

## AIDSpirit: Roger Update

12/21/2011



Roger relaxing before a session of physical therapy



Roger with his physical therapist, Ben, at St. V's.

**10/24/2011**

Roger was in surgery for most of the day Friday, October 21. Dr. Oheneba Boachie-Adjei ([http://www.hss.edu/physicians\\_boachie-adjei-oheneba.asp](http://www.hss.edu/physicians_boachie-adjei-oheneba.asp)) an Orthopaedic surgeon from New York Presbyterian Hospital who specializes in spine reconstruction, said the surgery involved removing parts of Roger's vertebrae and replacing them with artificial mesh, rods, and bolts. Parts of Roger's ribs had to be cut to make room for his lungs to expand. His back is straight now. According to Terry, it is "all simply amazing. It all went better than expected." Dr. Boachie was "very pleased" with the surgery.

Roger was heavily sedated and on a ventilator from Friday to Monday. On Monday, October 24, the ventilator was removed. Volunteers are coming to sit with Roger and hold his hand. Roger is expected to remain in the hospital for about a week.

**10/13/2011**



Roger wearing his "halo" in preparation for spinal surgery, which he will undergo on October 21<sup>st</sup>.