

Alzheimer's: Nursing Facility Not Liable For Alleged Assault On Patient.

An elderly nursing home resident, who did not suffer from Alzheimer's, cried out from her room. When the nurse ran into her room the resident was on the floor injured. Another resident of the facility, an elderly gentleman who did suffer from Alzheimer's, was also in her room.

The patient sued the facility, claiming the other resident pushed her down.

The Court of Appeals of Tennessee ruled there were no grounds for the lawsuit. Alzheimer's patients are prone to wandering with no apparent purpose; his being in her room at the time did not necessarily prove he had hurt her.

More importantly, he had no history of aggressive behavior toward other residents. Even if he did push her, the facility had no reason to anticipate he would do something like that. **Hamilton v. Metropolitan Hospital Authority, 2007 WL 2827381 (Tenn. App., September 28, 2007).**