

It's A Girl! **Pandemic Can't Stop This Mom and Baby.**



Living and working through a pandemic can be extremely difficult and stressful. Imagine what it would be like being pregnant – and getting COVID-19.

That's the roller-coaster experience IFC Johana Mendoza Chancay has gone through, and in many ways, is still going through.

She told her story to The New York Daily News. The article is reproduced here:

New Jersey mom-to-be gets coronavirus, delivers baby daughter in a coma, lives to tell the tale:

By ESHA RAY

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Mom-to-be Johana Mendoza Chancay went to a medical clinic to fill out maternity leave paperwork when the doctor noticed her cough. It was the beginning of a frightening odyssey that would turn into a medical miracle.

Two days after her March 20 clinic visit, Chancay — a former Brooklynite who now lives in Union City, N.J. — tested positive for coronavirus. She wasn't worried — she figured it would just feel like a bad flu.

But her symptoms kept getting worse. On March 30, she was rushed to Hoboken University Medical Center, unable to breathe. Then came even worse news.

“The doctor told me pretty quick that the baby was in jeopardy. They said I would have to get an emergency C-section,” said Chancay, 40. “I was freaking out,” she said. “That’s pretty much the last thing I remember.”

Doctors put her in a medically induced coma, then transferred her to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick to perform the surgery.

They delivered her daughter, Zion, at 10:52 a.m. on April 1. The baby was born premature, at just 26 weeks,