



# GASTRIC/ GE JUNCTION CANCER

[www.accc-cancer.org/gastric](http://www.accc-cancer.org/gastric)

## Fast Facts about Gastric Cancer



Gastric cancer has become much less common in the United States over the past 60 years. While stomach cancer rates in general are declining, cancers in the area of where the stomach joins the esophagus are on the rise.



About 21,600 cases of stomach cancer will be diagnosed annually (13,230 in men and 8,370 in women).\*



It is estimated that approximately 10,990 people will die from this type of cancer in 2013 (6,740 men and 4,250 women).\*



Stomach cancer mostly affects older people. The average age of people when they are diagnosed is 70. Almost two-thirds of people with stomach cancer are 65 years of age or older.\*



The average risk that a person will develop stomach cancer in their lifetime is about 1 in 116. This risk is slightly higher in men than in women, and can also be affected by a number of other factors.\*



In the United States, gastric cancer is more common in African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asians or Pacific Islanders than in non-Hispanic whites.\*

\*Source: American Cancer Society

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM ACCC'S GASTRIC CANCER SURVEY\*

\*Note: Survey focused solely on gastric cancer and did not include questions related to GE junction cancers.

### Respondents Report These Challenges in Caring for Patients

- 66%** The patient's personal and financial barriers, such as transportation and insurance issues
- 52%** Transitions of care between multiple healthcare settings
- 45%** Side effect management
- 36%** A lack of psychosocial services and distress management programs

### Components Contributing to a Strong Gastric Cancer Program

- 29%** A multidisciplinary team and the presence of tumor boards
- 18%** Support services, i.e., presence of dietitians, social workers, and financial coordinators
- 11%** Presence of nurse navigators and nurse practitioners
- 9%** Supportive care and palliative care

### Respondents Want Additional Information On ...

- 68%** Complementary/integrative care options
- 64%** Palliative care
- 63%** Hospice/home care/end-of-life care
- 62%** Supportive care services
- 61%** Side effects/adverse events
- 59%** Clinical trials
- 58%** Neoadjuvant treatment options
- 58%** Supportive care services, i.e., nutritional counseling

### Share Your Knowledge & Expertise

Respondents reported that these educational resources or tools would be "Incredibly Useful" or "Very Useful" in treating patients:

- Patient brochures explaining gastric/stomach cancer (33%)
- Assessment and tracking tools (26%)
- Clinical trial information (26%)
- Resources on advances in treatment (25%)

If your program has developed and/or implemented these types of tools to use with your gastric and GE junction cancer patients and their family members, we want to hear from you! Email [resources@accc-cancer.org](mailto:resources@accc-cancer.org) if your program is willing to share your tools and resources with other ACCC members.

# ABOUT ACCC'S GASTRIC/ GE JUNCTION EDUCATION PROJECT

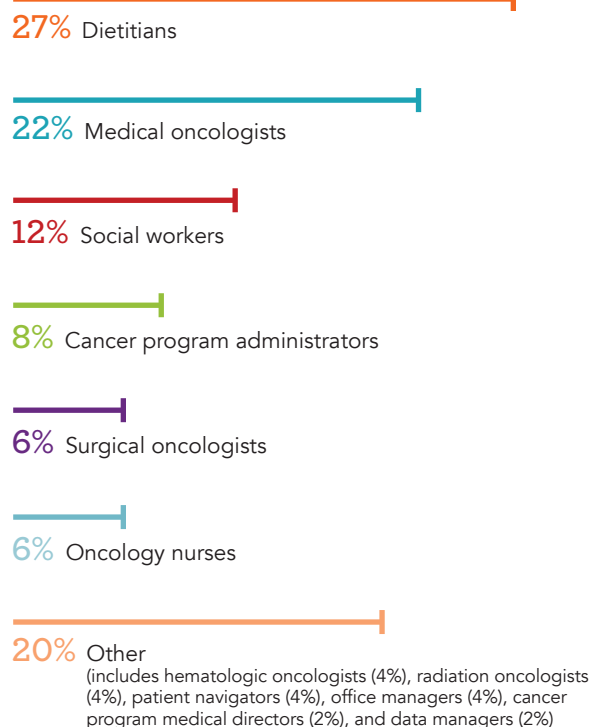
This project will offer healthcare providers information to better care for patients with gastric and GE junction cancers and raise awareness among healthcare providers about the challenges related to these diseases.

## Survey Methodology

As part of this project, ACCC surveyed its membership to:

1. Gain a better understanding of the scope of current knowledge and practices.
2. Identify effective practices in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with gastric cancer.
3. Establish Community Resource Centers for gastric cancer. These centers will demonstrate expertise in meeting the unique needs of patients with gastric cancer and a willingness to answer questions and provide direction to other programs.

## Survey Respondents



## Next Steps

Look for a wrap-up article in your July/August 2014 *Oncology Issues*, highlighting the effective practices and real-world examples of how the ACCC Community Resource Centers use these effective practices to improve the care of gastric and GE junction cancer patients and their family members.



## Get Involved!

**89%** of respondents stated that it would be "valuable" for ACCC to build a network of ACCC members who diagnose and treat patients with gastric cancer. If you are interested in this networking opportunity, email [resources@accc-cancer.org](mailto:resources@accc-cancer.org).