Hello Rae, I am the doctor who has been treating your mother and I would like to explain what happened to her a few days ago when she was brought in the hospital, what we did and the steps we took to take care of her until her current situation. When your mother was brought in on the 19th of January, she was brought in an ambulance. Upon observation she was admitted with signs of impaired speech, she has severe weakness on her left side of the body that caused her paralysis and difficulty in swallowing. We examined her and she was unresponsive. We took several tests to determine what the main issue was, these were urine, blood and vitals tests, we also checked for her oxygen and carbon dioxide levels in the blood called the ABG test. After this we recommended a CT scan which confirmed that there was no intracerebral hemorrhaging, this is bleeding in the brain caused by a ruptured blood vessel (The Internet Stroke Center, 2015). We did a neurological consultation where the neurologist does a series of mental, sensory, cranial and motor examinations for the reason of understanding of what happened to your mother. The examination by the neurologist confirmed that your mother had suffered an ischemic stroke, this occurs when a blood clot blocks a blood vessel carrying blood to the brain (American Stroke Association, 2015)

The initial treatment was administration of Alteplase a drug given through the IV used for treating arterial blood clots. This was followed by Mannitol that assists with brain swelling and increases the amount of fluid excreted by the kidneys (Drugs.com, 2014), this was when she has transferred the ICU where was given neurology checks at intervals of two hours.

The second of admission, she developed signs of low blood pressure, was nauseated and was vomiting. This could have been caused by relaxation of muscles in her upper digestive tract, for this, we gave her a drug called Reglan that helps in contracting muscles. Upon 5 hours of observation, her vitals started to normalize and the vomiting and nausea ceased. The next medication was Aggrenox which is a combination of aspirin and dipyridamole. The dipyridamole keeps platelets in the blood from sticking together to form blood clots. After the third day, we commenced occupational therapy and physical therapy. Physical therapy would help your mother in regaining and rebuilding strength and balance while occupational therapy would help her to be independent in doing tasks like dressing herself, bathing and cooking. The response to the occupational and physical therapy was successful, she is now able to walk very well using her walker and the body gait, grip and movement are improving gradually. She also underwent speech therapy which shall help her regain her speech.

For her rehabilitation, we have recommended a wonderful center for your mother where she will continue doing her therapy, we would like to talk to you about the care she will need once she is discharged and the also to the person who will be in charge of taking care of her physical and mental rehabilitation at home. We would also like you to do follow up with the neurologist a week after she is discharged. We are optimistic that she will be fine after a short while.