



To My Transplant Nurse:

I have had the privilege to know two extraordinary transplant nurses.

My liver transplant was performed five years ago at UCLA. For 1 1/2 years post-transplant I was under the care of one transplant nurse and when she relocated to another state, I was placed under the care of another. Obviously, the first year after a transplant is one full of questions and more questions. There are no words to describe the amount of patience my transplant nurses showed me. Naturally, over time, routines are established and anxieties lessen. But, at least for me, they never seemed to leave completely. Before every trip, before taking any new medication, vitamin, herbal drug I will email or call my transplant coordinator to verify its safety. When labs are taken, the results are made available to me usually within 24 hours.

I am fully aware of the heavy caseload the transplant nurses have to carry. In spite of this, I am amazed at the speed in which my questions are addressed and lab results are given. I so appreciate the patience to quell my anxieties and always be available to discuss my issues. All my respect goes to the dedication and caring of my transplant nurse.

*Harriet D. Weiss*

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