

# **“Advancing Discovery: The Role of NIH Research in Fighting Diabetes: The Patient’s Perspective”**

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September 15, 2011

- Our daughter was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes on April 28, 2002
- She was 16 months old
- In the ICU, we were told there is no cure

Our first experience  
with NIDDK research  
was the SEARCH for  
Diabetes in Youth  
Study



DIABETES/METABOLISM RESEARCH AND REVIEWS

*Diabetes Metab Res Rev* (2010).

Published online in Wiley Online Library (wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/dmrr.1141

**REVIEW ARTICLE**

# **The changing epidemiology of type 1 diabetes: why is it going through the roof?**



We are grateful to the people who participated in NIDDK research before us

The insulin pump and other advances make a “normal” life almost possible

Nonetheless, Cassidy has pricked her fingers over 24,000 to check her blood sugar since she was diagnosed

## In 2005, our son was born

- We agreed to participate in a new study that was screening newborns for genetic risk for type 1 diabetes
- Scientists supported by the NIDDK had identified specific genotypes with higher risk for diabetes

## The Environmental Determinants of Diabetes in the Young

- ✓ Over 425,000 neonates were screened
- ✓ Approximately 7000 children are participating in the study
- ✓ 92 have been diagnosed with diabetes



## 15 year commitment by families in TEDDY

- water samples
- toenail clippings
- diet records
- vaccine history
- stool samples
- nasal swabs
- blood samples

Cassidy tells us that she wants to protect Jackson from diabetes.

My husband and I do, too.

And we want our daughter to have the best possible chances.

But sometimes we feel helpless ...

So, we got involved in research, too, by enrolling in the TrialNet type 1 study. (And fundraising, and advocacy.)

Without research, there is no hope of prevention, or a cure, or better treatments for our children.

**Research = Hope**

**Type 1  
Diabetes  
TrialNet**

The logo for Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet features the text "Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. A large, stylized, red and pink swoosh graphic curves behind the text, starting from the right and sweeping upwards and then downwards to the left.

- Nearly 26 million people in the United States have diabetes and 79 million have prediabetes
  - There is an epidemic in both type 1 and type 2 diabetes
- 1,406,000 adults in Florida, or 8.6% of the adult population, had diagnosed diabetes in 2009
- The CDC predicts one in three Americans will have diabetes by 2050
  - That is, one in three children born after the year 2000
- The current total annual cost of diabetes and its complications was estimated at \$218 billion in 2007



Thank you for the opportunity to share  
our family's story with you.

We are counting on your support.