

Neurovascular Center of Excellence: Case Study

Patient: Gloria B.

Age: 39

Hometown: Columbus, Ohio

Diagnosis: Aneurysm

Under treatment for chronic pain, Gloria B. didn't think anything of the pain and pressure she was experiencing in her head. If anything, she thought it might be her medication. But on May 29, 2009 — one day after her youngest daughter's 18th birthday — she was found unconscious in the backyard, unable to move. A CT scan at the hospital where she was taken showed an aneurysm. A closer look at Riverside Methodist Hospital, where she was immediately transferred, revealed something more complicated.

Gloria has multiple aneurysms — many of them hidden by one particularly large aneurysm. She has undergone surgery and, in December, *she became the first patient in central Ohio to be successfully treated with Onyx® HD-500*, the first liquid embolic agent to be available in the United States.

Granted a Humanitarian Device Exemption by the FDA, Onyx® HD-500 is delivered to the aneurysm via a micro-catheter and acquires a spongy consistency when it comes in contact with the blood.

Gloria does struggle with memory loss and often needs the assistance of her children when walking. But she is optimistic, seeing herself as “God’s walking guinea pig” and trusting the care and treatment she is receiving at Riverside Neuroscience Institute. She has two to three of the Onyx® glue treatments ahead of her and while she was scared at first, she says she’s found the recovery to be much quicker than what she experienced after clipping and coiling procedures. *“The worst part of the glue was the taste and the smell, which they told me about before I had the procedure,”* she says.

In fact, it is the communication and candor that Gloria says she appreciates most about Riverside Neuroscience Institute. *“They’ve always been very positive with me about the procedures I’m undergoing, but they also tell me the truth. They were the same way with my kids when I was in the Neurocritical Care unit,”* she says. *“It’s why I trust them.”*

