



# Newsletter

CANCER CONSULTANTS OF AMERICA

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CANCER AND UNDERSTANDING®

## Cancer Answers

### Do I Have Cancer?

It is not uncommon for someone to rhetorically think, "I wonder if I have cancer." This curiosity is often followed by, "Maybe I do have cancer and simply don't know!" Cycling through these thoughts can be troubling and will likely cause unnecessary anxiety. The answer to this question is "yes, you probably do" but this response should not be as worrisome as it might sound.

The human body is an impressive collection of different cells working in concert to provide bodily functions to ensure the survival and overall health of the person. The average adult male consists of approximately 36 trillion cells and the average adult female has about 28 trillion cells. To put these numbers into perspective, the body has more cells than the number of stars (200-400 billion) in our Milky Way galaxy. In other terms, the human body has about 120 Milky Way galaxies worth of cells. These cells are all unique and different in their shape, composition, and function. Given the large number of cells in the human body, it is probable that one of these trillions of cells achieved a cancerous state. Moreover, this transformation from a healthy cell to a cancer cell likely occurs multiple times during the course of a person's life.

Provided this information about the likelihood of someone having a cancer cell in their body at any given time, why aren't more people experiencing cancer? There are many explanations that have been proposed to answer this question. First, the likelihood of finding a single cancer cell in an extraordinary large number of cells is...difficult, to say the least! Therefore, it is challenging to identify the presence of a single cancer cell existing in a mass of trillions of cells. Furthermore, the human body has an amazing immune system that sets humans apart from other organisms on our planet. This immune system has the ability to identify these cancerous cells and eliminate them before they develop into a tumor. In fact, the human immune system is so powerful that it can threaten the very existence of the person who is suffering from an infection or a disease.

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Although rare, this life-threatening condition can be initiated by the immune system overreacting to a triggering event such as a pathogen invading the body. Serving as examples for the downside of a powerful immune system include elevated body temperatures such as fevers and autoimmune disorders where the immune system attacks and destroys healthy cells within the body.

Taken together, it is probable that everyone has experienced cancer, at the cellular level, during some point of their life. Furthermore, it is likely that your immune cells are currently identifying and destroying these cancer cells as you are reading this newsletter. By recognizing and eliminating the cancer cells, the extraordinary human immune system prevents the majority of people from experiencing a cancer diagnosis. Unfortunately, the human immune system is not perfect. We know that cancer cells have the ability to evade immune detection which results in these cells having the opportunity to develop into microtumors and eventually tumors that can be life-threatening. There is good news though! We have therapies that help immune cells recognize cancer cells that once avoided immune detection.

Submit your **Cancer Answers** topics to [info@CancerConsultantsOfAmerica.com](mailto:info@CancerConsultantsOfAmerica.com)

### We Are Available to You

Please contact us today if you would like more information about how our services can benefit you and your family.

#### Services:

- Individual and Family Cancer Education
- Medical Appointment Liaison Services
- Information Seminars and Public Speaking Events

### Fun Facts – July

#### Cancer Awareness Month:


- Sacroma and Bone Cancer (Yellow) 

July 1 – International Joke Day 

July 4 – American Independence Day 

July 16 – National Hot Dog Day 

July 20 – National Lollipop Day 

July 25 – National Wine and Cheese Day 

July 30 – International Friendship Day 


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