

Frequently Asked Questions about the Cancer Patient Family Network

What is the Cancer Patient Family Network? The Cancer Patient Family Network (CPFN) is a platform of Nova Scotia Cancer Care Program (NSCCP). The CPFN connects cancer patients, survivors, family members, and friends with opportunities to help make the cancer system better. Cancer patients, families, and friends have unique, valuable perspectives to share about cancer care. It is important to hear from people who have experience with the cancer system in order to see what can be changed to better meet people's needs.

Why does the cancer system want my advice? Engagement with Nova Scotians to create a healthier future is a core priority for the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) and the NSCCP. We want to involve patients and families in planning to understand their experiences and perspectives. The result is a stronger cancer system which reflects the needs of all Nova Scotians.

What is the cancer system? The cancer system is a part of the healthcare system that provides care to cancer patients and families. It includes prevention, screening, treatment, survivorship, palliative care and end of life care. All of the standards, policies, programs, equipment, facilities, and human resources (such as doctors, nurses, administrators and patients and families themselves) work together in an effort to provide quality cancer care.



What does the Cancer Patient Family Network do?

Members of the CPFN participate in focus groups and committees, complete surveys, and review cancer patient/family education materials. These contributions are used to help to improve the cancer care system in Nova Scotia.

What will happen if I decide to join the Cancer Patient Family Network? If you join the CPFN, the Coordinator; Engagement Diversity and Vulnerable Populations will contact you to see if you have any questions and ask how you would like to get involved. From time to time NSCCP will invite you to participate in focus groups, committees, and surveys about cancer related issues, and to review cancer patient/family education materials. We will let you know how members' contributions are being used to improve cancer care. If you join the CPFN there is no obligation to respond to invitations to participate.

Who do I contact if I am looking for information about cancer or support?

Contact Nova Scotia Cancer Care Program by calling our toll-free Information Line 1-866-599-2267, or emailing cancercareinfo@nshealth.ca

For more information about the Cancer Patient Family Network, please contact Leslie Hill, Coordinator; Engagement, Diversity and Vulnerable Populations at 902-473-2637 or email Leslie.Hill@nshealth.ca

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