

How has COVID-19 affected the Brain Tumour Community?



Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada wanted to learn more about how our patients and caregivers are being impacted by COVID-19 and what we can do to help. The following summaries are what we heard:

93%

reported difficulty in accessing care

COVID-19 Effects on the Treatment Experience

Many patients reported that they had difficulty accessing care during the last quarter of 2020. 1 in 4 reported delays in receiving treatment, tests, or scans, as well as delays in the explanation of their results. 1 in 5 reported the cancellation of an appointment, and 1 in 10 reported the cancellation of treatment.

80%

reported a negative impact on social activities

COVID-19 Effects on the Social and Physical Activities

Across Canada, 8 in 10 patients reported that their social activities were negatively impacted by COVID-19. Nearly half of brain tumour survivors reported that they reduced or stopped physical activity during COVID-19, while just over half of caregivers reported that their physical activity had been disrupted.

90%

reported using social media to stay connected

Staying Connected During COVID-19

Social media is by far the most used tool to stay connected during the pandemic. 95% of survivors, and 91% of caregivers report using social media as a means to communicate and stay connected with the outside world during the COVID-19 pandemic.

60%

reported feelings of isolation and worry

COVID-19 Impact on Mental Health

Low-mood and low-energy were reported to have impacted 6 in 10 brain tumour survivors, and just under half of caregivers (48%) reported feeling tired and out of energy. Both survivors and caregivers report feelings of stress, isolation, loneliness, anxiety and disconnection as a negative result of COVID-19.

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social media posts and sharing of resources

Preferred Types of Support During COVID-19

When asked to rank the types of support they prefer to receive from Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada, respondents ranked 'social media posts' and 'sharing of resources' with the highest score. In comparison, in-person events such as 'retreats' and 'educational conferences' scored lowest.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide their responses to this survey. Your time and feedback are extremely valuable.

For more information:

[BrainTumour.ca](https://www.brain Tumour.ca)



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