



# The Beacon

E-NEWSLETTER OF THE BLADDER CANCER ADVOCACY NETWORK • BCAN.ORG

February 3, 2025

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## Share Your Experience, Impact the Future Take BCAN's 2025 Bladder Cancer Survey Now!



Take BCAN's 2025 [New Faces of Bladder Cancer Survey](#) and make your voice count! Whether you're newly diagnosed or a long-time survivor, your insights will help us create better programs, advocate for patient needs, and shape future research.

The survey is confidential, in-depth and you can pause and return later.

Plus, the first 1,000 U.S. participants will receive **a special BCAN 20th Anniversary gift!** Your experience matters—help us improve bladder cancer care for everyone. Take the survey today!

[Take the survey](#)

## February's Partner in Progress

This month, we are proud to feature [Photocure](#) as BCAN's Partner in Progress.



THE  
BLADDER CANCER  
COMPANY

Photocure, The Bladder Cancer Company, is leading change in bladder cancer by delivering transformative solutions to improve the lives of patients. Our unique technology, which makes cancer cells glow bright pink, has led to better health outcomes for patients worldwide.

>> [Learn more about Photocure here](#) <<

## Kick Off 2025 with Purpose: Register for a Walk to End Bladder Cancer

As BCAN marks its 20th anniversary, we invite you to take part in an event that brings our community together in support, remembrance, and action. The 2025 Walk to End Bladder Cancer is your chance to make a difference while celebrating two decades of progress and hope.



This year's walk is about more than just raising funds—it's a powerful statement of unity and strength. By participating, you'll help us honor the journey of patients, families, and caregivers while taking meaningful steps toward a better future. Register today, and let's make this milestone year unforgettable.

[Find your nearest Walk](#)

## Free Support Line for the Bladder Cancer Community

[BCAN's free support line](#) is available to provide emotional support and practical guidance to bladder cancer patients, caregivers, and loved ones. **Simply call 833-275-4222.** Staffed by compassionate and knowledgeable professionals, this service offers a safe space for individuals to discuss their concerns, ask questions, and receive helpful resources.



### Bladder Cancer Support Line

**833-275-4222**

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

**Call now**

Brought to you by the  
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network



Whether you're seeking advice on coping with a diagnosis or navigating treatment challenges, the support line is here to listen and help.

## Mary's Story: Facing Bladder Cancer



What started as a peaceful weekend escape for Mary Sullivan quickly turned into a harrowing ordeal that would forever change her life. What seemed like a minor inconvenience—an urgent and relentless need for the restroom—soon became a cause for deep concern. Seeking answers, Mary underwent a series of medical evaluations that led to a startling discovery.

What followed was a whirlwind of doctor visits. From the initial shock to the grueling process of treatment, Mary's journey was one of courage and perseverance. Through it all, she found support in her loved ones, strength in her own determination, and hope in the face of adversity—proving that even in life's darkest moments, there is always a path toward light.

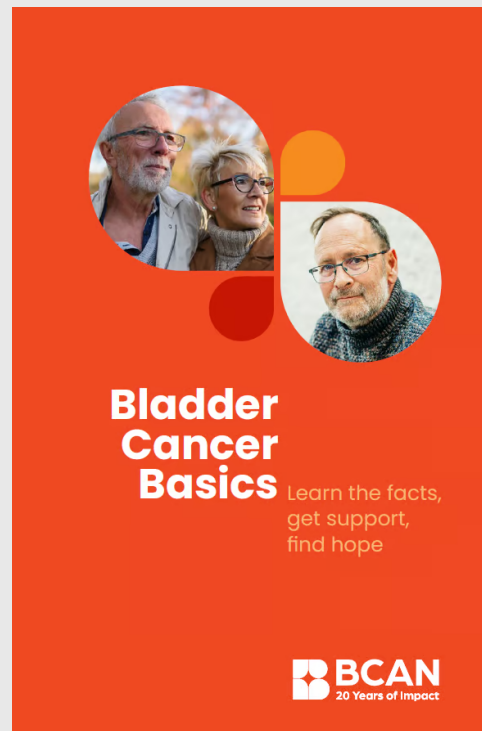
[Read Mary's story](#)

## Get Your Copy of the New Bladder Cancer Basics

Our latest edition of BCAN's signature [Bladder Cancer Basics](#) is available now. It's been updated to reflect the latest information about bladder cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Like all BCAN publications, *Basics* is free to all. You can [download your copy here](#) or [visit this link](#) to have a print copy mailed to you.

We also offer an [online, animated version](#). We hope the handbook is helpful.



**Register for the BCAN Spring Summit and  
Get a \$200 Per Night Stipend**



Join us for BCAN's [Spring Summit for Bladder Cancer Patients and Families](#) in San Diego, March 7-8, 2025! **Register by February 9th and get a \$200 per night stipend** to help lower the cost of staying at the official Summit hotel, the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina.

Simply [register for the Summit](#) and reserve your stay at the Sheraton to have the stipend automatically applied at checkout.

### Why attend the Summit?

1. **Empower Your Journey:** Gain practical tools, knowledge, and resources to navigate life after a bladder cancer diagnosis with confidence.
2. **Connect and Thrive:** Meet others who truly understand your experience, building meaningful connections within a compassionate and supportive community.

Don't miss this opportunity to feel inspired, informed, and ready for the future. We look forward to welcoming you to San Diego this March!

[Learn more and register here](#)

## Be a Part of BCAN's 20th Anniversary Celebration: Share Your Photos!

As we celebrate BCAN's 20th anniversary in 2025, we invite **you**—our incredible community—to help us create something truly special. [We're collecting photos](#) that capture who you are: whether it's a picture of you, you with loved ones, with cherished pets, or moments that reflect your journey.



[Your photos](#) will come together to form a **powerful, inspiring photo collage**—a visual tribute to the strength and resilience of our BCAN community.

This unique collage will be proudly displayed in BCAN's offices and shared digitally with all participants as a lasting symbol of our collective impact. Join us in making history! [Submit your photos](#) during the first half of 2025 and help us showcase the heart of our community—**you**.

[Share your photos with BCAN](#)

## FREE RESOURCES FOR OUR COMMUNITY



### Help for the newly diagnosed

BCAN is here to help with resources, information, and support as you work through your feelings and plan for the next steps.

[Read more »](#)

**Filter** **Reset**

**Diagnosis**

- ☐ Upper Tract Urothelial Carcinoma (UTUC-low and high grade)
- ☐ Non-Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer (Includes Ta, T1, CIS tumors)
- ☐ Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer (Includes T2 tumors)
- ☐ Locally Advanced (Includes T3 tumors)
- ☐ Metastatic Bladder Cancer (Includes T4 tumors)

### Compare Bladder Cancer Treatments

We offer a free and easy-to-use tool where you can compare bladder cancer treatments

[Compare treatments »](#)



### BCAN Research Grants

Did you know that BCAN has allocated more than \$10 million in bladder cancer research grants?

[Learn more »](#)

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