

## GA/FL TEDDY Family Newsletter

# TEDDY Talk



Volume 2

Fall 2007

## TEDDY FAQ:

### What can I do to help make the blood draw go well for my child?

Making sure your child is well hydrated for the blood draw will help your TEDDY team member find his or her vein more readily. Encourage your child to drink plenty of fluids the day before and the day of the visit.

## TEDDY Bites

Recipes for Hungry Little Bears

### Teddy Bear Snack Mix

- 2 cups Honey Nut Cheerios® cereal
- 2 cups teddy bear shaped graham snacks
- 1 cup honey-roasted peanuts
- 1/2 cup raisins

Mix all ingredients and store in an airtight container

Safety note: children should be seated and supervised when eating

## TEDDY at Home and Abroad

The international TEDDY study began screening Georgia and Florida babies in October 2004.

Most of our first 3 month visits began about 3 years ago, this winter. As we celebrate the third birthday of the TEDDY study, we also celebrate the 3rd birthdays of many of our TEDDY babies.

We're sure many of you are just as surprised as we are at how quickly the time has flown by.

We are pleased to say that we have screened over 46,500 babies in Georgia and Florida for the type 1 diabetes risk genes since we began. We have discovered that the genes that place a child at increased risk for developing type 1 diabetes occur in about 3.4% of the

population, meaning that the genes are found in 3 or 4 babies out of every 100 babies screened. So far, 417 families have enrolled in our program locally.

All together, TEDDY has screened over 207,500 babies in the last three years, and enrolled 4076 families worldwide.



Aiden Chittum, age 2 1/2

Gainesville, FL

TEDDY participant

The Medical College of Georgia in Augusta was recently chosen to be the world's center for TEDDY RNA processing. TEDDY is also being conducted around the United States, as well as through centers in Germany, Sweden and Finland. All the RNA samples gathered from TEDDY children throughout the world will be sent to MCG on their first stop in being examined for answers about this complicated disease.

We continue to gather and analyze information in our pursuit of a prevention and a cure. We thank each of you for your dedication as you join us in this historic search.

Visit [www.teddystudy.org](http://www.teddystudy.org) for the latest news!

## Regional Tastes in TEDDY Areas

The term "Southern Cuisine" commonly refers to food from the southeastern region of the United States. It is mainly a combination of Native American ingredients, European custom, and African influence. One example is grits, porridge made from coarsely ground corn meal. Traditionally, the corn for grits is ground by a stone mill. The results are passed through screens, the finer part being corn meal, the coarser part being grits. The word "grits" comes from the Old English "grytta" meaning a coarse meal of any kind. The state of Georgia, an area that is home to several TEDDY sites, declared grits its official prepared food in 2002.

How are real Southern grits prepared? Bring 3 cups of lightly salted water to a boil, and slowly stir in 1/2 cup grits or very coarsely ground corn meal. Reduce heat to a simmer, and cook 20 to 25 minutes, stirring often. Grits are ready when they are no longer gritty, but soft and creamy. Top with butter, or stir in shredded cheese until it melts. Enjoy!





Augusta, GA Office: 706-721-4161  
Toll-free: 1-888-225-7785

Atlanta, GA Office: 404-252-0844  
Toll-free: 1-866-938-3339

Gainesville, FL Office: 352-334-0843  
Toll-free: 1-800-747-7424

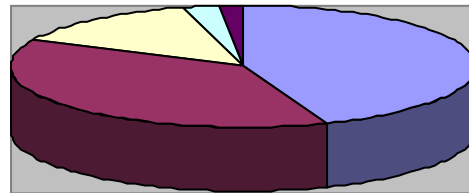
## GA/FL TEDDY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

*The Environmental Determinants of Diabetes in the Young*

[www.teddystudy.org](http://www.teddystudy.org)

# TEDDY Family Pets

When families come in for the 9-month visit, we ask about family pets. This is what we have learned about family pets from the first 1236 TEDDY families. Many of you have pets — 44% have at least 1 household pet and 8% have farm animals. There are some differences between countries. Pets are more common in the USA where two-thirds (66%) of TEDDY families have a household pet. About one-third of families in Europe have a household pet (39% in Sweden, 30% in Finland and 27% in Germany). It won't surprise you to learn that the most common household pets are dogs and cats. In Finland and the USA, TEDDY families have more dogs than cats, while in Germany and Sweden families have about the same numbers of homes with dogs and cats. The top 5 most common pets in TEDDY families are: dogs(54%), cats (46%), fish (17%), birds (3%), and rabbits (2%).



|           |
|-----------|
| ■ Dogs    |
| ■ Cats    |
| ■ Fish    |
| ■ Birds   |
| ■ Rabbits |



# Sweet Relief: Sugar Solutions Reduce Pain

Parents, researchers, and TEDDY team members all know that one of the hardest things to experience is watching our children get upset. Blood samples are a necessary part of the TEDDY study in order to watch children for the early signs of diabetes. We know that the blood draw is the most difficult part of the study for many parents and children. For this reason, TEDDY team members devote a lot of time and training to help make the blood draw easy and painless. Studies recently published in the Journals: Pediatrics, Neonatology and Applied Nursing, found that a sugary taste in a baby's mouth reduces pain and distress during minor procedures. The studies found that when a sugar solution was given to a baby during a procedure with a pacifier dipped into the sweet liquid, the baby was less upset. The studies measured how long and hard

the baby cried and the baby's heart rate as the procedure was done with and without the sweet solution. Each of the studies concluded that the sweet taste in the babies' mouth reduced signs of distress.



These findings were discussed at a TEDDY meeting in October. As a result, many of our TEDDY sites are now beginning to offer sugar-water solutions and pacifiers to our TEDDY families during the blood draw. This technique works best in the youngest TEDDY children, but for the older ones suckers work well, too! The blood samples that we collect during the TEDDY study will help solve the riddles of

this complex disease, but we also understand that it is just as important to make the process as easy as possible on our wonderful TEDDY families.