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Mets notes: Duda prognosis good

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PHILADELPHIA — First baseman Lucas Duda has been diagnosed with a small thoracic disk herniation, and general manager Sandy Alderson called the diagnosis "a favorable report."

Duda visited with Dr. Robert Watkins — who worked with David Wright during his rehab — in California on Monday. He will take anti-inflammatory medication and did not receive an injection.

Alderson expects Duda to return when his 15-day window expires Sept. 6. Duda was placed on the disabled list Saturday, and Daniel Murphy and Michael Cuddyer have started at first base in his absence.

ROTATION PLANS: Manager Terry Collins said there are three dates the Mets are considering in regards to skipping a start for Noah Syndergaard but have not made a decision yet. The team is factoring whether to skip a road game, where Syndergaard has struggled (0-5, 5.05 ERA). The right-hander is 7-1 with a 1.82 ERA at Citi Field.

Syndergaard starts at Citizens Bank Park for the first time tonight. Injured starter Steven Matz (lat) makes his third rehab start Wednesday. The Mets will wait to see how he fares before deciding the lefty's next move. Matz is slated to throw approximately 60 pitches Wednesday and would be in line to throw around 80 pitches his next time out.

WORKING BACK: Injured reliever Bobby Parnell (shoulder) threw Monday and expects to return when he's eligible Sept. 1. Parnell was diagnosed with right shoulder tendinitis, and said he experienced fatigue.

The right-hander confirmed a report that the Mets gave him three options: being designated for assignment, sent to the minors or placed on the disabled list.

"It's been a little bit of a roller-coaster ride," Parnell said of his first season back from Tommy John surgery. "Definitely had good days, definitely had bad days."

BRIEF: Alderson expects to promote several players when rosters expand Sept. 1. One likely will be recent acquisition Eric Young Jr.



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Mets first baseman Lucas Duda will be a spectator while undergoing treatment for a small thoracic disk herniation.

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