

Great News On the Frontlines in Haiti! Hope For My Girl!!

Written by Dan Diamond, MD

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(The above video was originally streamed live from my iPhone!)

I'm overwhelmed by the amount of injuries and the severity of the injuries! Everywhere that I look there are buildings that have been destroyed! Even banks! BANKS!? Good grief! Taking pictures of the destroyed buildings seems pointless after a while. They all just look like pictures of piles of rocks. I don't allow my brain to wonder what it could be like to be trapped alive. However, I must admit, my mind keeps burping the concept up since the aftershock scared the heck out of me. Last night I woke up about five times thinking we were having another earthquake only to realize, several heartbeats later, that it was only a US Air Force C130 transport plane taking off. Our guest house is somewhere just beyond the end of the runway. Those things are loud!

Today I went to the US Embassy to try to figure out how to get our 12 year old burn victim to the US. I knew it wasn't going to be an easy process but I was told that I needed to go to the "secret door". Well...there is no "secret door". I looked. Nope, not there. There where a lot of guys with machine guns though. The soldiers told me that they had to hold the crowd of 4000 off at gun point earlier in the day. After about fifteen minutes of negotiation though 3 inch thick bulletproof glass, they were finally able to figure out someone that I should talk to. They put the phone under the window and I spoke with the Embassy nurse practitioner. About 15 minutes later she came out the door and we had a chance to plead our case. One of our anesthesiologists, Dr. Angele went with me to see if she could get her aunt out of the county. Her aunt is diabetic and wheelchair bound.

So after all of the talk the bottom line was: no help.

So, really the only hope to get my little cutie with the burn out of the county was going to be a medivac with the US Air force. I knew it was a long shot but I wasn't going to give up. I kept thinking about what I would do if she were my daughter. I gave it a bunch of thought. I decided to go for it. So, I took a picture of her burn on my iPhone and took my passion to the airport.

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