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Florida Baby Born Without Eyes

Doctors Say Baby Suffers From Rare Condition

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WELLINGTON, Fla. -- A baby in Wellington, Fla., was born without eyes, [West Palm Beach television station WPBF reported](#).

Doctors said Brielle Garrison suffers from a rare condition known as Anophthalmia.

"Anophthalmia is actually a condition where you have no ocular tissue at all, nothing in the eyes," said Dr. Lee Friedman, of the Microsurgical Institute.

Friedman said the cause of the condition is unknown.

"It's a sporadic mutation," Friedman said. "It's not hereditary."

Friedman said he hasn't seen anything like this in his 22 years of practice.

"For a baby to be born with no eyes is just so cruel, and because my daughter's 15, it was just mind boggling that such a thing could happen," said Lori Garrison, Brielle's grandmother.

The family said Brielle will have to have several surgeries so that her face does not become deformed.

"It's hard," said Taylor Garrison, Brielle's mother. "I mean, this week we have an appointment every day, and there's always appointments (and) different doctors."

The Garrisons hope by sharing their story more people will become aware and will hopefully conduct research to find the cause.

"I'm going to treat her like she was born just as any other baby, because that's how she is," said Taylor Garrison. "That's how I see her."

A fund for Brielle has been set up at a Wachovia Bank in Wellington.

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