

# BENJAMIN RASKIN-GROSS

**FAVORITES** Color: Orange, Food: Salmon, Town: Woodstock, New York, Broadway Show – Hairspray

## TYPE OF HI TREATMENT & MGMT

- TYPE OF HI: Diffuse
- GENETICS:: Autosomal Recessive, ABCC8
- DIABETIC secondary to subtotal pancreatectomy
- TREATMENT: Short acting insulin through insulin pump

## DIAGNOSTIC ODYSSEY

I was born in a hospital in New York City. My parents knew something was wrong within an hour of my birth, but the birthing hospital didn't recognize symptoms. When I was two days old, I came home for one night. My parents were worried about me and took me back to the closest big hospital to where we lived the very next day. After 10 days I was diagnosed with HI and went via ambulance to CHOP a few days later. After three months and 2 pancreatectomies, I got to go home and live with my family. My treatment was octreotide and glucagon mixed together and delivered subcutaneously through an insulin pump.

## HI JOURNEY

When I was two and a half, I started having lows again. Back to CHOP we went. They found my pancreas regenerated and I had a third subtotal pancreatectomy and got a g-tube. A month later I went back home. At 9 years old, I no longer needed continuous treatment for hyperinsulinism. At 12 I developed diabetes. At 18, I developed pancreatic insufficiency. Due to prolonged hypoglycemia before being diagnosed, I have epilepsy, motor coordination issues, a visual impairment, and learning disabilities.

## CELEBRATIONS OF STRENGTH

I just graduated from college in May and loved being a student. I had my first serious professional job this summer. I stay very active and fit, and eat well. I have a passion for learning and helping others. Managing medical conditions and having learning challenges are differences, not barriers to success. I may need to be more playful than others and I may take more time reaching my goals. I can't wait to start my next chapter.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- How HI impacts peer relationships
- Bionic pancreas
- Beta cell transplantation
- Effect of HI on attention and memory



#CHIFAM2019 \* September 6-8  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

