

## **Dima, from Moscow ó Adenoids Surgery in Freiburg**



My son Dima started kindergarten at the age of 3 years. Since then he has fallen ill again and again. In the following 2 years he was able to attend kindergarten for only 2 months altogether. The remainder of the time he spent at home being sick. The ENT doctor of the local children polyclinic almost became a family member to us. As a consequence of all the colds he had, Dima suffered from infections of the sinuses and the ears etc. We always tried to separate Dima from other people to prevent further infections.

When after 3 years Dima was again checked by an experienced ENT specialist, adenoids were diagnosed and an adenotomy was recommended. The adenoids were the source of all the infections and long illnesses. After some reflection I was ready to have Dima undergo this surgery. I felt already quite bad when I saw the list of laboratory tests with 12 items that we were to prepare before visiting the clinic. But when I came to the clinic, and it is not the worst in Moscow by far, I was really frightened by the state of things, and I could not imagine that my son should spend 5 days there without his mum. The adenotomy is still performed without any anaesthetisation in Russia. The child's arms are tied up and the adenoids are simply torn out in a bloody and painful procedure. The children get a moral and physical shock for their whole lives.

I was recommended a commercially working department of the Filatow Children's Hospital, where this surgery is apparently being performed according to European standards, under full anaesthesia recently, and also a separate room for mother and child is available afterwards. etc.

During that time I met Dr. Dr. hc. Monika Lehnhardt, Partnerin of the company Monsana AG, She immediately offered to arrange for a surgery at the University Clinic in Freiburg, Germany.

As we already had intended to visit friends in that area for Christmas and New Year I said yes without long considerations.

Within only a couple of days, Dr. Dr. hc. Lehnhardt negotiated with the Director of the ENT Clinic of the Freiburg University Clinic, Prof. Dr. Dr. Laszig, and we were given a surgery date on 3rd January 2008.

2 days before surgery Dima was examined to confirm the diagnosis. The necessity of the adenoid surgery was reconfirmed. After that there was a meeting with the anaesthetist where a gentle full anaesthesia was discussed

Some days before the surgery, Dr. Dr. Monika Lehnhardt personally introduced us to Prof. Dr. Dr. Laszig. Apart from his remarkable human attributes, he is an excellent surgeon reputed all over the world, in short, an exceptionally gifted surgeon.

We did not have to bring any laboratory tests, very differently to Russia. At first this made me skeptical but at the clinic my doubts were soon dispersed.

From the first minutes of our stay at the clinic, we were taken care of by nurses and doctors and felt safe. I accompanied my son to the surgery theatre as I served as his interpreter. For the first time I was in a department where a full anaesthesia was performed. The doctors around my son treated him better than some people would treat their own children. Numerous little cables were attached to his little body as if he were to undergo heart surgery. Every movement of the doctors and the nurse was precise and well coordinated. I had reached the

22nd century. I was surprised by the high responsibility that the doctors took for the patient. Half an hour later I was called to the department where Dima still slept after the surgery. When he woke up after anaesthesia, he was immediately brought to his room. But he did not stay there for long. On his face was no apparent trace from the surgery he had just undergone. Prof. Dr. Dr. Laszig spoke some Russian to Dima and recommended to spend another day at the clinic. From our room we had a lovely view of the black forest. The room had a tv set with remote control and telephone. Dima ate loads of ice cream. We did not really want to leave the clinic again.

Already 3 days after that Dima went skiing in Austria at 3000m. The word "clinic" now means "health resort" for Dima and he said to me that he would like to go there again. I think when a child says something like that, this means a lot.

I don't regret at all that we decided to go to Germany for the surgery and we thank the company Monsana and personally Dr. Dr. Monika Lehnhardt, who was able to convey trust, confidence and calmness to me since the first days of our relationship with the clinic, the doctors and the medical personnel.