



2018 WORLD
PANCREATIC
CANCER DAY.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is World Pancreatic Cancer Day?

Held on November 15, 2018, World Pancreatic Cancer Day brings people around the world together to highlight the need for greater awareness, funding and research for pancreatic cancer.

The pancreatic cancer community is united in our commitment to Demand Better and accelerate progress to fight the world's toughest cancer, starting with earlier detection.

Who are the partners for World Pancreatic Cancer Day?

World Pancreatic Cancer Day is an initiative of the World Pancreatic Cancer Coalition (the "Coalition"), which consists of more than 70 organizations from more than 30 countries and six continents.

In addition to promoting World Pancreatic Cancer Day and other educational efforts, the Coalition facilitates the sharing of best practices among its member organizations on an array of important topics, including: patient information and support, research, clinical trials, advocacy and policy, healthcare professional training and more.

For more information about World Pancreatic Cancer Day and the Coalition members, visit www.worldpancreaticcancerday.org.

How can I make a difference?

There are many ways to show your support and take action:

- First, know the symptoms and risks of this disease. Visit our website worldpancreaticcancerday.org for infographics and information to help you identify the symptoms and risks of pancreatic cancer. Our website also has useful resources and links to pancreatic cancer organizations in your country/region.
- Spread the word and share our materials to help educate your family, friends, coworkers and social media followers about the symptoms and risks and what to do to support earlier diagnosis.

Here are other ways to get involved:

- Follow us on social media:
Twitter/Instagram: @worldpancreatic
Facebook: @worldpancreaticcancerday
- Temporarily change your Facebook or Instagram profile picture to support WPCD and post using hashtag **#WPCD**, **#DemandBetter** (primary), and/or **#PancreaticCancer** and **#WorldPancreaticCancerDay**.
- Wear purple on WPCD (Nov. 15).
- Light building, monuments or homes purple.
- Ask your public officials to support more government funding of pancreatic cancer research.

What is a pancreas?

The pancreas is found behind the stomach and in front of the spine. It produces digestive enzymes that help the body use and store energy and also regulates blood sugar levels.

What is pancreatic cancer?

Pancreatic cancer occurs when abnormal cells develop and grow out of control, causing tumors. According to a global survey, 60 percent of people know “almost nothing” about pancreatic cancer. [Source](#)

Pancreatic cancer has the lowest survival rate of all major cancers, with just 2 to 9 percent of those diagnosed surviving five years. [Source](#)

What causes pancreatic cancer?

The cause of the majority of pancreatic cancer cases is unknown. There is evidence that age, smoking, being overweight, a family history of pancreatic cancer, pancreatitis, and diabetes may increase your risk of pancreatic cancer.

What are the symptoms of pancreatic cancer?

Common symptoms of pancreatic cancer include: abdominal or mid-back pain, unexplained weight loss, jaundice, loss of appetite, indigestion, changes in stool and new-onset diabetes. These symptoms are often vague and generally are attributed initially to other less serious and more common conditions.

Is there a test for pancreatic cancer?

There is no standard screening test for pancreatic cancer, which makes it vital for people to know the symptoms and risks.

Early diagnosis is key for pancreatic cancer. Patients diagnosed in time for surgery are more likely to live five years and beyond. The sooner you are diagnosed, the more chance you'll be eligible for surgery and the sooner you can receive treatment, enroll in a clinical trial and get the support that will empower you to fight and survive this disease.

How common is pancreatic cancer?

Pancreatic cancer is the seventh most common cause of cancer-related death across the world.

In 2015, an estimated 367,000 cases of pancreatic cancer were diagnosed globally, and it is estimated that 480,000 people will be diagnosed globally in 2020. [Source](#)

For more information, visit www.worldpancreaticcancerday.org.