

Being diagnosed with a rare and chronic disorder may be a challenging and overwhelming journey for patients and their families and friends. We encourage you to get involved with the DBAF and to contact us. It is because of our passion to ensure our loved ones a better life that we remain solidly committed to our mission.

We invite you to partner with us as we continue to strive to make a difference in the lives of our children, our patients...our DBA family. We sincerely thank you for your time, your concern, your support, and your prayers.

*With sincerity and appreciation,
Dawn M. Baumgardner
President, DBA Foundation, Inc.*



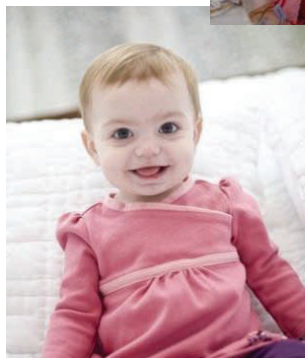
Trevor
13 years old



Kylie
9 years old



Mia
6 years old



Lauren
17 months old

Diamond Blackfan Anemia Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 1092
West Seneca, New York 14224
dbafoundation@juno.com
www.dbafoundation.org

Phone: 1-716-674-2818 (Eastern Time)



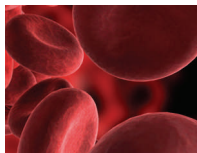
Lizz
14 years old

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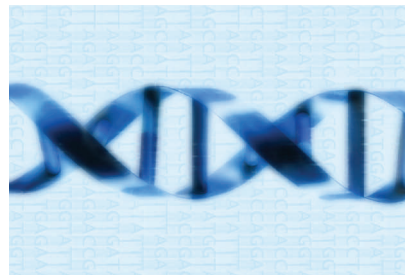
What is Diamond Blackfan Anemia?

Diamond Blackfan Anemia (DBA) was first recognized as a distinct entity in 1938, although it was called "congenital hypoplastic anemia" at that time. Diamond Blackfan Anemia ("DBA") is a rare blood disorder, characterized by a failure of the bone marrow (the center of the bone where blood cells are made) to produce red blood cells. This failure causes DBA patients to become severely anemic. It is important to note that this anemia is not the result of a deficiency in iron, vitamin B-12, folate, or erythropoietin, which is a blood cell stimulating factor. Although a number of theories regarding the cause of DBA have been proposed, it is now widely accepted that DBA is a ribosomal protein disease. The disorder results from an intrinsic progenitor cell defect in which erythroid progenitors and precursors are highly sensitive to death by apoptosis (self-destruction).



Most DBA patients are diagnosed within the first year of life. Potentially, DBA patients can live long and healthy lives with appropriate medical treatment. The two most common forms of treatment are blood transfusion therapy and corticosteroid medication. Some DBA patients are in remission and need no medical treatment related to their DBA. Other DBA patients may choose to undergo the risky procedure of a stem cell transplant (also referred to as a bone marrow transplant).

In recent years, the scientific community has discovered that DBA is a ribosomal protein disease. This is a very exciting discovery for the DBA community, as it has resulted in increased scientific attention to this rare disease.



What is the Diamond Blackfan Anemia Foundation?

The Diamond Blackfan Anemia Foundation, Inc. (DBAF), founded in 1994, has adopted the following mission statement: "to collectively and actively generate funds for the charitable and scientific purpose of furthering, by clinical study, laboratory research, publication and teaching, the knowledge of the disorder known as Diamond Blackfan Anemia (DBA). Our intentions are to share this knowledge, to inform, to lend support, and to communicate with all families of DBA patients."

The DBAF is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation registered with the Charities Bureau of New York State Department of Law, 120 Broadway, New York, New York

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