

72-05 31st Avenue #3
East Elmhurst
NY 11370
19th April 19, 2007

RE: Amelie Dobek

To the Doctors of Kidz Kare,

It has taken a while to write this letter, but we know that it is a step that we need to take. You may not recall Amelie, but she was our daughter that we entrusted into your care. She passed away on February 13 of this year from heart failure. It turned out that she had been born with a Congenital Heart Defect.

During the two weeks that Amelie was alive, she visited you four times. You were more concerned with her lack of gaining weight than finding the root cause of why she wasn't eating. You told us to force-feed her formula if we had to. Naively, we followed your instructions.

During the void caused by her passing, we have actively researched Congenital Heart Defects and their symptoms. It is clear to us with hindsight that she portrayed many of these symptoms, symptoms we informed you of. We told you about her struggle to eat, her fatigue, her panting. You referred us to a Lactation Consultant. Surely as doctors your goal is to get to the root of the problem, not just apply bandages?

The added irony is that Amelie died during Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week. Clearly the awareness didn't make it to your offices. To prevent similar tragedies like ours I'm including some links to useful resources where you can learn all about the **number one cause of death in infants**. I think it's something that all pediatricians should know.

I'm also including with this letter a check for the \$15.00 co-payment that you keep sending reminders for. I would apologize it has taken so long, but we've had other things on our minds. Funerals, grave plots, and therapy are very costly.

Paul & Clarissa Dobek

References:

<http://www.congenitalheartdefects.com/>

<http://childrensheartfoundation.org/>

A copy of this letter has been posted on www.AmelieDobek.com