

## Unsuspected Anemia Discovery Leads to Shocking Diagnosis

Random SpHb® Screening Prompts Cancer Diagnosis & Lifesaving Treatment

**Location** Korea

Clinician Reporting Patient, Adolfo Palacio

Patient Event Low SpHb Result Enables Early Identification of Cancer

## > The Situation

An apparently healthy adult male with no complaints or signs of trouble received a random noninvasive hemoglobin (SpHb) test. Startled by an abnormally low SpHb of 9.3 g/dL, he went to the emergency room for a full laboratory blood analysis, ECG, X-rays, and both an upper and lower GI exam. Lab results confirmed the exact same hemoglobin measurement of 9.3 g/dL; however, the GI exam showed no internal bleeding in his gastrointestinal tract. With this information, his primary care physician initially diagnosed him with severe iron deficiency anemia and prescribed iron supplements to boost his hemoglobin levels. However, still perplexed and concerned about the cause of his anemia, he prompted his doctor to investigate further.



Adolfo Palacio discovered his cancer early thanks to SpHb.

## > The Problem

Additional testing, bone scan, and protein analysis revealed stage 2 myeloma cancer (cancer of the plasma cells in bone marrow). Without any signs or symptoms to suggest a problem, the patient and his doctor had no apparent reason to suspect he was anything other than healthy. Moreover, neither had reason to initiate further testing and investigation, which resulted in the successful diagnosis of early stage myeloma cancer.

## > The Masimo Difference

The result of that random SpHb test not only made the early identification and diagnosis of myeloma possible, but it also created an opportunity for aggressive early treatment to help improve the patient's chances of fighting and potentially curing his cancer. After receiving chemotherapy and radiation treatments, the patient has a healthy prognosis.

"Masimo noninvasive hemoglobin testing gave me a chance to catch and treat my cancer early. It was the ultimate lifesaver for me."

Adolfo Palacio, patient/cancer survivor