

Outreach

Stay up-to-date on the latest breast cancer news & events!

Happy Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a time for warm thoughts and fond memories, for expressing the feelings and words that often go unspoken, and for letting those special people in our lives know that they are loved and appreciated always. It is also a time for showing concern for the challenges that you or your mother may face, such as breast cancer. This year, 25,000 Canadians will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and they need your support. Why not show your love for the mothers in your life by making a [donation](#) in their name to the Canadian Breast Cancer Network. You will be helping us to provide advocacy and education programs to ensure the best quality of life for Canadians with breast cancer. Thanks in advance to all our supporters and congratulations for your generosity. You have truly made a difference, just as your mother has.



Drug approval process changed

Ontario Committee to Evaluate Drugs will no longer routinely evaluate CDR- or pCODR-reviewed drug products

Effective April 1, 2016, all drug products reviewed by the Common Drug Review (CDR) and the pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review (pCODR) will no longer require a routine review by the Committee to Evaluate Drugs (CED), the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's expert drug advisory committee. This change also applies to drug submissions received by the Ontario Public Drug Programs (OPDP) prior to April 1, 2016 that have not yet been reviewed by the CED. As a result, CED recommendation letters will no longer be issued for drugs eligible for CDR or pCODR review. The decision was made to better align with national processes, including the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance.

To learn more about this announcement, please visit

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/pdf/drug_submission_20160322.pdf.

CBCN hopes that this decision will streamline the reimbursement decision-making process

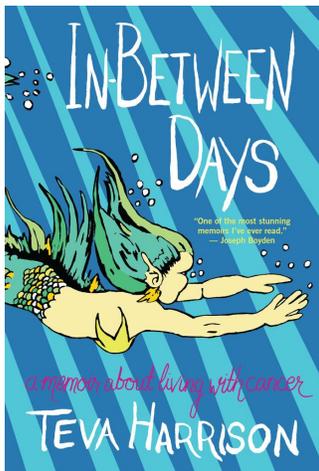
and ultimately reduce the overall wait times experienced by Canadian patients and their families when trying to access new treatments.

Share your story

Seeking stories of hormone-receptor positive breast cancer

In the next issue of *Network News*, CBCN would like to feature the first-person story of a breast cancer patient with hormone-receptor positive breast cancer. You will have the choice of writing the story yourself or telling it to a writer. If you are interested, contact Wendy at whall@cbcn.ca.

Metastatic breast cancer patient shares her experiences in a graphic memoir



Teva Harrison was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer at the age of 37. In her memoir, *In-Between Days*, she documents through comic illustration and short personal essays what it means to live with the disease. She confronts with heartbreaking honesty the crises of identity that cancer brings: a lifelong vegetarian, Teva agrees to use experimental drugs that have been tested on animals. She struggles to reconcile her long-term goals with an uncertain future, balancing the innate sadness of cancer with everyday acts of hope and wonder. She also examines those quiet moments of helplessness and loving with her husband, her family, and her friends, while they all adjust to the new normal. Ultimately, *In-Between Days* is redemptive and uplifting, reminding each one of us of how beautiful life is, and what a gift.

CBCN in action

CBCN presents at 2016 CADTH Symposium in Ottawa

This April, CBCN was pleased to represent the patient perspective at the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health's Symposium in Ottawa. The theme for this year's symposium was expanding the reach of Health Technology Assessment and CBCN was invited to present on the panel discussing "The Changing Landscape for Pharmaceutical Funding Decisions in Canada." In our talk, CBCN highlighted the key principles that patients value in pharmaceutical funding decisions and the need to incorporate patient input throughout the decision-making process. CBCN would like to thank CADTH for the opportunity to participate in these important discussions and will continue to emphasize the need for patient values to inform health decision-making.

Learn & connect

This section of *Outreach* is to share resources, educational tools, and information developed by partner groups and other organizations; the views and information expressed in this section do not necessarily reflect the views of the Canadian Breast Cancer Network.

Webcast on fertility preservation for cancer patients is May 10

Hearing the words, "You have cancer" may send you into a whirlwind of thoughts and

Online Inuit-specific cancer resources



Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada has launched *Inuusinni Aqqusaaqtara - My Journey*, a new online Inuit-specific cancer resource. The website includes resources such as:

- Pauktuutit's Kaggutiq Inuit Cancer Glossary
- a series of cancer related videos that share the cancer journey through the eyes of Inuit cancer survivors, health care workers, and family members
- an interactive map that identifies cancer treatment centres, support resources, and places for Inuit to stay in urban centres during treatment
- other Inuit-specific cancer awareness tools

To see the resources available, visit www.pauktuutit.ca/cancerpartnering.

Seeking participants for a focus group on cancer-related fatigue

Researchers from the University of Ottawa are conducting focus groups on cancer-related fatigue and possible treatments. The study is open to:

- patients diagnosed with breast, prostate or colorectal cancer
- health care professionals with experience in working with cancer patients
- employees or volunteers at a community support center for cancer patients

If you would like to participate, please contact Georden Jones at 613-562-5800, ext. 7152 or gjone046@uottawa.ca.

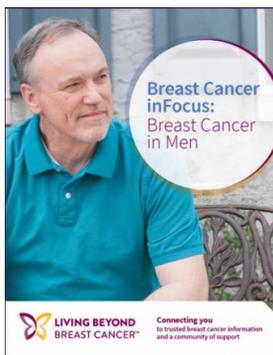
Survey on patient/caregiver awareness and perceptions of subsequent entry biologics (SEBs): Opportunity to inform industry

A new survey, funded by a major pharmaceutical company involved in cancer treatment, is looking for participants to answer questions regarding the patient/caregiver experience of biologic and subsequent entry biologic therapies.

The objective of this market research is to understand patient/caregiver awareness, perceptions, and the importance of issues relating to new developments in cancer treatment. Results from this survey will help inform future educational initiatives associated with new cancer treatments.

To participate in the survey, please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/57D678V>.

New guide to men's breast cancer



Being a man diagnosed with what is usually considered a "woman's disease" can be lonely and sometimes feel embarrassing. Living Beyond Breast Cancer has created a guide to help men cope with this diagnosis and to prepare them for the specific issues they may face. Access the guide at www.lbbc.org/infocusmen.

