People with cancer are at increased risk of severe illness from the COVID-19 virus.\textsuperscript{1} Cancer patients who get chemotherapy are more likely to get an infection.\textsuperscript{2} Chemotherapy weakens the immune system. This may lead to more severe illness.\textsuperscript{2}

The pandemic has also affected cancer screening rates in Texas and across the nation. Since the start of the pandemic, cancer screenings in the U.S. dropped by 86\% for colon cancer. And they dropped 94\% for breast and cervical cancers.\textsuperscript{3}

DSHS complied this resource list to help improve cancer screening rates in Texas.

This includes:
People getting treatment for cancer | Cancer survivors | Caregivers | Healthcare providers | Public health professionals

**Resources for the Public**

**American Cancer Society** – [Cancer Screening During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
Encourages you to talk with your healthcare provider about staying up to date with cancer screenings during the pandemic.

**National Cancer Institute** – [Coronavirus: What People with Cancer Should Know](#)
List of questions and answers about what people with cancer should know about COVID-19.

**Centers for Disease Control** - [Staying Well While Staying at Home: A Guide for Cancer Patients and Their Caregivers and Family Members](#)
Tips to help cancer patients, as well as their family members and caregivers, stay healthy while staying home.

**George Washington Cancer Center** - [Tips for Coping with COVID-19: A Resource for Cancer Survivors and Caregivers](#)
Resources to help cancer survivors and their caregivers. They share information about staying as healthy as possible mentally, physically, and financially during the pandemic.
Resources for Health Professionals

American Cancer Society – Guidance on Cancer Screening During COVID-19
Screening and vaccination guidance during the pandemic. Their guidance is for:
Breast | Colorectal | Cervical | Lung cancers | Human papillomavirus (HPV)

American College of Radiology – Lung Cancer Screening Resumption of Screening Toolkit
Toolkit on safely doing lung cancer screening. It includes quick reference guides, letter templates, and a patient safety infographic.

Centers for Disease Control – Preventing Infection in Cancer Patients: Educational Materials
Materials are available for both COVID-19 and other types of infections.

National HPV Roundtable - Promising Practices for Adolescent Vaccination During COVID-19: Insights from Key Vaccination Stakeholders
This resource summarizes stakeholder discussions held in July 2020. It has promising practices. The discussions focused on the impact of COVID-19 on adolescent vaccination rates.

National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable - Reigniting Colorectal Cancer Screening as Communities Face and Respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Playbook
An action-oriented playbook. It has:
Colorectal cancer screening | COVID-19-related data | Research | Clinical guidelines
A sample screening reminder letter for primary care providers is also available.

Contact Information

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