



The Beacon

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

September 2, 2025

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A Routine Day That Changed Everything



Sandy Weicher had just settled into a new chapter of life with her husband and son. She was determined to prioritize her health, putting her energy into making changes that could protect her future and allow her to fully enjoy time with her family. Life felt like it was finally coming into balance—until one ordinary day disrupted everything she thought she knew.

What began as a simple health check quickly turned into something far more serious, forcing Sandy to face decisions she never expected. Along the way, she leaned on her family, her doctors, and her own resilience to navigate a path filled with uncertainty. Her story is one of strength, perseverance, and finding unexpected purpose in the face of life's most difficult challenges.

[Read Sandy's Story](#)

2025 New Faces of Bladder Cancer Survey



BCAN is inviting bladder cancer patients and survivors, including those with UTUC, to share their experiences through the 2025 **New Faces of Bladder Cancer Survey**. By participating, you'll help shape future care, advocacy, and research, ensuring programs and resources truly reflect the needs of the community. The survey is confidential and takes less than an hour to complete.

Your voice matters—make a difference for everyone impacted by bladder cancer.

[Take the Survey Today](#)

Meet September's Partner in Progress: UroGen Pharma

BCAN is honored to join forces with [UroGen Pharma](#) this September in our shared mission to bring better todays and more tomorrows to bladder cancer patients and their families.



Discover more about this month's Partner in Progress, UroGen Pharma, and their work supporting patients with low grade, upper tract urothelial carcinoma (LG-UTUC) and low grade, intermediate risk non-muscle invasive bladder cancer (LG-IR-NMIBC).

[Learn more](#)

Survivor to Survivor

Although bladder cancer is one of the most commonly diagnosed cancers, many patients and caregivers describe the experience as isolating and overwhelming. The Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network's (BCAN) [Survivor 2 Survivor](#) (S2S) program was created to help change that.



Through S2S, individuals who are newly diagnosed—or their loved ones—are matched with trained volunteers who have already faced bladder cancer themselves, either as survivors or as co-survivors. These volunteers provide a compassionate listening ear, share what they've learned from their own journeys, and offer perspective on navigating diagnosis, treatment, and life after cancer.

Match with a survivor

Fall Summit 2025: Knowledge, Support, and the Power of Community

Mark your calendars for **October 17–18, 2025**, and plan to join us in Columbus, Ohio, for a free, inspiring event dedicated to the bladder cancer community.

BCAN's Fall [Summit for Patients and Families](#) creates a meaningful space where patients, survivors, caregivers, and healthcare providers can connect, exchange experiences, and gain encouragement in a supportive and hopeful environment.



Don't miss this special chance to connect with others who truly understand your journey, gain valuable insights, and find renewed hope. From sessions on **life after treatment and survivorship** to the latest breakthroughs in bladder cancer research, you'll leave feeling informed, supported, and inspired. No matter where you are in your journey, this Summit offers community, encouragement, and an uplifting experience you won't want to miss in Columbus, Ohio.

Register today!

Want to know more about our Summits? Explore videos from our [Spring 2025 Summit for Patients and Families](#).



"Bladder Cancer Matters" is a podcast created for and with the bladder cancer community, sharing insights on research, treatment, caregiving, and life after diagnosis.

ICYMI, here are some recent and popular Bladder Cancer Matters podcasts that you can also get on your favorite podcast platform:

- [Bladder Cancer Medical Bills: A Toxic Side Effect](#)
- [From Misdiagnosis to Advocacy: Deb's UTUC Journey](#)
- [Saving the Bladder: Risks, Realities, and Rare Exceptions](#)
- [Breaking the Silence on Bladder Cancer and Mental Health](#)

[Listen now!](#)

FREE RESOURCES FOR OUR COMMUNITY



Risk Factors

Certain lifestyle choices, environmental exposures, and inherited factors can increase the risk of



Patient & Caregiver Stories

Explore powerful patient and caregiver stories that share real experiences,



BCAN's YouTube Channel

Discover expert insights, webinars, patient stories, and helpful resources by

developing bladder cancer.

[Learn more »](#)

challenges, in a bladder cancer journey.

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visiting BCAN's YouTube channel.

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