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MOTHER AND CHILD—Mrs. David A.F. Cole and long-awaited Naida Margret.

## Naida Celebrates Yule Despite All Predictions

By Margaret Howell

The birth announcement they send out should read something like this:

Mr. and Mrs. David A.F. Cole  
Drs. Pupkin and MacKenna  
Crenshaw and Brumley  
and  
a staff of hundreds  
ecstatically announce  
the birth of  
Naida Margret Cole  
October 28, 1974

Impressive isn't it? Quite, but not nearly as impressive as the nine months in bed and eight previous unsuccessful pregnancies it took to get the young lady here.

For about 15 years Cynthia Cole tried in vain to enlarge her family.

Finally, after a stream of miscarriages and non-surviving premature births that would discourage less adamant women, she and her husband David, a former Duke anesthesiologist, are able to "talk baby" now that they can "see baby."

Mrs. Cole places most of the credit with her doctors for getting Naida here with "10 fingers and 10 toes."

As she left the hospital just a few weeks ago for the first time in almost nine months, Cynthia Cole was ready to "try it again" as long as she could have the same doctors...so she asked them if

they'd help again one day...and they said yes, resoundingly.

Mr. Cole is just as excited about the quiet, sleep-loving Naida as her mother. As one of the doctors, Dr. Jarlath MacKenna put it: "I can imagine David scurrying around in the grocery store. That's a sight I'd like to see—David buying baby food."

David A.F. Cole came to Duke two years ago to open a department of obstetrical anesthesiology, but is now working at a Canadian hospital in Toronto. He was here, however, helping with the birth when the time came.

Naida Margret was born by Caesarian section, like Mrs. Cole's first baby 16 years ago. Teenage son Allister has been in school in Canada and, by now, is getting reacquainted with his mother and meeting his new sister.

Five-and-a-half weeks premature, but healthy, Naida Margret came. With her, she brought an end to nine months of unspoken fears. "If it had not been for Dr. (Marcos) Pupkin, I don't think I would have made it even if I was at Duke," Cynthia Cole said, quietly.

"I needed a doctor who would fight for me if I was willing to fight. A Canadian doctor had already told me that I should stop trying and adopt. But that wouldn't have been the same to me. Dr. Pupkin was great. He came to see me very often and he called me at

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## Dr. Osterhout Lauds Safety Caps 'When Used'

# Expert Speaks Out on Poisoning Accidents

By David Williamson

Two-year-old Michael James of New Brunswick, N.C., had always been a normal, active youngster. Unfortunately, a few weeks back his explorations and curiosity almost cost him his life.

While his mother worked in her bedroom, Michael was examining the contents of the cabinet beneath the kitchen sink. His aunt, absorbed in a television program, was also in the kitchen.

A bright pink plastic bottle with an equally bright yellow cap caught the little boy's eye. Unscrewing the cap, he did what naturally occurs to children his age—he tasted the stuff.

The bottle contained a common household drain opener, a large percentage of which is lye, one of the most destructive poisons commonly available in the supermarket.

The lye began burning into the tissues of Michael's mouth and throat, combining with the fatty tissues and cells lining his esophagus to form a kind of hideous soap. He screamed and ran from the kitchen to his mother.

His mother and aunt read the label of the container and administered vinegar

and milk, the prescribed antidote. Then they rushed the child to a hospital.

Physicians in attendance at the hospital contacted the Poison Control Center at the medical center, and Michael was brought here.

Although two months will pass before his doctors can tell if his throat will heal properly, indications are that Michael will be all right.

Not so lucky, however, was another little boy of the same age. Left alone in his grandmother's house, he swallowed a number of Quinidex tablets, prescribed to control irregular heartbeats in adults.

Although he was made to vomit at home and physicians pumped his stomach at a nearby hospital, he died three hours after arriving at Duke's Poison Control Center. Despite vigorous resuscitation efforts, he never regained consciousness.

"These kinds of tragedies are almost 100 per cent avoidable," said Dr. Shirley Osterhout, a pediatrician and clinical director of the center which treats or gives medical advice on over 200 poisonings each month.

"They are caused by carelessness, poor packaging of dangerous materials

and by what often amounts to criminal neglect," she said.

And the Poison Control Center, in existence since 1954, has seen literally

thousands of such accidents, many of which have resulted in death for their victims.

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UNHAPPY YOUNG MAN—Michael James of New Brunswick, N.C., reflects the pain of a very sore throat despite comforting from Howland Ward LPN Judy Evans. The lad is lucky to be alive, however, after having swallowed a caustic drain opener containing lye. The Duke Control Center is still carrying on its fight against accidental poisonings. (Photo by David Williamson)