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DARCY'S BACK IN HOSPITAL

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Darcy Scanlan is back in hospital today after suffering symptoms of rejection in his new lungs.



SCANLAN

The Mississauga boy, who underwent double lung transplant surgery last month, is listed in good condition at Pittsburgh's Children's Hospital.

"He's experiencing rejection but it has been expected," said Darcy's mother, Kim Scanlan. She said doctors thought it was unusual that her son had gone this long without the rejection.

The 9-year-old boy was re-admitted to hospital Wednesday complaining of fatigue and high temperature. He has been living at a Ronald McDonald House close to the hospital with his family.

A biopsy revealed his body was rejecting the lungs but it is a condition that can be controlled with steroids.

At first the doctors also feared that Darcy might be suffering from an infection but have since ruled that out.

"I guess the worst part of all this is that Darcy thought he had seen his

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Scanlan suffers setback

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last hospital bed," his mother said. "He's really not too happy about it. He just wants to get on with his life."

With this return to the hospital, Scanlan said it might delay Darcy's return home until after Thanksgiving as doctors may want to keep him in Pittsburgh longer to monitor his condition.

Darcy underwent the lung transplant operation on August 26. He was suffering from cystic fibrosis, a fatal disease.

Transplants are performed to replace the affected lungs, improve breathing and increase chances of survival.

While such delicate surgery can be performed in Toronto, Darcy was forced to go to Pittsburgh because of a shortage of lung donors here.

Despite this slight setback, Darcy's mother said her son is getting used to life with new, clear lungs and often catches himself thinking this stage of his life has been just a dream.

"He feels so good that he can't believe he's been through such an ordeal," she said.

Although doctors say Darcy will likely experience a few more bouts of rejection, he will be able to receive treatment from his Mississauga home.

He is expected to be released from the hospital and return to the Ronald McDonald House by Tuesday.

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