

Sadila's Story



After spending years searching for relief from chronic nausea and vomiting, Sadila is living life to the fullest—and advocating for others with gastroparesis.

Sadila, Enterra[®] Therapy patient, United Kingdom

Start of symptoms

Just as 21-year-old Sadila was finishing university, she began to experience chronic nausea and vomiting. At first, her doctors thought it was food poisoning. As her symptoms continued, they reasoned that it was stress from year-end exams. But when exams were over and her symptoms worsened, Sadila started a nearly three-year journey to find answers—and relief.

Journey to diagnosis

From the onset of her symptoms, Sadila spent the next two years consumed with travel, doctor appointments, treatment after treatment, and increasing frustration.

She underwent multiple endoscopies, biopsies, ultrasounds, CT scans and x-rays. She consulted a dietician, tried supplements, and took nearly a dozen medications that just didn't work. In many cases, her medications exacerbated symptoms or caused other painful side effects. As time went on, Sadila was tested for several conditions—IBS, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease—but found no real answers or relief.

Having exhausted options with her initial gastroenterologist (GI), Sadila finally sought a second opinion. When transitioning her medical records, she learned that her previous GI believed that Sadila had bulimia and that her symptoms were "in her head."

By this time, Sadila vomited up to 12 times a day, every day, for months on end. She was angry, malnourished, and struggling to engage socially because of her symptoms.

Sadila's new GI suggested a gastric emptying test (GET). Her results showed a severe delay—one of the worst that her GI had ever seen. Finally, Sadila had a diagnosis that explained what she was going through: gastroparesis.

“I'm not putting life on hold anymore.”



Discovering Enterra® Therapy

Diagnosed with idiopathic gastroparesis, Sadila underwent still more treatments—including endoscopic Botox®—but struggled to find relief from her nausea and vomiting.

She continued to lose weight—and hope that things would ever change—when her new GI suggested gastric electrical stimulation via Enterra Therapy, approved by the Food and Drug Administration as a Humanitarian Device. Although Sadila was skeptical, worried, and exhausted by so many failed treatments, she began the process of advocating to receive an Enterra System.

Sadila received the Enterra Therapy implant in December of 2013. After almost three years, she finally felt some relief from her nausea and vomiting symptoms.

Life with Enterra Therapy

Since receiving her Enterra System nearly a decade ago, Sadila achieved her goal of becoming a psychotherapist, and has even advanced to managing a team of psychotherapists and nurses—a role that she feels would have been impossible before.

She's put on weight and experiences only a handful of vomiting episodes per year. Altogether, Sadila says she's grateful for Enterra Therapy and feels like her life is back on track.

As for the GI who diagnosed Sadila with bulimia and felt her symptoms were psychosomatic: Sadila has since followed up with her and educated her about gastroparesis. Sadila says her former GI was surprised to learn about the condition, and apologized for misdiagnosing Sadila. Now, the GI treats several patients with gastroparesis—and refers them to Sadila for support.


Sadila's experience is unique to her and individual results may vary.

Important Safety Information

Intended Use: The Enterra® Therapy System is an implanted device that provides gastric stimulation to treat chronic, intractable, nausea and vomiting that is not well treated by drugs or other means in patients aged 18 to 70 years caused by diabetes or an unknown origin.

Contraindications: Enterra Therapy is only for patients who are healthy enough for surgical procedures and/or anesthesia. Once implanted, patients need to avoid diathermy, which is deep heat treatment from electromagnetic energy, as it may cause injury or device failure.

Warnings: Enterra Therapy has not been studied in pregnant women, patients under the age of 18, or over 70. Issues may occur if the system interacts with other implanted devices such as pacemakers. Patient injury or device failure may be caused by other medical treatments such as electrocautery, defibrillation/cardioversion, therapeutic ultrasound, or radiofrequency (RF)/microwave ablation. Patient activities may cause shocking or jolting sensations.

 The Enterra II System is MR Conditional. This means that patients with the Enterra II System can safely have MRI examinations of some body parts under certain conditions. Consult your doctor to determine if you are eligible for MRI examination.

Risks: Potential risks include infection, pain at the surgery site, allergic or immune system response, lead and bowel twist together, device wearing through the skin, bruising, bleeding, loss of therapeutic effect, jolting, shocking, burning sensation, gastrointestinal or stomach issues, loss of therapy due to component failure or battery wear out, or perforated stomach which may cause life-threatening blockage or infections that require immediate medical attention including surgery. Risks can be minimized by avoiding activities such as sudden, excessive, or repetitive bending, twisting, bouncing, or stretching.

Humanitarian Device: Authorized by Federal law for the intended use described above. The effectiveness of this device has not been demonstrated.

Always discuss potential risks and benefits of the device with your physician.

For further information, please contact Enterra Medical at info@enterramedical.com.

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