

June 3, 2024

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Jon's Story: "Do Your Own Research."

It began with subtle signs dismissed until a pivotal moment sparked urgent action. From diagnosis to treatment, setbacks to triumphs, Jon's story encapsulates the essence of perseverance and the transformative power of modern medicine.

Here is Jon's story about navigating his bladder cancer journey through uncertainty, hope, and the relentless pursuit of healing.

[Read Jon's story](#)



We Had an Amazing Bladder Cancer Awareness Month

Thanks to people like you, we had our biggest and best Bladder Cancer Awareness Month ever.

In May alone, there were:

- Incredible Walks in 17 cities and virtually that helped us SURPASS our \$1 million fundraising goal
- More than 2,000 votes for our 2024 Beacon of Hope award winner
- More than 30 entries for our Art As Therapy program
- More than 200 registrants for our

[Read more about BCAM here](#)



BCAN FALL SUMMIT FOR PATIENTS & FAMILIES PHILADELPHIA | 2024

Are you or a loved one navigating a bladder cancer diagnosis? You're not alone. Twice a year, the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN) brings together a community of bladder cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers to share their stories, experiences, and vital information about the disease. This Fall, we're excited to invite you to our free-of-charge [Bladder Cancer Summit for Patients and Families](#) in **Philadelphia, PA, on Friday, November 1st, and Saturday, November 2nd, 2024.**

We invite you to register and join us for this can't miss meeting.

[Learn more and register](#)

You Asked, the Experts Answered



On May 22, 2024, BCAN's Vice President of Research, Education and Marketing, Rebecca Johnson, hosted our annual [Ask the Experts](#) event that provided enlightening dialogue on the current and future landscape of bladder cancer diagnosis and treatment. The evening's experts were Dr. Brendan Guercio, a medical oncologist from the University of Rochester, and Dr. Matthew Mossanen, a urologist from Harvard Medical Center.

Click the YouTube icon above to watch the fascinating and informative broadcast or [visit this page](#) to watch and read the transcript.

2024 Beacon of Hope Award Winner

Each year, we extend an invitation to the BCAN community to shine a light on those extraordinary individuals who have illuminated your path through your bladder cancer journey. We are proud to announce that the winner of the 2024 Beacon of Hope award is Lydia Saravis.

Lydia is a bladder cancer survivor and leads an online support group that is open to all neobladder patients.

This year, we received more than 2,000 votes, an all-time record. The other two very deserving finalists were Bill Russell, a bladder cancer survivor and active BCAN volunteer and Dr. Jonathan Wright, the medical director of the University of Washington Urology Clinic and a UW professor of urology.



[Learn more](#)

We Did It, Thanks to You!



A big part of our Bladder Cancer Awareness Month celebrations is our annual Walks to End Bladder Cancer. Thanks to amazing people like you, **we beat and exceeded our \$1 million fundraising goal!**

Our walks took place in 17 cities and virtually all over the country and thousands of people participated to help BCAN create more and better tomorrows for the 725,000 people living with bladder cancer in the United States.

We are deeply grateful to our amazing organizers, volunteers, donors and walkers. Thank you. On to 2025!

Upcoming Online Events for You



Female Focus Virtual Support Group

Meets the first Tuesday of every month.
The next group meeting is June 4, 2024 at
7:00 pm ET

[Register here](#)

Advances in Muscle Invasive and Metastatic Bladder Cancer: Past, Present and Future Directions

June 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM ET

[Register here](#)

[PERUSE OUR CATALOG OF PAST
WEBINARS](#)

Frank's Story: We Are Not Alone in this Battle

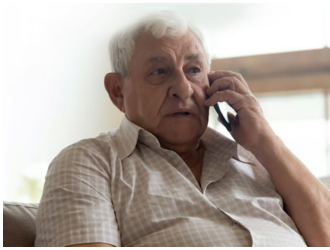
In April 2023, Frank was diagnosed with high-grade, stage four, [locally advanced](#) bladder cancer. And so began his life changing journey at the age of 74 to beat bladder cancer.

Despite his initial shock, surrounded by loved ones and guided by his medical team, he embarked on a journey of resilience and determination.

[Read Frank's story here >>](#)



FREE RESOURCES FOR OUR COMMUNITY



Survivor to Survivor (S2S)

BCAN matches newly diagnosed bladder cancer patients with trained volunteers who have undergone similar diagnoses and experiences.

[Learn more »](#)

What is a Cystoscopy?

Cystoscopy is a procedure used to look inside the bladder and urethra. It helps doctors diagnose bladder cancer. During a cystoscopy, a thin flexible or rigid lighted instrument called a cystoscope is inserted into the urethra. Tissue samples can be removed with the rigid cystoscope. Some health care institutions offer enhanced cystoscopy. Using either a medication placed in the bladder to help tumors glow with a blue light cystoscope or narrow band imaging helps your doctor to visualize the tumors better.

What happens during a cystoscopy?

Most cystoscopies are done in an outpatient setting. Most patients are not admitted to the hospital and go home shortly after the cystoscopy is over. A numbing medicine placed into the urethra may help reduce discomfort from the cystoscopy. During the cystoscopy, the urologist may re...

ASK YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM

- Why is a cystoscopy a good option for me?
- What can I do to prepare? Can I eat or drink before the procedure?
- Will I be given any medication before the procedure? Should I take my other medications the day of the procedure?
- How long does the cystoscopy take?
- Will you take a urine sample? If there is a tumor, will you take a biopsy of it?
- How long will it take to recover after the cystoscopy? What side effects can I expect?
- Will you use enhanced cystoscopy?
- If the cystoscopy shows I have bladder cancer, what happens next?
- If you have a prosthetic joint (i.e. total knee replacement or total hip replacement, etc.) ask your healthcare team if you should have antibiotics before your procedure.



Read Moving Stories

BCAN offers a host of moving first-person accounts from bladder cancer patients and their loved ones.

[Read stories here »](#)

Bladder Cancer Fact Sheets

We offer a host of fact sheets about bladder cancer containing plain language explanations of common terms.

[Get your copies »](#)

[Visit the BCAN web site](#)

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