PATIENT STORIES

Jonna's story

Jonna never gave up hope of finding answers or relief. Now, she's determined to use her experience with gastroparesis to make a positive impact for others.

Jonna, Enterra® Therapy patient, New Jersey, United States

From symptoms to diagnosis

In January 2015, Jonna got sick. She came down with several viruses simultaneously—including influenza, bronchitis, and pneumonia.

So when she began vomiting repeatedly the next month, she thought it was a complication of her recent illness.

But when her symptoms didn't end, she knew something more serious was happening. After a few months, Jonna sought out a gastroenterologist—and was diagnosed with gastroparesis.

Her gastroenterologist put her on several medications, including erythromycin and Reglan®, but they didn't alleviate her symptoms. In fact, they caused entirely new, intolerable side effects.

Jonna then tried a very strict diet—losing twenty pounds during the five-week process. But when her diet modifications didn't help, she moved to alternative methods of receiving nutrition, receiving multiple NJ tubes, a GJ tube, and TPN over the course of several months.

Jonna says that while her gastroenterologist did the best she could, she just didn't have the resources to treat severe gastroparesis patients and referred Jonna on to additional motility specialists.

Discovering Enterra Therapy

By early 2016, Jonna's mother had found a new gastroenterologist—one at a renowned hospital familiar with treating gastroparesis. Even though it meant making a ten-hour drive from New Jersey to Ohio every couple of months, Jonna and her mother were determined to find relief and turn Jonna's life around.

> "Now, I'm living a life I couldn't even envision before Enterra."

In 2017, under the advice of her new gastroenterologist, Jonna received Enterra Therapy. Within six months of her procedure, she went from being able to eat nothing at all to enjoying most foods. She started out slowly, first eating crackers, and could tolerate more and more foods over time. Although it was a long journey, Jonna fondly remembers the first time she was able to eat without nausea or vomiting.

Life with Enterra Therapy

Today, although there are still some days where she struggles with gastroparesis, Jonna is living a life she says she could not have even envisioned before receiving Enterra Therapy.

She's currently a student at Cornell University, studying Applied Economics and Management at the Dyson School of Business. After graduation, Jonna plans to use her education and personal experience to continue managing her non-profit organization for children with rare diseases, many of whom have gastroparesis.

Jonna says her family has always inspired her to be a positive person—encouraging her to move forward even when things are tough. Now, more than ever, she feels empowered to use her journey and experience to make a positive impact for others.

In addition to Jonna's full life, she's proud to spend time connecting with and mentoring other gastroparesis patients because of the "incredible, life-changing difference" that Enterra Therapy has made in her life.

Jonna'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.

MR 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.
Rx Only.

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