

San Diego Zoo's new baby gorilla has pneumonia

March 18 2014



This photo provided by the San Diego Zoo Safari Park shows the animal care staff tending to a one-day-old baby girl gorilla who was born at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park after an emergency c-section procedure Wednesday March, 12, 2014. Safari Park keeper Jennifer Minichino carefully holds the new baby while Dr. Jack Allen, examines the newborn gorilla. Imani is recovering from surgery in the familiar surroundings of the gorilla bedroom area. This is the first baby for Imani and the 17th gorilla to be born at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. (AP Photo/San Diego Zoo Safari Park)

A baby gorilla delivered by a rare emergency cesarean section last week at the San Diego Zoo has pneumonia and is receiving round-the-clock care.

Zoo spokeswoman Christina Simmons the female gorilla was receiving oxygen and other treatment on Tuesday. She says the gorilla is sleeps a lot but is getting stronger day by day and vets are cautiously optimistic about her condition.

The medical team includes both vets and specialists in human neonatal care.

The gorilla was born March 12 and underwent surgery last Friday for a collapsed lung. It's unclear whether she contracted pneumonia before or after birth.

The mother gorilla, an 18-year-old named Imani, had never given birth. The zoo says the C-section, rare for a gorilla, was performed because she was in distress after going into labor.

© 2014 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: San Diego Zoo's new baby gorilla has pneumonia (2014, March 18) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-03-san-diego-zoo-baby-gorilla.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--