

Cruel mum in €142k scam over 'sick child'

By Aleisha Scott

A HEARTLESS mother put her son through medical misery so she could cheat her way to £130,000 (€142,000) in benefits by pretending he was "one of the sickest children in Britain".

The 35 year old claimed £20,000 a year in disability living allowance for six-and-a-half years by forcing her young son to be fed through a tube.

She had told doctors the boy had diabetes and spiked his urine samples with glucose, and conned paediatricians into believing he needed a wheelchair, claiming he had cerebral palsy, cystic fibrosis, and countless food allergies.

At Exeter Crown Court yesterday, the woman, who cannot be named for legal reasons, admitted cruelty on a person under 16 from which she caused or procured a child to be ill-treated, causing unnecessary suffering, and a charge of intending to pervert the course of justice. Judge Stephen Wildblood ordered psychiatric reports ahead of sentencing at a date to be fixed.

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