

SELMA BLAIR, FACTITIOUS DISORDER CASE, OCTOBER 2019

Updated December 20, 2019

Updates are noted below

Below is my case about Selma Blair's claim that she has Multiple Sclerosis. Below I also provide some of my background: Please see the below mentioned 2018 and 2019 internationally distinguished books written by renowned authors in which two of my cases are presented, one about which I have been receiving international media coverage since December 2017, and have demonstrated, via substantial proof and substantial evidence, to tens of millions of people, that the famous athlete's claims to have climbed Mt. Everest in May 2017 are multifacetedly fraudulent.

First some background about myself:

I was interviewed by CNN in 2008 for 1.5 hours by telephone about my case against a woman who I proved has been feigning profound autism for a multitude of years, Amanda Baggs. All national media coverage of her, and her involvement with MIT, quickly stopped. My case is discussed in the 2018 book of eminent Factitious Disorder specialist Dr. Marc Feldman of Dartmouth Medical School. His book is *Dying To Be Ill* and my case is presented from page 90-92.

<https://www.routledge.com/Dying-to-be-Ill-True-Stories-of-Medical-Deception-1st-Edition/Feldman-Yates/p/book/9781138063839>

In 2019, I uncovered an unprecedented case of sports fraud against world-renowned runner Kilian Jornet of Spain; and my case is discussed in the 2019 book of the elite sports writer Adharanand Finn. The book is *The Rise of the Ultra Runners*; and my case is presented from page 221-223.

<http://pegasusbooks.com/books/rise-of-the-ultrarunners-cl-9781643131351-hardcover> My case has been receiving international media coverage since December 2017.

My above sports fraud case is also discussed from page 203-207 in the following 2019 distinguished book, *The Best American Sports Writing 2019*.

<https://www.hmhbooks.com/shop/books/The-Best-American-Sports-Writing-2019/9781328507853>

Introduction

Below is my case against Selma. I show that there are an array of considerations that significantly undermine her claim that she has Multiple Sclerosis, and that she instead has Factitious Disorder, which is a severe and complex psychiatric disorder.

I first saw the ABC News Nightline interview with Selma Blair (8 minute 36 second video linked below), and she demonstrated a halting vocal problem that she states is a part of her Multiple Sclerosis.

Selma Blair describes the moment she received her multiple sclerosis diagnosis

February 2019, ABC News YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aHkihCdQGk>



The screenshot shows a YouTube video player interface. The video title is "Selma Blair describes the moment she received her multiple sclerosis diagnosis". The video has 1,794,280 views and was uploaded on Feb 27, 2019. The channel is ABC News with 6.98M subscribers. The video player shows a thumbnail of Selma Blair and the interviewer, with the text "nightline SELMA BLAIR THE INTERVIEW" overlaid. The video progress bar shows 0:02 / 8:36.

The vocal problem is not consistent.
At 2:00 - 2:10 it is not present.

At 6:26 - 6:52 it decreases by about 90%.

At 2:23 onward for a few seconds, she discusses how she, herself, wanted an MRI, that she "asked" for it, that no one wanted to do it, and that she argued to the doctors that she should have one. Aside, I speculate that one was not done, or that if it was, it was negative. The doctors clearly did not think that doing it was warranted. Moreover, she does not discuss the result of the MRI – for example where the demyelination plaques are. She discusses everything else in great detail, but not this. A classic facet of Factitious Disorder is that persons with the disorder have a need to dictate what their doctors should do, including ordering MRIs, and other tests. Selma is extremely wealthy and certainly has elite doctors who would easily order a MRI if they felt it was even minimally warranted; and she can easily afford the cost of it, and surely her insurance would pay for it anyway. Elite doctors know when to suspect Multiple Sclerosis, and when to order a MRI. Moreover, doctors (general practitioners) if they suspect MS, refer patients to neurologists, who order MRIs. Selma never talks about whether the doctor was her general practitioner or a neurologist - she never discusses the referral process from general medicine to specialty medicine, nor, gives her neurologist's name. (See below about the television interview in which it is stated that the doctor who is interviewed is "not Selma Blair's doctor").

From 3:57 onward, she is shown using a cane wearing extremely thin high-heel shoes, that have very minimal coverage around the foot, and a very narrow toe-box. I have never heard of anyone who who would wear such shoes who relies on a cane for walking, and who repeatedly describes that she has tremendous difficulty with coordination and falling. 5:57 onward shows her shoes slightly better.

(1) The issue of Spasmodic Dysphonia (the above vocal problem):

Selma Blair Reveals Her MS Led to Spasmodic Dysphonia

<https://www.self.com/story/selma-blair-ms-spasmodic-dysphonia>

The article discusses Spasmodic Dysphonia in detail, but does not show that it is a symptom of MS, and instead characterizes it as a separate condition. Moreover, the title of the article demonstrates that Selma, herself, is claiming that her MS caused her Spasmodic Dysphonia.

This one page medical article/poster discusses whether it is a "rare symptom" or whether there is a "possible association".

Spasmodic Dysphonia in MS: A Rare Symptom or a Possible Association

https://www.bcm.edu/neurology-apps/pdf/poster_msc_Dysphonia.pdf

I am familiar with the intricacy of MS and have discussed this with a multitude of experts, and none of us consider it to be a symptom of MS, nor something that co-occurs with MS.

I believe that Selma has contrived this symptom in order to provide the public, via her television coverage, and to provide her friends/family/acquaintances, via her in-person interaction with her, a constant reminder to them that she is "ill". By presenting herself with such a voice, she persistently conveys to people that she is "ill". As is often the case with many people with MS, they look, talk, and act normally, such that it is impossible to discern that they have MS. Selma surely did not want anyone judging her as looking normal, as seeming not ill, and questioning her supposed diagnosis; so she contrived a persistent symptom in order to prevent this from happening, and she surely uses her great skill as an actor to alter her voice in the way that she does. I speculate that she does not do this at home with her son in their home, and provides him with some explanation about why it occurs in certain contexts rather than other contexts.

(2) The issue of this treatment, Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation (HSCT):

Selma Blair shares the latest on her battle with MS

Good Morning America

August 1, 2019

2 minutes 30 second video

<https://abcnews.go.com/GMA/Wellness/video/selma-blair-shares-latest-battle-ms-64703271>

From 0:18 seconds onward, the narrator comments about her Instagram page and how she provides a photo of her legs and mentions HSCT. This is the photo.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/B0krQC4nDbH/>

Update December 2019: Selma removed the photo from her Instagram account. The following is the photo, as provided at the above ABC News video at 0:18 seconds onward.



From 0:40 seconds onward, a doctor is shown and identified as Dr. Ilana Katz-Sand of Mount Sinai Hospital, and is stated to **"not be treating Selma Blair"**. I find it to be baffling that not one of her doctors, nor any clinician of hers, is ever interviewed, neither on television (there are many television segments on her), nor in the multitude of major media articles (magazines, etc).

The last half of the television segment is about the treatment, and includes an interview with a person with MS who received the treatment.

At 1:13 onward, a diagram is shown discussing that the HSCT treatment includes chemotherapy, which brings me to the below issue.

Selma claims that her HSCT doctor is Dr. Richard Burt of Northwestern University. Dr. Burt's contact person is Marla Paul marla-paul@northwestern.edu.

Below I discuss this matter further.

(3) The issue of Selma's hair loss:

The following articles have some Instagram photos of her (scrolling down the article).

<https://www.womenshealthmag.com/health/a28551406/selma-blair-ms-treatment-hair-loss-instagram/>

<https://www.allure.com/story/selma-blair-hair-loss-acceptance-ms-treatment-instagram>

In the upclose one of her wearing glasses, she states that she doesn't mind her hair loss but will mind it if her eyebrows fall out. I've never heard of chemotherapy that does not affect eyebrows.

[selmablair](#)

"I have had this scab on my head for two months. It stands out to me as much as my newly bald head. I don't mind it. I don't mind the hair loss either. But if my eyebrows totally fall out, I am gonna be singing a different tune".

Update December 2019: As is shown in the above articles, and by clicking on the above Instagram webpage, Selma apparently removed the photo that was used in the above articles, thereby making the photo-box in the articles empty. This [search-result](#) shows that this quote of hers was reported by a multitude of major media. The following is from the 3rd paragraph of the above Allure Magazine article, demonstrating that she had the photo and statement at her Instagram account:

"Then, in a follow-up post from yesterday, Blair revealed that she's had a scab on her head for two months but really didn't notice it until now. "It stands out to me as much as my newly bald head. I don't mind it. I don't mind the hair loss either. But if my eyebrows totally fall out, I am gonna be singing a different tune," reads her candid caption."

In this Today article, under the video-box down the page,

<https://www.today.com/popculture/selma-blair-describes-early-multiple-sclerosis-symptoms-throwback-photo-t149973>

it is reported,

"She said she cut her hair off because she could no longer raise her arms to brush it."

At this article, toward the end, her son is shown cutting her hair with scissors, <https://www.news.com.au/entertainment/celebrity-life/so-beautiful-selma-blairs-bold-new-look/news-story/00682d343edab46cbbaeb1ed3d2c735b>

which is also posted here,

https://www.instagram.com/p/B0VScVKnu7o/?utm_source=ig_embed

It is therefore unclear about whether her hair loss is due to chemotherapy or is done via cutting/shaving. Moreover, there are a multitude of photos of her to the present (October 15, 2019) that show that she has no eyebrow hair loss. Given that her eyebrows have not fallen out, I would conclude that she hair-clips and shaves her scalp, and cannot keep her story consistent about it. She consistently is shown with a close hair-clipped scalp, which of course does not occur from chemotherapy, but rather, occurs from using hair-clippers. There are a few photos what likely is her shaved scalp, for example:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/B062hpoH5vu/>

Her underlying dark hair can be seen, which does not occur during chemotherapy.

The below photo is likely of a newly shaved scalp

<https://www.instagram.com/p/B1JWlQGnirz/>

because there are no other photos that show this degree of hair-loss over time. Moreover, and again, her eyebrows would have also fallen out, as when one's scalp hair falls out, so does one's eyebrow hair.

The below photo shows what appears to be scabbing on the top of her scalp, likely from the use of a shave-razor. Moreover, her underlying dark hair can be seen, which shows that her hair-loss is from shaving her scalp, not from chemotherapy.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/B0wVhTUnaCh/>

(4) Possible cause of her Factitious Disorder:

This [search-result list](#) discusses her public presentation that she had severe postpartum depression for 4 years.

I am familiar with the relationship between Factitious Disorder and postpartum depression, and would speculate that by feigning MS, she invigorates her life, both via sympathy from her son, friends, and family, and especially via major media coverage and Internet demonstrations, which tens of millions of people see.

(5) MRI report

I have contacted an array of major media journalists who have interviewed Selma and have asked them to ask Selma if they could interview her own doctor (the doctor who ordered the MRI, and who received the MRI report from the radiologist (a 1-2 page written report from the radiologist), and who diagnosed her with MS, rather than the doctor in the Good Morning America segment who has never met nor treated Selma, and not any other of Selma's doctors. I speculate that Selma would decline permitting them to interview her diagnosing doctor. I speculate that there is no diagnosing doctor. I have also asked the journalists to ask her if she could provide them with a copy of her MRI-report (a 1-2 page written report done by the MRI radiologist who read the MRI); and to be sure to ask for it to be sent to them by her doctor's office, and not by her, as MRI reports can be fabricated (I revealed a case 2 years ago where there is considerable certainty that the mother (a nurse in the MS field) of a 15 year old girl fabricated a MRI report). I doubt that Selma would permit this, and that she would invoke her HIPAA privacy right, which is what the above mother did. Aside, MS is clearly diagnosed via MRI, which shows demyelination plaques.

Also, she reports in the below article

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/selma-blair-ms-diagnosis_n_5c755270e4b03a10c2321531

that she has "aggressive MS", for which there surely would be abundant findings by MRI.

Other

Regarding the below article about how Selma's doctors, when she sought them for help with her symptoms, did not take her seriously, and my above mention about how she asked her doctors for an MRI,

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/selma-blair-ms-diagnosis_n_5c755270e4b03a10c2321531

this is a core facet of Factitious Disorder: Patients conceive of themselves as being their own doctors, and superior to their real doctors, and desperately want various medical exams and treatments, despite that their doctors, and usually a multitude of doctors, think that there is no basis for such exams and treatments. If doctors even minimally suspect MS, they order MRI's, especially for very wealthy people who can easily afford the approximate \$1500-\$2000 meager cost. The imaging takes only about 30-40 minutes, and is 100% non-harmful. That they did not order one for Selma clearly indicates that the above symptoms of hers are not of MS.

Aside, Factious Disorder patients may go so far as to electronically modify their medical-records: For example, she could have asked for her MRI report, and then modified it as she wanted.

Aside, regarding whether Selma is claiming that her MRI is normal and that she nevertheless has MS, and that MRI's do not always reveal MS, below [\(the main Instagram link\)](#)

<https://www.instagram.com/p/B2mGRLwn2Vg/>

she states that she had an "immediate diagnosis" via her MRI.

"[selmablair @xoxocalilove](#) once I finally had an mri it was an immediate diagnosis"



Aside, I speculate that her photos of her legs having injection-injury sites are contrived. An essence of Factitious Disorder is that the people chronicle all aspects of their condition, and treatment related symptoms, and will go so far as to cut their own hair, shave their heads, pull out their hair, and even (and quite easily so) prick their bodies, or pound their bodies, in order to replicate the effect of being stuck with needles, and in order to replicate bruising.

Aside, regarding her vocal-problem, and the periods of the interview where it stops, she likely, during those moments, forgot about it. She is an elite actress, and is likely acting the vocal-problem; and for those periods of time in which the problem stops, she likely forgot about acting it.

Other

Further evidence/proof of Factitious Disorder. A recent update about Selma's claimed HSCT (stem cell treatment) doctor. This article (below)

<https://multiplesclerosisnewstoday.com/columns/2019/09/09/stem-cell-program-that-treated-selma-blair-closes-its-doors/>

is about how her claimed doctor, Dr. Richard Burt, closed his HSCT clinic 6 weeks ago (approximately July 29, 2019 per the September 9, 2019 date of the article), and that "Follow-ups ended in January 2018". Selma, as reported by many media companies, reported to the media companies, such as the below ones,

<https://www.healthline.com/health-news/actress-selma-blair-undergoing-stem-cell-treatment-for-multiple-sclerosis>

<https://abcnews.go.com/GMA/Wellness/selma-blair-breakthrough-stem-cell-treatment-ms/story?id=64705558>

that she received HSCT in 2019. More specifically, the above ABC News article at the top states, "Actress Selma Blair is undergoing a treatment to reboot her immune system as she continues her battle with multiple sclerosis (MS)." The article is of August 1, 2019. The Good Morning America article of July 25, 2019 that is linked in it states, at the top, "Selma Blair discharged from care, will be 'immunocompromised for next three months'". How could Selma be receiving HSCT treatment from a clinic that discontinued follow-up treatment in January 2018? Moreover, and entailed by the this, the clinic would not have started new treatments (that is, in July 2019) pending it's planned closure of 6 weeks ago (approximately July 29, 2019).

Other

I began sending my case-report against Selma to her covering-journalists in early August; and regarding my above mention about how her eye-brows have not fallen out, I noticed this recent article

<https://www.shape.com/celebrities/news/selma-blair-eyelashes-falling-out-multiple-sclerosis-side-effect>

"My right eyelashes all fell out except 3 corner ones," she recently shared in an [Instagram post](#). "Happened in end of August."

However, the Instagram post was apparently removed by Selma; and there are no photos showing any eye-brow hair loss to the current date.

My impression is that none of her hair has fallen out, that she shaves her head, and that the minute cuts on her scalp were from a shaving-razor. She herself admits to cutting and shaving her head; and there are abundant photos on her Instagram page showing her hair gradually growing back (1-2mm of hair), which does not occur that quickly in people with hair-loss due to chemotherapy. She has never shown photos of hair-loss that is caused by chemotherapy, she surely cut/shaved her own head in order to evade suspicion about why her hair did not fall out, and she was unwilling to shave her own eyebrows because of the dramatic change to her facial-appearance that would have been entailed. Again, as discussed above:

"I don't mind the hair loss either. But if my eyebrows totally fall out, I am gonna be singing a different tune."

Other

Selma is likely using the media to keep herself perpetually in the public-eye. Every week there is something new about her, such as the most recent "[peach fuzz](#)" photos of her face. People with Factitious Disorder have a strong need to maintain themselves in the public-eye, and will manipulate media in order to do this. A few weeks ago she sustained mass media coverage by posting [photos](#) <https://www.instagram.com/p/B2H511-H23D/> (second photo) <https://www.instagram.com/p/B1cqgL7nAZ3/> of her butt on her social-media.

Other: Selma's son

As is the case with many persons who have Factitious Disorder, they enjoy subjecting their children and other family members to their complex fraud. Selma, as shown in many of her Instagram photos, has a young son, and actively involves him in her condition, including, as shown by many photos, having him cut her hair. He certainly is assailed with persistent worry and grief about Selma's condition, which is another thing that perpetrators of this kind of fraud enjoy: They enjoy hindering the quality of life of their children, family, and friends. Selma's son is in his highly delicate childhood, and will surely be affected throughout his life by the grievous worry that Selma has subjected him to. Moreover, usually children are a major focus of parent's thought, emotion, and activities; and it is likely the case that Selma, by persistently feigning symptoms around him, constantly succeeds at refocusing the attention to herself; and this grievous selfishness, which is a facet of her severe mental illness, is surely not only harming her son now, but will harm him throughout his life, as he is in an extremely important developmental phase of his life, and has a very delicate psychology, as all children do; and to have a severely mentally ill mother persistently demonstrating symptoms, and passively wanting the attention redirected to her, a horrible void in his mind will occur, which is not only currently endamaging, but will be so throughout his life.

Update, October 2019

USA Today did the following article, in which Time Magazine's video-interview is also provided.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/entertainment/celebrities/2019/10/17/selma-blair-trying-aggressive-chemotherapy-ms/4011899002/>

<https://time.com/5703469/time-100-health-summit-life-changing-treatments/>

Time's YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0QJvZIEDNo>

As is evident, the video of Selma talking, moving, and socially interacting is radically different than all of the other videos of her that are provided from the start of this case-report onward. In particular, she about 50% of the time shows no discernible speech problem – a problem which she previously claimed, floridly presented, and which was discussed earlier in this report. Of the remaining approximate 50% of the time, she shows only a very minimal speech problem. In the other videos of her, her speech problem is extremely pronounced, and essentially persistent.

Moreover, as is also evident, her style of speech, and eye-movements, and head movement, are now akin to Michael J. Fox's speech difficulties, eye movement difficulties, and head movement difficulties. While Selma does not display these symptoms to the *degree* that Michael does, the symptoms that she displays are similar in nature. She essentially no longer floridly presents her highly modulated and stilted speech.

In the above provided Good Morning American interview, Selma discusses contacting Michael about an array of things. Below are some articles that discuss their ensuing communication:

[News search results](#)

<https://www.today.com/health/selma-blair-shares-sweet-photo-michael-j-fox-best-thank-t151534>

<https://people.com/health/selma-blair-spends-time-with-michael-j-fox/>

<https://www.foxnews.com/entertainment/selma-blair-posts-photo-with-michael->

[j-fox-after-revealing-he-helped-her-cope-with-ms-diagnosis](#)

The following is three minute segment of a television interview with Michael on CBS Sunday Morning with Jane Pauley.

CBS Sunday Morning: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OLzuUVfoJ8>

It is evident that Selma, as is shown in the above Time television-interview, is now acting like Michael, including now slowing her speech, having speech delays, having a slurred speech, gyrating her eyes and head, etc., all of which she did not do in the television interviews of her that are provided at the start of this report, such as her Good Morning American television interview, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aHkihCdQGk>

Also, her People television-interview

<https://people.com/tv/selma-blair-multiple-sclerosis-journey-son-arthur/>

Factitious Disorder issue:

It is common among many people with Factitious Disorder to modify their symptom presentations based on (a) becoming fatigued from presenting particular symptoms, or becoming disinterested in presenting particular symptoms, and (b) the need to sustain the public's sympathy for them. Selma likely moved on to presenting a new array of symptoms as a way to reinvigorate herself, and to try to reinvigorate the public's sympathy for her, as it is known that the public becomes tired of seeing the same thing month after month, and finds such changes to reinvigorate their interest. Moreover, by apparently emulating Michael J. Fox's presentation, Selma likely intends to try to benefit from the tens of millions of people world-wide who have seen Michael on television, and who care deeply for him. This change of Selma's is likely done in order to sustain, and maximize, the media's interest in her, and the public's

interest in her. There are many Factitious Disorder cases in which the person moves from one serious medical disorder to another; and in the above case of mine that is reported in eminent expert Dr. Marc Feldman's book *Dying To Be Ill*, the person with Factitious Disorder, Amanda Baggs of Burlington, Vermont, began with Dissociative Identity Disorder, and then after a few years switched to Schizophrenia, and then several years later switched to profound non-verbal Autism.

Update, December 2019

Below are three hospital-room, or doctor's office room, pictures that Selma uses in her Instagram account and which have been used by many major media. Two of the pictures are of her in the same hospital or doctor's office room. The first picture below has a writing-board with the date of July 23, 2019, which is consistent with the above discussed matter about Dr. Burt's discontinuation of even follow-up HSCT (stem-cell) treatment in January 2018. I believe that the below pictures are from Emergency Room visits to a hospital, or visits to other doctor's offices. Aside, despite Selma's abundance of Instagram pictures that display various things about her Multiple Sclerosis, and which thank Dr. Burt, she never took any pictures with her and any of her clinical staff. There are no pictures that show where she received HSCT treatment, and by whom.

Sources of the 3 pictures:

<https://www.healthline.com/health-news/actress-selma-blair-undergoing-stem-cell-treatment-for-multiple-sclerosis>

https://i0.wp.com/post.healthline.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Selma_Blair_1296x728-header-1296x728.jpg?w=1155&h=1528

<https://www.womenshealthmag.com/health/a28799492/selma-blair-health-update-ms-stem-cell-treatments-instagram/>

<https://hips.hearstapps.com/hmg-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/images/selma-blair-health-update-1566580929.jpg>

<https://www.womenshealthmag.com/health/a28785762/selma-blair-pink-wig-video-ms-instagram/>

<https://hips.hearstapps.com/hmg-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/images/screenshot-2019-08-22-at-11-39-19-am-1566488819.png>





