

September 29, 2014

Dear Health Policy Committee,

My father Milton H. Berz Jr. was a patient/victim of Dr. Farid Fata. My father was referred to Dr. Fata by Crittenton Hospital in Rochester, MI after he was diagnosed with acute Leukemia.

My father was treated by Dr. Fata throughout 2008 through the use of Chemotherapy infusions through a port that was installed in his body. Many times these treatments took place in the parking garage of Dr. Fata's parking garage while my father sat in his car. This was supposedly done for my father's convenience but now I have to truly wonder if this was the true reason.

My father died on December 6, 2008 in the Crittenton Hospital when his kidneys failed. He spent his last hours on Morphine to try to mask the excruciating pain that he was in. My mom and I stood by my father's bed and watched him pass. It was terrible and horrific knowing that he was in such pain.

My father is the man that I strive to be. He was a great man. He always taught me to be trustworthy, fair and honest. I had the honor and pleasure of working with my father at our family business for most of my life from the time that I was 12 years old. He was my best friend. My father was also a wonderful husband and provider to my mother. My mom passed away in December of 2009 from what I believe was a broken heart. They had been married for 58 years.

My father was an aviation pioneer just as his father Milton Berz Sr. had been. Our family owned and operated two airports in southeast Michigan from WWII until 2003. My father was a Master Pilot recognized by a coveted award by the FAA. He taught me to be a pilot and he also mentored many young people who went on to have careers in the aviation industry. My father was well liked and looked up to in our community.

My father's biggest fault was putting too much trust and faith in the man who called himself Dr. Fata. Dr. Fata told our family that he could treat my father and that he gave him a 75% chance of recovery. This was music to our ears.

One day in August of 2013 many of us came home and turned on the News where we saw the face of Dr. Farid Fata. I remember saying to myself "that was Dad's doctor". As I listened to the context of the story I felt sick. We had dealt with my father's death back in 2008. Now it appeared that there could be other circumstances related to his death.

I went online looking for answers. I met other people who had been patients and/or victims of Dr. Fata. A group called Patients and Families Treated by Dr Fata was formed on the Facebook site. As we all shared our stories it became apparent that there were many similarities in all of our cases. One member of our group who is an experienced Oncology nurse reviewed my father's medical records and found that my father had received numerous doses of medications that he never should have received while being treated for Leukemia. Most of these medications were very high priced drugs.

This same nurse had gone to work in Dr. Fata's office. She was only there for several hours before she felt compelled to leave to the conditions and the way that she saw things being done. She filed a report with the State of Michigan that for the most part fell upon deaf ears. It was over a year before she heard back that someone had looked into her allegations and found nothing to be wrong. Myself and many others are now wondering how many people were misdiagnosed and even died in this year's time that the State sat on their thumbs.

We want answers! We want to know why this allegation wasn't taken more seriously. We want to know why Medicare didn't red flag the millions of dollars being paid out to Dr. Fata. We want to know why the hospitals continued to treat patients in a manner that they had to know was wrong. We want to know why Dr. Fata received so many referrals. We want to know why Dr. Fata's wife who was the CFO of his empire has not been charged. We want to know why Michigan Attorney Bill Schuette has never once personally

responded to any one of the hundreds of e-mails, phone calls, Facebook messages, letters or texts that we have sent him. We want to know why the pharmaceutical companies didn't see a red flag with the amount of cancer medicines that were being shipped to Fata and reported and most importantly to me is why we haven't seen any charges of murder and premeditated murder brought against Fata.

Obviously there were a number of agencies and people who let this all slip through the cracks. Was it done by accident or was it done for reasons of greed and malice? In any case everyone in the United States of America could possibly be a victim to a ruthless and greedy doctor like Fata until policy changes are made to protect us from these predators.

To date I have never seen any remorse in Dr. Fata's face at the court proceedings nor has he ever said I'm Sorry. I wonder how Dr. Fata would feel if someone treated his loved ones the way he has treated us and ours.

Please do the right thing to help the current victims and make sure that this terrible crime never happens again.

Respectfully,

Jeffery A. Berz

Utica, MI