

Montréal's Enfant Soleil

“When they told us the diagnosis, we would have given anything to trade places with our daughter. Unfortunately, that wasn't possible. We had to resign ourselves to watching her suffer and waiting, hoping that she would get through this...”

These are the words of Frédérique's parents. The little girl, just 8 years old, had some very difficult days at the start of 2016, when she had to be operated on 13 times in a short period of time following a serious infection: Group A streptococcus, better known as the flesh-eating bacteria.

Everything started one evening in March, while the family was sleeping peacefully at home. Suddenly, Frédérique started screaming: she had agonizing pain in her legs and she was unable to bend at the hip. They headed to the hospital, where she had a series of tests (X-rays, lumbar puncture, etc.) and was put in isolation. The diagnosis was made and everything happened very quickly: Frédérique's leg turned blue, she had to be operated on urgently, and the whole family was treated with antibiotics.

Once out of the operating room, the little girl was suffering so much that the doctors had no other choice but to induce a coma. Her parents were informed that their daughter had lost a muscle in her thigh and a part of her backside was affected by the bacteria. It was the beginning of a difficult battle to survive, regain strength, and relearn how to function, despite the effects of the illness.

“Frédérique is such a strong little girl! Even in the hospital, she had a very positive attitude,” says her father. “But it has been difficult to see our whole life change: we are so worried, and we have increased our trips to the Cowansville hospital, Sainte-Justine, the rehabilitation centre and the CHU de Sherbrooke.”

But Opération Enfant Soleil is present in all of these spaces and continues to look after children like Frédérique. “Please continue to give, it's so important!” say her parents.

Frédérique's family thanks you for being there for her and for all sick children in Québec!

Marc Grenier, Karine Gagnon, Xavier and Élyana



Frédérique Grenier
8 years old

Suffering from Group A
streptococcus

Little miracles don't
happen on their own

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