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HEALTH & FITNESS

Living with Pancreatic Cancer: A Patient and Family Guide

Earl J. Campazzi, Jr.
Guilianna Johnston, Contributor
Campazzi Concierge Medicine (Mar 5, 2024)
(299pp)
979-898921840-0

With its clear, knowledgeable advice for treatment and planning, Living with Pancreatic Cancer seeks to ease some of the psychological toll that cancer takes on both patients and families.

Earl J. Campazzi Jr.'s thorough health guide *Living with Pancreatic Cancer* addresses the disease's impact on patients and their loved ones.

To help audiences navigate the devastating aftermath of a cancer diagnosis, this concise guide addresses multiple facets of treatment and recovery in turn. It covers the medical, financial, and emotional tolls of cancer, seeking clarity at each turn. Not all of its information is applicable for every patient; to help audiences locate the information they need, a clear table of contents and a thorough appendix are included.

Herein, there's clear medical knowledge about the nature of pancreatic cancer on a cellular level—how it develops, how it spreads, and how it affects the body. And the types of doctors that a patient will consult during treatment are also covered, alongside a clear list of medical roles (ranging from oncologists to mental health counselors) and information about which treatments are billable through insurance plans and which are more likely to come out of pocket. And because cancer treatment is not cheap, the book counsels audiences through determinations of how insurance impacts each treatment plan, influencing how doctor visits, prescriptions, and additional care options are approached. A ranking system is introduced for easier discernment and navigation, slotting patients into three levels of financial standing and showing each how to plan a course of treatment. The text also touches on the process of creating a will and getting one's affairs in order so that family members, pets, and inheritance properties are taken care of.

And beyond its counsel on practicalities like insurance claims and chemotherapy, the book has an emotional support component, touching on the psychological toll that cancer takes on both patients and families. Hope is a theme that the text returns to throughout, encouraging patients not to neglect their health at home, to maintain their relationships, and to seek out support groups and therapy. Personal comments and testimonials from pancreatic cancer survivors are included as an additional source of encouragement and advice.

The text draws upon Campazzi's medical experience to build credibility, but it also incorporates the insights of his medical colleagues, research articles, and medical websites, citing each source well. However, Campazzi's disclosed use of AI to support him in writing portions of the book is reflected in passages where the language becomes too technical and in places where the paragraphs do not flow evenly together.

The hope-filled health guide *Living with Pancreatic Cancer* includes clear advice for navigating the different facets of cancer treatment.

Source: https://www.forewordreviews.com/reviews/living-with-pancreatic-cancer/

GRACE ROGERS (June 29, 2024)

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