

Michael's "Hits" for Eosinophilic Esophagitis

Hello. My name is Michael Marget and I am a 7th grader. I have a rare but serious allergic food disorder called Eosinophilic Esophagitis (EoE). This disorder has to do with the esophagus, the muscle that helps you swallow food. What happens to people with this disorder is that when they eat certain types of food these special white blood cells called "eos" invade the esophagus. Some people are sensitive to more foods than others. This causes many symptoms including reflux, cough, and vomiting. Sometimes even food gets stuck. Every time a reactive food is eaten the esophagus slowly but surely gets swollen. Many people including myself with serious cases get taken off all food and drink a special, gross formula to keep their nutrition up. After it is known that the "eos" stay away from the esophagus while on the formula, new foods start to get added back one at a time. The only way to check the level of "eos" is with a procedure called an upper endoscopy.

Unfortunately since this disease is not life-threatening, little money is put toward research. I would like to help to raise money for this cause in a very unique way. Since I play tennis tournaments all over New England, I would like to propose that people sponsor me for each game I win during my six tournaments this summer. People may also pledge a total sum. The money would go to a foundation called CURED (Campaign Urging Research for Eosinophilic disease). This is a nonprofit organization that helps fund much needed research for my disorder.

If you would like to pledge for the number of games I win, please sign up on the pledge sheet. I will contact you with the number of games I have won. If you would like to pledge a total sum, please mail a check to Michael Marget at 847 Dedham St. Newton, MA 02459 made out to CURED (Campaign Urging Research for Eosinophilic Disease). Tournaments will be played between June and August. I would like to collect all money by the end of September.

Thank you for your support.

Michael Marget

