Post-Treatment Resources for Young Adults



Mental and Emotional Health

- CancerCare Post Treatment Survivorship Support Group: Connect with others in our free, 15-week online support group for people who have completed their cancer treatment within the past 18 months. In this group led by an oncology social worker, people can share their personal experiences, ways of coping and helpful resources
- Livestrong Finding a Counselor Tool
- Psychology Today Cancer Therapist Search Engine (read descriptions carefully)
- Join an online community or join iaya!
- Some young adults find apps like HeadSpace, Sanvello, and Insight Timer helpful when they are feeling stressed, anxious, or are having trouble sleeping.
- Various national young adult organizations provide resources and programming focused on wellness, coping, and connections with other YAs
 - Check out: Cactus Cancer Society (formerly Lacuna Loft), Elephants & Tea,
 Dear Jack Foundation, and First Descents

Communication, Disclosure, & Relationships (including work/school)

- Cancer & Careers (free career coaching and resume review service)
- Triage Cancer
- Samfund Webinars on cancer & school/workplace
- Semester Off Program (ages 17-25)
- Managing social relationships after cancer
- Things to consider with disclosure in any relationship:
 - When and how much to share
 - Social media presence
 - Set boundaries
 - Ask for help or accommodations as needed
 - Addressing comments from others
 - Elevator speech practice!
 - Back-pocket phrases
 - Identify trusted people (e.g. guidance counselors, teachers, co-workers, managers, peers)
 - Shift in identity: Who am I now?



Managing Long-Term Side Effects

- DFCI Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies & Healthy Living: Check out their program calendar for group classes, pre-recorded classes, and opportunities for individual services.
- Memorial Sloan-Kettering Integrative Medicine: Information about herbs, supplements, and other products to help manage side effects. (Always consult with your medical team for approval before taking any new medications or supplements)
- DFCI Psychologist and sleep specialist, Dr. Eric Zhou: Learn more here. Call 617-632-5124 to make an appointment.

Sexual Health & Intimacy

- Dana-Farber Sexual Health Program for Cancer Patients and Survivors: Call 617-632-4523 or email sexualhealthprogram@dfci.harvard.edu
- Sex and Cancer: What Young Adult Patients Should Know
- Sexual Health information for cancer survivors
- Livestrong: Male Sexual Health After Cancer
- Livestrong: Female Sexual Health After Cancer

Living with Uncertainty and Managing Fear of Recurrence

- Recognize and identify what is in your control vs. out of your control
 - The Worry Decision Tree can be a helpful tool
- Livestrong: Living with Uncertainty
- Livestrong Finding a Counselor Tool
- Psychology Today Cancer Therapist Search Engine (read descriptions carefully)
- Some examples of ways other young adults have coped with cancer anxiety and stress:
 - Social support
 - Music
 - Exercise
 - Massage
 - Cooking
 - Art (painting, photography)
 - Games and puzzles
 - Virtual meetings

- Pets
- Humor
- Spirituality
- Gardening
- Having fun/pleasure (watching movies, reading)
- Writing/journaling
- Breathing exercises/meditation
- Nature