

F.A.O. PROF VISWANATH AS REQUESTED.

Prior to my operation on 12/02/21, I did not feel as if I was living but merely existing due to the pain and acid reflux I was suffering from. I only wish that I could have had the operation 10-20 years earlier.

I had been given numerous amounts of medication which to be honest none of them went anywhere near to controlling my symptoms. I felt that I was coming up against a brick wall for treatment. I was informed by my G.P. that no-one would do a Nital hernia operation due to the risk. When I went again in 2017 he said he would do a referral to a consultant, unfortunately he forgot to send the letter immediately which incurred a delay, then there were further delays due to the manometry machine not operating, which I feel exacerbated my symptoms with the stress and anxiety.

The impact on my general health and well being has been enormous, although people could see I was suffering they could not begin to imagine how it made me feel, and so it makes you feel very down. My illness has been a significant part of my life with regard to my family life, and occasions etc. People would have to ask where and what I could eat. I could not do everyday exercise like walking or climbing stairs without being extremely breathless.

Even upto 2 days before surgery the pain was so bad I

actually thought that I would die before getting the much needed operation.

Now I feel as if I have been given a second chance at a normal life and I know that eventually I will be able to eat a more varied diet without having to worry about feeling ill. It's the start of a new life thanks to Professor Viswaneth and his team.

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