24/11/2020

Hospital

Pain Clinic

Hospital Address

Dear Dr Smith & Dr James

**Re: Patient John Doe (DOB: 26/08/1959)**

My name is John Doe, and I am writing to request a review of my pain medication and treatment plan.

I recently wrote a letter to my doctors in the Pilbara, explaining the impact that recent changes in my health treatment have had on me. Please find this letter attached for your reference. However, after speaking with my medical clinic in Port Hedland, they informed me that all changes to my pain treatment was directed by the Hospital Pain Clinic. Therefore, I am reaching out to you both, as my pain specialists.

There have been changes to my pain management treatment, such as ceasing to take Valium, to which I have accepted and appropriately actioned. I have been further recommended to stop taking Panadeine Forte. In its place, I have been advised to seek counselling or therapy to treat my diagnosed fibromyalgia.

I do not feel that counselling adequately meets my pain management needs as I has previously engaged in counselling and, as a strong Aboriginal man, felt further scrutinised from the counselling process. I have felt unsupported in coming off of my previous medication, and am concerned, along with my family, to have to also reduce/ceases my Panadeine Forte, and the impact it will have on my quality of life. Dr Bond, my Immunologist at the Hospital, was also surprised by the changes to my pain management.

I do not feel as though my needs are being listened to, and I wish for any further changes to my medication be made in partnership with me and outlined in writing. Are there any other pain management treatments options for me in place of Panadeine Forte?

I also wish to complain about the treatment and direct disregard for my pain and diagnosis by your team thus far. I don’t want to make things difficult, but I feel very strongly that my care should be delivered in a culturally appropriate way, as well as in a way that keeps me informed and involved in my own health.

I would appreciate an acknowledgment of the distress this has caused me and my family.

Thank you for taking the time to review this letter; I would appreciate an acknowledgement of receipt to this letter and answers to her questions in writing. Please feel free to contact me via email (email) or telephone (phone number) should you have any further questions.

Regards,

John Doe