

CT State Legislature,

I recently received email from Dr. Crystal who works at the CT Mental Health Center regarding Governor Malloy's proposed funding cut for medical research at the CMHC. As an outpatient at CMHC who participated in research concerning the effectiveness of medications for the treatment of obsessive-compulsive disorder, I find this to be of concern, I currently take two medications for this condition which I depend on for my current level of functioning. If it were not for this research, I would not be taking any medications that I have found to be of some benefit. Being a state facility, CMHC has offered me this treatment free of charge for several years. My previous efforts to find a private psychiatrist who would provide this treatment had been unsuccessful because no therapist I had contacted would accept payment from Medicare,

I have attended OCD support group sessions twice a month and have learned that there are many CT residents who have this condition and are unable to receive treatment (or even a diagnosis) for it because there are so few therapists that treat OCD and most private therapists do not accept insurance payments.

I hope these factors will be taken into consideration as you decide on the amount of funding for this area. Thank you.