

# INTO the HEARTLAND CAMPAIGN

SITE: TOMSK  
DISTRICT: SIBERIA  
COLLABORATION LAUNCHED: 2006

APRIL 12-24, 2010  
SURGICAL-EDUCATIONAL  
MISSION 5



## PATIENT PROFILE

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Child                 | Matvey K.  |
| Age                   | 1 year old   |
| DOB                   | March 30, 2009   |
| Birth Wt.             | 8 lbs 8 oz   |
| Current Wt.           | 20 lbs 1 oz  |
| Home                  | Kolpashevo,<br>Tomsk Oblast<br>170 mi from Tomsk                     |
| Mother                | Svetlana, 30 years old   |
| Father                | Stepan, 29 years old   |
| Diagnosis             | Pulmonary atresia, VSD<br>S/p 4 mm shunt, PA plasty<br>(2009, Tomsk) |
| Open-heart surgery    | Replace BT shunt, PA plasty<br>April 21, 2010                        |
| Discharged from PCICU | April 22, 2010   |

## THE HOUSEHOLD AND THE FAMILY

Matvey's parents, Svetlana and Stepan, live with their two sons in a house inherited from Stepan's parents. They own a car and are often able to visit a nearby lake. Both sets of Matvey's grandparents also live in Kolpashevo.

During the interview, Svetlana expressed great fear of being abandoned and anxiety at the prospect of having to care for and raise Matvey by herself. "I've heard of many cases, when there is a sick child like Matvey – the husband loses interest and leaves the mother to cope with the illness alone."

## CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT AND MEDICAL HISTORY

Matvey's heart defect went undetected in utero. He was visibly blue at birth, but local doctors assured Svetlana and Stepan that, despite his heart defect, their baby was basically healthy and would be "normal." Twenty days later, he was rushed to the Tomsk Cardiology Institute, 170 miles away, and admitted to the intensive care unit. Three days later, pediatric cardiac surgeon Evgeniy Krivoschekov performed open-heart surgery on Matvey, inserting a small shunt to improve bloodflow to the lungs.

After surgery, Matvey spent 17 days in the PCICU, and Svetlana was at the hospital every day to breastfeed him. Dr. K. explained that Matvey would need further surgery when he was bigger, and urged Svetlana and Stepan to keep Matvey healthy and avoid infections.

## CURRENT CONDITION

Matvey is a beautiful and responsive one year old. He is able to walk, though he is still quite cyanotic (blue). Svetlana believes his body is not getting enough oxygen. He speaks a few words. Although he eats fairly well, Matvey is still small for his age, so Svetlana wakes him up twice every night to give him a bottle. Matvey is frequently short of breath, but Svetlana describes him as a very easy, active, and charming child.

Dr. Jim Tweddell led the joint Heart to Heart-Tomsk team in replacing Matvey's original shunt with a larger one. This measured surgical approach "buys time" for Matvey so he can grow. His parents were able to take him home on May 5.

The Heart to Heart team will re-examine Matvey next year when we return to Siberia. By the time he reaches three or four years of age, he will be ready for his heart to be completely repaired.

*Based on an interview conducted in Tomsk, in Russian, by Heart to Heart volunteer Rose Glickman, PhD.*