

I can tell you what my child is able to do.

After transplant, we expect your child will live a full and normal life.

School

To prevent rejection of the liver, your child will get the a higher dose of medicine to suppress the immune system in the first three months after transplant. During this time your child should not return to school, but can do school work at home. When the team lowers the amount of medicine your child gets to suppress the immune system, your child may return to school.

Your child's school nurse and principal should know your child has a suppressed immune system. They should let you know right away if anyone in the school has an illness your child could catch, such as chicken pox or measles.

Sports

Your child's incision needs to heal after surgery. For the first three months after transplant, your child should not play any contact sports or lift heavy objects.

Pets

Yes, your child can have a pet after transplant. Keep in mind your child's immune system does not fight off germs as well as it used to.

- Your child should not touch body fluids from the pet, such as saliva or urine. Do not let the pet lick your child's face or incision.
- If your child is bitten by an animal, wash it with soap and water right away and put on antiseptic (such as Neosporin). Call your child's doctor or the transplant coordinator to find out what to do next.
- Keep the litter box away from the kitchen and eating areas. Your child should never clean the litter box. Clean the litter box at least once a week:

1. Throw away everything in the litter box.
2. Take the litter box outside and rinse it with a hose.
3. Wash the box with dish soap and water.
4. Pour one gallon of water into the litter box. Add $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of bleach and stir.
5. Let the mixture sit for 5 minutes.
6. Empty the litter box.
7. Take the litter box outside and rinse it with a hose.
8. Let it air dry.
9. Refill the box with cat litter.

Some cats will not use a litter box that smells like bleach. Here is another way to clean the litter box.

1. Take the litter box outside and rinse it with a hose.
2. Pour 2 cups of white vinegar into the litter box.
3. Add 2 tablespoons of baking soda and stir.
4. Let the mixture sit for 3 hours.
5. Empty the litter box.
6. Take the litter box outside and rinse it with a hose.
7. Let it air dry.
8. Sprinkle the bottom of the litter box with baking soda.
9. Refill the box with cat litter.

Your child should never have contact with reptiles, turtles, snakes, or birds after the transplant.

Immunizations

Every year, your child should have a flu shot. Babies may need shots to prevent RSV.

Diet

For the first six months after the transplant, your child should not eat any raw foods. Your child should never have grapefruit or grapefruit juice, because they are not safe to take with immunosuppressive medicine.

Public places

For the first three months after the transplant, your child should wear a mask in public places. Your child should not go near sick people.

Disclaimer

The information provided at this site is intended to be general information, and is provided for educational purposes only. It is not intended to take the place of examination, treatment, or consultation with a physician. Phoenix Children's Hospital urges you to contact your physician with any questions you may have about a medical condition.