

9 With that, I want to welcome participant  
10 number 14, Judy Deroshia.

11 MS. DEROSHIA: Hi, my name is Judy Deroshia.  
12 I'm a registered nurse at Munson Medical Center. I am  
13 currently a student at the U of M through the  
14 University Center in Traverse City.

15 My comment is regarding patient safety. My  
16 example comes from my mother, whom I visited this last  
17 weekend. She spoke of my grandmother who was living  
18 in an extended care unit. Grandma had Alzheimer's  
19 disease and grandma did not have very many lucid  
20 moments, but my mother went to visit her three times  
21 in one week and each time grandma would complain about  
22 her butt hurting.

23 My mother alerted the staff to this and  
24 grandma -- she had a pressure ulcer. Only then was  
25 care implemented. But my mother says she had a hard  
1 time finding a nurse or even aide to tell her, to tell  
2 them about this complication that my grandmother had  
3 mentioned.

4 The staffing was very poor, and when she  
5 finally was able to find one it was because they were  
6 running in and out of the rooms. They were obviously  
7 under-staffed.

8 It seemed to my mother that proficient  
9 assessment of care was not being enacted simply  
10 because there was not enough people, not enough  
11 people, not enough staff.

12 This -- this staffing issue has been ongoing  
13 and under review for many, many years. It doesn't  
14 come as a surprise. We have documentation of  
15 complications that patients have had because of poor  
16 care due to unsafe staffing.

17 My recommendations are while the nursing  
18 staffing is under this constant review that we just  
19 need to increase the staffing of licensed registered  
20 nurses. This would cost -- I mean, nursing is  
21 expensive, but this would cost a whole lot less to do  
22 than pay for the cost of care for complications.

23 In my grandmother's case, it was cost of  
24 debridement, packing of the wound, along with  
25 antibiotics. So prevention is necessary so we don't  
1 incur higher costs.

2 I'd just like to conclude that my grandmother  
3 did die. She died of pneumonia. And I believe that's  
4 a condition that probably could have been prevented as

5 well with better assessment and health prevention and  
6 promotion and just with licensed staff, preferably  
7 with licensed RNs. Thank you.

8 DR. SIMMER: Thank you very much. There's a  
9 question here.

10 MR. BISSONNETTE: You can't get away that  
11 easy, Judy.

12 MS. DEROSHIA: Okay, I'm with you.

13 MR. BISSONNETTE: Judy, just to clarify, your  
14 grandmother was in long-term care?

15 MS. DEROSHIA: Yes. This was 25 years ago.

16 MR. BISSONNETTE: And this was -- the  
17 situation you were speaking about was in a nursing  
18 home?

19 MS. DEROSHIA: Yes.

20 MR. BISSONNETTE: Okay. I wasn't real clear  
21 about that. I wanted to be sure I understood that.

22 And you're also then emphasizing that is  
23 still true today?

24 MS. DEROSHIA: Yes.

25 MR. BISSONNETTE: Thank you.

161

1 MS. DEROSHIA: Any other questions?

2 DR. SIMMER: No, I think we're fine. Thank  
3 you very much.