

Your Safety Matters: Cancer Care During COVID-19

Concerns about your cancer diagnosis and coming to the hospital for treatments during COVID-19 are normal. As a person with cancer, you may feel more nervous because of a weakened immune system or anxiety about your cancer treatment.

Keeping you safe and providing high-quality care during COVID-19 are the top priorities of your healthcare team.

Go to your tests and treatments as scheduled



Do not delay getting your cancer treatment or other care because of COVID-19 fears. If your healthcare team has told you that you need to get tests or treatments, go to your appointments as scheduled. Delaying treatment can be dangerous if your cancer care team has told you to get your treatment now.

Please call your clinic or healthcare provider before coming to your appointment if:

- You feel unwell with symptoms that could be from COVID-19 (for example chills, fever or new cough)
- You are waiting for results of a COVID-19 test
- You have been in close contact with someone who has symptoms of COVID-19 or someone who has recently travelled outside the country

What to do if you need support

If you feel worried about coming to the hospital for your cancer care, contact your healthcare team to talk about your concerns. It is important that your fears about COVID-19 do not stop you from coming to your appointment or for your treatment. In some cases you may be able to have your appointment over the phone.

If you need assistance once you arrive at the hospital for your appointment, please let staff know.

Your healthcare team is here for you.



Where to go for more information

For more information about COVID-19:

- Visit Ontario Ministry of Health's coronavirus website: ontario.ca/coronavirus
- Visit Health Canada's COVID-19 website: canada.ca/covid-19

For more information or to speak with someone about cancer, contact the Canadian Cancer Society's Cancer Information Service:

- Visit cancer.ca/cis
- Call 1-888-939-3333

For more information or to speak with someone about your emotional well-being or mental health:

- Visit bouncebackontario.ca or call 1-866-345-0224 (for help with managing low mood, mild to moderate depression, anxiety, stress or worry)
- Visit connexontario.ca or call 1-866-531-2600 (for a mental health and addiction crisis helpline)

*Adapted from "Your Safety Matters - Cancer Care During COVID-19" by Ontario Health - Cancer Care Ontario