CONGENITAL HEART INSTITUTE: WORKING WONDERS EVERY DAY

Michele Moser was sleeping in a Boca Raton area hospital following the birth of her second son in 2000, when a doctor entered her room with some alarming news. Newborn Zane had a life-threatening heart condition and needed to be flown right away to Miami Children’s Hospital for care. Within hours, Zane and his father Brandt touched down at Miami Children’s, home to the Congenital Heart Institute, a world leader in the care of children with heart disease.

Zane was delivered into good hands. The Congenital Heart Institute (CHI) provides care for more children with congenital heart disorders than any other hospital in Florida and has clinical results that are second to none. The survival rate among Congenital Heart Institute patients is better than 98 percent – among the best in the world.

The institute maintains in remarkable success rate even in cases where surgery may not be an option due to the large amount of equipment that must travel with them.

Simpser. “Often the children’s lives are severely restricted due to treatment, including many first-in-the-world procedures that were pioneered by the program’s internationally renowned cardiologists and cardiovascular surgeons.”

In 2002, Miami Children’s Hospital joined forces with Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children to form the CHI. Through the CHI, world-renowned physicians located in both Orlando and Miami provide unparalleled care, 24 hours a day, seven days a week for children with heart defects.

A highlight of the program is Miami Children’s Pediatric Critical Care Intensive Care Unit, which is one of the few pediatric ICUs in the nation and the first dedicated pediatric cardiac unit in the Southeast. The unit provides highly specialized perioperative and post-operative care for children undergoing cardiac surgery and interventional cardiology.

All of this means better care for children like Zane. Within hours of his birth, tiny Zane underwent a minimally invasive hybrid procedure (a technique unlike the usual heart surgery and interventional cardiology) to open up his badly deformed aortic valve. Complex open-heart surgery was ultimately required days later to replace his aortic valve with his own pulmonary valve and replace his pulmonary valve with donor tissue. Most recently, Zane underwent a successful interventional catheterization to narrow a narrowing that developed within the donor valve. He was back home within 24 hours and back on the soccer field within a week!”

In time, an additional procedure will be needed to replace Zane’s pulmonary valve. Fortunately, his doctors believe this can be performed with a minimally invasive catheterization procedure rather than more open-heart surgery, as CHI will be among the first centers in the world to perform this new technique.

Meanwhile, Zane is enjoying the life of a typical 6-year-old. Aside from the scar on his chest you’d never know anything was wrong about him,” said Michele. The happy grandmother leads an active life, participating in soccer and other sports.

“We feel fortunate that the doctors and team at Miami Children’s have been there for us when we needed them,” said Michele.

For more information on the Congenital Heart Institute, call 1-800-666-HART (4278).

Because your child means the world to you, choose one of the best pediatric cardiac teams in the world.

No hospital in the Southeast knows more about treating congenital heart defects than the physicians at the Congenital Heart Institute at Miami Children’s Hospital and Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. They perform more pediatric heart procedures than any other team in Florida with one of the highest success rates in the world. Where true expertise of the heart, comes from the heart. No one knows children like Miami Children’s.