

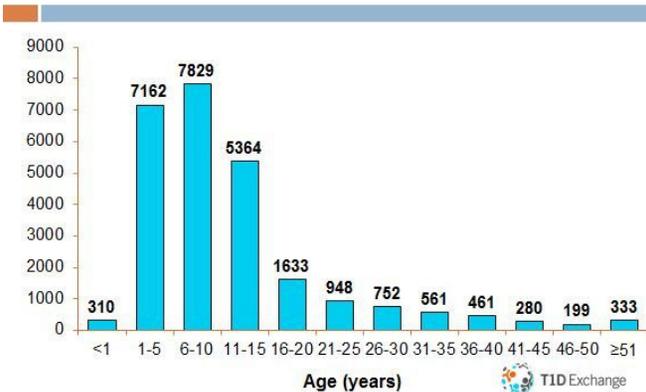
Diabetic Ketoacidosis

While its causes are not yet entirely understood, scientists believe that both genetic factors and environmental triggers are involved. Its onset has nothing to do with diet or lifestyle.

Knowing the warning signs for Type 1 diabetes could save a life.

Education about the symptoms of Type 1 Diabetes is critical because Type 1 can easily be mistaken for more common illnesses, such as the flu, and misdiagnosis can have tragic consequences. As many as 3 million Americans may have Type 1 diabetes. Each year, more than 15,000 children and 15,000 adults – approximately 80 people per day – are diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes in the U.S. Knowing the symptoms of Type 1 Diabetes can save a life. Please share what you've learned with everyone.

Age at Diagnosis of T1D



Our Mission

Drive for Diabetes Awareness

It shall be the mission of this corporation to create public awareness of the need for diabetes screening, particularly of young children, and to distribute information by pamphlets and similar communications at sporting events and otherwise to inform the public about the symptoms of diabetes and dangers of the unknown or untreated diabetes for the support for those dealing with a diagnosis of, or research related to, juvenile diabetes such as by promoting the slogan: "Check Don't Guess"

www.CheckDontGuess.org

By supporting Drive for Diabetes Awareness, you play a pivotal role in helping diabetes awareness that helps, prevents, supports and ultimately educates others about diabetes and its complications. There are many ways you can help! Drive for Diabetes Awareness, INC is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit. All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.



August 25, 2018

Florida Dirt

Motor Speedway

(FDMS)

#4 Lacy Kuehl



Symptoms of Diabetes

**Extreme Thirst,
Frequent Urination,
Sudden Vision Changes
Drowsiness,
Fruity or Sweet Odor on Breath
Unconsciousness,
Heavy Labored Breathing,
Increased Appetite.**

What is Type 1 Diabetes

Type 1 diabetes (T1D, insulin-dependent or juvenile) can occur at any age, but most commonly is diagnosed from infancy to the late 30s. With T1D a person's pancreas produces little or no insulin. Although the causes are not entirely known, scientists believe the body's own defense system (the immune system) attacks and destroy the insulin-producing cells in the pancreas. People with T1D must inject insulin several times every day or continually infuse insulin through a pump.

Merchandise

**Hats = \$25
Shirts = \$25
Stress Balls = \$5**



Lauren Koder's story of survival

She got sick a few days earlier but we thought it was just a stomach bug. She stayed home from school the next day; a Friday, and by Sunday she would be rushed to the ER. I'll never forget when they said she had Type 1 Diabetes. Like many people who don't have a kiddo with T1D, I didn't understand the difference between Type 1 and Type 2 and my first thought was, "She doesn't even like sugar!" Lauren didn't hFebruary 8, 2015. This was the day we almost lost Lauren.

ave the usual symptoms of T1D onset like excessive thirst, hunger and weight loss. Though, looking back there were some small signs like the fact that she never wanted to eat candy and turned down cake at birthday parties. We just thought she was making healthy choices. And of course there was her infamous "2nd dinner" but we chalked it up to a quirky, comical, growing child.

Imagine one day your vibrant 7-year-old is running around the kitchen, recording a selfie video singing about the 50 states and two days later she's unresponsive, breathing so hard you would think she was running a marathon but she's lying on a hospital bed with a 10% chance of survival. Her temperature was 90 degrees and her pH was too low to register. She was in extreme Diabetic Ketoacidosis, or DKA, and her little body was shutting down. She went from bad to worse, developing Acute Respiratory Disease after aspirating during intubation. Getting a T1D diagnosis is traumatic enough, the prognosis was almost unbearable. This is not normal. But then, neither is Lauren. She's exceptional. She not only lived, she endures. She has to poke her finger 8-10 times a day, count everything she consumes, and take all these numbers to figure out how much insulin she needs to live. She was calculating fractional serving sizes before she even learned fractions in school. March 8th, 2015. The 5th Sunday after being admitted, Lauren walked out of the hospital without any complications other than T1D.

And here we are, three years later. We've endured. We've learned. We manage. I still tear up when someone asks how Lauren is doing because we came so close to having a different story to tell. But these are happy tears, a way to release all the emotions wrapped up in getting to keep and love this beautiful child and all the amazing adventures she has yet to explore. We hope for a cure. We advocate. We focus on spreading awareness of T1D, the importance of knowing the warning signs and testing for blood sugar levels at well visits to prevent DKA and help more T1Ds survive and thrive.

[#CheckDontGuess.org](https://www.CheckDontGuess.org)

[#DFDA](https://www.DFDA.org)

Rocco's story

Rocco Cole Kuehl was born January 7th, 2009. He was a happy, healthy baby boy. His sister Lacy just loved being a big sister and would want to do everything she could to look after him, feed him, change his diapers, bathe him, read to him but most of all she loved him with all her heart, we all did.

One evening shortly after Rocco had celebrated his 1st Birthday we noticed that his breathing had changed and he seemed to be more tired than usual. I took him to a walk-in clinic the next morning, I told them I was concerned about his breathing and how lethargic he was. They told me he had a virus and that if he didn't improve in a day or two I should take him to his Pediatrician (during his examination Rocco slept the whole time). Rocco slept most of the day, he didn't have a fever? So why was he so tired?

That evening I took him to the ER. 4 Hours later he was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes and was in DKA (Diabetic Ketoacidosis). Rocco was critical. Sunday while in the NICU he started having Seizures (caused by swelling in his brain) shortly after that while in the CT room Rocco had another Seizure. We watched as they tried to save our son.

He was taken to St Pete All Children's Hospital. At approx 3am Monday 25th January we were told our son was in a coma and that he was brain dead. Tests proved the doctors to be correct and we had to make the hardest decision in our lives, to turn off the machines that were keeping him alive. I held my son in my arms for the last time and told him how much we loved him. I held him close and tight until his little heart stopped beating. I didn't want to let him go. That moment will stay with us forever. No parent should ever have to lose a child, and we believe that if we had known the signs and symptoms of Type 1 Diabetes Rocco would have been diagnosed sooner and correctly. He would still be here with us today.

We don't ever want this to happen to another family. Knowledge is power. Knowing the Symptoms of Type 1 Diabetes can save a life. Please help us spread the Awareness of Type 1 Diabetes and the Sudden Onset of DKA. It could help save the life of another child. Thank you for your support.