

Do you have any examples of the lengths parents have to go through to get ECT for their children?

Dr. Dhossche:

Well, I had another case — a boy from California who was too young to get ECT, so, they drove all the way to Mississippi. They rented an ambulance with a paramedic, drove about two days because they could not fly — I mean, the boy was very sick.

The doctors in California were so happy that we could access ECT because they knew it was catatonia. They used benzodiazepines and sedatives, but because of the incomplete response, they knew ECT was going to work. They just couldn't do it. Or you go to Utah, I think Utah is more accepting of ECT and youngsters. But these parents, they drove all the way to Mississippi. Two, three days.

We were able to do ECT, and the child was much, much better and almost recovered. They did a test flight because they wanted to fly back, not drive back. They did a test flight to Florida, to Disney. So it worked. And then they flew back to California again.