

CLEVELAND ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATES. INC.
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RALPH J. KOVACH M.D.
CYRIL E. MARSHALL M.D.

August 22, 1994

Mark A. Greer, L.P.A.
Gallagher, Sharp, Fulton & Norman
1501 Euclid Avenue - 7th Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Re: Rosemary Samartano
Your File No. 80005-93521
D.A: 01-20-92

Dear **Mr.** Greer:

I examined Rosemary Samartano at your request in my office on August 22, 1994. This fifty-nine year old Lady, who is employed as a social worker by Cuyahoga County, stated that she was involved in a motor vehicle accident which occurred on January 20, 1992.

On that date, while the driver of a fully stopped automobile which had stalled and after removing her seatbelt restraints, her automobile was struck from behind by another vehicle. She stated that she struck the steering wheel with her chest and struck the windshield with her forehead.

She had immediate pain in her shoulder and neck and she pointed to the trapezius muscle as being the area of pain in the shoulder. She stated that her lower back was also painful and that *she* developed some pain in the upper arm.

Ms. Samartano was checked the following day by her physician, Dr. Richard Kaufman, who is an orthopaedic surgeon. She was prescribed physical therapy and medication which were stated to be of no help to her at all. At this time, she does not go for any treatment and has not gone for approximately the past six months. She does take Daypro, which is an anti-inflammatory drug, for arthritis in her right foot secondary to a fall from a porch approximately thirty years previously.

She stated that her wrists chronically give her problems and that she has chronic problems with her neck and back. Complaints are stated to be worse in the morning and taking a hot bath was stated to be of help to her in getting up and about.

Page Two
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To: Mark A. Greer, L.P.A.
Re: Rosemary Samartano
From: Ralph J. Kovach, M.D.

Previous medical history was stated to be negative, except that she had prior back problems secondary to a motor vehicle accident which occurred in 1988. She stated that she had physical therapy treatments administered by Dr. Xaufman and his staff for approximately one and one-half to two years.

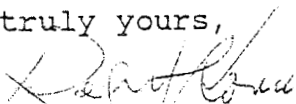
Examination revealed a well developed, well nourished, significantly overweight, short white female who did not appear to be in acute distress. Neurological examination revealed normal biceps, triceps, brachioradialis, patellar, and Achilles reflexes. Straight leg raising test was negative in the seated and recumbent positions. Patrick test was negative. No sensory discrepancy or motor weakness were present in the upper or lower extremities. Phalen test was negative. Tinel signs were negative on either wrist. No muscle spasm was present anywhere in the entire back. Skin rolling was supple and not bound down at any point.

In general, my examination of Rosemary Samartano was a normal physical examination which showed no ongoing evidence of any cervical, dorsal, or lumbosacral myofascitis. No evidence of any carpal tunnel syndrome was present.

on the basis of my examination, I find no reason for her to even consider having any surgical procedure to her wrists.

Review of submitted letter of Dr. Xaufman, dated September 8, 1993, mentioned that he had treated her for another automobile accident which occurred on October 11, 1990. **Ms.** Samartano did not mention this particular accident to me. Dr. Xaufman stated that she injured her neck and back in the two previous accidents and he also stated that she continued to have neck and pain up to time of the accident of January 20, 1992.

Very truly yours,



Ralph J. Kovach, M.D.

RJK/adm