



Mikaële Laure Personna, age 3  
Myofibroma

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 at home, Mikaële Laure continues to be fed by tube. That said, since last summer, the little girl is now breathing on her own most of the time without oxygen support, which is a great victory for the family. She also underwent an operation last September to correct two laryngeal clefts and to remove a mass lodged under her tracheostomy. In the coming years, Mikaële Laure will undergo another surgery to expand her airways: this operation will make it possible to remove her tracheostomy. Despite everything, Mikaële Laure's development is going very well. She has a language delay, but her intellectual faculties are intact. At the age of three, she is a resilient, driven, and smiling little girl; her condition doesn't stop her!

*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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