

# Suspicion of Cancer?

## Here's What to Expect.



**First Referral for  
Suspicion of  
Cancer**

**Investigation of  
Symptoms**



**Cancer Diagnosis  
and Treatment  
Planning**

Developed by All.Can Canada to be customized by Canadian cancer patient groups and other stakeholders with specific information for different cancer types.



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# First Referral for Suspicion of Cancer

## Cancer Suspicion Pathway

- What is the diagnostic pathway for my suspected type of cancer?
- Is there information or a website that I can review to help me understand what is happening?

## Point of Contact

- Who should I reach out to if I have questions about:
- Referrals, Tests, or Appointments
- Travel needs
- Financial needs
- Questions about loss of income/employment assistance?

## Mental Health Resources

Who should I contact about:

- Mental health support
- Peer support (patient groups)
- Other needs, such as sexual health/fertility, mindfulness, spirituality?

## Expected Wait Times

Referrals:

Appointments:

Tests:

Results:

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# Investigation of Symptoms

## Tests

- What is each test?
- What is the purpose of each test?
- What are the procedures?
- How should I prepare?
- Do I bring a caregiver?

## Point of Contact

Who should I reach out to if I have questions about:

- Specific tests/the investigation process
- Travel needs
- Financial needs
- Questions about loss of income/employment assistance?

## Test Results

- How long until I can expect the results?
- Who will provide me with results and explain these results?
- Who will explain next steps?
- Where can I access the results themselves?

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# Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

## Logistical Implications

- What are the logistical implications for each treatment option?
- Do I need to travel?
- Will I need to stay in the hospital?
- Are my treatments covered through insurance? If not, what options do I have for coverage?
- Do I need caregiver support?

## Size and Staging

- What happens next to learn more about this cancer (size, stage)?
- How long will this take?

## Point of Contact

Who should I reach out to if I have questions about:

- My care plan and treatment plan
- Travel needs
- Financial needs
- Questions about loss of income/employment assistance?

## Looking at the Treatment Options

- What are the treatment options for this cancer?
- Would treatment be curative or palliative?
- Are clinical trials available to me? When would they be something to consider?
- What are the benefits, risks, and uncertainties associated with these options? What are the short and long term side effects?
- When would these treatment options start?
- How will my medical team know if my treatment is working? How and when will this information be conveyed to me?

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