

Dear Ms. Op de Hipt,

sorry that we did not get in touch for a long time, but over the holidays we've been very busy in the shop and I haven't found the time to report back. So I will do that now.

Lucas ears healed very well and there are absolutely no problems. He doesn't even complain about pain when he bumps his ear really hard.

I'd like to tell you an Dr. Merck a few positive things that have happened since the operation.

Luca has been playing handball since the summer 2005. In the beginning I was concerned whether it was too soon after the operation, but there was no problem. 2 weeks after the operation he was able to turn somersaults. In the first handball tournament Luca was the goal keeper, and of course a ball hit him right on his ear. I thought that was the end! But nothing really happened and he said it didn't hurt, although that was only five weeks after the operation.



Between Christmas and Epiphany Luca's kindergarden was closed so we had him in the shop. A lot of customers know him since he was a baby and had not seen him for a long time because he's in kindergarden normally. When they saw him they were very surprised how much he had changed. Everyone agreed that he looks great and that it was the right thing to do.

Also our relatives who had not seen him until Christmas were surprised. When they asked us how it went we were able to say: Absolutely fantastic. My cousin is a nurse in a clinic in Bayreuth. She was completely surprised that she could not see any scars, since she has seen a lot of ears after otoplasty.

We had a nice incident with our pediatricist. Luca had a preventive medical checkup with a doctor who know him since birth. We hadn't told him anything about the operation – you can imagine what his reaction was like: his jaw dropped when we told him. He examined Luca's ears thoroughly and he said he'd never seen such good work in his entire career (25 years!). So, Dr. Merck, this compliment is for you only. We told the pediatrician the URL, because there are a few more children he wants to recommend this method to.

Last week a woman from Berlin called us and asked us about the operation and the time afterwards. We think it is great to talk to parents who have the same problem we had. This woman talked to my husband, unfortunately, I was not at home. But they must have had a really nice and long talk. She herself had had otoplasty with the usual method and she must have had enormous pain afterwards. I can only hope she decides for the stitch method. My husband recommended it to her.

At the moment there is nothing more to report. We will still be available for further advice. Do not hesitate to give our telephone number and e-mail address to people who are interested in the stitch method. We are glad to help and support you.

I have found some more pictures from Easter 2005 (before the operation) but of course I also want to show you the latest ones. Maybe you can use those pictures for your forum.

Best regards,

Manuela Schrempf
her husband
and of course Luca

(More pictures to follow)