

have the operation in the children's hospital in Toronto which is one of the best in the world. She said that there was a long waiting list for the operation unless she was able to find someone to help schedule it sooner. One of her colleagues knew a specialist at the hospital and she was waiting for a miracle to happen or else she had to fly to Cleveland for the operation at her own expense. Luckily, she got the appointment, but waiting is very common in Canada. For instance, my account manager got sick last year and her family doctor diagnosed the disease as breast cancer. She was scheduled for an MRI, but had to wait 45 days for the appointment. When I travelled to Canada this year, I learned that she had recently passed away. Perhaps, with more timely care, things could have been different. Who can know? Another friend, a broker named Amir, is nearly crippled with pain from a bad knee. He told me he was on the waiting list for a knee surgery and his appointment was in a year. He was delighted because the wait time for this type of operation can take two years.

In Canada, appointments can be filled months or even years ahead, but in Kuwait our main problem lies in the hospitals' support services and limited capacity which cannot cover the increase in population. Once the new hospital projects are completed, the citizens will feel the difference.

Here we say, praise be to God for all we have. Our health beats theirs and may God protect our country.