

# 14 Sep 2024 Update

**Mac**

10:07 AM (9 hours ago)

Eph 3:20-21 "Now unto him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

On the outside, the human way of looking at things, it seems like this trip was a waste. The doctors really did nothing. The tests all showed the opposite of what the symptoms showed. This is confusing, I know; but the fact is every symptom showed that there was a shunt malfunction (the doctor stated this a couple of times). The infection, the oozing, the fever, the pain in the head, and the pain in abdomen, and the pain with the shunt tube, are all signs of a shunt failure. Yet all the tests show that the shunt is working fine. In my heart and mind, there is only one explanation: God!

It is obvious that God is not working with open miracles; not that His arms are shortened that He cannot. I know, and I hope we all know, that there is nothing too hard for God. Many in Jesus's day followed Him because of the miracles or because they did eat of the bread. God wants us to follow Him because He loves us, and we love Him not for the miracles.

God still works miracles in our lives, just open your eyes. This trip was paid for before we knew we needed to make it. There is solid evidence that Ruslan had an infection. Solid evidence that there was a shunt failure. Yet, medical tests show the shunt is working fine. Ruslan has some massive tumors in his head. For the first time, I saw the MRI. I did not need the doctor to point out the tumors. Where the two halves of the brain come together there is a line that can be seen. Where the two tumors are, you can see that line is pushed off to the side due to one tumor being larger than the other.

Ruslan still sleeps a lot. This is partly due to the tumors and partly because he has nothing to do all day. His vision has gotten worse, and it is hard for him to read. His mobility is bad so he cannot move around. His speech and hearing are all but gone. It seems like paralysis is setting in, and he has difficulty using the toilet, as well as difficulty swallowing food. Swallowing water is worse than food. There will come a time when he will be fed by a tube.

We are trying to get him a US visa. The NIH in Maryland has agreed to take him. They want to trim the tumors if not remove them. This may prolong the inevitable. It is our prayer that this will improve his quality of life for a time. We still have not decided if this will be the direction we will go. There are a lot of negative factors that must be taken into consideration.

Our God is working great miracles; we need to open our eyes and hearts. I pray that God will encourage you, that your faith will grow, and that you will continue to pray with us and for us.

Looking up,  
Allen  
Ps. 16:11

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## 13 September 2024

**Mac**

Fri, Sep 13, 9:28 AM (1  
day ago)

13 September

We went back to the doctor again today. All tests we have done show there is no issue with the shunt. The fluid that was drawn off the brain next to the shunt showed no signs of infection. There are a few days left until the test will be finished, but not right now.

These are all good signs, but it is very confusing. His temperature is still 37.0-37.5 every day. He is on a laxative and has used the toilet. Now the issue is urinating. And yes, this is a sign of paralysis.

The doctor has him on a steroid. It seems to help him with his lack of strength. We will be staying on the 30th. The doctor wants to keep an eye on him, and I think that is a great idea.

We are working on getting Ruslan an interview with the Embassy in the first or second week of October. I am still working with the hospital there for the operation. We are not sure if we will go through with this operation. There are a lot of "What if" that need to be answered. There is a lot of prayer that needs to be lifted. Thank you for doing your part.

Looking up,  
Allen  
Ps. 16:11

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# 11 September 2024

**Mac**

Wed, Sep 11, 2:47 AM (3 days ago)

11 September

Yesterday Ruslan saw his doctor. All the tests show that the shunt is working properly. The bloodwork and the spinal tap show there is an infection in the body. The doctor wanted another spinal tap but settled on drawing fluid off the brain. If this shows no infection, then there is none in that area.

With all that is going on, the doctor is concerned that even if the shunt is working, it could be creating the same pressure as the fluid was. The MRI showed that the 4 tumors we are concerned about are very large.

Cutting this short, we are going to the hospital again today. I really expect the doctor will want to remove the shunt. As I can, I will update.

If all these updates are getting too much, please write to me and ask to be removed. Thank you for all you do for our Lord and His children.

Looking up,  
Allen  
Ps. 16:11