

IMDS Transformational Collaborative Outcomes Management (TCOM) Vignette

Melissa is a 16 year old Asian American female who is currently residing with her biological parents and brother. She was recently arrested at a rave for being under the influence of ecstasy. She was charged with possession of illegal substances. She was court ordered to drug treatment and ongoing random drug screens. She says that she likes to party and does not understand what the big deal is. She says she does drugs daily.

Her parents are extremely worried and shocked about her behavior. They say that she is on the honor roll and a member of the National Honor Society. They are worried the legal issues will affect her membership in the NHS. She says that she is popular and has lots of friends who drink and do drugs and is angry that she has to be the one to go through treatment.

Her parents were born in Korea and moved to the United States to have a better life when the mother got pregnant with Melissa's brother. Her father is an engineer and her mother works at the post office. They struggle with their English, but they seem to manage their daily routine ok. Melissa speaks English well, but gets frustrated that her parents don't understand American teen culture. She frequently argues with them about her social life. She says that they don't let her sleep over friends' houses and her curfew is much earlier than her peers. She also feels that her parents are more lenient with her older brother, Teddy, who is 18.

Her parents report that she is irritable spends most of her time in her room, and they can hear her crying at night. They say that she has lost weight over the past few months, doesn't talk to them about things, and seems jittery. They don't understand why she is angry all the time since they feel that living in America has more opportunities than Korea.

Melissa says she is not currently sexually active, but was date raped at a rave about two months ago. She refuses to tell her parents because she was high on ecstasy that night and is anxious about reliving the incident. She just wishes her parents would understand what it is like to be a teenager and let her do what she wants.

Melissa admitted that she sneaks out of the house sometimes to hang out with her friends when her parents think she's sleeping. She says that when she is with her friends, they prefer going to raves and underage clubs so they can dance and party. She admits she misses school on Mondays after partying, but goes the other days. She said that she can't wait to get out of her house and go to college so she can live a normal life. She wants to be a nurse when she grows up.

Her family is reportedly close. They go to church every Sunday and have family gatherings afterward. Her parents report that they spend every Sunday with their siblings and their children. Melissa said that she hangs out with her cousins and they share a similar peer group.