



ACCESS - CASE STUDY

“...from a question of *if* he would recover to *when* he would recover.”

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Dr. Eatroff with Eddie.



Eddie waiting patiently for his lunch, during a hemodialysis treatment.

THE SITUATION

Eddie was brought to ACCESS as soon as his parents realized something was not right. Within minutes of his appointment, preliminary blood work showed the unthinkable: Eddie's kidneys were failing. A day later, he was no longer producing urine, and toxins normally removed by the kidneys were reaching life-threatening levels.

THE DIAGNOSIS

Acute kidney injury occurs when the kidneys suffer from an insult. Often times this is due to infection, exposure to a toxin, or an attack by the body's own immune system. Sometimes the insult only results in minor dysfunction. However, in many cases, the dysfunction is severe enough that the patient requires hospitalization. In these cases, the probability of survival can be less than 50%. For patients requiring hospitalization, hemodialysis is considered one of the most effective measures taken to allow for recovery. Eddie was quickly diagnosed with leptospirosis, an infection of the kidneys, and antibiotic therapy and hemodialysis treatments were initiated.

THE TREATMENT

Eddie was given 4 hemodialysis treatments over the course of 5 days. During his treatments, he rested on a comfy bed and received lots of love from his doctors, nurses, and even a few surprise visitors. While most patients with acute kidney injury refuse to eat (severe nausea due to toxin accumulation prevents intake of proper nutrition for recovery), Eddie never missed a meal. In fact, it was difficult to tell that Eddie was even sick, as the hemodialysis treatments removed all the accumulating toxins.

THE RESULTS

After 5 days of treatment, Eddie's kidneys began to regain function. His kidneys made a full recovery and he is now back to his day job as a star on Instagram! Thanks to dialysis, Eddie's prognosis went from a question of "if" he would recover to "when" he would recover.

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