



Having a Big Heart Isn't Always Good

For children with cardiomyopathy, physically having a big heart can cause problems. Cardiomyopathy is a chronic disease of the heart muscle that affects the heart's ability to pump blood through the body.

The disease can present in different forms, depending on if the heart muscle is enlarged, thickened, or stiffened. Cardiomyopathy can be inherited through one or both parents or acquired through a viral infection or cancer chemotherapy.

A diagnosis of cardiomyopathy changes a family forever.

Facts about Cardiomyopathy

- An estimated 30,000 children are living with some form of cardiomyopathy
- Cardiomyopathy can affect any adult or child at any stage of life
- 2 out of 3 children do not have a known cause
- Because symptoms are not always obvious, it can easily be missed
- It is a leading cause of sudden cardiac arrest and heart transplants in children
- Currently, there is no cure for cardiomyopathy

Helping Kids with Big Hearts Thrive

Every child with cardiomyopathy deserves a chance to live a full and active life. The Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation (CCF) is a national nonprofit committed to accelerating research and increasing awareness of pediatric cardiomyopathy. Established in 2002, CCF has grown into a global community of families, physicians, and researchers focused on improving diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life for children with cardiomyopathy.

A Research Advocate

- Research grant programs with the American Heart Association and American Academy of Pediatrics
- Sponsorship of scientific conferences and working groups
- Research partnership with the North America Pediatric Cardiomyopathy Registry
- Alliances with the top cardiomyopathy centers of care

An Invaluable Resource

- An access point for information, resources, and pediatric cardiomyopathy specialty centers
- Dedicated patient support staff
- A variety of patient education materials distributed to 70 hospitals
- Support services, including teen programs, webinars, and an online community
- Financial assistance program for qualifying families



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