

My son was born 10 weeks premature in August 2019. By the time the first lockdown came he was barely 7 months old. He had been hospitalised for Reflux following discharge (after 6 weeks in the neonatal unit) and for [REDACTED] – these conditions were considered normal for a prem baby. He was under two teams and two hospitals – the Neonatal Unit and the local Children's Hospital.

My son was last saw face-to-face before the first lockdown in March 2021. The Consultant Paediatrician said that she thought his noisy breathing was probably [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

After this appointments were converted to telephone due to covid at both hospitals.

My son started to have hospital AnE encounters due to airway swelling from June.

By September, my son was admitted for emergency surgery (he nearly died) where he was diagnosed with [REDACTED] This is a rare and life-threatening condition. He was put on a ventilator and had two surgeries on his airway and 12 days in hospital

I believe my son's diagnosis was missed due face-to-face appointments were converted to telephone appointments.

Between September 2020 and July 2022 my son had 5 surgeries on his airway and another 15 hospital admissions for days at a time. There were no toys in hospital. There were no play-workers. No visitors were allowed to help with a sick baby or give me a break.

Sometimes I ate the baby scraps whilst I waited for someone to bring me food or until the baby was fast asleep at night and then I would run to the machine which sold microwave meals.

The child was constantly sick in between the admissions. There were no face-to-face services to help us for about 2 years. We had a bit of telephone support from charities.

It never felt enough.

We were traumatised and alone. I am not sure we will get over what we have experienced. The boy is still having issues on his airway and is now [REDACTED] where he has already had 3 surgeries this year and a life-threatening episode. I have so much trauma.

My boy has been so sick for so long he has missed out on normal life. His neurodiversity is most likely due to extensive trauma and strong steroids.

The PCR testing every time we went to hospital was awful. One time the baby and I were stabbed so far up the nose I refused after that. We had had 8 tests. Every test he had was negative. My son always had a virus but it was never Covid. We were in and out of hospital. We should have been positive if anyone. Go figure!

I refused testing on the last operation at the Children's Hospital in July 2022. I was not allowed to carry my child to surgery. He was so traumatised he was on Midazolam pre-op.

I will never forget the memory of my child being carried by a stranger to surgery as I would not agree to a Covid test. **This was July 2022!** I had taken my boy and held him whilst he was given gas 4 times. This time I was denied my opportunity to do this due to the protocols in place.

I learned that [REDACTED] did not subject babies under two years to the PCR test swabbing the nose – they swabbed the throat instead.

Compassion and reason left with Covid in [REDACTED]

The last couple of years have been hard on our immune systems - it seems to me that viruses have hit us both very hard due to everyone being locked away abnormally – in January 23 my boy had [REDACTED] for 6 weeks! He could not breathe at night due to this and his narrowed airway. I thought I would wake up to a corpse. I had to shield him completely as we could not risk a blocked nose.

He missed out on more nursery. I was isolated and alone (again).

I do not think lockdowns are in any way right. They caused us massive harm and suffering.

The other thing I want to tell you about is my mother (now deceased).

Mom asked me when she was alive, “Do you think you can feel cancer enter your body (in the right upper lung)?”

I thought this was a very strange thing to ask. (This was after mom had been diagnosed with lung cancer in her upper right lung).

I asked about when this happened.

She replied, “About three weeks after I had the first Pfizer Covid Vaccine (Feb 2021). I was lying in bed and I had a searing pain right where my cancer was to be diagnosed. It nearly made me fall from bed”.

My mom died in January 2023 following the second surgery to remove her lung cancer (first was last Christmas). My mom had two heart attacks after 24 hours and they say she had a massive inflammatory response. The Trust opened a Serious Incident Investigation as she was not expected to die.

A post-mortem was not done for some reason.

My mother had 2 covid vaccines.

We have no heart problems in our family – lung cancer yes.

My mother had Covid apparently at the time of surgery. What is the point of the vaccines? I have heard the heart can be affected. There are so many unanswered questions for me about this emergency medicine. I think time will bring answers and the truth.