

Welcome...

THE **LEAP**, LONG TERM FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMME

WHO WE ARE

The Long Term Follow-up Programme is a continuation of the follow-up care you received in your cancer treatment centre.

The LEAP team includes your oncologist, a nurse specialist who has knowledge of late effects of cancer treatment and a clinical psychologist who is available if you have need of psychosocial support at any stage.

WHAT ARE THE LATE EFFECTS AND WHY SHOULD I STILL COME TO THE CLINIC?

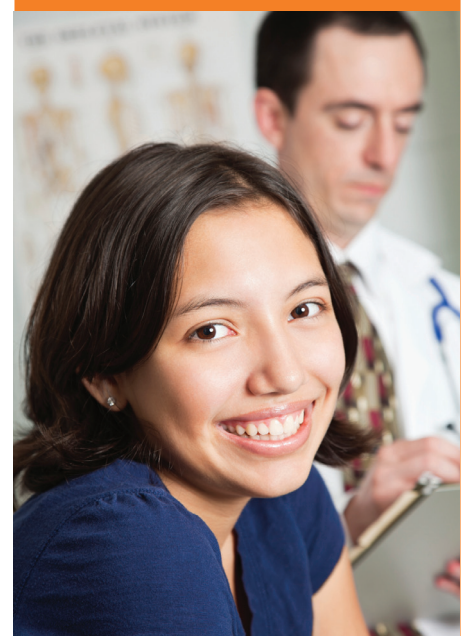
As you are now several years off treatment, the focus of our care is changing from surveillance for recurrence to thinking about any possible long term effects from the treatment you had. During treatment, your oncologist and nurse will have talked to you or your family about the specific long term effects that may occur from the disease or treatment you were having. At that time, because the aim was giving you the best chance of surviving, you probably did not think too much about these late effects. After treatment is completed checking for late effects becomes more important.

YOU MAY KNOW A LOT ABOUT THE ILLNESS YOU HAD OR VERY LITTLE.

You may have found information on the Internet or in other media that talks about possible late effects following a childhood cancer. It is true that certain chemotherapy drugs, radiotherapy and/or surgery as well as the disease you had may cause late effects but it depends on:

- The age you were during treatment.
- Type of cancer and treatment.
- Type & doses of the specific treatments (e.g. chemotherapy, radiation).
- The site of the treatment (radiation & surgery).

YOU MAY HAVE HAD AN ILLNESS OTHER THAN CANCER BUT BECAUSE OF THE TREATMENT YOU HAD THE INFORMATION IS STILL IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO KNOW.



IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT MANY YOUNG PEOPLE DO NOT DEVELOP ANY LONG TERM PROBLEMS.

We know the type of treatment you had and by coming to clinic, we can check for any late effects that may develop and either prevent or at least manage any problems that do occur.

HOW LONG DO I NEED TO KEEP COMING TO THE LEAP CLINIC?

This is different for everyone and often depends on how old you are, what treatment you had and whether you have any late effects that are causing you health problems, learning problems or other concerns that affect your quality of life. Most young people are usually discharged between 18 and 21 years of age.

HEALTH PASSPORT

You will already have/or will be given a copy of your Health Passport. This is a brief summary of the treatment you received and lists all the chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery you had. It is a great resource to have for any health professional that you may see in the future. When you no longer come to clinic (or earlier if you are going away) you will be given an electronic copy that can be stored on a PC, iPod or memory stick so you can access it any time you need it. You can ask for an updated copy at any time. We hope that the following information will help answer any questions you might have and provide useful information in the years to come. We encourage you to ask us about anything that isn't covered or doesn't make sense, either when you come to clinic or by ringing or emailing at any time.

YOUR LEAP TEAM:

ONCOLOGIST _____

NURSE SPECIALIST _____

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST _____

HOW LONG?

HEALTH
PASSPORT

AUCKLAND

LEAP@adhb.govt.nz
LEAP Coordinator
Long Term Follow-up Programme
Starship Blood and Cancer Centre
Starship Children's Health
Private Bag 92024
Auckland 1142

WELLINGTON

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LEAP Coordinator
Late Effects
Paediatric Oncology
Capital and Coast District
Health Board
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Riddiford Street, Newtown
Wellington 6021

CHRISTCHURCH AND SOUTH ISLAND

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LEAP Coordinator
Children's Oncology Late Effects
Dept. of Paediatrics
Christchurch Hospital
Private Bag 4710
Christchurch