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## Fact sheet: CCS and metastatic breast cancer

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The Canadian Cancer Society (CCS) understands that people living with metastatic breast cancer face a range of physical, practical and emotional challenges that can greatly affect their quality of life.

CCS is committed to offering programs and services to help support those living with metastatic breast cancer, as well as their loved ones.

We are also committed to funding the country's most innovative and promising research on metastatic breast cancer.

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### Our research

**In 2017, CCS invested \$5.1 million of its total \$16.4 million breast cancer research investment in projects focused on metastatic breast cancer. This represents 31% of our total breast cancer research investment in 2017.**

In the last 10 years, CCS and the former Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation have together invested more than \$51 million in metastatic breast cancer research, representing more than 22% of our total breast cancer research investment.

Current research topics include investigating:

- microscopic metastases with a simple blood test to better target treatments
- the effect of diet and exercise in chemotherapy response in patients with metastatic breast cancer
- how breast cancer develops and spreads to different organs, and new ways to stop it
- new ways to deliver drugs to metastatic breast tumours to maximize their effectiveness and limit side effects.

CCS is partnering with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and SU2C Canada to fund the **SU2C Canada Metastatic Breast Cancer Dream Team**. The Dream Team will receive up to \$6 million in support over 4 years. It will bring together the most talented and promising researchers from across Canada to implement advances in metastatic breast cancer research as quickly as possible. Drawing on expertise from multiple disciplines and using the most advanced molecular tools, the Dream Team will work together to answer some of the most challenging questions in metastatic breast cancer research. CCS, SU2C Canada and CIHR believe that this unique Dream Team model will advance scientific research in the interests of both today's cancer patients and those who may develop cancer in the future. The selection process is ongoing and we hope to announce the winning Dream Team in early 2019.

### Our support services

**We offer information, practical and peer support programs that can enhance the quality of life and well-being of people living with metastatic breast cancer.**



## Cancer Information Service (CIS)

- CIS is a phone and email information service where Canadians with questions about cancer can access a knowledgeable and compassionate information specialist who can provide them with the information they need
- Our information specialists can also help you locate local resources such as transportation assistance, support groups and wigs
- To contact CIS, please call 1-888-939-3333 or email [info@cancer.ca](mailto:info@cancer.ca)

## Cancer.ca

- CCS's website, cancer.ca, offers a wide range of information about cancer including content that is specific to metastatic cancer
- Cancer.ca offers visitors the chance to download print publications about metastatic cancer, which may be useful to someone living with cancer or their loved ones

## Peer support programs

- CancerConnection.ca is our online community where members can exchange information about managing cancer in their lives. Anyone can become a member to read blogs, join groups and exchange messages with people who may be going through similar experiences
- Peer Match Program is a free and confidential phone-based service for adults with cancer or their caregivers. You can choose who you connect with based on their online profile and their experiences, including type of cancer.
- Peer Facilitator Training is available if you'd like to start your own community-based peer support group for people with metastatic breast cancer. For more information, contact Danielle VandeZande at [Danielle.vandezande@cancer.ca](mailto:Danielle.vandezande@cancer.ca)

For more information about any of our support services or information, please call CIS at 1-888-939-3333.

## Supporting metastatic breast cancer through fundraising

Thanks to the leadership of the Metastatic Breast Cancer team at the Canadian Cancer Society CIBC Run for the Cure, \$102,778.73 was raised at this event to support research into metastatic breast cancer.

This year, our CIBC Run for the Cure is taking place on Sunday, September 30. For more information on the Run, or to learn how to get involved with the Metastatic Breast Cancer Team, please contact Arpan Dhanota at [arpan.dhanota@cancer.ca](mailto:arpan.dhanota@cancer.ca).

Individuals who raise \$2,500 or more at the Run will be able to designate their donations to our Metastatic Breast Cancer Fund. If you want to join the event and would like to raise money for metastatic breast cancer, please visit [cibcrunfortheure.com](http://cibcrunfortheure.com) for more information.

## About us

The Canadian Cancer Society is a national, community-based organization whose mission is to eradicate cancer and enhance the quality of life of people living with cancer. Thanks to our donors and volunteers, CCS has the most impact, against the most cancers, in the most communities in Canada. For more information, visit [cancer.ca](http://cancer.ca) or call our toll-free bilingual Cancer Information Service at 1-888-939-3333 (TTY 1-866-786-3934).