

Crohns

Crohns 19 # Testimonial:

CROHN'S DISEASE & IMMUNOCAL / HMS 90 2/8/99 – *Campbelford, Ontario, Canada* Gayle West: At **age 7**, our son Dean started showing signs of illness. He started **losing weight**, had terrible **stomach pain**, was **extremely lethargic** and spent a lot of time lying on the couch sleeping. It took several years and a battery of tests and finally at age 11, a Pediatrician gave us the diagnosis that Dean had **Crohn's Disease**. The number of years had taken its toll and the disease had a very strong hold on Dean. The first course of treatment was to give him Prednisone, an anti-inflammatory steroid. While the drug seemed to work at alleviating the pain, emotionally it was very difficult on him. As a grade 7 student, he would have rather been sick and skinny than to have to attend school and have the kids make such hurtful remarks. After following the required Prednisone treatments and being slowly withdrawn from the drug, Dean held his own for about 2 months. Signs of the Crohn's slowly started reappearing. We asked that Dean not be put back on the Prednisone, so his Pediatrician made arrangements to send him to Sick Children's Hospital where they were having *some* success with other treatments. Dean went to Sick Kids, where they took him off of all food and fed him through a tube inserted through his nose into his stomach. This course of treatment meant that Dean could have nothing to eat or drink for 2 months. They taught him how to insert the tube himself so that we could return home. He had to insert the tube every night when he came home from school and start feeding himself with the pre-digested formula until he awoke for school in the morning. Dean continued this course of treatment for the full 2 months. On his 12th Birthday was the first time he was allowed any food by mouth, a piece of birthday cake. Slowly, he started introducing regular food into his daily routine, but he still had to continue the night feeds seven nights a week. For a year, seven nights a week, Dean inserted the tube in his nose, swallowing until it reached his stomach and finally he said he could do it NO MORE! At that point, the doctors at Sick Children's Hospital told us that he had done it longer than any other patient they had and they said to let him go off the feeds and see what happens. It wasn't long until Dean started getting the stomach pain, the diarrhea and the tiredness. We continued by going back to Sick Kids Hospital where they kept him for another 2 weeks and put him on 2 more pills, did biopsies and sent him home again. And, again Dean did not improve. He needed the night feeds to help his system get the vitamins, minerals and calories his body needed. At that time, we decided to ask Sick Kids Hospital if there was another way to administer the feeds. They said they didn't like to go with it because it involved invasive surgery. But Dean said he would like to give it a try. At age 13, a G-tube (gastrointestinal feed tube) was implanted in Deans' stomach. This allowed him to continue with the night feeds on a regular basis and to allow him to live like a normal teenager. For the past 3 years, Dean has continued on this course of treatment with some good periods mixed with flare-ups of the Crohn's – which put him on the couch in pain every night for several weeks at a time. Although this treatment was helping him to keep on some weight, the symptoms of Crohn's didn't really allow him to lead a normal teenage life. The energy needed for sports and to be fully productive at school just wasn't there. Dean was now 16 and during the flare-ups with the Crohn's, we were trying to prepare him for the possibility that this was as good as he was going to feel for the rest of his life. We had read everything, tried everything suggested, both natural and prescription and were still willing for his sake, to KEEP TRYING! That's when I was introduced to **Immunocal / HMS 90** and was told by Paul Hazell that there had been good results with various conditions and it would be worth giving it a try. After listening to the tapes, reading the material available and discussing it with Dean, he agreed to give it a try. As a bit of background to Dean's eating habits, he never ate breakfast, maybe he'd eat lunch and he seldom ate enough at supper to keep a normal kid mobile. When he did eat supper, he immediately went to lay on the couch where he was doubled over in pain for about 15 minutes. We

never worried too much about him eating because he was still doing the night feeds and was being pumped full of calories every night. Sick Kids Hospital told us not to worry; it was “normal” with Crohn’s kids! We decided to go to my parents for the weekend the day that Paul delivered the Immunocal / HMS 90. I threw it in the suitcase not sure whether he would start taking it there or not. I pulled it out Friday night and asked him if he wanted to give it a try. He said yes, so Grandma **mixed it with some applesauce** before he went to bed and Dean ate it. Dean woke up the next morning, went to the kitchen and said, “Grandma, can I have some breakfast?” She immediately answered yes and asked him what he fancied. He answered “Bacon and Eggs PLEASE.” Well, I nearly fell over! He ate breakfast that morning and the next 2 mornings. When we returned home, Dean’s improvement gradually became more evident. He has NOT ONCE had a **stomach cramp** since starting on the Immunocal / HMS 90. His weight had held its own and he has grown to 5’-6”. The diarrhea has subsided and there is a marked improvement in his energy level. At Dean’s last check-up at Sick Kids Hospital, the doctors examined him for nearly 15 minutes. Upon returning the doctor told us he apologized, but they were having a rather in-depth discussion about why Dean had done so well since his last visit. It was then that I decided to tell them about the Immunocal / HMS 90. Well, the medical profession is not readily accepting of anything new. They said he was more than likely in a “**spontaneous remission**”, but did not note in his files that he was on the Immunocal / HMS 90. Dean promised us he would stay on the product for 6 months to give it a try. Upon returning home from Sick Kids Hospital, I asked him if he wanted to stop taking it. Without hesitation he said NO. He knew he was feeling better and wanted it to stay that way. It has been 9 months now and Dean is still doing well. He does still do the night feeds from Sick Kids Hospital along with the Immunocal / HMS 90, but only 5 nights/week for both. We give him his weekends off. He has to this day not had ONE stomach cramp. He spends hours after school skateboarding or biking. He has lost NO time from school due to the Crohn’s other than his doctor’s appointments. He is snowboarding on school trips and nights and weekends and wherever he can find a hill. Dean’s Pediatrician cannot believe the overall improvement in him and says that although she can’t guarantee it, Dean’s improvement is the result of the Immunocal / HMS 90 and said she wouldn’t take him off it. She said she has never met a teenager willing to take any type of medication, so if he is willing to stay on it, he must know that it is making him feel better – and you CAN’T argue with that. If you have been thinking of trying Immunocal / HMS 90, I cannot begin to tell you what a difference it has made in Dean. Everyone has something you should try and it’s difficult to sort through all of the information and try to decide if you are being sold a bill of goods or whether there is some basis in fact about the product. I hope that after reading this, you will honestly consider giving Immunocal / HMS 90 a try. Although Dean will always have **Crohn’s**, it is our belief that Immunocal / HMS 90 has given us a son who now can function as a normal teenager and will progress into a young adult physically capable of a bright future.

Gayle West

Please note update: Upon speaking to Dean West as of 8/16/00, he is now taking the Immunocal / HMS 90 only once in awhile when he feels his energy level going down. He is feeling well and NOT taking anything else to help him with his disease. He said he doesn’t need to. His words of wisdom to those who have this disease: Bear with it and keep taking your Immunocal / HMS 90!