



Central Ohio Medical Group

Collectively Caring for your Health

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Re: Michael P. Carrick

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have reviewed the medical records of Michael P. Carrick extensively. In summary, this patient had progressive renal failure over a number of years culminating in the long hospitalizations and finally leading to his death in the spring of 1989. It is alleged that excessive and prolonged use of Indocin was the cause of this patient's chronic renal failure. However, in reviewing the records it came to my attention that the patient had very significant hypertension throughout most of this period of time and certainly this is a very likely contributing factor to this patient's chronic renal failure. Patient was on various antihypertensive medicines as well as other medications which could also have contributed to his chronic renal failure. Certainly, his renal failure developed over at least a 6-7 year period of time and appears to have multifactorial causes.

Indeed, the patient's main complaint throughout this period of time was joint pain and severe arthritic symptoms. The use of Indocin and the other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories has to be considered on a risk vs. benefit analysis. It appears that he did get some relief with the medication and therefore its use may have been justified if the benefit was considered to outweigh the risks. Certainly other factors such as his hypertension being out of control for a prolonged period of time contributed to his chronic renal failure which was described as being consistent with nephrosclerosis.

If there are any further questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Maurice C. Mast, M.D.  
Department of Internal Medicine

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