

# Cancer

## What is cancer?

Cancer is a term for more than 100 diseases caused by uncontrolled, abnormal growth of malignant (cancerous) cells.

## How can a disaster affect my health if I have cancer?

During a disaster or emergency, it may be hard to follow all of your directions for treatment. If you stop treatment it can lead to the following problems:

- Spread of cancer
- Fast development of the disease
- More pain due to cancer

## What can I do during a disaster to protect my health?

It is important that continue your treatments as scheduled even in a disaster. This may include:

- Surgery
- Chemotherapy
- Radiation or radiotherapy
- Biological therapy immunotherapy
- Hormonal therapy

Talk to your doctors about emergency medical plans. Ask questions about your medical care and what you should do if disaster happens and your doctor cannot care for you.

## Which special tips should I remember if I have cancer?

Along with the [emergency kit](#) and [emergency plan](#) remember the following important tips:

- Include an extra supply of medication in your kit, if possible
- If you need regular treatments, know who could provide this for you if the clinic or doctor is not available. Contact the local hospital to set-up treatment during an emergency.