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The Beacon

e-Newsletter of the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network

BCAN.ORG



December 2021 ***[Read past editions here](#)***



Kristi's Story: Being an Advocate for Yourself is the Most Important Thing

Kristi's bladder cancer story mirrors that of many women. She was at menopause age and initially, her doctor thought that her bleeding was related to that. Unfortunately, it was not.

She told BCAN, "Life is too precious not to advocate for yourself."

Read Kristi's story

Thank You, Walk Captains



The unsung heroes of our **[Walks to End Bladder Cancer](#)** are the team captains. These dedicated volunteers encourage friends and family to participate, create awareness of bladder cancer and raise much-needed funds to support BCAN's mission.

Teams are already forming. **[Click here to meet the 2022 Team Captains](#)** who are already hard at work.

Click the video above to see why Loredana is walking to end bladder cancer.

Join a Walk to End Bladder Cancer



Thanks to You, BCAN Was There

When bladder cancer patients need us, we are there with free resources and support. **We need your help** to continue working for the more than 720,000 people in the United States who are living with bladder cancer.

Your donation to the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network will enable us to help more people with one-on-one support, webinars, podcasts as well as free publications like our [*Bladder Cancer Basics*](#) handbook.

Can you please help us help bladder cancer patients and those who love them by:

- Making a [**one-time or recurring donation**](#)?
- Shopping at Amazon.com and by visiting the [**BCAN Amazon Smile page**](#) - a portion of your purchase will be donated to BCAN at no cost to you?
- [**Making a legacy gift**](#)?

Thank you for your generosity.

Highlights from 2021 BCAN Programming

We had a busy 2021 putting on free programming for bladder cancer patients, caregivers, advocates as well as research and medical professionals. Here are a few highlights from this year's expert videos and podcasts:



Webinars



[Understanding Non-muscle Invasive](#)

Podcasts



[What's Up with Bladder Cancer and](#)

[Bladder Cancer](#)

[Understanding Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer](#)

[Treatment Talk | Intravesical Therapy](#)

UPCOMING: Understanding Bladder Cancer- Advanced OR Metastatic Disease

December 7th | 6:00 - 7:00 PM ET

[Register here](#)

[BCG with Dr. Ashish Kamat](#)

[Battling Aggressive Bladder Cancer in the Era of COVID – Margo's Story](#)

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

Never miss an episode by subscribing on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#) or your favorite platform.

Could a Bladder Cancer Clinical Trial be Right for You?



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.

We invite you to peruse our bladder cancer clinical trials dashboard. In it, you can search by disease state, state of residence and you can also look for trials nearest to you.

[Visit Clinical Trials dashboard](#)

BCAN to Again Offer *Two* Bladder Cancer Research Innovation Awards in 2022

Thanks to the generosity of the bladder cancer community, the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network is pleased to announce that it will again offer two **Bladder Cancer Research Innovation Awards** in 2022. Research is today's engine that will drive tomorrow's better outcomes for bladder cancer patients.

A dark rectangular graphic with white text that reads "2022 Bladder Cancer Research Innovation Award". The text is centered and uses a clean, sans-serif font. The background of the graphic is dark and slightly textured.

This marks the second year in a row that BCAN will grant two Innovation Awards to support experienced investigators with exceptionally novel and creative projects designed to produce significant advances in our understanding of the

management of bladder cancer. Both awarded proposals will be funded for \$300,000 for two years (\$150,000 per year).

Learn more and
apply



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