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The Beacon

e-Newsletter of the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network

BCAN.ORG

November 2023

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Don's Story: Prostate Cancer Revealed Bladder Cancer



Don Hopkins was taken by surprise when his prostate cancer diagnosis unexpectedly uncovered bladder cancer as well. Despite the initial shock, he approached his diagnosis with determination and readiness. Don has faced significant challenges during his bladder cancer journey, but he considers himself fortunate that his was detected early.

[Read Don's story](#)

National Caregivers Month



As we celebrate National Family Caregivers Month starting November 1st, we recognize and honor the incredible dedication and love caregivers provide to those with bladder cancer.

Your caregiving journey is important, and your voice deserves to be heard. In this spirit, we invite you to **take part in our survey** designed to better understand your experiences and needs. Your caregiving insights will drive positive changes in bladder cancer information, care, and support from BCAN as we move into 2024.

[Download your copy of BCAN's "Tips for Caregivers" handbook here.](#)

[Help us help](#)

Upcoming Webinars for You



Webinar for Vets: 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 | 4:00 PM ET

Bladder removal (radical cystectomy) is major surgery and caregivers play a critical role when patients go home. This 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 BCAN webinars here](#)

It's Never Too Early to Sign Up for a Walk



The Spring 2024 [Walks to End Bladder Cancer](#) will be here before you know it, and we need your support. By signing up to walk now, **you'll have more time to raise funds and create a positive change** for those impacted by this terrible disease.

Every step you take, and every dollar you raise, brings us one step closer to a world with better tomorrows for patients and those who love them. Don't wait - register today, and let's stride together towards a future free of bladder cancer. Your early participation truly makes a difference.

[Register to walk](#)



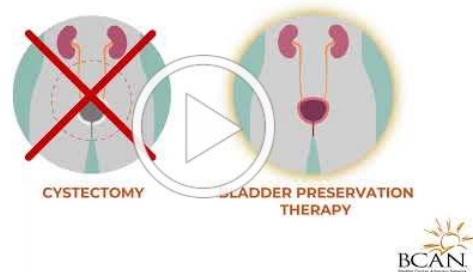
Are you a veteran with bladder cancer?

BCAN advocates for our bladder cancer community at the state and federal levels, particularly for veterans. When issues specifically address the health and well-being of our veterans, we may reach out to vets from time to time and **ask you to contact your elected officials**. Please register below to receive future advocacy and information alerts related to veterans with bladder cancer.

[Keep me in the](#)

Understanding Bladder Preservation

Bladder preservation, sometimes called Combined-Modality Therapy (CMT) or Tri-Modality Therapy (TMT) is when doctors attempt to have muscle invasive bladder cancer patients keep their bladders with a combination of TURBTs, chemotherapy and radiation. When faced with a radical cystectomy and in consultation with a medical team, some patients pursue this treatment. Click the video on the right to learn more about bladder preservation.



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



Above: picture of the main room where the Summit took place at the Sonesta Airport in Nashville, TN.

Fall Summit for Patients and Families Was a Success

Last week on October 27th and 28th, more than 150 patients, advocates, medical professionals and industry partners met in Nashville for our **Fall Summit for Bladder Cancer Patients and Families**. It was two days of learning, laughter, support and so much more.

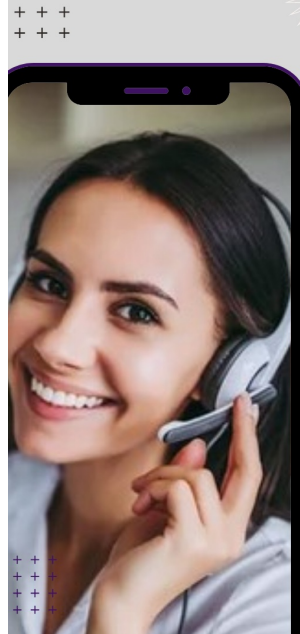
The sessions were recorded and will be put on the BCAN web site in the days to come.

Free Phone Support for Bladder Cancer Patients, Caregivers and the Bereaved

In partnership with CancerCare, BCAN offers a **toll-free support line** for bladder cancer patients, caregivers and those who have lost someone to the disease.

By calling **1-833-275-4222**, callers will be connected with professional oncology social workers who have specific expertise on psychosocial and financial issues impacting bladder cancer patients and their families.

Call today.



Bladder Cancer Support Line

833-275-4222

- Professional oncology social workers
- Psychosocial support
- Free resources for patients, loved ones and the bereaved

Call now

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Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network



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