

## News

## She's breathing! Dying baby gasps into life

**A** desperately ill baby started breathing unaided hours before her parents were due to see her life-support machine switched off.

Ambika Anand showed "no signs of life" having been delivered by caesarean section at Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, after her

mother had developed sepsis.

Manisha Anand, 27, and her husband, Pyush, 28, were allegedly told by staff that if their daughter lived she would be in a permanent vegetative state. She was taken to nearby St Mary's Hospital and the night before the ventilator was due to be switched off the first-



Ambika Anand survived after being on a ventilator and now is a happy toddler with her mother, Manisha

time parents were given time to say goodbye and tearfully talked about planning the funeral.

Hours later Mr Anand told his wife that Ambika seemed to be breathing.

She was in hospital for a month. At 22 months she is happy and has defied

expectations, though she has cerebral palsy.

Mrs Anand, from Stretford, Manchester, said:

"We had the top doctor telling us that Ambika's brain scans were the worst they had ever seen. Her head was huge and the swelling was pushing her brain into her spine." Recalling the sudden recovery, she said: "We rushed to Ambika's room and called the doctors. She was breathing. It was the most amazing feeling."

The couple are taking legal advice. Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust said it could not comment due to an investigation.