

JENNIFER

RECIPIENT OF: TENDON ALLOGRAFT



HIGH ALTITUDE HIKER LOOKS FORWARD TO NEXT ADVENTURE AFTER TENDON TRANSPLANT



Jennifer has fully recovered from her surgery and returned to her favorite pastimes.

“The transplant has made it possible for me to do the things I love: walk around Disney World for 10 hours in a day with my family, participate in sprint triathlons and plan my next high altitude hike,” she said.

In November of 2013, Jennifer reached an amazing goal: she hiked to Mt. Everest Base Camp and summited Kala Pattar, which is above 19,000 feet.

After her amazing achievement, she stayed at a tea house in Nepal. Unfortunately, she fell off a very deep step at the tea house and tore her ACL. She lived with the pain until the following July, when she reinjured her knee while dancing at her wedding reception.

“My injury definitely slowed me down and made me hesitant to do things I like to do, like snowboarding, ice skating with my daughter and cycling,” said Jennifer.

This wasn't Jennifer's first experience tearing an ACL; she went through the same injury a decade earlier after tearing her ACL while skiing. Her doctor opted for another allograft, a tendon from a deceased donor.

“In both surgeries I received donated tissue and I am so thankful to the donor and their families,” she said. “I hope to be a donor so I can help someone else achieve their dreams and live a full life.”



She hopes her next journey will take her to Machu Pichu and is always imagining new destinations. No matter where Jennifer's sense of adventure takes her, a part of her donor will be along for the ride.