



NATIONAL CITIZENS INQUIRY

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Day 1

EVIDENCE

Witness 11: M Tisir Otahbachi

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[00:00:00]

Wayne Lenhardt

Mr. Tisir Otahbachi. I hope I didn't mangle that too badly. I'm Wayne Lenhardt and I'll be asking you the questions today. Could you spell your name, your full name, and then I'll do an oath with you.

M Tisir Otahbachi

First of all, hello everyone. My full name is Mohammed Tisir Otahbachi.

Wayne Lenhardt

Okay, and could you spell that for us?

M Tisir Otahbachi

Yes. So it's written, my first name is M, space, T-I-S-I-R, and my last name is O-T-A-H-B-A-C-H-I.

Wayne Lenhardt

And do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but truth?

M Tisir Otahbachi

I will tell you one trillion billion per cent the truth and exactly what I've been through and what happened with me so far.

Wayne Lenhardt

Thank you. Maybe I'll just start you in 2021, where I think your issues happened after the vaccine. So maybe just tell your story and I'll stop you if I need to.

M Tisir Otahbachi

Since the Government of Canada put many restrictions on everybody, on Canadians, preventing us going to grocery shopping, going to hospitals, working, and doing many things, so we had to take the vaccine. And they were pushing us indirectly or directly to take the vaccine. And as soon as my wife—she was pregnant at that time—has regular visits to her doctor and the hospital, we had to take the vaccine. So on 15 of July 2021, I took the first shot of the COVID vaccine, Moderna. Ten days later exactly, there is a tiny, small bubble that started on my right hand, and that bubble has a yellow liquid.

At the beginning, I never recognized or thought that that bubble is because of the COVID vaccine at all. I went to the pharmacy because I don't have any family doctor or any other doctor—either in Quebec or any other province. I went to the pharmacy and then I saw the pharmacist and then they gave me, like, a syrupy cream to apply three times daily on it. I was doing that but unfortunately, that bubble was getting bigger and bigger every day.

Until 13 of August 2021, I got my second shot of the Moderna COVID vaccine. Then 48 hours later exactly the whole of my body—almost the whole of my body—got the same reaction. And my body was feeling: if you take your body, your full body, and just throw it out on the fire, that's the feeling of my body, how it was.

At that time actually, I went to the hospital to get in a hospital. And I waited for almost 23 hours without seeing any doctor. They asked me just to wait outside on the seat and there's no doctors to see at all. When we asked the receptionist over there, she said, "Now, 9.5 hours left to see a doctor." If we like, if I like, I can go to any walk-in clinic or to any other clinic to see a doctor.

So I gave up. I went back to the pharmacy again. And then the pharmacist checked on my body, my hands. They gave me different creams from over the shelf and the pharmacist told me, "You have to see a doctor as soon as possible, because there is something wrong going on in your body".

Then here, my journey started. I was looking for a doctor, for any family doctor or any doctor in Quebec. And I think it's much easier to win a lotto of \$20 million than to find any family doctor or any doctor in Quebec.

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So for eight months, I was looking for any doctor in Quebec, with the help of some people that are working at the government in Quebec. But nothing happened. It was with negative results.

In September 2021, I was unable to work. I used to work as a mover, like moving furniture, and a Uber driver. At that time actually my body was burning. I was unable to take a shower, wash my hands, my body, for more than 18 months so far.

So tell me please: Who is in the world can handle that? But I did handle it.

Wayne Lenhardt

Okay, so to summarize then. The problem was you had some sort of a skin reaction. Were you able to shower and take baths and that type of thing?

M Tisir Otahbachi

I was using water wipes, 99.9 per cent for the babies, to clean my body.

Wayne Lenhardt

Have any of those symptoms resolved yet? Are they still bothering you?

M Tisir Otahbachi

They are still bothering me. Because right now, I'm living on an injection, it's called Dupixent. And I have to take this injection for the rest of my life. I have to take it twice a month. So once I take an injection, it gives me some relief for 10 to 12 days. And then after that, if I don't take the second or the next one, the reaction—it gets back exactly as the beginning. Like, I feel I never get anything or any improvement.

Wayne Lenhardt

Do they know when the symptoms will resolve, or do they think it will be for four or five years but they're not sure?

M Tisir Otahbachi

So, this is— Actually after that, after I gave up in Quebec to find any doctor, I started borrowing money from my dad to go and see doctors in Ontario: Ottawa city exactly. I've seen many doctors in Ottawa. Once I was going there and I was telling every doctor that I got that reaction after the COVID vaccine, most of the doctors were saying like, "No, this is not because of the COVID vaccine; don't say it's because of the COVID vaccine, the COVID vaccine is very safe." And I was telling them "I got it after the COVID vaccine." They said, "No. Just take this prescription." And every doctor was giving a different reason for my condition and gave me different prescription and I was buying all that from my pocket.

Then one of the doctors I've been to in Ottawa: she was yelling at me once I told her I got this after the COVID vaccine, 10 days after the first shot. Her face turned, like, aggressively and she looked at me like this and then she said, "Don't say that it's because of the COVID vaccine! No, it's not because of the COVID vaccine!" That day, actually, I was crying. I got back home and I was crying. I was super frustrated.

Then in 2022, one of the people working at the Government of Quebec, she arranged for me an appointment with a doctor in Quebec, just to sign a paper for the compensation and for the treatment of Dupixent, to start getting that. I went to him. It was a walk-in for only a one-time visit. I went to him. I told him my story. He looked at me, he told me— I'm going to say exactly what he said and that's the truth, one million per cent. He told me, "I'm so sorry to say that that topic is very sensitive for me and I cannot sign any paper because I might lose my license."

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And I told him: "This is my life." Then he said, "I cannot do anything, I'm so sorry. But leave the paper that you have right now, I'm going to go over just to read what you have."

Here, I give up. Then after my baby daughter was born, they found a family doctor for her very far away from where we live, in Ontario. It's around 100 kilometres. The doctor that we've been to, the family doctor of my daughter: the first visit, he looked at my hand. I

never told him anything. He told me, “What you have in your hand, did you get it after the COVID vaccine?” I told him, “Yes.” I was crying at that moment. And then he told me, “Okay, I’m going to refer you to a doctor here in Ottawa. Hopefully he would help you.”

He referred me to a doctor here in Ottawa. And then that doctor, he checked my body, everything. After he’s seen all the medications, ointments, capsules, creams, tablets, all the prescriptions I’ve been taking, he told me: “Look, I’m going to tell you something very honest and you have to accept it and I’m very sorry for that. I strongly suggest that what you have of the symptoms, it’s because of the COVID vaccine, Moderna. And right now, the only option that we have: you have to take a Dupixent injection twice a month until we see what could happen.”

And then after many months, they send a request to the government. Nobody was responding at all, nobody was listening. I was trying to contact with many people at the Government of Canada, Government of Quebec. Nobody was listening to me. I went to the media. Because that’s my health. I was suffering, I was dying.

Then after that, from nowhere, I have no idea. There’s, like, something that’s called Freedom Support. They called me and they asked me to give me the injection of Dupixent. So right now, I’m taking that injection. He said, “For now, I can say you have to take it at least, minimum, four or five years. You could take it more—for the rest of your life. We have no idea.” And that’s it, that’s what happened with the doctor here in Ottawa.

Then after that, I found a doctor in Quebec who was far away from me—a 13-hour drive—to sign the paper for me of the compensation. He told me: “Even this case, it’s a permanent case. And for the Dupixent injection, it’s the best option to have it right now because there is no final treatment.”

I gave up at that time. The only option was—or the plan B—was for me to just finish or final my disaster. My wife, she’s originally from Morocco. So we made the decision to travel there to Morocco and to try to find any final treatment for my injury.

I went there, I’ve seen three different doctors. And then they told me the same thing, after they gave me different medications—medical medications and natural treatments as well. Nothing worked at all. And then they told me: “Your condition, it’s a lifetime condition. Dupixent, it’s a good option for now. It gives you some relief. Yes, it doesn’t end the problem at all.” They gave me a very big example. One of them, he said, “You know, the person who was addicted to drugs and every day they have to take like a special quantity? Your body should be addicted to Dupixent every two weeks. You have to take it right now for the rest of your life. Because there’s no options unless Moderna or Pfizer or those companies who made the vaccine, they make or invent a special treatment for the side effects that happened because of the vaccine.”

Wayne Lenhardt

I’m going to ask the commissioners if they have any questions for you now.

[00:15:00]

Anyone?

Commissioner Kaikkonen

Thank you for your testimony. I just wondered: the reaction that you got from the doctor when she yelled at you. Do you think maybe she's been hearing a lot that it is because of the COVID vaccines and that was why she reacted the way she did?

M Tisir Otahbachi

She was reacting like this because I was mentioning that I got that reaction after the COVID vaccine. And once I mentioned that, she stopped me. She said, "You have to listen to me. I'm not going to listen to you anymore."

And she started yelling at me. She said, "Don't! You have genetic problems. You have allergic—" something else. She started making many excuses and many reasons without giving me any test. She just wanted to make different excuses. And just the reason of the COVID vaccine, she just wanted to take it away from my case. And I never had any skin problem in the whole of my life. You can check that with my medical history with RAMQ [Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec].

Commissioner Kaikkonen

And then my other question is, do you think that the healthcare system is broken, given the number of doctors or the doctors that you tried to seek out, and maybe that the public health authority should have been focusing on that part of life? Because you're not the only one in Canada without a doctor. They should have prioritized differently and gone after looking for doctors for people.

M Tisir Otahbachi

I would like to say something, but I hope from everybody not being upset with me. In Canada, we have the worst healthcare system in the world. To find any doctor, if you are sick— I've never seen, I never expected that to happen in Canada, like, one of the best countries in the world.

We're going back home. Like, for me, I gave up here. I went to Morocco. A lot of people, they go back to their homes to have treatments even if they are sick from something simple as a virus. Here the healthcare system, it's super, super, super, super, super negative. It needs a lot of improvements. There is no doctors. It's impossible. Like when I told, like, everybody about my wait at the hospital for almost 23 hours, nobody believed that. It's a disaster.

I don't know how we going to continue our life and our future like this if there is not any kind of improvements. And I know that's in not only in Quebec, even in other provinces like Ontario or like many, many, like almost everywhere around Canada.

So yes, Canada has the worst healthcare system. And actually, after what I've been through right now, I'm super disappointed. I'm super frustrated because I never expected that to happen in such a country like Canada. I never. I'm so sorry to say that.

Commissioner Kaikkonen

Thank you very much.

M Tisir Otahbachi

You're very welcome.

Commissioner Kaikkonen

Thank you.

Commissioner Massie

Thank you, sir, for your testimony. I had a question about the symptoms that you experienced, that you couldn't get serious consideration that it could actually result from the vax. And then out of the blue you come across a doctor that seems to acknowledge that. So my question is: Do you know whether this doctor had seen similar kind of symptoms before associated with the vaccine? And do you know of other people that would have a similar condition, like yours?

M Tisir Otahbachi

The doctor that said, "I strongly suggest what you have of the symptoms, that it's because of the COVID vaccine," he told me, "I've seen different people have this kind of reactions because of the vaccine, but yours is the worst so far I've seen."

And after my story was posted in the media, there is thousands,

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thousands, thousands of people around Canada: they did contact with me via social media and by emails. They are talking about the same reactions. But unfortunately, and that's the worst part, their doctors— Even some of them, they have family doctors for more than 20 years, 15, 16 years. When they went back to them to say that we got this because, after the COVID vaccine, that reaction, their doctors cancelled their files after 15, 16, 20 years of being their patients. Just because they said this was after we got that reaction, after the COVID vaccines.

I got shocked of what's happening. It's unbelievable. It's totally unbelievable that Canada: something happening like this in our country here.

Commissioner Massie

Thank you, sir.

M Tisir Otahbachi

You're very welcome.

Wayne Lenhardt

Any other questions? No? Okay, on behalf of the National Citizens Inquiry, I want to thank you for coming and giving your testimony today.

M Tisir Otahbachi

Thank you so much. Thanks. Have a good afternoon.

[00:21:21]

Final Review and Approval: Jodi Bruhn, September 6, 2023.

The evidence offered in this transcript is a true and faithful record of witness testimony given during the National Citizens Inquiry (NCI) hearings. The transcript was prepared by members of a team of volunteers using an “intelligent verbatim” transcription method.

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