



A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR ASHER

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) can cause irreversible damage to internal organs from a young age.

Research has shown that beginning treatment early can help slow or even prevent the progression of CF, dramatically altering the course of the disease over time.

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ASHER'S STORY

When Asher was born, Mum Bianca had no cause for concern that her growing and thriving baby was unwell. There were a few questionable bowel movements which her GP and health nurse assured her was normal.

For one whole month, Bianca and her family lived in the blissful newborn bubble, until one Friday night, Bianca received a call from her Paediatrician who had performed the newborn checks on Asher.

After a few questions, her Paediatrician stated 'I don't know how to say this except just to say it, the heel prick test showed Asher has cystic fibrosis'. Their Paediatrician advised the hospital would be in touch soon.

This left Bianca and her husband the entire weekend to read everything on 'Dr Google'.



Statements such as 'life-threatening, recurrent infections, irreversible lung damage and life expectancy of 37 years' embedded in their minds.

It was overwhelming and heartbreaking

What followed were weeks of testing, to which the family found increased uncertainty, because of Asher's gene mutation.

Bianca explained,

"I felt a lot of fear in those early months. All the things that were now dangerous for Asher were found in people, air, dirt or water. Literally everything! How could I protect my baby from all of that?"

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Bianca and her family immediately started daily physio, including chest percussions, which felt unnatural, to be pounding on a newborns chest. However, this didn't seem to bother Asher, and he would often fall asleep.

Whilst Bianca initially mourned the life she had envisioned for Asher, medications such as Trikafta are giving her hope.

As the national peak body for Australians with cystic fibrosis, it is our mission to advocate the importance of how accessing these treatments earlier, can have remarkable long-term outcomes.



DONATE NOW

Asher is now 7 years old, and is an absolute champ at taking his 30 daily tablets. By providing access to Trikafta, Asher will have fewer hospital admissions, his quality of life will increase, and his life expectancy will be longer.

Your tax-deductible donation will **help Cystic Fibrosis Australia focus on long-term outcomes**, including advocacy for the right medications, enhancing clinical and patient improvement programs, and supporting research, so that Australians living with CF can have a better quality of life and increased life expectancy.

Bianca's hope for Asher, and for the many other hundreds of Australian children with CF is,

"I want Asher to live a full and healthy life. Where he has the chance to attend school, look forward to sleepovers, school camps, travel, become, a husband, a father, an old man. At 7 years old, he deserves that, as do all young Aussie kids living with CF."

With ground-breaking medications such as Trikafta, the future is bright, but only if our little ones are actually given access to them.

Donate now to ensure Cystic Fibrosis Australia can continue to be Your Voice, Amplified.



Please consider making a recurring donation to support CFA's on-going work