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BCAN



The Beacon

e-Newsletter of the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network

BCAN.ORG

MAY IS BLADDER CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

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Special Edition - May 2023

**MAY IS BLADDER
CANCER
AWARENESS
MONTH**

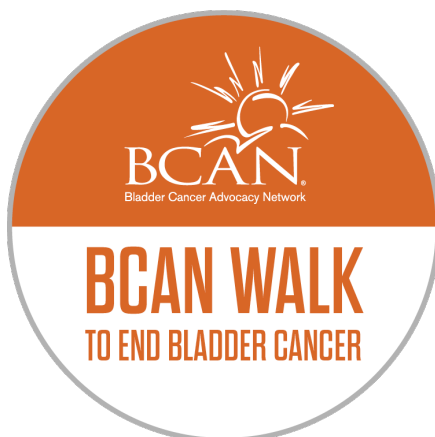


It's Here!! Learn about BCAM

May 1 marks the beginning of **Bladder Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM)**. It is 31 exciting days dedicated to raising awareness about bladder cancer and sharing resources and information to help support patients, survivors and caregivers impacted by this all-too-common disease.

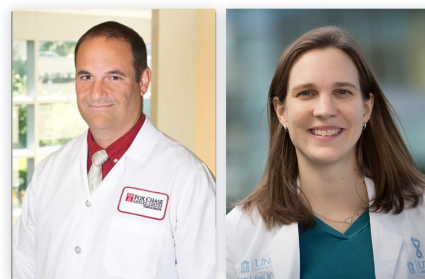
Read below to learn more about our amazing activities in May.

Got Your Walking Shoes On?



Let's celebrate BCAM by putting

Ask the Bladder Cancer Experts on May 24th



**HEAR FROM
TRUSTED SOURCES.**

on our walking shoes! BCAN's [Walks to End Bladder Cancer](#) are happening this year in 15 cities. Our upcoming Walks include:

- Albany, NY, 5/6/2023
- Boston, MA 5/6/2023
- Chapel Hill, NC 5/6/2023
- San Diego, CA 5/6/2023
- Scarborough, ME 5/6/2023
- Washington, D.C. 5/6/2023
- [Virtual Walk Broadcast](#) 5/6/2023
- Chicago, IL 5/13/2023
- Seattle, WA 5/13/2023
- Austin, TX 5/13/2023
- Baltimore, MD 5/20/2023
- Columbus, OH 5/20/2023
- Long Island, NY 5/20/2023
- New York City, NY 5/20/2023
- Pittsburgh, PA 5/20/2023

Join in on the fun this May and visit the link below to learn more and sign up for an upcoming Walk - or make [your own Virtual Walk!](#)

[Walk with us](#)

Do you have pressing questions about bladder cancer treatment and care? Look no further than the upcoming [Ask the Experts](#) event happening on **May 24, 2023, at 7:00 pm ET.**

This is your chance to connect from the comfort of your home with two prominent bladder cancer doctors: Dr. Phillip Abbosh and Dr. Tracy Rose.

Prior to this exclusive event, you'll have the opportunity to submit your questions and learn about the present and future of bladder cancer treatment during registration.

This event is free, but you must [register to secure your spot](#). Don't let this incredible opportunity pass you by. Register now and join us on May 24th for a night of learning and hope.

[RSVP now](#)

Virtual Walk **LIVE Broadcast** May 6 at 11:00 am ET



Watch last year's broadcast above

Set a reminder, an alarm, or stick a post it note because you won't want to miss this!

Join us for the **Virtual Walk to End Bladder Cancer live broadcast** on May 6 at 11:00 am ET, streaming on [BCAN's web site](#) and [Facebook account](#).

We'll be featuring members of the incredible bladder cancer community including patients, caregivers, cheerleaders and sponsors. Our in-studio host, Jennifer, will


give live shout-outs to BCAN community members and others who are walking to end bladder cancer, and will also highlight some amazing stories from the BCAN family.

Want to get a live shout-out from Jennifer during the broadcast? Simply tag us **before or during** the broadcast on our [Facebook account](#) or tweet at us using the hashtag [#BladderWalk](#). Please include pictures too!




We'll "see" you on the 6th!

BCAM Weekly Spotlight: Non-Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer



About **7 out of 10 bladder cancer patients** have non-muscle invasive disease, meaning that the tumor has not grown into the thicker muscle wall of the bladder.



MAY IS **BLADDER CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**. LEARN MORE AT [BCAN.ORG](#)

Each week during Bladder Cancer Awareness Month, we are going to focus on a type of bladder cancer and provide a wealth of resources about it. This week, we are focusing on non-muscle invasive bladder cancer (NMIBC).

We encourage you to visit the [NMIBC section on our web site](#). You'll read about the disease, how it is treated and you can watch webinars about it, listen to podcasts about it and even [read stories from NMIBC](#) patients and survivors.

Future bladder cancer disease type weeks during BCAM include:

- Muscle invasive bladder cancer (May 9 - 15)
- Advanced or metastatic bladder cancer (May 16 - 22)
- Upper tract disease (May 23 - 29)

**Tell me more about
NMIBC**

Beacon of Hope Award



Voting Open Soon

We thank everyone who nominated that special someone for our second annual Beacon of Hope Award. We received more than 120 nominations for patients, doctors, caregivers and others who have touched someone's life in their bladder cancer journey.

Be sure to tune in to our [Virtual Walk broadcast](#) on May 6, 2022 at 11:00 am ET to find out who the three finalists are - and then vote for the person you think is most deserving of the award. Participants can vote once per day!

The Beacon of Hope award recipient will be announced during BCAN's [Ask the Experts](#) online event on May 24, 2023.

Raising Awareness - Bladder Cancer Quiz

Bladder cancer may already be on your radar, but during May, our focus is on boosting awareness of this disease among the wider public. Help us spread the word by sharing our [bladder cancer quiz](#) with a loved one or on your social media platforms. Recognizing the signs and symptoms of bladder cancer can make a significant impact and save lives.



[Take the quiz](#)

Upcoming Webinars and Support Groups

Our informative webinars and meetings are free, but registration is required. Save your spot by signing up below.

Female Focus Support Group - Next meeting: **May 2, 2023**

Women who have bladder cancer have unique needs. That's why BCAN began [an online support group](#) for female patients and survivors.

Expanding Treatment Options for NMIBC – introducing a novel therapy for those who do not respond to BCG

September 27, 2023

[Register here](#)

We invite you to join us for a monthly meeting that is for women, by women.

Registration is free, but required.

[Sign up here](#)

Kristen's Story: I Got Bladder Cancer When I Was 22 Years Old

For eight months, [Kristen](#) had been experiencing bloating, burning during urination and abdominal pain. She saw her primary care physician and her gynecologist and her concerns were dismissed by both.

Her primary care physician even said that her abdominal bloating was caused by her "getting fat."

Kristen knew something was wrong and persevered to get answers. She was referred to a urologist, who did a cystoscopy with a rigid scope which was enormously painful for her. After the procedure, the doctor coldly told Kristen, "You have bladder cancer."



Kristen

[Read Kristen's story](#)



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