



MIAMI  
CHILDREN'S  
HOSPITAL®

THE MARY ANN KNIGHT INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PEDIATRICS  
FOUNDED AS VARIETY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

We're here for the children

# CHILDREN'S HEALTH TALK

*A Miami Children's Hospital Community Update, August 2005*

## SAVING GRACIE

Little Gracie Burak of Wellington, Florida, was near death after ingesting lamp oil during a 2004 Memorial Day picnic. Gracie, then 13 months old, had just learned to drink from a cup and no doubt thought the glass cylinder lamp at the picnic was filled with refreshing water when she reached out to grab it.

"Gracie immediately turned white," recalls Gracie's father Michael Burak. An ambulance rushed the child to a Palm Beach area hospital, but within days, physicians recognized she needed much more than they could provide. They contacted Miami Children's Hospital's Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)—the regional referral center for the area's most critically ill children—and arranged to have the child airlifted by LifeFlight®, Miami Children's Hospital's Critical Care Transport Team, in its helicopter.

"Gracie's lungs were failing when she arrived," recalls Dr. Andre Raszynski, Medical Director of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine and LifeFlight®, at Miami Children's Hospital. "The oil had aspirated into her lungs where it was eating away at the delicate tissues, and was preventing oxygen from reaching her blood."

Right away the PICU/ECMO Team initiated extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) therapy, which allowed Gracie's lungs to rest while healing occurred. ECMO treatment, which utilizes an artificial heart-lung machine, was continued for four days, and PICU treatment for another two weeks, bringing little Gracie back from the brink. The ECMO Program at MCH, Florida's first and most experienced, has treated nearly 300 patients since it was established in 1988 according to Dr. Jeffrey Sussmane, its Medical Director.

Miami Children's 16-bed PICU is a place where amazing care is provided to children referred from throughout Florida as well as South and Central America and the Caribbean.



*Dr. Andre Raszynski, Medical Director of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine and LifeFlight®, and patient Gracie Burak.*

### Quality Indicators Tell the Story

Miami Children's Hospital's PICU provides care to the most seriously ill or injured children, treating nearly 1,400 patients per year. Approximately 300 of our patients are transferred from other hospitals so that they can receive the special level of care and expertise that Miami Children's Hospital can offer. The confidence of referring hospitals is well placed. Despite the high level of patient acuity, the MCH PICU consistently outperforms

national averages in survival rates (>98%), readmission rates, and length of patient stay.

### Advanced Care, Teaching, and Research

Miami Children's Hospital is one of only two academic tertiary care facilities in South Florida. It has its own free-standing Pediatric Residency Program, Pediatric Critical Care Fellowship Program, and various other Fellowship Programs. Academic facilities are widely recognized for offering the most advanced care methods because of their commitment to care, teaching, and research.

The PICU offers programs and expertise that few hospitals in South Florida can match. It is the only regional care facility to offer a dedicated full-time Pediatric Critical Care Transport Team. Whether by ground or by air, LifeFlight® provides mobile intensive care during transport of critically ill children and neonates to Miami Children's Hospital.

### Gracie Bounces Back

Today, Gracie, who recently turned 2, is a chatty, active toddler who loves to play with her grandmother. "The Miami Children's PICU saved Gracie's life. We will always be grateful," said Amanda Nave, Gracie's mother.

*The MCH PICU consistently outperforms national averages in survival rates (>98%).*

LifeFlight® is the registered trademark of Hermann Hospital Foundation, Houston, Texas.

## MCH ENTERS INTO ALLIANCE FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH

Miami Children's Hospital has formed an alliance for clinical research with Quintiles Inc., the North American clinical development subsidiary of Quintiles Transnational Corp.

The alliance allows Quintiles and Miami Children's Hospital to collaborate on clinical research that will give investigators access to an increased number and variety of clinical trials, provide the children of South Florida access to new medicines, and provide an opportunity to train new clinical investigators at Miami Children's Hospital.



Through the alliance, Quintiles' customers will be better able to meet increasing regulatory requirements for pediatric clinical trials. Most prescription drugs are approved based on safety and efficacy studies in adult populations. The FDA is requiring more pediatric clinical research so that physicians have more information on the safety, efficacy and appropriate dose of a medication before prescribing it for children.

"Clinical research is one of the ways the physicians at Miami Children's Hospital provide leading edge care to the children of South Florida. Clinical research enables physicians and patients to participate in the process of healthcare innovation, by testing new alternatives to the standard of care. The alliance with Quintiles is an important catalyst to the growth of pediatric clinical research at Miami Children's Hospital," said Stuart Horowitz, PhD, Director of the Research Institute at Miami Children's Hospital.

"The alliance with Quintiles will allow a greater portion of the 185,000 pediatric cases we see each year to participate in clinical trials and have access to new and innovative medicines, diagnostic procedures, and medical devices," said Dr. Christian Patrick, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer and Sr. Vice President for Medical Affairs at Miami Children's Hospital. "The alliance also gives both Quintiles and the hospital the opportunity to share medical and clinical research expertise in pediatrics, which will ultimately benefit the children of South Florida."

*For a referral to a Miami Children's Hospital physician, please call 888-MCH-DOCS (624-3627).*

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION CALENDAR

### Infant Massage (4 week series)

Tuesdays beginning on August 23, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Infant massage is designed for children ages 0 to 15 months. Our hands-on method insures that you will learn the art of interactive massage to suit your baby's individual needs and developmental level. Infant massage encourages relaxation for both parent and baby, promotes longer and deeper sleeping patterns and can relieve colic symptoms among other benefits. Please call 305-662-8282 for further information.

### Daddy Boot Camp

Saturday, September 17, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Daddy Boot Camp is a creative and interactive class for fathers and soon to be fathers. The facilitators will assist new dads down the unfamiliar path in life's journey called fatherhood. Our goal is to help new fathers learn the value and importance of interacting with their babies in ways that will ensure an attached and bonded relationship. This program will discuss: diaper changing, bathing, appropriate dress, crying, how to recognize when a baby is sick, feeding, developmental stages and child development activities. For more information, please call 305-662-8282.

### Spanish CPR Class

Tuesday, September 27, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

This course in Pediatric CPR teaches parents, grandparents and caregivers how to administer CPR to infants and children. Please call 305-662-8282 for further information.

### Social Skills Group for Adolescents with Autism

Wednesdays, 4 pm to 4:45 pm

Music therapy is used to enhance social skills among teens with autism. For more information call 305-666-6511 ext. 2434.

### Emergent Language Group for Children with Autism

Thursdays, 4 pm to 4:45 pm

Music therapy is used to promote language development in children with autism. For more information call 305-666-6511 ext. 2434.

### Child Passenger Safety

Child safety is our priority. Child passenger safety technicians will check your child's seat for defects, recalls, installation and fit. Please contact 305-666-6511 ext. 2516 for more information.

## THE BEST CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL INSIDE AND OUT.



Miami Children's Hospital has a new look, brighter, more colorful, and more child-friendly. We're providing true family-centered care. We're expanding our ambulatory care services, community education program and are building the largest research program in South Florida, all to help us continue to be the best. It's why we've received Magnet Designation for nursing care excellence and high scores for customer service.



We're South Florida's only licensed specialty hospital *exclusively* for children. And we have an understanding of children that no other hospital can offer. No one knows children like Miami Children's.



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3100 S.W. 62nd Avenue, Miami, Florida | For physician referral call 888-MCH-DOCS (624-3627) | [www.mch.com](http://www.mch.com)

To make a contribution, contact the MCH Foundation at 305-666-2889.

Miami Children's Hospital is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization.