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Cisco TelePresence Helps One Family Reach Out to Another

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Using Cisco TelePresence, Diane Adams and daughter Danielle (in RTP) meet with T.S. Khurana and daughter Anya (in San Jose) to talk about juvenile diabetes.

The hectic holiday season was fast approaching, and Diane Adams was engaged in an activity known to many a parent: scurrying through the shopping malls with her daughter Danielle in tow. She'd noticed recently that the 4-year-old was a bit lethargic and wanting a lot to drink, but she attributed these things to the fact that they had been so much on the go.

But then it seemed that Danielle might have a virus. Whatever it was, it appeared minor enough at first, but then suddenly it made the little girl sicker and a lot more lethargic.

The hospital diagnosis that followed was a devastating one: Danielle had juvenile diabetes. Her pancreas had stopped doing its job of producing the insulin that helps to regulate blood sugar level. She would henceforth be dependent on insulin injections to keep her body chemistry in balance.

That was eight years ago, and life has been anything but simple for the family since then, according to Adams, the Vice President of Human Resources in Worldwide Sales. As a child, Danielle has had to learn how to coordinate insulin, exercise, and every piece of food that she eats to keep her blood sugar from going too high or too low.

Danielle checks her blood sugar level 8 to 10 times per day by means of a finger prick.

"If you calculate over the past eight years how many times she's checked her finger, it comes out to something like 32,000 times," Adams says.

Bedtime is particularly tricky because, while she is asleep, Danielle is more



Danielle poses with the Adams family's Walk to Cure Diabetes team.

Singing for a Cure

Watch and listen to Danielle's personal rendition of "[Someday](#)" on YouTube

Danielle and her sister Kristen created this video about the day that there will be a cure for diabetes.

Helping to Find a Cure

If you would like to help out, go to the [JDRF website](#) and click Donate in the Walk to Cure Diabetes section (under the shoe) and type "Danielle Adams" and select North Carolina in the State drop-down menu.