

From: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>
To: Catherine McNicollCatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov
Date: 9/19/2017 2:50:43 PM
Subject: Re: Social Security disability for Complex Regional Pain Syndrome patients

Yes, but...

Thank you, Governor Nikki Halley

From: Catherine McNicoll
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 2:29 PM
To: Danny Varat
Subject: FW: Social Security disability for Complex Regional Pain Syndrome patients

Congressman?

Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)

From: jean c [mailto:jesus4u277@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2017 4:46 PM
To: Lt. Governor's Office
Subject: Social Security disability for Complex Regional Pain Syndrome patients

Dear Governor Nikki Halley,

My name is Jean Coggins, and I need your help to find out what needs to be done to help my 42 year old daughter, Christy Hutchinson, to qualify so she can receive Social Security disability benefits. For about 10 years Christy has suffered extreme pain and anguish from Complex Regional Pain Syndrome. You probably have never heard about this condition, as so many in the medical field had no knowledge of it either. Christy went from doctor to doctor, and to specialist who should have been aware of this disease.

Then, after so many years of extreme pain and the mental anguish that comes with CRPS, she was referred to a neurologist. He took one look at her foot and leg and said, "Christy, I know exactly what you have. It is called Complex Regional Pain Syndrome." What a relief that was.

At that time, Christy was divorced and had 4 young children and no way to help support them. She filed for Social Security disability benefits, but that came back with the answer that she had not worked for the 6 years prior to becoming disabled. How could she work? No one would hire her in that painful condition.

After speaking with several lawyers, she was given no hope of ever getting disability benefits. It seems that the rule is that you had to have been diagnosed during a certain time period. But, due to doctors who were not aware of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome; therefore, they could not diagnose her. They could only prescribe pain medication, which helped to take the edge off of the pain, but could not touch the level of pain that these people suffer through. The pain level is not between 1-10, as a doctor would ask us, when inquiring

about our pain level, but theirs is between 40-50.

<https://www.bing.com/images/search?q=complex+regional+pain+chart&qpv=complex+regional+pain+chart>

Surely there is some way that you could look into Social Security and help change how Social Security is using their unfair disability time-line for people who are not able to get a diagnosis. My daughter is not the only one who has CRPS, if you will, please go to YouTube and search for CRPS and watch those videos and see how terribly disabled these people are.

In most cases, CRPS pain will prevent patients from using the limb due to their level of pain. Many patients find that CRPS pain worsens as time passes, as opposed to healing. There is no cure for this condition. It also crosses over to the other side of the body, as it has with Christy. However, patients may undergo trial treatments for CRPS through medical research. Dr. Ashraf Hanna is the leading doctor treating CRPS, RSD, and Depression, with IV Ketamine Infusion Therapy. He completed a Pain Management Fellowship at the prestigious Cleveland Clinic in Ohio. Dr. Ashraf Hanna is the leading doctor treating CRPS / RSD, with IV Ketamine Infusion Therapy.

In most cases, CRPS pain may prevent patients from using the limb without suffering extreme pain. Patients find that CRPS pain worsens as time passes, as opposed to healing. There is no known cure for the condition. However, patients may undergo treatment of CRPS through medical trials. But, these infusions put the patient into a hallucinatory state, and have some very bad side effects on their internal organs.

Christy has had two of these IV Ketamine Infusions and was told that she could not have any more. She now has a very enlarged liver, and her kidneys are compromised. She sometimes passes red blood when she urinates. She is using her wheelchair more now, because of the pain level of trying to hobble across the room.

Thank you, Governor Nikki Halley, for taking the time to read this email and to listen to the heart of a troubled mother.

Jean Coggins
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Sumter, SC 29154
Verizon Cell # 1-904-477-6542
My daughter's Address:

Christy Hutchinson
211 Fiddie Street.
Summerville, SC 29456
Christy's Cell # 1-843-860-6579

Please see the link below.