

ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

DISCHARGE SUMMARY

PATIENT'S NAME Nichols, Christopher

DATE ADM. _____

MEDICAL RECORD NO. _____

DATE DISCH. _____

This is the third St. Joseph Hospital admission for this 62-year-old white male who was brought to the Emergency Room by the police. He was observed by the security personnel in Macy's to be walking about aimlessly, taking merchandise and putting it in a large shopping bag without paying for it. He was followed to the roof where he started giving away the merchandise to people at random. He was approached by security and was found to be disoriented and confused. He could not give a plausible explanation for his behavior. The Stamford Police were summoned; the patient was arrested and brought to the Emergency Room for evaluation of his confused state.

Physical Exam

Patient is an elderly, obese, bearded male, confused and disoriented. Head, atraumatic, normocephalic. Eyes, full range of motion. No jaundice. Throat, no hemorrhages, exudates or inflammation. Heart, regularly regular. No murmurs, rubs or gallops. Lungs are clear. Abdomen is obese, soft, no guarding. Bowel sounds are active. Extremities: no clubbing, cyanosis or edema. Neurological reveals a confused, disoriented and confabulating patient. Cranial nerves, reflexes, motor, sensory and gait were unremarkable.

Admitting Lab Work

The CBC revealed hematocrit of 42, with hemoglobin of 14.1, with a white count of 7.5, normal differential. There were jolly bodies seen on peripheral smear. C7 and Chem 12, EKG and chest x-ray were within normal limits. Blood alcohol was 0.

Hospital Course

The patient was admitted to the hospital and a psychiatric consult was obtained. The patient was exhibiting psychotic behavior, and hallucinating about reindeer. He expressed ideations of sugar plums dancing in his head. He was placed on Haldol 5mg. po bid and Cogentin 1mg bid. However, there was no improvement in the patient's symptoms and he continued to hallucinate. On 12/24/83, the patient became extremely agitated and wanted to sign out AMA. He was given an extra dose of Haldol and placed in restraints. Approximately one hour later from his room there arose such a clatter, the nurse sprang from her desk to see what was the matter. She burst through the door and drew back the sash; what happened next made her gasp. What to her wondrous eyes did appear was the patient in a sleigh pulled by eight (over please)

tiny reindeer. The window flew open and cold air rushed in and the patient was grinning a marvelous grin. Laying his finger aside of his nose, he gave a command and the sled it arose. The nurse looked on with sheer delight as the sleigh headed towards the window and out into the night. The patient, amused by this hysterical sight, shouted Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.

MB/jf

D:12/22/83

T:12/22/83