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MUDr. Petr Poloucek, Director
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MUDr. Petr Poloucek,

I was a patient at Homolka Hospital Neurology for 21 days from 1 April 2019. Three of those days were in Neurology ICU. I must express my gratitude to the hospital and especially the Neurology Department staff for the care that I received.

I am a former Hospital Director from the US. Despite the fact that I very familiar with the hospital environment, I am sure you understand my unsettled and fearful situation of being a foreigner discovering that a problem that I entered into the Emergency Department with was far more serious than anything I expected. Indeed, my problem was life-threatening.

It is accurate to say I believe the staff at Homolka saved my life. I am very grateful for the expert care that I received, starting with the initial diagnosis, stabilization and a process to determine the source of the issue and from that - into a complex surgery and recuperation until I could be discharged three weeks later. My entire experience with the Neurology Department was excellent. I appreciated the many doctors who speak English. In addition, many of the nurses had made the effort to learn patient care-related words in English which is impressive. Everyone else was, for the most part, kind and helpful in finding a way to communicate with me or at least patient while I used Google Translate. During those weeks, I experienced not only excellent care but also sensitivity and kindness despite the fact that I am working on learning Czech but am still very bad at it.

I must especially mention MUDr. Roman Kučera and MUDr. Luděk Prokop who successfully performed my surgery, which I realize was very complex, and MUDr. Hložková, the anesthesiologist who made a special effort to put me at ease in English as I went into surgery. A small gesture, but so important at such a critical time. I appreciate their professional skill more than I can say. It's difficult for me to

express how joyful I felt when I was able to walk correctly after the surgery while in ICU. My gratitude to these expert doctors knows no bounds.

I also must mention MUDr. Michael Pipkin in Neurology. Although all the doctors in the department were excellent, over the full three weeks I was a patient, Dr. Pipkin went above and beyond any expectation I could possibly have about a Neurologist. His kindness during the time of closely monitoring my function for decline during the long week of testing, keeping me informed of my status and letting me know what would be necessary to do next and his professional approach in patient care was stellar. After the surgery, he was instrumental in ensuring my comfort and care and making sure I understood that the next process would be at Motol Nuclear Medicine and how the two units were working together to make the best complete plan of care for me. He kept me informed of the communication between the two hospitals. I honestly do not know if I could have made it through such a very difficult time without his care and kindness. I know he is a young doctor, but he will have a very good career because his understanding and compassion for what a patient is experiencing is outstanding. I am very appreciative of his care during my stay at Homolka and it is important to me that you know this.

I thank you and the doctors I mentioned and the entire Neurology Department very much. Dealing with an unexpected serious health issue like this in a foreign country, is certainly not what anyone wants to go through. But, since I did go through it, I am so grateful that Homolka Hospital is in Prague. I would not hesitate to recommend the hospital enthusiastically.

I am very appreciative to the hospital staff and the for the care I received. I think it is not an exaggeration to say if I had not been at Homolka, perhaps my outcome may not have been as successful elsewhere. I am happy to be alive to say these words.

Kind Regards with sincere appreciation,




22 May 2019