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One of the hardest experiences I have had is the 2 ½ year long fight I had with a depression so total that I became suicidal. Everyday was a constant struggle I did not necessarily want to die I just didn't really want to live either. I did not trust myself to make any decision. The decision to get out of bed sometimes was overwhelming. For a person who learned as a child to only trust himself it was a terrifying development. Therapy, medicine and a rediscovered belief and trust in myself has replaced the mess that was. Psychiatric medicines are a part of my daily medicine regimen and a very real reason for my current condition. The cuts in coverage for those medicines is another terrifying prospect I have no control over. Put yourselves in my place. The medicine I require is about to become very difficult to acquire. I will be faced with the choice of eating, utilities, or medicine - which would you choose? The medicine I as a patient was taught is a vital necessity to my daily life. My problem is Major Depression. Consider if you will a patient being faced with a need for even stronger medicines. Schizo-effective Disorder, Bipolar or Manic-Depressive diseases in which a patient learns that they can NEVER STOP taking their medicines because not only do their lives depend on it but potentially the lives' of others. When I first started taking my antidepressant there was one night that I fell asleep before taking my pills. Two hours later I woke up right back in the hell I was trying to escape. I learned that night DO NOT STOP the medicine. I am afraid of not taking my medicine. If I feel that way about one medicine for a single somewhat easy condition, what if my condition were more serious? What would my choices be?

1. Commit a crime, get arrested, and get my medicine in jail - the state pays.
2. Go to the local dealer, self-medicate, OD, go to the hospital and get committed then get my medicine - the state pays.
3. Commit Suicide.

Do any of these choices sound appealing? Another option would be to sue the State of Connecticut probably not successfully but it again will cost the state money. What happens if the family of a patient who commits suicide sues the State of Connecticut for wrongful death because cuts made created a situation where needed medicines are unavailable. The increased drain on resources within the prison system, local and state police departments and hospitals just take the money saved with budget cuts is still being spent in other areas. What about the victim of the crime I commit to get what I need?

Be careful please. Even a fool knows things have to change, but let's spread the responsibility to all.