

Bladder Cancer

What is bladder cancer?

Urothelial carcinoma, also known as transitional cell carcinoma, is the most common type of bladder cancer, accounting for approximately **90% of cases in the UK**.¹

Rarer types of bladder cancer include:¹

Squamous cell carcinoma

Adenocarcinoma

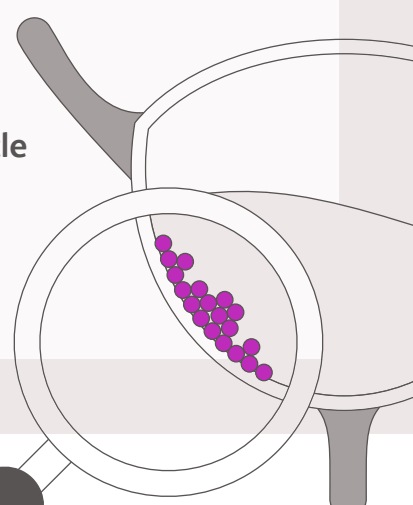
Small cell carcinoma

Sarcoma

Bladder cancer usually begins in the cells that line the inside of the bladder.²

In the **early stages**, the cancer cells are only in the **inner lining of the bladder**.²

If the cancer **spreads into or through the muscle layer** of the bladder it's called **muscle invasive bladder cancer** or muscle invasive urothelial carcinoma.³



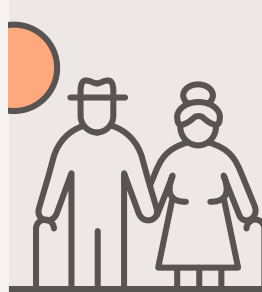
Prevalence

Bladder cancer is the **11th most common cancer** in the UK²



Bladder cancer is **more common in older people**

with **56% of cases and 71% of deaths** occurring in people aged 75 and over^{4,5}



There are around **10,300 new cases diagnosed** and 5,600 deaths every year^{2,5}

More men than women are diagnosed with the disease, with **73% of cases occurring in males**⁴



Risk factors

Bladder cancer is associated with some common **risk factors** including:⁶



Workplace exposure to chemicals



Smoking



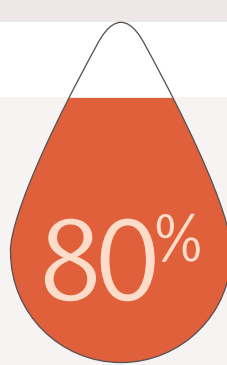
Family history



Chronic bladder irritation or infection

Signs and symptoms

The main symptom of bladder cancer is blood in the urine, **80% of people** experience this. The **other symptoms** of bladder cancer can include:⁷



Pain or burning during urination



Urgency to urinate, even when the bladder is not full



Lower back pain on one side



Having to urinate more frequently than usual

Treatment options

A patient's **treatment options** are largely dependent on the stage of disease and may include:⁸



Surgery to remove all or part of the bladder



Chemotherapy



Immunotherapy



Radiotherapy



In some cases, a combination of treatment options are used to lower the risk of cancer coming back. This approach is known as **adjuvant therapy**.⁹

References:

1. Cancer Research UK. Bladder cancer types. Available at <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/bladder-cancer/types-stages-grades/types> Last accessed: June 2022 2. Cancer Research UK. What is bladder cancer? Available at <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/bladder-cancer/about> Last accessed: June 2022 3. Cancer Research UK. Invasive bladder cancer staging. Available at <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/bladder-cancer/types-stages-grades/invasive> Last accessed: June 2022 4. Cancer Research UK. Bladder cancer incidence statistics. Available at <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/bladder-cancer/incidence#heading-Zero> 5. Cancer Research UK. Bladder cancer statistics. Available at <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/bladder-cancer#heading-Zero> Last accessed: June 2022 6. Cancer Research UK. Bladder cancer risks and causes. Available at <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/bladder-cancer/risks-causes> Last accessed: June 2022 7. Cancer Research UK. Bladder cancer symptoms. Available at <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/bladder-cancer/symptoms> Last accessed: June 2022 8. Cancer Research UK. Treatment for advanced bladder cancer. Available at <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/bladder-cancer/advanced/treatment/treatment-decisions> Last accessed: June 2022 9. National Cancer Institute. Adjuvant Therapy. Available at <https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms/def/adjuvant-therapy> Last accessed: June 2022