



Dear Hockey Community:

Here is an update to Derek Zike's condition as of January 26, 2009.

On the positive side, Derek was able to move his left foot ever so slightly the other night. While he could not duplicate the movement thereafter, the fact that he had some movement is a very positive sign.

Tempered against the good news is Derek's breathing issue. Derek previously ingested some food into his airway creating a breathing difficulty and required the implementation of assisted breathing. Derek was sedated and a breathing apparatus was placed into his lungs to assist with his breathing.

Today, with assisted breathing in place, Derek was continuing his attempts to breathe on his own. Due to the irritation his lungs recently experienced, Derek's lung collapsed this morning and he is now receiving almost 100% of his breathing via a ventilator. He is receiving medications to combat the breathing difficulties.

A part of Dereks' breathing treatments includes a cough assistance regimen which attempts to force material from the lungs. This treatment has been somewhat successful in that the production of material from his lungs was clear.

At the moment, there is no timetable for Derek to resume breathing on his own.

The Fury and Arctic are planning a benefit for Friday, February 13, 2009, at Arctic Ice Arena in Orland Park, Illinois. The planning is ongoing and, once completed, will be placed on the Fury website for all to see. In addition, a trust for Derek and a financial account should be completed either Friday or Monday.

The information discussing how families may contribute to the fund will also be placed on the Fury website.

Please return frequently to the Chicago Fury website for updates on Derek's condition and forthcoming information on how the hockey community may help Derek and his family.

Thank you for your thoughts and concerns and please keep your prayers coming.

The Chicago Fury