# June Cancer Awareness News

June 01, 2022



## **Key Facts about June Awareness**

Cancer Survivor Month and National Cancer Survivors Day (5)

June 5<sup>th</sup> is the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual National Cancer Survivors

Day®. NCSD is an annual celebration for those who



have survived, an **inspiration** for those recently diagnosed, a gathering of **support** for families, and an **outreach** to the community. As of January 2019, it is estimated that there are 16.9 million cancer survivors in the United States. (NCSD)

The goal of survivorship is to improve the survivor's quality of life as a whole (physical, emotional and socioeconomic). Even when treatment stops and patients are told they are cancer free, the journey still continues. There are surveillance exams and office visits to monitor for primary cancer recurrence and second primary cancers. Survivorship also focuses on identifying and managing long term treatment side effects and psychosocial problems.

#### **Cancer Immunotherapy Awareness Month**

The immune system's job is to detect and destroy abnormal cells and prevent or slow the growth of many cancers. It's like an army guarding your body. But cancer is sneaky. It has ways to avoid being detected and destroyed by the immune system. Cancer cells may have genetic changes that make it less visible to the immune system, it may have proteins on its surface that turn off the immune cells or it may change the normal cells around the tumor so they interfere with how the immune system responds to the cancer cells. Immunotherapy is a type of therapy that uses specific drugs that help the immune system work better so it can detect the cancer and help your body fight it. (NCI)



#### Men's Health Month and National Men's Health Week (13-19)

Cancer is one of the top diseases and causes of death in American men. American Cancer Society reports that 1 in 2 men will get cancer in their lifetime, a slightly higher risk than in women. With the exception of skin cancer, prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men. Colorectal and lung

cancers are also common cancers in men. Get more information at www.menshealthmonth.org/

#### **Black Family Cancer Awareness Week (16-22)**

The purpose of National Black Family Cancer
Awareness Week is to increase cancer awareness in
one of the most vulnerable segments of the US
population. This initiative aims to marshal
community-based stakeholders to build knowledge
surrounding cancer clinical trial participation and
minority population specimen donations to national
genomic databases for cancer research. (FDA)

#### **Wound Healing Awareness Month**

Almost 7 million people are living with a chronic wound in America. Chronic wounds are ulcers and sores that don't heal. Reasons for poor wound healing include a suppressed immune system, infection, surgery/trauma, edema, poor circulation and insufficient nutrition/protein. Approximately 75% of the people with chronic wounds have chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, peripheral arterial disease and cancer. Cancer treatments can delay wound healing which is why adjuvant treatment may be delayed until wounds close after surgery. (ABWM Foundation)

See the full calendar on the <u>Cancer Awareness</u> page.

# **Celebrating the Cancer Team:**

Certified Wound Care Specialists (13-17), Nursing Assistants 16-22) and the cancer survivors on our team!



## Resources for you and your Patients

- NCCN patient books on survivorship care and immunotherapy.
- 2. <u>Patient Resource</u> has guides for survivorship and immunotherapy.
- 3. <u>Livestrong at YMCA</u> Livestrong partners with the YMCA to promote the importance of physical activity after a cancer diagnosis.
- 4. <u>American Cancer Society</u> and <u>Cancer.net</u> have good information for patients on survivorship.

 Transforming Healthcare: A Guide to Best Practices in LGBTQIA+ Cultural Competency Training – Toolkit.

## **Upcoming Education & Events**

Destination Health Skin will be conducting free skin cancer checks in Dallas on June 18-19.



A Seminar on Disease Background and Treatment Options for Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) provided by Coram – free CEs for RNs and Case Managers on June 23, 2022.

2022 Summer Campference for Young Cancer Survivors is being held virtually on June 23 @ 3:45 PM - June 26 @ 5:00 PM.

Cancer and Careers' 12th annual National
Conference on Work & Cancer will be held
virtually on Friday, June 24, 2022. This free,
full-day accredited online conference is open to
patients, survivors, social workers, nurses,
advocates, patient navigators, caregivers and
anyone else touched by cancer.

<u>UOAA 2022 Virtual Ostomy Symposium</u> will be held on August 13, 2022 @ 10:30 AM -5:30 PM. Registration opens June 1, 2022.

## **Cancer Survivor Quotable Quotes**

"The human spirit is stronger than anything that can happen to it." ~C.C. Scott

"My cancer scare changed my life. I'm grateful for every new, healthy day I have. It has helped me prioritize my life." ~Olivia Newton-John, breast cancer survivor

"Cancer didn't bring me to my knees, it brought me to my feet." ~ Michael Douglas, oral cancer survivor

"When the cancer went into remission, I was relieved, of course, but it was also strangely depressing. As long as you're showing up at a cancer hospital every week, you know someone

has an eye on you. When they say 'OK, good luck,' it occurs to you you're really on your own, and it's a bit nerve-racking." ~ Edie Falco, breast cancer survivor

"Cancer is the club none of us asked to join, but initiates us into a passionate community of thrivers." Al Roker, prostate cancer survivor

It's about focusing on the fight and not the fright." ~Robin Roberts, breast cancer survivor



- DFW Oncology Navigators https://dfwnavigators.nursingnetwork.com/