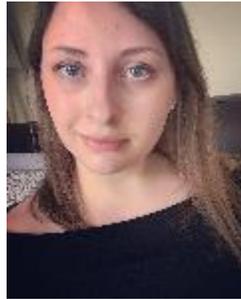


MISSING SINCE 2002

Rebecca aged 29, a sufferer since 13 years old



Missing from society, her dream career to be a Veterinary nurse, being independent, socialising and relationships, walking, running, cycling, travelling, driving, playing tennis, partying, missed out on 'teen' and 'twenties' years, and much, much more...

Rebecca has had ME so severe she has been completely bedbound unable to care for herself, hospitalised on a number of occasions and tube fed because of severe nausea and weight loss. She had to live in a darkened bedroom for years with only her parents to care and support her through such crippling exhaustion, severe debilitating weakness and dizziness, extreme nausea, sensitivity to light or sound, head and body pain, and bowel and bladder disturbances. She also suffers from POTS (postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome) and developed osteoporosis as a result of ME.

Rebecca had to endure graded exercise and cognitive behavioral therapy on a few occasions from health professionals from a young age, where her illness was treated as though it was psychological and she could exercise/think her way out of the illness. This was detrimental to her health and in fact made her worse, most likely contributing to the fact she has never recovered from ME.

She is still hugely debilitated by the above ME symptoms all these years on, and still lives at home supported by her parents, unable to be independent and living life.

She receives no medical treatment.

ME is still misunderstood and not taken seriously even after having the illness for 16 years. At nearly 30 years old this year, she feels as though her life is passing her by and she hopes and prays a cure is found for such a **debilitating but neglected illness**.