

FIRST CONNECTION PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

When you sign up for First Connection, you will be matched with a trained volunteer (peer) who has firsthand experience with a blood cancer. Your match can be determined by age, type of diagnosis, gender (if requested) or the issue that is most concerning to you.

A First Connection volunteer is a blood cancer survivor. As a peer, they are trained to listen and offer a deep level of understanding and insight by sharing their own experience. Talking to a peer can reassure you about what's ahead.

<https://www.bloodcancers.ca/i-care-someone-blood-cancer/how-we-can-help/first-connection-caregiver-support-program>

WEBCASTS

We are presenting webcasts every month on the different types of blood cancers and other topics of interest. Presented by experts, the sessions are recorded. If you missed one, or would like to rewatch one, it is easily accessible.

PODCASTS

Our Podcasts are available in French and English and can be found on Spotify and Apple Podcasts. Episodes for the podcast are posted regularly and include experts in the field and real-life stories from patients and survivors.

EASY TO READ FACT SHEETS

We developed a series of Fact sheets to explain complicated concepts in plain language. Each factsheet has been reviewed by an expert in the field. This is the first tool we are recommending when a patient is newly diagnosed. These factsheet sheets cover topics like specific blood cancer types, diagnosis and tests, treatment and side effects, and resources for caregivers.

Webcasts, Podcasts, and Facts sheets all in our resource library:
<https://www.bloodcancers.ca/resource-library>

EDUCATION MATERIALS ORDER FORM

You can find the material order form, along with a list of additional materials you can download on our, I am a Professional, in the blood cancer community section of our website.

<https://www.bloodcancers.ca/material-order-form>

VIRTUAL SUPPORT GROUP

You can connect with others going through a similar cancer experience by joining one of our many virtual support groups. Our facilitator-led support groups are safe and supportive. They bring people from all walks of life together to share their concerns about their blood cancer experience without the fear of being judged or misunderstood.

Joining a support group may give you an extra outlet to validate your feelings among people who are also experiencing cancer. Our support groups run from September – June!

<https://www.bloodcancers.ca/i-have-blood-cancer/how-we-can-help/connect-someone-who-has-been-there/support-groups>

ONE KILOMETER AT A TIME: TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

The LLSC recognizes the unique concerns of people in treatment and their families, and the financial concerns to cover travel expenses. The program is for adult patients who have been diagnosed with a blood cancer, relapsed within the last 60 days or treatment protocol includes a scheduled transplant. Patients must meet all eligibility criteria as outlined on the website.

Applicants could receive a one-time travel subsidy to help ease treatment-related travel costs through our transportation program.

<https://www.bloodcancers.ca/i-have-blood-cancer/how-we-can-help/one-kilometre-time-transportation-subsidy-program>

ANIMATED VIDEOS

We offer a series of short, animated videos for people who prefer to learn that way.

WORKSHEETS

We have developed worksheets to help you take an active role in managing your healthcare. A pain scale log can help you keep track of pain level, time and date or a worksheet with a list of questions you can take to your next appointment.

BOOKLETS

We offer comprehensive guides to better understand a diagnosis.

Videos, Worksheets and Booklets all in our resource library: https://www.bloodcancers.ca/resource-library?field_audience_type_target_id=All&combine=&field_publication_format_target_id%5B436%5D=436&items_per_page=10

CONTINUING EDUCATION PLATFORM FOR HCPs

A free Continuing Education Program that you can access at your own pace and receive an electronic proof of participation. We have many great self-study trainings already posted. All trainings are offered by experts in the field, in French and English and are free.

<https://hccpen-llscanada.talentlms.com/>