DE-IDENTIFIED DEPOSITION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION DOCTOR

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1	
2	SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YO
3	COUNTY OF KINGS
4	X
5	,
6	Plaintiff,
7	-against-
	, M.D.,
I.D., 9	
10	Defendants.
11	X
	X
12	
13	June 20, 2002
14	10:30 a.m.
15	
16	
17	EXAMINATION BEFORE TRIAL of the
18	Defendant,
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	TOMMER REPORTING, INC.
24	192 Lexington Avenue Suite 802
25	(212) 684-2448

	1	
	2	APPEARANCES:
	3	MALLILO & CROSSMAN ESOS
	4	MALLILO & GROSSMAN, ESQS. Attorneys for the Plaintiff
	5	150 Great Neck Road, Suite 304 Great Neck, New York 11021
	6	BY: GERALD M. OGINSKI, ESQ.
	7	
	8	Attorneys for the Defendant
	9	
	10	BY: , ESO.
	11	BY: , ESQ.
2		, ESQS.
	13	Attorneys for the Defendant , M.D.
	14	
	15	BY: , ESQ.
	16	, LLP
	18	
	19	
	20	BY: , ESQ.
	21	, LLP
	22 23	Attorneys for the Defendants,
	24	DV FGG
	25	BY: , ESQ.

, LLP , M.D. 17 Attorneys for the Defendant

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- 4 It is hereby stipulated and agreed
- 5 by and between counsel for the respective
- 6 parties hereto that all rights provided by the
- 7 C.P.L.R., including the right to object to
- 8 all questions except as to form, or to move to
- 9 strike any testimony at this examination, are
- 10 reserved, and, in addition, the failure to
- 11 object to any question or to move to strike any
- 12 testimony at this examination shall not
- 13 be a bar or a waiver to doing so at, and is
- 14 reserved for, the trial of this action;
- 15 It is further stipulated and agreed by
- and between counsel for the respective parties
- 17 hereto that this examination may be sworn to by
- 18 the witness being examined before a Notary
- 19 Public other than the Notary Public before whom
- 20 this examination was begun, but the failure to
- 21 do so, or to return the original
- 22 of this examination to counsel, shall not be
- 23 deemed a waiver of the rights provided by Rules
- 24 3116 and 3117 of the C.P.L.R., and shall be
- 25 controlled thereby;

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It is further stipulated and agreed by and between counsel for the respective parties					
and between counsel for the respective parties					
hereto that this examination may be utilized					
for all purposes as provided by the C.P.L.R.;					
It is further stipulated and agreed by					
and between counsel for the respective parties					
hereto that the filing and certification of the					
original of this examination shall be and the					
same hereby are waived;					
It is further stipulated and agreed by					
and between counsel for the respective parties					
hereto that a copy of the within examination					
shall be furnished to counsel representing the					
witness testifying without charge.					
** ** **					

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		5				
1						
2		, M.D.,				
3	call	ed as a witness, having been				
4	first duly sworn, was examined and					
5	test	ified as follows:				
6	EXAM	INATION BY				
7	MR. O	GINSKI:				
8	Q	State your name for the record,				
9		please.				
10	A	, M.D.				
11	Q	State your address for the record,				
12		please.				
13	A	, ,				
14						
15	Q	Good morning, Doctor.				
16		What is a meningioma?				
17	A	It is a benign tumor involving the				
18	central	nervous system, including the brain and				
19	spine a	nd meninges.				
20	Q	Are there any symptoms that you are				
21	aware	of that are associated with a meningioma				
22	that a p	patient would present with?				

23	A Well, this is not my area of				
24	expertise but I have general sense; depending				
25	on the location of the tumor causes different				
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	6				
1	, M.D.				
2	symptoms.				
3	Q Based upon your understanding and				
4	your general knowledge, can you tell me of the				
5	symptoms that are commonly associated with a				
6	meningioma?				
7	A Visual view impairment can be				
8	hemiparesis weakness of the extremities or loss				
9	of sensation.				
10	It really depends on the location.				
11	Q Over the course of your				
12	career, have you had an occasion to render a				
13	diagnosis in a patient who had a meningioma?				
14	A Not that I recall.				
15	Q Where do you currently work?				
16	A Private practice in pain				
17	management.				
18	Q Where?				
19	A I have an office in the upper				
20	side of New York.				

career, have you had an o	12
diagnosis in a patient who	13
A Not that I recall.	14
Q Where do you cu	15
A Private practice i	16
manageme	17
Q Where?	18
A I have an office i	19
side of New York.	20
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22	A	, ,
23		,
24	Q	Are you in practice with any other
25	physici	ian?
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		7
1		, M.D.
2	A	No.
3	Q	Does this office have a name?
4	A	I have a PC.
5	Q	What is that name?
6	A	
7		, PC.
8	Q	What is your title, if any, with
9	this pro	fessional corporation?
10	A	I'm the owner.
11	Q	When did you open up this
12	particu	lar office?
13	A	Approximately two and a half years.
14	Q	Other than this particular office,
15	do you	maintain any other office for practice
16	of med	icine currently?
17	A	Yes.

Q May I have the address?

18 Q Where?

19 A I have another one in

Q What is the name of that office?

21 A The same. Belongs to the same PC.

Q What is the address of that office?

23 A , ,

24 .

Q Do you currently have other

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- 1 , M.D.
- 2 physicians working in your employment at any of
- 3 these offices?
- 4 A No.
- 5 Q Are you a solo practitioner?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Before opening up your own office
- 8 known as
- 9 PC, where did you work?
- 10 A I worked for . I had
- 11 a few other jobs. I cannot recall exactly the
- 12 names and addresses.
- 13 Q Tell me when you first started to
- 14 work at
- 15 A I cannot recall the exact date.

16	Q	Q Approximate month or year or season					
17	of a particular year?						
18	A	I'm really not sure.					
19	Q	Let me ask it a different way.					
20		When did you last work at					
21		?					
22	A	Approximately early .					
23	Q	Was there any particular reason					
24	that yo	u left ?					
25	A	Because I wanted to have my own					
	TOM	MER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448					
1		9					
1		9					
2	full tim	9 e practice.					
	full tim Q						
2		e practice. At the time that you left in early					
2	Q 2,000 a	e practice. At the time that you left in early					
2 3 4	Q 2,000 a	e practice. At the time that you left in early t , how long had you					
2 3 4 5	Q 2,000 a worked	e practice. At the time that you left in early t , how long had you there as of that time? Probably one year. Maybe a little					
2 3 4 5 6	Q 2,000 a worked A	e practice. At the time that you left in early t , how long had you there as of that time? Probably one year. Maybe a little					
2 3 4 5 6 7	Q 2,000 a worked A bit mor	e practice. At the time that you left in early t , how long had you there as of that time? Probably one year. Maybe a little e.					
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Q 2,000 a worked A bit mor	e practice. At the time that you left in early t , how long had you there as of that time? Probably one year. Maybe a little e. Had you worked there full-time					
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Q 2,000 a worked A bit mor Q part-tin	e practice. At the time that you left in early t , how long had you there as of that time? Probably one year. Maybe a little e. Had you worked there full-time the or something else?					

A Approximately one day a week. 13 Q Was it the same day each week? 14 15 A I believe so. 16 Were there multiple offices under 17 the name? 18 A They have two offices. Where were those offices? 19 20 A Another one in 21 Where was the one that you worked 22 out of? 23 A I worked both. Q Let's go with the first office that 24 you just mentioned, the office. TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 10 , M.D. 1 2 A Yes. 3 Q Where was that? A I don't have the address. Q What town was that in 5 A I think very close to 6 Q What about the other office affiliated with 9 Α

Do you recall that address? 10 11 A No. 12 Under what circumstances would you 13 be at on one occasion and the on 14 another occasion, how would that work? A Schedule. Different time patients 15 I go there regularly in particular time. 16 17 Q Who was the person in charge at that you would report to if 18 there was such a person? 19 : Note my objection to 20 MR. 21 form. 22 : You mean for MR. 23 general administrative things? 24 MR. OGINSKI: Yes.

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Q Was there an owner, a president

11

1 , M.D. of the corporation or somebody who is in charge 2 of the office if there was someone? 3 A There were two owners, I believe. 4 5 I don't know exactly the structure of the

Q What is your knowledge as to who

company.

8	those o	wners were?		
9	A	There's one called last name is		
10	Dr. (phonetic).		
11	Q	Can you spell that?		
12	A	I'm not sure.		
13	Q	?		
14	A	Yes.		
15	Q	The other one?		
16	A	I know his first name is .		
17	I don't	remember the last name.		
18	Q	Do you know what type of doctor Dr.		
19	was?			
20	A	He was a chiropractor.		
21	Q	Was there a person named ,		
22	was he	a physician?		
23	A	No.		
24	Q	An administrator of some sort?		
25	A	Probably.		
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		12		

1
2 Q Okay.
3 MR. : If you don't know the
4 answer, don't guess. Say you don't

5	kno	w.				
6	A	A I really don't know.				
7	Q	Do you know a Dr.				
8	A	Yes.				
9	Q	What is your knowledge of his				
10	relatio	nship with ?				
11	A	I don't know.				
12	Q	When you were hired, who hired you				
13	at	?				
14	A	These two persons I just mentioned.				
15	Q	Were you provided with any type of				
16	written contract for your employment at					
17	?					
18	A	No.				
19	Q	During the time that you were at				
20		, was your name put on a				
21	letterh	ead?				
22		MR. : Assuming there was some				
23	let	terhead.				
24	Q	Assuming there is a letterhead?				
25	A	No.				
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		13				
1						

?

, M.D.

1

3 various treatments that you rendered, would

Q When bills would be sent out for

4 your name appear on the billings from

5	?
6	MR. : If you know.
7	A I am not sure.
8	Q Did you receive a W2 form at the
9	end of your employment or 10 or something
10	else?
11	A 10.
12	Q Were you an employee of
13	?
	MR.
15	A No.
16	Q How do you know that?
17	A I'm not sure.
18	Q When you were hired, did anyone
19	inform you as to what your status would be in
20	terms of whether you were an employee or
21	something else for purposes of payments made to
22	you for your services?
23	A I was paid by hour.
24	Q Did you have a set number of hours
25	that you were required to work per week?
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14

2 A It's varied, depending on the

, M.D.

: Note my objection.

3 patient's schedule. Q If you needed a particular time off for vacations, how would you arrange that with 5 the group? A I give them notice. 8 Q In terms of obtaining male practice insurance coverage for your care that 9 you rendered to patients, were you required to obtain your own coverage or were you provided 12 coverage by the , PC? 13 A My own coverage. Q Before coming to work at 14 , did you have your own malpractice 15 16 coverage? 17 A Yes. 18 Q Were you given the option of 19 allowing to provide malpractice coverage for you or something else? 21 A I don't recall. 22 Q How would you be assigned patients

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A I don't understand the question.

on those days that you did work at

2324

, M.D.

1		
2	Q	In addition to working at
3	pa	rt-time for approximately a year, did
4	you also	work elsewhere during that same period
5	of time?	
6	A	I think I have part-time job.
7	Q	Where?
8	A	I really don't remember.
9	Q	Did you work in a hospital?
10	A	No.
11	Q	Did you work in a private office?
12	A	Yes.
13	Q	Where was the office located?
14	A	I don't remember exactly the time
15	if I was	working there or overlap between this
16	job and	another job.
17	Q	Regardless of the precise time in
18	which y	ou worked at another place, do you
19	recall w	where it was that you worked?
20	A	One in office also.
21	Q	Do you recall the name of that
22	office?	
23	A	No.
24	Q	Were there other physicians in that
25	group?	

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1	
2	A I'm not sure.
3	Q Is there anything that you might
4	have at home that would indicate where it was
5	that you had worked, whether it's W2 forms,
6	10 or any other documents that would refresh
7	your memory?
8	A I don't know.
9	Q Do you recall receiving 10 forms
10	from PC from more than a year;
11	in other words, more than once?
12	A I don't remember.
13	Q In preparation for filing whatever
14	taxes you may have prepared, would you have
15	kept such records to reflect earnings that you
16	had made at ?
17	A Possibly.
18	MR. OGINSKI: I would ask that you
19	just make a search. If you find any
20	10 forms to provide that to your
21	counsel.
22	Q This other job that you
23	mentioned, Doctor, how many days a week would
24	you work in the other job?
25	A I am really not sure if it's the

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17

1				
2	same time when I was working at			
3	I have a	another job.		
4	Q	Are you currently licensed to		
5	practice	e medicine in the State of ?		
6	A	Yes.		
7	Q	When?		
8	A	I believe I don't recall the		
9	exact d	ate.		
10	Q	Approximately.		
11		MR. : Just give him the year.		
12	A	18.		
13	Q	Are you board certified in any		
14	field o	f medicine?		
15	A	Yes.		
16	Q	What field?		
17	A			
18				
19	Q	When did you become board		
20	certifie	d, again, the year?		
21	A	Probably .		

, M.D.

Q Are you board certified in any

23 other field? A No. 24 25 Are you licensed to practice TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 18 1 2 medicine in any other state? A No. 3 Q Has your license to practice ever been suspended or revoked? 5 A No. 6 Q Have you published any articles or have you published any articles in any peer 8 review journals over the course in your 9 10 career? 11 A No. Q Have you presented any papers that 12 13 you have prepared for purposes of national presentation to physicians in your specialty? 15 A No. Q Going back to when you were working 16 , how were you assigned 17 patients that walked in the door, how did they get sent to you? 19

, M.D.

A I just see the patient. I don't

21	know.	
22	Q Wa	s there a procedure that you were
23	aware of as	to how a particular patient gets
24	assigned to	you as opposed to any other doctor
25	working in t	hat office?
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1		19
	A T.J.	
2		n't know.
3	Q Did	you know a Dr. ?
4	A Yes.	
5	Q Who	o is Dr. ?
6	A I kno	ow he's a also
7	working ther	e.
8	Q Wer	e there times when you worked at
9	wl	nere you had interactions with
10	Dr. abo	ut patients that you were both
11	treating?	
12	MR.	: When you say
13	interaction	ons?
14	MR.	OGINSKI: I'll rephrase the
15	question	. Thank you.
16	O Dui	ring the time that you were

, did you have

, M.D.

17 working at

	18	occasion to consult with Dr. about
	19	patients that you were both treating?
	20	A No, we worked different time
	21	shifts.
	22	Q Were there occasions when you did
	23	need to speak to Dr. about a particular
	24	patient that you were both treating?
	25	A I look at the report in the chart.
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		20
	1	
	2	Q Other than any notes or reports
	3	that were in the patient's chart, did you ever
1		that were in the patient's chart, did you ever ve occasion to speak to Dr. either
1		
1	ha	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either
1	ha	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's
1	ha 5	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's progress or the course of treatment?
1	ha ² 5 6 7	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's progress or the course of treatment? A I don't recall.
1	ha 5 6 7 8	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's progress or the course of treatment? A I don't recall. Q Was it customary that from time to
1	ha ² 5 6 7 8	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's progress or the course of treatment? A I don't recall. Q Was it customary that from time to time you would consult with other physicians at
1	ha 5 6 7 8 9 10	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's progress or the course of treatment? A I don't recall. Q Was it customary that from time to time you would consult with other physicians at about mutual patients that
1	ha 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's progress or the course of treatment? A I don't recall. Q Was it customary that from time to time you would consult with other physicians at about mutual patients that various documents in the groups were treating?
1	ha 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's progress or the course of treatment? A I don't recall. Q Was it customary that from time to time you would consult with other physicians at about mutual patients that various documents in the groups were treating? A If it's necessary.
1	ha 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's progress or the course of treatment? A I don't recall. Q Was it customary that from time to time you would consult with other physicians at about mutual patients that various documents in the groups were treating? A If it's necessary. Q Would it be customary for you prior
1	ha 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	ve occasion to speak to Dr. either telephone or in person about a patient's progress or the course of treatment? A I don't recall. Q Was it customary that from time to time you would consult with other physicians at about mutual patients that various documents in the groups were treating? A If it's necessary. Q Would it be customary for you prior to treating a patient at any given time that

18 before you?

19	A Yes.					
20	Q Patient records at					
21	where were they kept?					
22	A In the office.					
23	Q Did you have your own filing system					
24	where you would keep records for patients that					
25	you saw separate and apart from other doctors					
	TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448					
	21					
1						
2	in the group?					
3	A No.					
4	Q If a patient that you had seen					
later went	to go see Dr.					
	or any other					
6	doctor in that group, would the records be					
7	found in the same central location for the					
8	entire office?					
9	MR.: In the recordings she					
10	prepared?					
11	MR. OGINSKI: Yes.					
12	A Yes.					

, M.D.

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13	Q	What was the custom and practice
14	that yo	u ascribed to during the time that you
15	worked	d at in terms of making
16	notes a	bout your examinations, did you hand
17	write tl	hem, did you dictate them or did you do
18	someth	ning else?
19	A	I do both.
20	Q	Under what circumstances would you
21	make h	nandwritten notes and put it in the
22	patient	's chart?
23	A	Usually the initial evaluation.
24	Q	At some point after that initial
25	evaluat	tion, would those handwritten notes be
		22
1		
1 2	transcri	
1 2 3	transcri A	bed into a typed written format? Yes.
2	A	bed into a typed written format? Yes.
2		bed into a typed written format?
2 3 4	A Q	bed into a typed written format? Yes.
2 3 4 5	A Q that?	bed into a typed written format? Yes. How soon after did you usually do
2 3 4 5 6	A Q that?	bed into a typed written format? Yes. How soon after did you usually do I do right away.
2 3 4 5 6 7	A Q that? A Q	bed into a typed written format? Yes. How soon after did you usually do I do right away. You do the hand notes right away?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	A Q that? A Q A Q	bed into a typed written format? Yes. How soon after did you usually do I do right away. You do the hand notes right away? And dictating right away also.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	A Q that? A Q A Q you've	bed into a typed written format? Yes. How soon after did you usually do I do right away. You do the hand notes right away? And dictating right away also. Once you dictate whatever it is
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	A Q that? A Q A Q you've	bed into a typed written format? Yes. How soon after did you usually do I do right away. You do the hand notes right away? And dictating right away also. Once you dictate whatever it is noted on your papers, what do you do

file:///F|/Internist.txt 14 your knowledge? MR. : If you know. Don't 15 16 guess. 17 A I'm not sure. Q When was the last time you had 18 contact with anyone from 19 A Since I left the job. 20 21 Q Have you spoken to Dr. about this particular patient? 22 23 A No. 24 MR. : You mean since she left 25 there? TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 23 1 MR. OGINSKI: Yes, since she 2 3 left. A No. 5 Q Have you spoken to Dr. about this patient since the time you left up until today? 8 A No.

, M.D.

doctors who worked at

9

10

Q Tell me the names of the other

11 time that you worked there other than the ones

during the

12 before discussed; Dr. and Dr. and the two gentlemen that you mentioned before? 13 A It was the psychologist. 14 Q Any other individuals, 15 professionals that worked there that you 16 17 recall? 18 A No. Q Do you recall the name of the 19 20 21 A I don't want to guess. 22 Man or a woman? 23 A Man. Were there occasions during the 24 25 year or so that you worked at TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 24 1 when you would send a patient that you had seen 2 and evaluated to the psychologist for 3 evaluation? A Yes. 5 Q How would that work; in other 6

words, if you wanted a patient of yours to see

one of the other members in the group, how was

, M.D.	

7

9	that acc	complished?	
10	A	They schedule the patient to see	
11	the		
12	Q	When you say "they," who do you	
13	refer to	o?	
14	A	The front desk.	
15	Q	What do you tell the patient	
16	custon	narily as to what they should do to see	
17	one of	other people in the group?	
18	A	Tell them schedule the appointment	
19	with th	ne front desk.	
20	Q	Were there ever occasions when you	
21	would	go out to whatever central front desk	
22	there v	was and make up or set up the appointment	
23	for the	em?	
24	A	I don't recall.	
25	Q	Where did you go to college,	
		25	
1			, M.D.
2	Doctor	?	
3	A	University.	
4	Q	When did you graduate?	
5	A		
6	Q	That was in ?	
7	A	Yes.	

College or --8 Q You say University. 9 Α How many years was that? 10 A It was five years. 11 Q What did you do in terms of your 12 career after completing your course of 13 study there? 14 15 A I did my residency. 16 Where? 17 A In . Q Do you recall the name of the 18 19 facility that you did your training in? Α Hospital. 20 Where was that located? 21 22 A Q From when to when did you do that? 23 24 Α to . 25 Q Was there a particular field of

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26

, M.D.

1 medicine that you trained in? 3 A Q After you completed that training,

6 A I came to the 7 Q When was that? 8 A 9 Q Upon your arrival here, what, if anything, did you do to continue on your 11 career? A I was studying 12 13 Q Was there a formal course of education to do that? 15 A Yes. Q Where did you go to school? 16 A College of 17 , State 18 University of Q Which one? 19 20 State University of College of . That was the name. 21 22 Q How many years was that program? 23 A Three years. 24 Q Did you complete that? 25 A Yes.

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1 , M.D.

Q When did you finish that? 2

A I can't remember the year. 3 Q Approximately. 5 6 MR. OGINSKI: Off the record. 7 (Informal discussion held off 8 the record) Q After completing your training 9 10 , what did you do, Doctor? A I did my internship in . 11 Q When did you start your internship 12 13 at 14 A Maybe . 15 Q 16 A I really don't remember exactly the 17 year. Q What was your area of study in your 18 internship? 19 20 A 21 Q After you completed your internship, what did you do? 23 A I had my residency. 24 Q Where? 25 Α Hospital,

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memisi	.txt	
2	Q	In what field of medicine?
3	A	Physical medicine .
4	Q	When did you complete that?
5	A	٠.
6	Q	Was your residency a three-year
7	progran	n?
8	A	Yes.
9	Q	Your internship was a one-year
10	progra	m?
11	A	Yes.
12	Q	After completing your residency at
13	Н	ospital, did you do anything else
14	in term	s of your career, further
15	training	g or subspecialty?
16	A	No.
17	Q	Did you ever perform any type of
18	fellows	ships?
19	A	No.
20	Q	Have you ever taken any type of
21	fellows	ship in the field of ?
22	A	No.
23	Q	Are you certified in any field of
24		currently?
25	A	No.

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, M.D.

1		
2	Q	Or have you ever been
3	A	No.
4	Q	been board certified in
5		?
6	A	No.
7]	MR. : Off the record.
8	((Informal discussion held off
9	the i	record)
10	Q	Doctor, after completing your
11	residen	cy at Hospital, where did
12	you beş	gin to work?
13	A	I had a few part-time jobs before I
14	worked	for .
15	Q	Do you recall the names of any of
16	those o	ffices where you worked?
17	A	No.
18	Q	Did you work at any hospitals
19	during	that period of time?
20	A	No.
21	Q	Is there anything that you would
22	have at	home to refresh your memory as to where
23	you wo	rked?
24	A	No.
25	Q	Other than the doctors that you

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1			
2	mentioned and the that were		
3	working at when you were there,		
4	was there a physician who was rendering pain		
5	management treatment?		
6	A I'm not aware.		
7	Q Was there a particular individual		
8	who was in charge of the physical therapy that		
9	was being rendered to patients at		
10	?		
11	A I prescribed physical therapy for		
12	patients.		
13	Q Was there a particular individual		
14	who would y out that physical therapy?		
15	A They had a physical therapist		
16	working there.		
17	Q Was there any physician that		
18	oversaw the physical therapy that was		
19	administered to patients?		
20	A What do you mean?		
21	Q When you recommended or prescribed		
22	physical therapy for a patient, was there some		
23	individual who was in charge of seeing that		
24	that patient got the therapy?		

25 A I'm not sure.

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31

1			
2	Q Would the therapy be ied out by		
3	therapists, physiatrist, physicians or someone		
4	else, if you know?		
5	A Therapist.		
6	Q You had prescribed physical therapy		
7	for a patient, how would you be advised that		
8	the patient's progress that they were marking		
9	was with the physical therapy?		
10	A I do re-evaluation of the patient		
11	and ask the question also and do my		
12	examination.		
13	Q Other than asking the patient what		
14	progress they were making, were you ever		
15	provided with any other information, notes or		
16	otherwise, from the therapists who were		
17	providing therapy?		
18	A If it's necessary I can have		
19	to the chart for the physical therapy notes.		
20	Q Were the physical therapy progress		
21	notes separate and apart from the records that		

, M.D.

22 you would customarily see?

23	A	Yes.		
24	Q	Where would those be kept?		
25	A	In the same office.		
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		32		
1				
2	Q	How would you obtain those notes if		
3	you wanted to see them during the time that you			
4	worked there?			
5	A	Ask them. Give the name of the		
6	patient.	They'd give me the chart.		
7	Q	Were there ever occasions when		
8	those physical therapy progress notes would be			
9	put into the doctor's or the physician's			
10	progress notes or reports that you would			
11	customarily see?			
12	A	I don't recall.		
13	Q	Do you have an independent memory		
14	as you	sit here now of ?		
15	A	I don't recall.		
16	Q	Do you recall what she looks like		
17	as you sit here now?			
18	A	I'm not sure.		
19	Q	Have you reviewed the copies of		

20	records that were provided to you concerning		
21	treatment rendered to by the		
22	people at ?		
23	MR. : She has reviewed her		
24	notes. She hasn't we are not in		
25	possession of any physical therapy		
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	33		
1			
2	notes.		
3	MR. OGINSKI: Fair enough.		
4	I'll ask it a different way.		
5	Q Tell me what records you		
6	reviewed, if any, prior to starting today's		
7	deposition?		
8	A My notes, evaluation notes.		
9	Q Those would be the typewritten		
10	reports?		
11	A Yes.		
12	Q Did you review any handwritten		
13	notes that you made during any time that you		
14	saw ?		
15	A Yes.		
16	Q Do you have copies of those?		
17	A I don't have now.		

Where are they? 18 19 A In the chart. Q When was the last time you saw the 20 original chart for 21 22 : He wants to know the MR. 23 original chart, the actual original 24 records as opposed to Xerox copies. 25 A The last time I worked there TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 34 1 was the last time I saw the patient. 2 3 Q In the records that you reviewed? A The copy. 5 Q The copies? A Yes. 6 Q Did you see any of your own 7

Q In the records that you reviewed?

A The copy.

Q The copies?

A Yes.

Q Did you see any of your own

handwritten notes?

A Copy, yes.

Q Just for clarification purposes,

this report which is dated April 17th and it's

typed and has a signature at the last page of

the report, separate from a typewritten report,

did you also see handwritten notes that you

made during the course of your examination? 15 A Yes. 16 17 Okay. 18 MR. OGINSKI: Do you have copies? 19 MR. : Yes. 20 MR. OGINSKI: Can I see them? 21 MR. : I don't have any. 22 MR. OGINSKI: I don't have 23 handwritten --24 MR. : You don't? We got them from you. 25 TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 35 1 2 MR. OGINSKI: No, couldn't have 3 been. I don't have the handwritten. Q Doctor, did you review any 4 deposition transcripts prior to coming here 5 today, any prior testimony given by anybody in 7 this case? A No.

11	A	No.			
12	Q	Did you review any textbooks or			
13	literature in preparation for this				
14	deposit	ion?			
15	A	No.			
16	Q	Were you provided with any type of			
17	busines	ss cards to give patients that you were			
18	seeing	and treating at ?			
19	A	Yes.			
20	Q	Can you tell me what it said on			
21	those b	usiness cards?			
22	A	I don't remember exactly.			
23	Q	Did it have your name printed on			
24	there?				
25	A	Yes.			
		36			
1					
2	Q	Was the name of also			
3	printed	on there?			
4	A	I'm not sure.			
5	Q	What specialty or area of medicine			
6	did you	practice at ?			
7	A				
8	Q	In addition to your reports that			
9	you pre	pared as a result of your examinations			
10	of	in preparation for today, did			
11	you als	o look at the other reports of the			

physicians who saw and examined 12 13 A Yes. 14 That would include Dr. 15 correct? 16 A Yes. ? Q As well as Dr. 17 18 A Yes. 19 Q Did you see in those records that you reviewed any person such as a psychologist 20 21 or psychiatrist regarding an evaluation that ? was done at 22 23 A I didn't see the report. 24 Q Did you see it at some point during the time that Ms. was treating at TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448

that you had suggested that she
that you had suggested that she
that you had suggested that she
that you have reviewed, is there anything to suggest
that she was, in fact, seen by an individual in
your group for that purpose?

10	A I asked the patient. I didn't see
11	a report.
12	MR. : Do you need to look at
13	the records? If you need to look at
14	the records about any of the
15	questions that counsel is asking you,
16	you can do that. You don't have to
17	guess. You can look at the records.
18	THE WITNESS: I'd like to see
19	the report.
20	A It is one handwritten report
21	from the psychologist.
22	Q What is the date of that report?
23	A June 15, '.
24	MR. OGINSKI: The witness reports a
25	report from ", Licensed
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Clinical Psychologist."

Q Tell me what this note says

under the heading "List new complaints and

findings"?

A I don't want to guess.

Q I don't want you to guess. If you 7 8 can read it, tell me what it represents? 9 A I can't. 10 Q Can you read any part of the line 11 underneath that as to whatever it is the doctor has reported there? 12 13 MR. : Don't guess. 14 A I can only read the words "resolving," the handwritten word. 15 16 Q Doctor, based upon records that your attorney have provided, can you tell me 17 when the last time it was that you saw and 18 ? 19 examined 20 A February 8, . 21 Am I correct that those notes also reflect that Ms. continued to be treated at at some point after 23

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: I would suffice to say

39

1 2 she was seen at . The doctor 3 was no longer employed there so I 4 don't want to characterize what other

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that time?

MR.

- 5 doctors were doing. There are notes.
- 6 MR. OGINSKI: Okay.
- 7 Q Would it be correct to say
- 8 there are notes for the patient being seen and
- 9 evaluated at all the way into
- 10 the year?
- 11 A Yes, I saw doctor's notes on March
- 12 9, .
- 13 Q Doctor, let's go back to the first
- 14 time that you saw , specifically
- 15 your handwritten note.
- What is the date of your note,
- 17 Doctor?
- 18 A April 16, '.
- 19 Q I'd like you to read, please, your
- 20 note in its entirety as best you can. I
- 21 understand it's a photocopy. If there are
- 22 abbreviations, tell us what they represent and
- 23 to continue on?
- 24 MR. : Just for the record,
- 25 it's probably not a great photocopy

- either.
- 3 A Shall I read exactly what I
- 4 wrote?
- 5 Q Yes.
- 6 A "39, April 13, ' . Presents motor
- 7 vehicle accident. Nurse 8. Center of
- 8 passenger."
- 9 Q Are there certain words that you're
- 10 skipping?
- 11 A I cannot --
- 12 MR. : If you cannot read it,
- say you cannot read the word.
- 14 A I cannot read this word.
- 15 "Right knee, headache, left against, loss --
- 16 LOC."
- 17 Q What does that represent?
- 18 A Loss of consciousness. "Neck,
- 19 back."
- Q What was the word before back?
- 21 A Neck.
- 22 Q Okay.
- 23 A " Hospital ER, x-ray, CT
- 24 of head, negative, PMH which means past
- 25 history, HTN allergy NKDA."

•		
2	Q	That would be "no known -"
3	A	"Drug allergy."
4	Q	Okay.
5	A	"PSH, past surgical history,
6	negativ	e. Medication, Tylenol. Right hip,
7	left face	e, lower back, neck."
8	Q	Did you prepare this note at the
9	time th	at you did your examination of
10	?	
11	A	Yes.
12	Q	When did you dictate your report
13	which	was then typed out and dated April 17th?
14	A	Immediately.
15	Q	I'd like you to turn, please, to
16	your ty	pewritten report.
17		How did you obtain the history that
18	you ha	ve written in this report?
19	A	By asking the patient.
20	Q	The information that she told you
21	about t	he x-rays and the CAT scan at
22	Hospit	al, how did you learn that information?
23	A	According to the patient.
24	Q	At any time after Ms.
25	presen	ted to your office on April 16, , did

1		
2		
2	you ever take copies of the Hospita	l
3	records?	
4	A No.	
5	MR. : Did she what?	
6	MR. OGINSKI: Obtain copies of	
7	Hospital records.	
8	A No.	
9	Q Did you ever obtain copies of	
10	either x-ray films or the CAT scan reports	that
11	were done on April 13th at Hospi	tal?
12	A I don't recall.	
13	Q Did you ever ask to	
14	fill out an authorization allowing your off	ice
to obtain t	he records from	
	Hospital?	
16	A I don't recall.	
17	Q Would it have been helpful to yo	u
18	to obtain those records at Hospital	
19	for purposes of diagnosing and treating th	is
20	patient?	
21	MR. : It's kind of	
22	speculative if those records would	

, M.D.

have been helpful.

MR. OGINSKI: I'll rephrase the

25 question then.

43

	43
1	
2	Q Did you feel that you needed to
3	have the records from Hospital in
4	order to prepare a plan of treatment for
5	?
6	A No.
7	Q Did you ever learn during the
8	course of treating if the
9	results of the CAT scan was something other
10	than what the patient initially reported to
11	you?
12	A No.
13	Q Did you ever learn at any time from
14	when you last treated up until
15	the time that this lawsuit was started that the
16	results of the CAT scan that were taken on
17	April 13, at Hospital were, in
18	fact, positive?
19	A No.
20	Q Going down to the chief complaint
21	area of your report, again, this is the report
22	dated April 17th.
23	A 16th.

Q Well, at the top of letter it says

, M.D.

25 April 17th, correct?

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, M.D.

1		
2	A	Yes.
3	Q	But that's based on your exam from
4	the day	before, correct?
5	A	Yes.
6	Q	The chief complaint amongst them
7	she lists	s a headache, correct?
8	A	Yes.
9	Q	Also dizziness?
10	A	Yes.
11	Q	And left face pain, correct?
12	A	Yes.
13	Q	Now, these are comments that the
14	patient	is making to you, right?
15	A	Yes.
16	Q	In addition to the other ones
17	concer	ning her neck and back and knee pain,
18	right?	
19	A	Yes.
20	Q	Now, what was your custom and

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21 practice that once you have identified or

22	learned of a patient's particular complaint in		
23	terms of preparing a diagnosis and a plan of		
24	treatment?		
25	MR. : Wait a minute.		
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	45		
1			
2	Why don't you ask her what she		
3	did with respect to this patient as		
4	compared to her custom and practice.		
5	MR. OGINSKI: Fair enough.		
6	MR. : She is not saying		
7	she can't answer those questions.		
8	MR. OGINSKI: Fair enough.		
9	I'll withdraw the question.		
10	Q After obtaining the history and		
11	complaints from the patient, did you perform a		
12	physical examination?		
13	A Yes.		
14	Q Did you obtain the patient's vital		
15	signs?		
16	A No.		
17	Q Did you obtain the patient's		
18	weight?		
19	A No.		

20 Q What would represent the patient's 21 vital signs? A Blood pressure, heart rate, 22 breathing rate. 23 Q Was it customary that on an initial 24 visit to you that you obtain that information TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 46 1 concerning the patient's vital signs? 2 A No. 3 Q Were there people in the office, technicians, nurses or other people who would 5 customarily obtain that information prior to 6 you seeing a given patient? 7 8 A No. Q After obtaining the patient's 9 history and complaints you did a physical 10 examination, correct? 11 12 A Yes. How did you examine the patient's 13 14 face? By observation, also palpation. 15 16 Was there any other method that you

17	used to examine the patient's head or face?			
18	MR. : You mean this			
19	particular patient on that particular			
20	day?			
21	MR. OGINSKI: This patient.			
22	I'm only talking about this patient.			
23	A I observed and used my hand.			
24	Q What did you observe about the			
25	patient's face on your examination?			
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1	47			
1				
2	A Review generalize tenderness and			
3	swelling.			
4	Q That was on the left side of the			
5	face?			
6	A Yes.			
7	Q What else did you observe?			
8	A As compared to the right side, the			
9	left eyelid was drooping.			
10	Q That observation, Doctor, did you			
11	form any opinions as of that date as to what			
12	conditions this might represent following			
13	trauma from a motor vehicle accident?			
14	A I don't recall.			

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15	Q If you had formed any opinion as to
16	the possible conditions that this observation
17	could have represented, would you have expected
18	to make a note of that in your either
19	handwritten note or in your typewritten note?
20	MR. : Objection because
21	there's at least two pieces of that
22	question that are speculative, if she
23	had done something would you expect.
24	MR. OGINSKI: Only because she
25	said she doesn't recall.
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1

3 that question is not going to make

: Yes, I know, but

4 it.

2

5 Q As a general sense, not

MR.

6 specifically relating to this patient, what

7 conditions does a drooping eyelid represent, if

8 any, following trauma from a motor vehicle

9 accident?

10 MR. : You mean generally

11 speaking?

MR. OGINSKI: Yes. 12 13 MR. : Let me just state 14 my objection. There's certainly -- it may 15 represent some things which fall 16 outside of this witness's expertise. 17 18 MR. OGINSKI: That's fine. I 19 just want her general knowledge. 20 MR. : So within her 21 general knowledge and within her area of expertise she may be able to 22 23 answer that. 24 A Can be present local injury. 25 Possible

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49 1 Q Any others? 2 3 A That's my two main... Q As part of evaluating a patient's 4 5 presenting condition once you have identified certain observations, are there certain things 6 that you do in order to rule out certain

, M.D.

8 conditions in terms of the most likely to least

9	likely as part of your overall treatment of the	
10	patient?	
11	MR. : Why don't we just focus	
12	on what she did with this patient as	
13	opposed to what she generally does.	
14	MR. OGINSKI: Okay.	
15	Q Did you formulate a	
16	differential diagnosis with regard to this	
17	patient's observation that you made of a	
18	drooping eyelid?	
19	A No, that's why reason why I	
20	referred the patient to see a neurologist.	
21	Q In addition to observing the	
22	patient's face you also did an examination of	
23	her spine, correct?	
24	A Yes.	
25	Q You also examined her knee?	
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	50	
1		, M.D.
2	A Yes.	
3	Q You came to a clinical impression,	
4	correct?	
5	A Yes.	
6	Q Fist one you have listed as post	
7	traumatic headaches correct?	

8 A Yes. Q Define that, please? 10 A The person complains about a headache after a certain trauma. 11 Q For how long do you customarily 12 expect that condition to last, if you can 13 describe that? 14 15 A I can't. 16 Q The next thing you mentioned was 17 left facial contusion injury, correct? A Yes. 18 19 What did you mean by that? 20 A Means soft tissue injury. 21 Q The other items that you had a clinical impression of relate to her spine, 22 correct? 23 24 A Yes. 25 Q And her right knee? TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448

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, M.D.

1 2 A Yes. 3 Q As part of your management plan you requested an MRI of her spine? 5 A Yes.

7 herniation? 8 A Yes. Q Was there any other reason as to 9 why you referred the patient for neurologic 11 work-up? A The headaches, history of head 12 trauma, the eyelid drooping, also spine injury 13 as well. 14 Q In addition to that referral, you 15 also formulated a treatment plan of physical 16 therapy, correct? 17 18 A Yes. Q You had wanted that to be done 19 20 three times a week? 21 A Yes. Q To include heat, electrical 22 stimulation, correct? 24 A Yes. 25 Q What parts of the body did you TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 52

Q You suspected she might have a disk

, M.D.

2 intend to have that applied to?

- 3 A Cervix spine and lumbar spine.
- 4 Q You also requested therapy for a
- 5 myofacial release, correct?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q What is that?
- 8 A It's a kind of manual treatment,
- 9 like, very deep massage to break the muscle
- 10 spasim.
- 11 Q What part of the body?
- 12 A Cervical spine and lumbar spine.
- 13 Q The range of motion exercises were
- 14 for what part of the body?
- 15 A Cervical spine, lumbar spine.
- 16 Q Was there any treatment that you
- 17 had requested or provided to the patient
- specifically relating to the eyelid droop?
- 19 A No.
- 20 Q Or specifically relating to the
- 21 headaches that she complained of?
- 22 MR. : You mean other than
- sending the patient to a neurologist?
- MR. OGINSKI: Yes, other than
- 25 that. Anything that she did for the

1		
2	pati	ent.
3	A	Well, take pain medication.
4	Q	Was that the Tylenol that you are
5	referrin	g to?
6	A	Yes.
7	Q	The restrictions that you advised
8	her to fe	ollow, those related primarily to her
9	cervica	l and lumbar spine?
10	A	Yes.
11	Q	You did not place any restrictions
12	on her	at that time based upon the drooping
13	eyelid	or the headaches that you learned of,
14	correct	?
15	A	No.
16	Q	Now, you mentioned at the
17	conclu	sion on the last page of the report your
18	progno	sis.
19		Can you define what a prognosis is,
20	Doctor	?
21	A	The outcome of the illness, injury.
22	Q	Of the what?
23	A	The illness or injury.
24	Q	You write that "At this time the
25	progno	sis is guarded."

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1		
2		What condition or conditions were
3	you ref	erring to when you made that statement?
4	A	Cervical spine, lumbar spine.
5	Q	Were you referring at all to your
6	observa	ations of the patient's drooping eyelid?
7	A	I'd like neurology to have that
8	opinion	
9	Q	I'm only asking when you wrote "The
10	progno	sis is guarded," was that referring at
11	all to tl	ne drooping eyelid that you observed?
12	A	No.
13	Q	Or to the headaches that the
14	patient	told you about?
15	A	No.
16	Q	The following day on April 17,
17	,	Ms. presented again to the
18		Office, correct?
19	A	Yes.
20	Q	At that time she was seen by Dr.
21		?
22	A	Yes.
23	Q	That is a man or a woman?
24	A	A man.
25	Q	The day after that on April 19th

55

, M.D.

1	
2	Ms. had presented again to
3	and was seen by Dr.
4	correct?
5	A Yes.
6	Q When was the next time Ms.
7	was seen in the Office?
8	MR. : By this witness?
9	MR. OGINSKI: By anyone.
10	A By me?
11	Q No, by anyone.
12	After April 19th when she was seen
13	by Dr. , when was Ms.
next see	n in
14	the office?
15	A May 3, ' by Dr
16	Q After that who was the next person
17	who saw her in the office?
18	A Me, May 19, '.
19	Q From the time you had last seen
20	on April 16th up until the next
21	visit on May 19th that you had with her, was
22	she undergoing the therapy that you had

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23 recommended?

24	A Yes.		
25	Q Is there something within the		
	56		
	30		
1			
2	reports that you see in front of you that would		
3	confirm that she was going and treated by		
4	physical therapy during that time frame?		
5	A Yes.		
6	Q What do you see?		
7	A Because she reported her knee has		
8	been better with physical therapy program.		
9	Q Do you have a handwritten note for		
10	this particular office visit?		
11	MR. : Maybe the question		
12	should be is there a handwritten note		
13	in this set of records we have		
14	because we have no way of knowing		
15	whether these are, in fact, a		
16	complete set.		
17	MR. OGINSKI: Fair enough.		
18	Q Is there anything in the		
19	records that you have before you that reflect a		
20	handwritten note that you made and/or around		
21	the time that you saw on May		
22	19th that's contained within the set that your		
23	attorney has provided?		

- 24 A I don't know.
- Q Is there anything that you've seen

57

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1	
2	so far that suggests that there's a handwritten
3	note contained within those copies?
4	A I don't know, no.
5	MR. : Just so the record is
6	clear, I mean you referenced that
7	these records were provided by the
8	doctor's attorney.
9	We didn't get these records
10	from the doctor and these came to us
11	as part of the discovery proceedings.
12	So whatever is there, is there.
13	Whatever is not there, is not there.
14	MR. OGINSKI: Fine.
15	I didn't mean to imply
16	anything. I meant for these purposes
17	you presented them today. That's
18	okay.
19	MR. : I just wanted to be
20	clear.

, M.D.

MR. OGINSKI: Fine.

22	Q	In any event, Doctor, looking
23	at the t	sypewritten report that you had dictated
24	which has a date of May 20th	
25	A	May 19th.
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		58
1		
2	Q	That's the day you saw the patient,
3	right?	
4	A	Yes.
5	Q	The report is dated May 20th.
6		What complaints did she have at
7	that time?	
8	A	You want me to read?
9	Q	I'll rephrase the question.
10		She had headaches at that time?
11	A	Yes.
12	Q	That she advised you about?
13	A	Yes.
14	Q	Also, imsomnia?
15	A	Yes.
16	Q	Nightmares?

A Yes.

Q Also, loss of smelling function,

17

Internist.	txt		
19	correct?		
20	A Yes.		
21	Q What, if anything, did you conclude		
22	as a result of your examination and		
23	description of the loss of smelling		
24	function, as to what this could possibly		
25	represent?		
	TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448		
1	59		
2	A I didn't conclude.		
3	Q Did you formulate any type of		
4	differential diagnosis as to what this		
5	condition could represent, if anything?		
6	A Not my expertise to.		
7	Q Was this one that you referred her		
8	to specifically to identify that particular		
9	complaint that she had addressed with you?		
10	A I requested to evaluate follow-up		
11	by a neurologist.		
12	Q What was it that suggested to you		
13	that her complaints of loss of smelling		
14	function might be neurologically related?		
15	A That's the reason I was not sure.		

16 I referred her to a neurologist to make that

17	opinior	1.
18	Q	The fact that she was still
19	compla	ining of headaches, what, if anything,
20	did tha	t represent to you
21	A	Consistent of her history of
22	injury.	
23	Q	Did you ask whether she had been
24	taking	any pain medication to relieve the
25	headac	hes?
	TOM	MER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 60
1		
2	A	Tylenol.
3	Q	Did Ms. wear eyeglasses?
4	A	I don't recall.
5	Q	On your first examination of Ms.
6	going b	eack to April 16th of, did
7	you per	form an ophthalmological examination of
8	her?	
9	A	No.
10	Q	Am I correct, Doctor, that there
11	are 12	cranial nerves in and about the face and
12	head?	
13	A	Yes.

MR.

iterinist.t	At .
14	Q Can you identify what those 12
15	cranial nerves are?
16	MR. : I mean that's really a
17	little bit outside the doctor's area
18	of expertise.
19	MR. OGINSKI: Well, I would
20	disagree for let me just put on
21	the record only for the fact that she
22	has a background and training in the
23	field of ophthalmology.
24	A That is 15 years ago.

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: Let him talk.

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1	
2	MR. OGINSKI: It's a general
3	question. It relates a good deal to
4	the issues in this case as to what
5	may or may not have been done in
6	terms of full evaluation of her
7	presenting complaints.
8	I'll tell you where I'm going.
9	Once she identifies them, I'm going
10	to ask her if she evaluated any of
11	those.

13	for my question.
14	MR. : Well, why don't you
15	ask her if she evaluated any of the
16	cranial nerves rather than having
17	this test of whether she can identify
18	any 12 of them.
19	MR. OGINSKI: Then it assumes
20	that she knows it and I'd like to
21	know beforehand if she knows it.
22	MR. : Well, why don't you
23	ask her what she evaluated. If she
24	evaluated, then she can tell you
25	which ones she did.
	TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448
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1	
2	Q Did you evaluate any of this
3	patient's 12 cranial nerves on April 16, ?
4	A No.

That's pretty much the reason

MR. OGINSKI: Then it assumes	
that she knows it and I'd like to	
know beforehand if she knows it.	
MR. : Well, why don't you	
ask her what she evaluated. If she	
evaluated, then she can tell you	
which ones she did.	
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62	
Q Did you evaluate any of this	
patient's 12 cranial nerves on April 16, ?	
A No.	
Q At any time while you were treating	
, did you ever refer her out to	
an ophthalmologist for an evaluation?	
A No.	
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, M.D.

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6 7

Q Did Dr. , based upon your 9 review of his report, review the patient's 12 10 11 cranial nerves? 12 A I don't know. 13 What is the date of Dr. 14 report? A April 17, '. 15 16 Q Is there anything in the report to suggest that he examined the patient's cranial 17 18 nerves? A Not to my knowledge. 19 20 Q Did Dr. render any conclusion in his report as to what the 21 22 drooping eyelid represented, if anything? : Just based solely on 23 MR. 24 her reading? 25 MR. OGINSKI: Only on the TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 63 1 2 report. MR. 3 : Does she see any

reference to the drooping eyelid? 4 5 MR. OGINSKI: Correct. 6 A No. file:///F|/Internist.txt (67 of 118)2/8/2005 11:20:01 AM

Q When you saw Ms. again on 7 May 19th a month and three days later after the 8 original visit, did you make any observations 9 about any drooping of the patient's left eyelid? 11 12 A It's resolving. Q How do you know this? 13 A If it's there I'll document it. 14 15 When you say it was resolving, tell me what you mean? 16 A It means no sign of eyelid 17 18 drooping. 19 Q If you had observed the drooping eyelid, would you have expected to make a note 21 of that in your report? 22 A Yes. Q Imsomnia and nightmares you had 23 noted on the May 19 evaluation, do you as a

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physician commonly see this type of complaint

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, M.D.

2 post motor vehicle accident?

3 A Yes.

Q What, if anything, do you recommend to the patient to treat it? 5 A See a psychologist. 6 Q The patient did, in fact, see a 7 psychologist in your office on June 15th, 8 9 correct? A Yes. 10 11 Q In addition on May 19th the patient complained of left face pain. What, if 12 anything, did you attribute that complaint to? 13 A Because she give me a history of 14 her left side head against the window during 15 the car accident. 16 Q The fact that she was still 17 18 experiencing left face pain now over a month since the accident, what was the significance 19 of that to you, if any? 20 21 A Repeat the question. 22 MR. OGINSKI: Read it back. 23 (Record read) 24 MR. : Do you understand 25 the question?

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, M.D. 1

2 A It means she still has not

- 3 resolved the injury.
- 4 Q Did you formulate any opinions at
- 5 that time on May 19th as to why the patient was
- 6 still experiencing this condition?
- 7 A The same opinion as the first time.
- 8 Still a soft tissue injury.
- 9 Q Did you have any opinion as to how
- 10 long this patient could expect that particular
- 11 condition or symptom?
- 12 A No.
- 13 Q What specific treatment, if any,
- 14 did you recommend for Ms. for the left
- 15 face pain?
- 16 A I don't recall.
- 17 Q Is there anything in your records
- 18 to indicate what treatment you rendered to her
- 19 as a result of the left face pain?
- 20 A No.
- 21 Q The fact that there is nothing
- 22 indicated in terms of your treatment plan for
- 23 that particular condition, what does that
- 24 suggest to you, if anything, in terms of what
- 25 was done for that complaint?

- 2 A I don't understand the question.
- 3 Q The treatment plan that you had
- 4 listed in your report refers primarily to
- 5 physical therapy, correct?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q The physical therapy, if I'm not
- 8 mistaken, would relate primarily to her neck
- 9 and back complaint, am I correct?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q Is there any treatment that you
- 12 recommended for Ms. with regard to her
- 13 facial pain?
- 14 A No.
- 15 Q You had mentioned in your clinical
- 16 impression that she had a post concussion
- 17 syndrome, right?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Can you define that for me, please?
- A The patient had an injury which may
- 21 have brief loss of consciousness, develops
- 22 physical symptom, some of the cognizant
- 23 symptoms such as nightmare, lack of
- 24 concentration, become irritable, headaches,
- 25 dizziness.

1		
2	Q	Had you referred her to the
3	neurolo	gist or to any other doctor besides the
4	psycho	logist to address those issues at that
5	time?	
6	A	No.
7	Q	You had also noted that she had
8	post tra	umatic headaches, correct?
9	A	Yes.
10	Q	Did you render any treatment or
11	prescribe any treatment as a result of that	
12	impression?	
13	A	Pain medication and see the
14	psychologist and neurologist.	
15	Q	Where do you have noted that the
16	patient was to continue the pain medication?	
17	A	By the history the first time she
18	was taking and advised her to continue to take.	
19	Q	Is there anything in your report to
20	reflect that you advised her to continue with	
21	the pai	n medication?
22	A	No.
23	Q	Yes or no?
24	A	No.
25	Q	Did you prescribe her any

1

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2	medication?		
3	A	I don't recall.	
4	Q	If you had would you have expected	
5	to note	it in your report?	
6	A	Probably.	
7	Q	Did you have scripts for	
8	prescrip	otion medications that were in your name	
9	or the g	roup's name or somebody else's name	
10	that you could prescribe for patients if		
11	warran	ted?	
11	warran	icu:	
12	A	Yes.	
13	Q	As you sit here now, do you recall	
14	whose	name appeared on those prescription pads?	
15	A	I don't recall.	
16	Q	Do you have any of those	
17	prescription pads today?		
18	A	No.	
19	Q	At any time while you worked at	
20		did you have prescription pads	
21	in your	name?	
22	A	I don't recall.	
23	Q	Did you speak to Dr. between	

April 16th and May 19th about this patient? 24 25 A I don't recall. TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 69 1 Q Did you speak to Dr. 2 between April 16th and May 19th about this 3 patient? 4 A I don't recall. 5 Q Ms. was seen again by Dr. 6 7 on June 7th, correct? 8 A Yes. 9 Q When was the next time she appeared in the office to see a physician? 10 A June 25, '. 11 She saw you at that time? 12 13 A Yes. Q Is there any handwritten note 14 that's contained within the copy that you have 15 in front of you reflecting your examination of 16 17 June 25th? 18 A Yes. 19 Q Is that in your handwriting? 20 A Yes. Q Can you tell me what you have 21 contained in that particular note? 22 23 Read whatever section or parts

- 24 contain your handwriting, Doctor?
- 25 A "Neck and back."

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1		
2	Q	I'm sorry, starting from the top.
3	A	"June 25, '." It's not my
4	handwr	iting.
5]	MR. : You want her to read
6	evei	rything handwritten or what she
7	wro	te?
8	,	THE WITNESS: This is not my
9	hand	dwriting.
10	Q	What part is in your
11	handwi	riting?
12	A	Here. (Indicating)
13	Q	What is the title or heading?
14	A	"Twice a week for six weeks."
15	Q	I'm sorry, it says, "Duration and
16	frequer	ncy"?
17	A	"Two times a week."
18	Q	"For six weeks"?
19	A	"For six weeks."

20 Q Then it says, "Part of the body to

be treated." What do you have? 21 A "Neck, back." 22 23 What is that form? A Physical therapy prescription. 24 Was this completed after you had 25 TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 71 1 2 examined Ms. on June 25th? A Yes. 3 Q Do you have any other notes similar 4 to the notes that reflect your findings and 5 your examination of that day? 6 7 MR. : You mean any other handwritten notes for that day? 8 9 MR. OGINSKI: Correct. 10 A I don't see. Q Let's go back to your typed report 11 12 dated June 26th. 13 Ms. made certain 14 complaints that you recorded in this report, correct? 15 16 A Yes. Q They primarily relate to her neck 17 18 and back and right knee, correct?

19 A Yes. Q Is there any complaint that she 20 made with regard to face pain on this visit? 21 22 A No. 23 Yes or no? 24 A No. Q Did you inquire or ask Ms. 25 TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 72 1 whether she had any facial pain? 2 A Yes. 3 Q What did she reply? A No pain. 5 If the patient tells me she has 6 pain I would document it. 8 Q In the event that Ms. did not specifically tell you of a particular 9 complaint, would you have customarily asked whether she was still experiencing any of those 11 conditions she had told you about at the prior 12 visit that you had with her? 13 14 A Yes. 15 That would be your custom, correct?

16 A Yes. Q It's not something that you 17 18 specifically remember as you sit here today, correct? 19 20 A No. 21 Q Now, your examination on June 25th consisted of an examination of her spine, 22 23 correct? 24 A Yes. Q As well as performing a straight 25 TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 73 1 2 leg raising test? 3 A Yes. Q In the clinical impression --5 MR. : I think also vertical compression test. 6 7 MR. OGINSKI: Thank you. 8 Q There's also a vertical compression test that you performed, right? 10 A Yes. 11 Q Those tests and that evaluation relate only to the neck and back, correct? 13 A Yes. 14 Q In the clinical impression you

15 wrote -- it says, "COSY," that should be post concussion syndrome, right? 16 17 A Yes. Q Can you tell how what was the basis 18 19 for concluding as of that June 25th visit why you still felt she had a post concussion 21 syndrome? 22 A The first three diagnoses, one, two, three, should be deleted. 23 24 Q Why? 25 Because the patient had no TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 74 1 2 complaint on the physical examination. There's 3 no examination show -- I mean consistent with the diagnosis. Q The second impression is post 5 traumatic headaches, right? 6 A Yes. 8 Q The third impression that's listed

13	based	upon the fact you have identified and	
14	told me that they should not be there?		
15	A	Because when they do the typing,	
16	they ha	ave certain templates. Sometimes they	
17	just typ	be the previous report.	
18	Q	Regardless of what the typist does	
19	during	their transcription, after the report is	
20	prepare	ed it is then given to you for signature,	
21	correct	?	
22	A	Yes.	
23	Q	Prior to signing the report; am I	
24	correct	, that you would customarily read the	
25	report	to check for accuracy?	
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	TOM		
1	ТОМ	MER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 75	
1 2	TOM A		
		75	
2	A Q	75 Yes.	
2	A Q change	75 Yes. If there were any typographical	
2 3 4	A Q change	Yes. If there were any typographical s or any other changes you would make	
2 3 4 5	A Q change them an	Yes. If there were any typographical s or any other changes you would make and have them revise it, correct?	
2 3 4 5	A Q change them an A Q	Yes. If there were any typographical s or any other changes you would make and have them revise it, correct? Yes.	
2 3 4 5 6 7	A Q change them an A Q	Yes. If there were any typographical sor any other changes you would make and have them revise it, correct? Yes. Did you make any revisions to this	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	A Q changes them and A Q particular	Yes. If there were any typographical sor any other changes you would make and have them revise it, correct? Yes. Did you make any revisions to this car report?	

		, M.D.

13 Q The treatment plan as of that date

14 was to continue her physical therapy?

15 A Yes.

16 Q That again was relating to her neck

and back complaints and her knee complaints?

18 A Yes.

19 Q As of June 25th she had not yet had

20 an MRI of her cervical or lumbar spine,

21 correct?

1

22 A Correct.

Q When you write at the bottom of the

24 second page of your report, "She should

continue to be followed by orthopedics and

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2 neurology," how is that to be accomplished?

3 A By making the appointment to see

4 the orthopedic/neurologist.

5 Q Did you advise your office that you

6 wanted her to be seen again by a neurologist

7 and orthopedics or was it the patient's

8 responsibility to make those appointments?

file:///F|/Internist.txt 9 A I told the patient. Q In addition to telling the patient, 10 did you also tell your office staff that you 11 wanted the patient to be seen by those two 13 specialists? A I don't recall. 14 15 Would it have been customary for 16 you to do that? 17 A Yes. 18 Q Then you wanted her to return to you again in six weeks, correct? 19 20 A Yes. 21 Q Was Ms. making any progress with her physical therapy? 23 A Yes. 24 Q When was she next seen in the office after your June 25th visit?

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•		
2	A	By me or by other physicians?
3	Q	Anyone.
4	A	July 12, ' by Dr
5	Q	He noted a chief complaint of pain

6 and discomfort in the low back, correct?

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A Yes.

8	Q	From the note appears that he did	
9	an exan	nination of her lumbar spine, correct?	
10	A	Yes.	
11	Q	In his clinical impression number	
12	one he	listed contusion to the head, do you see	
13	that?		
14	A	Yes.	
15	Q	Do you have any knowledge as to why	
16	or how	his clinical impression was arrived at	
17	just bas	sed on the note?	
18		MR. : If you know. Don't	
19	gue	ess.	
20		MR.	Note my objection.
21	A	No.	
22	Q	Based on this note, can you tell	
23	whethe	r Dr. examined this patient's head	
24	or face	during the course of his examination?	
25	A	No, I don't know.	
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		78	
1		76	, M.D.
2	Q	When was the patient next seen in	, M.D.
3	the office		
4		August 13, '. You saw her at that time?	
5	Q	1 Ou saw nei at that time?	

A Yes. 7 Q Do you have a handwritten note that 8 you prepared at the time that you examined the 9 patient? A Yes. 10 Q Was that also a prescription or a 11 note to continue with physical therapy? 12 13 A Yes. 14 Q Would you agree that would be done 15 after the examination? A Yes. 16 17 Q Other than that note, do you have any other handwritten notes for this particular 19 office visit? 20 A Not in the chart. Q Let's turn then to the typewritten 21 22 report, please. 23 What complaint did Ms. make on August 14th? 24 A Lower back pain. 25

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1 Q Where do you see that? 2

, M.D.

3 A Here. (Indicating)

- 4 Q The first paragraph under
- 5 "reevaluation"?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Other than the complaint that you
- 8 write, "However, she still suffers from lower
- 9 back pain that radiates to her right lower
- 10 extremity associated with numbness, tingling
- 11 sensation," at the end of your examination,
- 12 Doctor, did you recommend that Ms. be
- 13 evaluated by a neurologist?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q What was the reason for suggesting
- 16 that she be seen by a neurologist in light of
- 17 what you observed and what she complained of?
- 18 A For her lower back injury.
- 19 Q Had you ever learned from Ms.
- 20 what comments Dr. had made as
- 21 a result of his examination concerning the
- 22 findings that you had previously observed of
- 23 her drooping left eyelid?
- 24 A I don't know.
- 25 Q Had you elicited from Ms.

1

, M.D.

- 2 any comments that Dr. had said to her
- 3 as a result of his examination and findings
- 4 back in April of?
- 5 A I don't recall.
- 6 Q Would it be correct to say that
- 7 before examining the patient on any of visits
- 8 that you had seen Ms. that you had
- 9 reviewed the other doctor's reports and
- 10 records?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q Your examination on August 13th
- 13 consists of primarily the cervical and lumbar
- 14 spine?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q Again, you performed a straight leg
- 17 raising test?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q That was positive, correct?
- 20 A Yes.
- Q Did Ms. make any
- 22 complaints of headaches on this visit?
- A If she do I would document.
- Q Did she make any complaints of
- 25 continued loss of smell?

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1		
2	A	No.
3	Q	Was she taking any medication at
4	this time	e?
5	A	I don't recall.
6	Q	Going back to the very first visit
7	that you	saw Ms. on August 16th, did
8	you ask	her whether she was under the care of
9	any othe	er physician for any reason at all?
10	A	I don't recall.
11	Q	You had observed that she had
12	historie	es of hypertension, correct?
13	A	Yes.
14	Q	Did you ask her what medication, if
15	any, sh	e was taking to control her
16	hyperte	ension?
17	A	I assumed she has a primary care
18	physici	an to control her high blood pressure.
19	Q	I don't want you to assume
20	anythin	g, Doctor.
21		As you sit here now, can you tell
22	me who	ether you asked her whether she was taking
23	any me	dication for her hypertension?
24	A	Yes.
25	Q	What do your notes reflect about

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1	
2	that?
3	A Because on the initial evaluation
4	she told me she had a significant history of
5	hypertension.
6	My custom would be to ask the
7	question, "Who is taking care of your high
8	blood pressure, do you have a doctor or take my
9	medication."
10	Q What did she reply?
11	MR. : Don't guess. If you
12	don't recall.
13	A I don't recall.
14	Q Did you make a note of that
15	anywhere in any of your notes for the first
16	visit, either the typewritten report or the
17	handwritten report?
18	A About?
19	Q About who her primary care doctor
20	was and whether she was taking any medication
21	for hypertension?
22	A Not from the report.
23	Q Is there anything in your

- 24 handwritten notes which would reflect that?
- 25 A No.

		83	
1			
2	Q	Turning back to the August 13th	
3	visit aft	er you completed your examination you	
4	again fo	ormed a clinical impression, correct?	
5	A	Yes.	
6	Q	Again, the first three impressions	
7	are pos	t concussion syndrome, post traumatic	
8	headaches and left facial contusion injury,		
9	correct?		
10	A	Yes.	
11	Q	How did you conclude as a result of	
12	your ex	xamination on the August 13th visit that	
13	she stil	l had those conditions?	
14	A	This should be deleted.	
15	Q	Why should they be deleted?	
16	A	The patient has no complaints. By	
17	evalua	tion it's not consistent with the	
18	clinica	l impression.	
19	Q	The bills that would be sent for	

treatment relating to doctor's visit and

21 physical therapy were being sent to Worker's

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, M.D.

20

22	Compensation, correct?		
23		MR. : Well, if you know that.	
24	A	I don't see the bill.	
25	Q	Can you turn, please, to the	
	ТОМ	MER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448	
		84	
1			
2	handwr	itten note for the physical therapy that	
3	you had	1.	
4	A	Yes.	
5	Q	On the top right portion on this,	
6	it says,	"Doctor," it lists your name, " "	
7	A	Yes.	
8	Q	"DOA," that would be date of	
9	accident?		
10	A	Yes.	
11	Q	It lists April 13, '. Then it	
12	says, "	INS," that would represent the	
13	insurar	nce, correct?	
14	A	Yes.	
15	Q	Next to that is written, "WC,"	
16	would	it be fair to say that represents	
17	Worke	r's Compensation?	
18	A	Yes.	

- 19 Q Just based on that alone can you 20 tell whether the bills or payments for your
- 21 services and other services at
- 22 were being submitted to Worker's Compensation?
- 23 A I don't know.
- 24 Q Based upon the fact that
- 25 had Worker's Compensation coverage,

85

- 2 would you have expected the reports that you
- 3 were generating that copies would be sent to
- 4 Worker's Compensation?

1

- 5 MR. : If you know.
- 6 A I don't know. I'm not sure.
- 7 Q At any time while you were treating
- 8 , did you ever correct or make
- 9 changes to the reports that you had generated
- 10 as a result of your examinations of her?
- 11 A I don't recall.
- 12 Q Going back to the August 13th
- 13 visit, you had recommended at that time she
- 14 continue with her physical therapy?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q You've also given her a sequence of

17	home exercise stretching program?	
18	A Yes.	
19	Q Am I correct, that you were still	
20	requesting an authorization for an MRI of her	
21	lumbar spine?	
22	A Yes.	
23	Q Was it your opinion before the MRI	
24	was performed that she had some form of a	
25	herniation as a result of the motor vehicle	
	TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448	
	86	
1		, M.D.
2	accident?	
3	A Yes.	
4	Q When is the next time that the	
5	patient was seen at ?	
6	MR. : By anybody?	
7	MR. OGINSKI: By anyone.	
8	A February 8, and by me, Dr.	
9		
10	Q Were you familiar with a doctor by	
11	the name of ?	
12	A No.	
	Q Have you ever known him to be an	

file:///F|/Internist.txt 14 orthopedist? A I heard his name. 15 16 Q But at any time while you working 17 at were you aware whether a Dr. worked in either of the offices? 18 19 20 21 fact, 22 requ 23 24 25 . Is TO 1 2 made 3 4 preso 5 Q 6 Febr 7 9 typev 10 Febr

A I don't recall.	
Q At some point Ms. did, in	
, have the MRI that you had been	
uesting, correct?	
A Yes.	
Q On February 8, , you saw Ms.	
this a handwritten note that you	
DMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448	
87	, M.D.
e contemporaneously with your examination?	, M.D.
	, M.D.
e contemporaneously with your examination?	, M.D.
e contemporaneously with your examination? A It's for a physical therapy	, M.D.
e contemporaneously with your examination? A It's for a physical therapy cription.	, M.D.
e contemporaneously with your examination? A It's for a physical therapy cription. Q That was written on that date on	, M.D.
e contemporaneously with your examination? A It's for a physical therapy cription. Q That was written on that date on ruary 8th?	, M.D.
e contemporaneously with your examination? A It's for a physical therapy cription. Q That was written on that date on ruary 8th? A Yes.	, M.D.
e contemporaneously with your examination? A It's for a physical therapy cription. Q That was written on that date on ruary 8th? A Yes. Q Turning, please, to your written report, the date of that report is ruary 9th?	, M.D.
e contemporaneously with your examination? A It's for a physical therapy cription. Q That was written on that date on ruary 8th? A Yes. Q Turning, please, to your written report, the date of that report is	, M.D.

11

12 Q Can you read the reevaluation paragraph, please? 13 A "Ms. reports she has not 14 been to our office since September of ' 15 because she had a brain tumor for which she l 16 an operation in September. After surgery she 17 continued to be followed by our neurosurgeor 18 19 She came today for reevaluation and asked him to resume her physical therapy." 20 21 Q Did Ms. make any complaints referable to her vision or to any 22 aspect of her brain tumor? 23 24 A If she did I would document it. 25 Q In fact, you don't have anything TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-88 1 recorded there. What does that suggest to you 2 Which means she didn't complain to 3 4 me. Q Did you learn from Ms. 5 under whose care she was currently seeking 6

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		, M.D.
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7

8

treatment for her brain condition?

A Currently?

9 Q At the time that you saw her on 10 February 8th. 11 A I didn't recall. 12 Q Did you ever obtain any records 13 from any physicians who had treated her for that condition or involving the brain tumor? 14 A I don't recall. 15 16 Q Were there occasions when you worked at when you requested 17 patient's records from other physicians? 18 : Generally speaking? 19 MR. 20 MR. OGINSKI: General. 21 A Yes. 22 Q How would you obtain other doctor's 23 records? 24 A I ask the front desk. They do their procedure. I don't know how.

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1		
2	Q	How would you learn when those
3	records	came in?
4	A	They'd present it to me.
5	Q	Was there ever an instance while

6 you were treating Ms. when you were

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7	provide	d records from any other source other
8	than	regarding treatment
9	she had	received elsewhere?
10	A	I don't recall.
11	Q	If records did come in for a
12	particu	lar patient, would those other doctor's
13	records	be maintained in the same place that
14	you had	d kept your own reports?
15	A	I'm not sure.
16	Q	Your impression at that time on
17	Februa	ry 8th, did that relate only to the neck
18	and bad	ck complaints she was still experiencing?
19	A	Yes.
20	Q	Can you tell me from the papers you
21	have in	front of you when she actually had the
22	MRI of	her back and her neck?
23	A	February 3, .
24	Q	Where was that done?
25	A	, PC.
	TOM	MER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-244

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2 Q At the time that you saw her on 3 February 8th, did you have the results of that , M.D.

1

4 imaging? A I'm not sure. 5 6 Q Was it customary when the results were presented to you that you would initial 7 it, sign it and then put it in the chart? 8 9 A No. Q Did you ever advise Ms. of 10 the results of the imaging studies done on 12 February 3rd? 13 A I'm not sure. 14 Q If you had done it, would you have made a note of that in the chart? A Yes. 16 Q Is there any notation in your 17 chart, in your report? 18 A No. 19 Q Let me ask you to turn back, 20 please, to the visit of April 19th that the patient made with Dr. , the orthopedist. As one of the chief complaints on 23 that visit he records that she had severe headaches, correct? TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448

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, M.D.

2 A Yes.

Q Is there anything in this written 3 or typed report to suggest what, if anything, 4 was done for her complaint of severe headaches? 5 MR. 6 7 MR. : Anything in the 8 report that talks about what was 9 done? 10 MR. OGINSKI: If anything, 11 correct. 12 MR. : You're asking her 13 to read the note? 14 MR. OGINSKI: Correct. 15 A I don't see from the report. 16 You don't see any treatment? 17 A Any treatment plan for this particular complaint at this particular report. 19 Q Can you turn, please, to the May 3rd examination that Ms. had. The 20 report is dated May 4th. This is the 21 orthopedic examination by Dr. . Again, he notes the patient has a chief complaint of

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: Note my objection.

headaches, correct?

A Yes.

23

24 25

1		
2	Q In addition to pain and discomfort	
3	in the lower back, right?	
4	A Yes.	
5	Q Is there anything that you see in	
6	Dr. 's note dated May 4th to indicate if	
7	any treatment was provided for her complaint of	
8	severe headache?	
9	MR.	
10	MR. : Just reading the	
11	note.	
12	A No.	
13	MR. OGINSKI: Off the record.	
14	(Informal discussion held off	
15	the record)	
16	Q Can you tell me what a	
17	differential diagnosis is?	
18	A For her headache?	
19	Q I'll rephrase?	
20	MR. : Just generally	
21	speaking.	
22	Q What is a differential	
23	diagnosis?	
24	MR. : Just generally	
25	speaking.	

: Just note my objection.

1		, M.D.

- 2 A Generally speaking, the
- 3 patient's history, complaints of -- from this

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- 4 particular patient or generally?
- 5 Q No, as a general question.
- 6 A Headaches of -- many different kind
- 7 of headaches.
- 8 MR. : No, he wants to know
- 9 can you tell him what a differential
- diagnosis is, generally speaking.
- 11 Just generally.
- 12 A You have injury, high blood
- 13 pressure --
- 14 Q No, Doctor, I don't want to know
- 15 specifics.
- 16 MR. : Maybe rephrase the
- 17 question. I don't think she
- 18 understands.
- 19 MR. OGINSKI: Sure.
- 20 Q During the course of your
- 21 training, did you learn that as part of
- 22 an examination and your history and physical
- 23 that you prepare or identify or create a
- 24 differential diagnosis to evaluate what
- 25 possible conditions the patient might be

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2	suffering from?
3	MR. : Well, note my objection
4	to the form.
5	MR. OGINSKI: I'll rephrase.
6	MR. : Take out some of
7	the stuff about her history and her
8	training and so forth.
9	MR. OGINSKI: Okay.
10	Q Is a differential diagnosis an
11	attempt to rule out certain conditions that the
12	patient may have in order to ascertain what the
13	patient may, in fact, have?
14	A Yes.
15	Q In deciding or trying to determine
16	what conditions the patient has, do you
17	formulate either in your mind or in paper those
18	different causes that might be attributable to
19	a particular complaint or a condition that you
20	observe?
21	A Yes.
22	Q Did you have a custom and practice
23	during the time that you worked at
24	that when you made certain observations
25	or learned of certain complaints the patient

95

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2	was having that you formulated a differential
3	diagnosis?
4	A In my expertise, yes, my area of
5	expertise.
6	Q When you formulated a differential
7	diagnosis, did you reduce that to writing, did
8	you put it on paper?
9	A Yes.
10	Q If you were later transcribing that
11	into a report, would you also dictate your
12	differential diagnosis?
13	MR. : Hold on.
14	MR. OGINSKI: I'll rephrase.
15	MR. : Focus on what she
16	did in this case.
17	MR. OGINSKI: That's what I'm
18	going to do.
19	MR. : You have a very
20	round about way of getting to it.
21	Why don't we just get to it.
22	Q At any time while you were

- 23 treating and you concluded that
- 24 she had post concussion syndrome, did you ever
- 25 conclude or reach any other possible causes or

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, M.D.

2 explanations for the headaches she was

3 experiencing?

4 MR.: Well, hold on a second.

- 5 I don't think she said that she
- 6 ever reached a conclusion as to what
- 7 was causing this patient's headaches.
- 8 MR. OGINSKI: I'll rephrase the
- 9 question.
- 10 MR. : Okay.
- 11 Q As a result of the headaches
- 12 that complained of, am I
- 13 correct, that it was your clinical impression
- 14 that she had a post concussion syndrome?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q In addition to that syndrome that
- 17 you have identified, did you ever consider any
- 18 other alternatives that she might be suffering
- 19 from as a result of the symptoms she described
- 20 to you specifically relating to the headaches?

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21	A No, because the history she gave to
22	me is consistent with my clinical impression.
23	Q You had also concluded in your
24	clinical impression that she was suffering from
25	post traumatic headaches, correct?
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1	
2	A Yes.

		97
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2	A	Yes.
3	Q	Did you ever consider other
4	alternat	ives to the motor vehicle accident that
5	would b	be attributable to the headaches that she
6	compla	ined of?
7	A	Repeat the question.
8	Q	Sure.
9		When you wrote post traumatic
10	headac	hes you were referring to the trauma she
11	sustain	ed on April 13th in the motor vehicle
12	accide	nt, correct?
13	A	Yes.
14	Q	Did you ever attribute her
15	compla	aints of headaches to any other possible
16	cause	other than what you have already

, M.D.

17 attributed to?

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18	MR. : Well, I think she
19	already said one of the reasons she
20	sent the patient to the neurologist.
21	MR. OGINSKI: Correct, I
22	understand that.
23	MR. : So I think you're
24	she is a pain management doctor.
25	I think you're getting somewhat
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1	
2	outside of her area of expertise.
3	MR. OGINSKI: I just wanted to
4	know what her thinking was, knowing
5	that she did send the patient to a

neurologist. Did she consider any 6 7 other alternatives or other possibilities that these headaches 8 9 could arise from. 10 MR. : She already told 11 you that she considered within her 12 area of expertise. She doesn't 13 consider things outside of her area

of expertise. I mean she already

, M.D.

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file:///F|/Internist.txt told you that. It's on the record. 15 16 Q The loss of smelling function that you observed on May 19th as the patient 17 advised you about, did you perform any tests to 18 19 address that complaint? A No, I think it's more properly to 20 refer to a neurologist. 21 22 Did you see any other neurological note by Dr. or any other neurologist at 23 24 with regard to that complaint? 25 A No. TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 1 Q The records that you have in front 2 of you reflect when Ms. was last seen 3 for physical therapy at ? A I don't know. I only see a 5 doctor's report. 6 Q Based on the report that you have, 7 what is that date again? 8 A March 9, . 9 10 Q Who saw her at that time? 11 MR. : In the records that we

have been provided with there's an

exam that's dated March 9th of .

The report is dated June 4th but it

, M.D.

12

13

14

- looks like what we have is only one
- page. It doesn't seem to be a
- 17 signature to your page.
- 18 A It's a follow-up orthopedic
- 19 evaluation.
- Q Let me go back again to your first
- 21 visit of April 16th. On that date Ms.
- 22 complained of dizziness. To what, if anything,
- 23 did you attribute that complaint?
- A The injury in the car accident.
- 25 Q Did you contribute that complaint

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- 2 to any other cause or condition other
- 3 than the trauma she had sustained on April
- 4 13th?
- 5 MR. : Again, limiting her
- 6 answer to her area of expertise?
- 7 MR. OGINSKI: Yes.
- 8 A Consistent with the injury she
- 9 give to me.
- 10 Q Other than being consistent, did
- 11 you consider any other cause for the

12 dizziness that she experienced and addressed with you? 13 A I don't recall. 14 15 Q In the year that you worked at 16 , were there times when you did perform funduscopic examinations of patients? 17 A No. 18 19 Q Were there occasions when you did refer patients to ophthalmologists? 20 21 A I don't recall. Q In April of, had you become 22 board certified at that time? 24 MR. : Do you know when in ' 25 you got board certified? TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448 101 , M.D. 1 2 A I don't recall. 3 Q The board certification examinations for physical medicine rehabilitation, did that include a written part 5 of the examination? 7 A Yes. Q In addition to the written part,

did it also require an oral examination?

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10	A Yes.
11	Q Was there some requirements that
12	you have some clinical training or experience
13	before you can sit for your boards?
14	A Yes.
15	Q When you wrote on August 14,
16	as part of your clinical impression, which you
17	mentioned should not be in that particular
18	report, you wrote "Left facial contusion
19	injury." What did you mean with regard to that
20	comment?
21	MR. : I don't think she said
22	she wrote that. I think she said
23	that that was picked up as part of
24	template. So I don't think she
25	actually said she wrote that.

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1		
2	MR. OGINSKI: Okay.	
3	Q As it relates to one of the	
4	prior reports that you did refer to, the left	
5	facial contusion injury, what did that mean to	
6	you?	

A Part of soft tissue injury during 7 the accident. Q Did you observe any bruises on Ms. ' face on August 16th? 10 11 A If I did I'd document it. Q Did she have any unusual 12 discoloration to her face that you observed? 13 14 MR. : On? 15 MR. OGINSKI: On August 16th. 16 MR. : August 13th, I 17 think you mean. 18 MR. OGINSKI: No, I'll rephrase 19 the question. Q When you saw Ms. on 20 April 16, , did you observe any bruises to 21 her face? 22 A If I did I'd document it. 23 24 Q Did you observe any cuts or scratches or open wounds to any part of her TOMMER REPORTING, INC. (212) 684-2448

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, M.D.

1 2 body that you examined or observed on that 3 date? MR. : I think it should be

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5	clear	the doctor has already said her
6	evalı	uation of the patient's face was
7	base	d upon observation and palpation.
8	S	So if you want her to be more
9	spec	ific as to what she exactly saw I
10	thin	k she already said she can't
11	reca	11.
12	Q	At any time from April up
13	until Fe	bruary of, did you ever learn that
14	she had	been diagnosed with a meningioma?
15	A	I saw her on February 8, . The
16	first tim	e I knew she had a brain tumor. I
17	don't kn	now exactly what kind of tumor.
18	Q	Did you ask her any questions about
19	the trea	tment she received for that brain
20	tumor?	
21	A	Yes.
22	Q	What did you ask her?

A She told me she had surgery.

Q Other than what is contained in

your typed note, do you recall any conversation

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with her that day? 2 A I don't recall. 3 Q How would you be paid for your services at , would it be cash 5 6 check or something else? A Check. Q Whose name appeared on the check? 8 9 : You mean who signed the MR. 10 check? 11 MR. OGINSKI: No. 12 Q What name was printed at the 13 top of the check, if any? A I don't want to guess. I don't 14 15 recall. MR. OGINSKI: Off the record. 16 17 (Informal discussion held off 18 the record) Q When you first started to work 19 , did anyone ever indicate to 20 at you that you would be considered an independent 22 contractor and use those specific words? 23 A I don't recall. 24 Did anyone suggest to you or tell you that you would be an employee of the

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2 , PC, Group? 3 A I don't recall. Q Did you have an understanding as to what your status was at , whether 5 you were an employee or had some other status 7 there? 8 MR. calls for a legal conclusion. 9 Q Just your understanding, 10 11 Doctor. 12 MR. : Do you have an 13 understanding? A I was hired for doing 14 consultation for pain management. 15 Q Were there ever times when other 16 physicians in the group would be supervising 17 18 you? 19 A No. 20 Q Were there times when other doctors in the group would be reviewing your treatments 21 of patients in your presence or with your 23 knowledge? 24 : If you know. MR. 25 A I don't know.

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: Note my objection as it

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1	
2	MR. OGINSKI: Thank you, Doctor.
3	MR.
4	MR. : No questions.
5	MR. : No questions.
6	(Time noted: 12:17 p.m.)
7	
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, M.D.

: No questions.

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107 1 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 3 STATE OF NEW YORK) :Ss 5 COUNTY OF 7 I, I have read the transcript of my testimony taken under oath in my deposition of June 20, 2002; that the transcript is a true, complete and correct record of what was asked, answered 12 and said during this deposition, and that the 13 answers on the record as given by me are true 15 and correct. 16 17 18 19 Signed and subscribed to 21 before me, this day 22 , 2002. of 23 24

M.D., hereby certify that M.D.

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2	CERTIFICATE
3	
4	I, , hereby certify that
5	the Examination Before Trial of
6	M.D. was held before me on June 2, ;
7	That said witness was duly sworn before
8	the commencement of the testimony;
9	The within testimony was stenographically
10	recorded by myself and is a true and accurate
11	record of the Examination Before Trial of said
12	witness;
13	That the parties herein were represented
14	by counsel as stated herein;
15	That I am not connected by blood or
16	marriage with any of the parties. I am not
17	interested directly or indirectly in the matter
18	in controversy, nor am I in the employ of any
19	of the counsel.
20	

21 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand

22 this 20th day of June, .
 23
 24
 25

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