

## Excellence in Action

### Patient Advocacy for the Win

A success story from our McComb, MS Team



Over the course of therapy, one of our residents began to display functional declines that were troubling to us. When the patient was first admitted, she had full function in her lower extremities and was able to stand with a standard walker. Unfortunately, she was soon hospitalized for a GI Bleed, but was able to return to the facility within a week.

Upon her return, the team noticed there was now minimal movement in her lower extremities, and she was unable to bear weight to stand. This seemed like more than just weakness from her hospitalization, so we requested that the nursing staff pursue a neuro consult.

After an initial consult, no answers were given, but the patient continued to decline, eventually losing trunk control and commenting that her "chair kept rocking" during dynamic balancing activities. She was unable to continue physical therapy, but our OT and SLP continued to address her needs, while still pushing for more tests.

A CT scan revealed a spinal mass and the proper medicinal attention was able to be scheduled. The family members made a special trip to personally thank us for being their mom's advocate and helping her get the care she needed to address her condition.

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***Stay tuned for next month's Excellence in Action Story from more of our teams in the field!***