

Mayo Clinic Medical Edge
Bone Marrow Transplants and Kids

1:00

Log

Audio

Intro with music	GIVING YOU THE EDGE ON HEALTHY LIVING, HERE'S MAYO CLINIC MEDICAL EDGE.
	FOR RILEE BJERKE, PICTURES IN AN ALBUM ARE HER ONLY REMINDERS OF THE WEEKS SHE SPENT IN THE HOSPITAL BATTLING A CONDITION CALLED APLASTIC ANEMIA. FOR MOM NICOLE, THOSE MEMORIES ARE STILL TOO REAL.
Nicole Bjerke, Mom	"SHE HAD TO BE ON TRANSFUSIONS TO STAY ALIVE."
	WHAT HAPPENED WAS RILEE'S BONE MARROW, WHICH PRODUCES RED BLOOD CELLS, STOPPED WORKING. MAYO CLINIC DR. SHAKILA KHAN SAYS RILEE NEEDED A TRANSPLANT.

Shakila Khan, M.D.	“THE PRINCIPLE BEHIND A BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT IS TO GET RID OF RILEE’S DEFECTIVE MARROW AND REPLACE IT WITH HEALTHY MARROW.”
	FIRST THE PATIENT HAS CHEMOTHERAPY AND RADIATION TO WIPE OUT THE BONE MARROW. THEN STEM CELLS FROM DONOR MARROW ARE INJECTED INTO THE BLOOD STREAM. THE STEM CELLS MIGRATE AND FORM NEW MARROW THAT HOPEFULLY PRODUCES BLOOD CELLS NORMALLY. IT WORKED FOR RILEE, AND NOW SHE’S DISEASE FREE, ENJOYING LIFE LIKE ANY OTHER KID.
	FOR MORE INFORMATION, TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR OR VISIT MAYOCLINIC.ORG . I’M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.
