

NIXON'S

HOPE FOR A CURE

THE GOAL



We are attempting to raise \$350,000 to meet the costs of medical treatment for our son who has relapsed neuroblastoma cancer.

Who is Nixon Melville? What's his story?

Nixon is a little boss! At 3 years of age he is a very determined and cheeky little boy. He loves to show off and make everyone laugh.

However, Nixon's health hasn't been great. In July 2017, Nixon was diagnosed with stage 4 High Risk neuroblastoma cancer MYCN amplified. It was discovered that the cancer was throughout his entire abdomen (from his pelvis to his diaphragm), spots on his chest, right arm bone and both thigh bones.

We were told that Nixon had a 55% chance of surviving the next 5 years. His treatment was intense and costly. Nixon's treatment went on for 20 long months. His treatment included 6 months of chemotherapy, major abdominal surgery, 3 ICU admissions, 2 stem cell transplants with high dose chemotherapy, 12 sessions of radiation and 7 months of immunotherapy. He endured countless infections, 33 blood transfusions, 25 general anaesthetics and 20 months living with a nasal gastric tube for feeding.

In battling this disease, he spent 289 days in hospital.

In March 2019, Nixon completed his treatment and his scans were clear.

Nixon relapsed in September 2019. We were told that he had a less than 20% chance of surviving the next 5 years. Nixon's new treatment plan includes a trial of combined chemotherapy and immunotherapy.

The treatment is painful and arduous for the little guy. The treatment attacks the nerves throughout the body. His pain is managed through a treatment of morphine/fentanyl, gabapentin and oxycodone.

Nixon's treatment will conclude in October 2020 on the basis that there are no complications.

Nixon is at high risk of again relapsing. If he relapses again after this treatment, he will have a 0-2% chance of surviving. We simply cannot take this chance.



Nixon's Hope for a Cure against Neuroblastoma

The Vaccine Trial in New York, USA

Nixon's only hope for a cure is to get him to the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre in New York and participate in a vaccine trial against neuroblastoma. This trial is a course of 7 vaccines over 12 months. The trial has been ongoing for over 10 years and is not available in Australia.

The purpose of the trial is for the body to make antibodies against the 2 antigens in the vaccine. Those antibodies might also attach to neuroblastoma cells because a lot of each antigen is on neuroblastoma (and very little on other parts of the body). Then, the attached antibodies would attract the patient's white blood cells to kill the neuroblastoma. Stopping a relapse from occurring.

This is Nixon's best chance of survival. We are determined to help our son survive.

The costs associated with this vaccine trial is AU\$350,000.

Further Information

For further information, please go to the links below:

Nixon's Fundraising Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/NixonsHopeforaCure>

Nixon's Go Fund Me Page: <http://gf.me/u/w9xxuv>

MSK Cancer Trial: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00911560>

How Can You Help?

We hope that you might be able to assist us in sourcing supplies, raffle prizes and auction items for our fundraising events throughout 2020. We will be launching a raffle in early March 2020 with the raffle to be drawn in May 2020. We will also be hosting events throughout 2020 and would appreciate any services or supplies that can be donated or provided to help us.

We also have Nixon's Hope for a Cure fundraising account through Rare Cancers Australia who are a registered charity. A tax receipt is sent for any donations over \$2 to our account with Rare Cancers Australia. This link is <http://www.rarecancers.org.au/my-fundraising/444/nixonshopeforacure>

Thank you for reading through our story and I hope that you might be able to help us in anyway.

Kind regards,
Team Nixon
Nixon's Hope for a Cure

Contact us at: nixonshopeforacure@gmail.com

