

WITH A VIEW TOWARD INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION

As National Accreditation is one of our main tools of continuous improvement, we were proud to receive the report of the third evaluation visit by ICONTEC, which ratified the Foundation's status as an ACCREDITED INSTITUTION, and in which the Accreditation Board recognized the advances that we have made in quality and patient safety, as well as the leading role that our Institution plays in the sector.

With this recognition we reached the final stage of our first cycle of improvement under the National Accreditation standards, which began in 2007 and ended in October 2013, when we conducted our first self-evaluation under the new standards proposed by INCONTEC.

During this period, Fundación Cardioinfantil has made many advances on different fronts, including the updating of our strategic planning, the strengthening of our quality strategies, the creation and positioning of the Safe Hospital Program, the development of the Patient Experience Program, investments in infrastructure and biomedical technology, the implementation of the Electronic Clinical History and the Medical Education Programs, and the strengthening of our Research Center and Clinical Skills and Simulation Center. It is also important to mention the scientific-technical developments and the creation of multidisciplinary teams that strengthen our medical practice and optimize the care of our patients. These tools provide us with different quality standards as a basis for the development of the above strategies.



THE CARDIO

2012 – 2013 Management Report

Every year we deliver an Annual Report, which contains a descriptive and entertaining review of the main results of our clinical practice, as well as stories about the advances made by our team in responding to the needs of our patients.

The Annual Report is a compilation of the diverse efforts and realized dreams that constituted our day-to-day work between 2012 and 2013. On this occasion, a special edition of the Report celebrates 40 years of Fundación Cardioinfantil - Instituto de Cardiología, and once again demonstrates how we are fulfilling our strategic objectives in the fields of medical, educational and social assistance in order to offer safe, quality care to our patients.

We want to express our gratitude for choosing us as the trusted health institution in which to regain your health, and in response we will continue to pursue excellence in order to remain a national and international reference center.

<http://cardioinfantil.org/images/pdf/informe-anual-2012-2013%20espanol.pdf>

Today, 20 years after its creation, the CARDIOSITO (Cardi-Bear)– as it was baptized – continues to be used as an agent that releases endorphins as a result of the happiness that it instills in the children who receive this Cardio mascot to help them cope with their postoperative recovery. Made from an anti-allergenic material, with embroidered eyes to prevent accidents, it is specially designed as a therapeutic device to help children who undergo heart surgery to enhance their chest expansion by increasing respiratory volume, and to mobilize bronchial secretions accumulated during their rest in the Pediatric Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit.

In 1993, Raquel de Vigio, one of the Institution's most committed volunteers, traveled to Mass General Hospital in the United States to receive heart surgery.

“I was sitting in a hospital waiting room, reading a magazine, when I turned the page and found a small article about a plush doll that was helping adult patients to endure the chest pain following their heart surgery. At that moment it occurred to me to bring this idea to the Foundation and implement it for the benefit of our children, so that when they cough or sneeze they can press the doll against their chest, and thereby mitigate the pain from their surgical wound during their physical and emotional recovery, a situation that I had also lived through. I told Reinaldo Cabrera about my plan; he was very happy and thought it was a splendid idea, but we didn't have the money, so I proposed that my children help me make this doll a reality. They supported me and are still doing so with frequent donations. The bears that we make with this money are called “Willi”, in honor of my grandson; that was the only condition of the donation, and that's why this name is embroidered on the dolls.”

Nowadays, around 70 “Willi” Cardiositos are delivered for free each month, but this number has been growing because many children in other FCI surgery programs ask for one to accompany them during their recovery and so that they can take the best memory of Cardioinfantil with them when they return home: THE SYMBOL OF LIFE AND HEART.

THE BEAR who stole our heart





Forty Christmases have passed since we saved the first heart and our dream beats happily in more than 15,000 children.

Thank you for taking this journey with us.

Merry Christmas and a Healthy 2014



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