

## Successful Cochlear Implant cures deaf and dumb child

Little Srijita Banerjee is a routine three and half year old girl wanting to explore the world and tell her story. She wants to hear the birds sing and tell her mother about the naughty puppy chasing her. She would be doing all of that, had she not been born differently. Trouble is she cannot hear, which unfortunately would mean that she may not be able to talk ever. Srijita's parents decided they would not give up on her. Her father gave up his small job in a private firm to help in the treatment of his only daughter while her mother, a school teacher, earns a living for the family.

After having visited many hospitals and doctors they came to know that only a Cochlear Implant could help their daughter do all the things any child her age would. The surgery itself is complex and involves placing a highly sophisticated device into a part of her inner ear. An external receiver can then pick up sound and transmit it to the device within her ear which stimulates the nerves within, leading to the perception of speech and sound. Unfortunately the treatment was expensive and with the cheapest implant costing more than Rs. 5 lakhs it seemed a distant

Srijita's brain would slowly lose the ability to help her speak even if she started hearing after a few years.

about half of the money needed for her treatment. Srijita's plight and her parents' dedication and determina-

Medica ENT Institute (a unit of Medica Synergie Pvt Ltd)

is a 15-bed hospital and a centre of excellence offering world class treatment in the speciality

Bank loans were difficult to get without collaterals.

It was then that Banerjee came to Medica ENT Institute in Mukundapur which happens to be the only stand alone hospital for ear nose and throat diseases in eastern India. Medica ENT Institute (a unit of Medica Synergie Pvt Ltd) is a 15-bed hospital and a centre of excellence offering world class treatment in the speciality. Srijita was examined by the team of doctors at the hospital - Dr. N V K Mohan, Dr. Chirajit Dutta, and Dr. Arjun Dasgupta - and advised to undergo a cochlear implant surgery followed by a year long habilitation programme to help her understand

tion to provide her a near normal life moved the doctors and they spoke to Dr. Alok Roy - Chairman and Managing Director of Medica Synergie. In keeping with the group's motto of providing world class treatment at an affordable price to the general population, Dr. Roy decided to fund the remaining cost of the treatment for Srijita.

We are proud to announce that little Srijita successfully underwent the complex surgery at Medica ENT Institute under the care of the doctors here. Soon she will be able to hear her mother's call and reply to her. Srijita's parents were overwhelmed with the treatment their daughter received. "We could never dream of getting our daughter treated in such a modern, well-equipped hospital. We will remain ever grateful to the doctors here and the hospital management for gifting our daughter a normal life as the procedure was way beyond our reach. Without their help it would not have been possible for us to bring her out of her silent world," Sreejita's father, Abhijit Banerjee said.

Today we revel in the knowledge that the world has one child less who is hearing impaired and God willing there will be many more. □

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