PATIENT STORIES

Paul's story

Having successfully managed his gastroparesis with Enterra® Therapy for 20 years, Paul feels certain that gastric electrical stimulation has made an enormous difference in his life.

Paul, Enterra Therapy patient, United Kingdom

Start of symptoms

Like many people, Paul's gastroparesis symptoms came out of nowhere. One day, he simply started to feel very ill—overwhelmed by nausea and vomiting.

When his symptoms never really stopped, everyday life became difficult for Paul. Even being with friends or going out to eat became traumatic.

Although it's been more than twenty years since Paul struggled with such severe symptoms, he vividly recalls the shame and embarrassment of having to vomit at restaurants and realizing that others assumed he was intoxicated.

Eventually, Paul subsisted on a cup of tea and a single biscuit a day. At one point, a physician told Paul that he had three years to live. In an attempt to disrupt the malnutrition that his nausea and vomiting symptoms caused, he received a percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) tube to eat. He tried for years to find answers—and relief—for his symptoms, but nothing helped.

Discovering Enterra Therapy

Despite the difficulty of living with severe gastroparesis, Paul never gave up hope.

In 2003, he sought out a referral to a gastroenterologist in the United Kingdom who implants the Enterra Therapy System.

When his new gastroenterologist recognized that Paul was a candidate for Enterra Therapy, and after discussing the risks and benefits of Enterra Therapy, Paul was excited at the possibility of a new treatment that could offer relief for his nausea and vomiting.

"I'm just an average guy, but I hope my story can help others like me."

Life with Enterra Therapy

Now, twenty years after receiving his Enterra Therapy System, Paul says his life has certainly changed for the better. He works full-time in hospital security, and finds joy in spending time with his two teenage daughters.

Although he still lives with gastroparesis, his symptoms are well under control. He visits his gastroenterologist about every eight weeks to ensure that he's getting the right level of stimulation.

Because of his experience, he understands how little some doctors know about the disease—and how it can take away from patients' everyday lives. Paul is a passionate advocate for other people who live with gastroparesis.

Today, Paul looks back and feels thankful for the positive difference that Enterra Therapy has made in his life, and hopes that his story can help give others strength.

Paul's experience is unique to him and individual results may vary.

Important Safety Information
Intended Use: The Enterra® Therapy System is an implanted device that provides gastric stimulation to treat chronic, intractable, nausea and vomiting that is not well treated by drugs or other means in patients aged 18 to 70 years caused by diabetes or an unknown origin.

Contraindications: Enterra Therapy is only for patients who are healthy enough for surgical procedures and/or anesthesia. Once implanted, patients need to avoid diathermy, which is deep heat treatment from electromagnetic energy, as it may cause injury or device failure.

Warnings: Enterra Therapy has not been studied in pregnant women, patients under the age of 18, or over 70. Issues may occur if the system interacts with other implanted devices such as pacemakers. Patient injury or device failure may be caused by other medical treatments such as electrocautery, defibrillation/cardioversion, therapeutic ultrasound, or radiofrequency (RF)/microwave ablation. Patient activities may cause shocking or jolting sensations.

MR The Enterra II System is MR Conditional. This means that patients with the Enterra II System can safely have MRI examinations of some body parts under certain conditions. Consult your doctor to determine if you are eligible for MRI examination.

Risks: Potential risks include infection, pain at the surgery site, allergic or immune system response, lead and bowel twist together, device wearing through the skin, bruising, bleeding, loss of therapeutic effect, jolting, shocking, burning sensation, gastrointestinal or stomach issues, loss of therapy due to component failure or battery wear out, or perforated stomach which may cause life-threatening blockage or infections that require immediate medical attention including surgery. Risks can be minimized by avoiding activities such as sudden, excessive, or repetitive bending, twisting, bouncing, or stretching.

Humanitarian Device: Authorized by Federal law for the intended use described above. The effectiveness of this device has not been demonstrated.

Always discuss potential risks and benefits of the device with your physician.
For further information, please contact Enterra Medical at info@enterramedical.com.
Rx Only.

www.enterramedical.com

MKT-PM-00751, Rev B

enterra medical™