

## **Frequently Asked Questions about the Cancer Patient Family Network**

**What is the Cancer Patient Family Network?** The Cancer Patient Family Network (CPFN) is a virtual community hosted by Nova Scotia Health Cancer Care Program (CCP). 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 know what can be changed to better meet people's needs.

**Why does the cancer system want my advice?** The Cancer Care Program wants to understand and learn from the experiences patients and families have had with the cancer system: What worked well? What needs to be improved? In listening to patients and families, we will build a stronger cancer system that 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?** Once you join the CPFN, you may be asked to participate in a focus group, on a committee and or complete a survey about cancer-related issues. You might be asked to review cancer patient/family education materials, which will be shared with members via this page. You can choose to accept only the requests you are interested in or have time. We will let you know how members' contributions are being used to improve cancer care.

Joining the CPFN does not mean you must provide advice to us. Some members like to join just to stay informed and read about the results of how we have used patient feedback in other projects. Becoming a member will not impact your cancer care or overall health care.

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

Contact Nova Scotia Health Cancer Care Program:

Call us toll-free: Information Line 1-866-599-2267

E-mail: [cancercareinfo@nshealth.ca](mailto:cancercareinfo@nshealth.ca)

Visit us on the web: [www.nscancercare.ca](http://www.nscancercare.ca)