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# The Beacon

e-Newsletter of the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network

BCAN.ORG



## August 2021 [Read past editions here](#)

### Exercise Your FreeWill



Having a Will done is one of those things that many know they have to do, but we often put off. There is an easy way that you can have this important document created so that you can care for your loved ones.

As a benefit for those in the BCAN community, we have partnered with [FreeWill](#), an organization that provides an easy, legally-binding, **FREE** online solution for you to create your own Will in about 20 minutes.

August is Make-a-Will month.

**Start Your Free Will**

### Could a Clinical Trial Be Right For You?

**Clinical Trials**

A clinical trial is a research study that tries to find better ways to prevent, screen for, diagnose, or treat a disease like bladder cancer. They are an essential part of cancer research. Trials may provide possible treatment alternatives to patients who have not had success with standard and approved therapies.

You can search for a clinical trial below by bladder cancer disease state, state of residence and you can also look for trials nearest to you.

[ABOUT CLINICAL TRIALS](#)

Bladder Cancer Type: All State: All States Sort by: Nearest Me

Title	State	Sponsoring Organization
Trial to Evaluate the Influence of BCG Strain Differences and T Cell Priming with Intravesical BCG before Intravesical Therapy for BCG-Naive High-Grade Non-muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer	Multi-State	Southwest Oncology Group
Study of Irinotecan Combination Therapy in Selected Advanced Unresected or Bladder Cancer Tumors	Multi-State	Pharmagics LLC
Surgical Trial to Evaluate the Benefits of a Standard Versus an Extended Safety Combination Regimen Delivered as Part of	Multi-State	Southwest Oncology

Home page of the new Clinical Trials Database on the BCAN web site

### New Bladder Cancer Podcasts Available



There are new BCAN's "[Bladder Cancer Matters](#)" podcast episodes that you can listen to on your

A [clinical trial](#) is a research study to find better ways to prevent, screen for, diagnose, or treat a disease like bladder cancer.

Trials also may provide possible treatment alternatives to patients who have not had success with standard and approved therapies.

BCAN has just launched an updated [Clinical Trials Database](#) on which you can search for bladder cancer-specific trials by disease type, state of residence and you can even sort the results and find the trials closest to you.

**A clinical trial might be your first treatment option, not your last.**

[Peruse Clinical Trials](#)

computer or on your favorite podcasting app, like Apple Podcasts.

Recent episodes include:

"Why Good Nutrition is So Important for Bladder Cancer Patients" with Dr. Jill Hamilton-Reeves ([Part 1](#), [Part 2](#) and [Part 3](#))

[The Pluses and Minuses of Cystoscopies, TURBTs and Other Diagnostic Tools with Dr. Alexander Kutikov](#)

Prior episodes include:

[What's Up with Bladder Cancer and BCG, with Dr. Ashish Kamat](#)

[Personalized Medicine for Bladder Cancer Patients with Dr. Matthew Milowsky](#)

## Upcoming Expert Videos

**What you need to know about clinical trials options to treat bladder cancer**

September 14th, 2021  
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET  
[Register here](#)

**Precision Medicine and Bladder Cancer**

September 29th, 2021  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET  
[Register here](#)



## Videos to Help You Understand Bladder Cancer

BCAN has developed a series of videos and animations that help explain some common terms related to bladder cancer. The short video on the left explains what a cystoscopy is.

Please [visit our web site](#) for more informational videos about bladder cancer.

## Alice's Story: "Be Positive About Your Diagnosis."

In the summer of 2018, Alice woke up with a horrific pain in her back on her right side. When the pain became unbearable, she asked her husband to take her to the emergency room.

There, the doctors did a CT scan. One of the ER doctors came in told Alice, "It looks like you have a mass or a nodule in your bladder." Alice had no idea where this mass came from or why it would be there.



*Alice and her granddaughters*

Alice recently told BCAN, "I went in to see the urologist and he gave me the heartbreaking news that I had stage two muscle invasive bladder cancer, it was aggressive and there were ways of treating it aggressively."

[Read Alice's story](#)



*Virtual Summit 2020 smiling faces*

## Patient Summit is Almost Here: Sign up Today!

Once a year, BCAN brings together bladder cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers to share stories, experiences, and information about this terrible disease. The free-to-attend 2021 [Bladder Cancer Summit](#) will be held via Zoom **Saturday, October 9**, from 12 noon-5:30 PM (Eastern Time).

[Reserve your spot](#)

## Bladder Cancer Caregivers: CSC Needs Your Input

Cancer Support Community, in partnership with Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network, is looking for bladder cancer caregivers to take part in an online research survey about their experience.



To take part, please click the button below and enter your email address. A research team member will follow-up by email with information to access the survey.

Take the survey



Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network | [www.BCAN.org](http://www.BCAN.org) | Bethesda, MD 20814