

Ok, so you were talking about the NHS

One thing I do get is the support from the hospital is very, very good indeed. If I haven't mentioned it already, there is a nurse at the end of a telephone, a specialist Parkinson nurse at the end of a telephone who you can speak to four days a week and has six monthly checks or alternatively is available for an interview at any time. An example of that is the fact that she's just on recommendation to my GP recommended that my medication that I'm taking, principally taking at the present moment should be doubled in strength. I don't know whether there's anything else you want me to talk about?

Well, have you any, had any experience of being in a hospital and being able to manage your medication?

Well I was in the hospital as a consequence of the heart surgery in April of last year, that's 2009, and of course my medication was administered to me. Once I had come home I'm responsible for looking after it myself. Now whether it's old age or something else, my memory's not very good and every now and then I completely forget to put the medication out the night before for the next morning. I don't forget to take the actual medication because I catch up by putting it right the next day; and that's the only management I actually do

So how was it different being in hospital?

Well in hospital they brought the medication to you with a glass of water and everything set out and obviously that's an advantage. When you're at home you're relying upon yourself. Now, I'm 81 going on 82 and I suppose my memory has been affected or generally and I can be easily diverted from what I've set myself out to do and the result is I could think 'yes I must do my medication, get my medication ready' say about five or six o'clock in the evening before we have our main meal. But if something comes along, a telephone call or a visit I can completely forget to do that job and then realise the next morning I haven't put the medication out. It doesn't mean I'm not going to take them, I do catch up, it's just an example of what happens to me from time to time but I suggest to you that that's possibly old age and not Parkinson's.

Ok, so there's no negative effects or adverse effects being in hospital with your

Well there are no negative, apart from you know recovering from a major operation, there were no negative effects at all. In fact I've now been discharged by the Cardiac Unit at the hospital just recently.

Ok, is there anything else you want to discuss about your, talk about your Parkinson's relating to your medication?

Well I don't know, this is for some genius to invent medications that don't have side effects. I mean as I've mentioned to you, the principal side effect is constipation and it can be quite acute and severe at times. And irregular, but of course there's nothing I can do about that because I suppose the answer to that is you've got to take your medication for your heart complaints. I suspect that that's the one that's causing all the trouble and it's not the Parkinson medication that has that side effect but I'm not quite sure about that. There's nothing else I can say, it, in my work, when I worked, which is 10 years ago, I was a lawyer in a private practice and I'm going to lead up to what I'm going to tell you about. I was also

heavily involved in local government politics, as a consequence of which I made a, had to do a lot of speech making; the Parkinson's has to a certain extent interfered with that ability to speak because I have trouble swallowing and I'm waiting now, an appointment to undertake some speech therapy which is really ironic as from about the age of 14 I spent all my life being a public speaker. But that, my wife and I, we're both Jewish and we give lectures, we give lectures on the Jewish religion and I've had to give those up temporarily until I can find a way of curing my problems over swallowing and that's upsetting to both of us.

Ok. Is that everything then?

Well it's everything I want to say. I mean I'm willing to answer any questions you want to put to me. I can't think of anything else. Sometimes I get depressed about it obviously, most times I'm not depressed but I do think about it, probably too much and because of my age I have an advantage in that the growth of the disease would be very, much slower than for a younger person so I really shouldn't get too depressed about it and one thing I'm conscious of and I can't control it, I shouldn't talk about it all the time and if someone, this is a point that might be considered by people. If somebody comes up to you and says 'you do look well Charles' am I supposed to say 'well I might look well but I've got Parkinson's' or do I say nothing? And I haven't made my mind up yet about what is the correct way of going on especially with people I haven't seen for a long time.

Ok, well thank you very much