



Mikaële Laure Personna  
age 3  
Myofibroma

## ENFANT SOLEIL FROM LAVAL

**During their daughter's seventeen-month hospitalization, the gaze of Mikaële Laure's parents often fell on Opération Enfant Soleil's little logo: "It's truly comforting to see the support of the entire population, who helps give the best possible care to our child. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!"**

Mikaële Laure was born prematurely at thirty-four weeks of pregnancy. A few days into her new life, a mass was noticed on one of her arms. In addition, the baby made a high whistling sound when she breathed, indicating an abnormal passage of air through her airways. This worried the doctors, who decided to keep her in the hospital a bit longer. A week passed before she could come home.

A few days after her return home, she was in respiratory distress. She was rushed to the Montreal Children's Hospital, where she was intubated in the resuscitation room. "It was a shock for us to have to be separated from our baby. We didn't understand what was happening." Because the baby was unable to breathe on her own, a tracheostomy and gastrostomy had to be performed. Doctors discovered many myofibromas on her body.

For nearly a year and a half, her parents went to the hospital daily to be at their daughter's bedside. They had to reorganize their lives to be at her side and support her through this ordeal. During those long months, specialists performed several surgeries, biopsies and

many examinations. Unfortunately, no solution was found to effectively treat the masses lodged in her head, belly, neck and throat.

Back home, she continues to be tube fed and must continually undergo oxygen therapy. She has language delays, but her intellectual faculties are intact. Although her condition has stabilized, her parents still have questions and concerns: What are her prospects for the future? Will she have to keep her tracheostomy for life? Nobody can answer for now. At three years of age, she is a resilient, energetic, cheerful girl; her condition doesn't slow her down!

*Mikaële Laure's family join us in thanking you for being there for her and all sick children in Quebec.*

**Rachelle Toussaint, Jean Fritzner Personna  
and Raphaël Nathan**

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

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