



4th Quarter 2008 “Vista L.A.”

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Summary:

In this episode of Vista L.A., we feature Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, where over 93,000 youngsters are treated each year by some of the most esteemed physicians in the field of pediatric medicine. Their mission statement is “to make a world of difference in the lives of children and their families, by integrating medical care, education and research, to provide the highest quality care and service to a diverse community.”

THE HISTORY OF CHILDRENS HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES

Childrens Hospital Los Angeles first opened its doors in 1901, when it was founded by a service organization of women known as the “King’s Daughters.” In its early days, it was housed in a small house on what was Castelar street downtown, and had only eight beds. It’s certainly evolved over the years to become the gold standard for pediatric care in the United States.

BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT

At just a few weeks old, Haylee Gonzales was suffering from a malfunction in her bone marrow that was destroying her immune system. This rare condition is called “Severe Combined Immune Deficiency Syndrome,” also known as SCIDS. This condition required Haylee to be in complete isolation because something as simple as a common cold could have dangerous results. Medical experts and leading doctors in the “Bone Marrow Transplant Program” at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles devised a treatment giving little Haylee and her family hope. Using her mother Yuri Gonzales’s bone marrow, they figured out a way to remove her stem cells and transfuse them into her daughter Haylee – in hopes of stimulating a new, working immune system. Soon after this treatment, Haylee was slowly able to re-build her immune system. Today, she is a healthy, happy baby.

HEART INSTITUTE

After high school football practice, Mario Perez, from Hacienda Heights, woke up to severe pounding in his chest. Not knowing what was wrong, he tried to ignore the pain. However, the irregular heartbeats continued for weeks. Finally, his mother Nancy Ruiz couldn’t wait any longer; she took him to Childrens Hospital Los Angeles hoping to get some answers and figure out what was causing her son so much pain. Michael J. Silka MD, a pediatric electro-cardiologist and his colleague, Yaniv Bar-Cohen, MD, ran a battery of tests on Mario. They determined that his fast heart beat was caused by “Wolff Parkinson White Syndrome” or WPW, a rare condition caused by an extra

nerve embedded in the heart. Fortunately, the condition is manageable through a new treatment called cryoablation. Mario decided to go forth with this new treatment, undergoing a required surgery...thankfully, it was a success and he was able to fully recover. It wasn't long after that Mario headed back to the football field – to score big.

RETINA INSTITUTE

When Sylvia and Jason Adam's second child Madison was born, she was three months early and weighed only 1 pound, 10 ounces. As a result, she suffered from a terrifying condition called Retinopathy of Prematurity – or ROP – which is common in preemies. In premature babies, the retina is sometimes at risk of being ripped apart. Dr. Thomas Lee, Director of the Retina Institute in the Vision Center and Dr. A Linn Murphree, Director of Ocular Oncology Service in the Vision Center of Childrens Hospital Los Angeles discovered that the blood vessels on Madison's retinas in each eye were growing in the wrong direction, creating potentially disastrous scar tissue -- which if left untreated for even a few days -- could cause permanent blindness. To correct the damage, the doctors treated Madison's retinas with lasers and saved her eyesight.

ALONDRA MARTINEZ FOLLOW-UP

In 2004, when Alondra Martinez was two months old, she was diagnosed with severe liver disease. With the help of an adult donor Katie Hale, Doctor Yuri Genyk and Doctor Dan Thomas, Alondra received a liver transplant from a living donor and is doing well.

HIGH SCHOOL RESEARCH EDUCATION PROGRAM

Each summer at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, Public High School students – many of them aspiring doctors and scientists – participate in an intensive research internship. It's designed to expose students to actual research projects centered on pediatric diseases. They work side by side with mentors in the lab -- and get real life experience. Dr. Emil Bogenmann is the Director of Research Education at Childrens Hospital's Saban Research Institute and also heads up the High School Research Education Program. Jovanna Hernandez and Veronica Martinez are High School Seniors and aspiring doctors and scientists -- who both spent their summers learning and researching in the lab.

Hosts: Danny Romero, Jovana Lara

Guests: Mary Dee Hacker, VP for Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer; Haylee Gonzales, Patient; Yuri Gonzales, Haylee's Mom; Gay M. Crooks, MD/Division of Bone Marrow Transplantation and Research Immunology; Neena Kapoor, MD/ Director, Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation; Donald B. Kohn, MD/Head, Division of Bone Marrow Transplantation and Research Immunology; Shinyi Tang, Registered Nurse; Mario Perez, Heart Patient; Nancy Ruiz, Mario's Mother; Michael J. Silka MD, Pediatric Electro-Cardiologist; Yaniv Bar-Cohen, MD; Madison Adam, Patient; Sylvia and Jason Adam, Madison's Parents; Dr. Thomas Lee, Director of the

Retina Institute in the Vision Center; Dr. A Linn Murphree, Director of Ocular Oncology Service in the Vision Center; Alondra Martinez; Katie Hale, M.D.; Yuri Geny, M.D.; Dan Thomas, M.D.; Dr. Emil Bogenmann, Director of Research Education; Jovanna Hernandez, Research Intern; Veronica Martinez, Research Intern.