

### The 2020 State of Cancer Survivorship

Wisdom from the Survivor Perspective



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## Today's Insights

- Updates from the Community Oncology Alliance (COA) & COA's Patient Advocacy Network (CPAN)
- 2020 State of Cancer Survivorship: Understanding the patient experience and insight into the post treatment survivor experience

#### To learn more about:

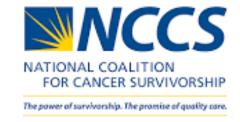
COA's Patient Advocacy Network: <a href="https://www.coaAdvocacy.org">www.coaAdvocacy.org</a>
Community Oncology Alliance: <a href="https://www.communityoncology.org">www.communityoncology.org</a>
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship: <a href="https://www.canceradvocacy.org">www.canceradvocacy.org</a>



## Cancer Survivorship Study

Findings from In-depth Interviews and National Surveys of Cancer Patients and Survivors

August 2020



## Methodology



Phase

#### **In-depth Interviews with Cancer Patients and Survivors**

- Fifteen (15) virtual interviews, approximately 60 minutes-each, March 2020
- Diagnosed within the last 2 years; mix of stages and cancer types
- Nationwide recruit: mix of age (half over 65+), race/ethnicity, income (half low income, half middle-upper)

Phase 2

#### **Nationwide Survey of Adult Cancer Patients and Survivors**

- Nationwide sample of n=840, fielded April 15-May 1, 2020
- Oversamples of Blacks, Hispanics, low income, 65+ to analyze these groups with more statistical reliability
- Set quotas to make sure representative of US cancer population: age, gender, race/ethnicity, and region (re: ACS and NCI)
- Used Dynata, a non-probability online panel provider

Phase

#### Nationwide Survey of "NCCS Connected" Patients and Survivors

- Nationwide sample of n=479, same field period as above
- Emailed invitation to all NCCS email contacts, inviting them to take the survey + 2 reminders

### **National Sample**

#### **NCCS Connected**



<b>49%</b> Male	16% Male
51% Female	84% Female

#### Age

Gender

9% Age 18-44	13% Age 18-44
38% Age 45-64	<b>53%</b> Age 45-64
<b>52%</b> Age 65+	31% Age 65+

#### Education

<b>19%</b> Less than college	3% Less than college
<b>32%</b> Some college/2-year degree	24% Some college/2-year degree
26% Bachelor's degree	26% Bachelor's degree
22% Postgraduate degree	48% Postgraduate degree

#### Income

<b>17%</b> Less than \$25k	10% Less than \$25k
<b>26%</b> \$25k-\$50k	14% \$25k-\$50k
<b>20%</b> \$50k-\$75k	14% \$50k-\$75k
14% \$75k-\$100k	15% \$75k-\$100k
20% More than \$100k	<b>35%</b> More than \$100k

#### Insurance

56% Medicare	38% Medicare
13% Medicaid	5% Medicaid
24% Private/employer	43% Private/employer
% Private/spouse or parents	13% Private/spouse or parents

#### State of Physical

7% Excellent	10% Excellent
50% Good	<b>59%</b> Good
<b>37%</b> Fair	25% Fair
6% Poor	5% Poor

#### Treatment

43% had Chemotherapy	<b>75%</b> had Chemotherapy
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## Overview of Findings





#### **Mindset**

"Doctor Knows Best" about treatment is the prevailing mindset of cancer patients nationally, and majorities say they are satisfied with their care. But if you go a layer deeper, there are cracks in this foundation.

And those who report being *more* involved in treatment decisions tend to have more positive post-treatment experiences.



#### **Expectations**

Patients who are
"connected" to an
advocacy group like
NCCS are clearly a
different audience. They
have higher expectations
of care and their HCP's,
and more interested in a
range of resources to
help them with decisionmaking and selfadvocacy.



#### **Side Effects**

Fatigue and mental health issues continue to be the most common side-effects. Few feel their HCP's are very helpful in addressing these during treatment, nor do most doctors bring-up these key aspects of functional status during post-treatment care.



#### Concerns

Survivors are most concerned about a range of physical health and financial issues. These continue to be areas where they do not get a lot of support from their health care team. There is interest in a website where info can be customized by cancer type.



## **Demographic Differences**

Across the survey, there are a few key audiences whose post-treatment concerns are greater:
younger, Blacks,
Hispanics, women, and chemotherapy patients.

# Nationally, Most Cancer Patients Say They Rely on Doctors to Make Treatment Decisions



• By almost a 3-to-1 margin, cancer patients/survivors nationally say that they relied on their doctor to tell them what treatment option was best, vs. being involved in the research and decision.

"I rely/relied on the doctor to decide on treatment options and chose the best course of action"

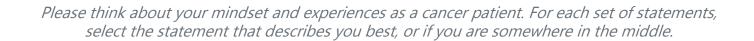
61% describes

"Somewhere in the middle"

18% describes

"I am/was very involved in researching and deciding on the best treatment options for me"

22% describes



# The Survey Suggests that Initial Involvement Helps Improve Post Treatment Care Experiences

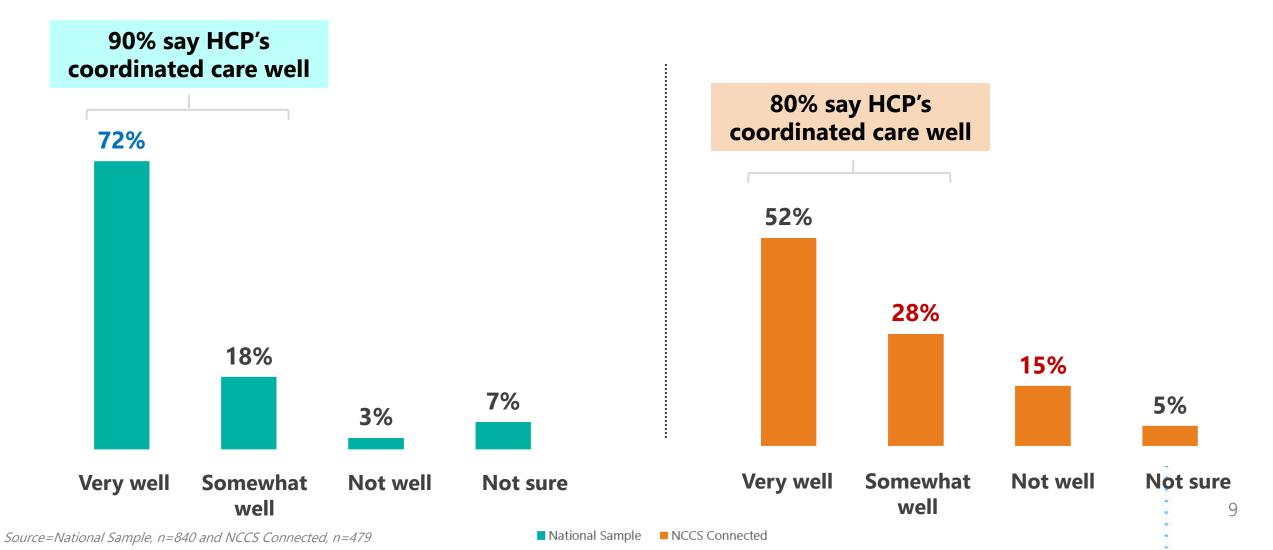


Patients Who Report Being Involved in Treatment Decisions	Patients Who Report Relying on their Doctor
Felt prepared for post treatment, 55%	Versus 50%
Spoke to their HCP about post- treatment care, <b>53%</b>	Versus 40%
Describe their post-treatment medical care as "excellent," <b>59%</b>	Versus 50%

# Most Cancer Patients Nationally Believe their HCP's Did a Good Job Coordinating their Care

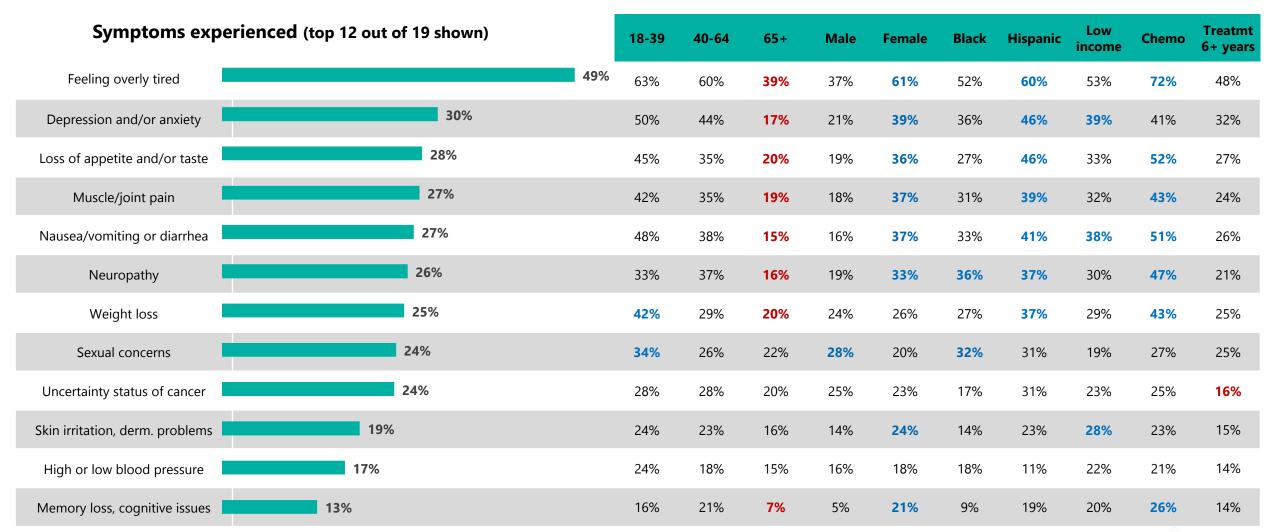


 Those who are connected to NCCS are less likely to feel this way strongly and are generally have higher expectations of health care professionals.



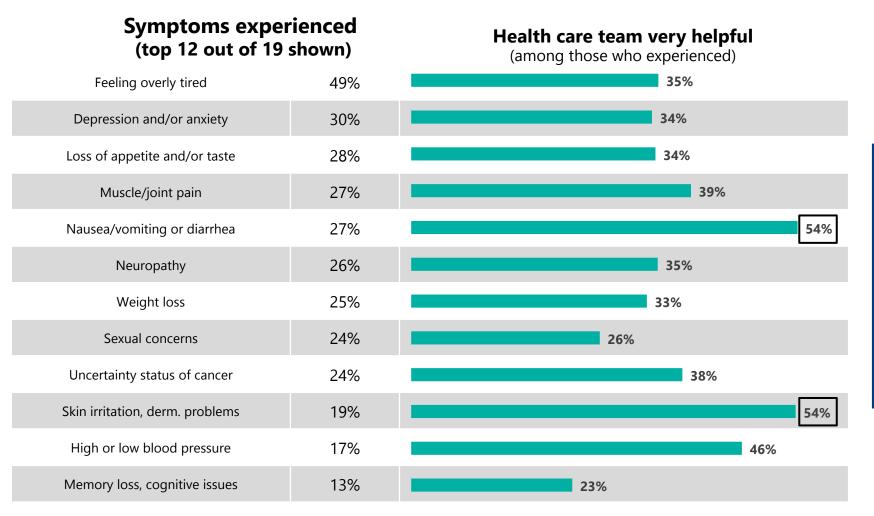
## Fatigue & Depression Are Most Common Side Effects





# Going a Layer Deeper, Less Than Half Say Their HCP Was Helpful Addressing *Specific* Side Effects



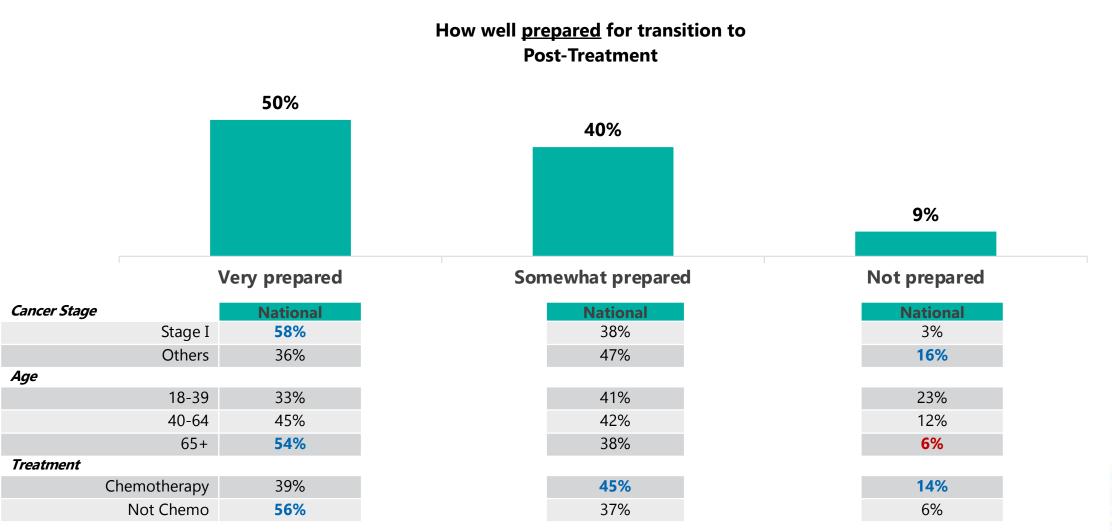


What bothered me, you have heavy doses of chemo which affects your body, but no one says it will affect your brain.
When I mentioned to my oncologist that I was depressed and anxious, knot in my stomach, shaking. He'd say this is very normal, it will go away. - Female, 65, Lymphoma NH

# Half of Patients Describe Themselves a "Very Prepared" for Post-Treatment



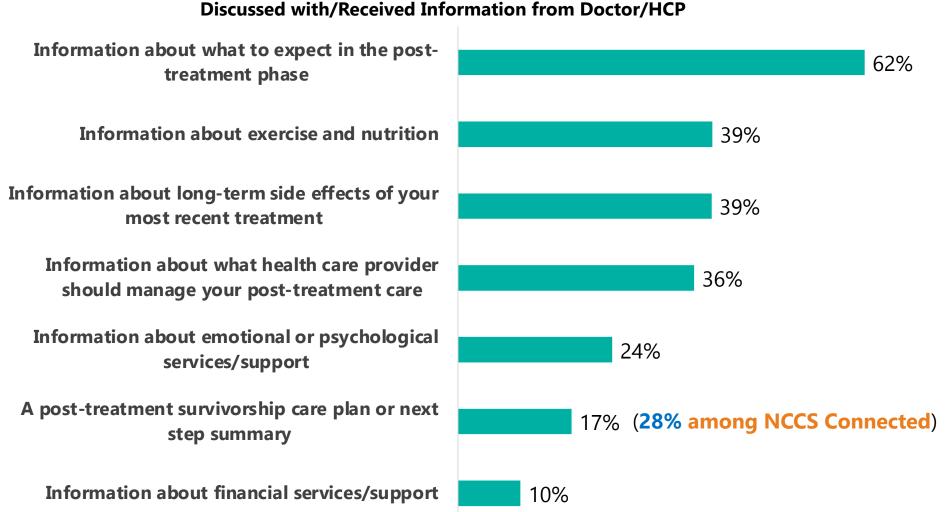
Younger patients, those in later stage cancers, and those who had chemo are less confident.



## Majorities Discussed What to Expect Post-Treatment; Fewer Got Additional Information

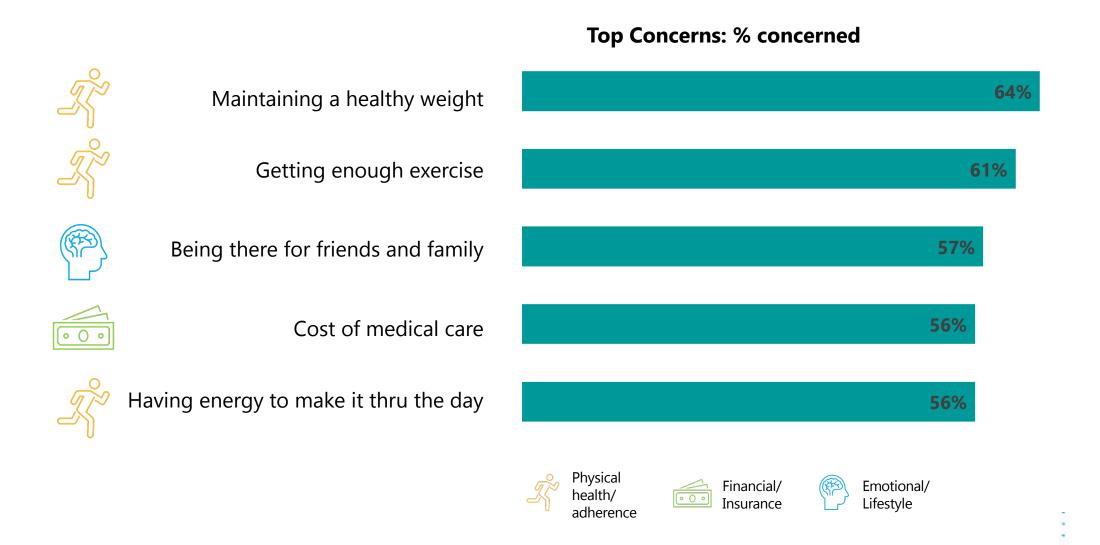


 Few report getting a post-treatment survivorship plan (although this is significantly higher among the NCCS Connected audience).



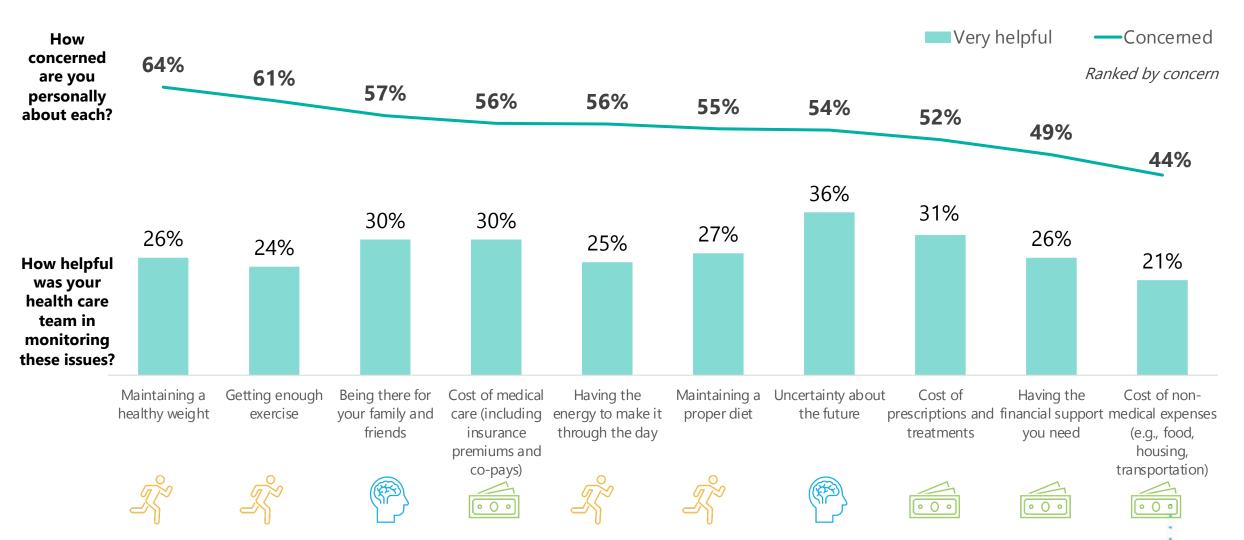
# Survivors' Top Concerns Are about Physical Health Issues, the Future, and the Cost of Medical Care





# Nationally, there Are 10 Key Concerns (Mostly Physical and Financial) Where Few Patients Found their HCP's Very Helpful







## Thank You to Shelley Fuld Nasso and Our Listeners!

Don't miss our next advocacy chat Wednesday | 12pm | December 9, 2020

### Between Life and Death from despair to hope



Kashyap Patel, MD
Chief Executive Officer
Carolina Blood & Cancer Care
Associates

