

Hi my names Lacey Pena im a 20 year old single mom from Arizona. My son Zayden was born with Cronisynestosis, Phlageocephaly, and Torticollis. I got pregnant at 18 and had my son August 28 2009. He was 5 weeks premature due to pregnanacy complications and pre eclampsia. When my son was born he was born with an indention in the right side of his head. I asked doctors what that was and why it was there and they had responded to me as it was forcep marks and they should go away with in 2 weeks or so. So i didnt worry about it until 2 weeks past 3 weeks past and then in started to indent more so i began to worry and think something was wrong. I called my physician and made my son an appointment and she gave us a referral to go get some skull x-rays done. Not even 4 hours after having them done i get a phone call from my mother saying we need to go back and go to Phoenix because my son needs to be seen at the hospital down there. That was the most scariest phone call i have ever had. There were so many things running through my head and i was a wreck and crying and freaking out because i had no idea what was going on or what to expect and if my son was going to make it or not. I had no idea what craniosynestosis or a harlequin i was. The doctors at Phoenix Childrens Hospital explained to me and gave me some information about it. We had seen a neurologist the very next day and he told me my son had to have surgery in order to correct what was going on. I started crying. I felt like it was my fault my son was born this way and was so upset knowing my son had to go through all this pain and i was just wishing it was me having to go through it. We got scheduled to go to a Cranio clinic where we would meet with the plastic surgeon and with the neurologist and they were able to give us details and explain what was going to happen and how things were going to be placed and how the sugical process works. My son was only 3 months old at that time so he had to go to a few more clinics and see specialists and had to have physical therapy and occupational therapy which he is still doing. He also had torticollis which is shortening of the neck muscle which causes a head tilt and phlagiocephaly which is flattening in the back of the head and had to wear a doc band in order to shape his head correctly. He had to wear that and get that corrected before he could have his reconstruction surgery otherwise there would have been no purpose in the surgery because it wouldnt have corrected the odd shape

of his head. August 26, 2010 my son had Right Cranio Vault reconstructive surgery at PHoenix Childrens Hospital. That was the most dramatic and stressful thing i have been through in my life. I was so scared and so nervous and didnt wanna see my son in pain. The hardest thing was to give my son up to the surgeons and seeing him coming out of the operating room into the pediatric intensive care unit PICU. When i was told i was able to see my son after 7 hours of surgery i wasnt sure what to expect and wasnt sure what i was going to see. Seeing him with all the cords and monitors and a drain tube in his fore head was definatly heartbreaking. But i was soo happy to know my son came out of surgery well and the surgery went as planned. He didnt start to swell until 12 hours post op and his swelling only last 14 hours and it was so bad his head was huge and his eyes were swollen shut. Hearing him cry because he was scarred because he couldnt see was sad and the cry was so low because of the tube he had in his throat. He celebrated his 1st birthday in the PICU. 32 hours post op he was transferred into a regular hospital room and we left the following day. He was in the hospital roughly 3 and a half days and was on regular baby tylenol after the first day. Doctors say swelling lasts up to 32 hours but i was very lucky and my son only swelled 12 hours. They didnt wrap his head or anything. He had 100 staples from ear to ear in a zig zag shaped cut so the scarring doesnt mess up his hair line. He was never whinny or grumpy and didnt seem to ever really notice what was on his head. When we had got back home he was in his walker running around. My son was very delayed due to the craniosynostosis and after his surgery it was like a miracle took place and everything just started. We did our 3 month 6 month and year post op and things seem to be healing great and they may have to do one more reconstruction surgery for some touch ups. My son is still currently going threw both therapies and has to wear an eye patch to see if that will help with his torticollis. He is a happy healthy baby boy who loves to be outside and run around and play. You cant even tell he had surgery and he doesnt even act as if he was every delayed or there was anything ever wrong with him. He is almost 2 years of age. Id like to thank all my family for being there for the support and Davinder Singh the plastic surgeon, Kim Mannwarring the neurologist and all the employees at

Phoenix Childrens Hospital you all were amazing and i couldnt have asked for a better place to have my son in.