

Kathleen Medical Status, Thursday, 9/18/2014

If you are just reading this, please consider reviewing the Kathleen Medical Status, 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>.

Kathleen was moved from Virtua Marlton Rehabilitation Hospital Room 205D to PowerBack Rehabilitation Room 224 on Friday, 9/5/2014. We will probably be here into October with a goal for Kathleen to walk out of here.

She has worked with Physical Therapy (PT) and Occupational Therapy (OT) to improve her ability to move from bed to wheelchair and recently wheelchair to raised commode apparatus. Initially she had to use a transfer board but quickly moved to standing up and transferring without the board. She still has problems with the pivot of 90 degrees from bed to wheelchair and wheelchair to commode chair. Often this is because of the spinal stenosis impacting on the nerve communications to the legs. The muscles and ligaments want to do their thing but the commands and responses are not getting to them. Kathleen is getting everything strong and can stand up from the wheelchair and walk straight for ever increasing distances. Thank God for staying with us and all the prayers to keep her making progress.

As we mentioned in the 8/26/2014 status report there was a spot on her left ankle that appeared after the spacer surgery on 6/13/2014 but was not seen or treated until the staple removal on 6/30/2014. That spot had been treated for weeks from 6/30/2014 to the 8/15/2014 surgery and had reduced in size from about 2" x 4" to about a quarter size. What came out of the 8/15/2014 surgery was a deep depression wound about 3" in diameter. It is being treated for healing from the bottom up. Apparently the surgical procedure requires some sort of pulling device attached to the ankle area and this causes this wound which must be treated by wound care personnel to aid in the healing process. There was supposed to be a surgical consult in Marlton Rehabilitation Hospital for possible surgical debridement. Dr. Wellens, our Podiatrist, got a consult for Podiatry but it did not include wound care which she could have accomplished. The Medical Team at PowerBack Rehabilitation claimed on admission that they would consult their Wound Care Team for possible surgical debridement but that did not happen until we asked about it. We see Dr. Wetzler today and the Wound Care Team on Friday. This wound is keeping Kathleen from the excellent aqua therapy available here at PowerBack Rehabilitation. It will take about 3 weeks before this wound closes.

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

I completed my day surgery for my kidney stone on Wednesday, 9/3/2014, and the stent was removed on Monday, 9/8/2014. I have to do a 24 hour lab test two weeks before returning to see Dr. Goldenberg on Tuesday, 10/21/2014. Hopefully if I can follow the diet changes everything will be OK and I will not have to deal with more Kidney Stones.

Kathleen is able to communicate on her cell phone, 1-856-261-4974. Please be patient if she does not respond to calls. We suggest holding the phone calls until the evenings when I can be with her and being patient for her voice or e-mail responses.

I will be checking her e-mail, pfmckmw@verizon.net when I have time for that.

Thanks for all the prayers and good thoughts.

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