

# **"Toxic-Induced Encephalopathy Following Chemsex in a Young HIV-Positive Male: A Complex Case of Acute Cognitive Impairment with Anterograde Amnesia and Behavioral Alterations"**

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Patient Perspective:

*"Every day, I find myself grappling with a reality that seems to slip through my fingers, like trying to hold water in my hands. Faces and names, once so easy to recall, now fade into a blur. To anchor myself in this ever-changing sea of forgetfulness, I've started sketching the faces of the doctors and nurses who care for me, etching their features onto paper as a lifeline to their identities. Beside each drawing, I carefully write their names, creating a visual directory that serves as my bridge to remembering those who are helping me navigate this challenging journey.*

*In addition, I've taken to meticulously writing down my daily activities, no matter how small or routine they may seem. This list is more than just a schedule; it's a narrative of my day, a story I tell myself every night to remember the life I lived that day. It's a practice that gives structure to my otherwise unmoored existence, a testament to my resilience in the face of an amnesia that threatens to erase my experiences as soon as they happen. These simple acts of drawing and listing are not just coping mechanisms; they are my rebellion against the fog of forgetfulness, my way of holding onto the fragments of a life that feels like it's slipping away."*