

*Providing care with
promptness, sensitivity,
respect compassion, and
integrity.*



Mary Fawson with Hunt's Amy Goodman, LPN



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Compassionate, Professional Care Hunt Nursing & Rehab

Case Study

It has been a long and difficult road for **59-year-old Mary Fawson, of Danvers**, who following a full right knee replacement last year, suffered a serious infection that would necessitate another surgery and a challenging journey back to physical independence. Following the initial knee replacement in March of 2010, Mary did everything she needed to do to get back on her feet with rehabilitation in a facility and then at home. But, in December she began feeling severe pain in the knee. After testing and consultations with **Ira K. Evans, III, MD, of Sports Medicine North** (who did not perform the first surgery), it was discovered that there was an infection that has spread into the bone. Surgery was needed. Dr. Evans did a procedure to address the infection, remove the infected knee, and clean the area. In addition, Dr. Evans inserted a knee spacer that would release antibiotics to reduce the chance of the infection to reoccur. Ultimately, the goal will be to ensure the infection does not return once antibiotics are phased-out and then a surgery to replace the right knee once again. **Hunt Nursing & Rehabilitation** provides the professional combination of nursing and rehabilitation that will help Mary ultimately reach her goal of resuming her quality of life at home.

Interdisciplinary Team Treatment Plan

Mary arrived at Hunt following surgery with a knee brace that would keep her knee immobilized. The team at Hunt ensured that her nursing needs were met and provided the early rehab steps to help her maintain strength.

Nursing

- Nursing staff changed dressings of the incision area following surgery, remove staples and provide regular attention as the wound healed.
- Mary was administered an entire regimen of antibiotics each day to further reduce the chance of an infection to reoccur.
- Monitoring of blood pressure and other vitals, along with addressing Mary's need in a mostly dependent state, helped with Mary's progress through this difficult time.

Physical & Occupational Therapy

- Unable to move her right leg or transfer without significant pain, therapists worked mostly with her upper body early on in her stay.
- Maintaining strength in her arms with weights and range of motion exercises would be beneficial for eventual transferring and using a walker to ambulate.

Outcome: Mary keeps a positive attitude while taking the proper steps needed to ultimately receive a new knee and walk once again..

In the Patient's Own Words: "I am in such pain and this staff has been so sympathetic to my feelings, which means a lot. They are just wonderful."

