



"I'd like to thank Dr Richard Burt as well as his staff and medical team. Since the first contact and explaining my condition for Scleroderma, each person I talked to on the phone was professional. After initially meeting all of them in person, I felt very secure in the process and preparation. During the stem cell transplant procedure, the accommodations was far beyond what I have experienced and expected. From outpatient to inpatient work, they monitored my health and took care of the needs.

Before being diagnosed with Scleroderma, I was 6'6 210 lbs and a collegiate athlete. By the time of the transplant, I was wheelchair bound and down to about 125 lbs with no image of a positive future. Well, the transplant worked immediately, receiving my own stem cells on November 20th 2012. Before that day, my skin was so tight you could see it pull from my thigh to my face and many joint contractions. A few days later, Thanksgiving morning, I was able to flex my wrist with no skin issues in that area as if nothing was wrong earlier that week. After leaving, we scheduled follow up visits for the next five years, and the care was absolutely amazing just as it was during procedure. Each visit for the next five years made me feel like a patient who's health and life they cared for.

Eight years later, I am in a much better place than the day before heading out to Chicago. My weight has gone up, I have more range of motion and enough increase in mobility to where I have been participating in adaptive sports such as skiing - while standing. Also, each chance I get, whether its someone curious about my disability or a new Scleroderma patient (and a few other conditions). I talk about how the transplant and my time in the hospital went, the benefits and my experience. Aside from the physical limitations, my health is great and I have to thank everyone who was apart of that process.

Thank you again to Dr Richard Burt, his medical team and staff,

Erion"

Photos with Dr Richard Burt. and a picture five years later (a little after my final visit)."

