



Division of Cancer Predisposition

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Division of Cancer Predisposition:
**Transition to Adult
Health Care Program**



When you were a child and adolescent, your parents or caregivers made most of your cancer predisposition health care decisions. As a young adult, you will become more involved with making these decisions. This transition to independently managing your own health care can be challenging.

The **Cancer Predisposition Program** will help you prepare for this big step. We will give you information and tools to empower you to make the transition as smoothly as possible. By starting early, you will be prepared and feel comfortable as you transition to managing your own health care.

Why does transition to adult health care matter?

Having a cancer predisposition syndrome may increase your risk of developing cancers later in life. So, continuing health care into adulthood is important.

You need to be aware of and understand your cancer predisposition. You also need to know the steps you can take to manage your health care. For example, regular screenings can help to detect new cancers early. This can lead to earlier treatment and better chances for a successful outcome.

People who can offer support

To support your health care throughout adulthood you need to find:

- A primary healthcare provider
- Possibly an oncologist or other doctors to help with check-ups and cancer screenings

The Cancer Predisposition Program's Transition Team is here to help. Your family, friends, and significant other can also be a great support system as you learn to navigate the adult health care system.

What will happen during transition?

We will start talking about the transition to adult health care with you 2 to 4 years before you graduate from care at St. Jude.

As you prepare for this transition, we will support and guide you and your family. For example, we will help you to:

- Learn more about your condition
- Understand your risks for cancer and possibly other health concerns
- Prepare for managing your medical needs
- Find adult healthcare providers in your community
- Transfer medical records to these providers

We will also educate these providers about your cancer predisposition and related health care needs.

Notes:

