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.

The information provided in this brochure is for general educational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Always talk to your doctor about the best treatment options for your individual situation.

You can find important safety information for Enterra Therapy by visiting www.enterramedical.uk/important-safety-information

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