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Let Me Introduce Myself
You don't know me yet, but by the time you do
You will wish we had never met.
I will take your memory;
I will take your speech;
I will make you see, hear, horrible things;
You will no longer be able to eat;
You will no longer be able to breathe.
I will play with your heart, and just for fun,
I may even make it stop.
Your arms and legs will be at my command,
And these are just a few of the things I can do.
You will be mine, all mine.
Let me introduce myself,
My name is Anti-NMDA Receptor Encephalitis

Written by Nesrin Shaheen - 2013

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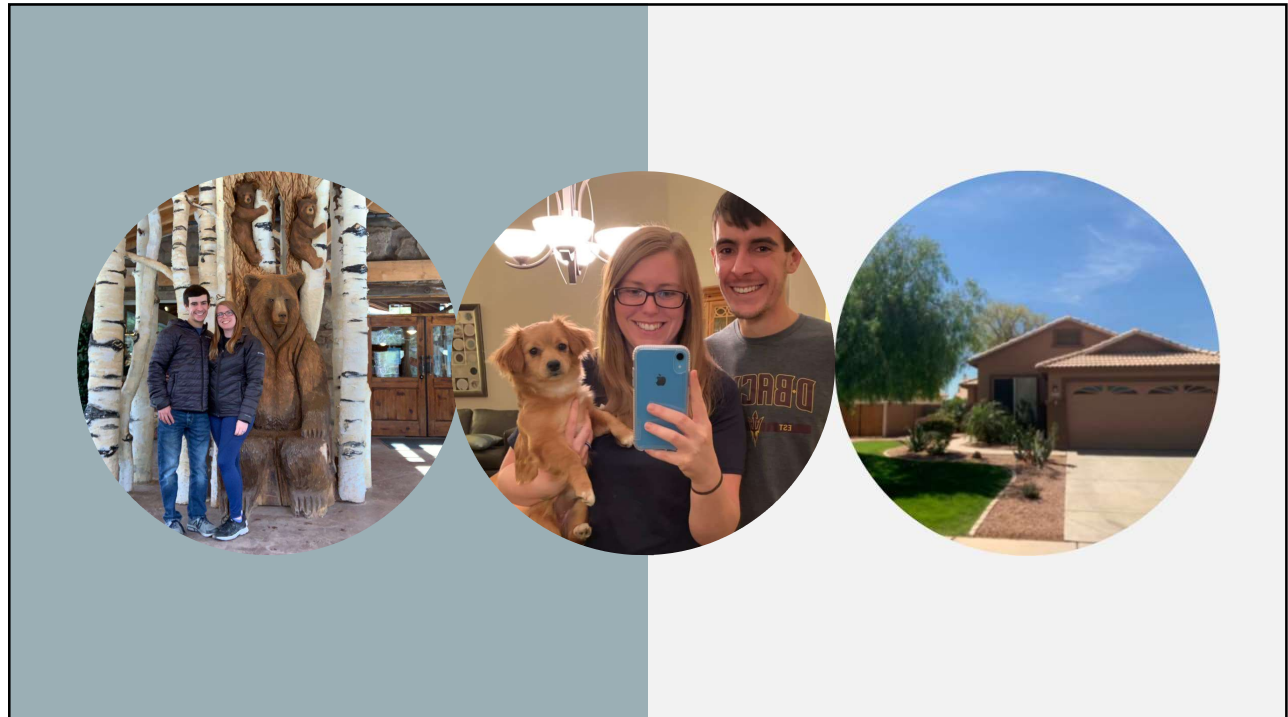
A **molar pregnancy** is an abnormality of the placenta, caused by a problem when the egg and sperm join at fertilization. This is a rare condition occurring in **1 out of every 1,000 pregnancies**.

What Is a Partial Molar Pregnancy?

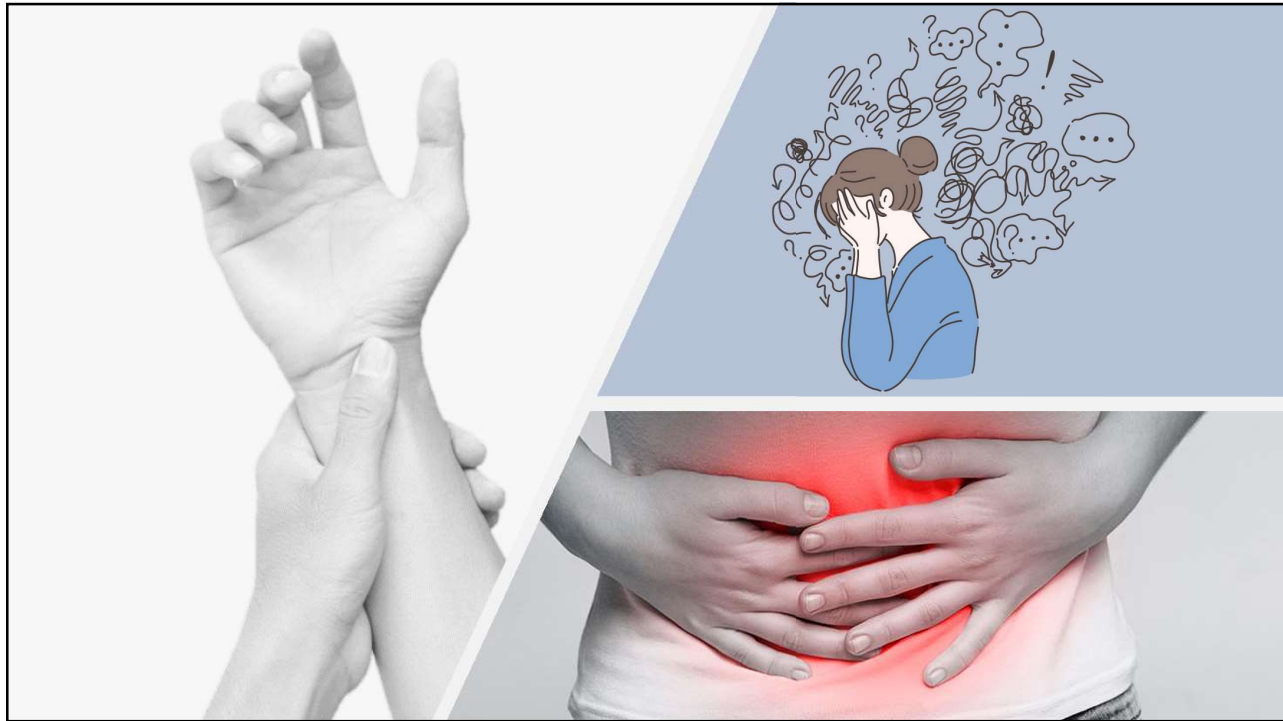
- Partial Mole occurs when the mass contains both the abnormal cells and an embryo that has severe [birth defects](#).
- In this case, the **fetus will be overcome by the growing abnormal mass** rather quickly.



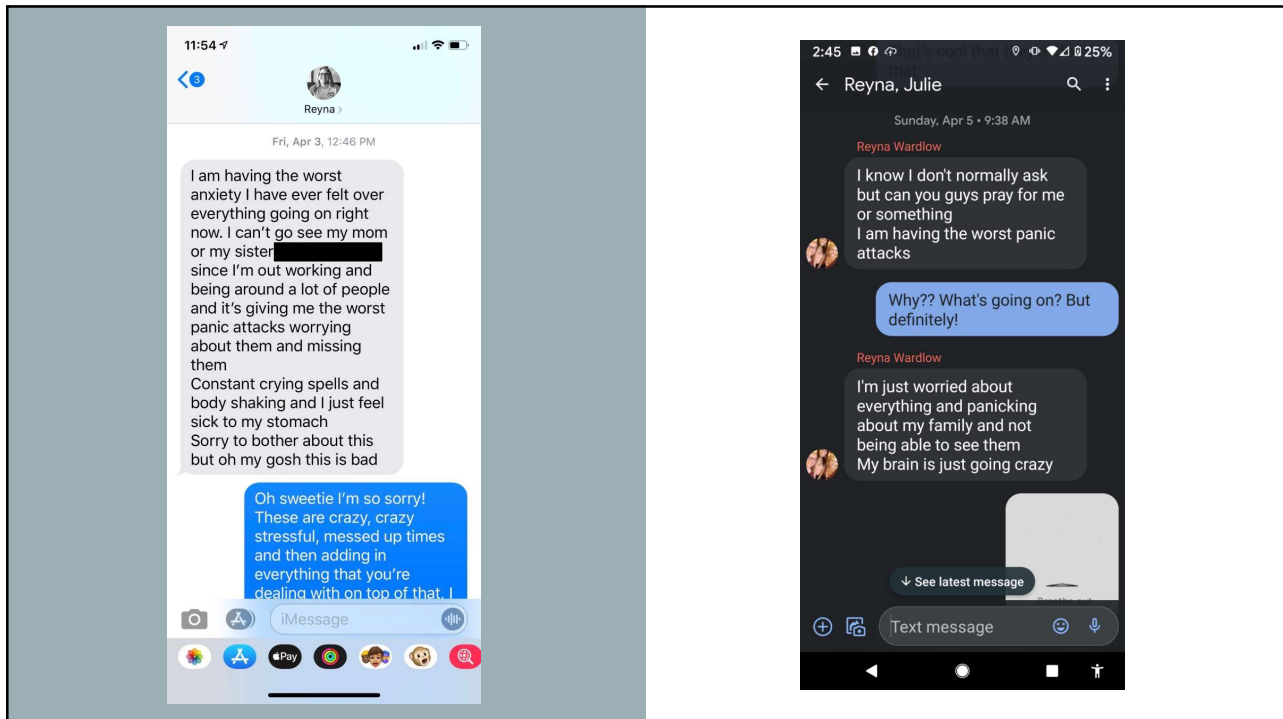
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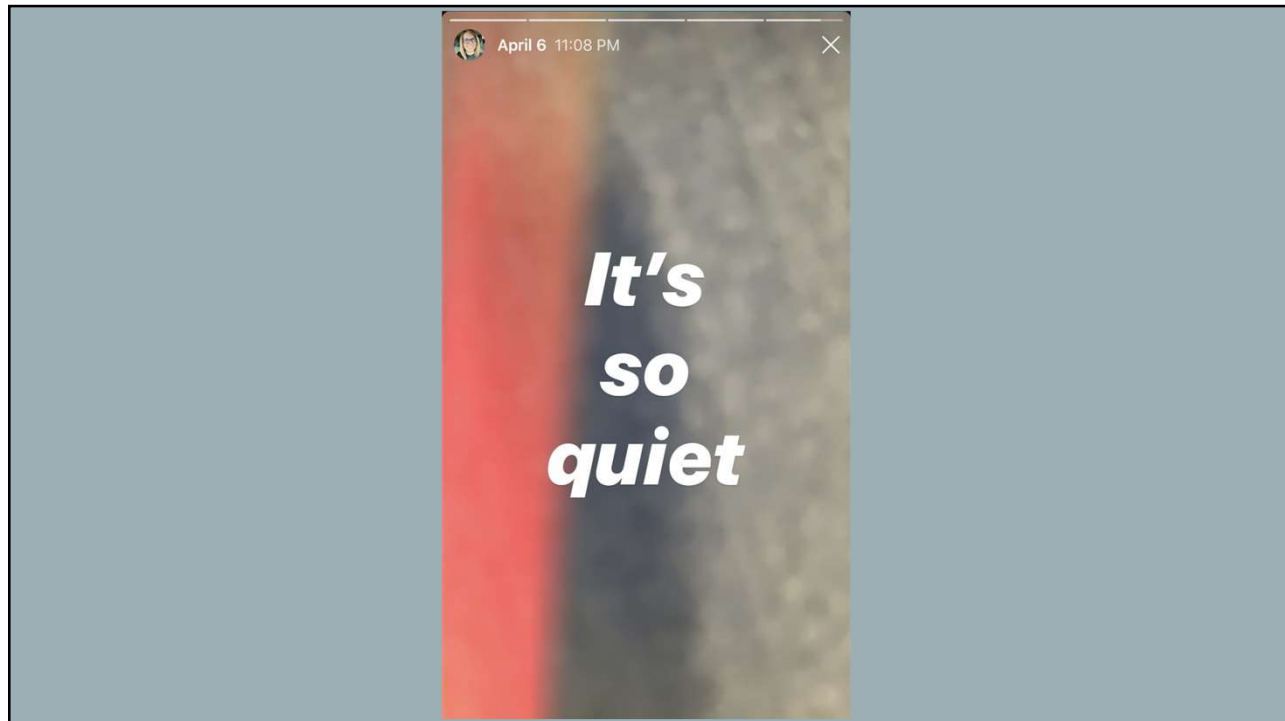
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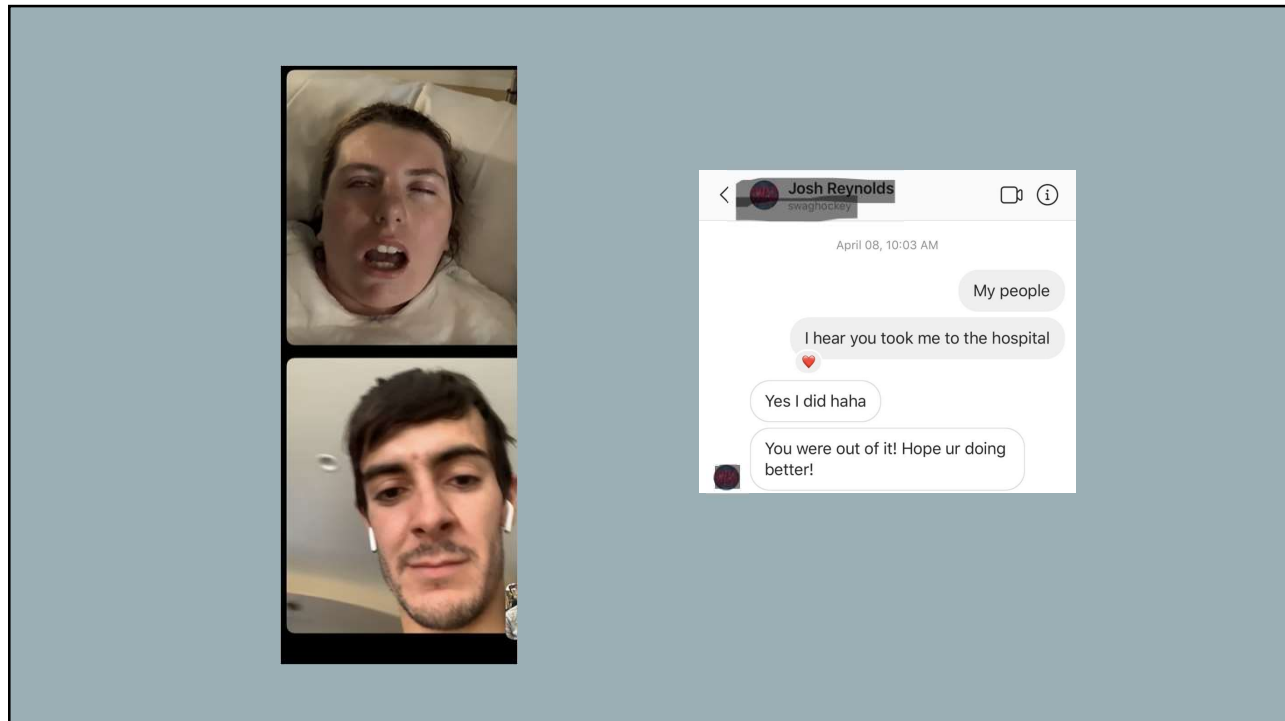


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1. If you can choose a place to be at if you have a seizure for the first time, a 911 dispatch center is a solid option... right behind a doctor's office or hospital.
2. Make sure your emergency contact info is set up on your phone in case it's ever needed. Even still, a firefighter who doesn't know how to access that option might try to unlock your phone with your unconscious face.

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April 6th 2020 – 1st seizure (at work)

April 8th 2020 – 2nd seizure (at home)

In and out of 3 hospitals for several days
Per doctors, nothing abnormal was showing up on any
EEGs, MRIs, Blood work, etc.

Admitted to behavioral hospital

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April 17th 2020

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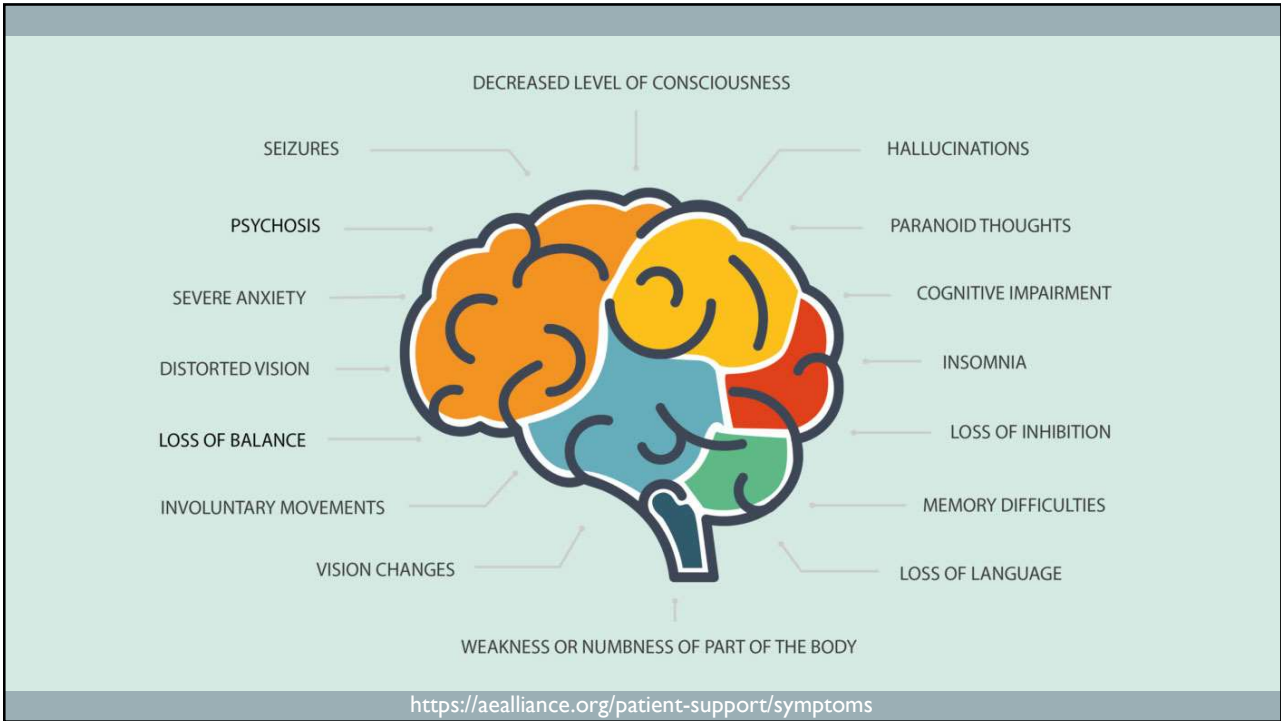
April 18th 2020



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What is Anti-NMDA Receptor Encephalitis?

Anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis is a neurological disease first identified by Dr. Josep Dalmau and colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania in 2007.

- Autoimmune disease where the body creates antibodies against the NMDA receptors in the brain
 - The antibodies disrupt normal brain signaling and cause brain swelling or encephalitis
 - It can affect both men and women, however, is more common among women.
 - It primarily affects the young, including children and young adults.
 - Some patients also have a tumor associated with this disease; the most common type is an ovarian teratoma in women.

<https://www.med.upenn.edu/autoimmuneneurology/nmdar-encephalitis.html>

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Diagnosis

Anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis is often first identified through clinical symptoms. Diagnosis is confirmed through lab testing of cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) or blood serum.

Treatment

Treatment of anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis can vary according to patient, but typically includes a combination of the following:

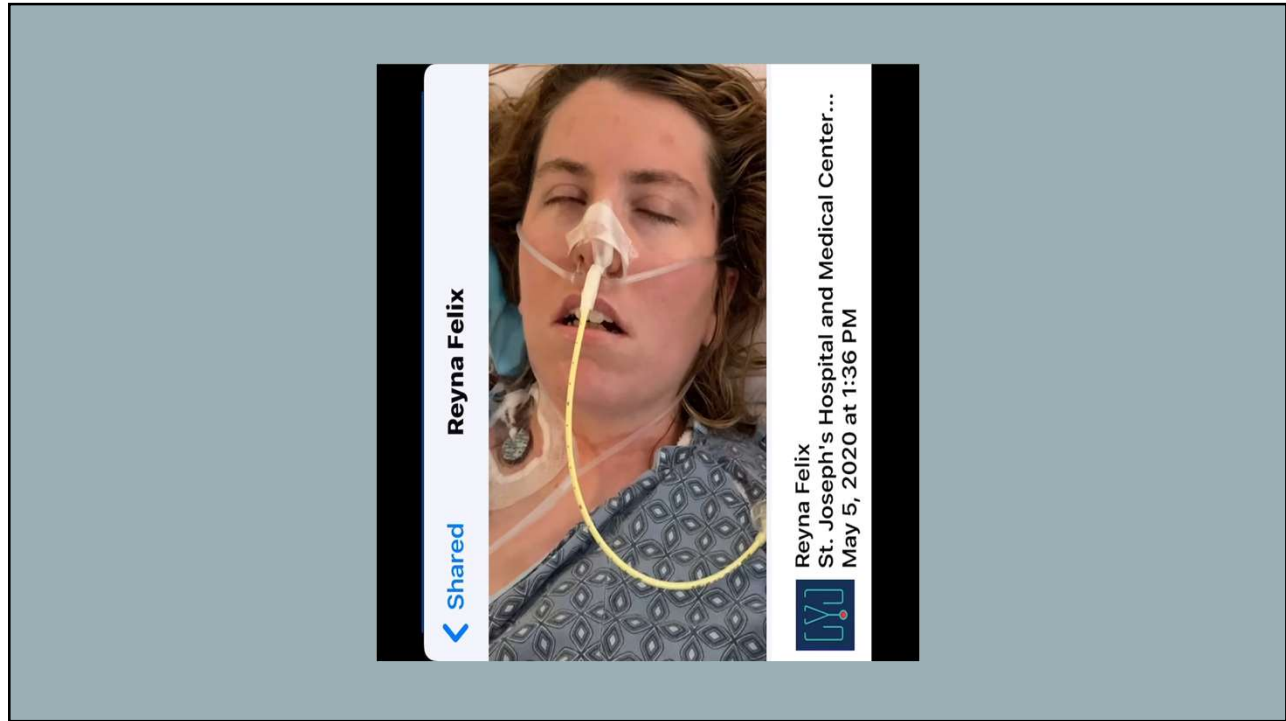
<p style="text-align: center;">First Line Treatment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tumor removal (if tumor is present) <li style="padding-left: 20px;">•Steroids •Plasma Exchange (plasmapheresis) •Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) 	<p style="text-align: center;">Second Line Treatment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CellCept •Rituximab •Cytosan <p style="text-align: center;">Recovery</p>
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Recovery is slow and typically occurs in reverse of symptom onset. The most severe symptoms typically resolve first while the cognitive, behavioral, and memory problems take longer to resolve. Most patients will make a full recovery within two years of disease onset. Predictors of positive outcomes include presence of a tumor, quick diagnosis, and aggressive treatment including second line therapies.

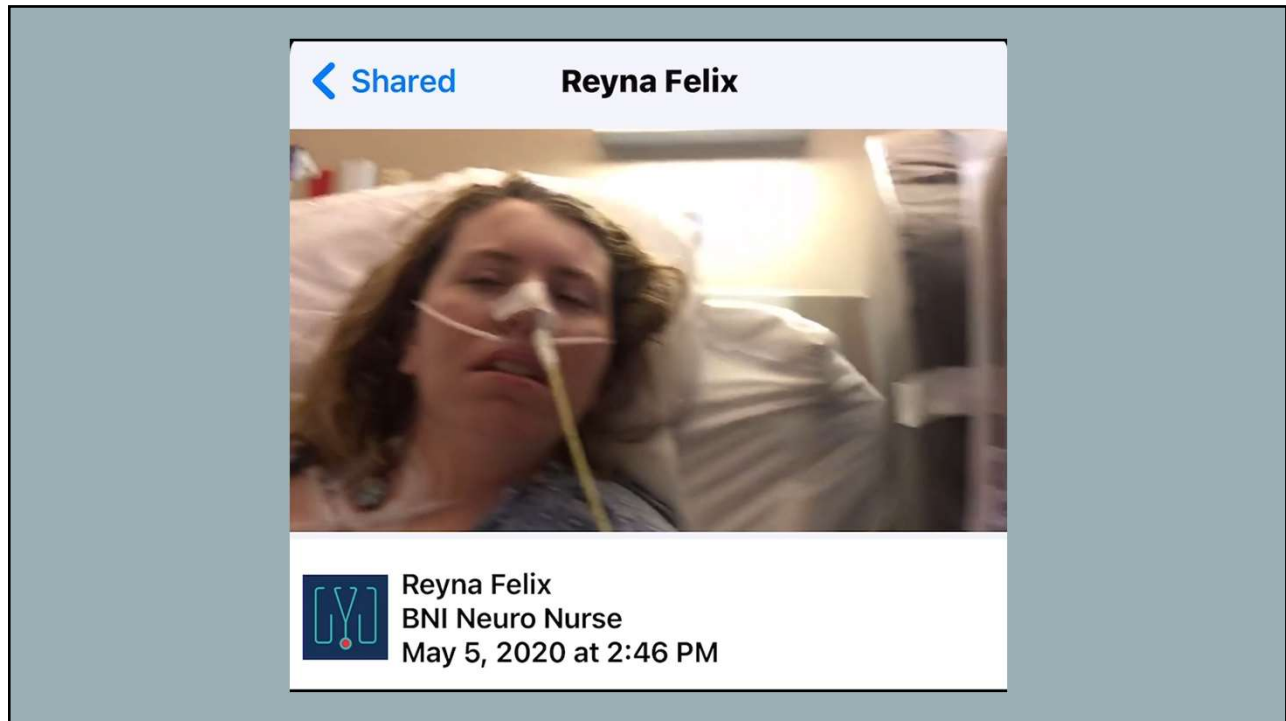
<https://www.med.upenn.edu/autoimmuneneurology/nmdar-encephalitis.html>

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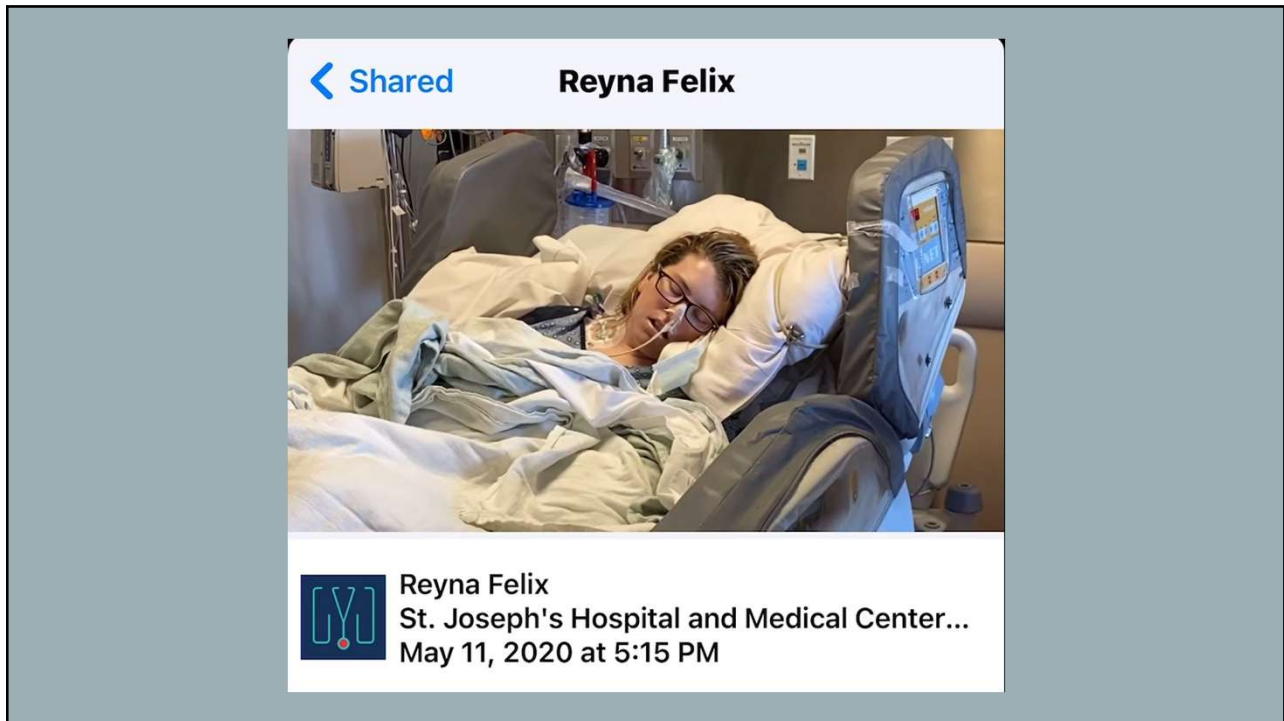
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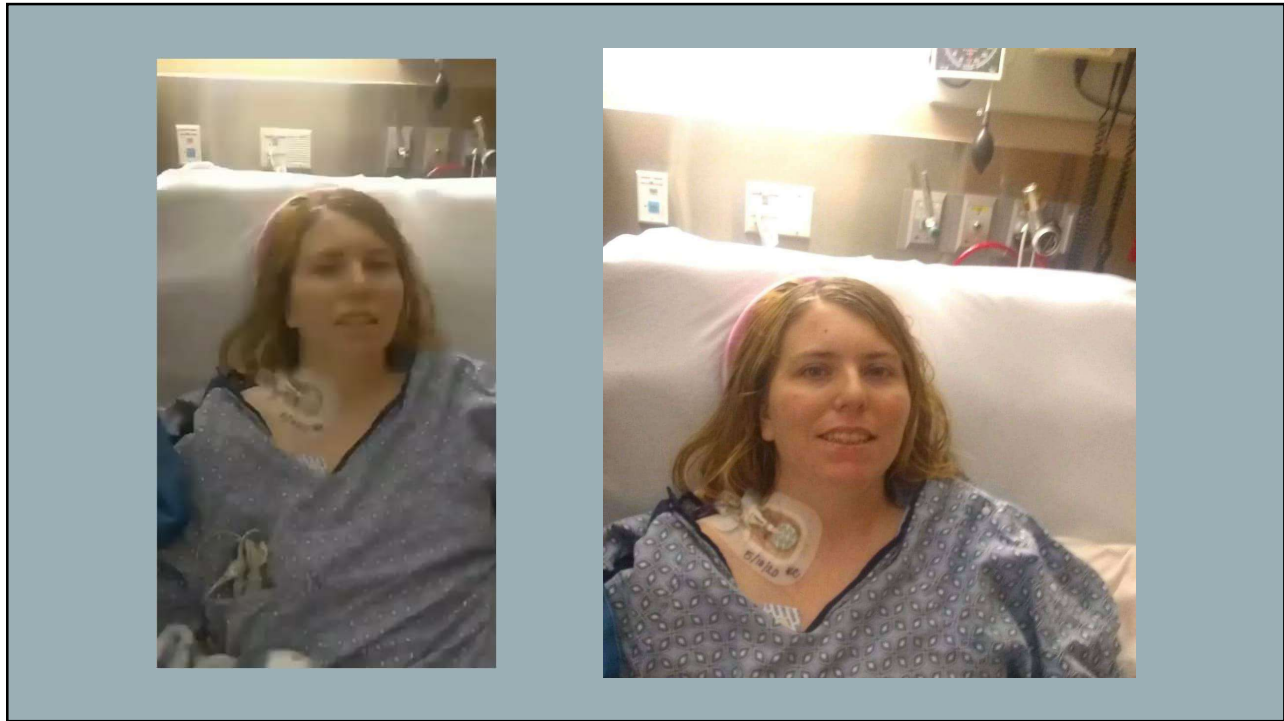
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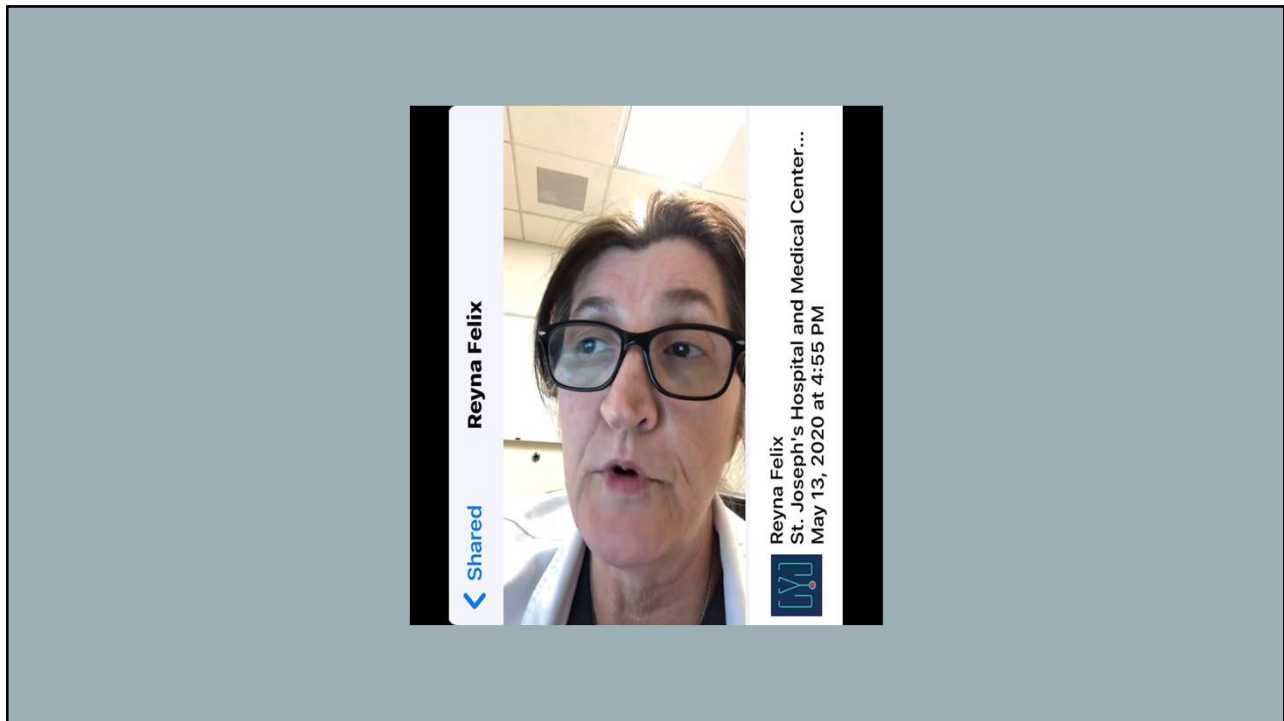
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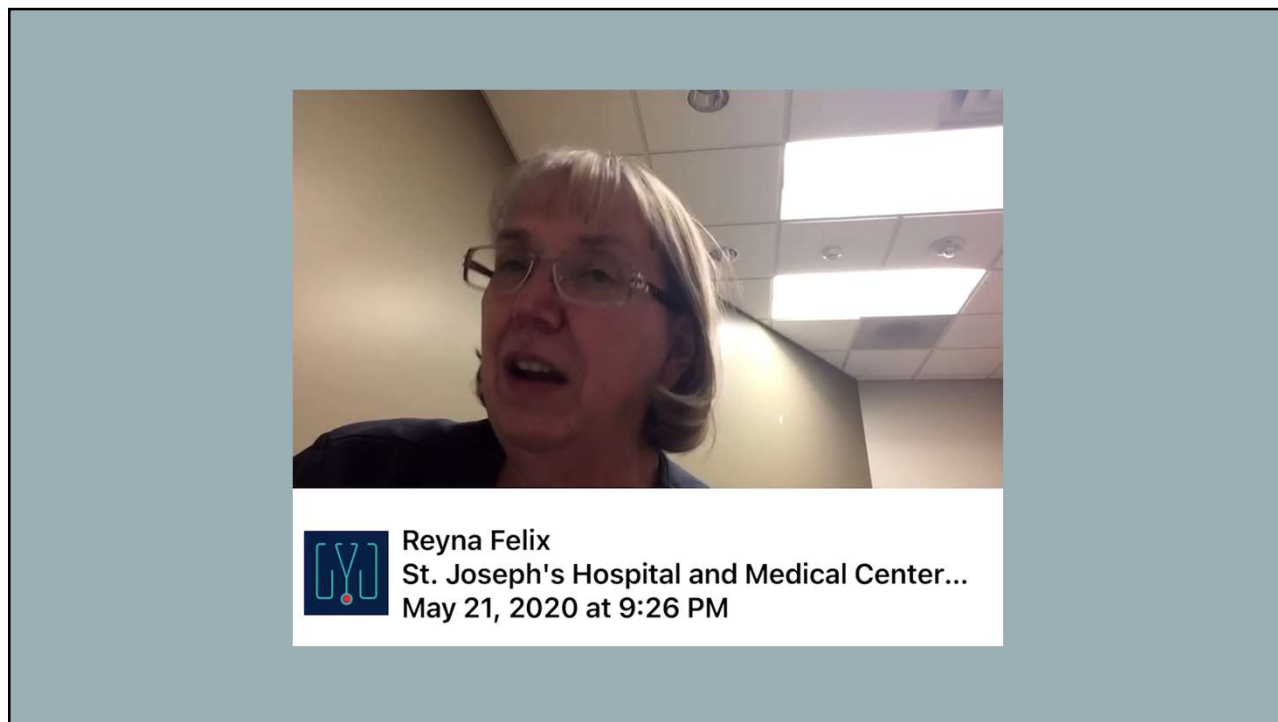
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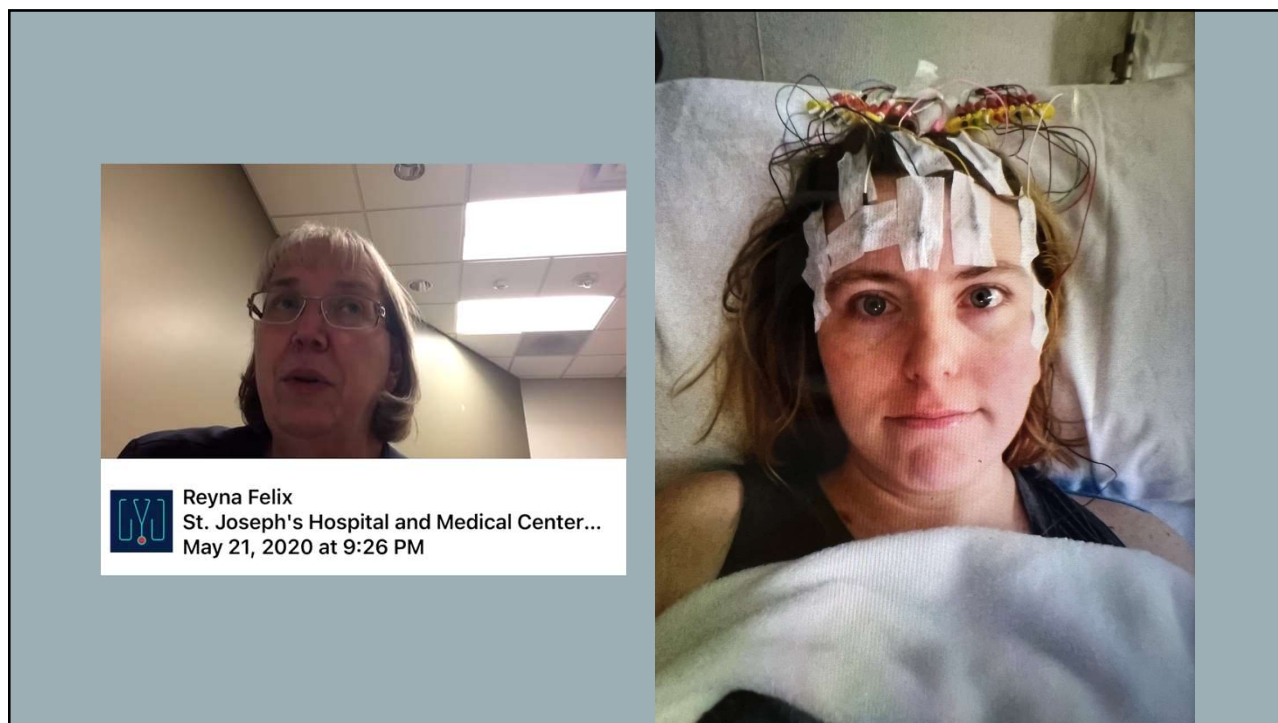
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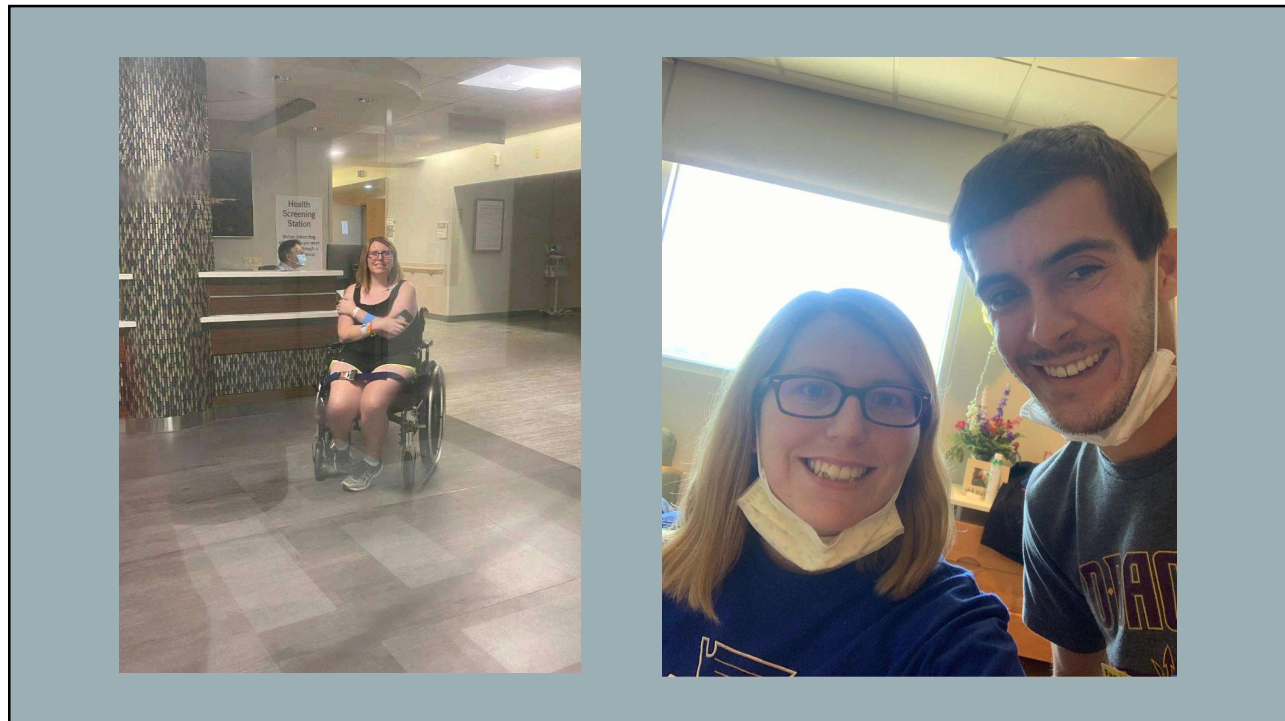
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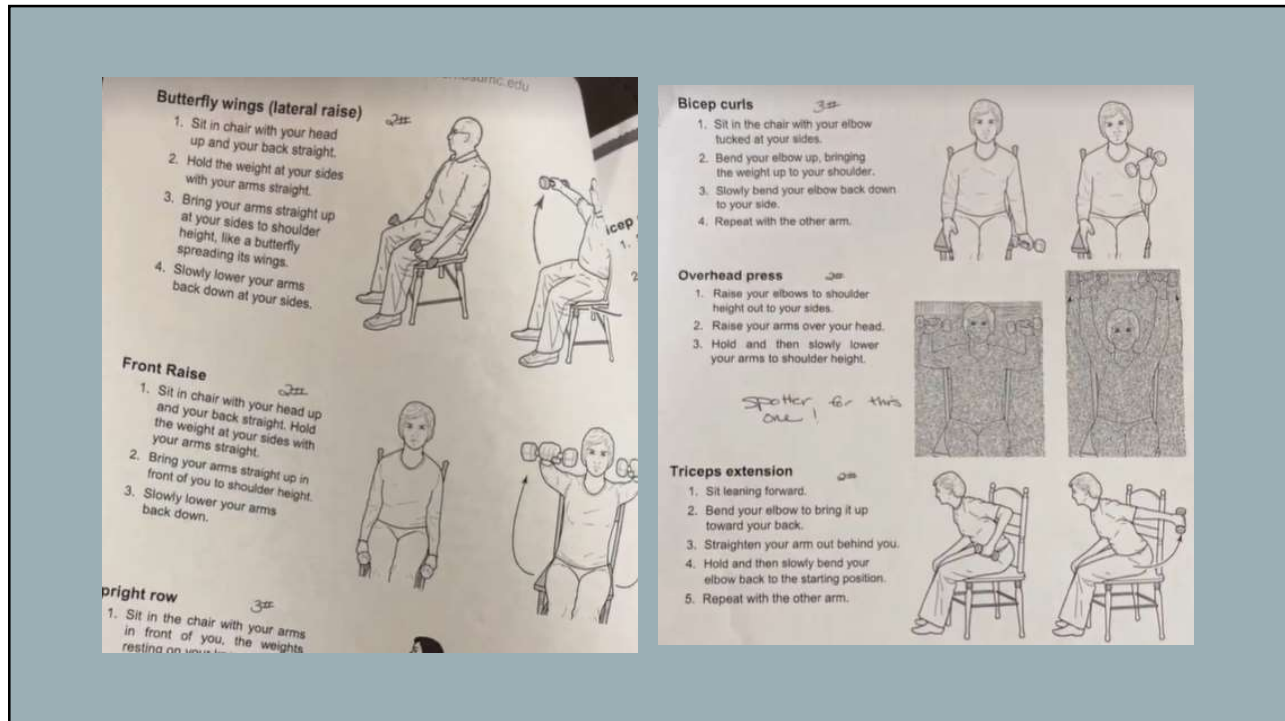
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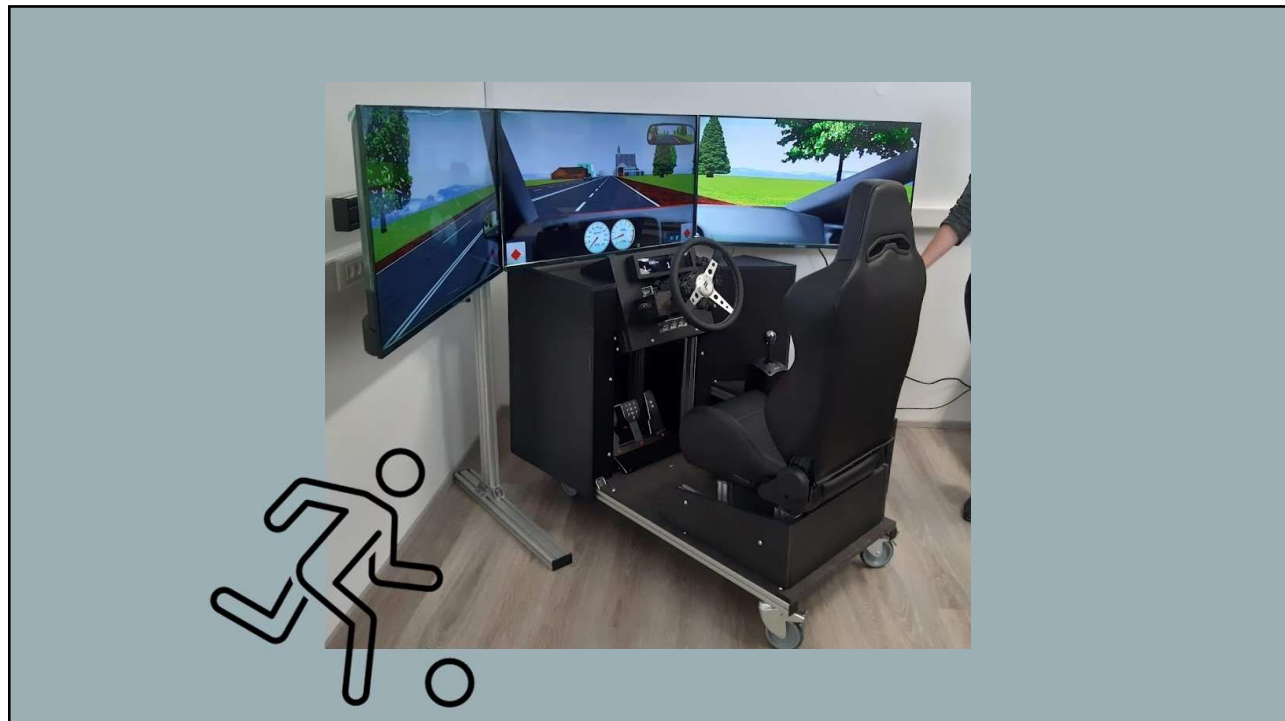
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"I am a walking miracle." These are the words of Amobi Okoye, who shared intimate details of his battle with anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis on ESPN's Monday Night Countdown this week. Drafted by the Texans at only 19 years old, he played 6 seasons for Houston, then 2 for Chicago. He was the picture of health, a great athlete preparing for free agency when a series of seizures landed him in the hospital, eventually placed in a medically-induced coma by his doctors to save his life. He spent months in the ICU, "barely living" with family by his side. The story ends well with his fight to beat the disease and retrain his brain paralleling his amazing life story. To read Amobi's inspiring story, see [here](#), or to view the feature story on Monday Night Countdown, click [here](#).

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What does the future look like for me?



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azfamily.com
POWERED BY CBS 5

49°

Misdiagnosed woman finds herself with a rare auto-immune disease

KIARA HAY
POSTED 20 HRS AGO

A Phoenix woman doesn't want anyone to go through what she went through, so she's raising awareness about the rare condition encephalitis.

The Gilbert Water Tower will be lit red tonight in recognition of World Encephalitis Day.

Requested by:
[@THE_ENCEPHALITIS_SOCIETY](#)

12NEWS

HEALTH


Valley woman shares experience after diagnosed with rare 'Brain on Fire' condition

From February until May, Reyna said her memory is essentially blank.

Barrow Neurological Foundation

Barrow Saves Woman With Rare Neuroimmune Disorder

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Bachelors in Public Administration
December 2023

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Baby Girl Felix



Due August 2023

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Thank you to all family and friends

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Thank you to my husband

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THANK YOU!

- Madona, *nursing*
- Luis, *physical therapy*
- Jason, *occupational therapy*
- Janet, *speech therapy*
- Dean, *outpatient physical therapy*
- Dr Joseph Ostler, *rehabilitation*
- Dr Ram Narayan, *neurology*
- Dr Valerie Sharf, *neurology resident*
- Dr Danielle Eagen, *neuropsychology*

All others that participated in my care



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Rehab Nursing

**Getting patients back home
and doing what they love**



Home
Event Registration
Annual Conference
Post Education Handouts

Thank you Arizona Association of Rehabilitation Nurses!

SPEAKER FOCUS
2023 5th Annual Rehabilitation Conference

Reyna Felix



In April 2020, 27-year-old Reyna Felix was working a typical night shift at her job as a 911 fire dispatcher. But her co-workers noticed that she wasn't acting like herself. She was also sending strange text messages to her family and friends, telling them she was depressed and unhappy with her life, work, and education. Then around midnight, she collapsed and had a seizure.

Reyna will share her journey through diagnosis, with Anti-NMDAr Autoimmune Encephalitis, her rehab and beyond.

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