Day 3,521 – A Chat With the Doctor

The VA Medical Center San Diego is trying to reduce the number of in-person visits during COVID-19, so I got a call from the doctor.

July 17, 2020 By Dan Zeller

My appointment with the doctor is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon, but after dinner this evening, my phone rang. It was the doctor calling about my appointment.

In a nutshell, VA Medical Center San Diego is trying to reduce the number of in-person visits during COVID-19, so he was wondering if I would be okay chatting with him about my results over the phone. Of course, I was.

He let me know that my PSA dropped from 0.16 to 0.14 ng/ml and that things were pretty "stable" and having a "low PSA" was a good thing. He mentioned that at some point in the future, we may need to discuss radiation, but that point wasn't now. "For you, that could be years from now." I'll take that.

I shared with him my desire to do imaging before zapping if possible. I also brought up the trial at the VA Los Angeles, and he wasn't aware of it. So I pulled it up and shared the trial number with him for his education/reference.

Bottom line: We agreed to retest in January and go from there.

Now all I have to do is make it through six months of COVID insanity…

On a related note, the VA healthcare system has gotten a bad rap over the years for a variety of things. It seems to be location-dependent, and some of the criticism is well-deserved.

I've been going to the VA Medical Center San Diego and its satellite clinics for about 8 years now, and I've had nothing but a positive experience, and tonight's unsolicited call from the doctor just reinforced that for me.

As we used to say in the Navy: Bravo Zulu! (Well done!)

Stay well everyone!

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