

Mayo Clinic News Network package

Writer: Marty Hames

<p>Liam Hendriks Mayo Clinic News Network package By: Marty Velasco Hames</p>	
<p>(INTRO) Chicago White Sox All-Star pitcher Liam Hendriks' successful battle with cancer has become an inspiration throughout the sports world and beyond.</p> <p>Hendriks underwent cancer treatment at Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, Arizona following his announcement that he had been diagnosed with stage 4 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma -- one of the most common cancers in the United States affecting an estimated 90,000 people per year.</p> <p>Now, cancer-free and back on the mound for the White Sox, Hendriks has been named as a recipient of a 2023 ESPN ESPY award where he expressed heartfelt gratitude for his healthcare team at Mayo Clinic.</p> <p>Hendriks sat down to talk with us about his remarkable journey and the three words that gave him hope.</p>	
<p>AUDIO TRACK</p>	<p>VIDEO</p>
<p>(TRACK) It's one of the greatest sports comeback stories of all time: Chicago White Sox All-Star pitcher Liam Hendriks making his emotional return to the pitching mound in Chicago after a battle with cancer, his resilience and strength earning him the support of thousands and recognition by ESPN with the 2023 Jimmy V ESPY Award for Perseverance.</p>	<p>Courtesy: @hendriks_31</p>
<p>(SOT) "Cancer changes you. There's no doubt about it. Going through this, it changed me for the better."</p>	<p>Courtesy: ESPN</p>
<p>(Track) It was January 8, 2023, when Hendriks announced he had been diagnosed with stage 4 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. The next day, he began treatment at Mayo Clinic's Comprehensive Cancer Center in Phoenix, Arizona. His care was led by Dr. Allison Rosenthal who had three words that Hendriks and his wife Kristi say they'll never forget.</p>	<p>Phoenix, AZ</p>
<p>(SOT) "Just after she told us we had stage 4 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, she was like, OK, she goes, 'I'm not worried,' and that has always stuck with me. 'I'm not worried.'"</p>	<p>Liam Hendriks, Chicago White Sox pitcher/cancer survivor</p>
<p>(TRACK)</p>	<p>Courtesy: @hendriks_31</p>

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Hendriks underwent several months of cancer treatment including rounds of immunotherapy and chemotherapy.	
(SOT) "That's pretty standard for anybody who has enough going on or enough symptoms to warrant that kind of treatment. And so, what he received has been a proven therapy for a long time and we were hoping to get by with that being all he needed, and everything being all cleared up, and thankfully that's where we ended up."	Allison Rosenthal, D.O., hematology/oncology
(TRACK) During treatment, Hendriks continued to practice and train with support from Dr. Rosenthal, a former athlete and cancer survivor herself.	
(SOT) "I try to understand for all my patients, what their life is like outside of here, what is important to you. Because I think the more we can keep people in their usual habits and patterns like that, it just helps things feel regular."	
(TRACK) In less than four months of treatment, Hendriks announced he was cancer-free and returning to the mound with deeper gratitude and the desire to help others close out cancer.	
(SOT) "I wouldn't be here tonight without my wife, my incredible team at Mayo Clinic, especially Dr. Allison Rosenthal. She is one of the main reasons that I'm up here tonight."	Courtesy: ESPN
(SOT) "In the words of Jimmy V, never give up. Never give up and I won't either."	
(Track) For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Marty Velasco Hames.	