worded it exactly
 20 hypomania/bipolar disorder -- I guess it's just
 21 a matter of wording. I probably would have worded
 22 things a little differently.

23 Q. How would you have worded it?

24 A. For No. 2?

25 Q. Well, for any of the ones that you're not sure of.

1 A Z I gulw have said --

2 MR SCROWEEN: I'll object I don't
3 know if I said he's not sure. He said he
4 would have worded it differently Go
5 ahead, Doctor

6 A. I would have said anxiety with -- secondary to
7 hypomania with later history of bipolar depressive
8 di order.

9 Q (u MR CZACK; okay Anything else in there you
10 won't --

11 A. I would have not used -- I would not have used the
12 word chest pain because in the discussions that
13 Dr. Willins and I had the is no mention that the
14 person really had chest pain. She complained of
15 heartburn.

16 Q Is there a anywhere in the record that there's
17 complaints of chest pain?

18 A ll, it has it on this demographic page 1, page 2,
19 nurses notes, which is page 6.

20 Q. Does it mention midsternal pain?

21 A. Says he had midsternal pain.

22 Q Okay What's -- Where is that? What's the chest of
23 behind the chest wall?

24 A Behind the chest wall.

25 Q Okay. So there were a couple references to chest

1 pain either at the time or -- or prior thereto her
2 admission or her attending the Emergency Room?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. Okay. What would you have said for No. 3 then if
5 -- if you didn't agree with chest pain? What would
6 you have called it?

7 A. I probably would have said nausea, vomiting,
8 diarrhea secondary to gastroenteritis.

9 Q. Okay. Anything else in the impressions that you
10 felt is not accurate of what you felt was --

11 A. I didn't say it wasn't accurate.

12 Q. I'm sorry.

13 A. I said I would have worded it differently.

14 Q. Worded it differently. Okay.

15 A. That's it.

16 Q. You have the power to change these impressions
17 after you've gone through and read these? You said
18 you're the one responsible for accuracy.

19 A. Right.

20 Q. Did you read these after they were dictated?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And you didn't feel the need to change them at that
23 -- Why didn't you change them at that time?

24 A. Because at that time I -- the time of the review of
25 this I knew that the patient had returned to the

1 hospital.

2 Q. Okay. When did you review these, Doctor?

3 A. The exact date, I don't recall.

4 Q. Okay. What does the fact that she returned to the
5 hospital have to do with your review of the accuracy
6 of that impression?

7 A. It is my impression from attending seminars that if
8 you know there's an event that you shouldn't change
9 it because that may be construed that you're trying
10 to change, or hide, or cover up the facts.

11 Q. Okay. Nevertheless, this list of three impressions
12 that were entered into this record is something that
13 you and Dr. Willins had to discuss prior to her
14 dictating that, correct?

15 A. The exact wording, no.

16 Q. Okay. Wow does that work between you and the
17 resident? Do you write down exactly what you want
18 the impression to say or is it just a verbal
19 discussion?

20 A. Just a verbal discussion.

21 Q. Now, this lady had complaints -- You can refer to the
22 record -- of inability to relax and anxiety, jaw
23 pain, pressured speech, and I believe she was
24 hypertensive, is this correct?

25 A. Hyperten -- Hypertension wasn't a complaint. That

1 was a finding.

2 Q. It was a finding.

3 A. Otherwise that would be correct.

4 Q. All right. I think at some point the nurse noted
5 she complained of midsternal pain radiating to her
6 back sometime prior to coming to the hospital?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Sweats, vomiting, and diarrhea?

9 A. Nurse notes says that she vomited her dinner and had
10 diarrhea. There's no mention of sweats in the
11 nurses notes.

12 Q. Okay. The nurses notes did mention, though, the
13 vomiting and the midsternal chest pain, correct?

14 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Asked and
15 answered. Go ahead, Doctor.

16 A. She vomited her dinner and had diarrhea. And that
17 says, "States she had midsternal pain that radiated
18 to her back." And then it goes on. "Patient denies
19 sharp pain at present."

20 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Anywhere in the record does this
21 patient complain of sweats and shoulder discomfort?

22 MR. SCHOBERT: Take your time and go
23 through the records.

24 MR. CZACK: Sure.

25 A. Sweats. And what **was** the other one, please?

1 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Shoulder discomfort.

2 A. Fifth line of Page 7 has down -- makes a mention of
3 some shoulder pain and farther down that same
4 paragraph there's another mention of shoulder pain.
5 As far as sweats, after she had vomited and had
6 diarrhea she was noted to be sweating and hot and
7 cold.

8 Q. Okay.

9 MR. SCHOBERT: Do you want to keep
10 looking and make sure.

11 A. Okay.

12 MR. SCHOBERT: I think it goes on to
13 talk about sweats.

14 A. "She no longer had any sweating or no longer felt
15 hot or cold at the time of presentation." That
16 would be the same paragraph.

17 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Go ahead and read the next sentence,
18 too, then, Doctor.

19 A. "At the present time the only thing she is
20 complaining of is the fact she cannot relax, her
21 shoulder is uncomfortable and her jaw hurts."

22 Q. How old was this patient?

23 A. Sixty-seven.

24 Q. Was she a smoker?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. The things I just talked about, these symptoms or
2 complaints or findings and what we saw in the
3 record, are those not on that list of classic signs
4 and symptoms of an acute MI you earlier talked
5 about?

6 A. I think you have to look at the presentation of the
7 patient and just not look at a list of symptoms or
8 signs.

9 Q. Okay. I understand that. We can talk about that in
10 a second.

11 But were those things not on that classic list
12 that you told me about, yes or no?

13 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

14 A. Everything I said was classic.

15 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay.

16 A. So there's a list.

17 Q. There's a list?

18 A. And symptoms, I would agree with that. Not that
19 they're classic.

20 Q. Okay. But many of the things you mentioned as being
21 in a descending order, part of those signs and
22 symptoms this lady presented with, correct?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. What was her blood pressure like throughout the
25 Emergency Room visit, Doctor?

1 A. The first reading at triage was elevated 186/105,
2 her last reading was 177/98.

3 Q. Is that a sharp drop in blood pressure?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Still elevated by the time she was discharged?

6 A. For her age it may be considered slightly elevated.

7 Q. Okay. Now, the diagnosis that was made, jaw pain
8 secondary to dental work, what --

9 (Interruption in proceedings.)

10 Q. -- in your opinion, Doctor, what things were present
11 in the record or present clinically that justified a
12 diagnosis of jaw pain secondary to dental work?

13 A. Okay. She has down in the first paragraph says she
14 was having jaw pain and goes, "Seems that her jaw
15 pain developed when she had dental work done today.
16 And soon after she got home from having dental work
17 done the jaw pain started."

18 Q. Okay. Anything else that --

19 A. I have to read the whole thing. If you want to me
20 read the whole thing to see if there are other
21 mentions. But my note that I had read earlier said
22 that the pain was related to the dental work today.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. The nurses, I think, in her past history also wrote
25 down that she had dental work done today.

1 MR. SCHOBERT: Go ahead. Just take
2 your time. He's asking you based on what's
3 in the record.

4 A. Under Treatment Plan, "Patient says she is
5 experiencing jaw pain secondary to her dental work."
6 I believe that's all.

7 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. So basically supporting this
8 diagnosis is the fact that historically the pain
9 began after her dental work?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. Where in her jaw did she have this pain?

12 A. Independently as I recall it was on the left side.

13 Q. On the left side? Okay.

14 A. In the mandible.

15 Q. How was she describing that pain to you? Sharp?
16 Dull? Throbbing?

17 A. It was a discomfort in the area that she had the
18 work performed by her dentist.

19 Q. What kind of work did she have done?

20 A. I'm not sure if she had an extraction or actual root
21 canal work. I know she had dental work. I don't
22 know exactly which type. I don't recall.

23 Q. And for how many hours had that jaw pain been going
24 on?

25 A. From the time she arrived home.

1 Q. Okay. But I mean, was her appointment at 9:00 in
2 the morning or 7:00 at night?

3 A. I don't know.

4 Q. Did you feel that the type of work she told you she
5 had done was consistent with the kind of pain she
6 was having in the jaw?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Did anyone call her dentist at any time while she
9 was in the Emergency Department?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Would it be important for you to know as an
12 Emergency Department doctor that this patient had
13 called her dentist earlier that evening to complain
14 about the jaw pain and he told her that that was not
15 consistent with the kind of work he did in her mouth
16 and if it continued she should be seen in the
17 Emergency Room? would that be important for you to
18 know that?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. All right. Did anybody ask the patient, Did you
21 call your dentist?

22 A. I don't have any independent recall of that. And
23 she didn't tell us that, either.

24 Q. All right. But if nobody asks her that and she
25 doesn't offer it, nobody's going to get that

1 information, correct?

2 MR SCROWEEM: objection.

3 A. Not necessarily

4 Q (BY MR CZACK: Well, if ~~the~~ ^{you} wouldn't offer that
5 information and none of the physicians ask her
6 that --

7 A. It's very customary when patients are sent in by
8 their doctors that they inform us that ~~we~~ ^{they} were sent in
9 by their doctors and that doctor, or dentist,
10 whatever that person may be, would like to call
11 Q Okay But, again, if that wouldn't occur and nobody
12 asks her that question, that information is not
13 going to come out, correct?

14 MR SCROWEEM: objection.

15 A. Correct

16 Q (BY MR CZACK: ~~Mania~~ ^{hypomania}/bipolar disorder. Would
17 you agree with this statement: Patients with
18 bipolar disorder are often hypomanic just because
19 they have bipolar disorder Do you agree with that
20 statement?

21 A. They're not always hypomanic.

22 Q So you disagree with that statement?

23 A. I'm not sure what the statement says All I can say
24 is bipolar is a psychiatric diagnosis To have that
25 diagnosis, basically the patient has to have had a

1 manic episode one time in their life. And that's
2 all it means.

3 Q. Okay. Bipolar disorder is a psychiatric diagnosis of
4 -- Just give me a thumbnail definition of it.

5 A. Basically there's an episode during the person's
6 lifetime that characteristically occurs in a person's
7 early 20's to somewhere up in the thirty -- third
8 decade where they have an episode where they're
9 manic, meaning that they have had a hyperexcitable
10 state. And not necessarily, but it may be
11 associated with periods of depression, there may be
12 cycles between episodes of depression and mania, and
13 there may not.

14 Q. Do you have any special training or experience in
15 this area?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Okay. Hypomania is --

18 A. Would be not a full-blown manic episode. It would
19 be, you know, a degree or less of severe
20 presentation.

21 Q. Okay. What kind of things do you do as an Emergency
22 Room Department physician to confirm that somebody's
23 having a manic episode?

24 A. It's a clinical.

25 Q. All right. What are the -- What signs and symptoms

1 are you looking for?

2 A. A person may have anything from lack of sleep,
3 hyperexcitable state, hypersexuality, grandiosity,
4 feeling in -- ineptent as far as even with the law
5 that no one can basically touch them or harm them,
6 spending sprees, and maybe intrusive, speech may be
7 pressured, they may have a flight of ideas meaning
8 that their brain is racing and really can't keep up
9 pace with what's going on inside of their head.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. Basically I think of it as a charged state or
12 awareness.

13 Q. Clinically what signs and symptoms were there to
14 support this diagnosis?

15 A. The patient had pressured speech, she felt that she
16 just couldn't relax, she was pacing, which was not
17 mentioned.

18 Q. I'm sorry, I didn't hear that.

19 A. She was pacing.

20 Q. That wasn't in the record, though?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. This is something you remember independently?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. The fact that she's on Lithium, which is used for

1 the treatment of bipolar disorder.

2 Q. Anything else?

3 A. That's why I felt she was hypomanic.

4 Q. Is it important to know or would you want to know
5 whether a patient had a history of prior hypomanic
6 episode?

7 A. I'm not sure what you're asking or its relevance.

8 Q. Well, would you want to know if this patient has had
9 an episode like this before?

10 A. Well, she said she's bipolar. So she -- that would
13 be, you know, make me make the presumption that she
15 had this before. And the fact --

16 Q. But she's had --

17 A. -- and the fact that she was on Lithium. I mean,
19 you don't put someone on Lithium if they've never
20 been manic.

21 Q. Okay. How long had she been taking Lithium?

22 A. I do not know.

23 Q. Had she had her Lithium prescription changed
24 recently, or altered?

25 A. I do not know.

26 Q. Do you know the last time she had her blood levels
27 checked by her doctor?

28 A. I do not know.

29 Q. Did you call her psychiatrist and ask any of those

1 questions?

2 A. No, I did not.

3 Q. Did you believe she was having a mild, moderate, or a
4 severe manic episode?

5 A. Mild.

6 Q. Based on what?

7 A. The fact that she had the same symptoms and
8 findings.

9 Q. I understand you've made that diagnosis based on
10 these clinical findings and complaints that she was
11 making.

12 The fact is, though, you really had no evidence
13 that this bipolar disorder was not well controlled,
14 did you?

15 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

16 A. Repeat the question.

17 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Sure. You made your diagnosis based
18 on the clinical findings that you had in front of
19 you?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. But the fact of the matter is, that you really had
22 no evidence in front of you to show that this
23 bipolar disorder that this lady had was not well
24 controlled?

25 A. You're --

1 MR. SCHOBERT: Same objection.

2 A. You're asking me whether she was controlled or not
3 controlled?

4 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Yes.

5 A. And do I have evidence of that?

6 Q. Right.

7 A. I guess I can't answer the question the way you're
8 wording it.

9 Q. Okay. Which part don't you understand?

10 A. Well, it's not a simple yes no answer.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. I mean, it's --

13 Q. Let me ask you this. Did you have anything in the
14 record there, anything independently in your mind
15 that you recall today, that would indicate that her
16 bipolar disorder was not well controlled?

17 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

18 A. Her presentation.

19 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. Because of her presentation
20 you felt that her bipolar disorder was not well
21 controlled?

22 A. She was having an episode which could be defined as
23 hypomania. Whether it's because of, you know, her
24 getting worse for whatever reason, I'm not sure I'm
25 -- I don't understand. I'm not trying to be

1 evasive. I just -- I don't understand.

2 Q. I understand.

3 A. I don't understand what you're asking.

4 Q. Could this hypo -- How long do these episodes last?

5 You said you have some --

6 A. Well, they could last -- They could be cyclical that
7 they vary like a day or two or they could last
8 months.

9 Q. Okay. And the fact is that this lady has been
10 diagnosed with this psychiatric condition, the fact
11 is she's been on Lithium for a period of years,
12 you've made the assumption that at some point she
13 had a manic episode that caused all this to be put
14 in place?

15 A. I made the presumption.

16 Q. The presumption. Okay. Between the time that she
17 was first diagnosed with that condition and time she
18 came into the Emergency Room in December of '93 you
19 don't know whether she ever had another manic
20 episode between those 20 years, do you?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Could that condition that you diagnosed that
23 evening, that manic episode you felt she was having,
24 could somebody get worse?

25 A. Or better.

1 Q. Or better. We -- We don't know?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. Did you feel it was safe to let her go home that
4 night, the fact she was in a manic episode?

5 A. I wouldn't have let her go home if I didn't feel it
6 was safe.

7 Q. Why did you feel -- How did you know it wouldn't get
8 worse that evening?

9 A. You don't. You just have to base it on your, I guess,
10 gestalt. I mean, she was not bad.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. I mean, she had a doctor that she was told to follow
13 up with. If she followed up with him and if he felt
14 that she was, you know, out of control. Family
15 members are the ones that usually will institute
16 something unless they get so out of control that the
17 law is involved.

18 Q. Wouldn't you normally call a person's doctor with a
19 psychiatric condition like that that was in a manic
20 episode?

21 A. Our job is to decide whether the person is safe or
22 not safe to go home, or **is** a threat to themselves.
23 I didn't feel she was a threat to herself. And it's
24 not uncommon that patients are told to follow up
25 with their doctors.

1 Q. Okay. So the answer is no, you didn't feel it
2 necessary to call her psychiatrist that night?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. Do you know who her psychiatrist was?

5 A. Independently at this time I don't recall.

6 Q. And the fact that she had family members there, you
7 didn't go speak to her family members about this
8 psychiatric condition?

9 A. I was unaware that she had family members present in
10 -- at the hospital.

11 Q. Your third diagnosis, history -- I'm sorry, history
12 of chest pain secondary to nausea and vomiting.
13 What does that mean, Doctor? Explain to me what
14 that diagnosis or impression means.

15 A. I don't know since I didn't dictate it. True, I
16 signed it. But I can't speak for what Dr. Willins,
17 you know, meant by that. If she would have said
18 intrascapular or like I said, how I would have
19 worded it, I could give you my interpretation of it,
20 what my meaning is. I can't, you know, make an
21 interpretation of what Dr. Willins specifically
22 stated.

23 Q. And that is your signature down below there,
24 correct?

25 A. As we discussed.

1 Q. Let's look at the chart. What kind of chest
2 discomfort or chest symptoms was this lady having?

3 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection to the extent
4 we've done some of that. Go ahead, Doctor.

5 A. It says, "After dinner she threw up. Had burning
6 pain which she called heartburn in the sternal area,
7 and her back seemed to hurt a little bit midscapular
8 after vomiting." Is that what you're referring to?
9 It's not called chest pain. It's --

10 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) I guess my question is, did anybody
11 ask this
12 lady --

13 A. I did.

14 MR. SCHOBERT: Let him ask his
15 question.

16 A. Okay. I'm sorry.

17 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Did anybody ask this lady how long
18 that chest -- I guess we're disagreeing on whether
19 the word pain was ever used. But the chest
20 symptoms, did you ever ask her how long that lasted?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. How long did it last?

23 A. From independent recollection, a couple of minutes.

24 Q. All right. So that's not in the record but you
25 remember independently she told you it lasted a

1 couple of minutes?

2 A. Right.

3 Q. What was the intensity and character of that chest
4 feeling that she was having?

5 A. A lot of times you ask those questions and patients
6 cannot answer those questions. This is a summation,
7 summary of what a patient is best able to tell you
8 after asking and sometimes even giving adjectives to
9 patients. A lot of times I know that is a very
10 important question, but no matter what, you know,
11 you may elicit -- try to elicit from a patient or
12 even try to help by giving adjectives you still
13 cannot get those answers.

14 So the fact that it's not here does not mean
15 they were not asked. This is just a recollection or
16 a documentation of a summary of what the patient
17 described and we were able to get from that patient
18 in her own words.

19 Q. Is that normally important information, though, when
20 there are chest --

21 A. I said it was.

22 Q. I'm sorry?

23 MR. SCHOBERT: Let him finish his
24 question.

25 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Are those normally important things

1 to know when somebody has chest complaints; the
2 intensity and the character of the pain?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. And you don't note in your assessment how long that
5 chest pain or that chest feelings lasted? That's
6 something you remember independently?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Did you and Dr. Willins ever discuss or entertain
9 the idea or thought that this chest pain may have
10 been cardiac in origin?

11 A. Dr. Willins made her presentation. I went in and
12 saw the person. Because if you look at the
13 complaints as a constellation and all the things
14 together, this may represent cardiac ischemia. So
15 as I noted, I went in and made my assessment. The
16 fact that she had localized the pain to where she
17 had dental work, I felt that was safe to assume
18 that. The fact that she had, you know, discomfort
19 in my note I -- I just put shortly, all I put down
20 is she had no chest pressure. But in my customary
21 questions there's a lot more than just whether it
22 was pressure. I asked tightness, heaviness. The
23 fact that it's not documented does not mean it was
24 not asked.

25 Q. Doesn't mean it was asked either, though, right?

1 A. That's my -- That is the way I practice medicine is
2 I ask all these questions. This is not my
3 dictation. I just made a quick note feeling that
4 our conversation was regarding this discomfort I
5 entrusted through my questioning. It wasn't that I
6 did not ask those questions.

7 Q. Okay. And what did you tell me the cardiac
8 consideration was in terms of your differential?

9 A. What are the cardiac considerations?

10 Q. Right. What -- What was the potential diagnosis you
11 considered with Dr. Willins?

12 A. Could this be cardiac ischemia.

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. Angina.

15 Q. All right.

16 A. Could this be a myocardial infarction, could this
17 represent pericarditis, could this -- as far as
18 other things you think of could this represent a
19 dissection of the great vessels.

20 Q. You considered these cardiac diagnoses. What did
21 you do to rule out her complaints --

22 A. I took a history.

23 Q. Okay. **And** let me finish my question.

24 A. Okay. Sorry.

25 Q. What did you do to rule out the midsternal pain that

1 was radiating to her back, the elevated blood
2 pressure, the anxiety, vomiting, and nausea, jaw
3 pain, and shoulder discomfort? What did you do to
4 rule out that there was something going on cardiac
5 wise with those complaints?

6 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

7 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Did you do anything?

8 MR. SCHOBERT: Go ahead, Doctor.

9 Answer the question.

10 A. Basically you don't -- To determine whether to do
11 tests or no tests is to take a history.

12 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay.

13 A. The history was taken. Based on her presentation,
14 the history that I took, the complaints that I was
15 able to elicit from her, I felt that no tests were
16 indicated.

17 Q. Okay. So by your history you felt that no tests you
18 just said were indicated to rule out any cardiac
19 problem?

20 A. As we stated earlier --

21 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Go ahead.

22 A. -- history and physical is basically your premise
23 for obtaining tests or making your diagnosis.

24 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) What did you attribute -- What
25 shoulder was bothering her?

1 A. It was intrascapular towards the left.

2 Q. She also had shoulder discomfort at a couple points.

3 Do you remember which shoulder it was?

4 A. Left.

5 Q. All right. What did you attribute the shoulder
6 discomfort to? We talked about jaw pain, dental
7 work; anxiety, hypomania; and chest feelings or
8 discomfort, nausea and vomiting. What was the
9 shoulder discomfort that continued attributed to?

10 A. When one vomits the esophagus, you know, can cause
11 pain referred to the shoulder. A hiatal hernia may
12 refer pain to the shoulder. Intrascapular shoulder
13 discomfort, with a gallbladder typically it's more
14 on the right but it can be the left as well.
15 Intrascapular on the left may be from pancreatitis,
16 pericarditis can be thought of as well. As well as
17 cardiac.

18 Q. What did you feel the left shoulder was being caused
19 by that evening?

20 A. An esophageal etiology.

21 Q. Doctor, you're familiar with this chart. When this
22 lady was discharged it notes that her condition had
23 improved. Can you tell me all the improvements she
24 made from the time she came in at 11:17 until the
25 time she left at 12:35. If you need to look at

1 the chart, go ahead.

2 A. Blood pressure improved.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. She -- She was not as anxious.

5 Q. I'm sorry, she was what?

6 A. Not as anxious.

7 Q. As anxious?

8 A. Right. Or restless or whatever.

9 Q. Where is that noted that she's not as anxious or as
10 restless?

11 A. It's not noted. You asked me what I recall.

12 Q. So independently you recall her restlessness got
13 better?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. Okay. Go ahead. What else improved when this lady
16 was sent home?

17 A. That's all I recall.

18 Q. That's all?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. If you look at Page 5 of the record, Doctor,
21 Homegoing Instructions. Your signature is down
22 below those, correct?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. What does your signature indicate?

25 A. That I had seen that patient that day.

1 Q. Does it indicate anything else? I mean, is there
2 any other reason you signed that -- that line there?

3 A. And that I would -- That that's my note above.
4 Just to identify this is the patient I saw.

5 Q. Okay. The homegoing instructions there, that's not
6 your writing, is it?

7 A. No, it is not.

8 Q. Who would have made those homegoing instructions as
9 part of the order, you or --

10 A. Dr. Willins.

11 Q. -- Dr. Willins? Okay. Do you know who she was
12 referring to, "Call your doctor for continued jaw
13 pain"?

14 A. Dr. MacCallum.

15 Q. All right. And there's another note, "Return if
16 chest pain with nausea, vomiting, or sweating
17 lasting longer than 15 minutes." The -- You read
18 those notes before they were told to the patient,
19 did you not?

20 A. No.

21 Q. All right. So your signature doesn't indicate you
22 would have seen those homegoing instructions?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. Okay. Would you have discussed those homegoing
25 dis -- instructions with Dr. Willins before she gave

1 them to the patient?

2 | A. Yes.

3 Q. All right. And we see in there again the word chest
4 pain?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Okay. What was the concern there with that
7 homegoing instruction the way it reads in your
8 mind?

9 A. If someone has chest pain that returns this may
10 represent possibly cardiac or other etiology.

11 Q. And that's what this note was talking about?

12 | A. Yes.

13 Q. Now, let's -- And we're almost through here. Let's
14 talk about the treatment you gave this patient. She
15 came in at almost midnight for jaw pain. She was
16 still having jaw pain when you sent her home at
17 12:30. What did you give her on her way home to
18 help her with the jaw pain?

19 A. I don't recall.

20 Q. Could you look at the record and see if anything was
21 given to her to help her with the pain she had in
22 her jaw?

23 A. She may have had a script written by another, you
24 know, independent she had dealt with.

25 MR. SCHOBERT: Just check the chart.

1 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Just whatever you -- What you gave
2 her, Doctor, as far as treatment.

3 A. Nothing.

4 Q. Okay. The manic episode that you felt she was
5 having. When she was discharged she was still
6 very restless, anxious, pressured, constantly
7 moving. What did you give her to help her with
8 those problems?

9 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Go ahead.

10 A. As I stated, we give her Vistaril. And as I stated,
11 that she had improved prior to her discharge.

12 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) With regard to what symptoms?

13 A. The restlessness and her activity.

14 Q. Would you say that the improvement from the Vistaril
15 was significant, moderate, or very minor?

16 A. It was notable otherwise she wouldn't have been
17 discharged.

18 Q. Okay. So you gave her the Vistaril. It made a
19 notable improvement in her anxiety and restlessness.
20 What else did you do to help her with that manic
21 episode before you discharged her?

22 A. She was instructed to follow up with her physician
23 and to have her medication -- make sure she takes
24 her medicine, and have a -- have her checked out in
25 that regard.

1 Q. Okay. What else did you do other than that?

2 A. Nothing.

3 Q. Did you expect this lady to be able to sleep that
4 night?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. No problems?

7 A. She would have some problems.

8 Q. Chest pain secondary to nausea and vomiting. You
9 felt that was gastrointestinal in nature in your
10 opinion?

11 A. As noted in there, she had the nausea and vomiting
12 then the discomfort.

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. She didn't have the chest pain first.

15 Q. All right. Did you do anything or give her anything
16 to alleviate those symptoms?

17 A. She had none of those symptoms when she presented to
18 the Emergency Department.

19 Q. You told me earlier, Doctor, these diagnosis codes
20 that are in -- in the chart you have nothing to do
21 with, is that correct?

22 A. These numbers you mean?

23 Q. Right.

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. You don't even know who puts those in there?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. Do you know what those numbers stand for, do you
3 know what those diagnoses are?

4 A. Probably an interpretation of what's written from a
5 billing standpoint.

6 Q. Is that normally what it's supposed to be; they're
7 supposed to reflect what the diagnoses or the
8 impression is of the physician?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Would you agree -- Doctor, would you agree with me
11 that as a general medical principle, early detection
12 and treatment of a myocardial infarction is
13 important for the welfare of a patient?

14 A. In a general statement, yes.

15 Q. Why?

16 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection. Go ahead,
17 Doctor.

18 A. Basically you're trying to prevent further injury to
19 the person or reduce the amount of injury that's
20 already occurred.

21 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) And the fact is, on this particular
22 evening an EKG or blood enzyme workup was never
23 done, correct?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Do you know Dr. Charles MacCallum?

1 A. Just professionally.

2 Q. I mean, have you met him before? You know who he
3 is?

4 A. If I had been asked to pick him out in a lineup I
5 may get that wrong. He may not like that answer.

6 Q. You met him before where, in the hospital or
7 professional functions?

8 A. Hospital.

9 Q. Have you had a chance to speak to Dr. MacCallum
10 about this case at all or about his patient?

11 A. No, I haven't.

12 Q. On Page 9, the last page, Doctor. I'm going to
13 strike that. Actually Page 8. Second last page.
14 There's a section there under Emergency Department
15 Course DDx. What's does that stand for?

16 A. Differential diagnosis.

17 Q. All right. **And** is that line supposed to be used to
18 put differential diagnoses in there?

19 A. It should have been.

20 Q. All right. Do you know why it wasn't in this case?

21 A. Some people comply and some people don't comply.

22 Q. Okay. Whose job is it to see that that's filled
23 out?

24 A. The resident's.

25 Q. Okay. And ultimately is it your responsibility that

1 that is filled out before this thing is transcribed?

2 A. For transcription it would be impossible.

3 Q. Okay. How about after transcription, what are you
4 supposed to do if it's not filled out?

5 A. I normally would have filled it in.

6 Q. Is there a reason why you didn't in this case?

7 A. Again, because this chart was in my box to be signed
8 after I was aware that she came in and did not do
9 well.

10 Q. Okay. Where would this chart have been when she
11 came in on December 8th?

12 A. What part of the chart?

13 Q. Everything. I guess -- I guess my point is --

14 A. There's a flow system of paperwork that's very
15 complex and cumbersome and I can't even try to
16 describe where, you know, at what point it may
17 have been or may not have been.

18 Q. Okay. When does everything come back together so
19 it's all one record like we have here?

20 A. Sometimes two weeks later.

21 Q. Okay. And when it was in your box to sign two days
22 later when she came back in what pages would have
23 been in there?

24 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

25 A. I didn't say it was two days later. I said after

1 the fact that she -- It was after I knew that she
2 had returned and did poorly. I didn't say it was
3 two days.

4 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) All right. I guess my only question
5 is, I'm just trying to understand logistically, when
6 Mrs. Stanley was brought back in two days later
7 would any part of this chart have been available for
8 the physicians who saw her on December 8th?

9 A. If it's based on track record, probably not.

10 Q. Why?

11 A. It may not -- It may be somewhere in the system
12 being put together.

13 Q. Okay. When she came in to the Emergency Room two
14 days later and somebody -- would somebody be
15 immediately aware that she had been in there two
16 days ago?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And would it be feasible for them to be able to
19 track down where these pages are?

20 A. They would have been able to get ahold of my
21 dictation through the computer system since it was
22 transcribed prior to that.

23 Q. Okay. So the sum and substance of what happened two
24 days before when she was in to see you would have
25 been available at some point to the physicians on

1 December 8th?

2 A. It may have been.

3 Q. Okay. Do you know in this case whether it was or
4 wasn't?

5 A. I do not.

6 Q. Okay. If it wasn't what would the reason be, that
7 it's going through this tracking system?

8 MR. STRONG: Objection. Speculation.

9 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

10 A. This copy, because of that. But there's other ways
11 of getting it.

12 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Okay. Would any of this information
13 concerning the transcription be on a computer?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. That would be the transcribed pages?

16 A. That would be the actual dictation.

17 Q. Okay. Did you understand all my questions here
18 today, Doctor, for the most part?

19 A. For the most part.

20 MR. SCHOBERT: I'll object. Go ahead.

21 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Is there anything you want to add or
22 change in terms of prior answers to any of the
23 questions?

24 MR. SCHOBERT: Again, reserving the
25 right to review the transcript.

1 MR. CZACK: Sure.

2 MR. SCHOBERT: Doctor, if you can
3 answer that question.

4 A. I have none really.

5 MR. CZACK: Okay. Can you give me
6 just one minute just to look at my notes?

7 MR. SCHOBERT: Yeah. I'll be happy to
8 give you one minute. Is there anybody else
9 that's going to be asking anything?

10 MR. EDMINISTER: Not I.

11 MR. SCHOBERT: Okay. It's all up to
12 you.

13 (Discussion had off the record.)

14 Q. (BY MR. CZACK) Doctor, I have just one other
15 question. I appreciate your cooperation here today.

16 It is your testimony that on the evening of
17 December 6th, 1993, the morning of December 7th,
18 1993, you did not speak with any other member of Amy
19 Stanley's family or anybody that was with her, is
20 that correct?

21 A. I stated I was unaware there was anyone other than
22 her since the chart marks down that she just came in
23 by herself.

24 Q. Okay. So then therefore, you did not speak to
25 anybody from her family, is that your testimony?

1 MR. SCHOBERT: Objection.

2 Q. Yes or no.

3 A. No. I didn't speak to anybody.

4 MR. CZACK: Okay. No further
5 questions.

6 - - -

7 (Deposition concluded at 12:00 p.m.)

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1 I have read the foregoing transcript of my deposition
2 taken on Monday, January 29th, 1996 from page 1 to page 95
3 and note the following corrections:
4

5 PAGE: LINE: CORRECTION: REASON:
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UGO E. GALLO, M.D.

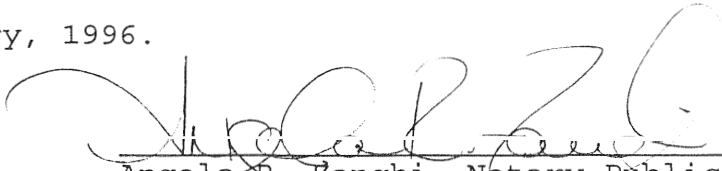
1 THE STATE OF OHIO,)
2 COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA.)

SS:

CERTIFICATE

3 I, Angela R. Zanghi, a Notary Public within and
4 for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and
5 qualified, do hereby certify that UGO E. GALLO, M.D.
6 was by me, before the giving of his deposition,
7 first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
8 truth and nothing but the truth; that the deposition
9 as above set forth was reduced to writing by me by
10 means of Stenotype and was subsequently transcribed
11 into typewriting by means of computer-aided
12 transcription under my direction; that said
13 deposition was taken at the time and place aforesaid
14 pursuant to notice and agreement of counsel; and
15 that I am not a relative or attorney of either party
16 or otherwise interested in the event of this action.

17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and
18 seal of office at Cleveland, Ohio, this 7th day of
19 February, 1996.

20 
21 _____
22 Angela R. Zanghi, Notary Public
23 Within and for the State of Ohio
24 848 Terminal Tower
25 Cleveland, Ohio 44113

My Commission Expires: June 8, 1999.