



PREVENT. TREAT. LIVE.

2023 AT A GLANCE ...AND LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

A Progress and Programing Report Created December 2023

Stomach Cancer Awareness Network

dba: Hope For Stomach Cancer | aka: StoCAN / StoCan.org



f t y i | YOUR STOMACH CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY!



SAYING GOODBYE TO 2023 FINDING STRENGTH IN THE STRUGGLE

As we say goodbye to 2023, we acknowledge the emotional rollercoaster it has been for our stomach community. The challenges of witnessing too many lives lost despite the ongoing pursuit of treatment breakthroughs weigh heavily on our hearts.

However, within these **shared struggles, we find strength, unity, and a collective commitment** to those facing stomach cancer. I am so proud to share our 2023 Year-End Report, which captures the moments of resilience, compassion, and advocacy that have defined our path and direction. From the challenges we faced to the victories we celebrated, every page represents our shared efforts and commitment. Your support has been the beacon

guiding us through the complexities and ever-changing landscape of our mission, and we are immensely grateful for the collaborative spirit that defines our community.

As we navigate the path ahead in 2024, we do so with the echoes of the past guiding our steps and the hope propelling us into the future. **Your support, resilience, and shared stories have been the driving force, and as we move into 2024, let's carry forward the hope and determination that binds us together. Together, we stand ready to face the challenges, uplift one another, and continue our pursuit of a world where stomach cancer is no longer a threat. Thank you for being an integral part of our shared journey, and here's to the hope, unity, and progress that await us in the coming year.**

with love, Aki



THE IMPACT OF HOPE


IN 2023

OUR VISION:
TO BRIDGE THE GAPS BETWEEN RESEARCH AND PATIENT CARE

1,233,138
VIEWERS REACHED
WITH 30 STORIES IN NOVEMBER



**HOPE PATIENT
EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT**
75 IN-PERSON ATTENDEES
1000 VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

1300  **ACTIVE
FB SUPPORT GROUP
MEMBERS**

62 PARTNERSHIPS
& COLLABORATIONS



41
VIDEOS

ABOUT GASTROESOPHAGEAL
CANCER ADDED TO YOUTUBE

556K VIEWS + 7.4M MPRESSIONS **YOUTUBE**



SHARED

238

HOPE- IN-A-BAG KITS

24 GROUPS HELD
1060 REGISTRATIONS
280 REGISTERED QUESTIONS

SUPPORT



GROUPS

102 VOLUNTEER
HEALTHCARE
PROVIDERS



CREATED
StomachCancer
Biomarkers.org

there's always hope



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#INSPIREresearch
#ADVOCATEforresearch
#CREATEresearch

HOPE HELPS RESEARCH HAPPEN



WE ARE ON A MISSION TO SPREAD HOPE

OUR MISSION.

Hope for Stomach Cancer provides resources to patients, caregivers and loved ones. We promote early detection and prevention to the general public and medical communities. 'Hope' creates and facilitates programs which enable all of those who are affected by stomach cancer to take actionable steps to overcome each phase of the disease.

OUR VISION.

To bridge the gap between Research and Patient Care by:

- 1) Educating people about stomach cancer to improve health outcomes and increase their quality of life.
- 2) Strengthening the community of patients and their loved ones to alleviate their suffering by providing hope and connection.
- 3) Empowering and uniting all for advancing research and care protocols, for increasing enrollment in clinical trials, and patient care access for diverse populations.

OUR COMMITMENT.

- We connect the stomach cancer community
- We help save lives
- We are constantly working to find a cure
- We are HERE for YOU

OUR ACTIONS.

INSPIRE research.

ADVOCATE for research.

CREATE research.

HOPE FOR STOMACH CANCER IS SO MUCH MORE THAN A PATIENT ADVOCACY GROUP.

Almost everyone involved in our organization has been personally impacted by this disease.

We are caregivers, survivors, patients and loved ones who come together to interact, support and care for one another.

We interface with leading members of both the medical and the pharmaceutical communities. By understanding the latest technological advancements, we are able to better serve our community.

HOW HOPE STARTED.

Aki Smith founded Hope for Stomach Cancer after helping her father, Shigeo Tsuruoka, battle the disease.

The devastating shock of Shigeo's advanced stage diagnosis came in late 2013 but they refused to give up without a fight. They made a deal – Shigeo would fight the disease and Aki would handle everything else. Aki soon found a severe lack of information, guidance and support. Making the decisions on the right team of doctors to treatment options and insurance issues was overwhelming. Today, Shigeo is in remission. Call it luck, a blessing, something else or ALL of the above.

Aki decided to answer the call and made Stomach Cancer Patient Advocacy her life's work (in addition to being a wife, mother and daughter).

She created Hope for *everyone* impacted by stomach cancer.



COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

HOPE WORKS TOGETHER IN PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION IN MANY DYNAMIC CAPACITIES WITH OVER 60 NONPROFITS, HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS, GOVERNMENT ENTITIES, AND COMPANIES.

TargetCancer Foundation	DeGregorio Family Foundation	Haystack Project	Prevent Cancer
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics	Department of Defense	Healing with Hanna Stinson	One Voice Against Cancer
American Association for Cancer Research	Derrick Keith Pearson Foundation, INC	Healthwell Foundation	PCORI
American Cancer Society	Disability Benefits Center	International Gastric Cancer Congress	The Ruesch Center for the Cure of Gastrointestinal Cancers
American Institute For Cancer Research	DLH Foundation	Imerman Angels	Sara Schottenstein Foundation
American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)	Escape to Thrive	Komoto Health	Save Our Stomachs
Bag-It	Esophageal and Stomach Cancer Project	Leal Health	Smart Patients Support Group
Cancer Care	Esophageal Cancer Education Foundation	Massive Bio	Stand Up To Cancer – SU2C
Cancer Commons	The Ester Carrier Memorial Fund	Nancy's List	Stomach Cancer Sisters
Cancer Legal Resource Center	FDA	National Cancer Institute	Stupid Cancer
Cancer Support Community	FORCE	National Coalition For Cancer Survivorship	Stupid Strong
Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation	Gastric Cancer Medical Community	National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN).	The Samfund
Cloztalk	Gastric Cancer Summit at Stanford	National Institute of Health	Tempus
CURE	GI Cancers Alliance	No Stomach for Cancer	Triage Cancer
Deadliest Cancers Coalition	GRYT	Patient Advocate Foundation	Travera
			VuMedi

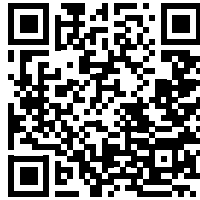


2023 WEBSITE UPDATE MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS

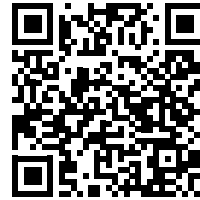
SCAN EACH QR CODE TO SEE EACH OF OUR 2023 NEWSLETTERS



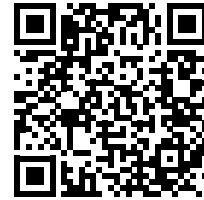
JANUARY 2023



FEBRUARY 2023



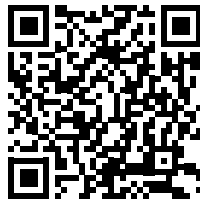
MARCH 2023



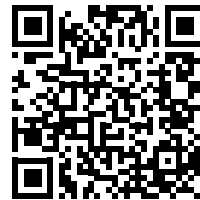
MAY 2023



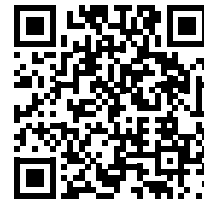
JUNE 2023



AUGUST 2023



SEPTEMBER 2023



OCTOBER 2023



NOVEMBER 2023

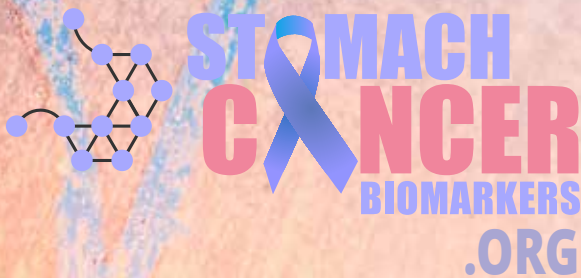


DECEMBER 2023



SUMMIT 2023

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER IN YOUR INBOX AT [STOCAN.ORG](https://stocan.org)



NEW WEBSITE CREATED BIOMARKER INFORMATION

STOMACHCANCERBIOMARKERS.ORG is a community organized campaign driven by Hope for Stomach Cancer with support from the medical community, patient advocates and pharmaceutical organizations. The mission is to build awareness and educational content on stomach cancer biomarkers and lines of therapy to improve the standard of care for stomach cancer patients. Our vision is that this will lead to better practice, increased survivability and quality of life.

When someone finds out they have stomach cancer or that their stomach cancer has come back, it is very easy for them to feel shocked and helpless. At this point, they often need to decide what treatment to get next.

It is very important that the patient with stomach cancer and their main caregiver:

- Know all treatment options
- Talk about these treatment options with their cancer care team
- Learn and understand as much as they can
- Partner with their doctor and cancer care team in making treatment decisions



**CURRENTLY
USED
BIOMARKERS**



**EMERGING
BIOMARKERS**



**TESTING
INFORMATION**



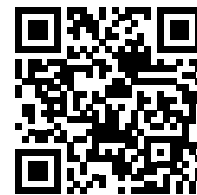
**SUPPORT +
STORIES**



**CLINICAL
TRIAL
INFORMATION**



**PATIENT
RESOURCES**




SCAN TO VISIT THE
BIOMARKER SITE

POWERED BY



NEW WEBSITE CREATED

BIOMARKER INFORMATION



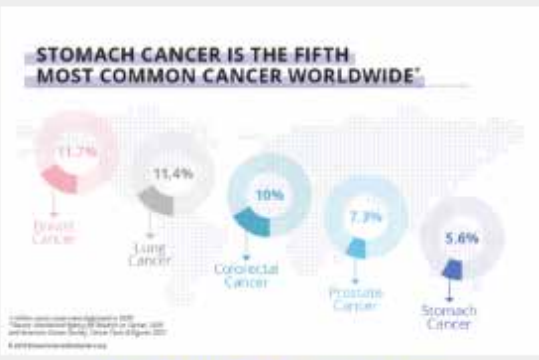
ABOUTBIOMARKERSPATIENT RESOURCESCONTACT

Know Your Stomach Cancer Biomarkers - from Hope For Stomach Cancer

Stomach Cancer Patients Who Know Their Biomarkers Are Better Equipped To Fight.

[LEARN MORE](#)

STOMACH CANCER IS THE FIFTH MOST COMMON CANCER WORLDWIDE*



Cancer Type	Prevalence
Prostate Cancer	11.7%
Lung Cancer	11.4%
Colorectal Cancer	10%
Prostate Cancer	7.7%
Stomach Cancer	5.6%

4 WAYS TO COLLECT TISSUE SAMPLES

- EDG Biopsy**
An endoscope is guided down the throat into the stomach to take a sample of cells in order to obtain a diagnosis and/or tissue for molecular testing.
- Core Needle Biopsy, CT guided**
A core needle takes a sample of cells while guided by CT images in order to obtain a diagnosis and/or tissue for molecular testing.
- Core Needle Biopsy, Ultrasound-Guided**
A core needle takes a sample of cells while guided by a hand-held ultrasound probe in order to obtain a diagnosis and/or tissue for molecular testing.
- Surgical Resection**
A surgeon removes, with laser or scalpel, part or all of the stomach depending on the location of the cancer as well as biological characteristics of the cancer such as the presence or absence of a specific type of signaling cells. From this, a pathologic stage is obtained as well as tissue made available for molecular testing.

About StoCAN Biomarkers

When someone finds out they have stomach cancer or that their stomach cancer has come back, it is very easy for them to feel shocked and helpless. But they don't have to!

[LEARN MORE](#)

What Is A Biomarker?

The word biomarker is short for biological marker. A biomarker is an entity (thing) that can take a snapshot or measure what is happening in the body at a given moment.

[LEARN MORE](#)

NEW WEBSITE CREATED

BIOMARKER INFORMATION

DOWNLOAD RESOURCES AT STOMACHCANCERBIOMARKERS.ORG



Q: What are Stomach Cancer Biomarkers?

A:

CANCER BIOMARKERS

are usually genes (pieces of DNA inside a cell) or proteins (made from genes) that have changes or errors (mutations) in them.

GENE (jeen)

PROTEIN (proh-teen)

1. Tell us what is expected of a person's disease in the future.
2. Act as targets for therapy or predict response to immunotherapy.

Q: How are cancer biomarkers usually measured?

A: Inside a person's cancer or in the blood.

- To measure biomarkers inside a cancer, a doctor has to take a piece (sample) of the person's tumor. This sample is called a biopsy.
- To measure biomarkers in the blood, a blood sample is taken.

Q: What can pretreatment biomarkers be?

A: There are 3 possibilities:

- Diagnostic: What type of cancer does a person have?
- Prognostic: What is expected of the person's disease in the future?
- Predictive: How likely is it that a biomarker-targeted therapy or immunotherapy will work?

Q: Once treatment is started, what are biomarkers used for?

- Short-Term watching: Is the treatment working?
- Extended watching: Is the cancer still stable or in remission?

Q: What is "comprehensive" biomarker testing?

A: Comprehensive (wide-spread) biomarker testing checks for more than one biomarker at once. This helps doctors understand a person's cancer type and choose the best therapy.

- Usually done using a cancer tissue biopsy, but in some cases, a blood sample is used.
- After collecting the cancer tissue or blood, a person's healthcare team sends it to a lab where skilled scientists work out which biomarkers are present within the sample and which treatments should bring about an anticancer response.

Q: How do doctors use the results from comprehensive biomarker testing?

A: Doctors use the results of comprehensive biomarker testing to work out the best treatment for a person's cancer, including:

- FDA-approved therapies available in the clinic
- Therapies under study, which can be accessed through participation in a clinical trial.

Q: When should comprehensive biomarker testing be done?

A: It is a good idea at any point before new treatment, including when the cancer is first discovered, if it comes back after treatment, or if it continues to grow despite treatment.

- A person and their healthcare team should together make the decision to test for biomarkers. This decision depends on many things, including the kind of cancer, how far the cancer has grown (its stage), the current treatment plan, and a person's overall health.

Q: Why should a person undergo comprehensive biomarker testing instead of opting for standard chemotherapy alone without the hassle?

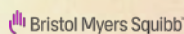
A: Knowing a person's biomarker status can help them get the best therapy for their type of cancer.

- There are many FDA-approved biomarker-guided treatments available for people with cancer.
- Many more yet unapproved biomarkers and their therapies are being studied in clinical trials.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR BIOMARKERS?

To learn more about biomarkers and to read stories by Stomach Cancer patients and survivors who have experienced comprehensive biomarker testing, visit STOMACHCANCERBIOMARKERS.ORG.

POWERED BY:



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2023 SOCIAL MEDIA SPREADING HOPE, ONLINE

We share HOPE to all those affected by this disease. We are constantly researching and providing information. We share your stories of struggles, success and loss.

SOCIAL FOLLOWERS*

- 9,548+ Facebook
- 1,220 Twitter
- 1,989 Instagram
- 2,200 YouTube
- 180 LinkedIn

***WE ARE COMMITTED TO FIND
A CURE TO THIS DISEASE AND
WALK BESIDE YOU IN CONSTANT
SUPPORT.***

FOLLOW US!



@StomachCancerAwarenessNetwork



@StoCANcer



@HopeForStomachCancer



@hope4stomachcancer



@hope-for-stomach-cancer



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK ENGAGEMENT



Performance

Daily

Cumulative



Reach ⓘ

456.8K ↓ 48.5%

Content interactions ⓘ

88.7K ↑ 39.9%

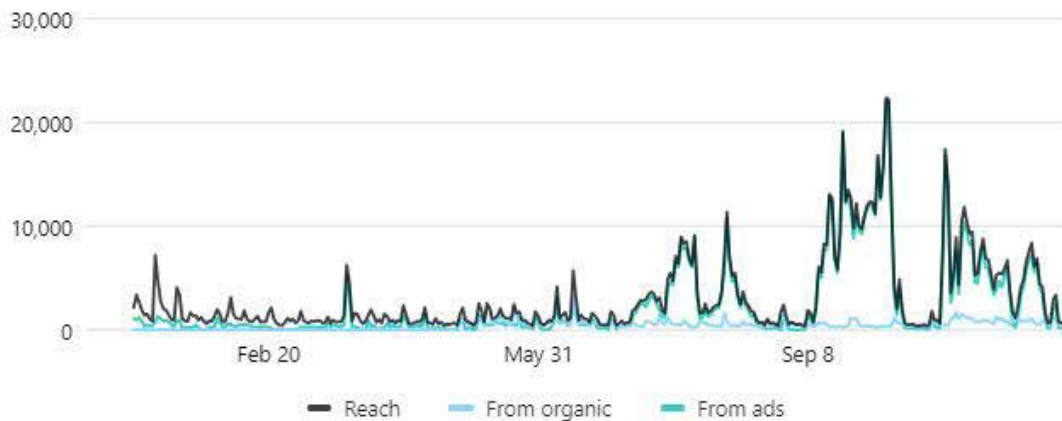
Followers ⓘ

Lifetime

9.5K

Link clicks ⓘ

8.3K ↓ 31.8%



Reach breakdown

Total

456,751 ↓ 48.5%

From organic

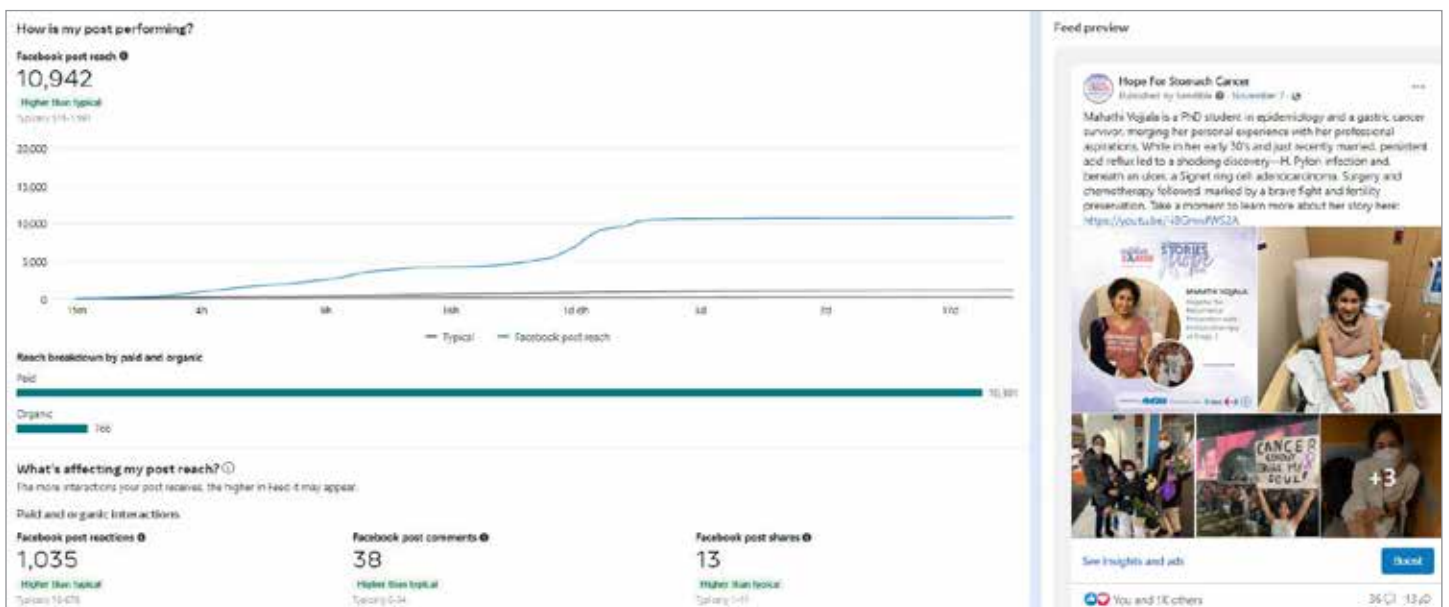
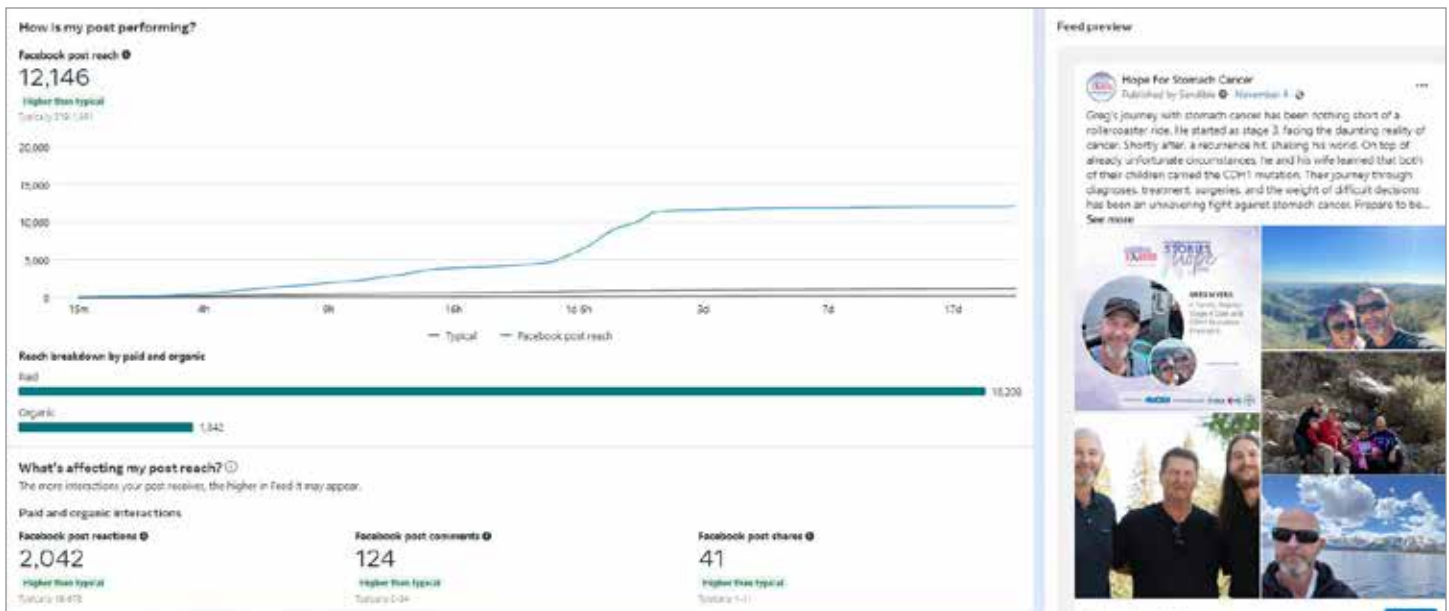
57,378 ↑ 100%

From ads

362,064 ↓ 51.7%

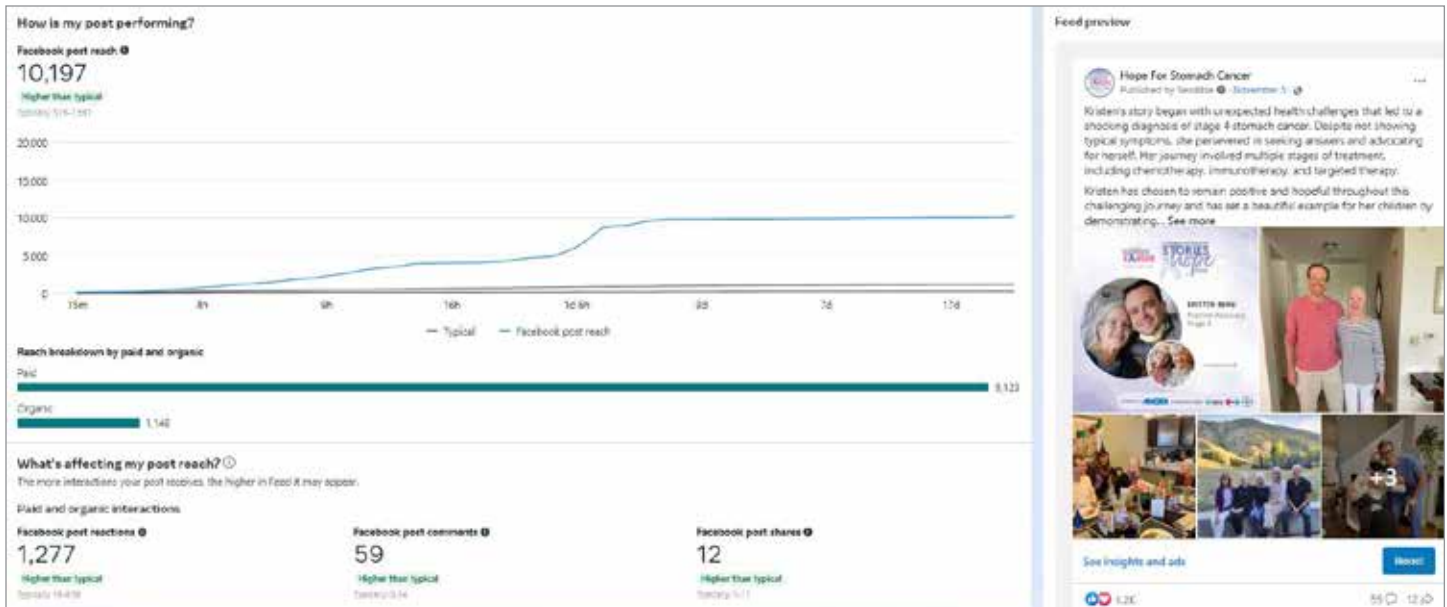


2023 SOCIAL MEDIA FACEBOOK TOP POSTS





2023 SOCIAL MEDIA FACEBOOK TOP POSTS





2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

INSTAGRAM ENGAGEMENT



Performance

Daily

Cumulative



Reach ⓘ

39.5K ↓ 50.4%

Content interactions ⓘ

10.1K ↑ 100%

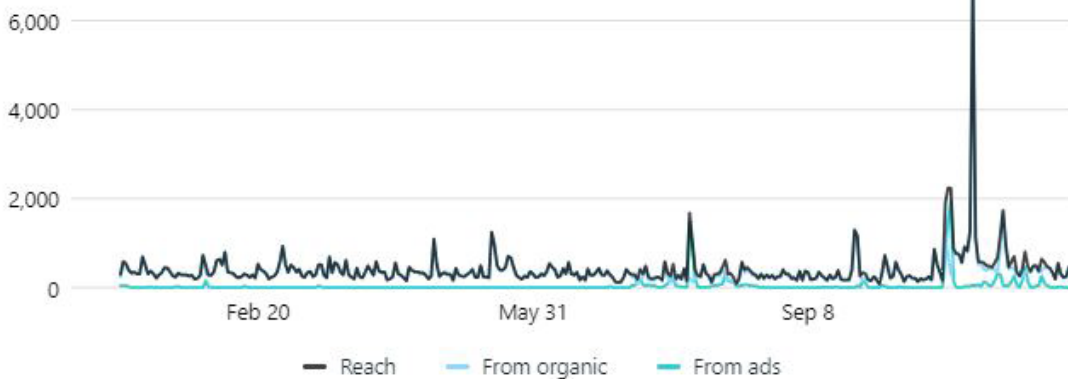
Followers ⓘ

Lifetime

2K

Link clicks ⓘ

283 ↑ 100%



Reach breakdown

Total

39,479 ↓ 50.4%

From organic

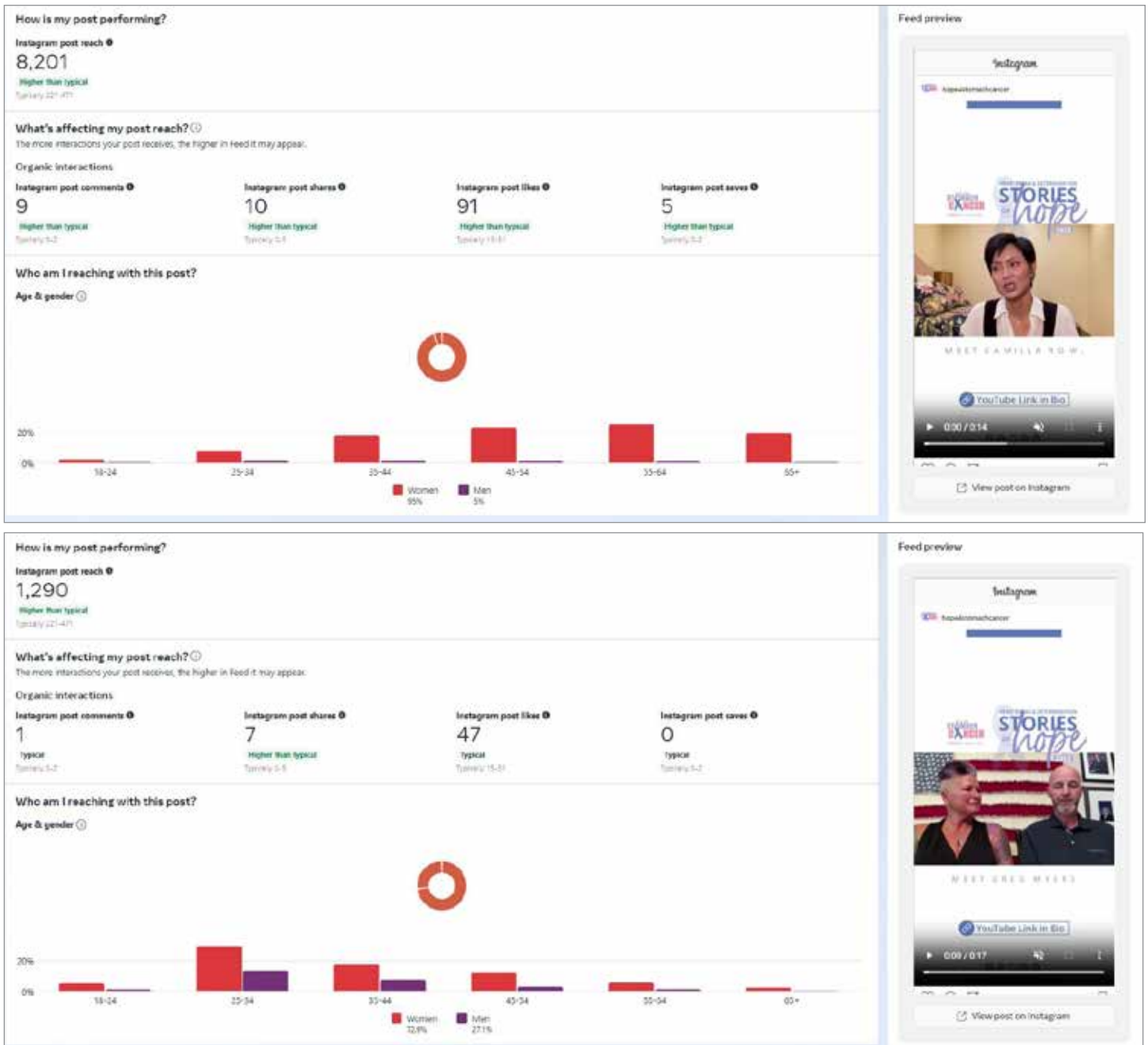
28,262 ↑ 812%

From ads

11,398 ↑ 16.7K%



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA INSTAGRAM TOP POSTS



How is my post performing?

Instagram post reach 📊
1,290
Higher than typical
Typically 227-471

What's affecting my post reach? ⓘ

The more interactions your post receives, the higher in feed it may appear.

Organic interactions

Interaction	Count	Status	Typical Range
Instagram post comments	1	Typical	Typically 3-2
Instagram post shares	7	Higher than typical	Typically 3-5
Instagram post likes	47	Typical	Typically 15-31
Instagram post saves	0	Typical	Typically 3-2

Who am I reaching with this post?

Age & gender ⓘ

Age Group	Women (%)	Men (%)
18-24	~5%	~0%
25-34	~20%	~10%
35-44	~15%	~10%
45-54	~10%	~5%
55-64	~5%	~0%
65+	~2%	~0%

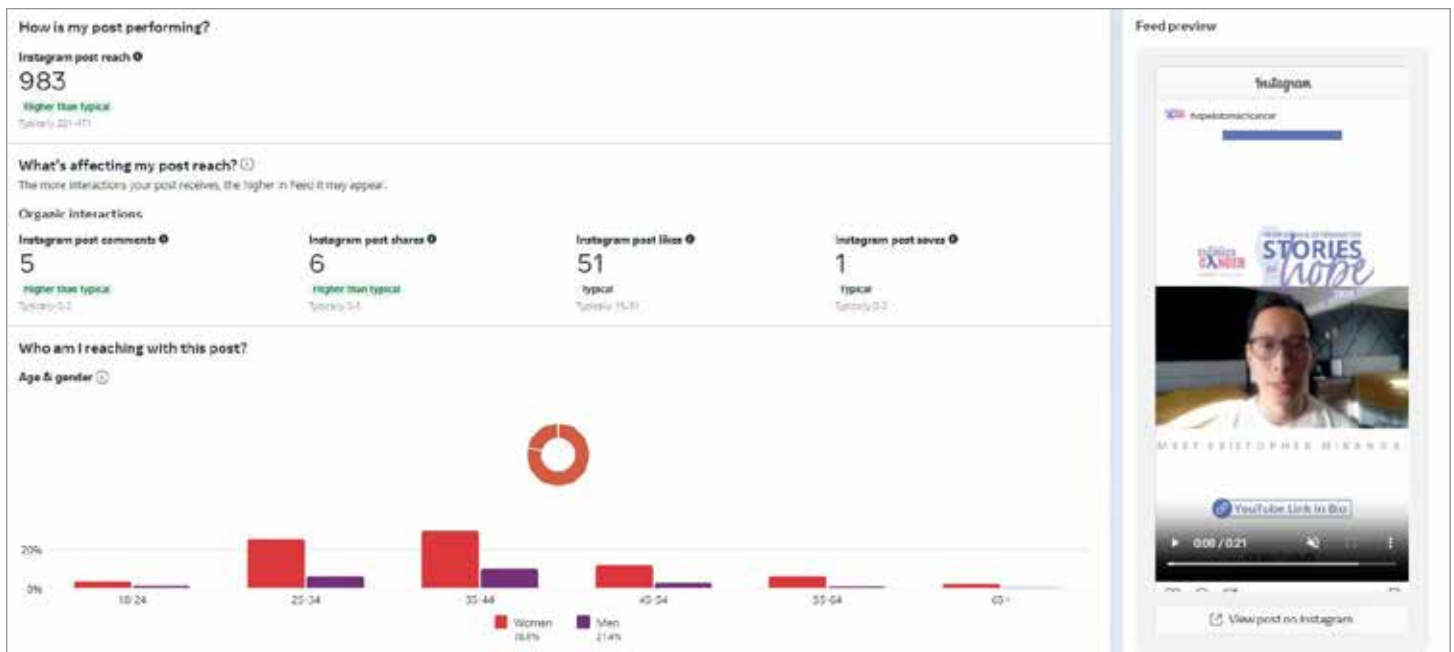
Feed preview

View post on Instagram



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

INSTAGRAM TOP POSTS





2023 SOCIAL MEDIA YOUTUBE ENGAGEMENT



Channel analytics

ADVANCED MODE

Overview **Content** Audience Revenue Research

Dec 12, 2022 - Dec 12, 2023
Custom

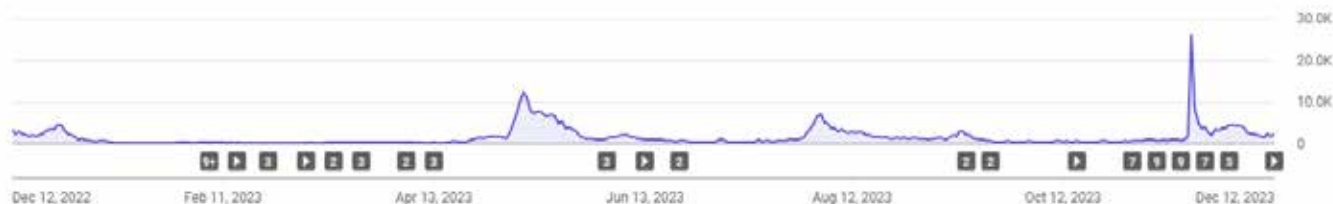
All **Videos** Live Playlists

Views
600.8K

Impressions
8.0M

Impressions click-through rate
5.6%

Average view duration
2:47



[SEE MORE](#)

Top videos

Views · Dec 12, 2022 – Dec 12, 2023

	From Stage 1b to Stage 4: Camilla's Story	<div></div>	304.7K
	June Sweat- Remembering Jewell	<div></div>	45.4K
	Shocking Stage 4 Diagnosis After "Mino..."	<div></div>	45.2K
	Uroosa Khalid: Stage 4 Stomach Cancer...	<div></div>	44.9K
	From Misdiagnoses to Making Demand...	<div></div>	19.2K

HEARTBREAK & DETERMINATION

STORIES

OF

hope

2023

2023 SOCIAL MEDIA 30 STORIES OF HOPE

CAMPAIGN: OVERVIEW

Throughout November 2023, Hope for Stomach Cancer honored gastric cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers with stories that spotlighted a different individual on each day of the month. In total, we published 30 video vignettes on Youtube, all with the aim of drawing attention to this rare diagnosis and increasing the quality of life for anyone facing this illness. We also added three bonus highlight video of our Patient Empowerment Summit, where most of these patients got to meet in-person. The bonus video took place on Thanksgiving, Friendsgiving, and GivingTuesday in lieu of a vignette.

Our campaign featured a diverse audience of patients and caregivers. We covered a wide spectrum of ages, races, backgrounds, and circumstances in an effort to reach as many people as possible. Additionally, one patient, Joseph Kim, 37 years old, passed away shortly after filming his vignette. It was an emotional experience for all of us involved and highlighted the urgency and desperation these patients and their caregivers face.

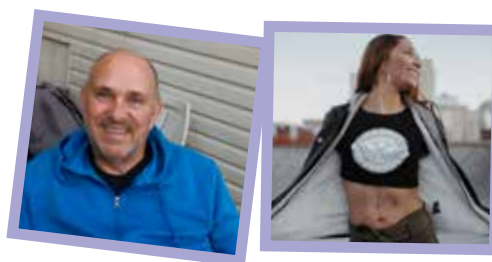
This awareness campaign was made possible with generous support from our pharmaceutical partners: Amgen, Bristol Myers Squibb, Merck, Eisai, and Bayer.

UNDERSTANDING THE NEED

Every person's stomach cancer experience is different, but common themes emerged as we spoke with various patients and caregivers. In many cases, the early signs of stomach cancer were attributed to more common gastrointestinal conditions. Further, by the time that people receive their stomach cancer diagnosis, the disease was often far along, and they had limited options for treatment. Finally, we saw firsthand how gastric cancer can affect people of all ages, from teenagers to aged adults.

Immunotherapy, clinical trials, and other advancements in medicine and technology may offer solutions for patients, but these options are not always available for advanced patients.

Given that more than 30,000 people will be diagnosed with stomach cancer in the United States alone this year, it is imperative to spread awareness of the symptoms and available treatments to improve survivability rates.





2023 SOCIAL MEDIA 30 STORIES OF HOPE



CAMPAIGN RESULTS

In all, more than one million people worldwide were reached with content from the 30 Stories of Hope series in November 2023. Some of the stories reached upwards of 10,000 people on Facebook and well over 1,000 people on Instagram. Each story was promoted by Hope for Stomach Cancer, and in many cases, commenters shared their own stories as well as others from the campaign.

In addition to the social shares, the campaign had an immeasurable impact within the stomach cancer community. Participants made new connections by reading one another's stories and discovered mentors and friends through social sharing. Some patients who shared their stories received renewed hope as they learned of treatment options from other participants.

The stories and videos will remain on our website and social media channels to inspire and help others in the future. We intend to re-purpose this content moving forward so that it continues to reach a broader audience.

TWITTER HIGHLIGHTS

- 5,077 impressions
- 272 engagements

INSTAGRAM CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

- 107 shares
- 1,504 engagements (comments likes, shares, etc)
- 23,684 impressions

FACEBOOK CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

- 423 shares
- 54,901 engagement
- 174,357 people reached
- 2,605 clicks to YouTube from Facebook

YOUTUBE CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

- 86,787 views in first 28 days of posting
- 233 comments
- 1,671 likes
- 3,832 hours of video watched
- 955,633 impressions

VISIT [BIT.LY/HOPE_STORIES](https://bit.ly/hope_stories) TO VIEW AND LEARN FROM EACH OF THE 30 STORIES.



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

30 STORIES OF HOPE



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/T3SKY5NXRFA](https://youtu.be/T3SKY5NXRFA)

11.01.23 | *PRISCILLA BRITTINE*

As we move from Breast Cancer Awareness Month into Stomach Cancer Awareness Month, we are kicking off our 30 stories in 30 days with Priscilla's story.

At just 14, Priscilla lost her mother to stomach cancer, an experience that deeply marked her life. Later, she discovered that her cousin was battling the same disease. This revelation prompted her to take action, leading her to a genetic test that revealed the CDH1 mutation. Priscilla faced an 80% risk of stomach cancer and a 60% risk of breast cancer. Listen to her full story in the link below.



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/5PTKR3PEF34](https://youtu.be/5PTKR3PEF34)

11.02.23 | *DAVID REED*

David was faced with the shocking news that he needed to have his stomach removed due to an ulcer that exploded and turned out to be cancer. His first surgery was aborted due to the size of the cancer. Like many, his journey was filled with unexpected twists and turns, including lung infections, rounds of chemo, and significant weight loss.

Despite the challenges, David never gave up. He embraced the support of his family and friends, sought help for his mental well-being, and learned to appreciate each day as it comes. Hear more about David's story in the link below.

HEARTBREAK & DETERMINATION

STORIES OF *hope*

2023

2023 SOCIAL MEDIA 30 STORIES OF HOPE



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/UE59GYVRUTI](https://youtu.be/UE59GYVRUTI)

11.03.23 | JAMAAL MILLISOCK

Jamaal's journey began with seemingly unrelated symptoms after being hit in the stomach with a ball. A year later he discovered black stool and experienced extreme fatigue, which raised red flags in his mind. In February 2022, he finally received his diagnosis - stage four Signet Ring gastric cancer. This began a challenging path to recovery. Despite the initial shock, Jamaal sought out the best care and is determined to fight this disease. His story is sure to inspire others and offer the reminder that there is always hope.



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/VFHP4N-HDTI](https://youtu.be/VFHP4N-HDTI)

11.04.23 | GREG MYERS

Greg's journey with stomach cancer has been nothing short of a rollercoaster ride. He started as stage 3, facing the daunting reality of cancer. Shortly after, a recurrence hit, shaking his world. On top of already unfortunate circumstances, he and his wife learned that both of their children carried the CDH1 mutation. Their journey through diagnoses, treatment, surgeries, and the weight of difficult decisions has been an unwavering fight against stomach cancer. Prepare to be deeply moved by this families remarkable story of resilience.



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

30 STORIES OF HOPE



11.05.23 | *KRISTEN BIHN*

Kristen's story began with unexpected health challenges that led to a shocking diagnosis of stage 4 stomach cancer. Despite not showing typical symptoms, she persevered in seeking answers and advocating for herself. Her journey involved multiple stages of treatment, including chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and targeted therapy.

Kristen has chosen to remain positive and hopeful throughout this challenging journey and has set a beautiful example for her children by demonstrating grace and strength in the face of adversity. Check out her full story here.

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/P1A4DHAF0JU](https://youtu.be/P1A4DHAF0JU)



11.06.23 | *CAMILLA ROW*

In 2018, Camilla was diagnosed with stage one stomach cancer after years of persistent heartburn. Surgery and chemotherapy brought three quiet years, but in early 2022, her cancer reappeared, spreading to her peritoneum and ovaries. She fought relentlessly, trying chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and innovative treatments. Camilla has shared her story with us before and never fails to inspire us all. Here is an update on her journey...

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/IZD_BVBJ3Y](https://youtu.be/IZD_BVBJ3Y)



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

30 STORIES OF HOPE



11.07.23 | MAHATHI VOJJALA

Mahathi Vojjala is a PhD student in epidemiology and a gastric cancer survivor, merging her personal experience with her professional aspirations.

While in her early 30's and just recently married, persistent acid reflux led to a shocking discovery—H. Pylori infection and, beneath an ulcer, a Signet ring cell adenocarcinoma. Surgery and chemotherapy followed, marked by a brave fight and fertility preservation.

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/-IBGMWFWS2A](https://youtu.be/-IBGMWFWS2A)



11.08.23 | SHAREEN ROSALES

In the midst of the pandemic, Shareen's journey began with exhaustion and symptoms that led to a shocking diagnosis. The news was devastating, but her spirit remained unbroken.

Shareen's resilience and commitment to her family, faith, and holistic healing methods, have been her guiding lights. Now, she's part of a groundbreaking Car t cell therapy trial at UCSF. Her message is clear: faith is stronger than fear.

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/LUGZ4GZKNR0](https://youtu.be/LUGZ4GZKNR0)



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

30 STORIES OF HOPE



11.09.23 | MIKE TURNER

In the spring of 2021, Mike Turner faced difficulty chewing, and swallowing, and, by late October, he endured two congestive heart failures. Emergency doctors discovered a stomach tumor causing heart issues. Surgery was his only chance.

Following the surgery, Mike courageously embraced fresh hurdles, including lactose intolerance and acid reflux. His journey to recovery was filled with ups and downs, but throughout it all his family stood as an unwavering source of support. Please take a moment to hear his full story here:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/VLIGXYK9E7G](https://youtu.be/vligxyk9e7g)



11.10.23 | SUZANNE + CLAIRE

Suzanne's stage 4 diagnosis led to a profound revelation—a hereditary gene variant, CTNNA1, that poses an increased risk for stomach cancer. The whole family underwent testing, and some were found positive, prompting life-altering decisions.

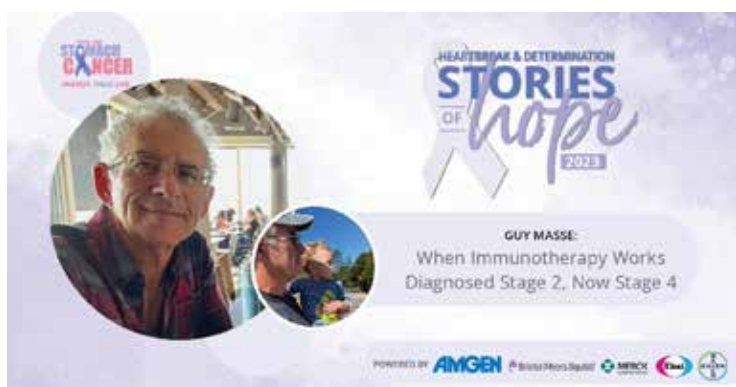
For her daughter Claire, facing her genetic reality was initially daunting, but she found strength in knowledge. She is exploring her options, including the possibility of a gastrectomy, with grace and determination.

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/UXO4TDT3ASA](https://youtu.be/UXO4TDT3ASA)



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

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11.11.23 | *GUY MASSE*

Guy's journey has been filled with unexpected twists and turns. From the moment he heard those daunting words, 'It's cancer, and it's aggressive,' to the challenging journey of treatment, he's discovered the true meaning of resilience.

Nine months without cancer - it's a blessing that defies explanation, and even the doctors are amazed. The path to recovery has been arduous, but it has deepened his appreciation for life's simple joys. Listen to his full story here:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/OZ-PG6JTKA8](https://youtu.be/OZ-PG6JTKA8)



11.12.23 | *LESLIE JESTER*

Dealing with obesity for most of her life, Leslie made a life-changing decision in 1993 when she opted for gastric bypass surgery. The results were astounding - significant weight loss and three decades of good health.

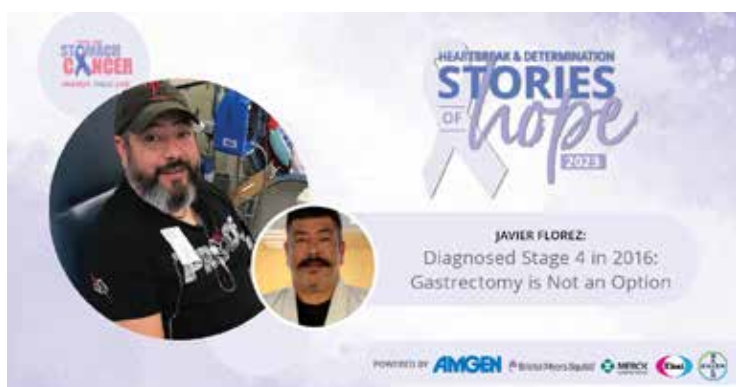
However, in 2017, a new challenge arose: heartburn. As a nurse practitioner specializing in OBGYN and bariatric surgery, she sensed something was wrong, but doctors often attributed her symptoms to unrelated factors. Frustrated, Leslie switched providers, eventually receiving the correct diagnosis and treatment. She underwent chemotherapy and a gastrectomy, emerging as a stage four survivor. Check out her full story here:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/HXR5EWBX-EA](https://youtu.be/HXR5EWBX-EA)



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

30 STORIES OF HOPE



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/QWBTD7YQAQW](https://youtu.be/QWBTD7YQAQW)

11.13.23 | JAVIER FLOREZ

Javier's journey began with an unexpected diagnosis—adenocarcinoma, a term he'd never heard before. It was cancer, originating from his stomach ulcer and spreading to his lungs, defying typical patterns.

Facing a palliative prognosis, he chose local treatment, and miraculously, the masses shrank after six months. Six and a half years later, his quality of life remains normal, an inspiring testament to the power of hope and a positive mindset.



<https://youtu.be/TNSx-TtePd8?si=rTYGmYW9R-1Cqv2R>

11.14.23 | JEFF STEWART

Jeff's journey took unexpected turns as he sought to donate a kidney, only to discover tumors in his kidneys and near his intestine and stomach. The gastric adenocarcinoma, a diffuse type, posed a significant challenge, compounded by the rarity of symptoms due to his previous gastric bypass surgery.

His story has inspired us all as he sheds light on the importance of early detection and the fortune of undergoing a CT scan.



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

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11.15.23 | *AKI SMITH*

Many of you may already know Aki, who's journey with her father's stomach cancer diagnosis led her to create Hope for Stomach Cancer. When her father started chemotherapy, she was handed a pamphlet about colon cancer. Confused and determined to find resources specific to stomach cancer, she decided to take action.

Hear more about her story as well as her future goals for Hope For Stomach Cancer here:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/X_KLCQXPVRG](https://youtu.be/x_klcqxpvrq)



11.16.23 | *JENNIFER DENNIS*

Jennifer's journey began when she started experiencing unexplained health issues, including vomiting and an upset stomach. At first, she dismissed these symptoms as overeating or minor ailments.

However, as her condition worsened, Jennifer decided to consult a doctor. Low hemoglobin levels and persistent discomfort led to an endoscopy and colonoscopy, which ultimately revealed a shocking diagnosis: stomach cancer.

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/XCGJAIR0ZIG](https://youtu.be/xcgjair0zig)



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11.17.23 | KRISTOPHER MIRANDA

Kristopher's story began just one and a half months after his wedding day, a time that should have been filled with joy and celebration. Instead, he was diagnosed with stomach cancer...

His story is filled with a multitude of unexpected challenges, including the possibility of not being able to have children. But despite it all, he kept hope. Please take a moment to hear his heart-wrenching story here:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/JZQ413T-I7C](https://youtu.be/JZQ413T-I7C)



11.18.23 | SUZANNE OTTINGER

We recently shared the story of Suzanne's daughter Claire and her unique journey battling a hereditary gene variant, CTNNA1. Today, we are taking a deeper look at Suzanne's journey as she battles stage 4 gastric cancer, a fight marked by resilience and determination. Please take a moment to hear her story:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/Q3EKBKBFVA4](https://youtu.be/Q3EKBKBFVA4)



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

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11.19.23 | *LAUREN DONITHAN*

As a registered dietitian and loving mother of two, Lauren's story took many unexpected twists as she faced the challenges of misdiagnosis, intense symptoms, and a sudden transition from stage one to stage four. Her initial disbelief turned into a fierce determination to advocate for herself. Take a moment to hear her full story here:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/5VEPE5LBOFA](https://youtu.be/5VEPE5LBOFA)



11.20.23 | *MARIA*

Maria's story underscores the importance of self-advocacy, as Maria fought for six months to be properly diagnosed. She emphasizes the critical need to speak up, even if it means challenging medical professionals. Maria's courage saved her life and serves as a reminder to trust your instincts.

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/QR7S9ETTHMG](https://youtu.be/QR7S9ETTHMG)



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

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11.21.23 | *JOSEPH KIM*

Today we are sharing Joseph Kim's story to bring awareness and highlight the reality that some stage 4 patients face. Joseph's oncology treatment is keeping the stomach cancer stable, but not his peritoneal metastasis. He is left with very little treatment options, because he has a high burden of cancer in his abdominal cavity and there is currently no peritoneal cancer treatment approved in the USA or Canada.

Joseph is a loving husband and father. Please take a moment to watch his story here and share his story to bring the PIPAC Clinical Trial to the USA:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/D67BBLWF4DM](https://youtu.be/D67BBLWF4DM)



11.22.23 | *BETSY AARON*

For Betsy, what started as stomach aches, led to an unexpected diagnosis of stage 4 stomach cancer. The diagnosis was shocking, attributing the cancer to the BRCA1 gene, known for its association with breast cancer.

As Betsy faces the trials of chemotherapy, targeted treatment, and immunotherapy, she eloquently describes it as running a marathon through Jell-O—deprived of energy but determined to push forward.

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/CKLOEJMIPZG](https://youtu.be/CKLOEJMIPZG)



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA 30 STORIES OF HOPE

11.23.23 | *THANKSGIVING*

Thank you to everyone who joined our Empowerment Summit! This community is so special and getting to see so many of you in person is always the greatest gift.

This Thanksgiving we are reflecting on the power of hope and feel so grateful for the inspiration and strength that fuels this community. Sending lots of love!

11.24.23 | *SUMMIT RECAP*

Still reminiscing about this beautiful weekend with some incredible people. Thank you for being here. Thank you for showing up, sharing your stories, and making some unforgettable memories.

30 stories in 30 days starts back up tomorrow, but for now check



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/ABGQFUL5FCC](https://youtu.be/ABGQFUL5FCC)

11.25.23 | *LISSA CANAVAN*

Initially presenting as vague discomfort and indigestion, Lissa's journey took unexpected turns. Diagnostic tests, including endoscopy, ultrasound, and a Haida scan, led to the discovery of a rare type of metastasis, suggesting the possibility of either stomach or bile duct primary cancer—or an extremely uncommon scenario of both.

As her medical team delved deeper, Lissa underwent DNA testing, revealing a significant mutation in CDH1, a mutation often inherited. The results, however, added another layer of complexity, with her specific variant labeled as 'variant of uncertain significance,' leaving her with uncertainty about its inheritability.

HEARTBREAK & DETERMINATION

STORIES OF *hope*

2023

2023 SOCIAL MEDIA 30 STORIES OF HOPE



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/TQ4JjVRL8W](https://youtu.be/TQ4JjVRL8W)

11.26.23 | ALEX HUNT

Alex's story is truly one of resilience and strength, facing stomach cancer head-on at just 17 years old. His journey began with a surreal experience—a hospitalization for a stomach ulcer that ultimately led to a cancer diagnosis.

Navigating through treatments, including a total gastrectomy, chemotherapy, and minor surgeries, Alex endured the physical and emotional challenges of his battle. Remarkably, after a year and four months of intense treatment, he emerged victorious, declared cancer-free.



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/3E_FZEHIST4](https://youtu.be/3E_FZEHIST4)

11.27.23 | KIERSTEN GREENE

Kiersten's story began after experiencing stabbing pains at the bottom of their sternum. Initially, they thought it was related to long COVID, but with the help of a GI specialist, it was revealed that a more thorough examination was necessary. After a series of tests, the news was delivered with heart-wrenching words that no one ever wants to hear: "I'm so sorry, Kiersten, but you have cancer."



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

30 STORIES OF HOPE

11.28.23 | GIVING TUESDAY

On this #GivingTuesday, here's how you can contribute to our cause:

Donate: Your financial support, no matter the size, makes a tangible impact. Every dollar brings us closer to our mission of conquering stomach cancer.

Spread the Word: Share our mission and the importance of Giving Tuesday with your friends and family. Awareness can be just as powerful as financial support.

Volunteer: If you have time and skills to offer, consider

volunteering with our nonprofit. Your dedication is invaluable.

Fundraise: Host a fundraising event or campaign to help us reach our goals.

Stomach cancer affects people from all walks of life, and it's only through our collective efforts that we can bring about meaningful change. Your generous donation on Giving Tuesday can be a beacon of hope, a lifeline for those in need, and another step closer to a world without stomach cancer. Together, We Can Make a Difference



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/R-YWKWCMTQM](https://youtu.be/R-YWKWCMTQM)

11.29.23 | SEADRA + BRYAN CHAGOLLA

Seadra reflects on the events leading up to her husband Bryan's passing from stomach cancer. Together, they have two beautiful children, one of whom came in this world on the same day as his stage 4 diagnosis.

Navigating the role of a caregiver can be overwhelming and isolating. Seadra emphasizes the significance of community support during challenging times, underscoring how having people facing similar circumstances makes a profound difference.

Take a moment to hear Seadra and Bryan's complete story, and join us in sending thoughts and prayers to Bryan's family. His absence is deeply felt, and he is dearly missed.

HEARTBREAK & DETERMINATION

STORIES OF *hope*

2023

2023 SOCIAL MEDIA 30 STORIES OF HOPE



11.30.23 | JACO PITCHON

Jaco's life took an unexpected turn when he faced a Stage 3 cancer diagnosis. The initial plan of four cycles of chemotherapy followed by total gastrectomy took an unexpected turn. Jaco woke up from anesthesia expecting his stomach to be removed, only to learn that metastasis to his peritoneum had altered the plan. Stage 3 had escalated to an even more challenging stage.

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/_N2VNU4QL9O](https://youtu.be/_N2VNU4QL9O)



12.01.23 | JULIA K.

Julia was originally diagnosed with stage 2 stomach cancer in 2018. She fearlessly navigated a total gastrectomy, chemotherapy, and minor surgeries but in 2022, she had a recurrence: making her stage 4.

Despite it all, Julia's advice echoes resilience: "Listen to your gut, advocate for yourself, and find joy in the little things. You never know how long you have, but there are good days ahead."

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/RUW1JSUAH30](https://youtu.be/RUW1JSUAH30)



2023 SOCIAL MEDIA

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[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/WZ_0HHC5Q10](https://youtu.be/WZ_0HHC5Q10)

12.02.23 | *LARISSA CHARNY*

Diagnosed in Los Angeles with a stage 4 diagnosis in 2018, Larissa travelled to Japan to seek novel therapies and treatment options. Larissa underwent a unique treatment involving a Peritoneal Port, not widely known or covered by insurance. She persisted with a three-week-on, one-week-off protocol for over four years, moving states and facilities to find accommodating oncologists in the USA.

As Larissa celebrates five years since her initial diagnosis this December, her story serves as an inspiration to those navigating unconventional paths in the face of cancer.



[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/9IR7-6Z4R_0](https://youtu.be/9IR7-6Z4R_0)

12.03.23 | *RACHEL ORTH*

Navigating forced menopause, the isolation of COVID, and the weight of a terminal diagnosis, Rachel embarked on a quest for options. Not a candidate for surgery or radiation, she turned to clinical trials, a beacon of hope for those with limited choices.

Through highs and lows, Rachel's resilience shines through. Eight rounds of chemotherapy, qualifications, disappointments, and triumphs marked her journey. Two years into a clinical trial, her scans remained stable, defying the odds.



2023 PROGRAMS: SUPPORT GROUPS

Every initiative at Hope for Stomach Cancer is centered on improving survivability rates and access to care for stomach cancer patients.

We hold a unique position as a trusted advocate for patients and families and a valuable partner for stakeholders advancing medical research and treatment options. Thus, our support groups are critical for uniting people in the often fragmented and under-resourced stomach cancer community.

HOPE CURRENTLY PROVIDES TWO MONTHLY VIRTUAL SUPPORT GROUPS.

The goal of each group is to give participants an opportunity to learn about the latest treatments. The group is a safe space to discuss new ideas and provide support, no matter where members are on their treatment journey.

► LIVE, ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP

REGISTER AT [STAGE4SUPPORT.ORG](https://stage4support.org)

ESOPHAGEAL, GEJ, & STOMACH CANCER
Monthly Support Meeting for Stage IV

► **MONDAY 06.26.23**
5PM PST / 8PM EST

► PREVENT. TREAT. LIVE.

HOPE FOR STOMACH CANCER

ECEF
ESOPHAGEAL CANCER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

MORE INFORMATION AT [STOCAN.ORG](https://stocan.org)

MODERATED BY
ESOPHAGEAL
CANCER SURVIVOR
BART FRAZZITTA

GI ONCOLOGIST
DR. SAMUEL
KLEMPNER
Massachusetts
General Hospital

GI ONCOLOGIST
DR. NATALIYA
UBOHA
University of Wisconsin
School of Medicine
and Public Health

The support group is led by a qualified moderator, but retains a relaxed atmosphere to facilitate discussion and inspire candid dialogue among participants of all backgrounds. All groups meet monthly for one hour via Zoom. The sessions are never recorded to maintain privacy and confidentiality. All groups include gastroenterologist oncologist, surgeons or other appropriate medical or trained

practitioners. The meetings are free, but registration is required.

STAGE IV SUPPORT GROUP WITH THE ESOPHAGEAL CANCER EDUCATION FOUNDATION (ECEF)

Hope for Stomach Cancer held 24 support group meetings during 2023. Twelve of these meetings were in conjunction with the Esophageal Cancer Education Foundation (ECEF), another non-profit institution



2023 PROGRAMS: SUPPORT GROUPS

that serves individuals with an esophageal cancer diagnosis. These groups focused on providing support, resources, and guidance for people with either a stage four stomach cancer or esophageal cancer diagnosis, as well as caregivers.

These meetings were moderated by Bart Fraittzza, the Founder of Esophageal Cancer Education Foundation and a 21-year esophageal cancer survivor. Each educational and uplifting meeting featured one or more GI oncologists.

This collaboration between HOPE and ECEF provided a much-needed space for people to discuss questions, concerns, treatments,

and other points regarding their diagnoses. Esophageal and stomach cancer share many characteristics, and patients had the opportunity to learn from each other as they shared their experiences. Further, the online format provided a relaxed atmosphere where people could discuss their thoughts and feelings with professionals outside of the typical clinical setting. These monthly meetings drew between 30-50 participants (accurate?), and many came prepared with personal questions or stories to share.

SURGEON SUPPORT GROUP

A partial or full gastrectomy is an option for many stomach cancer

patients depending on the stage of their diagnosis. Hope for Stomach Cancer's Surgeon Support Group exists to help patients understand the nuances of these complex surgeries so that they can best prepare for their own procedures and for life post-surgery. This oncologist-moderated group met 12 times in 2023 and featured one or more guest surgeons at each meeting.

These groups often drew between 30-50 participants. Some people had stomach cancer diagnoses of their own and were preparing for surgeries, while others had already had a partial or full gastrectomy and needed guidance as they adjusted to life post-surgery. Additionally, caregivers attended these meetings to gain insight into how to best support spouses, family members, and friends who have stomach cancer.

FACEBOOK SUPPORT GROUP

HOPE currently admins an ongoing Facebook support group called Stomach Cancer Support Group. The goal of these online communities is to give participants an opportunity to share personal experiences,



2023 PROGRAMS: SUPPORT GROUPS

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP AT [BIT.LY/HOPE_FBSUPPORTGROUP](https://bit.ly/HOPE_FBSUPPORTGROUP)

learn coping strategies, and provide firsthand information about the disease and/or treatments. These are private groups – by the patients for the patients – which also include medical professionals. HOPE monitors all participant access and reviews postings for appropriate content. With these online communities, participants share in

a safe, intimate environment, and are able to openly discuss personal details about symptoms, diet, lessons learned, and a variety of topics relevant to their disease. These groups are moderated by patients and their caregivers, including HOPE staff. Stomach Cancer Support Group is a valuable and active forum for hundreds of participants to share

their journey, provide lessons learned, offer solutions, and support one another.

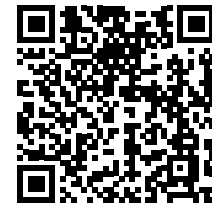
**WE ARE HAPPY TO BE
CONNECTED TO OVER
1,300 MEMBERS!**





DR. DAN CATENACCI'S GASTROESOPHAGEAL CANCER VIDEO LIBRARY

The screenshot shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top, there's a YouTube logo and a search bar. The video title is "Dr. Dan's Video Library for GEC". Below the title is a thumbnail image with the text "HOPE FOR STOMACH CANCER" and "PREVENT. TREAT. LIVE." with a blue ribbon logo. The video player shows the video is at 0:00. Below the player, the video title "1 Introduction Dr Dan's GEC Video Library" is displayed. The channel name is "Hope For Stomach Cancer" with 3.4K subscribers. The video has 150 views and was posted on Feb 7, 2023. The description states: "This is an introduction to the Video Library of Hope for Stomach Cancer on gastroesophageal cancers (GECs), created by Dr. Dan Catenacci. The Video Library is intended for patients and caregivers, as well as students, trainees, and clinical providers of gastroesophageal cancers to better understand the disease and its treatments, in order to help patients through their difficult journey. Having experienced gastric cancer in his family from a young age, Dr. Dan has the goal of helping those having similar experiences. Indeed, Dr. Dan never got to know his grandfather who passed away from gastric cancer at the age of 50 before Dr. Dan was born. This, along with others in his family being diagnosed with gastric cancer, was a calling for Dr. Dan to pursue a vocation in Medicine and Oncology, in order to improve the outcomes for patients diagnosed with gastroesophageal and other gastrointestinal cancers. For online second opinions for patients in or visiting Illinois, please visit: catenaccioconsulting.com". A featured playlist is shown at the bottom with the title "Dr. Dan's GEC Video Library" and 41 videos.



SCAN AND CLICK
TO SEE THE FULL LIST
OF VIDEOS

This is an introduction to the Video Library of Hope for Stomach Cancer on gastroesophageal cancers (GECs), created by Dr. Dan Catenacci. The Video Library is intended for patients and caregivers, as well as students, trainees, and clinical providers of gastroesophageal cancers to better understand the disease and its treatments, in order to help patients through their difficult journey.



DR. DAN CATENACCI'S GASTROESOPHAGEAL CANCER VIDEO LIBRARY

Dr. Dan's GEC Video Library

Hope For Stomach Cancer
41 videos • 423 views • Last updated on Nov 27, 2023

▶ Play all







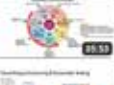















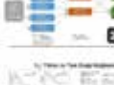



- 1 **1 Introduction Dr Dan's GEC Video Library**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 130 views • 10 months ago
- 2 **2 What and Where is GEC?**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 161 views • 10 months ago
- 3 **3 Who is at Risk for GEC?**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 149 views • 10 months ago
- 4 **4 Why and How is there GEC?**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 88 views • 10 months ago
- 5 **5 What is the Genetic Basis of GEC? Inherited vs Acquired dMMR/MSI-H**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 85 views • 10 months ago
- 6 **6 What is the Genetic Basis of GEC? Inherited vs Acquired CDH1 mutation/loss**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 267 views • 10 months ago
- 7 **7 Increasing Gastroesophageal Cancer in the Young?**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 132 views • 10 months ago
- 8 **8 What are the Symptoms and Signs of GEC?**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 219 views • 10 months ago
- 9 **9 How Do We Diagnose GEC?**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 303 views • 10 months ago
- 10 **10 How Do We Stage GEC?**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 128 views • 10 months ago
- 11 **11 Why Do We Stage GEC?**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 109 views • 10 months ago
- 12 **12 The Role of Second Opinions at the Time of Diagnosis**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 77 views • 10 months ago
- 13 **13 Principles of Treatment: Goals of Care Curative Vs Palliative**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 225 views • 10 months ago
- 14 **14 Principles of Treatment: Medical vs Surgical vs Radiation Oncologists**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 130 views • 10 months ago
- 15 **15 Your Treatment Team and the Role of Second Opinions Through your Treatment Journey**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 68 views • 10 months ago
- 16 **16 Principles of Chemotherapy**
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 14 views • 10 months ago

Having experienced gastric cancer in his family from a young age, Dr. Dan has the goal of helping those having similar experiences. Indeed, Dr. Dan never got to know his grandfather who passed away from gastric cancer at the age of 50 before Dr. Dan was born. This, along with others in his family being diagnosed with gastric cancer, was a calling for Dr. Dan to pursue a vocation in Medicine and Oncology, in order to improve the outcomes for patients diagnosed with gastro-esophageal and other gastrointestinal cancers.

To date, the videos have been viewed over 556K times and have been picked up by VuMedi



DR. DAN CATENACCI'S GASTROESOPHAGEAL CANCER VIDEO LIBRARY


- | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|----|---|--|
| 17 |  | 17 Principles of Targeted Therapy
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 18 views • 8 months ago
43:59 | 32 |  | 32 First Line Therapy for HER2+ GEA
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 167 views • 8 months ago
58:22 |
| 18 |  | 18 Principles of Immunotherapy: Part 1 The Immune System
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 246 views • 8 months ago
1:02:49 | 33 |  | 33 First Line Therapy for HER2- PDL1+ GEA
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 227 views • 8 months ago
1:22:58 |
| 19 |  | 19 Principles of Immunotherapy: Part 2 Cancer Immune Evasion
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 400 views • 8 months ago
29:34 | 34 |  | 34 First Line Therapy for HER2- PDL1- CLDN18.2+ GEA
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 278 views • 8 months ago
43:59 |
| 20 |  | 20 Principles of Immunotherapy: Part 3 Cancer Immunotherapy
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 400 views • 8 months ago
00:50 | 35 |  | 35 First Line Therapy for HER2-, PDL1-, CLDN18.2- GEA
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 255 views • 8 months ago
1:04:09 |
| 21 |  | 21 Principles of Biomarker Testing: Part 1 Tissue Testing
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 290 views • 8 months ago
46:59 | 36 |  | 36 First Line Therapy: Monitoring Success, Maintenance, & Disease Progression
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 87 views • 2 months ago
42:25 |
| 22 |  | 22 Principles of Biomarker Testing: Part 2 The Liquid Biopsy
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 279 views • 8 months ago
1:12:31 | 37 |  | 37 Second Line Therapy
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 116 views • 2 months ago
29:48 |
| 23 |  | 23 Principles of Biomarker Testing: Part 3 Molecular Heterogeneity & Biomarker Assay Perform
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 170 views • 8 months ago
1:02:38 | 38 |  | 38 Second Line & Later Therapy for HER2+
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 90 views • 2 months ago
1:22:48 |
| 24 |  | 24 Principles of Port A Cath Placement & Management
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 936 views • 8 months ago
01:08 | 39 |  | 39 Third Line Therapy & Higher
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 131 views • 2 months ago
27:56 |
| 25 |  | 25 Principles of Radiation Therapy
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 1.1K views • 8 months ago
47:03 | 40 |  | 40 Palliative & Hospice Care
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 123 views • 1 month ago
29:52 |
| 26 |  | 26 Principles of Surgery
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 800 views • 8 months ago
1:04:03 | 41 |  | 41 Management of Treatment Side Effects in the Palliative Setting
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 112 views • 2 weeks ago
54:39 |
| 27 |  | 27 Principles of Clinical Trials
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 160 views • 8 months ago
1:47:28 | | | |
| 28 |  | 28 Principles of Palliative Treatment & Resistance, Therapy Lines, & Person
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 144 views • 8 months ago
16:29 | | | |
| 29 |  | 29 First Line Chemotherapy
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 219 views • 8 months ago
28:49 | | | |
| 30 |  | 30 First Line Chemotherapy Doublet vs Triplet
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 279 views • 7 months ago
31:51 | | | |
| 31 |  | 31 First Line Therapy: The Role of Biomarkers and NCCN Guidelines
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 214 views • 8 months ago
19:13 | | | |
| 32 |  | 32 First Line Therapy for HER2+ GEA
Hope For Stomach Cancer • 167 views • 8 months ago
58:22 | | | |

**THANK YOU TO
DR. DAN CATENACCI
FOR SHARING HIS COLLECTION
WITH HOPE!**



DR. DAN CATENACCI'S GASTROESOPHAGEAL CANCER VIDEO LIBRARY


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**First Line Therapy:
The Role of Biomarkers**

Daniel Catenacci, MD

[EMAIL DANIEL](#)



1L Therapy for Stage 4 Gastroesophageal Cancers: The Role of Biomarkers and NCCN Guidelines

By **HOPE FOR STOMACH CANCER** FEATURING **DANIEL CATENACCI**

December 10, 2023

88 views

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2023 PROGRAMS: HOPE IN A BAG



SCAN AND CLICK
TO ORDER YOUR BAG

PROVIDED TO PATIENTS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH!

Hope for Stomach Cancer has partnered with Bag-It, an Arizona regional nonprofit 501(c)3, to provide Hope-in-a-Bag. This beautiful Tote Bag is filled with physical and digital resources for newly diagnosed patients and caregivers. It includes a Patient Navigation Binder filled with tips and tools to help patients, their families and caregivers to keep track of their appointments, treatment information, lab results and medical history. Publications from the NCI and NCCS cover topics like understanding cancer diagnosis and treatments, questions to ask medical providers, and tips and tools for caregivers. It offers suggestions on how to talk with your friends, family and caregivers about your cancer, nutrition and transitioning to life after treatment.

In addition, Hope-in-a-Bag contains Stomach Cancer specific information:

- Biomarker updates
- NCCN Guidelines for Patients® booklet

In 2024, we are planning to update resources and add dietary recommendations.

IN 2023, WE SENT OUT:

- 223 English bags
- 15 Spanish bags



BRINGING AWARENESS. THE PEDIATRIC PROJECT




HOPE PEDIATRIC PROJECT

FINDING ANSWERS IN HONOR OF JEWELL SWEAT

— #TOMORROWSCHILD —

<h2>2,000</h2> <p>stomach cancer patients between 2016-2021 diagnosed were under the age of 18 <i>(that's approx. 400 a year)!</i></p>	<h2>PEDIATRIC PATIENTS PROGRESS VERY QUICKLY.</h2>	<h2>1,200</h2> <p>Healthcare organizations seeing pediatric patients with the help of 1,800 practitioners.</p>
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HOW YOU CAN HELP ADD PEDIATRICS INTO RESEARCH, CLINICAL TRIALS, AND DRUG DEVELOPMENT:

1. Collaborate in order to build a tumor tissue/germline research lab.
2. Help HOPE create + promote an outreach program for the newly diagnosed.
3. Join our Capitol Hill Coalition as we advocate for legislation to help.

Meet Brayden, an 11-year-old facing an incredibly rare and aggressive form of stomach cancer, called Diffuse Signet Ring Cell Gastric Carcinoma, even though he does not carry the usual gene marker that predisposes patients to this type, making his diagnosis even more rare and unusual. He is the youngest pediatric patient to face this type of cancer and had his stomach removed on 01.10.23.



CALEB
2004-2022



BRAYDEN, 11,
NEWLY DIAGNOSED



JEWELL
2003-2020



MYLES
2007-2022



KAITLYN
2004-2021



ALEX, 24,
DIAGNOSED AT 17

➡ CONTACT JUNE SWEAT TO GET INVOLVED at junesweat@stocan.org

THESE ARE APPROXIMATE FIGURES GENERATED FROM KOMODO'S HEALTHCARE MAP OF 330M U.S. PATIENT JOURNEYS.



STOCAN.ORG

f t y i n

THERE'S ALWAYS *hope*

REV 01.12.2023



Approx. 400 pediatric patients are diagnosed with stomach cancer annually in the USA, and most are not part of clinical trials or research.

Hope For Stomach Cancer has presented the problem.

We have validated the statistics and we know it's actually under-reported.

And now we DEMAND a solution.



BRINGING AWARENESS 2023 CONFERENCES + EVENTS

ASCO GASTROINTESTINAL CANCERS SYMPOSIUM

January 19-21, 2023

Moscone West – San Francisco, CA
HOPE had an exhibit booth
Volunteers: Irasema Chavez, June
Sweat, Camilla Row, Aki Smith

Representation at Project Manager/
Patient Advocate Mixer and Closed
Review Meeting

Aki Smith presented an abstract
poster Bridging the Gap in
Disparity

Mahathi Vojjala was part of the
Scientist Survivor Program

SU2C SCIENTIFIC SUMMIT 2023

January 29-31, 2023

Loews Coronado Bay Resort
Coronado, California

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH ANNUAL MEETING

April 14-19, 2023

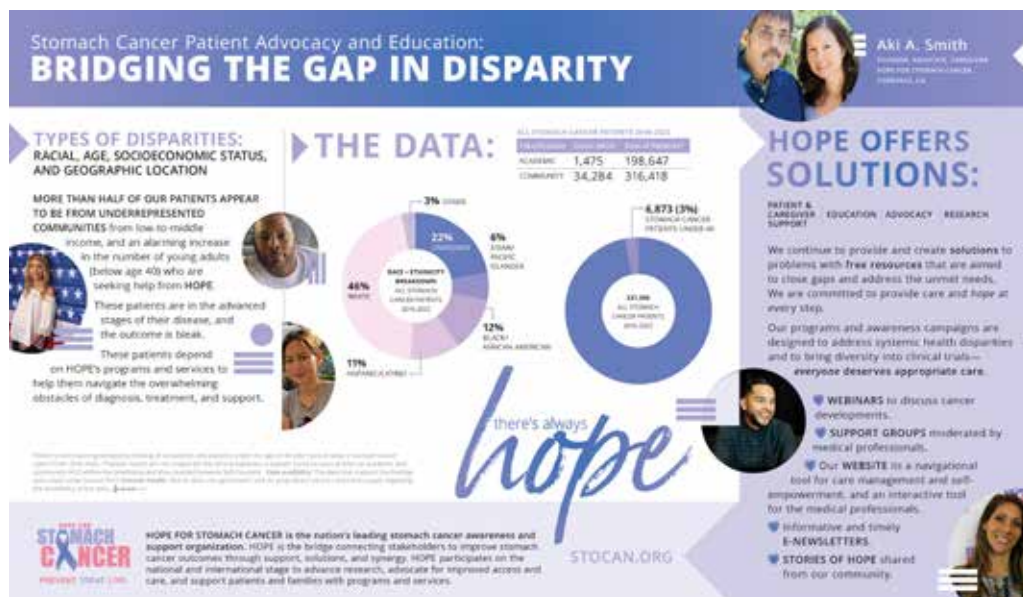
Orlando, FL

HOPE had an exhibit booth
Volunteers: Irasema Chavez, June
Sweat, Aki Smith

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY ANNUAL MEETING

PARTNERING WITH PATIENTS: THE
CORNERSTONE OF CANCER CARE
AND RESEARCH

June 2-6, 2023





BRINGING AWARENESS

2023 CONFERENCES + EVENTS



Chicago, IL

HOPE had an exhibit booth Volunteers: Irasema Chavez, June Sweat, Aki Smith, Nabeela Sekiguchi

SAVE OUR STOMACHS -THE WEST COAST CDH1/ HDGC SYMPOSIUM ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

June 24, 2023

San Diego, CA

Many patients and caregivers attended and Hope for Stomach was a Sponsor



American Association for Cancer Research

16TH AACR CONFERENCE ON THE SCIENCE OF CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES IN RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITIES AND THE MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED
SEP. 29-OCT. 2, 2023 | ORLANDO, FL

AKI SMITH, FOUNDER OF HOPE FOR STOMACH CANCER WILL BE PRESENTING AT THE AACR CONFERENCE:

- Friday, Sep. 29 | Advocate Keynote**
The invisible barriers in cancer care: Our fight for health equity
- Saturday, Sep. 30 | Plenary Session1**
Challenges and alignment with the eight goals of the National Cancer Plan
- Sunday, Oct. 1 | Advocacy at the Bench Panelist**
Building a diverse, equitable, and inclusive cancer patient community

MORE INFORMATION: [BIT.LY/HOPE_AT_AACR2023](https://bit.ly/hope_at_aacr2023)

16TH AACR CONFERENCE ON THE SCIENCE OF CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES IN RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITIES AND THE MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED

In association with the AACR Minorities in Cancer Research Council
September 29-October 2, 2023

Disney's Grand Floridian Resort Orlando, Florida

Aki Smith was the Keynote Advocate Speaker and presentations include:

1. The invisible barriers in cancer care: Our fight for health equity
2. Challenges and alignment with the eight goals of the National Cancer Plan
3. Advocacy at the Bench Panelist



BRINGING AWARENESS

2023 CONFERENCES + EVENTS





BRINGING AWARENESS

2023 MENTORSHIP



Connecting with other patients and caregivers who are experiencing the same diagnosis provides a great deal of support and connection. Hope for Stomach Cancer encourages both informal and formal in-person mentorships and shared experiences. Together, we provide information, compassion and hope.





PATIENT EMPOWERMENT 2023 SUMMIT | LOS ANGELES, CA



— THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS —

PRESENTED BY



POWERED BY





PATIENT EMPOWERMENT

2023 SUMMIT | LOS ANGELES, CA



A VISION TO EMPOWER.

The 2023 Inaugural Patient Empowerment Summit: Building Your Support Community was not just an event; it was an incredible opportunity for us to come together as a community of patients, caregivers, and advocates in our shared journey.

We believe in the healing power of education, awareness, advocacy, linkages to top-notch resources, and an inclusive community. A gastric cancer diagnosis is terrifying, and the stress, physical pain, and unknowns are tremendous emotional burdens. Additionally, living with a serious illness is isolating, and the last few



years of pandemic isolation have been devastating to gastric cancer patients and caregivers.

Our vision is to grow the event into an annual go-to Patient Empowerment Summit for all those impacted by a stomach cancer diagnosis as a chance to experience support, community, and empowering activities.

THE NEED

WE RECOGNIZE:

HEALTH DISPARITIES THAT ARE BARRIERS TO HIGH-QUALITY CARE

Stomach cancer is more common in Hispanic Americans, African Americans, Native Americans, and Asian/Pacific Islanders than it is in non-Hispanic whites (cancer.org). Stomach cancer also is on the rise (67% increase) in young adults aged 25-39 years (NCI). Despite significant advancements in cancer outcomes, inequality persists for diverse and younger patient populations.



PATIENT EMPOWERMENT

2023 SUMMIT | LOS ANGELES, CA

A May 2022 JAMA study found that Black patients are less likely than White patients to receive the standard of care for gastrointestinal cancer surgery – including negative surgical margins and recommended chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

Stomach cancer treatments are evolving, with recent additions to immunotherapy, targeted therapy, and biomarker-specific clinical trials. **Without universal standards of care, protocols are often fragmented and inconsistent.** The summit focused on how patients can gain better access to clinical trial opportunities and overall care. Additionally, far too often, patients of color are treated at local community clinics with inferior resources. In contrast, white patients overwhelmingly comprise the majority treated at world-class research centers and hospitals. **The summit broke down how to create systems change to overcome these barriers.**

TEACH PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS TO SHARE KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT

In 2023, over 11,000 Americans will die from stomach cancer, and upwards of 30,000 will be diagnosed. The population in the United States continues to get more diverse, and nearly half of the population identifies as non-Hispanic white. **The NCI has determined outreach and engagement by community-based efforts to be critical to advancing public awareness and advocacy.** This summit taught patients and supporters to become ambassadors in their communities to help improve survivability rates and access to care. Attendees gained the skills needed to take what they learned at the summit and apply it to their local communities.

ACCESS MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT AS A CORE TREATMENT COMPONENT

A gastric cancer diagnosis is terrifying, and the stress, physical pain, and unknowns are tremendous emotional burdens. There is abundant literature that makes the connection between mental health and cancer survival. A 2020 NIH article entitled “Study Links Mental Health Treatment to Improved Cancer Survival” shares a study that

shows mental health treatment may help people with cancer live



longer. Additionally, gastric cancer survivors almost always express that they are not the same person they were before their diagnosis and treatment. Mental health support can help patients and caregivers address anxiety, depression, and grief, adjust to their “new normal,”



PATIENT EMPOWERMENT

2023 SUMMIT | LOS ANGELES, CA

and help work through stigmas or negative perceptions. The summit shared research related to mental health support as an important treatment modality. The summit shared ways to find skilled therapists working with patients and caregivers who are culturally competent to work with people of various ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds. The summit explored different options that can help make therapy financially feasible by inviting our collaborative partners to lead workshops.

ABOUT THE SUMMIT

Hope for Stomach Cancer held a patient empowerment summit from November 10 to 12 in Los Angeles, CA. **The summit empowered patients and caregivers to self-advocate for the highest quality information and care available.** We aimed to mitigate glaring racial and socioeconomic health disparities by educating and mobilizing patients and supporters to get the best care possible for themselves and, simultaneously, create systems change so that a patient's race and

income are no longer determinants of outcomes.

- Event start date: 11/10/2023 at 5 pm PST
- Event end date: 11/12/23 at 2 pm PST
- Number of Participants: 50-75 participants in person

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

The summit dug deep into

Additionally, the summit had various breakout sessions to choose from throughout the 3-day event led by medical experts, researchers, wellness specialists, patient advocates, and some peer-to-peer formats. A portion of the educational content was live-streamed, but the summit's goal was engaging and interactive to build community. Each evening, there will be optional



strategies for overcoming barriers to the highest quality care for patients of color, including medical treatment at centers of excellence, inclusion in clinical trials, and access to affordable, culturally relevant mental health support and wellness modalities. **A two-hour training, "Becoming a Community Ambassador," equipped participants to help embed the strategies in their communities.**

relaxation modules for patients and caregivers.

The goal of the Los Angeles summit is for patients to build their support system and community to work through the invisible barriers to access novel therapies and care effectively. Additional focus will be placed on self-care and social interactions.

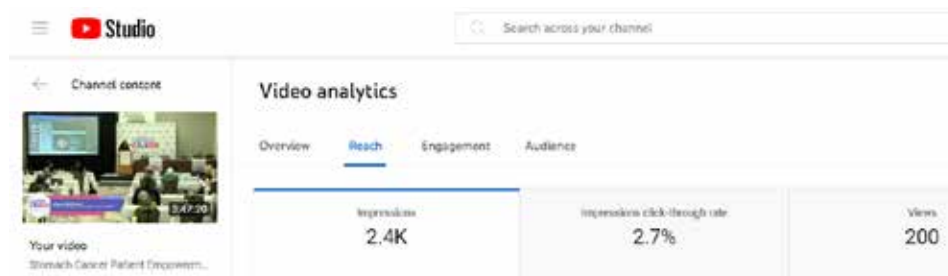
THE SUMMIT WAS FREE FOR PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS.



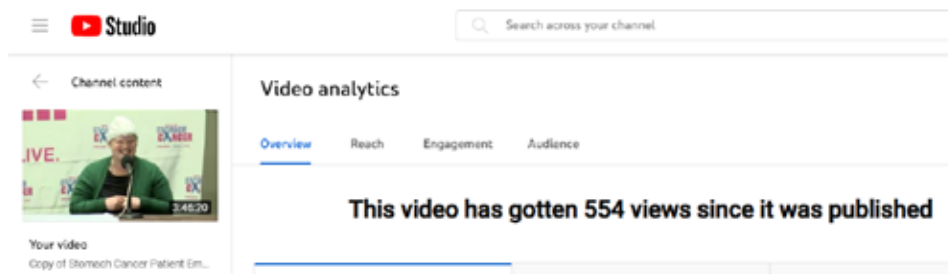
PATIENT EMPOWERMENT

2023 SUMMIT | LOS ANGELES, CA

75 IN-PERSON PARTICIPANTS



200 LIVE, ON-LINE PARTICIPANTS
1-5PM SATURDAY, 11.11.23



7K VIDEO IMPRESSIONS
VIEWS CONTINUE TO GROW!



PATIENT EMPOWERMENT

2023 SUMMIT | LOS ANGELES, CA



MOMENTS OF HOPE





PATIENT EMPOWERMENT

2023 SUMMIT | LOS ANGELES, CA



BETSY AARON

It was an amazing experience to meet people like me: people who live with stomach cancer, and especially people who have been diagnosed with stage 4.

Learning the latest science, and the drugs coming our way soon (but not soon enough...) is heartening. I was also excited by the presentations of the innovative start-ups.

I was especially gratified to meet Aki Smith, Camilla Row, and Dr. Woo- the loveliest of human beings, and perhaps the smartest too.

I look forward to future gatherings and in the meantime I will stay connected to everyone I met.

I am rooting for them and I know they are rooting for me, perhaps that is the greatest gift: community support.

I could not have come up with a better way to celebrate my 70th birthday than to share it with all those who attended.

Aki Smith is perhaps the world's most loving, caring, and organized of all organizers.

And, I now have hope.

Gratitude!!!

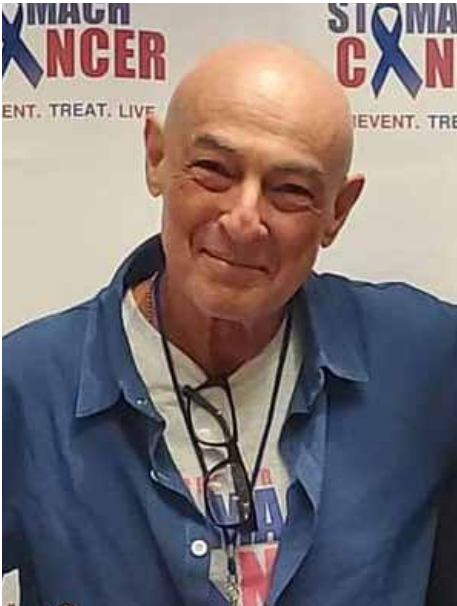


MOMENTS OF HOPE





PATIENT EMPOWERMENT 2023 SUMMIT | LOS ANGELES, CA



YACOV JACK PITCHON

I cannot express in words what a wonderful experience was the patient empowerment summit was for me.

So much knowledge and information I didn't get from my Doctors and such a well organized summit where im sure everyone felt so special, cannot wait for the next one!

Thank you for everything!

**WE ARE
ALREADY
LOOKING
FORWARD
TO 2024!**



LESLIE JESTER

I was just reviewing my notes from our Stomach cancer summit and wanted to thank you and our sponsors again for opening my eyes! I am so hopeful after listening to the presentations, especially the work being done to connect patients with appropriate trials, Genius!

Having the sponsors present to talk to us and answer questions after their talks was so helpful.

One highlight for me was drawing my scars, the emotional connections we all made that night drew us together.

The site, the wonderful food, and the fellowship will be a fond memory for Steve and I.

Thank you,



HOPE IN ACTION

RESEARCH ADVOCACY














SU2C
YEAR 4Team:

An international, interdisciplinary team of experts in gastric cancer, advanced imaging, & molecular biomarkers




Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA

LEADER

 Andrew Chan	 Gary Tearney	 David Ting	 Theodore Hong
 Samuel Klempner	 Daniel Chung	 Ryan Corcoran	 Ralph Weissleder
 David Drew	 Martin Taylor	 Marina Magicheva-Gupta <i>Project Manager</i>	


Columbia University
New York, NY

CO-LEADER



 Sandra Ryeom	 Sam Yoon	 Bang-Jim Kim
---	---	--

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Ctr.
Duarte, CA

Principal

 Yanghee Woo
--

HOPE Stomach Cancer Awareness Network (StoCAN)

 Aki Smith	 Jason Diaz
--	---

Tübingen University Hospital
Tübingen, Germany

 Josef Leibold
--

SAMSUNG Samsung Medical Center
Seoul, Korea

 Principal Jeeyun Lee	 Hyuk Lee
--	--

University of Chicago
Chicago, IL

 Principal Blasé Polite
--

NIH NCI
Rockland, MD

 Jeremy Davis

SU2C-Torrey Coast
Foundation
Gastroesophageal Cancer
Research Team:



Yelena Janjigian, MD
Leader
Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center



Jedd Wolchok, MD, PhD
Co-leader
Weill Cornell Medicine



HOPE IN ACTION

RESEARCH ADVOCACY





HOPE IN ACTION

ADVOCACY ON CAPITOL HILL

The New York Times
The Morning

December 15, 2020



By David Leonhardt

Good morning. The Covid vaccine is here, and we explain how it arrived with stunning speed.

Uncle Sam as entrepreneur

Before Covid-19, the record for the fastest vaccine development — for mumps — was four years. Now, scientists have succeeded in less than a decade of research and experimentation.

Yet yesterday we came home in the morning to the headline in the New York Times: “The Covid vaccine is here.”

It is a stunning story of scientific success.

It also fits a pattern that stretches back decades: **Many of the biggest technological breakthroughs in American history have not sprung from the private sector.** They have instead been the result of collaboration between private companies and the federal government.

The Defense Department, after all, built the internet. Government research and development also led to transistors, silicon chips, radar, jet airplanes, satellites, artificial limbs, cortisone, flat screens and much more, as the M.I.T. economists Jonathan Gruber and Simon Johnson point out in their recent book, “Jump-Starting America.”

“Almost everything about your computer today — and the way you use it — stems from government funding at the early stages,” Gruber and Johnson write.

Why? Because basic research is usually too uncertain and expensive for any one company to afford. Often, it isn’t even clear which future products the research may create. No kitchen appliance company ever would have thought to do the military research that led to the microwave oven.

With Covid, the government did not just fund the research; it also provided the infrastructure to develop and distribute the vaccine. The federal help in recent months has been a record-breaking down-draft of federal money to the states and Washington.

As my colleague at the New York Times wrote in a recent column: “The government has exercised its power to guide the economy and act as the ultimate absorber of risk. The lesson of Covid capitalism is that big business needs big government, and vice versa.”

What are the lessons for the post-Covid world? Solving the biggest challenges, like climate change, will almost certainly depend on a combination of public-sector funding and private-sector ingenuity.

Yet as Gruber and Johnson note, federal funding of science has become a smaller part of the U.S. economy than it used to be. Which means the Covid vaccine is both an inspiring success and something of an exception. “On its face,” they write, “it is a triumph of the federal government.”

In 2024, Hope for Stomach Cancer looks forward to starting our own coalition.

Advocacy on Capitol Hill is essential for advancing stomach cancer research since Congress can make far-reaching decisions about medical funding, research, and awareness that have long-term implications. Therefore, our coalition will focus all governmental initiatives that advance research, early detection efforts, and treatment options for those facing gastric cancer.



HOPE IN ACTION

ADVOCACY + MEMEBERSHIPS ON CAPITOL HILL

HOPE FOR STOMACH CANCER ARE MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING COALITIONS ON CAPITOL HILL

FORCE (Facing Hereditary Cancer Empowered)

FORCE aims to improve the lives of people with genetic cancers through education, awareness, and advocacy. Their wide-ranging programs encompass risk management and treatment, policy and legal issues, and research and clinical trials. They work with a number of partners to advance hereditary cancer research worldwide.

Deadliest Cancers Coalition

This coalition includes multiple non-profit organizations that are

raising awareness and funds for the most persistent and fatal cancers. Deadly cancers are defined as those that have a five-year relative survival rate of below 50 percent. These cancers - including stomach cancer - were identified as part of the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act of 2012.

The Haystack Project

The Haystack Project focuses on treatment options for people with rare and ultra-rare diagnoses. Founded in 2016, the organization recognizes and actively addresses barriers that impede medical

treatment, such as income level or geographic accessibility. They work with policymakers to improve access for those with rare diagnoses who need life-saving treatments.

One Voice Against Cancer (OVAC)

For more than 20 years, OVAC has lobbied tirelessly at the federal level for more funding toward cancer research. It's one of the largest coalitions in Washington DC and aims to represent cancer patients, their families, and healthcare providers nationwide. Their efforts benefit cancer patients from all walks of life.



HOPE joined One Voice Against Cancer for the 2023 Grassroots Lobby Day. This was the first in-person lobby day since 2019!

On March 6 and March 7th, so many of us advocated for cancer research, prevention, and treatment options on Capitol Hill. In addition to the One Voice Against Cancer Capitol Hill meetings, Hope For Stomach Cancer advocates were invited to the White House to meet with the Cancer Moonshot Cabinet and to the National Cancer Institute to discuss policy, research and treatment priorities.

REMEMBERING THOSE
WE LOST IN 2023

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS
TODAY AND ALWAYS



**MELINDA
CHIU**
1965–2022



**EVA
KISELOVA**
1987–2022



**MATT
BUDGELL**
1993–2022



**DELIA
FAIOLA**
1938–2023



**CHARLES
ADAMS**
1946–2023



**JOAN
MARKEY**
1953–2023



**JOSEFA JOY
JACKSON**
1956–2023



**REX
BEARDEN**
1957–2023



**KENNETH SCOTT
BUGOSH**
1957–2023



**FRANCISCO
HERNANDEZ**
1960–2023



**LEANN
KING**
1960–2023



**LYNDA
MURPHY**
1962–2023



**BETTY W.
MCNEELY**
1964–2023



**STEVEN
MIKELS**
1965–2023



**MICHELLE
BUONI**
1966–2023



**DERRICK KEITH
PEARSON**
1966–2023



**RUTHANN QUINTANILLA
BARGENDER**
1967–2023



**ANNA G
AUOUNSDOTTIR**
1968–2023



**SHANDY
ROYE**
1968–2023



**THOMAS
GILLASPAY**
1970–2023



**JJ NEWBY
KETZLE**
1970–2023



**BRIAN
AUSMUS**
1971–2023



**ALEXIS
CHALMERS**
1972–2023



**LESA
STEWART**
1972–2023



**PHIL
LAGO**
1973–2023



**HIEN
MY PHAM**
1974–2023



**SCOTT
NGUYEN**
1974–2023



**BRANDON
SWEENEY**
1974–2023



**ANGELO
GEORGANTAS**
1975–2023



**GARY MARY
CONE JR**
1976–2023



**AARON
POTEAT**
1976–2023



**MATT
LAWRENCE**
1976–2023



**JAMES MARTIN
CASWELL**
1977–2023



**STEPHEN
HUGHES**
1977–2023



**JANA
JACOBS**
1977–2023



**TRAVIS
PERRY**
1977–2023



**JAMES
FORIER**
1978–2023



**MYRIAM
ERDMANN**
1980–2023



**JESSE
FREIBURGER**
1982–2023



**WAYNE E.
GARCIA**
1983–2023



**HARLEY
SPOON**
1983–2023



**NESTOR
SANCHEZ**
1984–2023



**DANIELLE
COLLINS**
1985–2023



**JOSEPH
KIM**
1985–2023



**WENDY HUANG
OBERG**
1985–2023



**JENNA
SCHREIBER**
1985–2023



**LEO
ABRAMOV**
1987–2023



**ANCA
DRUGA**
1987–2023



**HEATHER
HEWITT**
1988–2023



**IRENE ARAGON
KRAMER**
1989–2023



**HEATHER
XIONG LEE**
1990–2023



**REBA BURT
GRAMKOW**
1993–2023

*This candle burns in honor of all
survivors, fighters, and those who
have lost their lives to Stomach*



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

*You have been assigned this mountain
to show others it can be moved.*

—ANONYMOUS

2023 HAS BEEN A REMARKABLE YEAR!

We were able to provide more patients and caregivers with education, support, and resource options as they navigated their diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship. We launched the first-ever Stomach Cancer Biomarkers Website intended for patients, caregivers, and loved ones. At StomachCancerBiomarkers.org, readers can learn and download what a biomarker is, the difference between germline vs somatic mutation, and treatment impact. We hosted our first Patient

Empowerment Summit in Los Angeles and created a deeper community. We fostered a heightened awareness about stomach cancer that translated to more empowered patients, caregivers, and supporters, more involvement by healthcare professionals, and more support from sponsors and other donors.

We will continue to grow and build upon our current programs while pursuing our goals for 2024, which includes:

- **Creating a presence on Capitol Hill to move our initiatives forward and an Advocacy Lobby Day event for all stakeholders.**

We will connect and advance stakeholders in Early Detection and Prevention of Gastric Cancer. Additionally, we will work on policy and legislation to include pediatric stomach cancer patients in research and clinical trials.

- **Organizing a second Stomach Cancer Patient Empowerment Summit in Washington, DC!** This impactful event is where patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals come together to share stories, gain knowledge, and find support. Stay tuned for more details and get ready to be part of a community dedicated to making a difference in the fight against stomach cancer. We look forward



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

to welcoming you to Washington, DC – a city of strength, resilience, and hope.

- **Identifying topics for research papers for our health partners to pursue to advance knowledge and therapeutics.** In other words, Hope will create research to find solutions to the most pressing problems facing gastric cancer patients.
- **Grow our Biomarker Website to educate how biomarker research is improving patient care and outcomes.** Biomarkers help map the path forward for patients through better-informed clinical decisions, through improved efficacy and safety of existing medicines, and through the development of new medicines.
- **Launching a Patient Advocate Hotline** that will provide free, confidential navigational assistance for financial and practical issues that create barriers to treatment and recovery.
- **Growing our support groups by adding a third monthly support group with a focus on grief.** These virtual forums are valuable not

only for the families who have been impacted by stomach cancer but also for the physician facilitators.

- **Adding a second Facebook group called Let's Talk to provide practical and intimate connections among patients and families.** Let's Talk will complement the existing Stomach Cancer Support group, which focuses on disease facts and navigation of the complex field.
- **Leveraging the 2023 year-end momentum from 30 STORIES IN 30 DAYS by broadcasting a weekly story every Tuesday throughout 2024, culminating with 30 STORIES IN 30 DAYS in November 2023.**
We expect to reach millions of more people!



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

NUTRITION GUIDE

COMING IN 2024: NUTRITION GUIDELINES AND RECIPES

Hope for Stomach Cancer is dedicated to the importance of Nutrition in our Patient Advocacy. Supplying your body with the proper nutrients throughout gastric treatment is vital.

Dietary needs change during different stages of treatment and the way the body absorbs nutrients. Information about nutrition during gastric cancer treatment is constantly evolving and Hope is committed to the research and sharing information on nutrition.

STOMACH CANCER NUTRITIONAL GUIDELINES BOOKLET

In partnership with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the goal of this project is to develop an evidence-based educational booklet regarding nutrition for persons with stomach cancer from diagnosis to survivorship. The educational booklet will cover topics from weight management, managing side effects using nutrition, surgery recovery and so much more.

One of the Hope Webinars on Nutrition found on our website is Dietary Interventions for Gastric and Esophageal Cancer: Practical Tools for Patients hosted by Nancee Jaffee, MS, RD. UCLA Vatche & Tamar Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases.

You can also view The Role of Nutrition In Managing Symptoms, Recovering, and Recovering From Stomach Cancer by Natalie Manitus, MPH, RDN.

NOTE. In 2024, the **FREE** booklets will be available online and hard copy. The booklets will also be translated to Spanish.



WE ARE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT

*CORPORATE
MEMBERSHIP:*



*CORE PROGRAMS
AND GROWTH:*





WE ARE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL



WE WILL MISS
YOU, JAKE



JAKE SMITH

October 2012–
November 8, 2023

*To the pup that got me
through my dad's
darkest days in late 2013,
only to succumb to cancer
10 years later.*

I am deeply thankful to everyone who supported Hope for Stomach Cancer in 2023. Every and any way you supported our mission brings us one step closer to mitigating the suffering caused by this disease.

A big and humble appreciation note to our generous donors, both ongoing and new, who enabled the expansion of our reach to educate and serve more patients, families, medical professionals, and friends affected by stomach cancer. Greater awareness yields more options, more resources, and more support – all critical elements to achieve the best possible outcomes.

I hope you found these pages inspirational. Your time, energy, and generosity made it all happen and inspires me every day.

I look forward to seeing what we achieve together in 2024!

with love, Aki

