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COVID-19 and Survivors of Childhood Cancer: Investigating the health and psychosocial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on survivors of childhood cancer

Who is conducting the research?

The research is being conducted by Dr Fiona Schulte from the Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary Canada

What is the research about?

The specific risk and course of COVID-19 among survivors of childhood cancer is not currently known. As we wait to understand more about this virus, it is critical that we attempt to understand whether survivors of childhood cancer are experiencing increased psychological distress in relation to this pandemic and what may be fuelling their anxiety.

This online study is designed to help understand how the COVID-19 pandemic affects the health and wellbeing of survivors of childhood cancer. This information will guide the development of resources and support specific to individuals who have previously been diagnosed with childhood cancer.

How will it help children and young people with cancer and/or their families?

This study will allow us to understand the psychological impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on survivors of childhood cancer and their families. This information will guide specific resources and support for survivors and parents.

Who can take part?

We are seeking survivors of childhood cancer:

- 1) Who are at least 15 years old
- 2) Who were diagnosed with cancer before 21 years of age
- 3) Who were diagnosed at least 5 years ago and/or completed their cancer treatment at least 2 years ago

We are also seeking parents of children who are survivors of childhood cancer:

- 1) Who's child is currently under the age of 18
- 2) Who's child was diagnosed with cancer before 21 years of age

3) Who's child was diagnosed at least 5 years ago and/or completed their cancer treatment at least 2 years ago

What will participants be asked to do?

- 1) We will ask participants to complete an online survey regarding your health and wellbeing (e.g., anxiety, depression, post traumatic stress symptoms) as well as your thoughts and experiences with COVID-19.
- 2) We will also ask participants to provide demographic (e.g., date of birth) and clinical information (e.g., cancer diagnosis, treatment, other health problems) in order to describe the participants in our study.

Parents of survivors under the age of 18 years, will also be asked about their child's health and wellbeing (e.g., anxiety, depression, post traumatic stress symptoms)

When and where is the research taking place?

Immediately. This is an online questionnaire. Survivors and parents from around the world are invited to participate.

Who has reviewed this study?

This study has been reviewed by the Health Research Ethics Board of Alberta (HREBA) – Cancer Committee: HREBA.CC-20-0151

How to find out more

If you would like to find out more about this study, please contact Dr Fiona Schulte on (403) 698-8103 or care4kids@ucalgary.ca

Please note that by asking for more information you are not committing yourself in any way.