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# MERIDIAN Health

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## Back in the Game

**Southern Ocean Medical Center**

Manahawkin girl healthy  
again after being sidelined  
with a brain bleed.  
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# Back in the Game

**Southern Ocean Medical Center** After being sidelined with a brain bleed, Manahawkin girl is healthy again thanks to the quick care she received.

Arianna Muti, a creative 9-year-old from Manahawkin, was getting ready to play in her first-ever soccer game. After the game, Arianna had a headache.

Arianna's mom, Genevieve (also known as Gina), noticed her husband, Joe, holding a limp Arianna in his arms. While sitting in the front seat, Arianna was speaking gibberish and then became unresponsive. That's when the Mutis rushed her to the Emergency Department at Southern Ocean Medical Center.

**Moses Olorunnisola, M.D.**, a pediatrician at Southern Ocean and part of **Meridian Pediatric Network**, came in to assess her condition. He ordered a CT (computed tomography) scan, which detected Arianna had a brain bleed.

## The Root of the Problem

Arianna was born with an AVM, also known as an arteriovenous malformation, which is an abnormal connection between arteries and veins usually in the brain or spine. Although Arianna never had any symptoms, an AVM can rupture at any time and cause bleeding in the brain or spinal cord. "AVMs are more commonly seen in adults," Dr. Moses says. "You usually find out that you have one from a rupture or complaints of frequent headaches."

Dr. Moses knew they needed to move fast. "With a brain bleed, there is nowhere for the blood to go. You are bleeding in a closed compartment so eventually you lose consciousness," says Dr. Moses.

Arianna ended up having a stroke due to the pressure in her brain. Dr. Moses intubated her to help her breathe. Intubating would give Arianna a little more time to get where she needed to be. "She had to be in a facility where a pediatric surgeon could go in and get the bleed out," says Dr. Moses.

Once the team knew Arianna was to be airlifted to Hackensack University Medical Center, "Everyone just stopped what they were doing to help our family; we are forever grateful," Gina says. Dr. Moses, once a resident at Hackensack, was able to send Arianna's CT scan via his cellphone so the doctors there would be ready for the family to arrive. Because of this, the doctors and surgeons at Hackensack were able to get Arianna into an operating room within minutes and into emergency surgery.

## Recovery Through Rehab

After the surgery, Arianna became paralyzed on her right side; she couldn't walk, talk, or move. After being in the hospital for two weeks, she went into an inpatient rehab facility to continue her recovery. Dr. Moses even went up to Hackensack to visit and make sure Arianna was doing well.

Now in outpatient rehab, Arianna is working on her right side fine motor skills. Her recovery time is looking to be about a year, but she is recovering so quickly that only time will tell. Arianna is an incredibly strong little girl. "Dr. Moses took her under his wing and is the epitome of the kind of doctor any parent would want their son or daughter to have — the kind that treats my kid as if she was his own," says Gina.



**Moses Olorunnisola, M.D.**  
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By Kylie Stanger

Arianna Muti, 9, goes to the beach with her family every weekend in the summer. They love the sand and the sun.

## Ready for Any Diagnosis



Whether you bring your child to the hospital due to a chronic condition or an emergency, Meridian surgeons from a spectrum of specialties are ready. Learn how our experts and facilities work together at [MeridianPediatricNetwork.com](http://MeridianPediatricNetwork.com).

