

Versed Overdose: Lawsuit Faults Nurse Monitoring During CT Scan.

The forty year-old patient came into the E.R. with abdominal pain which the E.R. physicians believed was related to kidney failure.

After waiting in the E.R. from noon until 3:00 a.m. the next morning the patient finally was sent to the radiology department for an abdominal scan. The patient was highly agitated by this time and was given several doses of Versed before the procedure actually began.

During the procedure the patient showed signs of over-sedation but the nurse standing by with him did not notice anything wrong until he had gone into full respiratory and cardiac arrest. A code was called. The patient was revived but has severe residual hypoxic brain damage.

The patient's lawsuit in the Superior Court, San Francisco County, California resulted in a pre-trial settlement of \$6,000,000. **Weatherspoon v. San Francisco General, 2008 WL 2736708 (Sup. Ct. San Francisco Co., California, May 8, 2008).**