



# Hertfordshire parents were granted additional time with their daughter owing to a five-minute test.

## Description

Article by Alex Pope  
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With a poignancy that is hard to forget, Emma described the extraordinary journey through which she gave birth to Daisy on 19 June 2023 in Lister Hospital, Stevenage. Daisy's life was all too brief, tragically cut short by multiple heart defects that ultimately led to her passing at a tender age of 12 weeks. Yet, in a painful yet bittersweet narrative, Emma shared how a particular heart defect trial provided precious bonus time that allowed her to form an authentic bond with her daughter before her capacity to experience life slipped away.

Emma put forth the assertion that without the intervention of this specific heart defect trial, Daisy wouldn't have survived even 48 hours after her birth. The trial involved the administration of a technique known as 'pulse oximetry' which was deemed suitable for Daisy's condition, having been born with multiple heart irregularities. The procedure, while yet to be part of the UK's routine screening programme, measures an infant's oxygen levels and gave Emma and her family the opportunity to learn about, and love Daisy, in ways one can only do with the passage of time.

Daisy's strength allowed her family to spend several beautiful weeks with her, sharing moments of love and tenderness. From Watton at Stone, Hertfordshire, Emma, a mother of resilience and strength shared, "It was a tumultuous period, replete with devastation and hardship. But if it weren't for those three months that we were gifted with her, situations could have been significantly more heartbreaking. Having the privilege to genuinely get to know her, to be with her, to cultivate that intense love was such an invaluable experience."

This does not neglect the harsh reality that had it not been for this procedure, Daisy wouldn't have survived past 48 hours. Now, Miss Hart fervently petitions for this test to be made accessible for every newborn as a testament to her departed daughter.

She is urging the National Screening Committee (NSC) to approve the arrangement commenting, "Every infant deserves to fight for life, and this examination, which isn't intrusive and takes but five minutes, could literally hold the key to survival for numerous babies. The fact that hospitals don't have these facilities in place is astounding given its potential to save so many lives."

When Daisy was born, she was the outcome of a perfectly regular pregnancy. Pulse oximetry was made available only as part of a trial. As soon as an alarm was raised in the test, Daisy was immediately transferred to Great Ormond Street Hospital in London. Unfortunately, multiple heart irregularities were discovered, and Daisy's small heart was only functioning at one-fourth its full capacity. Despite heart surgery, it was a mere temporary solution, owing to her small size.

Daisy passed away peacefully in her mother's arms on 10 September at the comfort of her home. As we tread this memory lane paved with sorrow and heartache, it is undeniable that further research and results,



eagerly awaited, could potentially prevent such painful circumstances. Lower levels of oxygen in babies are an aspect that the NSC, and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), take extremely seriously. Their consultation findings on the effect of screening all babies for reduced oxygen haven't been conclusive.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **Poignancy** // (noun): Quality of evoking a deep sense of sadness or regret
2. **Tragically** // (adverb): In a way that involves or causes great suffering or harm
3. **Authentic** // (adjective): Real or genuine
4. **Intervention** // (noun): Action taken to improve a situation especially a medical disorder
5. **Privilege** // (noun): Special right or advantage
6. **Petition** // (verb): Make a formal request for something desirable

## Vocabulary quizzes



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**Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )**

1. Which term refers to the death or end of something?  
Option: Acclaimed  
Option: Confined  
Option: Demise  
Option: Indefinite
  
2. What do we call a widespread occurrence of an infectious disease in a community at a particular time?  
Option: Empathy  
Option: Captivating  
Option: Epidemic  
Option: Authenticity
  
3. Which term indicates a mutual relationship or connection between two or more things?  
Option: Baffling  
Option: Gullible  
Option: Correlation  
Option: Adherence
  
4. What word refers to actions that make something less severe serious or painful?  
Option: Decelerates  
Option: Mitigates  
Option: Amendments  
Option: Illuminate
  
5. Which term means a formal request usually written to a person or authority?  
Option: Tragically  
Option: Authentic  
Option: Intervention  
Option: Petition
  
6. What type of medical treatment involves the management of obesity?  
Option: Obesity  
Option: Medications  
Option: Bariatric  
Option: Affordable
  
7. What are written instructions from a medical practitioner that authorize the use of specific medications?  
Option: Insurmountable  
Option: Obesity  
Option: Medications



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Option: Prescriptions

8. Which word describes the quality of being genuine or real?

Option: Correlation

Option: Adherence

Option: Authenticity

Option: Baffling

9. What term is used to indicate the action of slowing down or reducing speed?

Option: Mitigates

Option: Decelerates

Option: Amendments

Option: Illuminate

10. Which word describes something that is reasonably priced and within one's financial means?

Option: Petition

Option: Bariatric

Option: Obesity

Option: Affordable

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. The novel was \_\_\_\_\_ by critics for its originality and engaging plot.

12. It is important to educate people to dispel \_\_\_\_\_ they may have about certain topics.

13. Due to favorable conditions the species in that area is rapidly \_\_\_\_\_ .

14. Despite facing many challenges he never considered any obstacle to be \_\_\_\_\_ .

15. The story ended \_\_\_\_\_ with the protagonist meeting an untimely death.

16. The social worker recommended immediate \_\_\_\_\_ to prevent further escalation of the situation.

17. The antique dealer confirmed that the painting was indeed \_\_\_\_\_ and not a replica.

18. The government declared a state of emergency to address the \_\_\_\_\_ spreading of the disease.

19. The committee proposed several \_\_\_\_\_ to the existing policies to make them more



effective.

20. The documentary aims to \_\_\_\_\_ the lives of the underprivileged in remote areas.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. Showing towards others can create a more compassionate society.
22. Being too can lead to falling for scams and deception easily.
23. The meeting was postponed to an date due to scheduling conflicts.
24. The disappearance of the artifacts remained a mystery for years.
25. The patient was to isolation to prevent the spread of the contagious disease.
26. Access to quality education is a that not everyone around the world has.
27. The doctor prescribed specific to manage the patient's condition.
28. The challenges they faced seemed at first but were eventually overcome.
29. The speaker delivered a speech that held the audience's attention throughout.
30. The store offered a wide range of products at prices attracting many customers.

**Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Demise 2. Epidemic 3. Correlation 4. Mitigates 5. Petition 6. Bariatric 7. Prescriptions  
8. Authenticity 9. Decelerates 10. Affordable

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Acclaimed 12. Misconceptions 13. Proliferating 14. Insurmountable 15. Tragically 16.  
Intervention 17. Authentic 18. Epidemic 19. Amendments 20. Illuminate

**Matching sentence:** 1. Empathy 2. Gullible 3. Indefinite 4. Baffling 5. Confined 6. Privilege 7. Medications  
8. Insurmountable 9. Captivating 10. Affordable

**CATEGORY**

1. Health - LEVEL5

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