

Kathleen Medical Status, Monday, 12/6/2014 – Home, Resting, Happy St. Nick Day!

If you are just reading this, please consider reviewing the Kathleen Medical Status, 11/24/2014, 11/20/2014, 11/12/2014, 9/18/2014, 8/26/2014, 8/17/2014, 7/25/2014, 6/28/2014, 6/13/2014, 6/8/2014, 5/26/2014, 5/10/2014, 5/4/2014, 4/29/2014, 4/25/2014 and 4/21/2014, previously sent out and posted on FACEBOOK as well as on a web page at <http://www.pfmc.info/KathleenHealth.htm>.

As we reported on 11/24/2014, Kathleen was finished all the Emergency Room (ER) and Hospital tests. She was discharged on Wednesday, 11/26/2014, just in time to supervise a big Thanksgiving Dinner for 14 people.

Our primary doctors, Kalola and Patel, worked with Dr. Barnish, Garden State Infectious Disease Control, to improve the status of the left leg and the severe cellulitis which required PICC line antibiotics for several days. Even though she had her PICC line they reduced the antibiotics to oral Cipro before discharge. On Monday, 12/1/2014, follow-up, Dr. Barnish said she was doing so well he would remove the PICC line and give her one more week of oral Cipro and advise Dr. Kalola and Dr. Patel to put her back on Bactrim if they are happy with blood tests for potassium levels and kidney functions.

Dr. Wellens and her team made a wound vac installation to stimulate the healing of the wound from the inside out in the hospital and ordered a portable unit for installation at home. The portable wound vac was installed by Bayada Home Health Wound Care Supervisor RN Stacey on Black Friday. It is being monitored for effectiveness and changes on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday by Bayade Home Health Wound Care RN Theresa. Dr. Wellens took off the wound vac for inspection on Monday, 12/1/2014, and was very impressed with the nearly half CM of healing that took place since the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. RN Theresa says the wound is healing nicely with the wound vac.

Thanks for all the outpouring of comments, prayers, thoughts, etc. Kathleen and I both feel them. We are doing our best to work through all the frustrations, infections, pain, etc.

Kathleen is able to communicate on her cell phone, 1-856-261-4974. Please be patient if she does not respond immediately to calls. Please leave a voice message if Kathleen does not answer before her phone goes to message. She will call you back. We suggest holding the phone calls until the evenings and being patient for her voice or e-mail responses. She will be checking her e-mail, pfmckmw@verizon.net when she has time for that.

Bayada Home Care will resume Physical Therapy (PT) this next week. We hope to stay with the PT and home exercise until the left leg wound heals with complete closure for swimming both at home as well as at Virtua Health and Wellness Aqua Therapy.

Not to give you more concern but Kathleen had her whole body dermatology screen after coming home from PowerBack Rehabilitation. Several items of concern were found and a lot of items were frozen. She had to have two items biopsied. One on her finger turned out to be a Squamous Cell and that had to undergo further surgery (Mohs) while the second on her right leg turned out to be a surface Melanoma which also had to undergo further surgery. Both of these were dealt with this past week and Kathleen is healing nicely. This will take several weeks due to large surface wounds.

Finally, the teeth needed attention and #15 had to be extracted. Her teeth have been cleaned and filled / fixed so she is now happy with her smile. Not too happy with a few days of cold soft food then warm soft food and now back to a normal diet. The antibiotics have again killed the taste buds but that will recover when she finishes the Cipro next week.

Hope you all had a very Happy Thanksgiving. We did with 14 of us around the table and Kathleen happy with her turkey.

Thanks again for all the comments, prayers and good thoughts.

Keith, 856-261-4975, keithwerner42@verizon.net.