

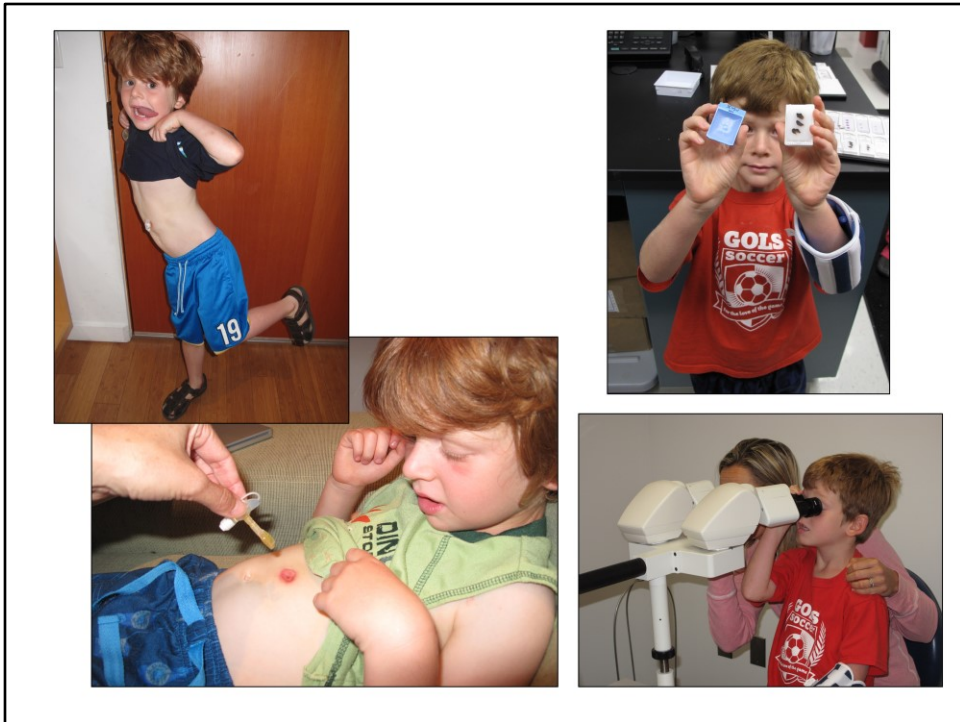
Max: 2005



- Low blood sugar at birth, dismissed as big baby/gestational diabetes.
- NICU for 2 weeks on IV.
- Sent home with very low blood sugars and incomplete diagnosis.
- Our research found CHOP HI center and we got him to CHLA and transfer to CHOP.
- PET scan – diffuse, ocreotide/dextrose not enough, so surgery.
- Still hypoglycemic after pancreatectomy, so went home on Octreotide.



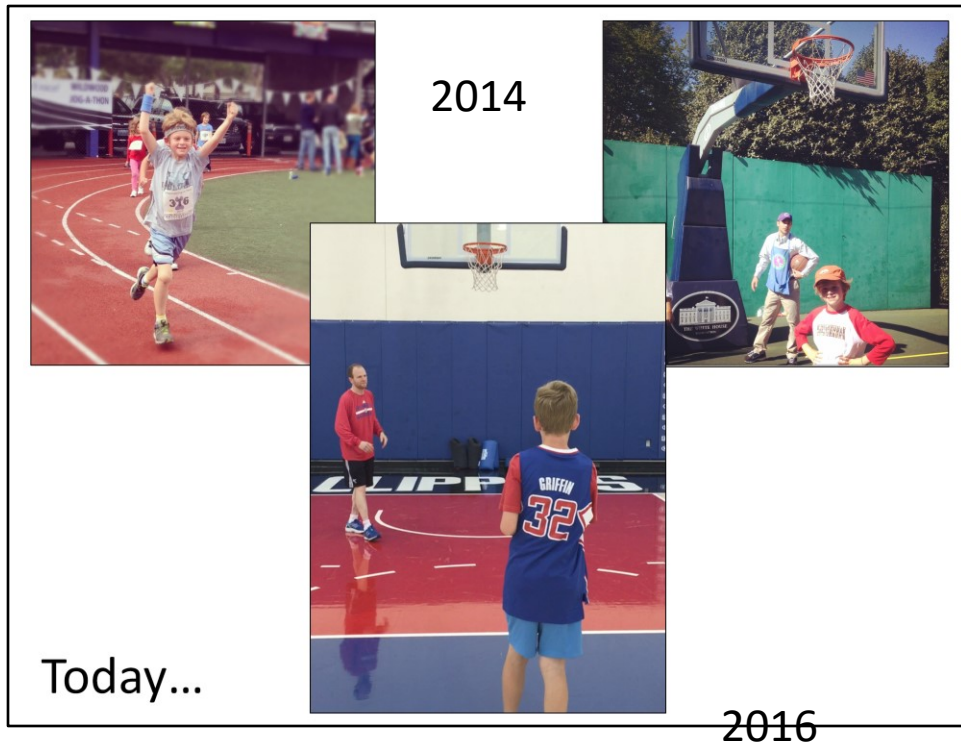
- Hated the g-tube and resisted using it, but at around 9 months gave in – D20 at night, Octreotide during the day.
- Made sugars more stable and life more manageable.
- Slowly were able to wean off Octreotide and then D20.



- In 2010.
- At age 4 or 4½, totally off meds and dextrose.
- Removed g-tube 6 months later.
- Visit to pancreas at CHOP.



- I know many worry about school. I did too.
- There were and continue to be challenges – both in terms of logistics and care issues and also worries about Max feeling “different.”
- But, a lot of beautiful moments have come from this HI journey.
- I came across this video and think it is fitting to share.
- Preschool graduation.



- Despite my determination to make it not so, Max was officially declared diabetic just over a year ago.
- He currently gets one shot of long-acting insulin a day (at dinner time). At some point he'll probably need pre-meal bolus insulin as well, but for now his A1C has been great.
- School is a challenge in some ways. Small school. No nurse. But they adapt. He is very self-sufficient and responsible about it (Amy Sommers' advice). Camp was easier last year because of diabetes diagnosis. Diabetes camp.
- Loves school and learning.
- Plays tons of sports and engages in all activities totally normally. Aspires to be an NBA player.
- I included photo in upper right because combines his two big passions.
- Going through photos and prepping for this reminded me of the struggle. The emotion of that is still pretty close to the surface for me, even though I forget about it on a regular, day-to-day basis. But mostly I feel so fortunate and proud and joyful – to think how amazingly he is doing now and how uncertain and scared we were back then.





- Always was a good eater, although baby food was a big struggle.
- Once he was able to pick food up with his fingers and feed himself it was much easier.
- Video from when he was 5 shows his enthusiasm for food.