

Developing a couple-based intervention for young adult patients with cancer and their partner caregivers

What is the purpose of this study?

Young adults with cancer and their partner caregivers have unique unmet needs. The timing of a cancer diagnosis in the lifetime of these patients and their partner caregivers can have specific challenges. We are conducting brief, joint interviews with young adult patients with cancer and their partners (e.g., spouse, domestic partner, significant other) to better understand these challenges as we develop a couple-based intervention. The aim of the intervention will be to help young adults with cancer and their partners manage the stressors and challenges they may face throughout a diagnosis of cancer and treatment.

What will I be asked to do?

The interview will last 30-45 minutes and will be done over phone at a time that is convenient to you and your partner. We will be asking you about your experiences as a couple while going through cancer treatment and for feedback on a couple-based intervention. The interview must be done with both patient and partner together. Each individual will be compensated \$10 in the form of a gift card for their participation.

Who can participate in this study?

Patients may be eligible to participate in this study if they are:

- 25-39 years old
- Have any stage of cancer
- Are a patient at MGH who is currently in active cancer treatment or has completed treatment within 1 year
- Have an eligible partner (e.g., spouse, domestic partner, significant other) who help provides care
- Are English-speaking

Partners may be eligible to participate in this study if they are:

- Are the partner of an eligible patient
- Are English-speaking

Whom do I contact if I qualify and want to join the study?

Please contact Shibani Datta at sdatta12@mgh.harvard.edu or at 617-643-8288.