# Jack Wilshere Opens Up About Daughter's Heart Condition and Advocates for Congenital Heart Defect Awareness



Former England and Arsenal midfielder Jack Wilshere opened up about his daughter Siena’s heart condition in a recent interview. Siena, who was born in June 2017, was diagnosed with a venosus atrial septal defect, a congenital heart condition, during a family holiday in Cyprus after a doctor detected a heart murmur. Her diagnosis was confirmed when she visited a cardiologist after exhibiting signs such as frequent coughing.

Siena underwent a five-hour open-heart surgery in February. Wilshere and his wife, Andriani Michael, shared their emotional journey through the diagnosis and surgery. Wilshere expressed his fear of losing his daughter during the operation and his immense pride in her recovery.

Highlighting the prevalence of congenital heart defects, Wilshere noted that around 13 babies are born with such conditions daily in the UK. Thanks to medical advancements, the survival rate has significantly increased, with more than 80% of these children reaching adulthood.

Jack and Andriani are now ambassadors for the British Heart Foundation, focusing on raising awareness and supporting further research on congenital heart conditions. Wilshere emphasized the importance of providing support to other families facing similar challenges.