

NOORA A.



Noora was the 12-year-old daughter of a fisherman. She went to the UK from Oman for treatment of this benign plexiform neurofibroma on the right side of her face, which had destroyed the vision in her right eye and created a massive asymmetry of the right side of her face. Her right eye was positioned much lower than the left, pendulous lumps of skin containing abnormal proliferations of nerve and fibrous tissue hung down from the right side of her skull and face, and her right upper jaw and lower jaws ha grown down much more than the left in response to the abnormal tumor.

When she came to the UK for treatment she used to wear a hood over her face and always wore black clothes. Her father recounts that as a very young girl she had been cheerful and outgoing, but as the tumor had grown she had become increasingly introverted and succeeded less well at school. She also had continuous pain form the tumor and its pressure on her face and brain.

She underwent surgery by Iain Hutchison and his neurosurgical colleague, Ian Sabin in which the neurofibroma was removed, the eye socket was reconstructed and the right eye lifted to a more correct position. At a second operation with John Hungerford, Iain Hutchison's ophthalmology colleague, her right upper eyelid was reduced.