

Peter,

After overseas travel in June and a weekend trip to Pittsburgh over the Independence Day holiday, Shulamit and I came back to Ellicott City on the afternoon of July 3. After I awoke on Tuesday, July 4th morning but felt tired and decided to sit for a while in a recliner in our bedroom. I awoke after some amount of time that I wasn't aware of and tried to get out of the chair. I could not summon the strength to do so. After a few attempts to get up I thought I might be able to tumble out of the chair. I don't have any memory of what happened next. I learned that Shulamit came upstairs to check on me and found me having convulsions and complaining of extreme pain in my leg and lower back. I do remember her telling me that if I could not stop shaking she would call 9-1-1.

My next awareness was my being in a bed/gurney in the Emergency Room at Howard County General Hospital. The Infectious Disease physicians worked to get identity bacterium that caused the infection. They were surprised to find it to be a bug that usually is confined to the gut. I was given IV antibiotics regularly over the next days and improved enough to be discharged on July 14th, Bastille Day. 😊

My wife was told by the EMs, who treated me at my home and took me by ambulance to HCGH, that I had a temperature of 105F. It took some days to get my temperature back to normal and I had a couple episodes of fever and shivers that kept me hospitalized awhile longer than I might.

I am extremely thankful to my wife, the EMTs, and all of the physicians, nurses, tech, and other hospital staff who gave me such competent and sensitive care. I've been making very good progress and have even gotten better than I was in the spring. One improvement has been an easing of my ET! I noticed that I was less tremorous while I was still hospitalized. I was able to keep my arm still through many needle insertions. I had little or no problem hold a cup to drink without needing a straw. My handwriting has not improved since before the high fever and infection. That might be asking too much.

Perhaps the high fever burned up the brain area controlling my tremors? The tremors are there when I'm fatigued or anxious but I'm not aware of them otherwise.

It's very satisfying to have some positive outcomes above and beyond surviving sepsis.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Best,

Jonathan