



Éléonore Brabant-Rondeau
5 years old

Suffering from Arnold-Chiari malformation
and Abernethy malformation

Enfant Soleil from Montreal

"For us, Opération Enfant Soleil means hope! Since our daughter's birth, the little logo has reassured us when we see it. Everywhere we go, we know that people are with us. Thank you to the donors, volunteers and partners!"

At birth, Éléonore worried her parents and the staff of the Hôpital de la Cité-de-la-Santé. She was in respiratory distress and her condition was difficult to stabilize. She had to spend several days in intensive care under the worried eyes of loved ones. Fortunately, the little girl was doing better after a few weeks and could finally go home, much to her parents' great delight. Nothing indicated that she was suffering from any malformation whatsoever.

Around the age of six months, Éléonore weighed only ten pounds.

Because she often vomited, she was referred to gastroenterology to try to determine what was wrong. An allergy to bovine proteins seemed to be the issue, but the vomiting continued despite changes to her diet. Her liver was only functioning at 5% of its capacity. An Abernethy malformation was diagnosed and a transplant was being considered, but corrective surgery in January 2016 produced very encouraging results.

In addition to her gastric problems, Éléonore did not have normal motor development. She cried a lot, refused prone or sitting positions and arched her head back during tantrums. A Chiari malformation was detected, a disease of the cerebellum that required three operations to relieve the little one's sufferings. She has extremely complex pathologies.

Éléonore's health, the many medical appointments and care required by her condition have led to a wonderful collaboration of everyone around her. Even her big sister, Laurence, is part of "the care team" and is devoted to Éléonore's well-being. We don't yet know all the aftereffects that Éléonore will face, but her family is making sure she has the best life possible.

Éléonore's family joins us in thanking you for being there for her and all sick children in Quebec.

Caroline Gamache-Brabant, François Rondeau and Laurence

Little miracles don't happen on their own...

Visit operationenfantsoleil.ca to learn about the journeys of all the province's Enfants Soleil through their profiles and videos.

Would you like to get involved? • Contact us: 1 877 683-2325 • oes@operationenfantsoleil.ca