



Leonela Garcés is a young lady whose hopes of becoming a mother were darkened by shattering news. A malignant tumor had appeared on one of her shoulders and was threatening her life. Thanks to the care extended, free of charge, at the Enrique C. Sotomayor Gynaeco-Obstetric Hospital, her baby was born healthy and she can, today, resume treatment.

For years, Leonela and her husband Christhian, both from the Santo Domingo de los Tsachilas Province and of scarce means, had tried to have a baby. The happy news did not arrive at the right time since the young lady was diagnosed with a malignant tumor on her left shoulder.

"It was not the best time since after five months of pregnancy, the doctors at Solca told me to carefully analyze the situation, since it was either my life or that of my son", relates Leonela.

She clinged to God and decided to suspend chemotherapy to continue with her pregnancy. "I put my life and that of my son in his hands". Yes, I was fearful he would be born deformed due to chemotherapy effects or not born at all", remembers Leonela.

That is how she arrived at the Enrique Sotomayor Hospital where swift and gratuitous attention was negotiated through the social work area. Against all odds her baby was born healthy.

Leonela returned to therapy with renewed strength because as she puts it, "God has the last

word".