

# A Brief History of Cancer

Many people think the amount of cancer we are experiencing is normal. It is not normal. Although cancer has been around as long as we have, it was once a rare disease. Today it is an epidemic.

1801-1899:	Cancer affected 1 out of 1,000 people.
Early 1900s:	Cancer affected 30 out of 1,000 people.
Currently (2015):	Cancer affects 1 out of 2 people in their lifetime.

Since 1940, cancer has increased rapidly in all the industrialized nations, and the trend has accelerated even more since 1975. From 1950 to 2001, national cancer statistics show that the incidence for all types of cancer increased by 85 percent in the United States. Cancer has been rising so dramatically that right now more Americans die of cancer each year than all the servicemen and women who lost their lives in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam put together.

Cancer is America's most expensive disease, and the treatments are worse than the disease. Close to half of all Americans will develop diagnosable cancer in their lifetime, and conventional medicine has been unable to stem this epidemic.

The cure to cancer is Chemistry. Maintaining normal body chemistry will prevent cancer and will cure cancer.

**Chemical -> Cell -> Tissue -> Organ -> System Organism (Human Body)**

**Chemical:** The body is made from atoms of elements. They are combined to form molecules such as proteins, carbohydrates, lipids and nucleic acids (including DNA).

**Cell:** A cell is the smallest part of the body that can carry out the processes associated with life. Cells arrange and package the non-living chemical components into living structures. Each cell has a membrane coat that controls movement of materials in and out of it. This membrane maintains a difference between conditions in the cell and outside it. There are different specialist cells, such as muscle, nerve, kidney tubule and secretory cells.

## CANCER

The entire human body is made up of cells, each of which contains its own genetic material, or DNA—a long string of molecules that tells the cell what to do. In a healthy body, cells divide at a controlled rate so as to grow and repair damaged tissues and replace dying cells. This predetermined rate of cell division is what keeps our bodies healthy. If cells keep multiplying when new ones are not necessary, a mass of tissue called a growth, or tumor, is formed. A tumor can be either benign or malignant.

Benign tumors are not cancerous. They can occur anywhere in the body and generally do not pose a threat to health, do not metastasize (spread to other parts of the body), and do not grow back if removed. Malignant tumors are cancerous. They are usually serious and can be life-threatening. Malignant tumors grow uncontrollably, interfere with normal metabolic and organ functioning, and have the ability to metastasize and invade other tissues.

If a portion of a cell's DNA is damaged, the cell can become abnormal. When the abnormal cell divides, it forms new cells that contain a photocopy of the damaged genetic material. This is an ongoing process occurring constantly within our bodies. Most of the time, our bodies have the ability to destroy these abnormal cells and maintain a sort of cellular equilibrium. If a crucial portion of the DNA is destroyed, however, and the abnormal cells cannot be controlled any longer, cancer forms. All cancer cells have two things in common: they grow uncontrollably and they have the ability to metastasize. They can spread through the lymphatic system, the bloodstream, or avenues such as the cerebrospinal fluid (the watery cushion that protects the brain and spinal cord). The immune system