



# UNDERSTANDING BLADDER CANCER

The bladder, which stores urine may be affected by cancer, if cells in the bladder wall begin to grow out of control. As more cancer cells develop, they form a tumour and, with time, spread to other parts of the body.

## NEWLY DIAGNOSED?

If you've just been diagnosed with bladder cancer, you're not alone, although it may feel like it right now. Your medical team has likely explained the extent of your disease and how they plan to treat it. But you may feel like you have more questions than answers.

### WHERE TO START

#### CHOOSE YOUR DOCTOR

- Consult your GP or Clinic urgently.
- Find a urologist who specialises in bladder diseases.
- Choose a urologist you trust, with whom you feel comfortable, and who will fully inform you of your diagnosis and treatment options.

#### DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR QUESTIONS

Meeting with your urologist can be fairly intimidating, and it's easy to forget what you want to ask. It's also easy to forget the answers you're given! We suggest:

- Writing down your questions **BEFORE** your appointment.
- Better yet, take a family member or friend with you to listen and take notes – so you can focus on what you want to find out.

### QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR:

- Find out your cancer type and stage.
- Ask about any symptoms you have and which ones you need to report to your doctors.
- Ask about tips to manage your symptoms.
- Ask about different ways you can get the information about your disease and treatment. Do you need it in a different language? Do you need it written down?
- Ask about other support services available to you and your loved ones.
- Ask about the latest information available from clinical trials.
- If you don't understand the answers, or you don't get enough information, keep asking questions until you do!

You may need to come back with more questions at your subsequent visits.

NEED  
TO KNOW  
MORE?

@campaign4cancer  

CALL US ON: 082 224 4224

EMAIL US AT: info@campaign4cancer.co.za



CAMPAIGNING  
FOR CANCER