

Chloe Carlson

Chloe was born in April 2007. Shortly after birth, she was placed in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit with severe hypotonia, seizures and hyperbilirubinemia. She was moved to Texas Children's Hospital where she remained in the NICU until she was four weeks old. During this time, extensive testing was done including brain MRI's, spinal taps, and muscle and nerve tests. Finally, test results revealed a diagnosis of Peroxisomal Disorder. Six months later, the diagnosis was refined to D-Bifunctional Protein Deficiency. Her prognosis was 12-14 months.

Her parents learned that stem cell transplants were being studied as possible treatment for some types of Peroxisomal Disorders. After much research and deliberation, they decided to pursue a stem cell transplant for Chloe, in the hopes that it would provide her a longer and higher quality of life. It is believed to be the first transplant for D-Bifunctional Protein Deficiency. The transplant was performed at M.D. Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital in October 2008 when Chloe was 18 months old. She was later transferred to Texas Children's Hospital, and her ongoing follow-up is managed by the Bone Marrow Transplant Team there. Assessments for progress and improvements in the patient are usually performed no earlier than one year after transplant. Such assessments are currently ongoing. Chloe has regained the milestones she lost during the transplant process and continues to make progress physically, mentally, and socially.

Chloe has always been and continues to be a happy and energetic child. She is good natured and laughs easily. She enjoys swimming and seeing new people, places, and things.

Her parents express their gratitude to the ISB for honoring Chloe and to the many physicians, nurses, and staff at Texas Children's Hospital for their exceptional care and support.

