

## Biography

Name: April Amburn

Relation: Great Niece to Kay Amburn

Age: 7 yrs old

Diagnosed in Spring of 2008 with Legg-Calve Perthes Disease: a condition where the ball-shaped head (femoral head) of the thighbone loses its blood supply, causing the femoral head to collapse reshaping the femoral head of the thighbone. Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease causes the hip joint to become stiff and painful.

Both hips were affected; one hip was dislocated.

April received treatment at Shriners Hospital in St. Louis. Their area of treatment is caring for children with orthopaedic and neuromusculoskeletal disorders and diseases.

April was a very good patient and dealt with her condition with great spirit.

Before she had surgery Shriners gave her a wheelchair. April had surgery on both hips and was in a cast for 8 wks. After the cast was removed she received leg braces and wore them for 20 months. Shriners hospital also provided therapy for range-of-motion. A growth spurt assisted in her recovery allowing her to use a walker for several months walking with one leg.

She was so excited when the doctor told her she could use both legs to walk. She asked if she could run down the hall, then walk to the door of the hospital, then to the car! (It's the little things that we take for granted)

Shriners Hospital of St. Louis provided the surgery, cast, wheelchair, 2 sets of braces (she outgrew one set), a walker and therapy.

Today April can be a regular girl, playing softball and riding her horse.



