

# Parents' fast actions lead to world-first heart procedure (Broadcast)

## INTRO:

PARENTAL INSTINCTS AND QUICK REACTION TIME LED TO TWO CENTRAL ILLINOIS PARENTS SAVING THEIR CHILD'S LIFE. IT STARTED AT HOME WHEN THE PARENTS NOTICED SOMETHING WAS EXTREMELY WRONG WITH THEIR 2-YEAR-OLD SON.

## TAKE VO

THEY PERFORMED C-P-R AND RESUSCITATED HIM. HE WAS TRANSPORTED TO OSF HEALTHCARE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ILLINOIS IN PEORIA WHERE IT WAS DETERMINED HE HAD SUFFERED SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST AND HAD A MALIGNANT HEART CONDITION KNOWN AS BRUGADA SYNDROME... WHICH CAUSES HEART ARRHYTHMIAS AND SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH.

## TAKE SOT | DR. HARMA TURBENDIAN | PEDIATRIC CARDIAC SURGEON | OSF CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ILLINOIS

"Most kids that go through that, unfortunately, don't survive," says Harma Turbendian, MD, a pediatric cardiac surgeon with OSF Children's Hospital of Illinois. "So, this was fast-acting parents who knew what they were doing, then EMS, followed by our team here in the ICU."

## VO TAG

THE MEDICAL TEAM AT OSF CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WHO TREATED THE TODDLER WAS LED BY DR. SUNITA FERNS... DR. MARK PLUNKETT... AND DR. HARMA TURBENDIAN. OSF SURGICAL TEAMS HAVE BEEN USING A DEVICE KNOWN AS THE E-V I-C-D ... OR EXTRAVASCULAR IMPLANTABLE CARDIOVERTER DEFIBRILLATOR ... MADE BY MEDTRONIC... SINCE SPRING 2024. BUT THE NEW TECHNOLOGY HAD ONLY EVER BEEN USED ON ADULTS OR MUCH OLDER TEENAGERS. THE PURPOSE OF THE DEVICE IS THAT IF OR WHEN A MALIGNANT HEART ARRHYTHMIA OCCURS IN A PERSON – IT WILL SHOCK THE HEART BACK INTO RHYTHM. DR. FERNS – THE DIRECTOR OF PEDIATRIC AND ADULT ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY – BROUGHT TOGETHER A TEAM OF SPECIALISTS TO PERFORM THE PROCEDURE... WHICH IS THE FIRST TIME AN EV-ICD HAS BEEN IMPLANTED IN A CHILD THIS SMALL OR YOUNG.

## TAKE SOT | DR. SUNITA FERNS | DIRECTOR | PEDIATRIC & ADULT ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY | OSF CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ILLINOIS

"The lead was inserted, and the device was implanted outside of his rib cage," Dr. Ferns says. "Given that a 2-year-old is going to grow leaps and bounds over the next decade or two, it's an excellent choice for him. When we tried this, it was the first time in the world that someone trialed it on someone this small."

## VO

DR. MARK PLUNKETT – THE CHIEF OF PEDIATRIC AND CONGENITAL HEART SURGERY – CALLS THIS PROCEDURE A GAME CHANGER... ONE THAT WILL SEND SHOCK WAVES ACROSS THE GLOBE IN THE WORLD OF MEDICINE.

## TAKE SOT | DR. MARK PLUNKETT | CHIEF OF PEDIATRIC AND CONGENITAL HEART SURGERY | OSF CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ILLINOIS

"Children in the past had to undergo much larger procedures, oftentimes a sternotomy or thoracotomy. The devices were often bigger, and we were sewing patches on the heart or implanting coils," Dr. Plunkett says. "And some of those devices were not as effective as this new technology."

## VO TAG

THE HOPE IS NOW FOR THE PROCEDURE TO BE PUBLISHED IN A MEDICAL JOURNAL... OFFERING GUIDANCE FOR MEDICAL TEAMS AROUND THE WORLD TO OFFER A NEW FORM OF HOPE FOR THE LITTLEST OF PATIENTS. ALL THREE DOCTORS CAN'T OVEREMPHASIZE HOW IMPORTANT THE PARENTS' ACTIONS WERE AT HOME... SAYING THEY SAVED THE CHILD'S LIFE BY PERFORMING EFFECTIVE C-P-R AND BRINGING HIM TO THE HOSPITAL.