

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear CCRAN Community,

As November approaches, we are preparing for two important moments in our work to **improve care for younger people affected by cancer**.

On **November 19-20**, CCRAN will host our sixth annual **Early Age Onset Cancer Symposium**. This free virtual event will bring together patients, caregivers, clinicians, researchers, advocates and health-system partners to consider how Canada's models of cancer care must evolve to better meet the needs of **people diagnosed under age 50**.

The first day of the Symposium will also mark Toronto's inaugural **Early Age Onset Cancer Awareness Day**. On the evening of November 19, the CN Tower will be illuminated in lavender in recognition of all those affected by early age onset cancer and the urgent need for greater awareness and meaningful system change.

Our efforts to build a more equitable cancer system also extend to **comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP)**. I recently shared an **update on CCRAN's three-phase CGP research initiative**, including the evidence established through Phase I and the important implementation and real-world data work now advancing through Phase II. Much of this work happens behind the scenes, but every interview, research approval and data-sharing agreement brings us closer to understanding what broader access to CGP will require.

This issue also includes two important opportunities for the colorectal cancer community to **help inform treatment access decisions in Canada**. We are inviting patients, survivors and caregivers affected by stage II or III colorectal cancer to complete a confidential survey. We are also seeking people who have received atezolizumab for early-stage colon cancer, or their caregivers, for a confidential telephone interview.

Looking further ahead, we are pleased to share that CCRAN's **My Colorectal Cancer Summit will return in March 2027**. We will share more information as plans are finalized.

Thank you, as always, for sharing these opportunities, lending your voice and helping us work toward a cancer care system that better serves every patient.

With gratitude,



Filomena Servidio-Italiano
President & CEO, CCRAN

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FREE VIRTUAL EVENT • NOVEMBER 19-20, 2026

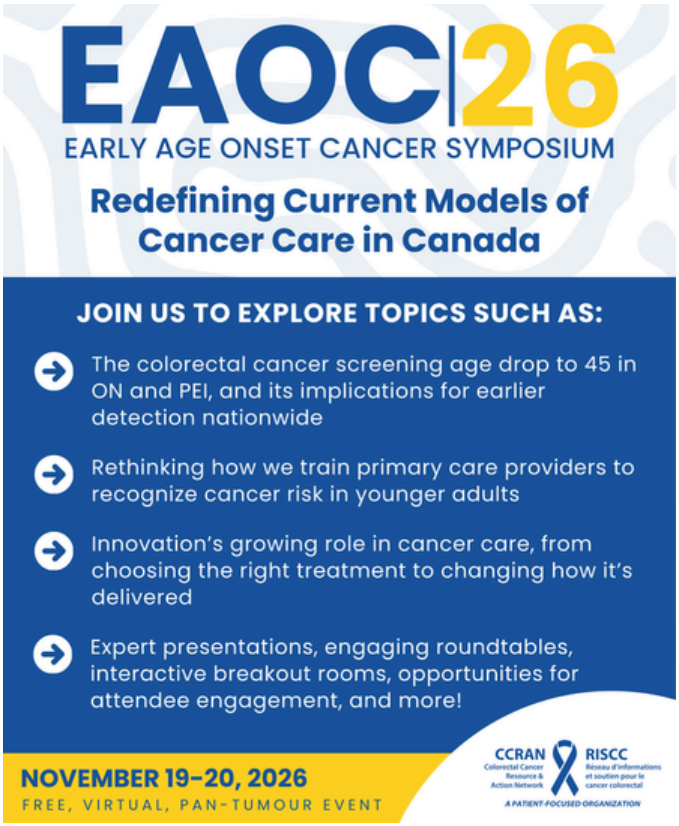
Register for CCRAN's 6th Annual Early Age Onset Cancer Symposium

Early age onset cancers are rising, creating an urgent need to rethink how cancer care is delivered to younger patients.

Join CCRAN virtually on November 19-20, 2026, for our sixth annual Early Age Onset Cancer Symposium. Guided by the theme Early Age Onset Cancer: Redefining Current Models of Cancer Care in Canada, the Symposium will bring together patients, caregivers, clinicians, researchers, advocates and health-system partners for two days of learning, discussion, and collaboration.

Together, we will explore how Canada can build a more responsive, inclusive cancer care system for people diagnosed before age 50. The program will feature patient perspectives throughout, along with expert discussions, interactive breakout sessions and opportunities to collaborate.

The Symposium is free to attend and will offer live captioning in more than 60 languages. Registrants will also receive exclusive early access to the recordings once they become available after the event.



Register now!



A CANADIAN FIRST • NOVEMBER 19, 2026

Toronto to Mark Early Age Onset Cancer Awareness Day

On November 19, 2026, Toronto will become the first city in Canada to officially observe Early Age Onset Cancer Awareness Day — an initiative proudly introduced by CCRAN.

The day recognizes the growing number of people diagnosed with cancer before age 50 and the need for greater awareness, timely diagnosis, age-appropriate care and stronger supports for younger patients and their families.

On the evening of November 19, the CN Tower will be lit in lavender to honour everyone affected by early age onset cancer.

This is an important first step. CCRAN's goal is to have Early Age Onset Cancer Awareness Day recognized nationwide.



Learn more

RESEARCH UPDATE • COMPREHENSIVE GENOMIC PROFILING

Building the Case for CGP in Canada



Read the update

For people facing metastatic cancer, timely access to information that may guide treatment is critical.

Comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP) can identify molecular changes in a tumour that may help determine potential treatment options or eligibility for clinical trials. Yet access to this testing remains uneven across Canada.

In a new LinkedIn article, CCRAN President and CEO Filomena Servidio-Italiano provides an update on CCRAN's three-phase CGP research initiative and the work underway to build a credible case for broader access.

Phase I examined the potential costs and benefits of CGP across five metastatic cancers. The analysis estimated that expanded access could yield 3,440 additional life-years and $87 million to $134 million in health-care savings from 2025 to 2030.

Phase II is now combining cancer-system expertise with real-world data from Alberta and Ontario to identify barriers and the resources and infrastructure required to deliver CGP more broadly. Findings are expected in early 2027 and will inform Phase III of the initiative.

This work is advancing alongside patient group partners, with the valued support of project sponsors, whose collaboration is helping CCRAN advance this important research.





PATIENT VOICES NEEDED • CONFIDENTIAL SURVEY

Help Inform Access to Treatments for Early-Stage Colorectal Cancer

Have you or a loved one experienced stage II or III locally advanced rectal cancer or stage III colon cancer?

CCRAN, the Gastrointestinal Society and the Canadian Cancer Survivor Network are inviting patients, survivors and caregivers to complete a short, confidential survey about their experiences with colorectal cancer and its treatment.

The survey will help inform Canadian funding reviews for:

- **Dostarlimab (JEMPERLI®)** for mismatch repair-deficient (dMMR)/microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) stage II or III locally advanced rectal cancer
- **Atezolizumab (TECENTRIQ®) in combination with chemotherapy** for dMMR/MSI-H stage III colon cancer

You do not need to have received either therapy to participate.

Your perspective can help decision-makers better understand how colorectal cancer and its treatments affect patients and caregivers in the real world.



PATIENT INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY

Have You Received Atezolizumab for Early-Stage Colon Cancer?

CCRAN is seeking patients who have received atezolizumab (TECENTRIQ®) for early-stage colon cancer, as well as their caregivers, to participate in a confidential 45-minute telephone interview.

Atezolizumab, in combination with chemotherapy, is anticipated to undergo a Canadian funding review for the adjuvant treatment of dMMR/MSI-H stage III colon cancer.

Because atezolizumab is not currently funded in Canada for this use, eligible participants from Canada and other countries are welcome. Experiences shared through these interviews will help Canadian decision-makers understand the real-world impact of colon cancer and its treatment, including the needs and priorities of patients and caregivers.

To learn more or express interest, contact Cassandra Macaulay:

Email: cassandra.m@ccran.org
Phone: 1-833-792-2726 ext. 1001







COMING IN 2027

CCRAN's My Colorectal Cancer Summit Returns in 2027

CCRAN's My Colorectal Cancer Summit will return in March 2027 during Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

The Summit brings together patients, caregivers and leading experts for accessible education on colorectal cancer diagnosis, treatment, research and survivorship.

Event dates, format and registration details will be announced soon. Stay tuned!

PATIENT RESOURCE • TREATMENT OPTIONS

Explore Your Potential Treatment Options with My CRC Consultant



My Colorectal Cancer Consultant is a free online tool designed for people living with **metastatic colorectal cancer.**

Using information from their pathology report, patients are guided through a series of questions about their diagnosis. Once completed, the tool provides a **personalized report outlining potential treatment options** that may be appropriate for them.

The goal is to help patients access evidence-based information and have a thoughtful, informed conversation with their treating colorectal oncologist.

Get Your Personalized Report

PATIENT RESOURCE • SIDE EFFECT SUPPORT

Understand and Manage Colorectal Cancer Treatment Side Effects

My Colorectal Cancer Treatment Side Effects is a free online tool for patients who are receiving, or preparing to receive, drug therapy for colorectal cancer.

Patients can search an alphabetized list of side effects to learn about their **possible causes, symptoms and management options.** This trusted resource can help patients recognize side effects early, support their quality of life during treatment and prepare for informed conversations with their treating oncologist.

Explore Treatment Side Effects



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Book the Jumbo Colon for Your Next Event



CCRAN's **Jumbo Colon** is an immersive, inflatable walk-through exhibit that's hard to miss!

Guided by audiovisual screens, visitors can see and feel the colon's various pathologies as they stroll through — including giant polyps, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, diverticulitis, hemorrhoids, and the different stages of colon cancer. It's an engaging way to draw the public in and spark real conversations about colorectal cancer screening and prevention.

Available to book for your next community event, health fair, or conference.

Contact: **Don Wood**, Community & Patient Engagement Specialist, CCRAN, don.w@ccran.org, 1-833-79-CCRAN (22726) ext. 1003

Contact Don



CCRAN is a patient-focused organization dedicated to improving the longevity and quality of life for people affected by colorectal cancer across Canada. Stay connected with us for trusted education, resources, and updates from the colorectal cancer community.

Make a Donation to CCRAN