

MRF Media contact ROTHERHAM, South Yorkshire

Rotherham mum's warning: Babies under one hit hardest by meningitis and septicaemia.

Sharon France

Son Richard had pneumococcal meningitis aged 7 months in 1996. He was hot then cold, sensitive to light and limp. Sharon phoned GP who called ambulance. He was taken straight to A&E, put into a coma and had 'so many tubes' in his arms and legs. After 10 days in hospital he had recovered enough to be discharged. Sharon thought she'd lose him but is so grateful he recovered. Richard has a short attention span and is very forgetful. Adrian, Richard's dad, had meningitis in 1997. Adrian 'died 3x on hospital table', but survived the ordeal and recovered but was left suffering from epilepsy.

Said Sharon: "My son Richard nearly died from pneumococcal meningitis aged just 7 months in 1996. He became ill so quickly - his limbs were limp and floppy and he was sensitive to light. We spoke to our GP who immediately called an ambulance and rushed him to A&E. He was plugged into tubes and machines, and we honestly thought we'd lose him, but mercifully he pulled through. After ten days he was well enough to go home and is now a happy 13yr old. He suffers from concentration and memory problems, but we're just glad he survived as meningitis kills two babies every week. Awareness of the symptoms is vital, that's why I'm supporting MRF's Meningitis Awareness Week."

Willing to do: Press only

If you'd like to speak to Sharon, contact the MRF Communications team:
01454 281811