



National Niemann-Pick Disease Foundation, Inc.

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Dear Friends,

I want you to meet Cathryn and Corynne, 18-month-old identical twins diagnosed with Niemann-Pick Type C (NPC). They face an uncertain future where time is their enemy. If not stopped, this disease will eventually rob them of their minds and eventually their lives.



Your support can help to fund research for therapies that can offer hope for Cathryn and Corynne and others diagnosed with NPD.

Helping these two precious little girls and other children like them could also open doors to curing Alzheimer's, heart disease and stroke.

Niemann-Pick is a rare genetic disease – so rare that fewer than 1,500 people throughout the world have been diagnosed. But there is growing interest in NPD from researchers in many fields. Why? Because of its connection to metabolism – especially cholesterol metabolism.

Niemann-Pick research may be the key to finding ways to fight heart disease and stroke.

We all know that high cholesterol is the main cause of heart disease. But until the gene that causes NPC was discovered, researchers had few opportunities to identify the complex processes that regulate cholesterol. How does the body know if it has too much cholesterol or too little? NPC research is beginning to provide answers.

Your donations to Niemann-Pick research are also giving hope to those fighting Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's disease and NPC are progressive neurological diseases with similar effects on the brain. Brain cells in children with Niemann-Pick Disease are characterized by the formation of abnormal "tangles" that are identical to those of adults with Alzheimer's disease, though these diseases are not otherwise closely related. Drugs developed to control NP-C Disease could provide critical clues for controlling the progression of tangle formation and neuron death in Alzheimer's patients.

It is no longer a question of "if" but a question of "when".

Thanks to your support, we are making an impact on Niemann-Pick Disease as well as other diseases. Scientists are increasingly certain that they will find effective treatments for all types of Niemann-Pick Disease. It is no longer a question of 'if' but a question of 'when'. The question is... "Will it be in time to save Cathryn and Corynne?"

I watched helplessly as this disease took everything away from my little girl, eventually taking her life. We cannot allow that same fate to befall these two beautiful little girls.

Please Help!

With heartfelt thanks,

Barbara Vorpahl

Barbara Vorpahl
NNPDF Chair



"They have only their childhood to live a lifetime."

P.S. Please help us give hope to Cathryn and Corynne and others with Niemann-Pick Disease through your tax-deductible contribution to the National Niemann-Pick Disease Foundation. Please visit our web site at www.nnpdf.org to learn more about how your dollars are promoting "***Research to Find a Cure***" for Niemann-Pick Disease and the impact of our research into other diseases.