



WWW.RETINOBLASTOMA.NET

# Preventing

CHILDHOOD BLINDNESS THROUGH EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT (EDT)

# About retinoblastoma

Retinoblastoma is a malignant tumor (cancer) of the developing retina that occurs in early childhood. The retina is a transparent membrane that lines the inside of the eye and allows us to see. Children may have this cancer in either one or both eyes.



Adilyn – 16 months old

# Proteomics

A PROMISING NEW METHOD FOR EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER IN BOTH CHILDREN AND ADULTS.

## RETINOBLASTOMA SYMPTOMS

Common signs of retinoblastoma include:

- A white “glow” or “glint” in the pupil of one or both eyes
- The presence of a white pupil in color photographs
- Crossed or misaligned eyes

## EARLY DETECTION IS KEY

Failure to recognize retinoblastoma early may lead to blindness or death among affected children.

Red reflex screening and dilation of the pupils is strongly recommended for all newborn babies to assure *early detection*. If there are concerns that a child has retinoblastoma, a referral should be made immediately to a pediatric ophthalmologist.

Please call RBI at (323) 669-2299 for more information.

## WHAT IS PROTEOMICS?



Proteomics (pro-tee-om-iks) is an exciting new field for the *early detection* of cancer. Proteomics studies proteins and protein fragments in the body and their relationship to disease. Specific patterns of certain proteins are shed by cancer cells and circulate in the blood. These indicators or “markers” can identify cancer in the same way that fingerprints can identify people.

## WHY IS PROTEOMICS IMPORTANT?



Children diagnosed with retinoblastoma may be at risk for developing other cancers in adolescence and adulthood. These cancers include osteosarcoma, melanoma and others. Through Proteomics, these cancers may be identified long before actual symptoms appear, thus enabling successful treatment. Others benefit from Proteomics by *early detection* of adult cancers such as prostate cancer. The impact of Proteomics research will be enormous! But we need your help.

## THE PROTEOMICS PROGRAM



Until now, Proteomics research has focused primarily on adult cancers. An important goal of RBI is to focus research on *early detection* of childhood cancers such as retinoblastoma. You can help Adilyn and thousands of children like her by supporting proteomics-based *early detection* efforts of RBI.

## PLEASE DONATE TODAY

To help us with Proteomics research, please visit us online at [www.retinoblastoma.net](http://www.retinoblastoma.net)



# A message

TO PEDIATRICIANS AND PARENTS

*The **Early Detection and Treatment (EDT) Program** is a collaborative effort by parents of children affected with retinoblastoma. Organizations such as RBI and Childrens Hospital Los Angeles are dedicated to prevention of unnecessary blindness in infants and children.*

## THE EDT PROGRAM

The EDT Program encompasses three primary areas:

- Red-reflex screening
- Prenatal Screening
- Proteomics

## RED-REFLEX SCREENING

Detection of Retinoblastoma in the first two months is essential to prevent blindness. Red-reflex screening involving pupil dilation will detect the presence of retinoblastoma and other ocular diseases at a very early stage when often neither the vision nor life of the child is threatened.

## PRENATAL/NEONATAL SCREENING

New prenatal screening services are available in conjunction with The Institute for Maternal and Fetal Health and The Center for Newborn and Infant Critical Care. These services include:

- Pre-conceptual counseling for parents who have questions about retinoblastoma and related risks
- Prenatal retinoblastoma screening and treatment by a qualified geneticists

## PROTEOMICS

A promising new method for *early detection* of cancer in both children and adults.

Please visit RBI's web site at [www.retinoblastoma.net](http://www.retinoblastoma.net) for more information on RBI's EDT Program.

# About

RETINOBLASTOMA INTERNATIONAL

Retinoblastoma International (RBI) is non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization founded in Los Angeles and chartered as a corporation under the laws of the State of California. RBI focuses on infant retinal cancer or retinoblastoma, and its subsequent complications.

## OUR VISION

A world in which retinoblastoma no longer destroys the vision or takes the life of any child.

## OUR MISSION

To wipe out retinoblastoma and its ensuing complications world-wide through education and research.

# We need your help.

Please help us accomplish our mission by donating to RBI. To make a tax-deductible donation by check, please send to:

**Retinoblastoma Int'l c/o CHLA**  
**4650 Sunset Boulevard MS #88**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90027**

You can also donate via the website through PayPal at [www.retinoblastoma.net](http://www.retinoblastoma.net)



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