

December 11, 2011

We are happy to say Dr Attinger performed the surgery Friday. Friday was a very long day. Matt's surgery was pushed back. He didn't go to pre-op until 4:30pm. When it was all said and done he was back in his room around 11:30pm. It was a very long night getting pain under control.

Matt is doing well. He has been tired but actually the pain seems to be under control. Friday night I had a brief conversation with Dr. Attinger. He told me they did perform the surgery. Today I spoke with another doctor, who was part of the surgical team, and was given more details. The muscle they used for the procedure was a little thinner than they expected. When it was pulled over the wound it didn't cover the bone all the way. Doctors put a wound vac on to stimulate the growth of the muscle/tendon and to guard against infection. Dr Attinger told me he still thinks we should be able to come home for Christmas and when we come back they will do the skin graft. The doctor today, said they were also discussing doing the skin graft this Tuesday. Tomorrow they will have a meeting and decide what will be best for Matt.

Honestly, we were a little disappointed with the news. But we are thankful there is a covering and protection over the wound. We were really hoping this would be the final surgery. The IV medications are clearing up the infections. Doctor did say the cultures from last week are still growing infections. (I feel like a broken record.) Some are rare which is nothing new to us because of the nature of the injury. Tomorrow we should know if they are growing anything from the cultures they took Friday. The infections could compromise the flap so we pray these infections will be completely cleared up.

Thank you for your prayers and encouragement. There is much to be thankful for: they found the infection by the wound, the surgery is done, treatment continues and God knows the details. We continue to pray for healing of ~ infection, the flap, the bones and for all the things we still don't know. There are moments when we are encouraged and confident and times of questions and wondering. The other day I mentioned the waiting room, I thought we would be out of it this time. This weekend we found out we are still waiting. I also prayed we would be able to wait expectantly as God accomplishes His purposes through all this. Honestly, today Dave and I are running low on expectancy. You have probably been there too. Maybe you are there now.

Today, we were reminded of Philippians 4:6-7. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Praying you will be strengthened by the everlasting God who never grows tired and weary. He gives strength to the weak and to those who have no might He increases their strength. For those who wait on the Lord, He shall renew their strength, mount them on wings like eagles, help them run and not grow weary and walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:28-31

Love & Blessings, Dave & Debbie