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The Beacon

e-Newsletter of the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network

BCAN.ORG

October 2023

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The 2024 Walks are here. Join us!

We are delighted to announce that registration for the 2024 [Walks to End Bladder Cancer](#) has officially begun!

We invite you and your loved ones to join us at an in-person Walk in one of 15 cities and virtually in the spring of 2024.

Register now! The first 100 people who register by Oct 31st will receive a free, **exclusive BCAN water bottle.**

[**Register here**](#)

Shannon's Bladder Cancer Story: Real, Relevant and Raw



At just 35 years old, [Shannon received a bladder cancer diagnosis.](#) In her story, she opens up about her experience managing this illness while continuing to work, highlighting its effects on her career, mental well-being, and physical health. Despite the difficulties of her diagnosis, Shannon's message is clear – **bladder cancer doesn't define you.**

[**Read Shannon's story**](#)



Join Us in Nashville for our Two Day Summit for Patients and Families

A bladder cancer diagnosis is an unwelcome detour in most people's lives. The BCAN [Fall Bladder Cancer Summit for Patients and Families](#) will help you navigate your journey to survivorship. Taking place in "Music City, USA" (Nashville, TN) on October 27th and 28th, the 2023 Fall Summit will help you and your family traverse the journey from diagnosis, through treatment and on to surveillance and survivorship.

Sign me up!

Upcoming Webinars for the Bladder Cancer Community



Real world applications of microbiome in bladder cancer. What should patients know?

October 5, 2023 at 4:00 PM ET

Discover the connection between the microbiome and bladder cancer, and unravel the potential impact of gut bacteria on tumor development and treatment responses.

[Register here](#)

Patient Etiquette - How to manage your bladder cancer treatment

October 17, 2023 at 4:00 PM ET

Bladder cancer often requires a long-term relationship with your healthcare team. Find out how to avoid pitfalls and potholes on your patient journey.

[Register here](#)

Veterans and Bladder Cancer | A conversation about Veterans

Administration hospitals and how they can help

Nov 16, 2023 05:00 PM ET

Veterans have higher incidence rates of bladder cancer than the general population and many seek treatments at VA hospitals. Watch this webinar to find out how the VA can help.

[Register here](#)

How can caregivers help when their loved one needs bladder removal?

January 23, 2024 at 4:00 pm ET

Bladder removal (radical cystectomy) is major surgery and caregivers play a critical role when patients go home. The webinar's guests will provide valuable insight into how patients and caregivers can be active and engaged members of the healthcare team during the cystectomy journey.

[Register here](#)

Bench to Bedside: Clinical trials to treat bladder cancer?

April 18, 2024 | 7:00 PM ET

Have you ever wondered how new treatments for bladder cancer come to be? It's a fascinating journey from the research lab to the doctor's office, and you play a crucial role in it.

[Register Now](#)

[View past webinars here](#)

Female Focus Women's Support Group Meeting in October



Next meeting on October 3rd! BCAN is delighted to present our highly anticipated monthly [Female Focus Bladder Cancer Online Support Group](#). This empowering session will be expertly moderated by [Karen Sachse](#), RN, MSN, a dedicated nurse, BCAN patient advocate, and BCAN Board member. Joining Karen will be Miriam Pomerantz Kadosh, MSW, LCSW, a seasoned oncology social worker.

The Female Focus support group and its accompanying programs have been

designed by women, for women who have bravely confronted or are currently facing the challenges of bladder cancer.

Learn more and register

Understanding a TURBT

A TURBT, or trans urethral resection of bladder tumor, allows doctors to examine the bladder more completely under general or spinal anesthesia. To see inside the bladder, they use a resectoscope. Like the cystoscope, the resectoscope is introduced through the urethra into the bladder.



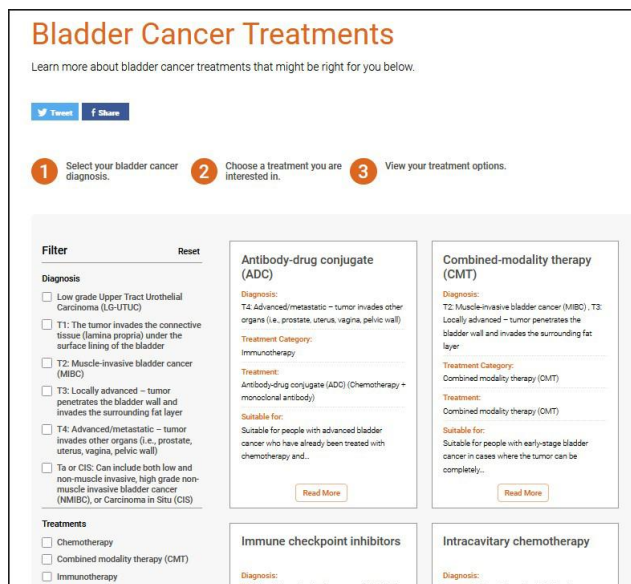
Click on the video to the right to see an animation of what TURBTs are.

We also invite you to [visit our web page on TURBTs](#) for more information.

Compare Bladder Cancer Treatments with BCAN's Online Tool

Receiving a bladder cancer diagnosis is a devastating thing sometimes made more difficult by the slew of acronyms and medical jargon. This is also true of treatments for the disease.

To help, BCAN developed [an online tool](#) where you can enter your diagnosis and **see different treatment options** to discuss with your medical team. Each option contains an in-depth explanation of what each treatment is, how it is used and also lists potential side effects.



Compare bladder cancer treatments



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