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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SANDIPKUMAR TANDEL,  
Plaintiff,

No. 2:11-cv-00353-MCE-GGH  
[Consolidated with case  
No. 2:09-cv-00842-MCE-GGH)

v.

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO, et al.,  
Defendants.

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Plaintiff Sandipkumar Tandel ("Plaintiff") seeks redress for several federal and state law claims against various named Defendants, including the County of Sacramento ("County"), Sheriff of Sacramento County, John McGinness ("McGinness"), Undersheriff and Jail Captain Michael Iwasa ("Iwasa"), Chief of Sacramento County Jail Correctional Health Services Ann Marie Boylan ("Boylan"), Interim Medical Director of Sacramento County Jail Correctional Health Services Asa Hambly, M.D. ("Hambly"), Medical Director of Sacramento County Jail Michael Sotak, M.D. ("Sotak"), Director of Nursing Shelly Jordan ("Jordan"), Susan Kroner, R.N. ("Kroner"), Agnes R. Felicano, N.P. ("Felicano"),

1 James Austin, N.P. ("Austin"), Richard L. Bauer, M.D. ("Bauer"),  
2 Gregory Sokolov, M.D. ("Sokolov"), Keelin Garvey, M.D.  
3 ("Garvey"), Glayol Sahba, M.D. ("Sahba"), Chris Smith, M.D.  
4 ("Smith"), Hank Carl, R.N. ("Carl"), Sergeant Tracie Keillor  
5 ("Keillor"), Deputy Pablito Gaddis ("Gaddis"), Deputy John Wilson  
6 ("Wilson"), Deputy Jacoby ("Jacoby"), and Deputy Medeiros  
7 ("Medeiros"). Plaintiff alleges that Defendants' conduct  
8 violated his civil rights during Plaintiff's detentions at the  
9 Sacramento County Main Jail from February 7, 2007 to May 20, 2007  
10 and from March 23, 2010 to May 10, 2010. Plaintiff further  
11 alleges a claim under the Americans with Disabilities Act, as  
12 well as state common law claims, as a result of the treatment he  
13 received during the two aforementioned incarcerations.

14 On May 4, 2011, this Court granted Defendants' Motion to  
15 Consolidate the case regarding the alleged 2007 incidents with  
16 the subsequently filed case, which alleged various claims  
17 stemming from Plaintiff's incarceration in 2010. [ECF No. 26.]  
18 Defendants moved to dismiss certain portions of both actions, and  
19 those motions were granted in part and denied in part by Orders  
20 filed on February 21, 2012, and February 23, 2012. [ECF Nos. 68,  
21 69.] Plaintiff was accorded leave to amend and was directed to  
22 file a single, unitary complaint encompassing both incarcerations.  
23 In his resulting Consolidated Second Amended Complaint ("CSAC"),  
24 Plaintiff seeks general and special damages, punitive damages,  
25 damages for future lost earnings and lost earning capacity, other  
26 proven losses, attorneys' fees and costs and declaratory relief.

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1 Presently before the Court is the Motion to Dismiss of  
2 Defendants County, McGinness, Boylan, Sotak, Kroner, Felicano,  
3 Austin, Hambly, Keillor, Gaddis, Sahba, Bauer and Wilson  
4 (collectively "County Defendants"). (See County Defs.' Mot. to  
5 Dismiss Pl.'s Cons. Sec. Am. Compl. ["County MTD"], filed  
6 June 28, 2012 [ECF No. 80].) Also before the Court is Defendants  
7 Sokolov and Garvey's separately filed Motion to Dismiss and/or  
8 Motion for a More Definitive Statement. (Defs.' Garvey and  
9 Sokolov's Mot. to Dismiss and For More Def. Stmt. ["Sokolov  
10 MTD"], filed May 31, 2012 [ECF No. 76].) Also presently before  
11 the Court is the County Defendants' Motion to Strike. (See  
12 County Defs.' Mot. to Strike ["MTS"], filed June 28, 2012 [ECF  
13 No. 81].) The Parties stipulated to dismissing Defendant Garvey  
14 on May 14, 2012. [ECF No. 82.] Defendant Sokolov filed a  
15 Statement of Non-Opposition to County Defendants' Motion to  
16 Dismiss and Motion to Strike. [ECF No. 88, 89.] County  
17 Defendants filed a Statement of Non-Opposition to Defendants  
18 Sokolov and Garvey's Motion to Dismiss and/or for a More Definite  
19 Statement. [ECF No. 83.]

20 For the reasons set forth below, County Defendants' and  
21 Sokolov's motions are granted in part and denied in part.<sup>1</sup>

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27 <sup>1</sup> Because oral argument will not be of material assistance,  
28 the Court ordered this mater submitted on the briefing. E.D.  
Cal. R. 230(g).

1 **BACKGROUND<sup>2</sup>**

2  
3 On February 7, 2007, Plaintiff was arrested and incarcerated  
4 at the Sacramento County Main Jail ("the Jail") as a pre-trial  
5 detainee. Plaintiff alleges that because of his dark skin color,  
6 he was housed with the African-American inmates. On April 27,  
7 2007, Plaintiff suffered a head injury as a result of a racial  
8 altercation at the Jail. Plaintiff was sent to the Emergency  
9 Room at the Doctor's Center in Sacramento, where Dr. Gray, M.D.,  
10 treated Plaintiff's injury by cleaning and suturing the wound and  
11 vaccinating Plaintiff for Tetanus. The same day, Dr. Gray sent  
12 Plaintiff back to the Jail with instructions to remove the  
13 sutures in five days, leaving the wound open to air and keeping  
14 the wound clean. Upon Plaintiff's return to the Jail, he was  
15 seen by the Jail's medical personnel who evaluated Plaintiff,  
16 noted the treatment and vaccination, and referred the matter to a  
17 doctor. Plaintiff informed Jail medical personnel that he had a  
18 headache. Plaintiff alleges that Defendant Hambly reviewed  
19 Plaintiff's chart on April 30, 2007.

20 After returning to the Jail, Plaintiff was placed into  
21 Administrative Segregation, where he remained for approximately  
22 two weeks. Plaintiff alleges that the unit where he was housed  
23 was an indirect supervision unit and that, if he wanted to  
24 communicate with the staff, he had to push the call button in his  
25 cell.

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28 <sup>2</sup> The following facts are taken from Plaintiff's CSAC,  
unless otherwise noted.

1 Plaintiff claims that many of his calls went unanswered, and that  
2 when the calls were answered, he was told "we are working on it"  
3 and to "stop using the call button," and finally to "stop  
4 complaining." Eventually, the Jail staff stopped answering  
5 Plaintiff's calls altogether. Plaintiff further alleges that,  
6 without running water in his cell and regular showers, he could  
7 not keep his wound clean as prescribed by Dr. Gray.

8 Plaintiff was moved to a regular cell and immediately  
9 requested medical care. Defendant Hank allegedly saw Plaintiff  
10 on May 13, 2007. Plaintiff informed Hank that he had been  
11 suffering from headaches for the past four days. Hank consulted  
12 with Defendant Dr. Smith who ordered the stitches removed and  
13 gave Motrin to Plaintiff.

14 On or about May 14, 2007, Plaintiff again sought medical  
15 attention, complaining of headaches, sensitivity to light and a  
16 nasal drip. Plaintiff was examined by a nurse, Jim Austin, and  
17 was returned to his cell. On or about May 17, 2007, Plaintiff  
18 collapsed while taking a shower when he lost control of his legs.  
19 Defendant Officer Gaddis responded to Plaintiff's request for  
20 help, but allegedly failed to use the radio to properly alert  
21 medical and custody staff of the emergency. According to  
22 Plaintiff, Gaddis also failed to file an incident or casualty  
23 report following the incident in violation of Jail policy.  
24 When Plaintiff was wheeled in a wheelchair for evaluation, he  
25 told Defendant Hank about his unexplained loss of use of his  
26 extremities and collapse. Plaintiff alleges that Hank failed to  
27 conduct an adequate medical assessment of a patient presenting  
28 with an apparent spinal cord injury or neurological disorder.

1 Carl ordered Plaintiff returned to his cell without arranging for  
2 any medical follow up.

3 On May 18, 2007, Plaintiff had a sudden and acute loss of  
4 vision in his left eye and started noticing that he was not able  
5 to move his lower extremities. He was also suffering from  
6 urinary retention and constipation. He repeatedly rang the  
7 emergency bell to summon help and informed the officers on duty  
8 that his legs did not work, that he could not urinate and that he  
9 was going blind, but was told to stop using the call button and  
10 that "these things would not kill him."

11 On May 20, 2007, at 11:44 a.m., Defendant Carl saw Plaintiff  
12 and referred him to see Defendant Dr. Smith. Smith saw Plaintiff  
13 at 12:30 p.m., but allegedly "failed to provide any meaningful  
14 evaluation of Tandel's medical condition." At 9:45 p.m.,  
15 Dr. Horowitz evaluated Plaintiff. Plaintiff claimed to be  
16 suffering from vision loss, an inability to move or control his  
17 extremities, get up to "void or defecate," and other neurological  
18 impairments. Dr. Horowitz sent Plaintiff to a local emergency  
19 room where he was found to have an expansive lesion in the spine  
20 and brain involvement.

21 On May 21, 2007, Plaintiff was admitted to the University of  
22 California, Davis, Medical Center ("UCD"). Upon admission,  
23 Plaintiff was found to have bilateral lower extremity  
24 paraparesis, vision loss, weakness in his upper extremities,  
25 constipation, renal insufficiency and neurogenic bladder, fever  
26 and elevated white blood cell count.

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1 Because Plaintiff's medical history allegedly did not accompany  
2 him to the hospital, the UCD treating physicians were unaware of  
3 the treatment already rendered to Plaintiff, but the physicians  
4 immediately commenced procedures for Central Nervous System  
5 ("CNS") disorders.

6 UCD diagnosed Plaintiff with Acute Disseminated  
7 Encephalomyelitis ("ADEM"). ADEM is a neurological disorder  
8 characterized by inflammation of the brain and spinal cord caused  
9 by damage to the myelin sheath. Vaccination for Tetanus is  
10 allegedly a known cause of ADEM. Upon further testing at  
11 Stanford University Medical Center, Tandel's diagnosis was  
12 ultimately adjusted to include the related neuroimmunologic  
13 disorder of the CNS known as Neuromyelitis Optica ("NMO"). NMO  
14 attacks the optic nerve and a person with NMO is at risk for  
15 multiple attacks.

16 Plaintiff alleges that due to the failure to provide timely  
17 treatment, he suffered permanent and complete T6 paraplegia with  
18 bilateral, severe neuropathic pain and neurogenic bladder and  
19 bowels. While Plaintiff's condition improved with treatment, he  
20 still remains dependent for his activities in daily living and  
21 must use a catheter and diaper. Plaintiff alleges ongoing  
22 serious bouts of depression and emotional distress.

23 In 2007, Plaintiff was released from the Jail because of the  
24 nature and severity of his condition. Following his release,  
25 Plaintiff achieved significant medical improvement with  
26 appropriate treatment through UCD.

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1 In 2009, Plaintiff filed a lawsuit against the County and a  
2 number of individual defendants under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, alleging  
3 his civil rights' violations during the 2007 detention. (See  
4 Pl.'s Second Am. Compl., Case No. 2:09-cv-0842-MEC-GGH [ECF  
5 No. 43].)

6 On March 23, 2010, Plaintiff was again arrested and detained  
7 as a pretrial detainee at the Jail. At the time of his 2010  
8 arrest, Plaintiff required a wheelchair and was unable to move  
9 from the nipple line down. Plaintiff's medical record allegedly  
10 indicates that during the 2010 detention, all Defendants were  
11 aware of Plaintiff's serious neurologic autoimmune disease and  
12 were aware that Plaintiff required appropriate treatment.  
13 According to Plaintiff, Defendants were also aware that Plaintiff  
14 suffered from osteoporosis and depression with suicidal ideation.  
15 Plaintiff alleges that, for the entirety of his 2010  
16 incarceration, Defendants denied Plaintiff necessary medical  
17 treatment despite Plaintiff's repeated requests for such  
18 treatment.

19 Plaintiff alleges that he requested but was not provided  
20 enough catheters to adequately relieve his bladder; requested but  
21 was denied adequate and timely suppositories and pads; and was  
22 not provided adequate medication to control his pain. As a  
23 result, Plaintiff allegedly routinely urinated on himself and his  
24 clothes, was left waiting for assistance in soiled clothes, did  
25 not have bowel movements for days and was in severe pain.  
26 Defendant Bauer allegedly advised Plaintiff to reuse the  
27 catheters, thereby increasing the risk of infection.

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1 On March 25, 2010, Defendant Sahba allegedly placed  
2 Plaintiff on a suicide watch. Plaintiff was placed on a mattress  
3 on the floor without his clothes. Defendants Sokolov and Sotak  
4 allegedly were aware of this situation. According to Sokolov,  
5 the Jail's psychiatric unit was unable to handle a patient with  
6 his medical condition and who required catheters. Therefore,  
7 Defendants Sokolov, Sahba and Sotak knowingly left Plaintiff "to  
8 lay naked, on a mattress on the floor, unable to adequately move,  
9 unable to reach the call button, in severe pain, under-medicated,  
10 and without adequate supplies or treatment to urinate or defecate  
11 cleanly and regularly for a period of three days." (CSAC ¶ 172.)  
12 As a result, Plaintiff allegedly urinated on himself numerous  
13 times, was unable to have regular bowel movements and developed  
14 bed sores. Because custodial officers at the Jail allegedly  
15 routinely interfered with Plaintiff's access to medical care,  
16 Plaintiff's bed sores worsened.

17 On April 9, 2010, Plaintiff complained to the Jail's medical  
18 staff of burning on the tip of his penis and so Sahba ordered  
19 another medical prescription, a double mattress and a urine  
20 culture and a test for sexually transmitted diseases.  
21 Plaintiff's neighboring inmate pressed the call button on  
22 Plaintiff's behalf several times after hearing Plaintiff  
23 screaming in agony, but the medical staff never responded.  
24 Plaintiff received medical care on April 11, 2010. On April 13,  
25 2010, Defendant Bauer prescribed an antibiotic to Plaintiff to  
26 treat a bed sore on his left leg and a urinary tract infection.

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1 By April 22, 2010, Plaintiff had developed blurry vision in  
2 his left eye over the prior two weeks. Defendant Kroner  
3 allegedly performed a vision exam but failed to request a  
4 necessary neurological referral and instead referred Plaintiff to  
5 be seen by a doctor at some point in the future. On April 23,  
6 Plaintiff again complained of penile burning, pain in his eye and  
7 vision problems. On April 23, 2010, Defendant Sahba documented  
8 Plaintiff's left eye blurriness with history of ADEM. Sahba  
9 requested urinalysis and blood work with follow-up in two weeks.  
10 Sahba also prescribed an antifungal agent to Plaintiff.

11 Defendant Bauer allegedly recorded that because Plaintiff's  
12 pain had not been well-controlled by Norco-5, he prescribed  
13 Morphine and increased his Norco-5 prescription to control  
14 Plaintiff's pain. On May 4, 2010, Plaintiff reported to Sotak  
15 that he had been experiencing pain, weight loss and episodes of  
16 double vision, but Sotak just ordered physical therapy. On  
17 May 10, 2010, Sotak transferred Plaintiff to UCD where he was  
18 diagnosed with acute right optic neuritis.

19 Plaintiff alleges that medical Defendants' deliberate  
20 indifference resulted in and/or increased the acuteness of his  
21 attack and accelerated the recurrence of his disease, which  
22 resulted in irreversible damage to new areas of myelin, causing  
23 cumulative and permanent disfigurement and disability, as well as  
24 decreasing Plaintiff's future opportunity for rehabilitation and  
25 decreasing his life expectancy.

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1 **STANDARD**

2 **A. Motion to Dismiss**

3  
4 On a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim under  
5 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6),<sup>3</sup> all allegations of  
6 material fact must be accepted as true and construed in the light  
7 most favorable to the nonmoving party. Cahill v. Liberty Mut.  
8 Ins. Co., 80 F.3d 336, 337-38 (9th Cir. 1996). The Court must  
9 also assume that "general allegations embrace those specific  
10 facts that are necessary to support a claim." Smith v. Pacific  
11 Props. & Dev. Corp., 358 F.3d 1097, 1106 (9th Cir. 2004). Rule  
12 8(a)(2) "requires only 'a short and plain statement of the claim  
13 showing that the pleader is entitled to relief,' in order to  
14 'give the defendant a fair notice of what the [. . .] claim is  
15 and the grounds upon which it rests.'" Bell. Atl. Corp. v.  
16 Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007) (quoting Conley v. Gibson,  
17 355 U.S. 41, 47 (1957)). A complaint attacked by a Rule 12(b)(6)  
18 motion to dismiss does not require detailed factual allegations.  
19 Id. However, "a plaintiff's obligation to provide the grounds of  
20 his entitlement to relief requires more than labels and  
21 conclusions, and a formulaic recitation of the elements of a  
22 cause of action will not do." Id. (internal citations and  
23 quotations omitted). A court is not required to accept as true a  
24 "legal conclusion couched as a factual allegation."

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28 <sup>3</sup> All further references to "Rule" or "Rules" are to the  
Federal Rules of Civil Procedure unless otherwise noted.

1 Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S. Ct. 1937, 1950 (2009) (quoting Twombly,  
2 550 U.S. at 555). The Court also is not required "to accept as  
3 true allegations that are merely conclusory, unwarranted  
4 deductions of fact, or unreasonable inferences." In re Gilead  
5 Sciences Sec. Litig., 536 F.3d 1049, 1055 (9th Cir. 2008).  
6 "Factual allegations must be enough to raise a right to relief  
7 above the speculative level." Twombly, 550 U.S. at 555 (citing  
8 5 Charles Alan Wright & Arthur R. Miller, Federal Practice and  
9 Procedure § 1216 (3d ed. 2004) (stating that the pleading must  
10 contain something more than a "statement of facts that merely  
11 creates a suspicion [of] a legally cognizable right of  
12 action.")).

13 Furthermore, "Rule 8(a)(2) . . . requires a 'showing,'  
14 rather than a blanket assertion, of entitlement to relief."  
15 Twombly, 550 U.S. at 556 n.3 (internal citations and quotations  
16 omitted). "Without some factual allegation in the complaint, it  
17 is hard to see how a claimant could satisfy the requirements of  
18 providing not only 'fair notice' of the nature of the claim, but  
19 also 'grounds' on which the claim rests." Id. (citing 5 Charles  
20 Alan Wright & Arthur R. Miller, supra, at § 1202). A pleading  
21 must contain "only enough facts to state a claim to relief that  
22 is plausible on its face." Id. at 570. If the "plaintiffs . . .  
23 have not nudged their claims across the line from conceivable to  
24 plausible, their complaint must be dismissed." Id. However, "a  
25 well-pleaded complaint may proceed even if it strikes a savvy  
26 judge that actual proof of those facts is improbable, and 'that a  
27 recovery is very remote and unlikely.'" Id. at 556 (quoting  
28 Scheuer v. Rhodes, 416 U.S. 232, 236 (1974)).

1 A court granting a motion to dismiss a complaint must then  
2 decide whether to grant a leave to amend. Leave to amend should  
3 be "freely given" where there is no "undue delay, bad faith or  
4 dilatory motive on the part of the movant, . . . undue prejudice  
5 to the opposing party by virtue of allowance of the amendment,  
6 [or] futility of the amendment . . . ." *Foman v. Davis*, 371 U.S.  
7 178, 182 (1962); *Eminence Capital, LLC v. Aspeon, Inc.*, 316 F.3d  
8 1048, 1052 (9th Cir. 2003) (listing the Foman factors as those to  
9 be considered when deciding whether to grant leave to amend).  
10 Not all of these factors merit equal weight. Rather, "the  
11 consideration of prejudice to the opposing party . . . carries  
12 the greatest weight." *Eminence Capital*, 316 F. 3d at 1052  
13 (citing *DCD Programs, Ltd. v. Leighton*, 833 F. 2d 183, 185 (9th  
14 Cir. 1987)). Dismissal without leave to amend is proper only if  
15 it is clear that "the complaint could not be saved by any  
16 amendment." *Intri-Plex Techs., Inc. v. Crest Group, Inc.*,  
17 499 F.3d 1048, 1056 (9th Cir. 2007) (internal citations and  
18 quotations omitted).

19  
20 **B. Motion for a More Definitive Statement**

21  
22 Before interposing a responsive pleading, a defendant may  
23 move for a more definitive statement "[i]f a pleading...is so  
24 vague or ambiguous that a party cannot reasonably be required to  
25 frame a responsive pleading...." Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(e). A Rule  
26 12(e) motion is proper when the plaintiff's complaint is so  
27 indefinite that the defendant cannot ascertain the nature of the  
28 claim being asserted.

1 Gay-Straight Alliance Network v. Visalia Unified Sch. Dist., 262  
2 F. Supp. 2d 1088, 1099 (E.D. Cal. 2001).

3 Due to the liberal pleading standards in the federal courts  
4 embodied in Rule 8(e) and the availability of extensive  
5 discovery, courts should not freely grant motions for more  
6 definitive statements. *Famolare, Inc. v. Edison Bros. Stores,*  
7 *Inc.*, 525 F. Supp. 940, 949 (E.D. Cal. 1981). Indeed, a motion  
8 for a more definitive statement should be denied unless the  
9 information sought by the moving party is not available or is not  
10 ascertainable through discovery. *Id.*

### 11 12 **C. Motion to Strike**

13  
14 The Court may strike "from any pleading any insufficient  
15 defense or any redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or scandalous  
16 matter." (Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(f).) "[T]he function of a 12(f)  
17 motion to strike is to avoid the expenditure of time and money  
18 that must arise from litigating spurious issues by dispensing  
19 with those issues prior to trial...." *Sidney-Vinsein v. A.H.*  
20 *Robins Co.*, 697 F.2d 880, 885 (9th Cir. 1983). Immaterial matter  
21 is that which has no essential or important relationship to the  
22 claim for relief or the defenses being pleaded. *Fantasy, Inc. v.*  
23 *Fogerty*, 984 F.2d 1524, 1527 (9th Cir. 1993) (rev'd on other  
24 grounds *Fogerty v. Fantasy, Inc.*, 510 U.S. 517 (1994)) (internal  
25 citations and quotations omitted). Impertinent matter consists  
26 of statements that do not pertain, and are not necessary, to the  
27 issue in question. *Id.*

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1 **ANALYSIS**

2

3 The Court examines Plaintiff’s claims in the following

4 order: (1) Plaintiff’s § 1983 claim for failure to provide

5 appropriate medical care against Hambly, Carl, Keillor and Gaddis

6 (First Claim for Relief); (2) Plaintiff’s § 1983 claim for

7 failure to provide appropriate medical care against Sokolov

8 (Second Claim for Relief); (3) Plaintiff’s claim for retaliation

9 for protesting unconstitutional and unlawful jail conditions

10 against McGinness, Boylan and Bauer (Sixth Claim for Relief);

11 (4) Plaintiff’s claim for negligence against McGinness, Boylan,

12 Sotak, Kroner, Felicano, Austin, Bauer, Sahba, Wilson and Sokolov

13 (Tenth Claim for Relief); (5) Plaintiff’s claim for medical

14 negligence against Sokolov, Sotak, Bauer and Sahba (Eleventh

15 Claim for Relief); (6) County Defendants’ Motion to Dismiss

16 Plaintiff’s newly named Doe Defendants; (7) Sokolov’s Motion for

17 a More Definitive Statement; and (8) County Defendants’ Motion to

18 Strike.

19

20 **A. First Claim for Relief: Claims Brought Pursuant to**

21 **42 U.S.C. § 1983 for Violations of the Fourteenth**

22 **Amendment to the United States Constitution for Failure**

23 **to Provide Appropriate Medical Care against Defendants**

24 **Hambly, Carl, Gaddis, and Keillor in Their Individual**

25 **Capacities**

26 Plaintiff alleges that the above-enumerated individual

27 County Defendants failed to provide appropriate medical care to

28 Plaintiff during his 2007 incarceration and that he suffered and

continues to suffer personal injury and emotional distress and

incurred damages as a result of such failure. (CSAC ¶¶ 336-37.)

1 Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, an individual may sue “[e]very person,  
2 who, under color of [law] subjects” him “to the deprivation of  
3 any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution  
4 and laws.” Individual capacity suits “seek to impose individual  
5 liability upon a government officer for actions taken under color  
6 of state law.” *Hafer v. Melo*, 502 U.S. 21, 25 (1991).  
7 Government officials may not be held liable for the  
8 unconstitutional conduct of their subordinates under a theory of  
9 respondeat superior. *Iqbal*, 129 S. Ct. at 1948. Rather, an  
10 individual may be liable for deprivation of constitutional rights  
11 “within the meaning of section 1983, if he does an affirmative  
12 act, participates in another’s affirmative acts, or omits to  
13 perform an act which he is legally required to do that causes the  
14 deprivation of which complaint is made.” *Preschooler II v. Clark*  
15 *County Sch. Bd. of Trs.*, 479 F.3d 1175, 1183 (9th Cir. 2007).  
16 Thus, a plaintiff cannot demonstrate that an individual officer  
17 is liable “without a showing of individual participation in the  
18 unlawful conduct.” *Jones v. Williams*, 297 F.3d 930, 935 (9th  
19 Cir. 2002). Plaintiff must “establish the ‘integral  
20 participation’ of the officers in the alleged constitutional  
21 violation,” which requires “some fundamental involvement in the  
22 conduct that allegedly caused the violation.” *Blankenhorn v.*  
23 *City of Orange*, 485 F.3d 463, 481 n.12 (9th Cir. 2007); *Jones*,  
24 297 F.3d at 935.

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1 Government officials acting as supervisors may be liable  
2 under § 1983 under certain circumstances. "[W]hen a supervisor  
3 is found liable based on deliberate indifference, the supervisor  
4 is being held liable for his or her own culpable action or  
5 inaction, not held vicariously liable for the culpable action or  
6 inaction of his or her subordinate." *Starr v. Baca*, 652 F.3d  
7 1202, 1207 (9th Cir. 2011). A defendant may be held liable as a  
8 supervisor under § 1983 if there exists "either (1) his or her  
9 personal involvement in the constitutional deprivation; or (2) a  
10 sufficient causal connection between the supervisor's wrongful  
11 conduct and the constitutional violation." *Hansen v. Black*,  
12 885 F.2d 642, 646 (9th Cir. 1989); *Starr*, 652 F.3d at 1207.

13 A supervisor's physical presence is not required for  
14 supervisory liability. *Starr*, 652 F.3d at 1205. Rather, the  
15 requisite causal connection between a supervisor's wrongful  
16 conduct and the violation of the prisoner's Constitutional rights  
17 can be established in a number of ways. The plaintiff may show  
18 that the supervisor set in motion a series of acts by others, or  
19 knowingly refused to terminate a series of acts by others, which  
20 the supervisor knew or reasonably should have known would cause  
21 others to inflict a constitutional injury. *Dubner v. City &*  
22 *County of S.F.*, 266 F. 3d 959, 968 (9th Cir. 2001); *Larez v. City*  
23 *of L.A.*, 946 F.2d 630, 646 (9th Cir. 1991). Similarly, a  
24 supervisor's own culpable action or inaction in the training,  
25 supervision, or control of his subordinates may establish  
26 supervisory liability. *Starr*, 652 F.3d at 1208; *Larez*, 946 F.2d  
27 at 646.

28 ///

1 Finally, a supervisor's acquiescence in the alleged  
2 constitutional deprivation, or conduct showing deliberate  
3 indifference toward the possibility that deficient performance of  
4 the task may violate the rights of others, may establish the  
5 requisite causal connection. Starr, 652 F.3d at 1208; Menotti v.  
6 City of Seattle, 409 F. 3d 1113, 1149 (9th Cir. 2005).

7 As opposed to prisoner claims under the Eighth Amendment, a  
8 pretrial detainee is entitled to be free of cruel and unusual  
9 punishment under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth  
10 Amendment.<sup>4</sup> Bell v. Wolfish, 441 U.S. 520, 537 n. 16 (1979);  
11 Simmons v. Navajo County, Ariz., 609 F. 3d 1011, 1017 (9th Cir.  
12 2010). The Due Process Clause requires that "persons in custody  
13 have the established right to not have officials remain  
14 deliberately indifferent to their serious medical needs."  
15 Gibson v. County of Washoe, Nev., 290 F.3d 1175, 1187 (9th Cir.  
16 2002) (quoting Carnell v. Grimm, 74 F.3d 977, 979 (9th Cir.  
17 1996)). A pretrial detainee's due process right in this regard  
18 is violated when a jailer fails to promptly and reasonably  
19 procure competent medical aid when the pretrial detainee suffers  
20 a serious illness or injury while confined. Estelle v. Gamble,  
21 429 U.S. 97, 104-105 (1976).

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22  
23 <sup>4</sup> In his first claim for relief, Plaintiff alleges that  
24 County Defendants failed to provide appropriate medical care  
25 during his 2007 incarceration in violation of the Fourteenth  
26 Amendment to the Constitution. It would follow that Plaintiff  
27 was a pre-trial detainee at the time of these alleged violations  
28 because Plaintiff only invokes the Fourteenth Amendment. In his  
second claim for relief, however, Plaintiff alleges Defendants  
failed to provide appropriate medical care during his 2010  
incarceration in violation of both the Eighth and Fourteenth  
Amendments to the Constitution. This suggests that Plaintiff had  
been convicted of a crime during some portion of the 2010  
incarceration, although the CSAC remains unclear on that point.

1 Deliberate indifference can be "manifested by prison doctors in  
2 their response to the prisoner's needs or by prison guards in  
3 intentionally denying or delaying access to medical care or  
4 intentionally interfering with the treatment once prescribed."  
5 Id. In order to establish a plausible claim for failure to  
6 provide medical treatment, Plaintiff must plead sufficient facts  
7 to permit the Court to infer that (1) Plaintiff had a "serious  
8 medical need," and that (2) individual Defendants were  
9 "deliberately indifferent" to that need. *Jett v. Penner*,  
10 439 F.3d 1091, 1096 (9th Cir. 2006); Cf. *Farmer v. Brennan*,  
11 511 U.S. 825, 834, 837 (1994).

12 Plaintiff can satisfy the "serious medical need" prong by  
13 demonstrating that "failure to treat [his] condition could result  
14 in further significant injury or the unnecessary and wonton  
15 infliction of pain." *Jett*, 439 F. 3d at 1096 (internal citations  
16 and quotations omitted); *Clement v. Gomez*, 298 F.3d 898, 904 (9th  
17 Cir. 2002). Examples of such serious medical needs include  
18 "[t]he existence of an injury that a reasonable doctor or patient  
19 would find important and worthy of comment or treatment, the  
20 presence of a medical condition that significantly affects an  
21 individual's daily activities, or the existence of chronic and  
22 substantial pain." *Lopez v. Smith*, 203 F.3d 1122, 1131 (9th Cir.  
23 2000). The Court finds that Plaintiff alleges sufficient facts  
24 to make a plausible showing that his medical need was serious.  
25 Plaintiff suffered a head injury which required sutures, was  
26 suffering from persistent headaches, loss of vision, inability to  
27 move his lower extremities, and urinary retention and  
28 constipation. (CSAC ¶¶ 43, 55, 74, 81.)

1 The Court recognizes that such symptoms not only affected  
2 Plaintiff's daily activities, but also that a reasonable doctor  
3 would find such symptoms noteworthy.

4 The next issue for the Court is whether individual  
5 Defendants were deliberately indifferent to Plaintiff's serious  
6 medical need. The Supreme Court, in *Farmer*, explained in detail  
7 the contours of the "deliberate indifference" standard.  
8 Specifically, individual Defendants are not liable under the  
9 Fourteenth Amendment for their part in allegedly denying  
10 necessary medical care unless they knew "of and disregard[ed] an  
11 excessive risk to [Plaintiff's] health and safety." *Farmer*,  
12 511 U.S. at 837; *Gibson*, 290 F.3d at 1187-88. Deliberate  
13 indifference contains both an objective and subjective component:  
14 "the official must both be aware of facts from which the  
15 inference could be drawn that a substantial risk of serious harm  
16 exists, and he must also draw that inference." *Farmer*, 511 U.S.  
17 at 837. "If a person should have been aware of the risk, but was  
18 not," then the standard of deliberate indifference is not  
19 satisfied "no matter how severe the risk." *Gibson*, 290 F.3d at  
20 1188 (citing *Jeffers v. Gomez*, 267 F.3d 895, 914 (9th Cir.  
21 2001)). Plaintiff "need not show that a prison official acted or  
22 failed to act believing that harm actually would befall on  
23 inmate; it is enough that the official acted or failed to act  
24 despite his knowledge of a substantial risk of serious harm."  
25 *Farmer*, 511 U.S. at 842.

26 ///

27 ///

28 ///

1           Important for purposes of the motions at issue, “[w]hether a  
2 prison official had the requisite knowledge of a substantial risk  
3 is a question of fact subject to demonstration in the usual ways,  
4 including inference from circumstantial evidence, . . . and a  
5 fact finder may conclude that a prison official knew of a  
6 substantial risk from the very fact that the risk was obvious.”  
7 *Id.* (emphasis added) (internal citations omitted); see also  
8 *Lolli v. County of Orange*, 351 F.3d 410, 421 (9th Cir. 2003)  
9 (“Much like recklessness in criminal law, deliberate indifference  
10 to medical needs may be shown by circumstantial evidence when the  
11 facts are sufficient to demonstrate that a defendant actually  
12 knew of a risk of harm.”).

13           “The indifference to medical needs must be substantial; a  
14 constitutional violation is not established by negligence or ‘an  
15 inadvertent failure to provide adequate medical care.’”  
16 *Anderson v. County of Kern*, 45 F.3d 1310, 1316 (9th Cir. 1995)  
17 (quoting *Estelle*, 429 U.S. at 105-06). Generally, defendants are  
18 “deliberately indifferent to a prisoner’s serious medical needs  
19 when they deny, delay, or intentionally interfere with medical  
20 treatment.” *Hallett v. Morgan*, 296 F.3d 732, 744 (9th Cir.  
21 2002); *Lolli*, 351 F.3d at 419. However, “[i]solated incidents of  
22 neglect do not constitute deliberate indifference.” *Bowell v.*  
23 *Cal. Substance Abuse Treatment Facility at Concord*,  
24 No. 1:10-cv-02336, 2011 WL 2224817, at \*3 (E.D. Cal. June 7,  
25 2011) (citing *Jett*, 439 F.3d at 1096).

26 ///

27 ///

28 ///

1 Further, a mere delay in receiving medical treatment, without  
2 more, does not constitute "deliberate indifference," unless the  
3 plaintiff can show that the delay caused serious harm to the  
4 plaintiff. Wood v. Housewright, 900 F.2d 1332, 1335 (9th Cir.  
5 1990).

6  
7 **1. Defendant Hambly**  
8

9 Plaintiff alleges that Defendant Hambly, as a treating  
10 physician, was deliberately indifferent to his serious medical  
11 needs. (Pl.'s Opp. at 11:19-21.) Plaintiff alleges that  
12 Dr. Hambly "evaluated Tandel's medical condition and provided him  
13 a small amount of Bacitracin, an antibiotic." (CSAC ¶ 47.)  
14 Plaintiff further alleges that Hambly allowed "[Plaintiff] to be  
15 placed into Administrative Segregation" and did not arrange for a  
16 follow-up medical visit. (Pl.'s Opp. at 11:25-28.) The Court  
17 finds that these allegations are insufficient to demonstrate that  
18 Hambly was deliberately indifferent as a treating physician.  
19 Nowhere in the CSAC does Plaintiff allege that Hambly, as  
20 Plaintiff's treating physician, personally denied, delayed, or  
21 intentionally interfered with Plaintiff's medical treatment. See  
22 Hallett, 296 F.3d at 744; Lolli, 351 F. 3d at 419. Allegations  
23 that Hambly provided Tandel with an antibiotic and allowed him to  
24 be placed into Administrative Segregation without ensuring he had  
25 any medical follow-up are insufficient to demonstrate that Hambly  
26 was deliberately indifferent to Plaintiff's serious medical  
27 needs.

28 ///

1           Similarly absent from the CSAC are any allegations of  
2 Hambly's supervisory liability. Plaintiff alleges that Hambly  
3 was responsible for the supervision and training of all medical  
4 providers in the main jail in 2007, and that he failed to ensure  
5 that all nurses were properly trained and supervised, which  
6 resulted in Tandel's injury. (Pl.'s Opp. at 12:2-8.) Plaintiff  
7 further alleges that Hambly participated in meetings discussing  
8 environmental factors which impact health, such as overcrowding,  
9 and that he was on notice of the jail's custom and practice of  
10 failing to provide medical care for its inmates. (Id. at  
11 12:9-13, 21-22.) But, as the Court explained earlier, a  
12 statement that a defendant was employed in a supervisory capacity  
13 and acted within the scope of his employment is not sufficient,  
14 by itself, to infer that the defendant should be personally  
15 liable for Plaintiff's alleged constitutional deprivations.

16           Plaintiff relies on Starr and Redman to sustain his claim  
17 that Dr. Hambly should be found deliberately indifferent as a  
18 supervisor. (Pl.'s Opp. at 12:8-22.) In Redman, a plaintiff  
19 specifically alleged that the Sheriff was ultimately in charge of  
20 the facility's operations, that the Sheriff knew that the  
21 facility was not a proper place to detain the plaintiff and posed  
22 a risk of harm to the plaintiff, but placed the plaintiff there  
23 anyway. Redman, 942 F.2d at 1446-47. In Starr, the plaintiff  
24 similarly alleged that the Sheriff knew of the unconstitutional  
25 activities in the jail, including that his subordinates were  
26 engaging in some culpable actions. Starr, 652 F.3d at 1208.

27 ///

28 ///

1 In fact, the plaintiff's complaint in Starr contained numerous  
2 specific factual allegations demonstrating the Sheriff's  
3 knowledge of unconstitutional acts at the jail and the Sheriff's  
4 failure to terminate those acts, including that the U.S.  
5 Department of Justice gave the Sheriff clear written notice of a  
6 pattern of constitutional violations at the jail, that the  
7 Sheriff received "weekly reports from his subordinates  
8 responsible for reporting deaths and injuries in the jails," that  
9 the Sheriff personally signed a Memorandum of Understanding that  
10 required him to address and correct the violations at the Jail,  
11 and that the Sheriff was personally made aware of numerous  
12 concrete instances of constitutional deprivations at the jail.  
13 Id. at 1209-12.

14 Here, on the other hand, Plaintiff's CSAC does not contain  
15 sufficient factual allegations demonstrating that Hambly was  
16 aware of Plaintiff's constitutional deprivations or of any other  
17 wrongful acts by Jail personnel. Dr. Hambly was not the interim  
18 medical director until the beginning of 2007, and yet most of  
19 Plaintiff's allegations that Dr. Hambly was on notice rely on  
20 reports made before he assumed this post. Accordingly, Plaintiff  
21 has not pleaded sufficient facts to support the inference that  
22 Hambly was deliberately indifferent to Plaintiff's medical needs.  
23 Inasmuch as leave to amend has already been accorded, the Court  
24 now dismisses Defendant Hambly from Plaintiff's first claim for  
25 relief.

26 ///

27 ///

28 ///



1                   **2. Defendant Carl**

2

3           Nurse Carl evaluated Plaintiff on three occasions. On

4 May 13, 2007, Nurse Carl saw Plaintiff when Plaintiff complained

5 about persistent headaches. (CSAC ¶ 66.) Nurse Carl consulted

6 with Dr. Smith, who ordered Plaintiff's stitches to be removed

7 and pain medication to be administered. (Id. ¶ 68.) On May 17,

8 2007, after Plaintiff collapsed in the shower, Plaintiff again

9 saw Nurse Carl. (Id. ¶¶ 71-74.) Plaintiff alleges that Carl

10 "failed to engage in even the most rudimentary of the tests for

11 [Central Nervous System] disorders even after being alerted to

12 the new symptoms. . . ." (Id. ¶ 79.) Plaintiff further alleges

13 that Carl cleared Plaintiff, without arranging for any medical

14 follow-up. (Id.) On May 20, 2007, after Plaintiff started

15 complaining about vision loss, urinary retention and

16 constipation, in addition to inability to move his lower

17 extremities and persistent headaches, Carl again saw Plaintiff

18 and referred Plaintiff to see Dr. Smith. (Id. ¶¶ 81-82, 86, 89.)

19 Plaintiff's allegations against Carl still do not rise to the

20 level of deliberate indifference. On the contrary, as previously

21 stated in the first Order, Plaintiff's allegations demonstrate

22 that each time Carl saw Plaintiff, he evaluated Plaintiff's

23 complaints and twice referred Plaintiff to a doctor. While

24 Plaintiff's allegations concerning the incident on May 17 permit

25 the Court to infer that Carl might have been negligent in sending

26 Plaintiff back to the cell, nothing in the CSAC suggests that

27 Carl knew "of a substantial risk of serious harm," but chose to

28 disregard it. See Gibson, 290 F.3d at 1187-88.

1 Carl evaluated Plaintiff three times, but was unable to determine  
2 or diagnose the cause or reason for his pain and symptoms. (Id.  
3 ¶¶ 66-67, 74, 86). Plaintiff's own allegation that, on May 17,  
4 Carl failed to follow the Standardized Nursing Procedure,  
5 supports the inference of negligence, not deliberate  
6 indifference. Because one isolated incident of neglect does not  
7 demonstrate "deliberate indifference," the Court dismisses  
8 Defendant Carl from Plaintiff's first claim. See Jett, 439 F.3d  
9 at 1096.

### 10 11 **3. Defendant Gaddis**

12  
13 Plaintiff alleges that Officer Gaddis did not adequately  
14 respond as the Control Booth Operator to Tandel's requests for  
15 medical assistance. (CSAC ¶¶ 72-73, 331.) Plaintiff specifically  
16 alleges that "Gaddis's failure to properly summon help through  
17 the radio, as is Jail policy, resulted in a delay of necessary  
18 medical care" and that on July 18, Gaddis "ignored his request  
19 for medical care, ignored the call button which was used to  
20 request medical treatment on Tandel's behalf, and admonished  
21 Tandel for using the call button to request medical treatment."  
22 (Pl.'s Opp. at 18:12-17.) The Court finds these allegations  
23 insufficient to state a claim of deliberate indifference against  
24 Officer Gaddis. The only plausible allegation that can lead to  
25 the inference of deliberate indifference on the part of Officer  
26 Gaddis is that he delayed alerting the medical staff of  
27 Plaintiff's medical needs. However, the CSAC fails to allege how  
28 significant the delay was and how the delay harmed Plaintiff.

1 See Hertig v. Cambra, No. 1:04-cv-5633, 2009 WL 62126, at \*4  
2 (E.D. Cal. Jan. 8, 2009) (citing Shapley v. Nevada Bd. of State  
3 Prison Comm'rs, 766 F.2d 404, 407 (9th Cir. 1985)) (“[A] delay in  
4 receiving medical care, without more, is insufficient to state a  
5 claim against a jailor for deliberate indifference unless the  
6 plaintiff can show that the delay in treatment harmed him.”).  
7 Plaintiff does not provide evidentiary support for his conclusion  
8 that the delay resulted in a deterioration of his condition and  
9 eventual paralysis. (See CSAC ¶ 83.)

10 Moreover, “[t]o have acted with deliberate indifference,  
11 . . . the officers also must have inferred . . . that [the  
12 plaintiff] was at serious risk of harm” if he did not receive  
13 immediate medical attention. Lolli, 351 F.3d at 420. The CSAC  
14 fails to provide any evidence beyond mere conclusions that Gaddis  
15 knew that Plaintiff was at serious risk of harm if he did not  
16 receive immediate medical attention. Accordingly, Plaintiff’s  
17 first claim against Defendant Gaddis is also dismissed.

18  
19 **4. Defendant Keillor**  
20

21 Plaintiff alleges that Sergeant Keillor was employed at all  
22 relevant times as supervisory custodial staff at the Jail, and  
23 that Sergeant Keillor was responsible for supervising custodial  
24 staff at the Jail. (CSAC ¶ 322.)

25 ///

26 ///

27 ///

28 ///

1 Plaintiff alleges in his Consolidated Opposition that Keillor  
2 "failed to prevent Gaddis and other officers in her control, from  
3 ignoring Tandel's requests for medical care, ignoring the call  
4 button which was used to request medical treatment, and  
5 admonishing Tandel for using the call button to request medical  
6 treatment." (Pl.'s Opp. at 19:23-25.)

7 As Keillor's alleged liability is based on his supervisory  
8 status, Plaintiff must demonstrate Keillor's "'own culpable  
9 action or inaction in the training, supervision, or control of  
10 his subordinates,' 'his acquiescence in the constitutional  
11 deprivations of which the complaint is made,' or 'conduct that  
12 showed a reckless or callous indifference of others.'" Starr,  
13 652 F.3d at 1205-06 (quoting Larez, 946 F.2d at 646). Plaintiff  
14 does not plead sufficient facts to support the inference that  
15 Defendant Keillor was deliberately indifferent to Plaintiff's  
16 medical needs. Rather, Plaintiff states evidence of Keillor's  
17 actions that suggest Keillor acted properly as a supervisor.  
18 Plaintiff said Keillor was not on duty during the May 17, 2007  
19 incident and that she was "concerned" that she had not been  
20 notified when her duties as custody supervisor commenced later  
21 that day. (CSAC ¶¶ 323-24.) In fact, Keillor acted by reporting  
22 Gaddis for not properly notifying custody and medical personnel  
23 and provided Gaddis with training materials. (Id. at ¶¶ 324-25.)  
24 Clearly, Keillor intervened by reporting Gaddis's negligent act  
25 and by providing her with the appropriate training materials.  
26 Moreover, Plaintiff fails to allege any facts suggesting that  
27 Keillor knew of the alleged constitutional violations before they  
28 occurred and failed to act to prevent them.

1 Thus, Plaintiff does not adequately allege a deliberate  
2 indifference claim against Keillor.

3 Additionally, as clearly stated in the previous Order, there  
4 can be no showing that supervisory defendants should be held  
5 liable under § 1983 without a showing that their subordinates  
6 violated Plaintiff's constitutional rights. Jackson v. City of  
7 Bremerton, 268 F.3d 646, 653 (9th Cir. 2001). Thus, again,  
8 Plaintiff cannot demonstrate that Keillor, as a supervisor, was  
9 deliberately indifferent to Plaintiff's serious medical needs  
10 without first demonstrating that Keillor's subordinate, Defendant  
11 Gaddis, committed a constitutional violation. Accordingly, the  
12 Court dismisses Defendant Keillor from Plaintiff's first claim.

13  
14 **B. Second Claim for Relief: Claims Brought Pursuant to**  
15 **42 U.S.C. § 1983 for Violations of the Eighth and**  
16 **Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution**  
17 **for Failure to Provide Appropriate Medical Care against**  
18 **Defendant Gregory Sokolov in His Individual Capacity**

19 Plaintiff alleges that Dr. Sokolov failed to provide  
20 appropriate medical care during his 2010 incarceration in  
21 violation of the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments. Courts use a  
22 similar "deliberate indifference" standard for claims brought  
23 under the Eighth Amendment for convicted prisoners and the  
24 Fourteenth Amendment for pre-trial detainees. See Gibson v. Cty.  
25 of Washoe, 290 F.3d 1175, 1187, 1190 n.9 (9th Cir. 2002). Thus,  
26 the Court will not readdress the legal standard for Plaintiff's  
27 second claim because it was outlined above for Plaintiff's first  
28 claim for violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

///

1 Plaintiff alleges that (1) Sokolov provided psychiatric  
2 services to Sacramento Main Jail inmates, including Mr. Tandel,  
3 under a contract the County of Sacramento maintains with the  
4 University of California Davis (Pl.'s Opp. at 4:1-3.); (2) On  
5 March 25, 2010, Sokolov refused to admit Tandel into the  
6 psychiatric unit of the jail, despite his alleged acute and  
7 suicidal state, because of his need for medical care that the  
8 psyche unit at the jail was ill-equipped to provide, (Id. at  
9 3:5-7.); (3) Sokolov knowingly left Plaintiff to lay naked on a  
10 mattress on the floor, unable to adequately move, unable to reach  
11 the call button, in severe pain, under-medicated and without  
12 adequate supplies or treatment to urinate or defecate cleanly and  
13 regularly, (CSAC ¶ 172.); (4) As a result of placing Tandel in a  
14 jail cell in the medical unit of the jail, Plaintiff suffered  
15 infection resulting in permanent neurological and spinal cord  
16 damage and extreme pain and suffering. (Pl.'s Opp. at 3:8-11.)

17 The Court finds that, based on the specific factual  
18 allegations in the CSAC and Plaintiff's Opposition, Plaintiff  
19 fails to adequately allege deliberate indifference as to  
20 Plaintiff's serious medical condition. Sokolov suggested Tandel  
21 be placed in the medical unit on suicide watch because he did not  
22 believe the psychiatric unit was equipped to meet Plaintiff's  
23 needs, which presumably shows lack of deliberate indifference  
24 because it was motivated by his desire to find adequate care for  
25 Plaintiff. (Id. at 6:16-19.) Plaintiff does not show that  
26 Sokolov knew or should have known that Plaintiff's medical needs  
27 would not be adequately met in the infirmary.

28 ///

1 Moreover, even if Plaintiff's medical needs were not met in the  
2 infirmary, that does not mean Sokolov should be held liable for  
3 the alleged wrongdoing that occurred while Plaintiff was under  
4 the care of the CHS medical providers because he was not  
5 responsible for Plaintiff's medical needs, but only his  
6 psychiatric needs. Moreover, Plaintiff was seen by a psychiatric  
7 nurse while he was in the medical infirmary because he was on  
8 suicide watch. (CSAC ¶ 167.) Accordingly, the Court grants  
9 Defendant Sokolov's Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's second claim  
10 for relief as to Sokolov.

11  
12 **C. Plaintiff's Sixth Claim for Relief: Claims Brought**  
13 **Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for Violations to the**  
14 **First Amendment to the United States Constitution for**  
15 **Retaliation for Protesting Regarding Unconstitutional**  
16 **and Unlawful Jail Conditions Against Defendants**  
17 **McGinness, Boylan, and Bauer**

18 Plaintiff alleges that McGinness, Boylan and Bauer acted "in  
19 retaliation for Plaintiff Tandel's pending lawsuit." (CSAC  
20 ¶ 432.). Plaintiff alleges that Bauer "inexplicably" reduced  
21 Plaintiff's pain medication after his deposition on April 14,  
22 2010. (Id. ¶ 192.) Further, Plaintiff alleges that McGinness  
23 and Boylan "through Bauer" failed to provide adequate and  
24 effective pain management. (Id. ¶ 431.) Plaintiff also alleges  
25 that McGinness and Boylan "intentionally allowed Tandel to remain  
26 at the jail and did not ensure that his known medical needs were  
27 met." (Id. ¶ 430.) Plaintiff alleges that as a result of these  
28 alleged acts, he "suffered a predictable exacerbation of a  
condition." (Id.)

///

1 In order to state a claim for retaliation, Plaintiff must  
2 demonstrate that: (1) the Jail officials took an adverse action  
3 against him; (2) the adverse action was taken because Plaintiff  
4 engaged in the protected conduct; (3) the adverse action chilled  
5 Plaintiff's First Amendment rights; and (4) the adverse action  
6 did not serve a legitimate penological purpose, such as  
7 preserving institutional order and discipline. Rhodes v.  
8 Robinson, 408 F.3d 559, 568 (9th Cir. 2005); Barnett v. Centoni,  
9 31 F.3d 813, 815-16 (9th Cir. 1994).

10 Plaintiff fails to adequately state a claim for retaliation  
11 because he has not stated facts demonstrating that these  
12 Defendants took an adverse action against him. Plaintiff's  
13 allegation that Bauer "inexplicably" reduced Plaintiff's pain  
14 medication is unfounded because Plaintiff stated in his CSAC that  
15 Bauer had prescribed the two tablets of the medication to be  
16 taken three times a day for "just two days beginning on April 13,  
17 and ending on 14<sup>th</sup>." (CSAC ¶ 190.) Accordingly, Bauer reduced  
18 the prescription on April 15, 2010. (Id. ¶ 192.) Moreover,  
19 Bauer did not disregard the pain that Plaintiff was suffering; in  
20 fact, Bauer changed Plaintiff's medication on April 13, 2010,  
21 because the medication he was taking then turned out to be  
22 inadequate. (Id. ¶ 190.) When Bauer saw Tandel again less than  
23 two weeks later, he increased his prescribed dosage of the  
24 medication after noticing that it was not controlling the pain.  
25 (Id. ¶ 205.) Thus, Bauer's actions were not "inexplicable" and  
26 so Bauer's actions do not rise to a level the Court can consider  
27 to be retaliation.

28 ///



1 Accordingly, County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's  
2 Sixth Claim for Relief against Bauer is granted.

3 Plaintiff further alleges that McGinness and Boylan acted  
4 through Bauer in retaliating, but these allegations are inadequate  
5 given that the Court finds that Bauer did not take an adverse action  
6 against him. Moreover, Plaintiff claims that McGinness and Boylan  
7 retaliated by intentionally allowing Plaintiff to remain at the jail  
8 and no steps were taken to continue his pain management. (Id. ¶  
9 430.) This claim is similarly unfounded because Plaintiff's CSAC  
10 describes steps taken to continue Plaintiff's pain management,  
11 including Bauer's prescription of pain medication and the fact that  
12 Plaintiff was seen on multiple occasions by medical personnel at the  
13 jail during his pending litigation. (See, e.g., id. ¶¶ 190, 194,  
14 200.) Accordingly, County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's  
15 Sixth Claim for Relief against McGinness and Boylan is granted.

16  
17 **D. Plaintiff's Tenth Claim for Relief: Claims Brought for**  
18 **Negligence Against Defendants McGinness, Boylan,**  
19 **Feliciano, Austin, Wilson, Sotak, Kroner, Sahba, Bauer,**  
20 **and Sokolov in Their Individual Capacities**

21 Plaintiff re-alleges that Defendants "negligently, carelessly  
22 and unskillfully cared for, attended to, handled, controlled and  
23 failed to supervise, monitor and attend to Tandel and/or failed to  
24 refer him to medical care providers, negligently failed to provide  
25 physician's care and carelessly failed to detect and monitor his  
26 condition, and negligently, carelessly and unskillfully failed to  
27 possess and exercise the degree of skill and knowledge ordinarily  
28 possessed and exercised by others in the same profession and in the  
same locality as Defendants." (CSAC ¶ 462.)

1 According to Plaintiff, Defendants also failed to supervise,  
2 train and monitor their subordinates, to maintain proper  
3 supervision, classification and staffing and to timely refer  
4 Plaintiff for medical and/or hospital care. (Id. ¶ 463.)  
5 Plaintiff further alleges that the supervisory defendants failed  
6 to conduct appropriate investigatory procedures to determine the  
7 need to obtain medical care for Plaintiff, and failed to have  
8 proper investigation and reports of allegations of subordinates'  
9 wrongful conduct. (Id. ¶ 464.)

10 According to Plaintiff, the Defendants listed knew or had  
11 reason to know that Plaintiff was in need of immediate medical  
12 care, and ongoing follow-up medical care, and failed to take  
13 reasonable action to procure such medical care. (Id. ¶ 465.) As  
14 a result, Plaintiff allegedly suffered damages. (Id. ¶ 466.)

15 Plaintiff does not seek negligence liability against the  
16 County or any official capacity Defendant and so the Court will  
17 not address these issues. (Pl.'s Opp. at 23:8-11.)

#### 18 19 **1. Defendants McGinness and Boylan**

20  
21 Plaintiff alleges that McGinness and Boylan were negligent  
22 in their training, hiring and supervision. The Court granted  
23 Defendants' previous Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's negligence  
24 claim with regard to these Defendants and Plaintiff's CSAC fails  
25 to allege adequate additional facts to change that determination.  
26 Plaintiff alleges that McGinness and Boylan were aware of the  
27 deficiencies of the jail, and yet continued to have Tandel  
28 detained there.

1 In its previous Order, the Court did not consider this conclusory  
2 allegation, standing alone, as sufficient to support a viable  
3 claim for negligence. Since Plaintiff has made no attempt in the  
4 CSAC to flesh out that claim further, it remains just as  
5 inadequate now as it was previously. Therefore, County  
6 Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's negligence claim  
7 against McGinness and Boylan is granted.

8  
9 **2. Defendant Austin**

10  
11 Plaintiff does not allege any adequate additional facts that  
12 Austin negligently treated Tandel, on or about May 14, 2007, in  
13 his CSAC. Thus, the Court finds that County Defendants' Motion  
14 to Dismiss Plaintiff's negligence claim against Austin is without  
15 merit and County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's claim  
16 for negligence as to Austin is granted.

17  
18 **3. Defendant Felicano**

19  
20 Plaintiff alleges that Felicano is a medical provider who  
21 had a duty to render medical care to Tandel and that she  
22 allegedly denied Tandel half of the number of catheters he  
23 reportedly needed. (CSAC ¶¶ 25, 150.) Plaintiff alleges that  
24 Felicano's denial of adequate sterile catheters put Tandel at  
25 risk of a urinary tract infection, kidney damage, bed sores and  
26 other maladies which can and did have profound effects on him.  
27 (Id. ¶ 153.)

28 ///

1 Plaintiff alleges adequate additional facts regarding Nurse  
2 Practitioner Felicano to survive a motion to dismiss a claim for  
3 negligence. Accordingly, County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss  
4 Plaintiff's claim for negligence as to Felicano is denied.

5  
6 **4. Defendant Wilson**

7  
8 Plaintiff alleges that Wilson "was responsible for ensuring  
9 inmates, including Tandel, had access to medical care and  
10 treatment, and failed to provide Tandel with access to necessary  
11 medical treatment." (Pl.'s Opp. at 23:18-20.) Yet, Plaintiff  
12 alleged in his First Amended Complaint ("FAC") that Wilson had in  
13 fact summoned medical care for Plaintiff. (FAC ¶ 71.) Plaintiff  
14 further alleges that Wilson delayed Plaintiff's medical care, but  
15 this isolated incident is inadequate to show negligence. (CSAC  
16 ¶ 255.) Accordingly, County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss  
17 Plaintiff's claim for negligence as to Wilson is granted.

18  
19 **5. Defendant Sokolov**

20  
21 Plaintiff fails to adequately allege a negligence claim for  
22 Defendant Sokolov. As stated previously with respect to  
23 Plaintiff's Second Claim for Relief, Sokolov did not believe the  
24 psychiatric unit could adequately meet Plaintiff's needs given  
25 his medical condition. Thus, Sokolov recommended that Plaintiff  
26 be placed in the medical infirmary on suicide watch, and so a  
27 psychiatric nurse visited him at the medical infirmary.

28 ///

1 Based on this action, Plaintiff cannot show that Sokolov was  
2 negligent in not allowing Plaintiff to enter the psychiatric ward  
3 because Sokolov knew that the ward would not meet Plaintiff's  
4 medical needs. Beyond this decision to place Plaintiff in the  
5 medical infirmary, Sokolov did not have control over the alleged  
6 wrongdoings that occurred during Plaintiff's medical treatment.  
7 Accordingly, Defendant Sokolov's Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's  
8 Tenth Cause of Action as to Sokolov is granted.

9  
10 **6. Defendants Sahba, Sotak, Bauer and Kroner**

11  
12 This Court has already ruled that Plaintiff alleged  
13 sufficient facts to sustain a cause of negligence against Sahba,  
14 Sotak, Bauer and Kroner. [ECF No. 69 at 70:16-21.] Accordingly,  
15 County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Negligence  
16 claims against Sahba, Sotak, Bauer and Kroner is denied.

17  
18 **E. Plaintiff's Eleventh Cause of Action: Claims Brought**  
19 **for Medical Negligence Against Defendants Sotak, Bauer,**  
20 **Sokolov and Sahba**

21 Plaintiff's Eleventh Cause of Action alleging medical  
22 negligence against the medical Defendants Sotak, Bauer, Sokolov  
23 and Sahba is similar to his Tenth Cause of Action alleging  
24 negligence.

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1 Plaintiff alleges in his Eleventh Cause of Action that the  
2 medical defendants "failed to refer him to specialist psychiatric  
3 care providers, negligently failed to provide psychiatric and  
4 psychological care, and carelessly failed to detect, monitor and  
5 follow-up on Tandel's deteriorating psychological condition, thus  
6 negligently, carelessly, and unskillfully failing to possess and  
7 exercise that degree of skill and knowledge ordinarily possessed  
8 and exercised by others in the same profession and in the same  
9 locality as Defendants." (CSAC ¶ 467.) The Court dealt with  
10 similar allegations in Plaintiff's general negligence claim and  
11 so it does not need to further analyze them here. For the  
12 reasons stated in Plaintiff's Tenth Cause of Action with respect  
13 to all four medical Defendants, and in the Court's previous order  
14 on Plaintiff's claim for negligence against Sotak, Bauer and  
15 Sahba, the Court finds that Plaintiff's claim of medical  
16 negligence against Sokolov is inadequate, but his claims of  
17 medical negligence against Sotak, Bauer and Sahba are adequate.  
18 Accordingly, Defendant Sokolov's Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's  
19 Eleventh Cause of Action as to Sokolov is granted. County  
20 Defendants' Motion to Dismiss as to Sotak, Bauer and Sahba is  
21 denied.

22 Defendant does not seek medical negligence liability against  
23 Kroner, the County or any official capacity Defendant and so the  
24 Court will not address the County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss  
25 regarding these parties. (Pl.'s Opp. at 23:8-11.)

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1           **F. County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Newly Named Doe**  
2           **Defendants**

3           County Defendants argue that Plaintiff failed to request  
4 leave of court for the substitution of Defendants Mark Iwasa,  
5 Shelley Jordan, Deputy Jacoby, Deputy Medeiros and Jim Austin, in  
6 the place of DOE Defendants. County Defendants consequently  
7 contend that the inclusion of these individuals in the CSAC is  
8 improper.

9           While not technically correct in terms of the procedure  
10 proposed, the Court nonetheless finds good cause to allow  
11 Plaintiff to name DOE Defendants in this consolidated action.  
12 Plaintiff was granted leave to amend and consolidate his  
13 complaint, and while Plaintiff was not expressly granted leave to  
14 name the DOE Defendants, the Court will overlook this procedural  
15 deficiency since Plaintiff has shown in his papers that the  
16 inclusion of those individuals herein is proper. Specifically,  
17 Plaintiff sought leave to amend to name said Defendants in his  
18 Consolidated Opposition dated June 28, 2012, and demonstrated why  
19 each Defendant belonged in this lawsuit. [ECF No. 90 at  
20 28:15-18.] The Court therefore has before it all necessary  
21 information to grant leave to name DOE defendants and therefore  
22 the filing of a subsequent motion would be redundant and  
23 unnecessary. Accordingly, County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss  
24 the newly named DOE Defendants is denied.

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1           **G.     Sokolov's Motion for a More Definitive Statement**

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3           Defendant Sokolov's motions to dismiss were granted;  
4 therefore, his Motion for a More Definite Statement is deemed as  
5 moot.

6  
7           **H.     County Defendants' Motion to Strike**

8  
9           County Defendants move the Court pursuant to Rule 12(f) of  
10 the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for an order striking  
11 fifteen statements from Plaintiff's CSAC. (MTS) The portions  
12 Plaintiff moves to strike are alleged conversations between  
13 Plaintiff's counsel and County Defense counsel regarding  
14 Plaintiff's medical condition during his 2010 incarceration at  
15 the Main Jail. (Id. at 2-4.) County Defendants contend that  
16 "Plaintiff's allegations regarding such conversations are highly  
17 inappropriate and raise the prospect that both Plaintiff's  
18 counsel and Defense counsel would become witnesses in this case  
19 in support of Plaintiff's claims." (Defs.' Memo. in Support of  
20 MTS at 2:1-3.)

21           Knowledge of the attorney is imputed to his client "where  
22 the knowledge of the attorney has been gained in the course of  
23 the particular transaction in which he has been employed by that  
24 principal." *Zirbes v. Stratton*, 187 Cal. App. 3d 1407, 1413  
25 (Cal. App. 2d Dist. 1986). County Defense counsel had already  
26 been retained for the 2007 lawsuit at the time that these alleged  
27 conversations took place during the time of Plaintiff's 2010  
28 incarceration.



1 The 2007 and 2010 cases are so similar that the lawsuits have  
2 been consolidated by this Court. Thus, it is safe to say that  
3 County Defense counsel had already been retained for the 2007  
4 case at the time of the conversations in 2010, and that therefore  
5 the knowledge of Defense counsel is imputed to Defendants. (See  
6 id.) Accordingly, conversations between Plaintiff's counsel and  
7 County Defense counsel regarding Plaintiff's condition during his  
8 2010 incarceration and allegations impute knowledge to County  
9 Defendants. County Defendants' Motion to Strike these portions  
10 is therefore denied.

11 Denying County Defendants' Motion to Strike these portions  
12 of the Complaint does not require County Defense counsel to waive  
13 the attorney-client privilege. The Court understands that County  
14 Defense counsel was retained for the purpose of litigation only,  
15 but counsel was retained prior to these alleged conversations and  
16 therefore it is assumed that the prudent counsel would have  
17 informed County Defendants of information regarding the  
18 litigation. Given that knowledge of a lawyer is knowledge of the  
19 client, the Court's decision not to strike these portions does  
20 not prejudice the County Defendants because counsel does not need  
21 to admit or deny that counsel shared this information with the  
22 Defendants because such action is presumed. (See id.)

23 Moreover, County Defendants contend that Plaintiff has  
24 already identified County Defense counsel as a witness. The fact  
25 that counsel is a potential witness is not a reason to strike  
26 these portions of the CSAC.

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1 Plaintiff has every right to call County Defense counsel as a  
2 witness with respect to his knowledge and/or participation in the  
3 circumstances surrounding Plaintiff's 2010 incarceration during  
4 the time of that imprisonment.

5 County Defendants have failed to demonstrate that any of the  
6 portions moved to be stricken are irrelevant, prejudicial or  
7 otherwise admissible. Accordingly, the County Defendants' Motion  
8 to Strike is denied.

9  
10 **CONCLUSION**

11  
12 For the reasons stated above, County Defendants' and  
13 Defendant Sokolov's motions are granted in part and denied in  
14 part, consistent with the foregoing, as follows:

15 1. With respect to County Defendants' Motion to Dismiss  
16 [ECF No. 80]:

17 a) Plaintiff's First Claim under § 1983 for failure to  
18 provide adequate medical care is GRANTED as to Hambly, Carl,  
19 Gaddis and Keillor;

20 b) Plaintiff's Sixth Claim under § 1983 for  
21 retaliation for protesting is GRANTED as to Bauer, Boylan  
22 and McGinness;

23 c) Plaintiff's Tenth Claim for negligence is GRANTED  
24 as to McGinness, Boylan, Wilson, and Austin, and is DENIED as to  
25 Felicano, Sahba, Sotak, Bauer and Kroner;

26 d) Plaintiff's Eleventh Claim for medical negligence  
27 is DENIED as to Sotak, Bauer and Sahba;

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1 e) Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's newly  
2 named Doe Defendants is DENIED.

3 2. With respect to Defendant Sokolov's Motion to Dismiss  
4 [ECF No. 76]:

5 a) Plaintiff's Second Claim under § 1983 for failure  
6 to provide adequate medical care is GRANTED as to Sokolov;

7 b) Plaintiff's Tenth Claim for negligence is GRANTED  
8 as to Sokolov;

9 c) Plaintiff's Eleventh Claim for medical negligence  
10 is GRANTED as to Sokolov.

11 3. Sokolov's Motion for a More Definitive Statement [ECF  
12 No. 76] is deemed as moot because his Motion to Dismiss was  
13 granted.

14 4. County Defendants' Motion to Strike [ECF No. 81] is  
15 DENIED.

16 Because Plaintiff has already been accorded leave to amend,  
17 and since his attempts to plead cognizable claims against the  
18 various defendants remain unavailing as set forth above, no  
19 further leave to amend will be permitted as to the claims  
20 dismissed herein.

21 IT IS SO ORDERED.

22 Dated: August 21, 2012

23  
24 

25 MORRISON C. ENGLAND, JR.  
26 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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