

Medical Moment with Trisha Springstead - Where Do the Children Play?

“Well you roll on roads over fresh green grass, or your lorry loads pumping petrol gas.”

And you make them long, and you make them tough. But they just go on and on and it seems that you just can't get off. Oh, I know we've come a long way, We're changing day to day, **"BUT TELL ME, WHERE DO THE CHILDREN PLAY"** -- Cat Stevens

I first met Sabrina months after the Gulf Oil Spill Disaster on Facebook and over number of phone calls, she was very ill and both of her children; Chris now 17 and Colt now 13 were greatly impacted. She was living and working in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida.



(Santa Rosa Beach is the same place where Greg Hall a fellow advocate and Real Coastal Warrior, was pacing the beaches day in and day out. I have not personally been able to contact Greg as of 2 years ago, but I have read his Volatile Compounds labs and they were some of the highest in numbers that I have seen in my lifetime.)

Sabrina normally has a very sunny disposition, is a water girl and laughter comes easily to her. She wanted to stay near the beach, where she lived, she is a good mother and she loved her life. She belonged near the water and the beach, sadly that love was taken from her after the Government and BP sprayed Corexit and after 87 days of Oil coming out of that well from hell. She worked as a waitress at a local waterfront restaurant and cleaned the windows outdoors at the height of the Oil spill. Her children went to school locally so she would take them with her to work. All three were exposed and she was not able to put any of the pieces together because the Media and BP declared the seafood and the Beaches as.....”ALL GOOD.”

This families symptoms occurring in late 2010 It was not until 2011 that Sabrina began putting the pieces of this puzzle together, she did not use the computer and was not on facebook until then, when she finally got some answers from a group of other Sufferers of BP OIL SPILL ILLNESS.

When my friend, Peter and I began looking into our own back yard for the Florida Impacts on humans and the continued illnesses he realized that we hadn't heard from Sabrina. Peter then contacted this honest and devastated mother of two beautiful boys. They are now living away

from their home on the Gulf of Mexico because they were slowly dying from the Effects of the British Petroleum oil Disaster and the spraying of Toxic Dispersants. She and her family continue to suffer even out of the State, away from the Gulf in a region where she so does not belong, in a state up north, that has NOT welcomed her or her children, with open arms (with the exception of her mother and father.)

Sabrina sent me a copy of all of her journals and Medical Records and those that she collected for her 2 Boys. After 40 hours of review of these records it was clear that she was medically mismanaged; treated like a drug addict, a hypochondriac, delusional, and her and her children's symptoms were dismissed. British Petroleum has told us that no one got sick from this spill, and that we were all faking it in order to obtain a quick dollar. This could not be further from the truth.

Symptoms included from Monday February 14th 2011 as documented by Sabrina:

Constant Migraine headaches, blurry vision (when tested by the physician they had 20/20 vision and this "Physician" told them that it was not from the oil spill because it never hit the shore) Photos of Sabrina showed very swollen and reddened eyes and bleeding in the Conjunctiva (or the whites of the eyes) and Dark Drainage from the Ears along with constant earaches and debilitating pain. Brain Fog, Memory Deficits, Confusion, Slurring of words, and periods of the inability to recollect how to perform tasks that were normal natural daily functions. While Speaking to Sabrina to this day, I can hear her loss in memory, sometimes she is unable to recall the simplest of words included in her prior vocabulary. Sabrina suffers from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, until she was contacted for this story she had forgotten everything but through her journals, notes and medical records Peter and I, were able to help her remember and she had been truly suffering in silence.

Constant Burning and soreness of the throat and airway, coughing up Brown Sputum, Airway Obstructions, Asthma (suddenly after the Oil hit Santa Rosa and Panama City Beaches) still happening to the boys at this time, constant "colds, flu and pneumonia" reactive airway diseases.

Numbness and tingling of the extremities have become the norm for Sabrina, at times her limbs become numb 2-3 times a day, and her eyes were twitching constantly. One son had a seizure on 4/11/2013. The children continue to have shooting pains in their heads and headaches. Sabrinas Lead levels were highly elevated and the physician said that this could not have happened and that she used the wrong jug to do a 24 hr Urine Creatinine Level, another way for this physician to NOT look at it.

Photos of Lesions and Rashes were sent, they were mortifying her feet peeled and the lesions were all over the base of her feet, legs and back. One photograph showed a lesion that was round in circumference, full thickness with a substance in the middle of it that was never addressed by physicians and hospitals no cultures or sensitivities were performed by the Medical Staff.

One note that really needs to be made here: Both of Sabrina's children were tested after she moved up north, Urine Metabolites. Below was the exact quote from the attending physician:

“Tests were done and elevated hippuric acid was found in the urine, this is indicative of toluene by products and acute exposure to inhalants. It is recommended that you keep your children away from exposures to cigarettes and alcohol.”

Sabrina was threatened shortly thereafter by the physician, then was accused of letting her children “HUFF PAINT.” or for a better use of words, purposely inhaling paint fumes as a means of getting high, which was not the case nor was it the truth.

One of Sabrina’s children complained of chest pain, when she presented to multiple, emergency rooms and clinics her son was accused of malingering, when he was indeed having an elevated heart rate “no problem it is just stress and depression.” During one visit to an ER the Doctor requested that Mother and Son be admitted, when the Nurse told the Physician that she was a Medicaid patient, the admission process was halted. She was misdiagnosed with a Viral Contagious illness without any blood cultures or swabs.



Sept. 24, 2010



Sept. 24, 20



Sept. 21, 2010



Sept. 21,

Sabrina to this day cannot walk through a perfume aisle or drive behind a car that is emitting fumes that she has to get out or pull over to the side of the road. All three are extremely sensitive to petroleum byproducts, chemicals in everyday cleaning supplies, not only does it make them ill, it brings back the cellular memory of elevated toxicity and poisoning from the BP Disaster.



Sept. 23, 2010



Sept. 23,

While vetting out her medical records I was absolutely sick to my stomach, after begging for help from at least 40 doctors’ visits and 5 ER visits that NO ONE picked up on this. Her writings show a very frightened Mother begging for help for she and her sons. Her treatment (or lack thereof) of both she and her sons was cruel, inhumane and thoughtless. They are up north and continue to ask for help. My concerns for all these people is that they will die if an agency does not step up to the plate and provide assistance for these people, Sufferers are suffering in silence with no one to go to, but each other.

Almost every person she worked with at her job in Florida is sick, has moved and Our Government has turned a blind eye to the atrocities that are going on in the Medical World and in our once pristine Gulf of Mexico. BP and the People who were spraying those genocidal chemicals, made them whole alright. Her life and her children's lives were uprooted, neglected and basically DESTROYED.

This has been an ongoing problem for the people of the Gulf of Mexico and no one got the memo with the codes in it. Few have helped with this ongoing disaster and illnesses. Caring is the exception and not the rule.

Except for the bravery of All of our Coastal Warriors, Marylee Orr at Louisiana Environmental Action Network, The Earth Organization, Dr Mike Robicheaux, Dr Wilma Subra, Dr Susan Shaw, Dr Riki Ott and few Practitioners, who to this day ask not to be named.

After 5 years of searching the Data Base of the NIH I discovered that this was a real phenomenon and that prior to this find there was paperwork sent to all hospitals that stated do not treat patients for Volatile Compounds found in patients' blood work and do not offer any toxicological testing in all clinics and Emergency rooms.

ANYONE whose health has been adversely affected by the oil spill and the Corexit used to treat it NEEDS to know this and take these forms to their doctor. If people are ill from the effects of the #BP GULF OIL SPILL these codes are written and documented codes, when Medicare Creates a code this means that the illness is REAL and it is a code that can be taken to your MD and to a Hospital. YOU MUST COPY ALL 6 PAGES in the link provided below, including the RED lines on the sheets" So as a health care professional, get your copiers going and run them off. If a hospital refuses to treat you then take this to ADMINISTRATION: FOLLOW THIS LINK:

<http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2999CP.pdf>

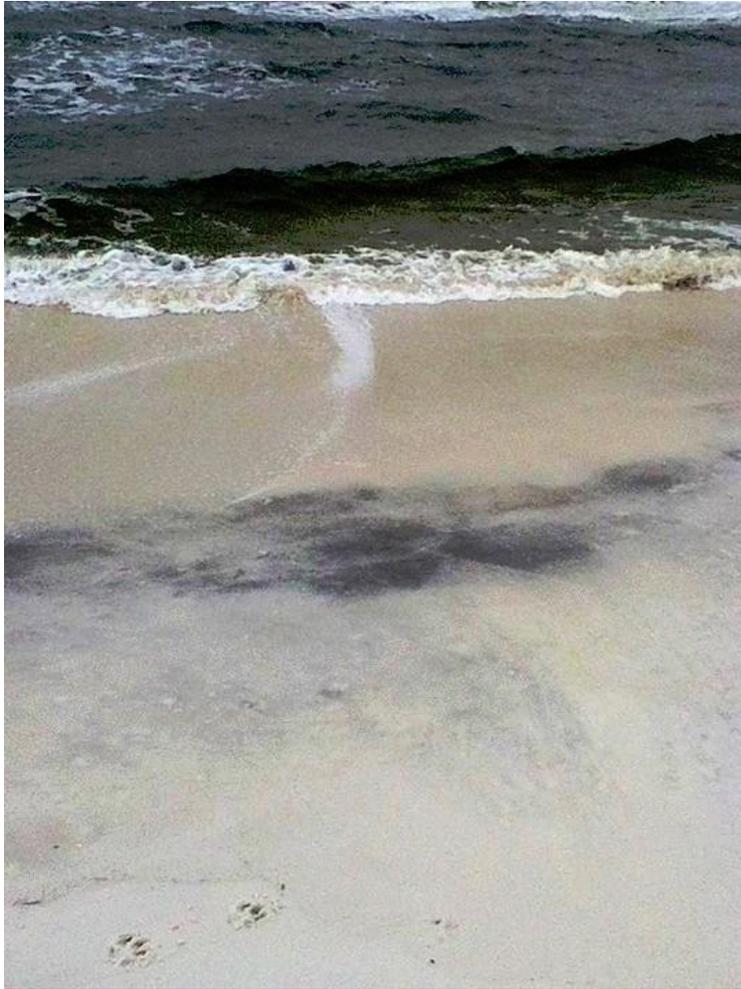


Photo Taken by Sarah Evanko Gulf of Mexico Resident Sabrina and children were walking on Florida Beaches that looked just like this.

What is an ICD-9 Code? CD-9-CM (International Classification of Diseases,, Clinical Modification) is a set of codes used by physicians, hospitals, and allied health workers to indicate diagnosis for all patient encounters. The ICD-9-CM is the HIPAA transaction code set for diagnosis coding.

Interestingly enough the above codes were buried in the murk and mire of the NIH, just as the oil was sunken and buried in the Gulf of Mexico.

Sabrina and I continue to be in touch, she and her 2 children have suffered enough. She still suffers, as so many continue to isolate and quietly go about their lives chemically toxic. The NIH in a comment to Bellona.org writer Charles Williams Digges stated, "170,000 people will become ill and many will die within the Next Five Years". I ask for Justice for all who have been effected, I beg daily for the opening of Clinics and for Hospitals to contact me so that I may

give in-services as to what to look for and how to treat these unfortunate citizens of the Gulf.

Ignorance and Denial seem to rule the day among our elected officials and from the Oil Company BP. Denial, Denial, Denial, Denial and Death are not the 5 stages of grieving but for certain we have all experienced the stages of Grieving and losses. Acceptance will never come for the people of the Gulf and it is those brave souls that will continue to fight and I alongside them.

It is not gone the oil is still here and it is sitting at the bottom of the Gulf, causing illnesses to this day. I ask you, "What is the value of a Human Life?" I answer you, "Priceless." When we have no environment, no Gulf of Mexico, no fish, no soil to grow trees and food... Tell me where do the children play?

"Where Do The Children Play"

all credit to these lyrics and this song to Cat Stevens

Well I think it's fine, building jumbo planes.

Or taking a ride on a cosmic train.

Switch on summer from a slot machine.

Get what you want to if you want, 'cause you can get anything.

I know we've come a long way,

We're changing day to day,

But tell me, where do the children play?

Well you roll on roads over fresh green grass.

For your lorry loads pumping petrol gas.

And you make them long, and you make them tough.

But they just go on and on, and it seems you can't get off.

Oh, I know we've come a long way,

We're changing day to day,

But tell me, where do the children play?

When you crack the sky, scrapers fill the air.

Will you keep on building higher

'til there's no more room up there?

Will you make us laugh, will you make us cry?

Will you tell us when to live; will you tell us when to die?

I know we've come a long way,

We're changing day to day,

But tell me, where do the children play?

Trisha Springstead, RN, MBS has worked in many areas of medicine and research and has worked with the people impacted by the Gulf Oil Spill and continues to fight to expose and help those suffering with illnesses in the Gulf. It has been proven that oil mixed with Corexit and industrial solvents, PAH's, impact the effects of the toxicity oil on humans, animals. The devastation to our ecosystem and environment have been highly explored and documented. The work of many before her has taught Trisha so very much, including her integrative health consultant, Dr. Wilma Subra, Dr. Riki Ott, Dr. Michael Robicheaux, MaryLee Orr, Dr. Paul Sammarco, and Dr. Ira. Leifer , Dr. Linda Hooper-Bui. Dahr Jamail, and all of the people who suffer from exposure to these dangerous chemicals and the bacterial organisms.

Disclaimer:

This article contains general information about medical conditions and treatments. The information is not advice, and should not be treated as such. If you have any specific questions about any medical matter you should consult your doctor or other professional healthcare provider. If you think you may be suffering from any medical condition you should seek immediate medical attention.