



Keep me smiling

This is me, **Jamie Inglis** :)
 I am 4 years old and fighting the biggest battle ever ~ **Cancer**
 My **Cancer** is called **Neuroblastoma**,
 a rare and aggressive form in children.



How I look now

Since April 2009 I have coped with 7 cycles of **chemotherapy**. This in itself is **very dangerous** and I ended up on a ventilator in **intensive care**, **fighting for my life**.
 I also endured a **7 hour operation** to **remove my tumour & right kidney** successfully.
 So you see, **I am a fighter** & **can beat this with your help**.

The bad news is that this **Cancer** likes to come back and if it does, there is no cure. If I had **immunotherapy treatment**, I could stay **CaNcEr** free :)

This treatment is **ONLY** available in America.

Please help my mummy & daddy
 to raise **£250,000** 😊

so that I can be a big brother to my new baby sister.



How I used to look



Brave Jamie Inglis, just four years old, is fighting against an aggressive form of cancer.

The Keep Jamie Smiling Appeal has been launched internationally to fund a potentially life-saving therapy for Jamie that is only available in America, and to raise awareness of the disease.

The appeal needs to raise £250,000 to allow Jamie to receive specialised antibody treatment that could significantly increase his chance of surviving the Stage 4 Neuroblastoma, at the Memorial Sloan - Kettering Cancer Centre in New York.

But, due to the nature of this aggressive illness time is precious for Jamie, as he will require this treatment within 90 days of completing his high dose chemotherapy phase, which he is due to complete by Feb 2010.

Jamie's parents John Inglis, a Staff Sergeant with the Royal Army Medical Corps, and his wife Vicky, a Primary-School Teacher in JHQ have launched the appeal as their son comes to the end of his first intensive treatment cycle for the most virulent form of Neuroblastoma, Stage 4, MYCN at the Heinrich – Heine Universitat Klinik Dusseldorf, to keep him smiling.

After the initial diagnosis in early April this year, Jamie's condition has responded well to treatment, after undergoing seven chemotherapy blocks, plus an eight hour operation to remove the tumor. Jamie has just one more high-dose of chemotherapy left before the cycle of treatment is complete.

The Problematic Prognosis

However, the chances of this type of cancer returning over the next year are considered very high (40% of cases). The relapse is normally caused by microscopic cells which have survived the chemo and is referred to as minimal residual disease (MRD).

Unfortunately the effectiveness of treating the illness, if it returns a second time is greatly reduced, because of difficult complications, and all it would really be doing is managing the disease, not curing it. John explained that it is vital that Jamie receive the antibody treatment in America before the cancer could return again.

"The bottom line is that once a child relapses, the child does not survive because the cancer develops resistance to the drugs, and because there are major problems with toxicity with the drugs. The main emphasis with Neuroblastoma has to be basically success with the first treatment cycle." John said.

A Small Window Of Opportunity

The ground-breaking antibody treatment, Immunotherapy, which targets the MRD and improves the chances of survival significantly, has to be started within a specific time period after the first treatment cycle has been completed, to prevent the malignant cells from returning. Therefore John and Vicky are aiming to raise the money as soon as possible to allow their son receive this treatment.

Diagnosis

John describes on the homepage of The Jamie Inglis Appeal, which can be found on The 2simple Trust website, how Jamie was first diagnosed with the illness at the beginning of April this year, when a large tumour was found on his kidney.

"I was in the UK on an inspection in Catterick. He had no obvious symptoms of any illness before other than low-level symptoms. My wife called me and within 4 hours the Army Compassionate cell had arranged flights to Dusseldorf Uni Klinik."

Jamie's parents were devastated when an MIBG scan confirmed the cancer had infiltrated the bone marrow as well as having spread from his kidney into the femurs of both legs and around the orbital in his eye and some of the lymph nodes.

John and Vicky have nothing but praise for the support and care that they and Jamie have received from Jamie's unit, the Environmental Health branch within the Royal Army Military Corps, and the BFG Health Service. And are grateful for the support they have received from colleagues and friends.

Other Appeals

There have been two other national appeals this year in the UK, for two young girls who are also suffering with the same strain of cancer and can only receive this antibody treatment by travelling to the New York hospital. The illness affects around 100 children a year in the UK. John and Vicky are also determined to raise aware of this difficult disease to help other children who may be in the same situation as Jamie.

For information on how to donate to The Keep Jamie Smiling Appeal, run a fundraising event, or find out more about Neuroblastoma visit: www.jamie-appeal.org