

## News

### Isabel to the rescue

*By Chris Dyrness, Reporter, Highland Community News*

When Isabel Maude was 3 years old, she was taken to the hospital, suffering from a serious fever. The doctors who cared for her didn't give much attention to the fever. They figured it was a complication from her recent stint with chickenpox.

She developed other symptoms that were missed by medical personnel. Isabel's case seriously worsened and it was soon found she suffered from two deadly infections that almost took her life.

Doctors were able to save Isabel.

She had multiple organ failure and was hospitalized for seven weeks. If her condition was caught earlier, Isabel could've been cured with simple antibiotics.

Isabel's father reacted to this situation in a very unique way. Rather than sue the doctors who had committed errors in diagnosing his daughter, Jason Maude got together with Dr. Joseph Britto, the doctor who correctly diagnosed Isabel, and created a diagnosis system to assist physicians in properly diagnosing patients.

Named after Jason Maude's daughter, the Isabel Diagnosis Support System (IDSS) works like a typical Internet search engine, like Google or Yahoo. Doctors input symptoms and patient information and the IDSS searches potential infections, diseases, and disorders that could be causing the symptoms.

Errors in diagnosis and mistaking symptoms for serious illnesses is an all too common occurrence in modern medicine today. The National Patient Safety Foundation commissioned a poll that found some chilling results regarding patient diagnosis. One in 6 people polled personally experienced medical diagnosis error.

The IDSS is a step in the right direction in lowering the number of misdiagnosed patients throughout the country. Dr. Richard Chinnock, a physician at Loma Linda University Medical Center, uses the IDSS, not just to diagnose patients but also to assist young doctors in learning about rare diseases.

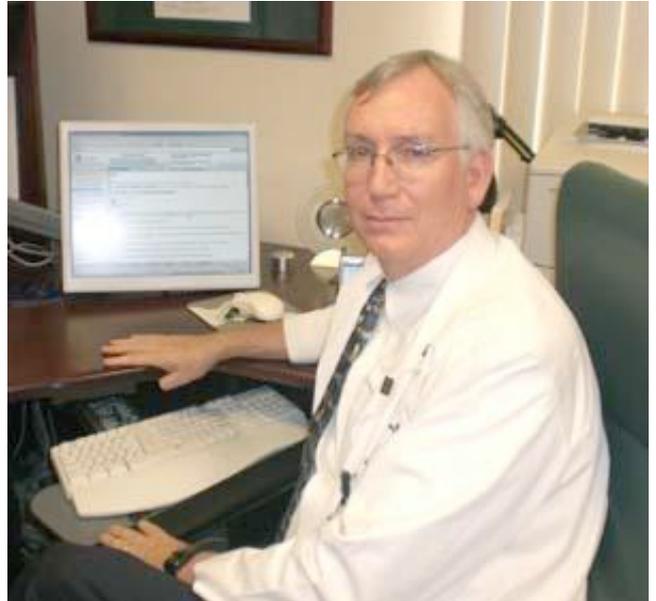
"I look at it [IDSS] as a learning tool," said Dr. Chinnock. Dr. Chinnock cited that the IDSS is such a great help to doctors because there are a lot of diseases out there that can be easily overlooked by young physicians fresh out of medical school, like the disorders that plagued little Isabel.

A veteran physician with years of experience under their belt will easily catch diseases that young doctors may miss. The IDSS helps young doctors better understand diseases that aren't very common.

When diagnosing patients, the IDSS helps doctors feel confident they've considered all possibilities. With the help of dedicated professionals like Dr. Chinnock, Dr. Britto, and Mr. Maude the IDSS is making modern medicine a lot safer for patients everywhere.

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**Dr. Richard Chinnock demonstrates the use of the Isabel Diagnosis Support System.**