

Emma's Story - Written by Martina Dinsmore (Emma's Mother)

Emma in Hospital



On September 16, 2004, Hurricane Ivan hit Pensacola, Florida. The category 3 hurricane severely damaged our newly built home on Perdido Key, along with our vehicles, furniture, clothing, toys...Ivan destroyed 95% of our possessions, yet my family and I remained thankful for our lives, each other, and our jobs.

Emma After Sauna



Two weeks later, on September 30, 2004, at 8:00 a.m., I took my daughter and son to their grandparent's house and returned to work as a telebanker for AmSouth Bank.

At 10:00 a.m., I took my morning break and checked my voicemail as usual. My mother-in-law, Dottie, left a message that she and Emma would meet me at the hospital ER. I heard my precious 5 year old, Emma screaming that she was scared and wanted her Mommy. It was the most terrifying message. I ran screaming through our office center and out the doors to my car. I knew it was serious when my stepmother called me on my cell phone and said she and our pastor were on their way to the hospital too.

When I got to the ER, I was met by a chaplain and Dottie, who was covered in blood. Emma's blood. The remainder of my story is really Emma's story and it is a story full of hope and miracles

Emma was sitting on a log, playing under an old majestic oak tree. A hanging limb from the above tree above broke loose and landed on Emma. The limb was approx. 300 lbs and it crushed her against the log she was sitting. It landed on her right pelvis, hip, lower spine area and rolled off her right foot. The injuries were severe and immense.

Emma was taken by air ambulance to a hospital 20 minutes away. For some bizarre reason, she remained conscious through the whole flight. When she arrived at the Nemours Children's Hospital, a team of surgeons were awaiting her arrival in the operating room. She was still conscious and telling the doctors, "I'm alright, I'm gonna be okay." I was told her attitude really choked the doctors and nurses up. Once they rolled Emma's gurney into the operating room, she began bleeding profusely. She was given twice her body's blood capacity. She was losing blood as fast as it was going in. (Emma did not start bleeding until she was in the OR! The miracle here is that she could have bled to death at the accident site or in the helicopter).

The doctors were anxiously trying to find the source of bleeding and opened Emma's chest to check for a ruptured spleen, liver, etc. They finally discovered a severed artery and surgically stopped her bleeding.

Emma's next hurdle was a big one. She had received so much blood, in such a short period of time, that her body was swelling severely and her internal organs were dying from lack of oxygen. After 11 hours and begging to see Emma, the ER doctors finally allowed me and her father into ICU. When we entered her room, doctors were still frantically trying to get more blood into her system. We were shuffled to the head of her bed and told to talk to her. I was in shocked at her swollen, damaged appearance. She was on life support with a

hundred tubes running in and out of her. I did not know how it was possible for her to hear our voices, but the nurses just begged us to comfort her and allow her to hear our voices. (We came to know these nurses well, and they told us months later that they did not think she would live through that night. This was their way of getting us to say good bye.) After our short visit with Emma (2 minutes tops), we were told that Emma would need emergency surgery in order to live. We agreed to let the doctors take out her internal organs (stomach, intestines, liver, gallbladder, etc) and allow those organs to remain outside of the body for a week's time). This was the craziest thing we had ever heard. The doctors performed their operation and Emma's internal organs were wrapped and laid outside her body, against her side. The doctors then put drain tubes in her lungs to drain the excess fluid off. When the internal organs were pulled out of Emma, they were purple from lack of oxygen, but immediately turned pink. (This was a miracle!)

Emma remained on life support and in a drug induced coma for eight days. Her injuries included 2 broken legs with many leg fractures, a dislocated ankle, a crushed pelvic bone with missing bone, spinal cord injury in the lumbar area, which has left her with a neurogenic bladder and severe nerve damage to her legs and feet. Emma had hundreds of fractures in her back, affecting eight vertebrae.

Our family was called into a small room for a doctor's consultation. We were told that Emma would never walk. Her neurologist told us, "Mourn the loss of the old Emma and accept the new Emma that you have." When we walked out of the consultation room my family agreed that we would never accept that! Emma remained in ICU for two months on a rotating bed. We witnessed many miracles. I received messages from God through strangers and friends on earth. We were told by many visitors that the power of prayer could be felt in her room. Blood donations, cards, letters, and gifts continued to pour in from our community. Trace Atkins even dedicated a song to Emma at the county fair, as well as a monetary donation to her medical fund. Emma spent an additional month in Atlanta at the Children's Hospital for spinal cord and head injury patients. It was an intensive rehabilitation. She was taught how to use a wheelchair and she taught her therapists how to ballet in a wheelchair. She made quite an impression in Atlanta. The housekeepers always commented that her pink, sparkly hospital room was full of love and happiness. We would laugh and tell them it was a downgrade from the ICU room she had in Pensacola.

When we returned to Pensacola, life was so different. There were special adjustments that had to be made to our house, for handicapped accessibility. We needed to buy a car that would fit a wheelchair. I met with school officials who helped with the transition of Emma returning to school.

A very shy Emma returned to school in February, 2005. The children at school rallied around her. They were so happy to see her return. Emma made it very clear to everyone from the very beginning that she could push her own wheelchair. She continued to be as independent as ever. She continues to make the honor roll and is also in a gifted class. Emma has been ballet and tap dancing since 18 months of age. She returned to dance classes, performing her first recital in her wheelchair. Her second recent recital was in May. She performed her tap routine with her arm crutches and leg braces. It was a beautiful thing for our community to see her progress. Emma still continues with physical therapy twice a week. Her current goal is to be in two short braces and one arm crutch. It is a strong struggle, but she is working hard towards that goal. We recently discovered horseback riding for disabled children. A therapist works with Emma on a horse and with a pony to strengthen her abdominal, back, and leg muscles. It has been a fantastic form of physical therapy. Emma loves the horses and doesn't realize it is an important form of physical

therapy. A local bike shop designed a special bike for Emma with training wheels and swimming pool therapy have both helped to keep Emma active and strong.

Our family traveled last November to the Children's Hospital at the UAB in Birmingham to see a Pediatric Urologist and inquiry into electro stimulation for her bladder. It turned out to be a very educational visit, but did not lead us to a resolution for her bladder incontinence. A more recent visit to Mobile Alabama for a Second Opinion from a Pediatric Orthopedic and a Catscan was very enlightening. We were told by this doctor that Emma had a global twist in her lower spinal cord area. This twisted area had a lot of scar tissue. Scar tissue here was preventing nerve regeneration. Concerning her bladder and leg nerves, we were told, "It is what it is. She sits up with great balance and has good upper body strength, but medically speaking she would not have any improvements in those areas."

The most recent and miraculous improvements and discoveries have happened two weeks following this second opinion. My good friend Dee told me about Jodi Mollohan's **Far Infrared Therapy Center** called Introcell. Dee keeps her horse on property next to Jodi's house. They became friends and two weeks later, Jodi became our life friend too. Introcell has changed our lives and given us more hope than ever. Jodi and Introcell are a major force in our lives. I always felt that I was looking for something/someone that I knew would have answers to my prayers. I found miracles and answers when I met Jodi and **Dr. Hildi**. A picture of Emma and her testimony below hang in the entrance of Introcell:

My name is Emma. On 9/30/2004, I was crushed by a 300 lb oak tree limb in Pensacola two weeks following Hurricane Ivan, which left me with a spinal cord injury. Doctors gave me little hope for ever walking again. My bladder nerves are damaged and recently my doctors said those nerves are probably dead. I still can't feel my left foot because of nerve damage and I have a severe spinal curvature too.

Before my first Far Infrared Therapy session, I could only wiggle a single toe on my right foot. After my first session, I wiggled all 5 toes and could swing and kick my legs like crazy. We were told this was due to increased blood flow and circulation. My once cold legs and ice cold feet are now always warm and my skin has a beautiful glow.

*I was also covered with a lot of permanent bruising-- trapped blood under the skin. Now there is very little bruising at this point in my healing process. The once large and painful calcium deposit on my tailbone is now almost completely gone, so now I can lie on my back without pain. I have many severe scars and the scars are now fading! **IntroCell's therapy has begun to heal my body in such a short time.** I am getting so strong with my walking ability (I currently walk short distances with leg braces and arm poles) and my spine is getting straighter too. The most challenging and exciting healing is the changes to my neurogenic bladder. It is coming back!*

*"Far Infrared Therapy has been my MIRACLE THERAPY.
I am so grateful to IntroCell and to "Dr. Hildi" for changing my life and giving me hope."*

Emma's changes are nothing short of miraculous! Emma was told she would have to be on antibiotics for the rest of her life to prevent bacterial infections (UTI's). Prior to FIR therapy, if we missed a dose of her antibiotics a UTI would almost immediately begin. Currently she is off the antibiotics with no sign of UTI at all! Her appetite has increased and is normal.

Before Introcell, Emma ate dinner (period). No breakfast, lunch or snack. She never ate and it killed me. She had absolutely no energy and very little upper body strength. We were very concerned about this. She spent too much time in her wheel chair because using her wrist crutches was a struggle. Currently Emma eats like a horse and is full of energy. Her legs and feet are always warm instead of ice cold. She has a beautiful radiant glow. No dark circles under the eyes. No yellow looking skin. Her wheelchair is only there for extreme situations, and she refuses to use it except for large outings. Emma now goes everywhere with her wrist crutches, wearing a short brace on one leg and a long brace on the other.

I kept a journal of her Introcell sessions. After the very first session, Emma wet herself. Something she has not done since the accident. She has wet herself a dozen or more times to date. Something is coming back. **Far Infrared Therapy helps to move and diminish scar tissue.** Perhaps this FIR therapy will allow her nerves to regenerate through her global twisted spinal area. As a mother, **I am so blessed to no longer see the severe bruising she once had.** Emma was covered with black bruising all over her pelvis area, including between her legs. **Almost 98% of that bruising is gone.** Doctors told us prior to Introcell that she would probably always have that bruising because it is trapped blood beneath the skin. FIR has broken up that blood and moved it out of her body. Also, Emma had a calcium deposit on her tailbone. It was very protrusive and caused her pain when she lay on her back. Doctors told us to consider laser surgery to shave it off when Emma is a preteen. That calcium deposit is now gone and causes no discomfort. It disappeared after her second or third FIR session. Emma had a severe curvature in her spine too from the impact of the tree against her pelvis. We were told to be prepared for surgery in a few years to straighten this curve. The FIR capsule dima has begun to straighten her spine. Surgery is no longer needed in the future. **I see so many changes in Emma as a result of FIR therapy.** We purchased a capsule dima for Emma to use daily. We will purchase the FIR sauna as soon as we are able to do so, because we feel it is so necessary for her healing. I wish to share Emma's story and results with everyone! I tell everyone... my neighbors, friends, family, school administration, church family, everyone I have contact with, because it is such a miraculous and simple way of healing the body.

For more technical information on the MPS Far Infrared products, refer to www.HYMBAS.com