

BRAIN BREAK!



	4					8		
		2	8		7	9		
5	7			6			3	1
4					2			
			6	8	5			
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9	8			7			1	3
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		3	2	7	9			
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	3	9					4	1
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	4	2					7	6
	5							
4	9		1				2	6
			6	2	5	9		

Sudoku provided by www.SudokuOfTheDay.com



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Be sure to visit our blog at
PediatricHomeService.com/blog

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1-2-3 and Max makes 4

PLUS:

Individual Therapy,
Life With a Trach,
and Antibiotic Prescriptions



Confidence in Care

LIFE WITH A TRACH



When a family prepares to take their child home after having a tracheostomy, the idea of maintaining the child's cares away from the hospital can seem intimidating.

To help you educate families and relieve their stress about what lies ahead for them and their medically-complex child, we created a video resource titled Confidence in Care: Life with a Trach. In this eight-minute video, parents will hear from our medical director, Dr. Roy Maynard, as well as PHS respiratory therapist John Sheahan, and Rebecca and Chad – mom and dad to Claire, a two-year-old PHS patient who received a tracheostomy two years ago.

Visit www.LifeWithaTrach.com to see the video and pass it along to your patient families.



Thriving at Home

MAX PLUS THREE MORE

One of a quadruplet set, Max was born at 26 weeks – healthy aside from typical micro-preemie issues. But at three weeks old, Max developed necrotizing enterocolitis and lost about 90% of his small intestine. After seven months in the hospital, he came home on services from PHS and now receives TPN, g-tube feedings, and has private duty nursing.

After abdominal surgeries and procedures, Max is working on eating orally and reducing the time he receives TPN. Because his medical needs can be managed at home, Stephanie and her husband, William, can be home with all four two-year-olds.

"We're hoping he can eventually be TPN-free," says Stephanie.

Read more:
www.PediatricHomeService.com/blog/thriving-at-home-max



Individual Therapy

PROCESSING COMES AS PLAY

In our constant effort to care for the whole child, we have begun offering play therapy to qualified patients. This service offers children ages 2-10 the opportunity to express themselves through specific types of toys and child-led play as a therapist follows their lead. Clinical social worker Monica Handlos, MSW, LICSW, facilitates play therapy with patients in the newly developed PHS playrooms.

"Play therapy gives kids a chance to have some control, especially regarding what is happening to them as a patient," says Monica. "Children have a hard time saying, 'I'm upset this is happening to me.' Play therapy allows them to use toys as words."

Read more:
www.PediatricHomeService.com/blog/individual-therapy



Message from Our Medical Director

DO NO HARM

To address concerns of possible over-prescribing of antibiotics, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has released guidelines on antibiotic prescriptions for upper respiratory tract infections.

This recent update focuses on three principles:

- Accurate diagnosis of a bacterial infection
- Consideration of the risks vs. benefits of antibiotic treatment
- Implementation of sensible prescribing strategies

There is also attention being brought to the risk of over-the-counter cough and cold medicine use among the pediatric population, with the AAP stating, "medications do not work for children under age 6, and, in some cases, may pose a health risk."

Read more:
www.PediatricHomeService.com/blog/do-no-harm

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