

Partnership to Improve  
Dementia Care and  
Antipsychotic Medication  
Reduction in Nursing Home  
California Advocates for Nursing Home  
Reform

August 17, 2012



# 1. Description of the Issue

- Approximately 25,000 CA nursing home residents receive an antipsychotic drug.
- Over 22,000 of them are elderly with dementia.
- Antipsychotics do not treat dementia. They sedate and subdue residents.

# Description of the Issue

- Antipsychotics for dementia are ineffective, dangerous, and expensive.
- Very often used as blatant restraints and a first response to perceived “behaviors.”
- Informed consent disregarded

# Description of the Issue

- The case of J.E.

FACILITY C.V. WEST

Family Name		First Name	Attending Physician	Room No.	Admission No.
[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	<u>SCUDL</u>		
Date/Time Occurred	Date Occurred	ORDERS			Diagnosis
7.8.09		) RISPERIDAL 25mg IM Q 2 weeks (↑ response of olanzapine)			
		) D/C HALOPERIDOL 1mg IM Q 4 hrs pro.			
		) D/C RISPERIDAL 0.5mg PO BID			
Signature of N.N. (Nurse) Receiving Order			Signature of Physician		Date
[Signature]			[Signature]		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Med Order Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medic Sheet	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident Informed drug effects / side effects		<input type="checkbox"/> Res. Care Plan	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nurse Notes	<input type="checkbox"/> And Documented in (Nag. Notes / Med Sheet)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communicated	

# Description of the Issue

- The saddest part of antipsychotic misuse is that it's so eminently avoidable.
- Non-pharm options:
  - Know the resident
  - Environmental audit
  - Anticipate and meet needs
  - Attend to comfort

# Description of the Issue

- Antipsychotic use is just a symptom of deficient dementia care.
- “Residents who are comfortable do not hit.”
- 18 facilities: 0%
- 69 facilities: <5%

QuickTime™ and a  
decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

## 2. CANHR's Efforts

CANHR has identified the misuse of antipsychotics as the issue of our time.

- Fundamental rights violations
- Unnecessary suffering and death
- Correlates strongly with poor care

# CANHR's Efforts

## Consumer Education

- Toxic Medicine
- [www.canhr.org/stop-drugging](http://www.canhr.org/stop-drugging)
  - News & Resources
  - Data
  - Blog

TOXIC MEDICINE



WHAT YOU **SHOULD KNOW** TO  
FIGHT THE MISUSE OF PSYCHOACTIVE DRUGS  
IN CALIFORNIA NURSING HOMES

**CANHR**  
*Long Term Care Justice and Advocacy*  
650 HARRISON STREET, 2ND FLOOR  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107

# CANHR's Efforts

## Provider Education

- Dementia Care Symposia
- Upcoming Provider Web Page



# CANHR's Efforts

- Media
- Legislation (SB 303)
- Litigation
- Joined with other advocates and pushed Congress and CMS (this is why we are here today)

# 3. Recommendations for Change

## **Let's have California lead the nation.**

- 15% reduction? Let's double that.
- Commit to bigger reduction numbers in 2013 and 2014.

# Recommendations for Change

- Let's train every state and Region IX surveyor on antipsychotics and dementia care and make them subject matter experts.
- Enhanced enforcement:
  - Collaborative-style record review of residents on antipsychotics in all inspections;
  - Give health and safety violations and battery their due.

# Recommendations for Change

- Conduct extensive public health campaign (consumer info, posters) funded in part by big pharma fraud settlement \$\$
- CMS: use your bully pulpit, use your data
- AG and DAs: prosecute abusers



# Recommendations for Change

- Join us in supporting dementia care symposia.
- Identify good providers and develop training materials based on their practices.
- Engage universities for studies and solutions.

# Recommendations for Change

Informed consent is the best safety net to avoid misuse.

- Any informed consent violation should garner, at a minimum, an automatic deficiency.
- Commit to informed consent by adopting SB 303 legislation.