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# **After Small Intestine Cancer Treatment**

Get information about how to live well after small intestine cancer treatment and make decisions about next steps.

#### Living as a Cancer Survivor

For many people, cancer treatment often raises questions about next steps as a survivor.

Living as a Small Intestine Cancer Survivor

# Living as a Small Intestine Cancer Survivor

- Follow-up care
- Can I lower my risk of the cancer progressing or coming back?
- Can I still get another type of cancer?
- Getting emotional support

For some people with small intestine cancer, treatment can remove or destroy the cancer. Completing treatment can be both stressful and exciting. You may be relieved to finish treatment, but find it hard not to worry about cancer coming back. When cancer comes back after treatment, it is called a *recurrence*. This is a very common concern if you've had cancer.

visits cost a lot, and even though no one wants to think of their cancer coming back, this could happen.

At some point after your treatment, you might find yourself seeing a new doctor who doesn't know about your medical history. It's important to keep copies of your medical records to give your new doctor the details of your diagnosis and treatment. Learn more in Keeping Copies of Important Medical Records<sup>3</sup>.

# Can I lower my risk of the cancer progressing or coming back?

If you have (or have had) a small intestine cancer, you probably want to know if there are things you can do that might lower your risk of the cancer growing or coming back, such as exercising, eating a certain type of diet, or taking nutritional supplements. Unfortunately, it's not yet clear if there are things you can do that will help.

#### Recurrence<sup>8</sup>.

## Can I still get another type of cancer?

Unfortunately, being treated for cancer doesn't mean you can't get another cancer. People who have had small intestine cancer can still get the same types of cancers that other people get. In fact, they are at higher risk for certain types of cancer. For example, they have an increased risk of other digestive tract cancers, especially colon cancer.

Because of this, it's important to do what you can to lower your cancer risk, such as not smoking, staying at a healthy weight, staying active, and eating a healthy diet. And be sure to talk to your doctor about which cancer screening tests are right for you.

### **Getting emotional support**

Some amount of feeling depressed, anxious, or worried is normal when cancer is a part 5 14 T 134.02 704.1 I S 0 G 1 w BT 1Get34 218 17 7252 701 218 17 12 Tf 0 0 002 704.1 I S 0 G 1 w

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