

# IJReview

## **Cancer Patient Breaks Her Leg. It's What New Doctor Says About Her Chemo Treatment That's Horrifying**

BY [AMANDA GHESSIE](#) (24 HOURS AGO) |

Monica Flagg [describes](#) her first day of chemotherapy as an incredibly painful day, and one that she never should have gone through.

When she got home that afternoon something happened that may have saved her life — she tripped and broke two bones in her leg.

Because Dr. Farid Fata was out of town, Monica was treated by one of his younger doctors, Soe Maunglay. After performing a series of tests, Maunglay informed Monica that she was healthy and showed no signs of cancer.

To Monica and her husband, her broken leg was a blessing from above. Monica's lawyer, Brian McKeen [explained](#):

*“Had she not broken her leg, God only knows what would have happened. But Monica might very well not have been with us any longer because people can get very sick from these toxic levels of chemotherapy that he was using and was going to be using.”*

The U.S. Attorney of the Eastern District of Michigan, Barbara McQuade, called his plan “the most serious fraud case in the history of the country.” And because of it, Farid Fata is being sentenced to 45 years in prison.

According to [NBC News](#), the 50-year-old was responsible for scamming more than 500 patients into chemotherapy treatments. Not only did he tell patients that they had cancer when they, in fact, did not, but he also gave inappropriate and often times dangerous chemotherapy treatment to those who did need it.

As a result, he plead guilty last September to health care fraud, money laundering, and seeking kickbacks.

Explaining to the judge that Fata caused his victims a “lifetime of suffering,” prosecutors referred to Fata as the Bernie Madoff of medicine.

At his sentencing on Friday — in what was Fata’s first time speaking publicly since he was arrested in 2013 — he gave a tearful appeal to the court.

*“My sins are many,” he said. “They came to me seeking compassion and care. I failed them.”*

But for the victims, an apology was not enough. Many are filing suits against Fata in civil court.

Fata’s crimes finally came to light when office manager George Karadsheh began hearing stories similar to that of Monica’s and turned Fata in to the FBI. Fata will likely spend the remainder of his life behind bars.

As for Monica, she’s advising others to always, *always* get a second opinion.