



Another Northeast Rehab success story from Lahey Clinic...

Name: Jim Fritchly

Diagnosis: Bladder Cancer, Renal
Failure, respiratory failure s/p
tracheostomy, diabetes, lumbar
plexopathy

Admitted: August 5, 2011
Discharged: September 12, 2011
Case Manager: Chris Ludwig

James Fritchly, age 57, presented with a history of bladder cancer, underwent a cystoscopy and went into respiratory failure at Lahey Clinic requiring intubation. Subsequently, he developed renal failure and required dialysis.

After discharge from Lahey, Jim was admitted to a skilled nursing facility where he stayed for 40 days. Jim's wife, Carolyn, advocated for his transfer and was adamant that he be admitted to NRHN. She, herself, had a positive experience as an outpatient at NRHN and they also have a family friend who had a successful recovery here after an amputation.

Upon his arrival at NRHN, Jim had poor endurance and strength due to his lengthy hospitalizations and medical complications. He was able to walk only 10 feet with the assistance of two people. He also had weakness on his right side and required the use of an AFO on and off. During his stay at NRHN, Jim was on dialysis and was also under the care of our respiratory therapists. Carolyn "knew once he came here (NRHN), we would finally be on the right road."

Today Jim is ambulating independently with a walker and able to do some household chores and manage his own personal care. He is currently receiving OT and PT through NRHN Home Care and will become an NRHN outpatient soon. He is very pleased that he was able to receive all his services from one rehab facility.

In Jim words, "There are nothing but pluses here. I received encouragement from everyone here - kitchen help, cleaning staff, therapists and doctors." And his wife agrees. Carolyn said, "NRHN is not the norm, it is a superior facility."

*"From day one until the day I left I was treated so well...
everyone here is so terrific."*

