HYGEIA GROUP

MITERA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

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PRESS RELEASE

MITERA PAEDIATRICS CLINIC: Greece's first biventricular pacemaker implantation in a pediatric patient suffering from a rare congenital heart disease

Greece's first intravenous biventricular pacemaker was implanted in a seven year old pediatric patient with a rare congenital heart disease at the **Mitera Peadiatrics Cardiology Department, member of the Hygeia Group.**

The young patient who had already undergone two surgical operations, was suffering from severe heart failure due to the two prior surgical operations and an unusual anatomical abnormality called "congenitally corrected transposition". The position of the two ventricles is reversed and as a result, the right ventricle (the weakest one) has to do the work of the left one. Because of the high risk involved, the patient was referred abroad.

However, after consultation of the two Directors of the **Pediatrics Cardiology and Heart Surgery Department of the MITERA Pediatrics Clinic** , **Dr. I. Papayianni** and **Dr. G.Sarris** respectively, it was recommended to pacemake the heart from two different sites to achieve better cardiac synchronization instead of performing a high risk surgical operation.

The operation was successfully carried out at the **Cardiology Department of the MITERA Pediatrics Clinic** and the patient has already been discharged from hospital.

As Dr. I. Papayianis, pediatric cardiologist stated, "the young patient's cardiac function was very low but improved immediately by 40%. Thus he does not have to undergo complex surgical operations of uncertain outcome."

This procedure is often used on adult patients with heart failure but only on a few dozens of pediatric patients worldwide, and on very few patients suffering from this specific complex congenital heart defect.

The Cardiology Department of the MITERA Pediatrics Clinic is the only one in Greece with ascertained surgical results and participates in a Pan - European Study **on biventricular pacemaking on children and patients suffering from congenital heart disease, the first results of which have been recently published in medical journals globally.**

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