

## [Asking the right questions](#)

Submitted by lisac on Fri, 05/24/2019 - 13:55 What is the best cancer treatment?  
Tuesday, June 5, 2018



Once the initial shock of a cancer diagnosis wears off, patients and families are left with questions. Lots and lots of questions. It might come as a relief to know that some of the most brilliant, accomplished scientists from around the world are listening.

“The biggest question we ask is the one that all cancer patients have,” says CCTG Scientific Director Dr. Janet Dancey. “What is the best treatment?”

It is a question that needs to be asked continually, because, as Dr. Dancey points out, “for the great majority of cancers, the treatment we have at present – especially for patients who have relapsed – is inadequate.”

Since its inception in 1980, CCTG has been asking questions that test the effectiveness of new and emerging cancer treatments and bringing us closer to answers that lead to better treatments, higher prevention rates, and fewer lives lost.

As the research community’s understanding of cancer steadily grows, so does a need for new technologies, new infrastructures, and new questions. With your support, CCTG can continue asking the big question and the thousands of smaller questions it inspires.

Asking a question is only the first step. The next step is to answer it, which is what a good clinical trial does. Clinical trials are the critical step between an idea and a treatment that can help a patient. The questions they pose and the answers they produce are a way to prove the idea’s value and benefit patients.