

BROKEN

Words & illustrations by
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MOCKUP VERSION 0.1



SATURDAY

HUGH (TEXT MESSAGES)

15:15 A doctor called me from Swan ward. The hospital has none of Dads notes from Signature - so no idea of drugs. I'm picking up this info from Signature in 20 mins and will then mail it to the doctor. Please let them know. I have the email address. I told him you are visiting

16:04 I've just mailed Dads medication notes to the doctor as requested

ALI (TEXT MESSAGES)

16:32 The doc has your email

20:28 co careldopa. he didn't have any for 48 hours

22:00 if they'd got his name right they'd have been able to access his gp records

a bad start but let's hope everything from now is straight forward

▼ [What will happen if I stop taking it?](#)

If you stop taking co-careldopa, your symptoms will return unless you are taking other medicines for Parkinson's disease.

You must not stop taking co-careldopa suddenly. This can lead to serious withdrawal symptoms such as stiff muscles, a high temperature and confusion.

If you need to stop taking this medicine, your doctor or specialist nurse will reduce your dose gradually. This will help prevent withdrawal symptoms.

(Advice on NHS website, 2022)

SUNDAY

HUGH (TEXT MESSAGE)

09:08 I had a call from the ward doctor asking about Dads resuscitation wishes.

ALI (TEXT MESSAGE)

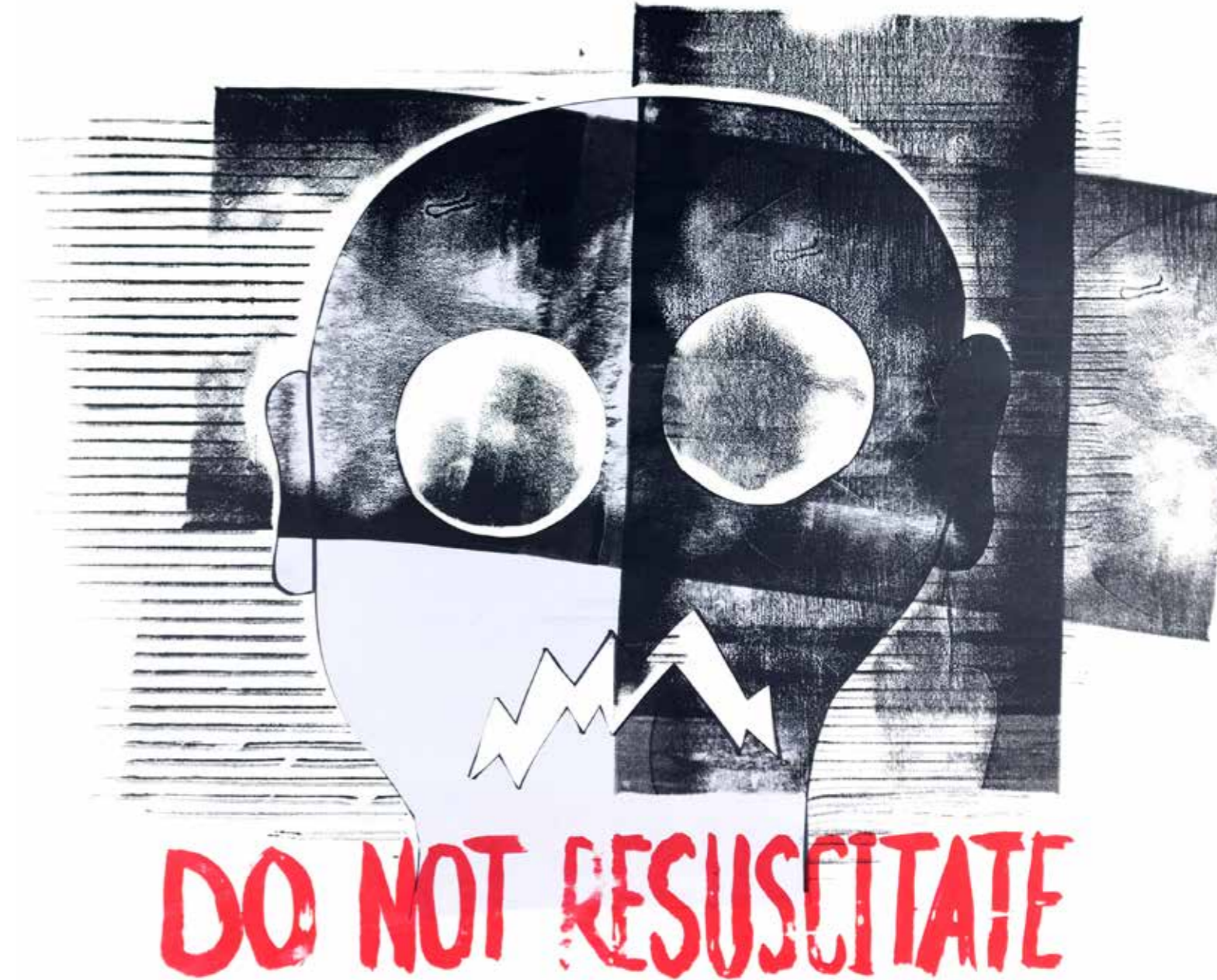
09:25 I think a DNR [DO NOT RESUCITATE] is generally advisable (the norm). to be resuscitated is not pleasant

HUGH (TEXT MESSAGES)

11:09 I'll discuss this with Dad if he's in the right frame of mind

12:44 Dad much more like his normal self. Very anxious when I arrived but pleased to see me Eating lunch with enthusiasm

13:46 Agreed DNR in conversation with dad and doctor



MONDAY

HUGH (TEXT MESSAGE)

19:34 Dad seemed like he was hallucinating about geese and the river Orwell. I checked and he is receiving the meds

It sounds like a decision will be made tomorrow on when he can be discharged. I got the feeling he's making good progress and it could be sooner rather than later

I feel quite sad about how quickly dad's health seems to have changed

ALI (TEXT MESSAGE)

22:58 Yes it's very difficult to see Dad confused and not making sense.. Its so unlike him

I wonder if the operation and the anesthetic has accelerated dementia....





WEDNESDAY

ALI (TEXT MESSAGES)

07:21 He really does need an assessment now. I wonder if the neurology team could get involved before he leaves hospital.

09:46 He's not distressed about what he's experiencing which is a bit weird. I'm quite anxious about his mental state.

17:21 Doc hopes dad has delirium and that getting out of hospital will help, but his mobility isn't good enough to move this week.

Dad talked about his nightmare. Interesting that he referred to his nightmare as a nightmare, he knew it wasn't real, but it felt real. Involved an MP and shooting.

Hope it's delirium. Hope it's not dementia. We will only know I think when he returns to Signature.

A TRANSCRIPTION OF A RECORDING - DAD DESCRIBING HIS NIGHTMARE

The local MP was very disagreeable, tough rough person. They were flicking lights on and off and you could see shadows running across.

Well, then there was a stand-off, and at one point umm, I was up in a gallery looking down and err waiting to have, to be executed myself.

Err, and so I was warning people "this is real, this is not practice. This is real. Be very careful, because something awful is about to happen".

Something like this goes on every night. It's horrid Hugh.

SUNDAY

HUGH (DIARY ENTRY)

Dad was incoherent when I saw him. He made no sense at all. A bit shocking. He'd been tested for a UTI which would explain the condition. I hope that's what it turns out to be.

The nurse told me he was due to be discharged back the care home today but the mix up with his name and NHS number still seems to be causing problems. It sounds likely that it'll be tomorrow. The hospital discharge team have been talking to Signature so I hope everything goes smoothly.

He'll need an enhanced level of care for a period of time.

HUGH (TEXT MESSAGE)

14:21 The hospital just called me and handed the phone over to dad. He seemed to have had another nightmare about shopping with Paul and forgetting an envelope. All very confused. It reassured him and said Ali would be visiting shortly followed by me later. He seemed calmer.





TUESDAY

HUGH (DIARY ENTRY)

Dad was in a much better state of mind when I saw him this evening. Clearly relieved to see me because he'd been having nightmares.

He wasn't hallucinating during our conversation, which was continuous and fluid.

HUGH (TEXT MESSAGE)

18:30 - I'm just with Dad. He's much better in terms of being lucid but really being affected by nightmares. He says he's spoken to his GP about looking at his meds but I don't see how that's possible. In any case we should make sure someone is looking at that