



KCC Patient Care Study Summary of Key Findings*

The Kidney Cancer Canada Patient Care Study was conducted among patients living with advanced kidney cancer and their caregivers in 2009. Key findings of the study, the first of its kind to be conducted among advanced kidney cancer patients and their caregivers, show that greater patient involvement in their care and treatment leads to better quality of life, improved access to quality care, and greater hope for the future.

The study, led by Ipsos Health, had a total of 84 respondents (40 KCC members, 44 non-KCC members) across a range of ages and life stages, and from most provinces across Canada.

Overall Health

- KCC members reported remaining active throughout their illness along with a desire to learn about kidney cancer significantly more often than non-members
- KCC members reported being more involved in managing personal health than most people they know
- Those supported by KCC are more likely to research topics relating to their health more regularly than those not affiliated with KCC

Diagnosis

- 82.5 per cent of KCC members were treated primarily by an oncologist, compared with 61 per cent of non-members
- Meanwhile, 16 per cent of non-members were treated primarily by a general practitioner or family doctor, compared to 2.5 per cent of KCC members
- 55 per cent of KCC members sought second opinions compared with 34 per cent of non-members
- 41 per cent of KCC member families encouraged patients to seek a second opinion, versus 13 per cent of non-member families
- KCC members (60 per cent) were tested for kidney cancer using a CT scan significantly more often than non-members (34 per cent)

Care and Treatment

- KCC members reported that having a positive attitude (57.5 per cent), knowing other people with kidney cancer (47.5 per cent) and support from cancer-focused non-profit groups (42.5 per cent) eased kidney cancer difficulties more often than non-members (34 per cent, 20.5 per cent and 9 per cent, respectively)
- More KCC members (28 per cent) received second-line treatment within two weeks after initial treatment for advanced disease than non-members (17 per cent)
- KCC members were less likely to report negative perceptions of doctors
- For over three-quarters of KCC members (77.5 per cent), spending a lot of time travelling to a doctor's office was reported to be a trade-off they were willing to make to meet their health goals more often than non-members (57 per cent)

**All findings included were identified as statistically significant by Ipsos Health.*