

Faces of Mito

LIAM'S STORY

You are my Son Shine. — Liam's Dad

Liam is the sweetest little boy, a true warrior and fighter. At 3 years old, Liam was not yet talking and was walking very clumsily. He was diagnosed with autism and began applied behavioral analysis (ABA) therapy and occupational therapy. At 5 years old, he suffered a series of seizures that required a month-long stay at the hospital.

Like many mitochondrial patients, it took over five years, and six doctors to receive a diagnosis. Genetic testing revealed that he had POLG disorder, a type of mitochondrial disease that affects his nervous system. This results in developmental delays, balance issues, lack of reflexes, and epilepsy. The doctors gave Liam 3 months to 12 years to live.

Liam now takes a cocktail of supplements and medication to help keep him stable and control his seizures. Despite his challenges, **Liam laughs and smiles every day.**

Now 7-years-old, he loves the school program his ABA therapist created for him, and is having fun playing and socializing with others. He loves letters and numbers and his laptop!

**Help us bring hope....
to help keep Liam, and other children affected by mitochondrial
disease, smiling.**

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