

Misdiagnosis case study.

A misdiagnosis of a patient's medical condition by a medical professional can have life changing consequences. The incorrect treatment for the incorrect diagnosis can cause further harm to the individual.

A 50-year-old man with a history of bipolar, which was controlled by his medication when taken correctly, was admitted to an NHS hospital following hallucinations.

During his admission, due to the different medication he was being given, he suffered a number of general medical problems including nausea, diarrhoea, incontinence, dehydration and distress.

During his admission, a Consultant diagnosed him with Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease and advised that he could not return to his own home and live independently. He was prescribed medication to treat Alzheimer's and Parkinson's and discharged in to a Nursing home.

His family always questioned the diagnosis and insisted on further assessment. Eventually, almost two years later, he was reassessed, and it was noted that the results were inconsistent of the prior diagnosis of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. A Consultant Psychiatrist withdrew the diagnosis and medication to treat the conditions was discontinued.

Sadly, as a result of the medication and his long stay in a care home, he suffered significant psychological damage and has now become institutionalised and will not be able to return to live in his own home independently. He will require lifelong care and assistance as a result.