



Childhood Wellness

Give an hour and give them a lifetime.

Blood & Marrow Drive
September 16-22, 2007

Leukemia

In 2007, an estimated **3,800 children nationwide** will be diagnosed with leukemia.

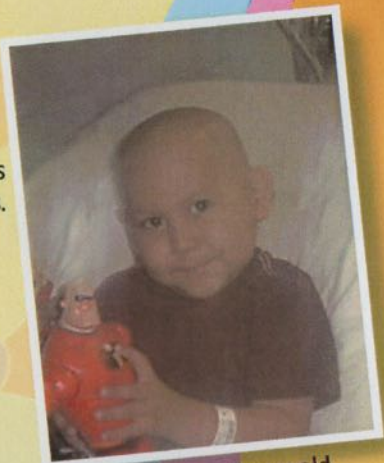
Leukemia is the general name used for a group of cancers that result from changes in bone marrow cells. The most common form in children ages 1 to 4 is Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia (ALL). ALL occurs when the affected marrow cell multiplies itself, creating non-functioning marrow cells (cells that do not create blood cells), and crowds the healthy cells. In time, this results in anemia (as fewer red blood cells are created). Signs and symptoms of ALL include bruising, paleness, fatigue and recurrent infections.

Treatment includes chemotherapy, bone marrow transplant and blood transfusions.

Children with ALL rely on blood and marrow donors for their lifesaving treatment. In fact, a child with ALL may need:

- From 20 to 25 units of blood
- Up to 10 platelet transfusions
- Matching marrow donor for bone marrow transplant

You can help children like Christian TODAY by donating blood and registering with the National Marrow Donor Program.



Christian Paulsen, 5-year-old leukemia patient



The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Fighting Blood Cancers



Blood Bank
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Sickle Cell Anemia

One out of every 625 newborns in the U.S. has sickle cell anemia. It is most common in children whose families come from Africa, South or Central America, the Caribbean, the Mediterranean (Turkey, Greece and Italy), India and Saudi Arabia.

Sickle cell anemia refers to a group of inherited blood diseases that affect the oxygen-carrying protein (hemoglobin) inside red blood cells. It occurs when a person inherits two sickle cell genes, one from each parent.

In sickle cell anemia, red blood cells change from their normal round, smooth shape to stiff, sticky sickle-shaped (like a "C") cells that can get stuck in blood vessels. These clumps of sickle cells block blood flow and can cause pain, serious infections and organ damage. Signs and symptoms of the disease include fatigue, pale skin, pain and swelling. In fact, swelling in the hands or feet may be the first sign of the disease in infants.

In most cases, there is no cure and patients must be treated throughout their lifetime. Treatment includes medicine to relieve pain and prevent infections, blood transfusions and specific treatment for complications. In some cases, a bone marrow transplant may be recommended.

Children with sickle cell anemia rely on blood donors for their lifesaving treatment. In fact, a child with sickle cell anemia may need:

- From 2 to 10 units of red blood cells per treatment
- Matching marrow donor for bone marrow transplant

You can help children like Eryn TODAY by donating blood and registering with the National Marrow Donor Program.

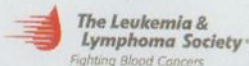


Eryn Renee Purvis, 2-year-old sickle cell anemia patient



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Lymphoma

Lymphomas are the **third most common cancer in children**. About 1,500 children are diagnosed with it each year.

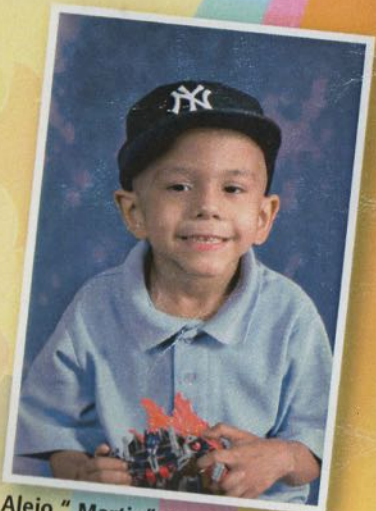
Lymphoma is the general name for a group of cancers that result when a lymphocyte (a type of white blood cell) changes and begins to multiply, crowding out healthy cells and creating tumors. Signs and symptoms of Lymphoma include chills, fever and swelling of the lymph nodes in the neck, armpit, groin or abdomen.

Treatment includes radiation, chemotherapy, bone marrow transplant and blood transfusions.

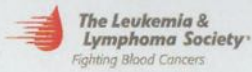
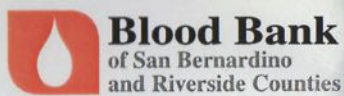
Children with lymphoma rely on blood and marrow donors for their lifesaving treatment. In fact, a child with lymphoma may need:

- From 10 to 15 units of blood
- Matching marrow donor for bone marrow transplant

You can help children like Martin TODAY by donating blood and registering with the National Marrow Donor Program.



Alejo "Martin" Garcia
5-year-old lymphoma patient



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