



Katie Taylor with sons Jaden (left) and Joshua.

Taylor was admitted to the hospital for bed rest. When her water broke a week later, she was transferred to Evergreen Hospital Medical Center for the delivery because her severely premature babies would need the life-saving care available in Evergreen's Level III Intensive Care Nursery.

Three months premature, Joshua and Jaden each weighed just two pounds, two ounces at birth. "They were two tiny and pretty sick babies," recalls neonatologist Dr. Stephen Chentow, who is also the medical director for the Intensive Care Nursery. "Both required complicated courses of treatment."



Stephen Chentow, MD

That included ventilators to help them breathe, because their lungs were underdeveloped. Jaden would remain on the ventilator for a month and a half. The twins would spend their first three months in the Intensive Care Nursery before they could finally go home.

LIFE-SAVING CARE

Evergreen's 27-bed Intensive Care Nursery provides the highest level of care for critically ill and premature newborns like the Taylor twins. It's staffed by a team

of specialists trained in the care of newborns and is operated in collaboration with Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center and the UW School of Medicine. While some intensive care nurseries

"It couldn't have turned out better."

Last summer, Katie Taylor was sailing through her pregnancy. Her twin boys weren't due until late October, but she already had the nursery finished and supplies stocked. Then, just 25 weeks into her pregnancy, she began to dilate – and all of her careful plans went right out the window.

are staffed by neonatal nurse practitioners, Evergreen's nursery is staffed 24/7 with neonatologists from Children's and the Pediatric Medical Group. It can care for babies born as early as 26 weeks.

"Dr. Chentow was awesome," Taylor states. "He had a gentle way about him that made us feel comfortable with everything going on." Taylor also credits the nursing staff with keeping her and husband Chris informed and involved in the twins' care. "From day one, they explained exactly what was going on, all of the procedures, medications and machines," she recalls. "They would also tell us what progress they'd like to see the boys make in the next week."

The nursery's home-like accommodations provided dedicated space for the Taylors to stay with their newborns. Studies show that away from the noise and constant activity of the typical ward-style nursery, premature babies improve faster and go home sooner.

A BIG MILESTONE

Today, one-year-old Joshua and Jaden are happy and flourishing. "I've been at this 30 years," Dr. Chentow says, "and without today's technology, these boys would not have survived."

"I'm so glad we ended up at Evergreen," says a grateful Katie Taylor. "It certainly wasn't the way we planned it...but it couldn't have turned out better."

For more information on Evergreen's Intensive Care Nursery, please visit our Web site at www.evergreenhealthcare.org. For a brochure detailing our Women's and Children's Services, please call the Evergreen Healthline at 425.899.3000.