



Caleb

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CALEB'S STORY

In just six months, Caleb went from being an active 18-month-old to being paralyzed from the waist down.

Caleb's journey began when his parents noticed a bump on his lower back. After a series of visits with his pediatrician and an orthopedic specialist, an ultrasound showed a tumor. He was referred to the Nemours oncology team for treatment.

“Caleb was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, which was wrapped around his spine,” recalls Katie. “We knew it was serious when they started chemotherapy the very next day.”

The plan was to shrink the tumor and then remove it with surgery. After his second chemo treatment, Caleb's legs stopped moving. “The situation seemed bleak,” says Katie. “But everyone, from the doctors to the social worker, kept their focus on Caleb. We were very confident in the entire care team,” she adds.

The surgery removed as much of the tumor as possible. Caleb then had a few months of inpatient rehab and an intensive regimen of outpatient and home therapy. With a lot of hard work and resilience, Caleb was able to walk again.

Today, Caleb continues to see his Nemours oncology team to monitor the remaining tumor. Due to its location on spine, he also visits his Nemours orthopedist and urologist who watch for any changes in mobility or function.

Katie appreciates the expertise and convenience of coming to Nemours. “There is incredible peace of mind knowing everything Caleb needs is all right here in one place,” she says.

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