

## **MRF Media contact SHEFFIELD, South Yorkshire**

### **Sheffield mother's warning: Babies under one hit hardest by meningitis and septicaemia.**

Kate French & James Molloy

Kate and James lost their baby son Declan on 19th July 2005, as a result of contracting Pneumococcal meningitis. Declan was taken to the Dr's on Thursday - really unwell- was told it was viral and was a bit better on Friday morning. He was very poorly again but was sent home again, very sick then - floppy. Was taken to hospital at 7 pm and left in waiting room until 1 am. On ITU for 4 days but tragically Declan died.

Said Kate: "Our son Declan died of pneumococcal meningitis in 2005 on the day he took his first steps. Babies and the under ones are 38 times more susceptible to meningitis than those over one year old, and two babies will die every week from the disease. It's vitally important to be aware of the symptoms as these are deadly diseases which can kill in hours, that's why I'm supporting Meningitis Research Foundation's awareness week. "

Willing to do: Press, radio

If you'd like to speak to Kate, contact the MRF Communications team: 01454 281811