



Before



After

OPD No. – 13420

Name – Sohona (Name Change)

Age – 7 Months

Gender – Female

Centre – Guwahati Comprehensive Cleft Care Centre (GC4)

### **Pain Passes Beauty Remains**

Sohona is the only child of Masina and Sadiq Hussain. Masina was 18 year old when Sohona was born. Whether it was the less age of Masina or nutritional deficiency during pregnancy, Sohona was born with Cleft lip and Cleft palate. They never had a cleft birth in their family, hence both the mother and father, cried when the nurse brought their child. The nurse and doctor counselled them that it is a common deformity and it can be easily corrected through surgery and told about us.

Masina was distressed when Sohona faced trouble in suckling her milk. They used spoons and bottles to feed her, as their baby needs to reach the age /weight criteria needed for her corrective surgery. Sadiq being a small farmer was relieved that their child's surgery will be free of any cost as her surgery is sponsored by donors.

Last month, Sohona was 7 months old; they travelled by train for 3 hours to reach our centre in Guwahati. On 12 Nov, 2017, Sohona was brought for screening for her corrective surgery and to the joy of her parents; she was successfully screened and admitted for surgery. Masina, her mother, stayed with her and the next day morning, she followed the instructions to prepare Sohona for her important surgery.

Masina cried when Sohona was being carried into the OR. Counsellor's counselled her about the surgery that her child would be going through and showed her pictures of many similar children who have got surgery earlier but then nothing can sure a mother's anxiety.

It ended when finally after around an hour Sohona was brought out and transferred to her room. With slight blood oozing from her freshly stitches, she groaned in pain. There were tears in Masina and Sadiq's eyes because they knew the pain will pass but the beauty would remain.

Their beautiful daughter was back with them. They thanked the donors for providing their child her surgery which would have been financially impossible for them to bear.

-----X-----