



A mom's MS diagnosis leads to treatment that put the disease on pause (TRT 2:15)

VIDEO	AUDIO
Anchor intro	<p>With Mother's Day approaching, one Philadelphia mom is celebrating a gift she once feared she might lose — time with her children.</p> <p>After years of battling multiple sclerosis and exhausting treatment options, Eveline Pitone [pih-TONE] is now in remission following a bone marrow transplant.</p> <p>Alex Osiadacz [oh-SIDE-us] has her inspiring journey of hope.</p>
EVELINE VAN DIJK PITONE PATIENT Philadelphia	"At the end of a really long day of moving, my arm went numb. Then it moved into my leg, and then it moved into my face."
	The sudden onset of symptoms sent Eveline Pitone to seek care near her home in Philadelphia.
EVELINE VAN DIJK PITONE PATIENT Philadelphia	"On Jan. 4 of 2018, they said, 'You have MS. My first thought was my kids. Am I giving this to my kids? Is this something that I'm passing down? Am I going to see my kids grow up?'"
	She went through years of standard therapies to treat multiple sclerosis.
EVELINE VAN DIJK PITONE PATIENT Philadelphia	I continued to have new lesions that showed up on my scans every time. It got to the point that I would just go to a scan, and I knew, I just knew."
ERNESTO AYALA, M.D. HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY Mayo Clinic	"Despite proper treatment in good hands, she continued relapsing."
	Dr. Ernesto Ayala is a Mayo Clinic hematologist and oncologist.
ERNESTO AYALA, M.D. HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY Mayo Clinic	"In any patient with autoimmune disease, some of the immune cells that we have are misguided and targeting your own body.
	<p>Autologous bone marrow transplantation has been used to treat severe autoimmune diseases for more than 20 years in patients who do not respond to other treatments.</p> <p>The process uses chemotherapy, then the body's own stem cells to reduce the effects of the disease.</p>

ERNESTO AYALA, M.D. HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY Mayo Clinic	"We allow the patient to start anew, to start from zero, to start producing new cells, new lymphocytes that have not been sensitized to the body and that will respect the body."
EVELINE VAN DIJK PITONE PATIENT Philadelphia	"A lot of patients were experiencing eight to 10 years of remission, which is, there's a lot you can do in eight and 10 years."
	Eveline went through treatment in August 2024. Now ...
ERNESTO AYALA, M.D. HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY Mayo Clinic	"She's free of disease. Her MRIs are clear. She only has the scars from the previous lesions."
EVELINE VAN DIJK PITONE PATIENT Philadelphia	"Slowly I'm letting this reality, that this is my new reality, sink in, and that it's here to stay."
	Now in remission, Eveline is feeling less fatigued, experiencing more with her family and has returned to work.
EVELINE VAN DIJK PITONE PATIENT Philadelphia	"I forget I have MS. I am doing things and going through life the way I used to before I was diagnosed. It feels freaking amazing. Freaking amazing!"
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Alex Osiadacz.