Empowering Women Through Warning Signs

April Chavez

Maternal Sepsis Spokeswom an and Board Member, Certified Patient Family Partner

ENDSEPSIS

The Legacy of Rory Staunton





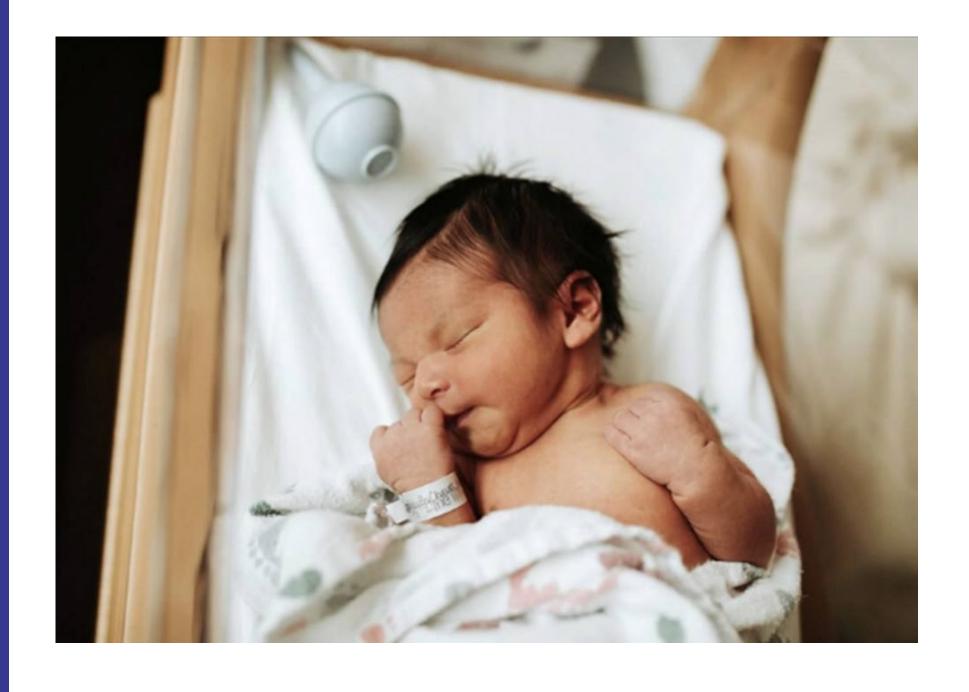
#EndSepsis





The Happiest Day of My Life

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 02, 2017









Discharge Day

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- Began to experience symptoms
- Complained to doctors



Home Sweet Home

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- Prescribed Anxiety Medication
- Doctors said I would feel better once I was home



ENDSEPSIS

The Legacy of Rory Staunton













September 8, 2017 at 8:42 AM

Short of breath Heart pounding

Dry cough

Loss of appetite

Constant paid in all abdomen area.

Sharp pain occasionally especially when moving around right abdomen.

Trouble urinating on my own. Very small trickle.

Dry mouth with rash.

Coughed up blood Thursday night Vaginal discharge is brown color with nasty smell.

Diarrhea (from drinking prune juice?)

Lower back pain

Swollen legs and feet. Slight bruising on left ankle.

Sweaty or cold episodes.

Shoulder pain from tensing up Unable to sleep at night because I can't get comfortable.

Decided to give up on breastfeeding. My body clearly has a lot going on that it is trying to heal.









URGENT MATERNAL WARNING SIGNS



Headache that won't go away or gets worse over time



Dizziness or fainting



Thoughts about hurting yourself or your baby



Changes in yourvision







Trouble breathing



Chest painor fast-beating heart



Severe belly pain that doesn't go away



Severe nausea and throwing up (not like morning sickness)



Baby's movements stoppingor slowing



Vaginal bleeding or fluid leaking during pregnancy



Vaginal bleeding or fluid leaking after pregnancy



Swelling, redness, or pain of your leg



Extreme swelling of your hands or face

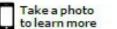
Overwhelming tiredness

If you have any of these symptoms during or after pregnancy, contact your health care provider and get help right away.

If you can't reach your provider, go to the emergency room. Remember to say that you're pregnant or have been pregnant within the last year.

Learn more: https://saferbirth.org/aim-resources/aim-cornerstones/urgentmaternal-warning- signs/





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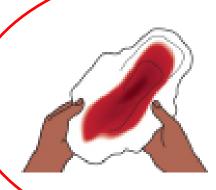
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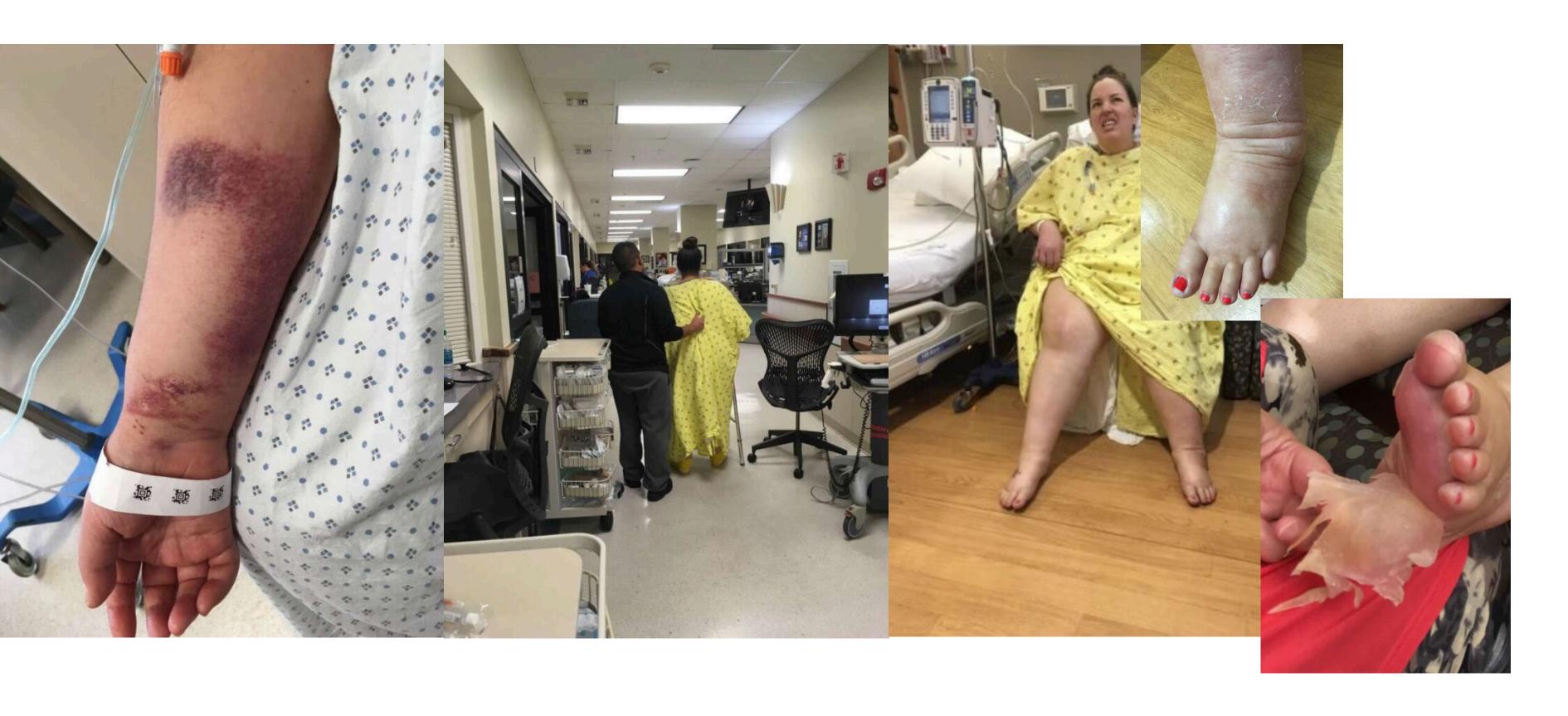


Overwhelming tiredness

The Fight for My Life



Worst Days of My Life



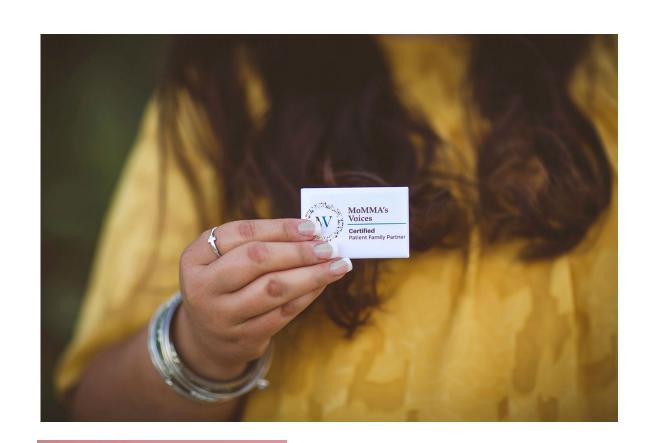
Worst Days of My Life





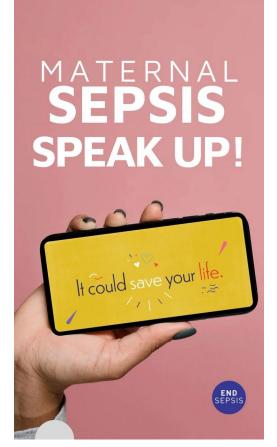


Healing and Helping Through Advocacy Work













I Wish I Could Tell my Doctors

"LISTEN TO ME, PLEASE"

I AM A MORE THAN A
NUMBER OR A STATISTIC

Every woman deserves the right to a safe pregnancy and birth.

CREATE AN EMPOWERING ENVIRONMENT

Speaking up to a professional can be intimidating. Actively listen, don't deflect or deny. Address concerns and don't assume.

KNOW THE SIGNS
OF SEPSIS AND MAKE SURE
YOUR PATIENTS KNOW
THEM TOO

Take action to rule out sepsis and remember that not all patients will present with a fever. Sharing the urgent maternal warning signs could save their life.