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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

ROY L. WILSON,  
CDCR #G-26646,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
CORRECTIONS; CORRECTION  
MANAGEMENT CORP., INC.;  
UNIDENTIFIED CHIEF MEDICAL  
OFFICER [CMO]; Dr. A. BLAIN,  
Dr. M. FRAZE; K. WYATT, RN;  
T. KIRBY, CCII; J. JIMENEZ, CCII;  
and A. MILLER, Warden,

Defendants.

Civil No. 13cv1455 BTM (KSC)

**ORDER:**

**(1) GRANTING PLAINTIFF’S  
MOTION TO PROCEED  
IN FORMA PAUPERIS  
(ECF Doc. No. 4)**

**AND**

**(2) SUA SPONTE DISMISSING  
COMPLAINT FOR FAILING TO  
STATE A CLAIM PURSUANT  
TO 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915(e)(2)  
AND 1915A(b)**

Roy L. Wilson (“Plaintiff”), currently incarcerated at California Men’s Colony (“CMC”) in San Luis Obispo, California, and proceeding pro se, has initiated this civil action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12131.

Plaintiff is a 57-year old insulin-dependent diabetic who claims Defendants, most of whom are medical officials employed at either CMC and/or Centinela State Prison

1 (“CEN”), violated his rights to adequate medical care under both the ADA and the  
2 Eighth Amendment while he was incarcerated there between June 2012 and April 2013.  
3 *See* Compl. (ECF Doc. No. 1) at 2-4. Specifically, Plaintiff alleges to have broken his  
4 right wrist and/or thumb in June 2012 at CEN, but for “unknown reasons and without  
5 any explanation,” went “untreated” until his transfer to a “medical prison” in April 2013.  
6 *Id.* at 3-4. Plaintiff seeks declaratory relief as well as nominal, compensatory and  
7 punitive damages. *Id.* at 6.

8 After he was denied leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* (“IFP”) pursuant to 28  
9 U.S.C. § 1915(a) without prejudice on July 31, 2013 due to his failure to provide the  
10 trust account certificates required by § 1915(a)(2) (ECF Doc. No. 3), Plaintiff submitted  
11 a new Motion to Proceed IFP, which now includes the trust account documentation  
12 required by statute (ECF Doc. No. 4).

### 13 **I. PLAINTIFF’S MOTION TO PROCEED IFP**

14 As Plaintiff is aware, all parties instituting any civil action, suit or proceeding in  
15 a district court of the United States, except an application for writ of habeas corpus, must  
16 pay a filing fee. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a).<sup>1</sup> An action may proceed despite the plaintiff’s  
17 failure to prepay the entire fee only if he is granted leave to proceed IFP pursuant to 28  
18 U.S.C. § 1915(a). *See Rodriguez v. Cook*, 169 F.3d 1176, 1177 (9th Cir. 1999).  
19 However, if the plaintiff is a prisoner and is granted leave to proceed IFP, he  
20 nevertheless remains obligated to pay the entire fee in installments, regardless of whether  
21 his action is ultimately dismissed. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1) & (2); *Taylor v.*  
22 *Delatoore*, 281 F.3d 844, 847 (9th Cir. 2002).

23 Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915, as amended by the Prison Litigation Reform Act  
24 (“PLRA”), a prisoner seeking leave to proceed IFP must also submit a “certified copy  
25 of the trust fund account statement (or institutional equivalent) for . . . the six-month  
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27 <sup>1</sup> In addition to the \$350 statutory fee, all parties filing civil actions *on or after May 1,*  
28 *2013*, must pay an additional administrative fee of \$50. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a), (b); Judicial  
*Id.* Conference Schedule of Fees, District Court Misc. Fee Schedule (eff. May 1, 2013). However,  
the additional \$50 administrative fee is waived if the plaintiff is granted leave to proceed IFP.

1 period immediately preceding the filing of the complaint.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2);  
2 *Andrews v. King*, 398 F.3d 1113, 1119 (9th Cir. 2005). From the certified trust account  
3 statement, the Court must assess an initial payment of 20% of (a) the average monthly  
4 deposits in the account for the past six months, or (b) the average monthly balance in the  
5 account for the past six months, whichever is greater, unless the prisoner has no assets.  
6 *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1); 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(4). The institution having custody of  
7 the prisoner must collect subsequent payments, assessed at 20% of the preceding  
8 month’s income, in any month in which the prisoner’s account exceeds \$10, and forward  
9 those payments to the Court until the entire filing fee is paid. *See* 28 U.S.C.  
10 § 1915(b)(2).

11 In support of his new IFP application, Plaintiff has submitted the certified copies  
12 of his trust account statements required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2) and S.D. CAL. CIVLR  
13 3.2. *Andrews*, 398 F.3d at 1119. The Court has reviewed Plaintiff’s trust account  
14 statements, as well as the attached prison certificate issued by a trust account official at  
15 CMC where he is currently incarcerated verifying his account history and available  
16 balances. Plaintiff’s statements show an average monthly balance of \$10.83, average  
17 monthly deposits of \$10.83, and an available balance in his account of \$15.00 at the time  
18 it was submitted to the Court for filing. Based on this financial information, the Court  
19 GRANTS Plaintiff’s Motion to Proceed IFP (ECF Doc. No. 4) and assesses an initial  
20 partial filing fee of \$2.16 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1).

21 However, the Secretary of the California Department of Corrections and  
22 Rehabilitation, or his designee, shall collect this initial fee only if sufficient funds in  
23 Plaintiff’s account are available at the time this Order is executed pursuant to the  
24 directions set forth below. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(4) (providing that “[i]n no event  
25 shall a prisoner be prohibited from bringing a civil action or appealing a civil action or  
26 criminal judgment for the reason that the prisoner has no assets and no means by which  
27 to pay the initial partial filing fee.”); *Taylor*, 281 F.3d at 850 (finding that 28 U.S.C.  
28 § 1915(b)(4) acts as a “safety-valve” preventing dismissal of a prisoner’s IFP case based

1 solely on a “failure to pay ... due to the lack of funds available to him when payment is  
2 ordered.”). The remaining balance of the \$350 total owed in this case shall be collected  
3 and forwarded to the Clerk of the Court pursuant to the installment payment provisions  
4 set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1).

5 **II. INITIAL SCREENING PER 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915(e)(2)(b)(ii) AND 1915A(b)(1)**

6 Notwithstanding IFP status or the payment of any partial filing fees, the PLRA  
7 also obligates the Court to review complaints filed by all persons proceeding IFP and by  
8 those, like Plaintiff, who are “incarcerated or detained in any facility [and] accused of,  
9 sentenced for, or adjudicated delinquent for, violations of criminal law or the terms or  
10 conditions of parole, probation, pretrial release, or diversionary program,” “as soon as  
11 practicable after docketing.” See 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915(e)(2) and 1915A(b). Under these  
12 provisions of the PLRA, the Court must sua sponte dismiss complaints, or any portions  
13 thereof, which are frivolous, malicious, fail to state a claim, or which seek damages from  
14 defendants who are immune. See 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915(e)(2)(B) and 1915A; *Lopez v.*  
15 *Smith*, 203 F.3d 1122, 1126-27 (9th Cir. 2000) (en banc) (§ 1915(e)(2)); *Rhodes v.*  
16 *Robinson*, 621 F.3d 1002, 1004 (9th Cir. 2010) (discussing 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)).

17 “[W]hen determining whether a complaint states a claim, a court must accept as  
18 true all allegations of material fact and must construe those facts in the light most  
19 favorable to the plaintiff.” *Resnick v. Hayes*, 213 F.3d 443, 447 (9th Cir. 2000); *see also*  
20 *Barren v. Harrington*, 152 F.3d 1193, 1194 (9th Cir. 1998) (noting that § 1915(e)(2)  
21 “parallels the language of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6)”). However, while  
22 a plaintiff’s allegations are taken as true, courts “are not required to indulge unwarranted  
23 inferences.” *Doe I v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.*, 572 F.3d 677, 681 (9th Cir. 2009) (internal  
24 quotation marks and citation omitted). Thus, while the court “ha[s] an obligation where  
25 the petitioner is pro se, particularly in civil rights cases, to construe the pleadings  
26 liberally and to afford the petitioner the benefit of any doubt,” *Hebbe v. Pliler*, 627 F.3d  
27 338, 342 & n.7 (9th Cir. 2010) (citing *Bretz v. Kelman*, 773 F.2d 1026, 1027 n.1 (9th Cir.  
28 1985)), it may not, in so doing, “supply essential elements of claims that were not

1 initially pled.” *Ivey v. Board of Regents of the University of Alaska*, 673 F.2d 266, 268  
2 (9th Cir. 1982). “Vague and conclusory allegations of official participation in civil  
3 rights violations” are simply not “sufficient to withstand a motion to dismiss.” *Id.*

4 **A. 42 U.S.C. § 1983**

5 “Section 1983 creates a private right of action against individuals who, acting  
6 under color of state law, violate federal constitutional or statutory rights.” *Devereaux v.*  
7 *Abbey*, 263 F.3d 1070, 1074 (9th Cir. 2001). Section 1983 “is not itself a source of  
8 substantive rights, but merely provides a method for vindicating federal rights elsewhere  
9 conferred.” *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386, 393–94 (1989) (internal quotation marks  
10 and citations omitted). “To establish § 1983 liability, a plaintiff must show both (1)  
11 deprivation of a right secured by the Constitution and laws of the United States, and (2)  
12 that the deprivation was committed by a person acting under color of state law.” *Tsao*  
13 *v. Desert Palace, Inc.*, 698 F.3d 1128, 1138 (9th Cir. 2012).

14 **B. Improper Defendants**

15 **1. CDCR & CMC**

16 As an initial matter, the Court finds that to the extent Plaintiff names the  
17 “California Department of Corrections” and the “Correction Management Corp., Inc.”  
18 (“CMC”) as Defendants, his claims must be dismissed sua sponte pursuant to both 28  
19 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2) and § 1915A(b) for both failing to state a claim and for seeking  
20 damages against defendants who are immune. The State of California’s Department of  
21 Corrections and Rehabilitation (“CDCR”) and any state correctional agency, sub-  
22 division, or department under its jurisdiction are not persons subject to suit under § 1983.  
23 *Hale v. State of Arizona*, 993 F.2d 1387, 1398–99 (9th Cir. 1993) (holding that a state  
24 department of corrections is an arm of the state, and thus, not a “person” within the  
25 meaning of § 1983). And if by naming the CDCR or the CMC Plaintiff really seeks to  
26 sue the State of California itself, his claims are clearly barred by the Eleventh  
27 Amendment. *See Alabama v. Pugh*, 438 U.S. 781, 782 (1978) (per curiam) (“There can

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1 be no doubt . . . that [a] suit against the State and its Board of Corrections is barred by  
2 the Eleventh Amendment, unless [the State] has consented to the filing of such a suit.”).

3 Therefore, to the extent Plaintiff seeks monetary damages against the CDCR and  
4 the CMC, his Complaint is dismissed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii), (iii) and  
5 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1) & (2).

## 6 2. Respondeat Superior and Individual Liability

7 Plaintiff also names A. Miller, the Warden of Centinela State Prison, an  
8 unidentified Chief Medical Officer (“CMO”) at CEN, Dr. M. Frazee, T. Kirby, and J.  
9 Jimenez as Defendants. *See* Compl. at 1-2. However, his Complaint contains virtually  
10 no allegations that any of these individuals knew of or took any part in any constitutional  
11 violation. “Because vicarious liability is inapplicable to . . . § 1983 suits, a plaintiff must  
12 plead that each government-official defendant, through the official’s own individual  
13 actions, has violated the Constitution.” *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 676 (2009); *see*  
14 *also Jones v. Community Redevelopment Agency of City of Los Angeles*, 733 F.2d 646,  
15 649 (9th Cir. 1984) (even pro se plaintiff must “allege with at least some degree of  
16 particularity overt acts which defendants engaged in” in order to state a claim).

17 First, Plaintiff includes Warden Miller and the unnamed CMO as parties because  
18 they are “responsible” for “conditions and operations at Centinela,” for “implementing  
19 and maintaining all medical policies,” and for “supervising all medical staff[ing].” *See*  
20 Compl. at 2 ¶¶ 4, 5. Plaintiff includes no further details as to what Miller or the CMO  
21 specifically did, or failed to do, which resulted in the violation of any constitutional  
22 right. *Iqbal*, 662 U.S. at 678 (noting that FED.R.CIV.P. 8 “demands more than an  
23 unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation,” and that “[t]o survive a  
24 motion to dismiss, a complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true,  
25 to ‘state a claim for relief that is plausible on its face.’”) (quoting *Bell Atlantic Corp. v.*  
26 *Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555, 570 (2007)).

27 Thus, to the extent it appears Plaintiff seeks to sue Warden Miller and the CMO  
28 only by virtue of their positions within the prison and/or their supervisory duties over

1 other correctional or medical officials, in order to avoid the respondeat superior bar, his  
2 pleading must include sufficient “factual content that allows the court to draw the  
3 reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged,” *Iqbal*, 556  
4 U.S. at 678, and include a description of personal acts by each individual defendant  
5 which show a direct causal connection to a violation of specific constitutional rights.  
6 *Taylor v. List*, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045 (9th Cir. 1989). A supervisor is only liable for the  
7 constitutional violations of his subordinates if the supervisor participated in or directed  
8 the violations, or knew of the violations and with deliberate indifference, failed to act to  
9 prevent them. *Wilson v. Seiter*, 501 U.S. 294, 303 (1991); *Taylor*, 880 F.2d at 1045. If  
10 there is no affirmative link between a defendant’s conduct and the alleged injury, there  
11 is no deprivation of the plaintiff’s constitutional rights. *Rizzo v. Goode*, 423 U.S. 362,  
12 370 (1976).

13 Plaintiff’s Complaint similarly lacks specific “factual content that allows the court  
14 to draw the reasonable inference” that M. Frazee, T. Kirby, or J. Jimenez may be held  
15 personally liable for any misconduct, and thus also fails to “state a claim to relief that is  
16 plausible on its face.” *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 678 (citing *Twombly* 550 U.S. at 556, 570).  
17 Plaintiff identifies M. Frazee as a “medical doctor” and an “employee” at CEN “at the  
18 time of the events in [ ]his complaint,” but never mentions him again. *See* Compl. at 2  
19 ¶ 7. The same is true for T. Kirby, who is merely identified as a “Health Care Appeals  
20 Coordinator,” *id.* ¶ 9, and J. Jimenez, who is described as a “CCII (co-ordinator).” *Id.*  
21 ¶ 10.

22 Thus, as currently pleaded, the Court finds Plaintiff’s Complaint sets forth no facts  
23 which might be liberally construed to support any sort of individualized constitutional  
24 claim against Warden Miller, CEN’s unidentified CMO, Dr. M. Frazee, T. Kirby, or J.  
25 Jimenez, all of whom are purportedly being sued based on the positions they hold and  
26 not because of any individually identifiable conduct alleged to have caused Plaintiff  
27 injury. “Causation is, of course, a required element of a § 1983 claim.” *Estate of Brooks*  
28 *v. United States*, 197 F.3d 1245, 1248 (9th Cir. 1999). “The inquiry into causation must

1 be individualized and focus on the duties and responsibilities of each individual  
2 defendant whose acts or omissions are alleged to have caused a constitutional  
3 deprivation.” *Leer v. Murphy*, 844 F.2d 628, 633 (9th Cir. 1988) (citing *Rizzo*, 423 U.S.  
4 at 370-71). Therefore, Plaintiff has failed to state a claim against any of them and his  
5 Complaint requires dismissal on this basis pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2) and  
6 § 1915A(b). *See Lopez*, 203 F.3d at 1126-27; *Resnick*, 213 F.3d at 446.

### 7 **C. Americans with Disabilities Act**

8 Plaintiff also cites to the ADA, 42 U.S.C. § 12131, in the caption of his Complaint,  
9 *see* Compl. at 1, and he claims to be an “insulin[-]depend[e]nt diabetic,” *id.* at 4;  
10 however, his Complaint focuses only on allegedly inadequate medical treatment related  
11 to a June 20, 2012 wrist injury, and fails to allege facts sufficient to show that any prison  
12 or medical official discriminated against him “solely by reason of disability.” *Lee v.*  
13 *City of Los Angeles*, 250 F.3d 668, 691 (9th Cir. 2001) (citation and internal quotation  
14 marks omitted); *see also Simmons v. Navajo County, Ariz.*, 609 F.3d 1011, 1022 (9th Cir.  
15 2010) (“The ADA prohibits discrimination because of disability, not inadequate  
16 treatment for disability.”).

17 Thus, to the extent Plaintiff intends to raise a separate cause of action under the  
18 ADA, his Complaint fails to currently state a claim upon which relief can be granted.  
19 *See Lopez*, 203 F.3d at 1126-27; *Resnick*, 213 F.3d at 446.

### 20 **D. Inadequate Medical Care Claims**

21 Finally, Plaintiff does allege some specific facts as to the two remaining  
22 Defendants: K. Wyatt, RN, and Dr. A. Blain. Plaintiff contends that on or about June  
23 20, 2012, Wyatt, a nurse, “properly diagnosed a fracture to [his] right hand / thumb area,”  
24 and recommended an x-ray. *See* Compl. at 5. However, Plaintiff further contends “for  
25 unknown reasons and without any explanation,” Wyatt then “terminated” “all medical  
26 treatment(s).” *Id.* On the following day, June 21, 2012, Plaintiff alleges Dr. A. Blain  
27 “refused” to examine him and “allowed [his] medical condition to go untreated.” *Id.*

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1 Based on this incident, Plaintiff concludes both Wyatt and Blain acted with “conscious  
2 disregard” and in violation of the Eighth Amendment.<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

3 As to Plaintiff’s medical care, only “deliberate indifference to a [his] serious  
4 illness or injury states a cause of action under § 1983.” *Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97,  
5 105 (1976). First, he must allege a “serious medical need” by demonstrating that “failure  
6 to treat [his] condition could result in further significant injury or the ‘unnecessary and  
7 wanton infliction of pain.’” *McGuckin v. Smith*, 974 F.2d 1050, 1059 (9th Cir. 1991),  
8 *overruled on other grounds by WMX Techs., Inc. v. Miller*, 104 F.3d 1133 (9th Cir. 1997)  
9 (en banc) (citing *Estelle*, 429 U.S. at 104). Plaintiff contends he suffered a fracture in  
10 his right wrist, hand, or “thumb area” on or about June 20, 2012. *See* Compl. at 3, 5.  
11 Thus, the Court will assume, for purposes of screening pursuant to 28 U.S.C.  
12 § 1915(e)(2) and § 1915A, that Plaintiff had a serious medical need that required medical  
13 attention under the Eighth Amendment. *See McGuckin*, 974 F.2d at 1059.

14 However, even assuming Plaintiff’s injury was sufficiently objectively serious to  
15 invoke Eighth Amendment protection, he must also include in his pleading enough  
16 factual content to show that Defendants Wyatt and Blain’s actions on June 20, 2012 and  
17 June 21, 2012 were “deliberately indifferent” to his needs. *Id.* at 1060; *see also Jett v.*  
18 *Penner*, 439 F.3d 1091, 1096 (9th Cir. 2006). “This second prong—defendant’s response  
19 to the need was deliberately indifferent—is satisfied by showing (a) a purposeful act or

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21 <sup>2</sup> Plaintiff also invokes the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment in relation  
22 to the denial of his medical care. *See* Compl. at 5. However, “[i]f a constitutional claim is  
23 covered by a specific constitutional provision . . . the claim must be analyzed under the standard  
24 appropriate to that specific provision, not under the rubric of substantive due process.” *County*  
25 *of Sacramento v. Lewis*, 523 U.S. 833, 843 (1998) (quoting *United States v. Lanier*, 520 U.S.  
26 259, 272 n.7 (1997)); *accord Albright v. Oliver*, 510 U.S. 266, 272-73 (1994) (noting that when  
27 a broad “due process” violation is alleged, but a particular amendment “provides an explicit  
28 textual source of constitutional protection” against a particular sort of government behavior,  
“that Amendment, not the more generalized notion of ‘substantive due process,’ must be the  
guide for analyzing these claims.” (quoting *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386, 395 (1989));  
*Fontana v. Haskin*, 262 F.3d 871, 882 (9th Cir. 2001). The Eighth Amendment prohibits  
punishment that involves the “unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain.” *Estelle*, 429 U.S. at  
103 (quoting *Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153, 173 (1976)). It is this principle that “establish[es]  
the government’s obligation to provide medical care for those whom it is punishing by  
incarceration.” *Id.* Accordingly, Plaintiff’s inadequate medical care claims are properly  
analyzed under the Eighth, rather than the Fourteenth Amendment’s standards.

1 failure to respond to [the] prisoner’s pain or possible medical need and (b) harm caused  
2 by the indifference.” *Jett*, 439 F.3d at 1096. “Deliberate indifference is a high legal  
3 standard,” and claims of medical malpractice or negligence are insufficient to establish  
4 a constitutional deprivation. *Simmons v. Navajo County*, 609 F.3d 1011, 1019 (9th Cir.  
5 2010) (citing *Toguchi v. Chung*, 391 F.3d 1051, 1060 (9th Cir. 2004)).

6 As currently pleaded, Plaintiff claims that while Wyatt “properly” diagnosed his  
7 injury to involve a fracture and “suggested” an x-ray to the doctors, Compl. at 5, no x-ray  
8 was provided “for unknown reasons.” *Id.* Plaintiff’s only allegation involving Dr. Blain  
9 is that he or she “refused” to examine him the following day. *Id.* Plaintiff concludes that  
10 this exposed him to “excessive risk” and is evidence of Wyatt and Blains’ “conscious  
11 disregard,” *id.*, however, without more, these “[t]hreadbare recitals of the elements of a[n]  
12 Eighth Amendment] cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not  
13 suffice.” *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 678 (citing *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 555).

14 “Deliberate indifference” is evidenced only when a prisoner can show that the  
15 official he seeks to hold liable “kn[ew] of and disregard[ed] an excessive risk to inmate  
16 health and safety; the official must be both aware of facts from which the inference could  
17 be drawn that a substantial risk of serious harm exist[ed], and he must also [have]  
18 draw[n] the inference.” *Farmer v. Brennan*, 511 U.S. 825, 837 (1994). Specifically,  
19 Plaintiff must allege “factual content,” *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 678, which demonstrates “(a)  
20 a purposeful act or failure to respond to [his] pain or possible medical need, and (b) harm  
21 caused by the indifference.” *Wilhelm*, 680 F.3d at 1122 (citing *Jett*, 439 F.3d at 1096).  
22 The requisite state of mind is one of subjective recklessness, which entails more than  
23 ordinary lack of due care. *Snow v. McDaniel*, 681 F.3d 978, 985 (9th Cir. 2012) (citation  
24 and quotation marks omitted); *Wilhelm*, 680 F.3d at 1122.

25 Here, while Plaintiff may not have agreed with Defendant Wyatt or Blain’s failure  
26 to provide him with an x-ray and/or to examine him on one particular occasion, *see*  
27 Compl. at 5, his disagreement, without more does not provide sufficient “factual content”  
28 to plausibly suggest that either Wyatt or Blain acted with deliberate indifference. *Iqbal*,

1 556 U.S. at 678 (“The plausibility standard is not akin to a ‘probability requirement,’ but  
2 it asks for more than a sheer possibility that a defendant has acted unlawfully.”). “A  
3 difference of opinion between a physician and the prisoner—or between medical  
4 professionals—concerning what medical care is appropriate does not amount to deliberate  
5 indifference.” *Snow v. McDaniel*, 681 F.3d 978, 987 (9th Cir. 2012) (citing *Sanchez v.*  
6 *Vild*, 891 F.2d 240, 242 (9th Cir. 1989)); *Wilhelm*, 680 F.3d at 1122-23. Rather, Plaintiff  
7 “must show that the course of treatment the doctors chose was medically unacceptable  
8 under the circumstances and that the defendants chose this course in conscious disregard  
9 of an excessive risk to [his] health.” *Snow*, 681 F.3d at 988 (citing *Jackson*, 90 F.3d at  
10 332) (internal quotation marks omitted).

11       Indeed, in *Estelle* the Supreme Court rejected a prisoner’s Eighth Amendment  
12 claim that prison doctors should have done more by way of diagnosis and treatment after  
13 he injured his back, and emphasized that “the question whether an X-ray or additional  
14 diagnostic techniques or forms of treatment is indicated is a classic example of a matter  
15 for medical judgment” and “does not represent cruel and unusual punishment.” 429 U.S.  
16 at 107. The same is true here as to Plaintiff’s alleged lack of care on June 20 and June  
17 21, 2012.

18       Accordingly, the Court finds that Plaintiff has failed to state an Eighth Amendment  
19 inadequate medical care claim against either Defendant Wyatt or Blain, and that these  
20 claims must also be dismissed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2) and § 1915A(b). *See*  
21 *Lopez*, 203 F.3d at 1126-27; *Resnick*, 213 F.3d at 446.

22       Because Plaintiff is proceeding *in pro se*, however, the Court having now provided  
23 him with “notice of the deficiencies in his complaint,” will also grant him an opportunity  
24 to “effectively” amend. *See Akhtar v. Mesa*, 698 F.3d 1202, 1212 (9th Cir. 2012) (citing  
25 *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1261 (9th Cir. 1992)).<sup>3</sup>

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27       <sup>3</sup> Finally, the Court notes that while Plaintiff need not allege in his Complaint that he has  
28 exhausted all administrative remedies as are available pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1997e(a), *see*  
*Jones v. Bock*, 549 U.S. 199, 216 (2007) (concluding that the “failure to exhaust is an affirmative  
defense under the PLRA, and . . . inmates are not required to specially plead or demonstrate  
exhaustion in their complaints.”), it appears from the face of his pleading that his purported

1 **III. CONCLUSION AND ORDER**

2 Good cause appearing, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that:

3 1. Plaintiff’s Motion to proceed IFP pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a) (ECF  
4 Doc. No. 4) is **GRANTED**.

5 2. The Secretary of the California Department of Corrections and  
6 Rehabilitation, or his designee, shall collect the \$2.16 initial filing fee assessed by this  
7 Order from Plaintiff’s prison trust account, and shall forward the remaining \$347.84  
8 balance of the full fee owed by collecting monthly payments from Plaintiff’s account in  
9 an amount equal to twenty percent (20%) of the preceding month’s income and shall  
10 forward payments to the Clerk of the Court each time the amount in the account exceeds  
11 \$10 in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2). **ALL PAYMENTS SHALL BE**  
12 **CLEARLY IDENTIFIED BY THE NAME AND NUMBER ASSIGNED TO THIS**  
13 **ACTION.**

14 3. The Clerk of the Court is directed to serve a copy of this Order on Jeffrey  
15 A. Beard, Secretary, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, P.O. Box  
16 942883, Sacramento, California, 94283-0001.

17 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that:

18 4. Plaintiff’s Complaint is **DISMISSED** without prejudice for failing to state  
19 a claim pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915(e)(2)(b) and 1915A(b). However, Plaintiff is  
20 **GRANTED** forty five (45) days leave from the date this Order is entered into the Court’s  
21 docket in which to file a First Amended Complaint which cures all the deficiencies of  
22 pleading noted above. Plaintiff’s Amended Complaint must be complete in itself without  
23 reference to his original pleading. *See* S.D. CAL. CIVLR 15.1; *Hal Roach Studios, Inc.*  
24 *v. Richard Feiner & Co., Inc.*, 896 F.2d 1542, 1546 (9th Cir. 1989) (“[A]n amended  
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26 medical care claims may *not* have been fully exhausted prior to the initiation of this suit. *See*  
27 *Compl.* at 4 ¶ 22 (“Plaintiff ‘did not’ exhaust all of the [a]dministrative [r]emedies regarding  
28 the matters described herein.”). Plaintiff is hereby advised that “[t]he available remed[y] must  
be ‘exhausted’ *before* a complaint under § 1983 may be entertained.” *McKinney v. Carey*, 311  
F.3d 1198, 1199 (quoting *Booth v. Churner*, 523 U.S. 731, 738 (2001) (emphasis added)).  
“Exhaustion subsequent to the filing of suit will not suffice.” *Id.*

1 pleading supersedes the original.”); *King v. Atiyeh*, 814 F.2d 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987)  
2 (citation omitted) (“All causes of action alleged in an original complaint which are not  
3 alleged in an amended complaint are waived.”).

4       Should Plaintiff fail to file an Amended Complaint within the time provided, the  
5 Court shall enter a final order dismissing this civil action without prejudice based on  
6 Plaintiff’s failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted pursuant to 28 U.S.C.  
7 § 1915(e)(2) and § 1915A(b).

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Dated:       February 18, 2014

  
BARRY TED MOSKOWITZ  
CHIEF JUDGE