

Official Statement Regarding the Medical Care of Eric R. Knight

Patient: Eric R. Knight

Date of Death: November 2, 2021

Facility Involved: St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, Maryland (SMH)

1. Hospital Admittance October 7, 2021

Context: My husband and I had Covid about 10 days before 10-7-2021. I got a monoclonal antibody (Mab) infusion about a week before in DC. Eric scheduled an Mab infusion the next week at SMH on Thursday, October 7, 2021. The infusion center deemed him too ill to receive it and was admitted to the ICU at SMH.

Admission: As soon as I dropped him off at the ER, there was a guard at the door who said, "Get out of here! You can't come in!" He told me to go sit back in my car. No one called me and I could not contact anyone after frequent calls until Friday, 10-8-2021.

2. Hospital protocol

Doctors told me Eric was being treated with high flow oxygen, baricitinib, albuteral, zinc, Vitamins C and D, Decadron, two antibiotics, and Remdesivir. I wanted to talk to Eric and the doctor because Eric is a terrible history giver and knows little about medical issues. They didn't want me to call him. We were only able to text short messages. I asked if they could use my convalescent serum to treat him as I had just gotten over Covid. They refused.

Eric was uncomfortable with so much Oxygen going up his nose. He would complain about how dry his nose was and dried mucus. I asked if I could be by his side to swab his nose frequently with wet swabs; I had just recovered from Covid and could wear PPD. They refused.

10-9-2021 He said he didn't want IV's with sedation with or without a bipap. The doctor told me that they don't have much success when they reach this stage. He "didn't want to lie to me."

10-10-21 Eric was intubated. I was not consulted. I do not know if Eric was informed of the risks. He was not good at medical issues. Remdesivir was stopped and TPN started.

10-12-21 I asked about proning him and alternate therapy. They refused. From then on he was intubated, on a respirator, sedated or paralyzed. His oxygen saturation levels were good in the 90's or bad in the 80's on and off.

Weaning off: Started to try to wean him off the respirator on 10-20-21. They were concerned the high pressures would over inflate his lungs. On 10-26-21 they tried a breathing trial, took him off the respirator. He was anxious and didn't breathe well and so they put him back on. I asked if I could be present for that, to be there to calm him. They refused. He was on propofol and fentanyl.

10-28-21 Breathing trial again. "Too hard" to breathe. Doctors said he may need a tracheostomy. They said Eric okay'd that. They did not discuss it with me.

10-30-21 "Coffee grounds" in his gut. GI bleed so feedings slowed. He was responding to voices. I asked if I could see him to calm him and show him he was loved and remembered by his family and not alone. They refused.

10-31-21 Oxygen sats 85-bad again so oxygen vent turned up to 100% and sats only up to 81%-bad. He was getting cold,

11-1-21 Doctor told me his lungs went from inflammation to fibrosis. Stiff lungs. Very hard on his body. He is not a candidate for lung transplant. I asked if I could visit even in another room. They refused.

11-2-21 Plan: do the tracheostomy today but he had cardiac arrests. CPR two times. He did not survive. He died alone without his family by his side for THREE WEEKS!!!