

MRF Media contact Bristol

Bristol mother's warning: Babies under one hit hardest by meningitis and septicaemia.

Laura Leonard from Winterbourne

Laura's daughter Lydia suffered from pneumococcal meningitis in October 2001 aged 9 months. She got ill very rapidly, from a healthy baby to critically ill in just a few hours. She was rushed to A&E where doctors immediately began to treat her. Her recovery was touch-and-go for a while but she has come through the effects of the disease and is a happy healthy eight-year-old.

Said Laura: "My nine month old daughter Lydia was rushed to hospital with pneumococcal meningitis in 2001. She was picked up by an ambulance which just happened to be parked down the road. She was so ill the paramedics had to resuscitate her in the ambulance. By some miracle and against the odds Lydia started to get better. For that we remain grateful every single day. Meningitis kills two infants every week, and the under-ones are 38 times more likely to contract it than older children or adults. It's vital to be aware of the symptoms of meningitis, especially in the under-ones, that's why I'm supporting MRF's Meningitis Awareness Week."

Willing to do: Press, Radio, TV

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