



Demke, Age 13
Burn Contractures

PATIENT STORY

Every morning growing up in his village, Demke watched his four older siblings head out the door for classes while he stayed behind because walking to school was too difficult for him.

When Demke was one year old, he accidentally sat on a fire that was used for cooking, badly burning his right leg. Demke's mom, Worke, took him for treatment, but his wounds healed incorrectly, causing the skin on the back of his calf to contract and fuse to his thigh.

Demke lived with severely limited mobility until he was 10 years old—then Worke learned that CURE Ethiopia could treat his post-burn contractures at no cost to their family!

Demke underwent life-changing surgery at CURE Ethiopia to release the contractures, casting to help his leg remain straight, and a skin graft to help his wounds. Now, he is able to walk like his siblings on two straight legs—giving him the chance to attend school and enjoy a full, productive future!