

To A Transplant Nurse,

I have received two heart transplants and a kidney. My first heart was received May 1, 1991 at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia, PA and the second along with a kidney February 21, 1999 at Hahnemann University Hospital, Tenet in Philadelphia, PA.

I have had in excess of seventeen years of experience of being cared for by transplant nurses. I believe the Nursing profession is a very noble one.

The transplant nurse is a cut above the regular nurse. Of course this is a necessary requirement. I don't mean to be critical of other nurses.

The transplant nurse coordinator is also something special. They take charge in their capacity as if they were an entrepreneur. They are extremely knowledgeable and from time to time the ratio of transplant patient to coordinator far exceeds the rule of thumb. This does not faze them as they make each patient's needs and well being their first priority. They also have to train new coordinators coming on board and demonstrate great innovation and dedication to establishing proper protocol in the clinic to provide efficient and compassionate patient care.

I extend my sincere "heart felt" thank you to the transplant nurses. Some of them have definitely been directly involved in saving my life a few times.

Gratefully yours,

Richard A. Harbourt

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