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Judge Orders Nebraska To Pay in Beatrice Development Center Case

(KLZA) A judge has ordered Nebraska to pay \$150,000 to a Lincoln woman whose son nearly died because of poor treatment he received at the state-run Beatrice State Developmental Center in 2008.

Gage County District Judge Paul Korslund ruled Wednesday that a doctor at the center was negligent for failing to examine Ian Ham after he had a feeding tube improperly reinserted.

But Korslund rejected the argument that Ham was cared for improperly before the feeding tube incident.

Ian, who is mentally disabled and has diabetes, had a swallowing disorder. His mother, Sandra Ham, filed the lawsuit.

Ian Ham was among nearly 50 people considered medically fragile moved out of the troubled center in 2009 following the death of an 18-year-old who received what state officials have acknowledged was inadequate care.

Associated Press