

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Mexican Ministry of Health, International Press Office: +525552862625

THE MEXICAN STATE OF SAN LUIS POTOSÍ PERFORMED A HIGH-RISK NEUROSURGERY TO GIVE BACK A YOUNGSTER HIS ABILITY TO MOVE

- *The high-risk neurosurgery cost half a million Mexican pesos.*
- *Most of the resources were obtained from the Popular Insurance.*

After 15 years of having a motor disability, Julio César Preciado López, from the Mexican State of San Luis Potosí, had a neurosurgery at the National Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery of the Mexican Ministry of Health, led by Doctor Mercedes Juan. The neurosurgery involved the implant of a microchip in the brain of the patient, which gave him back his correct psychomotor coordination.

The surgery had a cost of almost 500,000 Mexican pesos, which were provided by the Popular Insurance in the Mexican State of San Luis Potosí, the Heritage of the Public Welfare and the local DIF, a public organism in charge of the integral development of the family in each state of the Mexican Republic.

The condition of this patient is known as dystonia, which is characterized by involuntary muscular contractions that frequently interfere with the daily functionality of a person, such as sleeping, walking, eating and talking.

According to the Minister of Health in the Mexican State of San Luis Potosí, Mr. Francisco Posada, the patient observed his limbs moved in a weird way since he was 10 years old. At 25, the youngster was diagnosed with a psychomotor alteration caused by neurological damage.

“The patient had a kind of psychomotor convulsions”, said the Minister of Health in the Mexican State of San Luis Potosí, “After the neurological tests done at the National Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery named



“*Manuel Velasco Suárez*”, it was determined that the patient needed a neurosurgery to implant a microchip in his brain”.

Moreover, he mentioned that this procedure triggers electrical impulses in the brain of the patient through a very sophisticated device that had a cost of approximately half a million Mexican pesos.

The device is a chargeable neurostimulator (an implant of electrodes in the brain nucleus) that transmits tiny electrical impulses to the areas of the brain that are in charge of controlling movement. It consists of a thin, flat wire named “derivation or electrode”, which is placed inside the brain. The neurostimulator is similar to a pacemaker; it is placed in the chest and consists of another thin wire called “extension”.

Nowadays Julio César works in a mall. “Today I can have a normal life, I can walk faster, write and work better, and very soon I will be graduating from High School. I want to study Psychology”, he says.

The financial resources for Julio César to improve his quality of life were obtained through the Ministry of Health in San Luis Potosí, specifically, the Area of Social Assistance contributed with 319,000 Mexican pesos; the Heritage of the Public Welfare contributed with 150,000 Mexican pesos, the local DIF contributed with 10,000 Mexican pesos, and the municipal DIF contributed with 5,000 Mexican pesos.

The Minister of Health in the Mexican State of San Luis Potosí pointed out that before the implementation of the Popular Insurance, there was no mechanism for people without social security or people without resources to have access to high-specialty medical services.

Finally, he highlighted that it is very important that the population knows the benefits of the Popular Insurance, a pivot in the history of medical attention in Mexico.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- San Luis Potosí is a state that forms part of the Mexican Republic. It is one of the world's leading producers of fluorite.
- The Social Health Protection System (Popular Insurance Scheme) in Mexico seeks to provide health service coverage, through voluntary, public insurance for persons that are not affiliated to any social security institution. Members of families affiliated to the Social Health Protection System through Popular Insurance will have access to the medical, surgical, pharmaceutical and hospital services that fully satisfy their health needs. The Popular Insurance Scheme currently provides coverage for 275 medical operations, described in the Universal Health Service Catalogue.





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