GOOD NEWS

Boy defies long odds to find marrow donor

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SIDNEY, B.C. — A Victoria-area couple whose son is stricken with an often-fatal blood disease is overjoyed that a continent-wide search for a bone-marrow donor has been successful — defying 250,000-to-one odds.

Doctors told Brian and Barbara Delbrouck last week that a 52-year-old woman in the U.S. has marrow matching that of their 2-year-old son. Shane, who has aplastic anemia. The boy's marrow was rated semi-rare.

Doctors plan to delay the transplant, however, because Barbara Delbrouck is expecting a baby in October that has a 25-per-cent chance of having marrow compatible to Shane's.