

Lisa's story – video transcript

I had a baby at the age of 28 and she was born prematurely and I became more and more short of breath and nobody could work out why. Until a really wonderful GP sent me to a cardiothoracic specialist who diagnosed me with pulmonary arterial hypertension. The treatment didn't seem to be improving my quality of life at that stage, to the point where I couldn't move for being short of breath. They did a whole bunch of testing and worked out that I would be a good candidate to have a lung transplant.

From the moment I woke up, I felt alive. Everything about me felt different. To touch felt different, even the oxygen supply to the end of my fingers had improved so much. My appetite was different; I had never felt like that in my whole life. I wouldn't be alive if I hadn't had this transplant. And my daughter wouldn't have her mum and that's, for me, the most important thing.

I have someone else's lungs and they keep me alive in every breath that I take, it's a legacy of her. I think about her every day and I thank the family and I thank the universe for being so lucky to have been given a second chance.