

Broadway Star Nick Cordero's Amputation after COVID-Related Complications

Hamilton-Raised Broadway Star Nick Cordero Begins COVID-19 Fight April 1, 2020

Nick Cordero's wife, Amanda Kloots, reported through her Instagram account that her husband went into the hospital with Pneumonia. He tested negative for COVID-19 twice after being admitted to the Intensive Care Unit. With the severity of his symptoms, the doctors at the Los Angeles hospital he is currently in felt that a third test was needed. Their "gut instinct" proved to be correct. He tested positive.

Micro-clots Cause Doctors to Amputate Cordero's Right Leg

On April 18, 2020, Amanda Kloots updated her Instagram that Cordero had taken an unexpected turn. A clot formed in his right leg and the blood was unable to circulate to his foot. The attending physicians tried putting him on blood thinners, but they made his condition worse due to internal bleeding in his intestines and causing blood pressure problems. Attempted surgery to alleviate the clot failed, and Cordero's [right leg was amputated](#).

He is now on a ventilator, ECMO machine, and dialysis. After the amputation, another infection set into Mr. Cordero's lung and got into his blood, sending him into septic shock. He is being treated with broad-spectrum antibiotics. A [temporary pacemaker](#) was also put in to control a new onset of an irregular heart rate.

Cordero's wife is hoping to be able to see him, hold his hand, and speak to him soon. She believes if he can feel her presence he will wake up. The long road of recovery will include [wound care](#), physical therapy, and mental and emotional care for Mr. Cordero.

Blood Clots are Emerging as a Fatal Symptom of COVID-19

Since the first outbreak of COVID-19, we all believed the disease was solely a harsh respiratory condition. Since then, many more symptoms are arising including vital organ damage presumably caused by micro-clots being found in multiple parts of patients' bodies. The vital organs being affected are [the liver, kidneys, heart, intestines, and/or brain](#).

Mysterious changes in the blood are causing clotting in various places is baffling doctors across the nation and the globe.

Kidney Failure in Otherwise Healthy COVID-19 Patients

Recent reports are emerging of nonelderly adults who are COVID+ that have developed an [acute kidney injury](#). This involved the unexpected loss of the function of the kidneys. These adults have had no pre-existing medical conditions. With proper treatment, including dialysis in

severe cases, AKI is reversible. In Cordero's case, his blood was clotting and causing the dialysis machine to jam.

COVID-19 is Stretching Beyond the Respiratory Illness We Thought it Was

Doctors are explaining that high levels of inflammation in a COVID patient's lungs can have a direct effect on the levels of oxygen that are in the blood and how it is delivered to the rest of the vital organs that need it. This can place stress on the patient's entire body leading to cardiac complications such as arrhythmia and unstable blood pressure (which caused Cordero to need a temporary pacemaker), and infection in other organs including the kidney and liver. When inflammation is present in the whole body in response to this disease, it can affect the body's clotting patterns and this is where doctors globally are researching to find out why?

Chinese Heart Specialists Alerted the American College of Cardiology in March

In March, [heart specialists from China advised the American College of Cardiology to be on the watch for blood clots](#) and if d-Dimer tests show an elevated clot risk this should be considered a warning sign that the patient is in grave danger. The question within the alert was whether the clots were caused by deterioration or if there was a direct effect? Are the treatments being administered for the virus playing a part in exacerbating the resulting complications?

Doctors are Facing Exhaustion From Caring for the Critically Ill Covid Patient

The twists and turns of the symptoms and developments of the virus are exhausting physicians. This literal battle against the novel coronavirus has brought doctors out of retirement who have contracted the virus and died. It is so very important that the patient in that bed is the focal point, but we cannot forget that there are more victims in this war. The doctors, the nurses, the hospital staff, the frontline workers across our nation. They are all heroes. Heroes who will very likely have a high need for mental health care for PTSD when this is over.

Prominent emergency room physician Lorna Breene is to be remembered in this battle. On Sunday, April 26, 2020, she succumbed to self-inflicted injuries. Take the time to ask a medical worker, nurse, EMT, firefighter, police officer, or doctor if they are okay the next time you can. They may need you to smile at them. They may need to hear someone say "We're proud of you. Thank you for your service."