

Lately I feel that I have made some progress in handling the ward and the patients. Things seem to run rather smoothly. For one thing, I have instituted a preventive system of toileting and passing around urinal bottles which saves a fair amount of bed changing and linen, and also patients' discomfort of lying in a wet bed for a couple of hours. For another, I have had good results with a confused but big and strong parietic. Orders are to put him in restraints (cuffs and straps to tie his hands to the bed) in the evening. He seems quite harmless when out of restraints, has never disturbed the other patients or failed to obey the attendant; but is sometimes over-active, and likes to pile the chairs up on the porch. He came over from the other ward with a reputation for having needed four men to hold him while being put into restraints, which irk him greatly. So I had my 3 workers help me put him in one night. As he approached him, he reacted, apparently in fear, ~~and~~ and we had to struggle with him and force him into the restraints. So the next night I tried an experiment: while the workers were around, ^{the ward} but not beside me, I approached his bed with the cuffs and straps. Seeing only one person, he did not get disturbed ~~ore~~ fearful at all, but allowed me to put the restraints on without any resistance. The same thing happened the next night (last night).