Feelings of Anxiety





Rossy Network

Symptom Management Tip Sheet

Let's talk about anxiety...



- It is normal to feel some anxiety and to worry about your diagnosis, treatment or side effects. Please share these concerns with your healthcare team.
- Anxiety is a feeling of nervousness, concern, and worry.
- Anxiety can impact your ability to make decisions, follow treatment, function normally, and affect your overall quality of life.
- Call your healthcare team for extra help if you cannot sleep or function normally.
- If you are having a panic attack, or your throat is tightening or you have trouble breathing, go to the **Emergency Room.**
- If you are having thoughts of harming yourself or others, call 911 immediately or call the Montreal Suicide Action line 1-866-277-3553



What you can do

- Talk to someone you trust.
- Do some gentle exercise, like yoga.
- Try relaxation therapy, like breathing techniques and listening to music.
- Do what feels right for you. Everyone copes differently.
- Don't hesitate to call your healthcare team if you're worried about your diagnosis, treatment, or symptoms or you need more information.

Based on: Remote Symptom Practice Guides for Adults on Cancer Treatments © 2020 D Stacey for the Pan-Canadian Oncology Symptom Triage and Remote Support (COSTaRS) Team. University of Ottawa School of Nursing and the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ottawa, Canada.



- Joining a support group can be very helpful.
- Speaking with mental health counsellors for help with managing stress and problem-solving is often a good idea.
- Doing spiritual activities, like spiritual counseling, prayer and meditation can help reduce anxiety.
- Talk-based therapies like Cognitive Behavioural Therapy or mindfulness-based stress reduction can also help.

This information should not be considered as medical advice. It is not to be used in place of a visit with a doctor, nurse or other healthcare professional. If you have questions about your individual medical situation, please consult with your healthcare professional.

Other resources

Managing Anxiety

https://bit.ly/cco-anxiety

Managing Stress

https://bit.ly/bccancer-stressmgmt

Emotional Effects of Cancer

https://bit.ly/cancer-emotions

Information Videos

https://bit.ly/cancer-videos

More at

mcgill.ca/rcr-rcn/patient

In your hospital

Symptom Hotlines

Don't hesitate to call! Hours of operation: 8AM to 4PM



MUHC: (514) 934-1934 ext. 34160 **JGH:** (514) 340-8222 ext. 25529 St. Mary's: (514) 734-2679 ext. 5

Psychosocial Oncology

IGH: (514) 340-8222 ext. 23223

St. Mary's: (514) 345-3511 ext. 6679

MUHC Social Work: (514) 934-1934 ext. 31569 MUHC Spiritual Care: (514) 934-1934 ext. 34163

For more information:

MUHC: Cedars CanSupport

(514) 934-1934 ext. 35297

JGH: Hope & Cope

(514) 514-340-8255

St. Mary's: Contact CanSupport or Hope & Cope