PANCREATIC CANCER FACTS

PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK®

Pancreatic cancer is one of the **deadliest** cancers with the **lowest survival rate at just 9 percent.**[1]

- The disease is the **3rd** leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States.[1]
- Around 2020, estimates show that pancreatic cancer will rise to the **2nd leading cause of cancer-related deaths.**[2]
- In 2019, **an estimated 56,770 Americans will be diagnosed** with pancreatic cancer and **45,750 will die from the disease.**[1]

KNOWN RISK FACTORS

- The **cause** of most pancreatic cancer is **unknown**.
- Risk factors for developing pancreatic cancer include:
  - Family history
  - Age
  - Chronic or hereditary pancreatitis
  - Smoking
  - Obesity
  - Long-standing diabetes (five-plus years)

DETECTION

There is **no early detection test** for pancreatic cancer and few effective treatments are available.

SYMPTOMS

Patients with pancreatic cancer **typically experience vague symptoms**, which could also be confused with many other abdominal or gastrointestinal issues. These symptoms can include:

Abdominal and/or mid-to-upper back pain

Weight loss

Nausea/ loss of appetite

Jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes)

Changes in stool (oily or watery)

New-onset diabetes

TREATMENT OPTIONS

SURGERY is only possible in less than 20 percent of patients with adenocarcinoma (which accounts for more than 90 percent of all pancreatic cancers).

RADIATION is sometimes offered before or after surgery and can be combined with chemotherapy.

CHEMOTHERAPY is usually offered when tumors cannot be removed surgically and can be used before and/or after surgery.

CLINICAL TRIALS are an option for eligible pancreatic cancer patients and may offer a patient the best opportunity for a positive outcome.

THE PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK (PANCAN)

With the mission of fighting the world's toughest cancer and saving lives, PanCAN attacks pancreatic cancer on all fronts: research, clinical initiatives, patient services and advocacy. Amplified by a nationwide network of grassroots support, PanCAN is determined to improve patient outcomes today and to double survival by 2020.

1. American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2019. Atlanta:American Cancer Society; 2019. *Five-year survival rate comes from SEER-9 data.

2. Rahib L, Smith BD, Aizenberg R, Rosenzweig AB, Fleshman JM, Matrisian LM. Projecting Cancer Incidence and Deaths to 2030: The Unexpected Burden of Thyroid, Liver, and Pancreas Cancers in the United States. Cancer Res, 2014; 74(11):2913-2921.

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