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A 17-year-old girl who was struck by a runaway school bus a week ago remained in critical condition Friday, in a medically induced coma, her doctor said at a late-afternoon news conference.

Doctors had to remove Ashley Zauflik's left leg above the knee Wednesday evening after an infection threatened her life, said Dr. Jose Pascual of the Division of Trauma and Critical Care at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

"We are continuing to monitor her very closely and hope to slowly wake her up in the next few days," Pascual said.

Zauflik, who was run over by the bus, sustained the most serious injuries among 17 Pennsbury High School students hurt Jan. 12. She and 13 other students were injured when a parked bus suddenly accelerated into a crowd of students after classes. Three more students were hurt when the driver, unable otherwise to halt the bus, drove it into a stone wall.

Inspectors have found no defects in the accelerator of the bus, officials announced last week. Falls Township police and the National Transportation Safety Board are handling the probe into the accident.

Pascual said the initial evaluation of Zauflik's condition showed "major fractures of her left thigh and pelvic bones with no pulse present on her left foot." Blood also was seen in the abdomen, he said.

She was taken to an operating room to control the bleeding. Doctors discovered injuries to two blood vessels in her left thigh, Pascual said. The leg had sustained severe "muscle crush" injury, he said.

Doctors saved the leg that night, but in the following 48 hours, an infection began and the leg had to be amputated, he said.

"This allowed her to quickly recover and to become more stable in the hours and day that followed," he said.

She remains on kidney support, but is maintaining stable liver, heart and lung function, he said.

William L. Goldman Jr., the lawyer representing the family, said doctors decided on the medically induced coma after Zauflik awakened in a lot of pain.

"We're praying and pulling for her. She's a fighter," he said. "On behalf of the family, the family again wants the community to know how appreciative they are for the support and the prayers."