



Wilms Cancer Foundation

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712 H Street NE, Suite 2147, Washington DC, United States, 20002
info@[WilmsFoundation.org](mailto:info@WilmsFoundation.org) | +1 (778) 514 5000

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www.WilmsFoundation.org

Wilms Cancer Foundation
Defeating Childhood **Kidney** Cancer

Who We Are

The Wilms Cancer Foundation (WCF) is a charitable organization, inspired by nine-year-old William Hodgkinson, to support and represent the needs of children, families, and health care organizations affected by the childhood kidney cancer 'Wilms.'



Objective

To establish an international program of awareness, education, advocacy, early detection, and treatment as well as provide support to children, families and healthcare providers in order to lighten the emotional & financial burden they face as they tackle the disease on a daily basis.



What is Wilms

Nephroblastoma (commonly known as Wilms tumor) is the most common type of pediatric renal (kidney) cancer and it is the **4th most common childhood cancer** overall. It is sometimes associated with abnormalities of the urinary tracts or other birth defects. Wilms' tumor most often affects children (usually up to 5yrs. old) but can also affect older children, teens and sometimes adults.

The tumor initially grows on the kidney but eventually becomes much bigger than the kidney itself. Both usually require removal and later stage Wilms can spread to other parts of the body including the lungs, liver and bones. Ultimately it can be terminal. The disease has a good survival rate if detected early, but many children go undiagnosed for years and face dismal outcomes often requiring extensive, life-threatening treatment such as chemotherapy, radiation or surgery.

Every Parent's Nightmare

Complaining of nothing more than a 'tummy ache' on the way to school, William was diagnosed with stage 4/5 Wilms cancer at just seven years old. An active little boy, tests discovered a massive tumor on his kidney and a further nine tumours in his lungs. He spent a year in treatment, had multiple operations, and protracted chemo & radiation therapy. He finally beat the odds only to suffer multiple relapses with the emergence of new tumors leading to a high risk stem-cell transplant.

Early diagnosis would have prevented this pain, stress, and heartache (as well as the unnecessary strains on healthcare systems).

Wilms Tumor Staging: 5 Year Survival Rate

Percentages (Diffuse Anaplastic)



Support

Children like William should never have to face life-threatening situations at such a young age and, importantly, they don't need to! Wilms is one of the most treatable of all childhood cancers if caught early and most complicated if diagnosed late.



Opportunity

Through numerous WCF programs, there is an opportunity to relieve the emotional and financial burden suffered by children, families and healthcare providers in these situations. However, we cannot do this alone and rely on the support of individuals and organizations to help provide our services.

