

## Special delivery

Coordinated care plan spells success for high-risk pregnancy

It had all the makings of an episode of “Grey’s Anatomy”: a high-risk pregnancy so complex it took 15 specialists at Parker Adventist Hospital working together to assure a successful outcome.

The result: Aspen Marie Schreiber. Born June 1, 6 pounds, 4 ounces, at Parker Hospital’s BirthPlace.

Aspen’s mother, Sarah Schreiber, credits the efforts of Vandna Jerath, MD, an obstetrician at Parker Hospital, who orchestrated the plan for her complex care.

“This was one of the top-five most-complicated cases of my career,” Jerath says. “I don’t think I’ve had a patient with that many consultants ever.”



Sarah Schreiber and daughter Aspen

Among them were specialists in perinatology, pulmonology, cardiology, interventional cardiology, urology, interventional radiology, gastroenterology, rheumatology, genetics, hematology, psychiatry, labor and delivery, physical therapy, and anesthesia.

Schreiber had multiple health problems, including shortness of breath, hypoxia requiring oxygen, and heart palpitations. Doctors discovered she had a hole in her heart, which could lead to blood without oxygen and blood clots being circulated through her body.

“These are life-threatening conditions,” Jerath says.


“She was at risk for having a stroke, mini-strokes or blood clots in her lungs and legs.”

To deal with Schreiber’s many conditions and risky delivery, Jerath organized a coordinated-care conference with all 15 consulting physicians as well as labor and delivery nurses. They laid out a written plan outlining every condition, potential problems and a delivery plan.

Jerath worked closely on the plan with Henry Galan, MD, a perinatologist at Parker Hospital and chief of maternal and fetal medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Neal Lange, MD, a pulmonologist, and Mike Wahl, MD, an interventional cardiologist, also were instrumental in Schreiber’s care.

“At some of the facilities where I have previously worked, it would be highly unlikely this type of patient could have delivered there,” Jerath says. “I think it says a lot about Parker Hospital that the doctors here can care for such a high-risk patient.”

With doctors standing by, Schreiber was ready to be induced. After nearly 38 weeks of sometimes daily doctor appointments and always daily worry, the delivery came off without a hitch.

And just one day after being born, Baby Aspen was on her way home to meet her big brother Dylan. Today, mom and daughter are doing fine. “The genuine care and concern I received from everyone was excellent,” Schreiber says. 

**The BirthPlace at Parker Hospital** offers moms-to-be an advanced care team made up of leading specialists in obstetrics, perinatology and nursing care. With a Level IIIA NICU and around-the-clock neonatal specialists, you can rest easy knowing that your special delivery is our priority. [parkerhospital.org/birthplace](http://parkerhospital.org/birthplace).