

## Meet Braden

Ride for SickKids ambassador child 2015



Braden was born by caesarean section on Friday June 1, 2014. During a traumatic delivery, Braden was deprived of oxygen for 10 minutes and struggled to breathe. At about 7 hours old, Braden was airlifted to SickKids and put into a hypothermic state to stop any brain damage that may have occurred during delivery. He was on this "ice bed" for 72 hours and tests showed no brain damage. It was about 24 hours after he got to SickKids, they had found that Braden was born with a heart defect called "Tetralogy of Fallot" which is the most common severe heart defect. At 3 weeks old Braden underwent his first open heart surgery for his full repair. Finally, after 3 weeks recovery Braden came home. When he was 3 months old, Braden underwent his second open heart surgery to make his pulmonary arteries bigger to allow more blood flow to go to his lungs. From then until now Braden has had two cath lab procedures and is doing great. He goes to SickKids every two to three months for his check up. We know that he will have another open-heart surgery in the future, but he is coping well now so no need for it yet.

-Nicole King, Warrior Mom, written in 2015

Update: Braden recently underwent his 3<sup>rd</sup> heart surgery and is thriving!