

# Alliance Lenz

## Alliance For CancerCare Equity

### Quarterly NEWSLETTER

April-June, 2024



### This Quarter's News

The excitement is real! Today, we launch our Newsletter, Alliance Lenz, a milestone that helps us connect with our donor community. You have made it possible for at least one person without the financial wherewithal to receive free treatment! What makes this more exciting is that, 100% of your donations go toward cancer treatment, and the **testimonials are here for you. Click to watch**

#### Ask The Expert

#### **May Is Bladder Cancer Awareness Month:**

Bladder Cancer Awareness Month is recognized globally every May. It is an opportunity to shine light on this common, yet lesser-known cancer by providing some fundamental but important information about this disease.

**What are the Statistics?** Bladder cancer is the 5th most common cancer in Canada, with over 80,000 Canadians currently living with the disease. Approximately 37 Canadians are diagnosed each day, meaning over 13,400 will be diagnosed this year alone. [continue on page 2](#)



#### **Celebrating Two Years of Support For Cancer Patients**

This May, we commemorate the second anniversary of the inception of the Alliance for CancerCare Equity.

Thanks to your kindness and unwavering support, we have provided vital life-saving cancer treatments and compassionate care to 30 patients in Ghana and 2 in the Kitchener-Waterloo enclave for the past two years.

Your acts of kindness have touched lives, brought smiles, and offered hope to those needing our help!

Your belief in our mission has inspired our team and the patients we serve.

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**Thanks to all our donors and supporters**

**Visit Us @ <https://www.allianceforcancercareequity.ca/>**

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#### Bladder Cancer Awareness... continues.

The incidence rate of bladder cancer is four times higher among men than among women. It is also twice as high in white males as among Black, Hispanic or Asian/Pacific Islander men.

**What is bladder cancer?** Bladder cancer begins when healthy cells in the bladder lining change and grow out of control, sometimes forming a tumour.

**What are the risk factors?** The risk factors for bladder cancer include smoking and tobacco use, having a family history of the disease, past radiation exposure, chronic bladder inflammation or infection, and exposure to certain chemicals, especially at work. Other risk factors include drinking water with high levels of arsenic and a history of bladder infections, according to the National Cancer Institute.

**What are the symptoms?** Blood in urine is the most common symptom of bladder cancer. Other symptoms may include weight loss, urinary tract infection, frequent urination, tiredness, incontinence, and abdominal lower back and pelvic pain.

**What is the prognosis?** The prognosis for bladder cancer depends on many factors:

- the stage of the cancer,
- the type of bladder cancer
- whether the cancer is low-grade or high-grade
- the patient's age and general health

**How is bladder cancer treated?** Surgery is the main treatment for bladder cancer. The type of surgery depends on where the cancer is located. Other treatments such as radiation therapy or chemotherapy may be given in addition to surgery for more advanced diseases.

#### Useful Resources:

- <https://cancer.ca/en/cancer-information>
- <https://www.aacr.org/patients-caregivers>
- <https://www.cancer.gov/types/bladder>



#### THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

Thank you so much for your generous donations to Alliance for CancerCare Equity! We truly appreciate your commitment to supporting cancer patients who are without the financial means to receive treatment. You, our partners, have made this possible. What a way to help support cancer patients.