

EXCOR Pediatric Patient at Heart and Diabetes Center Bad Oeynhausen Receives Heart Transplant



Foto: Armin Kühn



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Samira after her heart transplantation

Samira with her mother and her doctors from the HDZ NRW

After 371 days of EXCOR® Pediatric support, 9-year-old Samira was transplanted at the Heart and Diabetes Center North Rhine-Westfalia (HDZ NRW) in Bad Oeynhausen, Germany.

Samira was suffering from congenital ischemic cardiomyopathy and was already in conventional treatment at the Heart and Diabetes Center. In September 2007 her condition deteriorated so rapidly she had to be placed on the waiting list for a donor heart. In January 2008 her condition had become so critical Dr. Michel Morshuis and Dr. Ute Blanz had to implant a biventricular assist device with 25/ 30 ml pumps.

The implantation went very well. Only three days after the surgery, Samira was mobilized and transferred to the general ward in the Clinic for Congenital Heart Defects.



Foto: Armin Kühn

Prof. Dr. Jan Gummert (l.), Director of the Clinic for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery: „The pre-, intra- and postoperative support provided by Berlin Heart was exemplary.”

Dr. Michiel Morshuis (r.), Samira’s surgeon, adds: „In the evening we decided to implant the device, and the next morning a team of Berlin Heart specialists was here for us. They provided extensive training for two days on site and were always available for us afterwards.”



Foto: Armin Kühn



Foto: HDZ NRW

Samira with her brother during her time on EXCOR

Samira was supported for more than a year without events or the need for an exchange of system components at the HDZ-Clinic for Congenital Heart Defects under the direction of Prof. Deniz Kececioglu and Dr. Eugen Sandica, Director Dept. Surgery CHD. During this time she was coping very well, even participating in the film shooting for a talkshow on public television. During the whole time her mother was with her. She spent 16 months with Samira in the clinic while Samira’s brother lived with the grandparents.

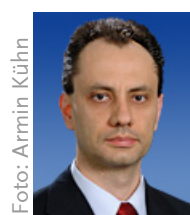


Foto: Armin Kühn

On 13 January 2009, after more than a year of EXCOR Pediatric support, a donor heart was available and Samira was transplanted successfully and without complications by Dr. Sandica (l.). Samira says: „I am looking forward to spring and seeing my best friend again. And also to finally go back to school again.” Her grandfather adds: „We are just so happy. We hoped and prayed that everything would go well, and now our biggest wish has come true.”



Foto: Armin Kühn

EXCOR is currently under clinical investigation for pediatric use in USA