

PE1651/GGGGGGGG

Anna Wolfe submission of 11 May 2018

Although I submitted a letter to this petition already, I did not detail the adverse effects I experienced, and I have decided to send this addendum to my former letter.

I made the decision to taper off all of my medications because while on them I experienced severe depression, disabling panic attacks, agoraphobia, severe cognitive impairment causing me to drop out of grad school and quit all my jobs, disabling agonizingly painful cramps in all of my major joints that paralyzed me for days at a time to the point where I could not feed myself or use the bathroom, buzzing in my head, tingling all over my body, constipation, dizziness, lack of coordination in movement, a sense that I was not real, a sense that the world was a movie, inability to enjoy anything I formerly enjoyed, pain during orgasm alternating with complete sexual numbness, attacks of uncontrollable shaking, a feeling like I had been beat on the head with a hammer, and frequent suicidal thoughts.

I continued to experience all of these problems for approximately 18 months after I completed my taper, which took three years. During this time I received inadequate support from the nurse practitioners whom I was able to see as a low income single mom, and I received all of my best support from peer online forums. I still experience all of these adverse effects although their intensity is diminishing and the waves are coming further and further apart. I still experience extreme difficulty teaching myself new tasks. I finished my taper two years ago.

I was originally prescribed all these medications for grief. I lost both my parents, was divorced, lost a job, and lost other close personal relationships.

When I complained of any of these adverse effects to my NPs, I was placed on more and different medications, which included antidepressants, benzos, anti-psychotics, and mood stabilizers, until I completely lost any former faith or trust or respect in the entire medical profession as a whole.

I seriously doubt I will ever regain it, and I personally hold the entire medical profession accountable for placing people on these medications without the slightest idea how to take them off them.