

*Identify Yourself***1ST PLACE:** Ashley Bryars
7/15/2010 (Diabetes)

I have 12 year old boys with Type 1 diabetes. They are typical, active boys and when they were diagnosed I worried that they would have an incident related to their diabetes and no one would realize they were diabetic since they're healthy looking boys. When we got the tags they put them on and have never taken them off.

Flash forward more than a year when we were visiting Vail Village in Colorado for the TEVA Mountain Games. We all participated in the Mud Run, a just for fun 1k race, and had had a fabulous day of fun, sun, and outdoors. A few hours later, around 9PM, a reggae concert had just ended and the evening adult party was about to begin at a bar right across the street from a side entrance to our hotel.

In the midst of getting ready to leave the hotel, Zack (one of the twins), exited a side door which locked behind him. We didn't realize he had gone out and he didn't realize he couldn't get back in until it was too late. This was apparently the icing on the cake for Zack, the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back, and he had a diabetic seizure in the streets of Vail Village. It happened between the hotel and a bar; none of us were with him.

Face down on the pavement, he was initially mistaken for a party-goer who had just had a little too much fun. Luckily, the EMTs found his medical ID necklace. We walked up as they were administering glucagon, which they knew to do because it was clearly engraved on his medical ID. The seizure was blamed on altitude (we moved from Louisiana where it is below sea level and Veil is over 8,000 feet), sun, exercise, different food and the stress of moving cross country.

We carefully monitor our son and had no idea this combination of events could have such an impact on him. We were very lucky that he had his medical ID tag. It was really an incredible experience.