

January 2024 | ISSUE #28

Patient and Family Advisory Council

Cuthbert Lab & Oncology Outcomes

Welcome

Following a joyful winter break, our teams have been hard at work preparing for big things in 2024. We are submitting several applications to a handful of major grant competitions this winter and continue to work on many ongoing projects. We hope everyone enjoyed a restful holiday season and look forward to working together in 2024!



Cuthbert Lab out for brunch to celebrate the end of 2023!

In this Issue

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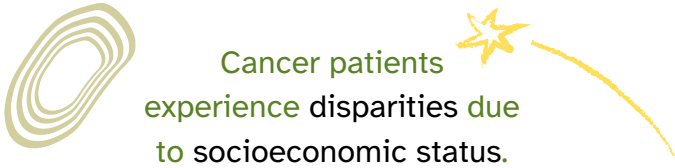
Coming Up

Research Highlights

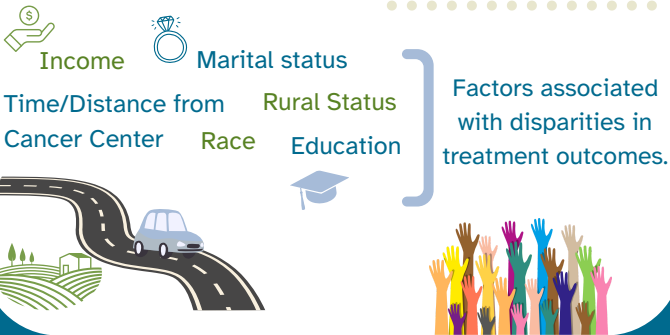
Oncology Outcomes

The Impact of Driving Time, Distance, and Socioeconomic Factors on Outcomes of Patients with Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer.

STUDY PURPOSE



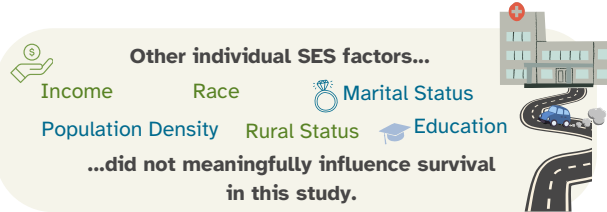
Assess the impact of socioeconomic status factors (SES) on outcomes in patients with locally advanced rectal cancer (LARC) who received neoadjuvant chemoradiation (nCRT) and surgery in 3 Canadian provinces.



CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE IMPACT



Patients undergoing curative intent treatment for rectal cancer experience worse survival when living more than one hour from the cancer center.



This study raises important implications for future allocation of oncology resources.

Further efforts to understand and reduce socioeconomic disparities are warranted.

Click [here](#) for full article.

Cuthbert Lab

Patient-Reported Symptom Burden Near the End of Life in Patients with Gynaecologic Cancers

STUDY PURPOSE



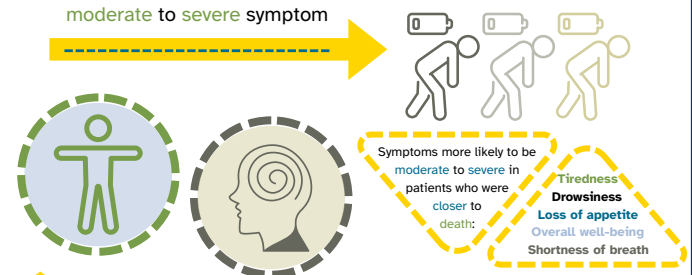
ASSESS

the patient-reported symptom burden in patients with metastatic gynaecological malignancies in the last 6 months of life.

CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE IMPACT

Most commonly reported moderate to severe symptom

Tiredness



Physical symptoms were more common than psychological symptoms.

These results suggest that patients with gynaecologic cancers near end of life are facing an unmet need in regards to symptom management.

Future research should focus on targeted palliative measures to improve the quality of end-of-life care for these patients.

Click [here](#) for full article.

Researcher Spotlight

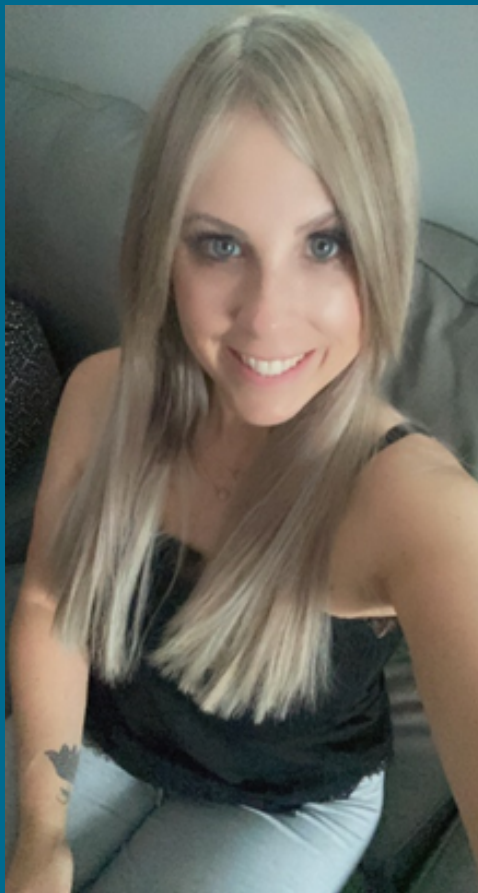
In the spirit of planning for the new year, here are some of the things our PFAC members are looking forward to in 2024:

SARA



“I hope to go to Europe, for the first time, and perhaps the only time, to celebrate spring there. I hope to see Buckingham Palace, The Big Ben, the river Thames, and Piccadilly circus. Then, of course, take the London to Paris train.”

“I’m looking so forward to traveling to see family and great hikes. Looking forward to the waves of life and all that comes with it.”



THERESA



“I am most looking forward to a handful of trips I have planned, spending time in my new home with my husband and dog, and running a half marathon this spring with my sister.”

CHRISTIE

Study

Recruitment



We continue to actively recruit participants for several studies right now, including:

- ▶ Healthcare Provider and Patient Views on Prescribing Opioids for Cancer Patients. [Poster Link to Share](#)
- ▶ Patients Perspectives of Value Frameworks Used to Guide Oncology Treatment Decisions [Poster Link to Share](#)
- ▶ Remote Assessment of Physical Fitness Measures: Reliability and Validity Study [Poster Link to Share](#)

If you think the studies might be relevant to your contacts, please feel free to share the website or poster links. For the additional details on each study click [here](#).

Coming Up

The next newsletter will release in February 2024.

The next PFAC meeting will be on Tues, Feb 13th from 4-5:30pm via zoom.

Previous issues of the PFAC newsletter have been posted online:

<https://www.cuthbertlab.com/advisory-council>

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