

Abigail McLeod

Abigail McLeod was born on the 17th September 2010 by caesarean section, with a weight of 2.7kg at the Nottingham City Hospital. She was considered to be a healthy normal baby at birth.

At two days old she became very sleepy and then she collapsed. Upon examination she was found to be with hypothermic, bradycardic and also had hypotension. Abigail was then transferred to the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit at Nottingham City Hospital where she was further diagnosed with Metabolic Acidaemia with Hyperkalaemia. She had an episode of Ventricular Tachycardia which required Cardioversion - this is a method used to restore normal heart rhythm.

At this stage she was intubated, basically a machine was breathing for her. Abigail was having regular apnoea's, which is a cessation of breathing and was given a drip containing Phenobarbitone for the constant seizures. At this point, although she was catheterized, Abigail had not passed urine for twenty-four hours. This was due to her body being poisoned as a result of her Metabolic Disorder and she was now experiencing renal failure and needed dialysis.

Abigail was then transferred to the Queen's Medical Centre Nottingham for her dialysis which began straight away, she was given seven drips including glucose to stay alive. Prior to her transfer the doctors gave her parents (Sidione and Ricardo) a prognosis that Abigail had a very short time to live so they should get their minister to bless her straight away. They also got their Pastor (Sonia Stewart) along with some of the partners from their church (Shekinah Shur Minister) and families to gather at the hospital to pray for her.

At this point Abigail had two heart attacks, seizures and apnoea. The doctors said they would not resuscitate her again if she was to have another heart attack because she would have already experienced too much brain damage due to deprivation of oxygen. To our surprise, she did have another heart attack, we asked the doctors to resuscitate her and do what they could, because we were trusting God. They did resuscitate her and she pulled through.

On day five Abigail was extubated, meaning she could now breathe on her own. The Paediatric Neurologist became involved and an MRI scan later showed Global Ischaemic Hypoxic damage. This result suggested that she would have vision and hearing impairments in the future. Abigail was then transferred to a normal ward and was miraculously discharged three and a half weeks later (October 12th 2010). Abigail was also diagnosed with a metabolic condition named Multiple Acyl CoA Dehydrogenase Deficiency (MADD), which means she is not able to break down fat and protein, treatment of MADD requires a special diet and Abigail takes Riboflavin and L-Carnitine twice daily. She also gets her blood and urine tested regularly.

Even though Abigail had that episode, she is now off Phenobarbitone, as she has had no more seizures and no more apnoea's, plus she has been taken off caffeine. She has no hearing impairment as was originally diagnosed, but she does have visual impairment where her visual part of her brain has been damaged, Abigail has a teacher who specialises in working with children who have visual impairment. Abigail also has moderate development delay, for which she has a brilliant team of people working with her including physiotherapists and occupational therapists plus others. She is now crawling and trying to stand without holding on. Every day she is improving. We thank God and all the people that work with us. We also want to thank Dr Mark Sharrard from Sheffield Children's Hospital and Cerys Gingell her Metabolic Dietician from QMC for all that they have done for Abigail. Abigail is a very happy, special and dear little angel to us all, who has and is continuing to beat the odds. ALL IS WELL.

Sidione and Ricardo McLeod



Total Raised so far: £800.00

Rose Status