

# INDIANA CHILDHOOD CANCER TOOLKIT



*Use this toolkit and its resources to  
help promote awareness and action of  
childhood cancer.*

# Resources

## *Quick Data & Statistics*

- **Childhood Cancer Basics:**
  - **15,780 children** are diagnosed with cancer annually in the U.S. (acco.org)
  - The average age of a childhood cancer diagnosis is **6 years old** (acco.org)
  - Cancer remains the **number one** cause of death by disease for children in America (acco.org)
  - Every **2 minutes** a child is diagnosed with cancer
  - **1 in 5 children** diagnosed with cancer will not survive
  - There are many different types of childhood cancer that can be found in different places throughout the body
  - The most common childhood cancer is Leukemia, a type of blood cancer
  - **80%** of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed in the late stage of the disease (stjude.org)
  - Childhood cancer diagnoses have **increased by 24%** over the last 40 years (stjude.org)
  - There are approximately **375,000 adult survivors** of pediatric cancer in the U.S.
  - The most common pediatric cancers include: leukemia, brain and spinal cord tumors, Neuroblastoma, lymphoma, and Wilms Tumor
- **Leukemia:**
  - Childhood leukemia is a rare disease but is the most common form of children and teen cancer
  - About 3 out of 4 leukemias among children and teens are Acute Lymphocytic leukemia (ALL)
  - The remaining cases are Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)
  - There are very few known lifestyle-related or environmental causes of childhood leukemias
  - Some signs and symptoms include: Fatigue, shortness of breath, bleeding gums, easy bruising, severe or frequent nosebleeds, swollen lymph nodes, bone or joint pain, loss of appetite, weight loss, rashes, etc
- **Brain/ Spinal Cord Tumors:**
  - Brain tumors are masses or growths of abnormal cells occurring within the brain or the tissues around it

- The exact cause of a pediatric brain tumor is not known but they often times occur due to mutations in the DNA
- The symptoms and signs vary greatly but some include: headaches or pressure in the head, nausea, vision problems, seizures, speech issues, hearing problems, and personality or behavior changes
- **Neuroblastoma:**
  - A neuroblastoma is a cancerous tumor that starts in the nerve tissue
  - The only known risk factor for neuroblastoma is hereditary
  - It is rare in kids who are older than 10 years old
  - Approximately two-thirds of all children diagnosed with neuroblastoma will have some metastatic disease (childrensnational.org)
  - In America, approximately 700 children are diagnosed with neuroblastoma every year (childrensnational.org)
  - Some common symptoms include: blue colored lumps under the skin, abdominal masses, fever, diarrhea, high blood pressure, fatigue, urination problems, and breathing problems
- **Lymphoma:**
  - There are two types of Lymphoma: Hodgkin and Non-Hodgkin (Non-Hodgkin is more common in children)
  - Lymphomas are the third most common cancers in children
  - They are very uncommon in children under the age of 3 and more common in ages 10-20
  - There are about 800 cases a year in the U.S. (acco.org)
  - This cancer often develops in the lymph nodes or the primary lymphoid organs
  - Some common symptoms include: fatigue, swelling of the lymph nodes, fever, abdominal pain or swelling, weight loss, problems swallowing, sweating, and difficulty breathing
- **Wilms Tumor:**
  - Wilms tumor is a kidney cancer
  - It is the fourth most common type of childhood cancer
  - There are about 500 cases a year in the U.S. (stjude.org)
  - No specific cause is known
  - It usually begins in children under the age of 9 years old
  - Some common symptoms include: fatigue, constipation, blood in the urine, decreased appetite, masses or swelling in the abdomen, and high blood pressure

## Indiana Resources

- [Northwest Indiana Cancer Kids Foundation](#)
- [Riley Children's Foundation](#)

## Media Content

### Websites

- [American Cancer Society Childhood Cancer](#)
- [American Childhood Cancer Organization](#)
- [CureSearch.org](#)
- [Childhood Cancer Support Organizations](#)
- [Kids Health](#)
- [Lymphoma in Children](#)
- [National Cancer Institute Childhood Cancer](#)
- [National Pediatric Cancer Foundation](#)
- [Pediatric Brain Tumors](#)
- [Pediatric Neuroblastoma](#)
- [St. Baldwicks](#)
- [St. Jude](#)
- [Wilm's Tumor](#)

### Infographics & Posters

- [Childhood Cancer Fact Poster](#)
- [September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month](#)
- [Why do we need Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Infographic](#)
- [Childhood Cancer & Genomics](#)
- [Cancer By Numbers](#)
- [Childhood Cancer Fact Sheet](#)