

Mastic Beach Woman Bounces Back From Brain Tumor Thanks To Surgery With Dr. Elizabeth Trinidad

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[/EINPresswire.com/](http://EINPresswire.com/) -- Mastic Beach mother of three Nichole Martin knew something was wrong in October 2011, when she suddenly had trouble walking and talking, and developed a headache, dizziness, and memory problems.

"Everything looked like 3D," she said. "The room was spinning."

She went to the emergency room at Brookhaven Hospital, where they admitted her for tests. An MRI showed that she had a large mass pressing on her brain stem and cerebellum.



The emergency physician knew Ms. Martin would need surgery, and knew just the person to perform the delicate operation: Elizabeth M. Trinidad, M.D., a highly skilled surgeon specializing in [pediatric neurosurgery](#) and adult neurosurgery, affiliated with the Neurological Surgery, P.C. private practice.

“

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Nichole Martin

“When [Dr. Trinidad](#) entered the room, I knew I was in good hands,” said Ms. Martin. “She came in with a big smile, which I found very comforting. She showed me that she is not just a surgeon, but a kind person.”

Dr. Trinidad reviewed Ms. Martin’s test results, and determined that she had a cystic lesion in the back of her brain. This type of growth, while generally benign, can cover large areas of the brain, affecting numerous bodily functions and even causing death. In Ms. Martin’s case, the tumor part of the growth was near her brain’s surface, but the cystic component was large and extended down to her brain stem.

"This would have continued to grow if we didn't remove it," said Dr. Trinidad. "It may have even

affected her ability to breathe and proven fatal."

Dr. Trinidad determined that she should operate as soon as possible, and scheduled Ms. Martin's surgery. Because the lesion touched on areas of the brain that control vital functions, she used sophisticated neuronavigation systems and a microscope to guide the delicate operation.

A few hours later, Dr. Trinidad knew the operation was a success: the entire tumor and cyst were removed.

"Ms. Martin was fortunate that she came in when she did," said Dr. Trinidad. "The cystic component had gotten quite large, and it needed to be removed."

Dr. Trinidad explained that this type of growth can go undetected for many months to years, with no symptoms.

"The body compensates until the growth reaches a certain point, then symptoms progress rapidly, as they did with Ms. Martin," she said.

Three-plus years later, Ms. Martin has continued to be monitored, first getting [MRIs](#) every three months, then every six months, and now once a year. She has not had a recurrence.

"She may be 'out of the woods' at this point," said Dr. Trinidad. "She is doing very well."

"God sent me an angel," said Ms. Martin. "I will always be thankful to Dr. Trinidad. She made it possible for me to continue with my life."

About Neurological Surgery, P.C.

Neurological Surgery, P.C. is one of the New York City area's premier neurosurgical groups, offering patients the most advanced treatments of brain and spine disorders. These include minimally invasive procedures such as stereotactic radiosurgery (Gamma Knife[®], CyberKnife[®] and Novalis Tx[®]), aneurysm coiling, neuro-endoscopy, spinal stimulators, carotid stents, interventional pain management, microdiscectomy, kyphoplasty, and other types of minimally invasive spine surgery. The practice's physicians represent a range of surgical and nonsurgical specialties, combining compassionate care with highly specialized training. They are leaders in the region's medical community, with appointments as chiefs of neurosurgery in some of Long Island's best hospitals. NSPC offers 10 convenient locations in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, as well as in Queens and Manhattan. For more information, call 1-800-775-7784 or visit www.NSPC.com.

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