Cancer patients are at an increased risk of severe COVID-19 symptoms. Several reasons, including not only contracting the COVID-19 infection but also undergoing cancer treatments, make cancer patients more vulnerable to the virus. Cancer patients are at an increased risk due to weakened immune systems, which are more common in people with cancer.

CANCER and COVID-19

What is COVID-19?
The Basics

COVID-19 is an illness caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. It is a new type of respiratory illness. The virus spreads mainly from person to person:

- Respiratory droplets
- Direct contact
- Contaminated surfaces

What are COVID-19 symptoms?

Common symptoms include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

How does it spread?

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the virus spreads mainly from person to person:

- Respiratory droplets
- Direct contact
- Contaminated surfaces

What is cancer's impact on the body?

Cancer patients are at an increased risk of severe COVID-19 symptoms due to weakened immune systems, which are more common in people with cancer. Cancer patients are at an increased risk due to weakened immune systems, which are more common in people with cancer.

Certain treatments

- Surgery
- Chemotherapy
- Radiation
- Immunotherapy
- Targeted therapy

Cancer patients undergoing these treatments may be weakened or depleted. Cancer patients undergoing these treatments may be weakened or depleted.

How can cancer patients protect themselves?

Protecting yourself from the COVID-19 virus is especially important for people with cancer. Use your commonsense and always listen with your doctor.

If you have specific questions, please visit cancercenter.com/covid19.

What you can do to protect yourself

Provide protection for you and your family.

In general

- Practice proper hand-washing techniques.
- Avoid non-essential travel.
- Avoid crowds.
- Work from home if possible.
- Practice social distancing when in public.
- Avoid mass transit.
- Avoid unnecessary medical appointments.
- Wash your hands frequently.

When traveling

- Avoid crowds as much as possible.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from other people.
- Don't touch food.
- A single-use washable mask can be used for an extended period.
- Wash hands before eating and after exposing yourself.

At home

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Disinfecate frequently touched objects.
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water.
- Practice social distancing when in public.
- Wear your mask appropriately.

What are cancerous symptoms?

Cancer's impact on the body

CANCER patients have specific questions about COVID-19 because they are at an increased risk of severe symptoms. Many of the same factors that put cancer patients at an increased risk of severe COVID-19 symptoms also contribute to cancer's impact on the body:

- Immune cells
- Lung function
- Osteoporosis
- T-cell function
- Immune cells

Certain cancer types

- Blood cancers
- Lung cancer
- Breast cancer
- Osteoporosis
- T-cell function

Immunotherapy

Immunotherapy is a type of cancer treatment that uses the body's immune system to fight cancer. It works by helping the immune system to fight cancer.

Blood cancers

Blood cancers include:

- Leukemias
- Myelomas
- Lymphomas

Lung cancer

Lung cancer is a type of cancer that begins in the lungs. It is the most common type of cancer in both men and women.

Breast cancer

Breast cancer is a type of cancer that begins in the tissue of the breast. It is the most common type of cancer in women.

Osteoporosis

Osteoporosis is a disease of the bone that makes bones more fragile and more likely to break.

T-cell function

T-cell function is the ability of the immune system to fight off infections. T-cell function is weakened in people with cancer.

Immunotherapy uses the body's immune system to fight cancer. It works by helping the immune system to fight cancer.

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