



The Beacon

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

February 2026

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Amy Found Strength in the Uncertain



What began as unexpected symptoms quickly became a [life-changing journey for Amy Samuel](#), one that carried her across countries, through treatment, and into a deeper understanding of strength, faith and community. With honesty and gratitude, Amy reflects on the moments that challenged her most and the purpose she found along the way.

Read her story to discover how she turned uncertainty into impact and is using her voice to support others and raise awareness.

[Read Amy's Story](#)



FEMALE FOCUS SUPPORT GROUP

The online support group for women impacted by bladder cancer.

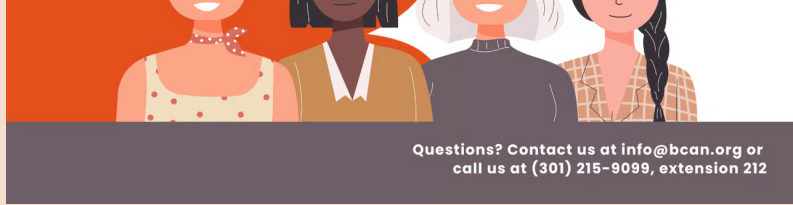
**You are not alone.
Join our supportive community.**

- First Tuesday of each month via Zoom
- 7pm to 8:30pm ET
- Register for each session you attend - registration is free!
Scan the QR code or visit <https://tinyurl.com/FemaleFocus>

Attendees can expect open, guided conversations in a safe, respectful, and confidential space, with opportunities to connect with women who understand their experiences and learn from educational discussions and guest speakers.

All diversions and those with bladders welcome.





Join our monthly support group for women facing bladder cancer, a safe, supportive space to connect with others who understand your experience. Each session includes a brief presentation followed by small, moderated group discussions led by BCAN staff, nurse and patient advocate Karen Sachse, RN, MSN, and social worker Miriam Pomerantz Kadosh, MSW, LCSW.

[Register now!](#)

Upcoming Bladder Cancer Webinars

Webinar: Treating Non-Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer by Risk Level

When: Monday, February 2, 2026, at 5:00 PM ET

What: Understanding your risk can make a real difference in treatment decisions for non-muscle invasive bladder cancer. In this educational webinar, Dr. Katie Murray of NYU Langone Cancer Center breaks down what risk stratification means, how it guides care and what options are available for patients who do not respond to BCG. She'll also highlight promising clinical trials shaping the future of NMIBC treatment.

[Register for the free webinar here](#)

Webinar: Exploring Rare Types of Bladder Tumors

When: Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 7:00 PM ET

What: Rare bladder cancer subtypes can be especially challenging to understand and treat—but new research is changing what's possible. In this webinar, Drs. Li and Al-Ahmadie explain what makes rare bladder cancers different, what scientists are learning about their biology and genetics and why diagnosis and treatment can be complex. They'll also share how global collaboration is advancing research, education, and clinical trials.

[Register for the free webinar here](#)

Webinar: When the Urine Flow Slows: Understanding Ureteroenteric Stricture Disease

When: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 5:00 PM ET

What: In this webinar, Dr. Ziho Lee, Director of the Reconstructive Urology Fellowship and Chief of Trauma at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, will explain what ureteroenteric stricture disease is, why it can develop after urinary diversion surgery, and how it can affect bladder cancer patients. He will review common signs and symptoms, how the condition is diagnosed, and available treatment options ranging from minimally invasive approaches to surgery.

Join Us in a Room Where Everyone Gets It

BCAN's **Bladder Cancer Summits** are designed with our community at the center. Our next Summit is on **[March 13th and 14, right near Baltimore, MD.](#)**



Attending our spring Summit means you and your guest will be in a room of about more than 100 patients, caregivers, survivors and more who truly understand what a bladder cancer journey is. You'll also hear from medical experts who talk about the what is new and interesting in bladder cancer diagnosis and treatment.

[Join us in Baltimore](#)

Walk for Hope. Walk for Love. Walk to End Bladder Cancer.



For more than a decade, the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN) has brought communities together through our **[Walks to End Bladder Cancer](#)**, powerful, purpose-driven events that **raise awareness, support patients and families** and fund vital research and education. Spanning more than 47 states, these walks have united



diagnosis, treatment and survivorship so no one has to face the journey alone.

[Learn more and get connected](#)

FREE RESOURCES FOR OUR COMMUNITY



Volunteer. Create Real Change.

BCAN unites the bladder cancer community to raise awareness and your voice and action can make a powerful difference.

[Learn more »](#)



FACT SHEET

Get the Facts About Bladder Cancer

BCAN offers patient-informed, plain-language tips to help you understand what to expect before, during and after common bladder cancer procedures.

[Visit now »](#)



Bladder Cancer App

BCAN offers a free iPhone and Android app to help manage your bladder cancer journey in one convenient place.

[Download today »](#)

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Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network, 4520 East West Highway Suite 610, Bethesda, MD 20814, United States