

# Father of baby saved in accident still in shock

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SINGAPORE: Every day since a fatal accident claimed the life of his pregnant wife, Dave Yuen has visited their baby in the hospital.

The newborn was saved by an emergency Caesarean section on Saturday after her mother, Goh Chieh Ting, who was six months' pregnant, was hit by a lorry while crossing the road.

"My daughter needs me the most right now," said Yuen, 26, recounting the ordeal for the first time since his wife's death in an interview with reporters yesterday.

The baby, who has been named Yu En, remains in stable condition at National University Hospital.

Goh, 25, had been walking with her mother-in-law when a lorry turning out of a carpark hit her while making a right turn at 8am on Saturday.

Bloodied and unconscious, she was taken to Ng Teng Fong General Hospital, where she died of severe head injuries at about 9.30am.

But thanks to quick thinking by doctors in the emergency room, her baby survived.

Recalling how he found out about the accident, Yuen said a close friend of his mother's had gone to his house to break the news to him.

When he arrived at the scene of the accident, his mother and wife were no longer there. He then rushed to the hospital.

"It was just too sudden. I still need time to breathe ... I don't know what is next for me," said Yuen, who appeared visibly shaken as he addressed the media with his sister and her boyfriend by his side.

"Things happened so fast ... what we need most (now) is time."

At Goh's wake, relatives said Yuen's mother had been distraught since her death.

"My wife left me a daughter. Initially, I just needed to play the role of a father. Now, I have to play both (parent) roles.

"Too many things are in my head right now," said Yuen, who added that he needed time and space to face the reality of what had happened.

"I also need my daughter." — The Straits Times/Asia News Network