



## The 'Lee Spark' NF Foundation

Severe Streptococcal Infections  
& Necrotising Fasciitis Support

**We are here to Help and Support you**

Registered Charity No: 1088094



[www.nfsuk.org.uk](http://www.nfsuk.org.uk)

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### **Doreen Marsden**



I have worked as a Medical Secretary/Receptionist and I am now working as a Carer in the community setting. I lost my son Lee to this horrific disease at 9.45am on 6 October 1999 (see Lee's Story – Case Studies page) We were told Lee had died of a Strep Milleri infection – from an abscess in his gum developing into Necrotising Faciitis. We will never forget that morning as long as we live. What an earth was 'Necrotising Fasciitis' we asked. I asked for any literature and for the name of a support group. ***There was none available.*** I spoke with many consultants, Professors and even the Health Protection Agency and it soon became clear that they seemed rather embarrassed there was no information or support of any kind for families who encounter Necrotising Fasciitis; they were also in total agreement that was a desperate need for a group of this kind.

Therefore in January 2000, realising the need for support in all forms, I launched our support group. My first survivor contacted me in May 2000. The support group has gone from strength to strength as has my love for Lee. We have helped thousands of, not only, sufferers but medical staff and organisations from all over the world.

Working closely with our professional medical team, we now have available a DVD training module which can help in the education of 'early warning symptoms'. I have also taken part in many fundraising events including the Great North Run and the Manchester Run. In forming an association with National Concern for Healthcare Infections (NCHI) this has enabled our Charity to forge strong links nationwide as we strive to heighten the awareness of all Healthcare Associated Infections.

Founder: Doreen Marsden