

# CASE STUDY

Alternate Care Success Story > Case #308

## Portability Creates Mobility for a Young Girl with Medical Challenges

*Masimo Rad-5® Gives a Teenager with Disabilities the Freedom to Dream Big*

**Care Facility** Sub-Acute Saratoga Children's Hospital

**Patient Event** A Teenager Gains Freedom, Mobility, and New Experiences with the Portable Rad-5

### > The Situation

Diana, a 14-year old girl with Emery-Dreifuss muscular dystrophy, has been on a conventional pulse oximeter since her arrival at the hospital three years ago. The progressive disease prevents her body from making proteins essential for normal bone, muscle, and cardiopulmonary system development. As a result, Diana endures seizures, severe scoliosis, collapsing lungs, and spastic quadriplegia—requiring round-the-clock monitoring and care.



Diana Lopez and her pink Rad-5.

### > The Problem

Although Diana lives in a hospital with an established school on site, the medical monitoring equipment she needs to live had been holding her back. The pulse oximeter used to carefully monitor her blood oxygen saturation was not portable and falsely alarmed so frequently it made school attendance impossible. In addition, going off-site for special group outings—sometimes 30 to 45 minutes away from the hospital—was also off limits. But, when the hospital switched Diana's pulse oximeter to the Masimo Rad-5, Diana's limits were suddenly limitless.

### > The Masimo Difference

The lightweight, portable handheld Rad-5 enables her to travel away from the hospital without having to carry bulky equipment, navigate a mass of wires, or contend with false alarms as she moves freely. In addition to travelling off-site for school, she was able to attend an off-site summer camp and socialize—giving her the same opportunities her peers with non-medical challenges had. With the Rad-5, Diana can now, with nursing and respiratory staff support (very carefully) go into the pool, do arts and crafts, go out shopping with her family, and even spend an entire night away from the hospital—something she could not do with her previous oximeter solution. Her Rad-5 even made attending the live concert of one of her pop idols, Lady GaGa, a reality. At the concert, Diana had her ventilator mounted on the back of her chair and her Rad-5 in her lap—allowing her to fully enjoy the high energy concert.

Recently, Diana celebrated her quinceañera (15th birthday)—a rite-of-passage for young Latinas entering womanhood. As a young girl, her innate needs for social, educational, physical, and emotional development warrant the same freedom she now enjoys with her new medical monitoring capabilities. Thanks to the Masimo Rad-5, Diana knows she can accomplish all these things and more.