

H47 New Crohn's Drug

To air week of November 19, 2007

Intro: Every year up to 30-thousand Americans are diagnosed with Crohn's Disease. It's an inflammatory condition of the intestines that causes pain, cramping and constant diarrhea. There is no cure for Crohn's disease, but treatment keeps getting better. More on a new generation of medications from Mayo Clinic.

Video

Total running time 1:34

Brenda Stelow

Brenda Stelow

Has Crohn's disease

Audio

LIKE MANY PARENTS, BRENDA AND TIM STELOW 'S AFTERNOONS ARE BOOKED SOLID WITH THEIR KIDS EVENTS.

"BASEBALL, BASKETBALL OR DANCE."

BUT FOR YEARS, CROHN'S DISEASE MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR BRENDA TO WATCH FROM THE SIDELINES.

"WITH CROHN'S DISEASE THERE'S A SEND OF URGENCY THAT YOU NEED TO GO NOW. THERE'S NO WAITING. I COULD HARDLY LEAVE THE HOUSE BECAUSE IT WAS NON STOP. "

Williams Sandborn, M.D.
Mayo Clinic Gastroenterologist

“CROHN’S DISEASE IS AN
INFLAMMATORY CONDITION OF
THE INTESTINE.”

Standup
Vivien Williams
Reporting

DR. WILLIAM SANDBORN SAYS
CROHN’S IS A RESULT OF YOUR
IMMUNE SYSTEM ATTACKING
ITSELF. TREATMENT INCLUDES
ANT-INFLAMMATORY MEDICATIONS
(WHICH DID NOT HELP BRENDA),
STEROIDS WHICH DID HELP BUT
ALSO CAUSED TERRIBLE SIDE
EFFECTS,

Brenda Stelow

“I BLEW UP LIKE A WATER
BALLOON.”
AND IMMUNE SUPPRESSION
DRUGS. NOW THERE’S ANOTHER
OPTION. BRENDA ENROLLED IN A
MAYO CLINIC STUDY TESTING A
NEW DRUG THERAPY.

William Sandborn
Mayo Clinic Gastroenterologist

“WE CAN THINK OF THIS AS SORT
OF A SMART BOMB DRUG.”
“EVERY TWO WEEKS I TAKE THIS
SHOT.”

THE MEDICATIONS, REMICADE, HUMIRA AND CERTOLIZUMAB PEGOL TARGET THE AREAS OF INFLAMMATION DEEP IN THE LINING OF THE INTESTINES OF PEOPLE WITH CROHN'S DISEASE. THERE, IT INACTIVATES THE SPECIFIC PROTEINS THAT CAUSE INFLAMMATION AND STOPS SYMPTOMS FOR TWO-THIRDS OF THE PEOPLE WHO TAKE IT.

Brenda Stelow

“I HAVEN'T HAD PAIN, I HAVEN'T HAD A SENSE OF URGENCY TO HAVE TO RUN TO THE BATHROOM, I HAVEN'T MISSED ANY OF MY KIDS' EVENTS BECAUSE I WAS AFRAID TO BE STRANDED WITHOUT A BATHROOM.”
SYMPTOM FREE FOR THREE YEARS. FOR MEDICAL EDGE, I'M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.

Anchor tag:

These medications may stop symptoms for many people, but they cannot cure Crohn's Disease. Brenda may have flare-ups in the future. But for now, she is symptom-free.

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