



NORTHEASTERN
Brazil

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

December 21, 2021
Medical Furlough Update

Merry Christmas and happy New Year to you all. It has been several weeks since we have sent an update and I know that everyone has been praying for our situation. I wanted to send this quick update so that everyone will know how to pray over the next few weeks.

You all know that we were praying for some answers regarding Naomi's condition. Unfortunately, speed is not the primary concern of doctors or health insurance companies. Several weeks after returning, we were able to get in with some specialists who could give us some direction. As was expected, they wanted to order tests. What was unexpected was that insurance would not readily approve those tests.

Apparently, the division that handles international authorizations is not the same as the one that handles domestic authorizations. Therefore, they were unwilling to approve certain tests. After almost two weeks of back and forth, they approved the tests that the doctor was requesting. We had the tests done, but when we went to schedule the follow-up appointment, the doctor was on vacation, and we had to wait an additional 10 days to see the doctor again. That appointment took place yesterday.

Yesterday, the doctor looked at the results and decided that he wanted to order more tests. The results actually left us with less clarity than we had before the tests. Because of the holidays, the tests cannot be scheduled until after the first of January. We set an appointment for the tests on January 3. The doctor has advised us that it will take several weeks to get the results back from these tests, so it will likely be the middle of January before we see him again. Naomi's condition has not changed, but God is in complete control! We are not downcast or discouraged, we just want answers so that we can get Naomi healthy and return to Brazil as quickly as possible.

On a more encouraging note, the church in Brazil is doing well. We talk to the missionary family that works with us on a regular basis and things are going fine. Thank God for the technology that allows us to continue participating in things like discipling new believers; even from here we can still be involved. I was told that we had about 70 people in attendance at our Christmas service this past Sunday, and several people raised their hands to accept Christ as Savior.

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