

Thank you for the opportunity to share my personal story that has been deeply in my heart for the past almost 5 years now. It is about my dear mom who passed away on 12/28/2021. I think about her everyday and I could not let go. It was such a traumatic event that I know I will be living through for the rest of my life.

My mom was admitted to Long Island Jewish Medical Center in NY on 12/13/2021 due to weakness and decreased oxygen level. She died within 15 days on 12/28/2021 in LIJ hospital. My mom was tested with positive covid upon the hospital admission. The hospital withheld giving to her early treatment with antibiotics and higher dose of steroid. When I questioned about it to the physician assistant on the floor and her answer was that there was no sign of infection despite the fact of her blood oxygen level decreased and needed high concentration flow of ongoing oxygen support. As a clinician myself, a nurse practitioner with over 15 years of clinical experience, we always treat viral infection with antibiotics for possible secondary bacterial infection when the patient condition was getting worse. Instead she was given Remdesivir.

LIJ medical center also delayed my mom's cardiac evaluation despite the fact that I spoke to the attending physician and requested cardiac evaluation as soon as possible, on day one of my mom's hospital admission, when I informed the attending physician that my mom had a recent cardiac event with heart failure one month prior. However my mom was not being monitored by the cardiac team until a few days prior to her death. She eventually died with pulmonary edema as the high concentration flow of oxygen was not able to be delivered to her lung. At the end I refused ventilator treatment to end her suffering.

Throughout my mom's entire hospitalization until the day she died, I was only allowed 10 minutes a day to visit her. She was not being fed properly and she was suffering in the hospital alone with no family allowed at her bedside.