

Name:

TRS601 – P2U3 – Cancer – Further Reading

Match the vocabulary with their meanings.

Words:	Definitions:
1. delve into	a. a prediction or forecast of how something will turn out, especially in terms of health.
2. contingent upon	b. to explore or investigate deeply and thoroughly.
3. carcinogens	c. substances that can cause cancer.
4. prognosis	d. dependent on or influenced by something else.

Matching Heading

- a. There is a cure for cancer, but it is being hidden from the public
- b. Cancer is always fatal
- c. Cancer is caused by genetics
- d. Cancer is a modern disease
- e. A positive attitude can cure cancer
- f. Only older people get cancer

Cancer is a topic that has been widely discussed in the media, and it is a disease that many people fear. The **prognosis** for cancer patients varies depending on the type and stage of the cancer, but there have been significant advancements in treatment options over the years. In this article, we will **delve into** some common misconceptions about cancer and provide some information to help you better understand this complex disease.

Misconception 1:

While it is true that certain types of cancer can be hereditary, the majority of cases are not caused by genetic factors. In fact, only about 5-10% of all cancers are due to an inherited gene mutation. The remaining 90-95% of cancers are caused by external factors, such as exposure to **carcinogens** (cancer-causing agents) like tobacco smoke, UV radiation, and certain chemicals.

Misconception 2:

Many people believe that having a positive mindset can improve a cancer patient's chances of survival. While it is important to maintain a positive attitude during treatment, there is no scientific evidence to suggest that a positive mindset alone can cure cancer. The effectiveness of cancer treatments is **contingent upon** various factors, including the type and stage of the cancer, the patient's overall health, and the specific treatment being used.

Misconception 3:

One of the most common misconceptions about cancer is that it is always a death sentence. While it is true that some forms of cancer have a high mortality rate, there are many types of cancer that can be successfully treated if detected early. Advances in medical technology and treatment options have significantly improved the survival rates for certain types of cancer. It is important for individuals to be proactive about their health and get regular screenings to detect cancer in its early stages.

Misconception 4:

While it is true that the risk of developing cancer increases with age, people of all ages can be diagnosed with cancer. In fact, cancer is one of the leading causes of death among children and adolescents worldwide. The type of cancer that affects younger individuals is often different from the types that are commonly seen in older adults. For example, leukemia (a cancer of the blood) is the most common cancer in children, while breast cancer is more prevalent in older women.

Misconception 5:

Cancer is not a new disease; it has been present throughout human history. Ancient Egyptian texts dating back to 1600 BC describe cases of breast cancer, and evidence of bone tumors has been found in ancient human remains. However, the incidence of cancer has increased in recent decades due to various factors, including longer life expectancy and changes in lifestyle and environment. Advances in medical science have also improved our ability to diagnose and treat cancer, which has brought the disease to light in ways that were not possible in the past.

Misconception 6:

This is perhaps one of the most persistent myths about cancer. Conspiracy theories suggesting that a cure for cancer exists but is being suppressed by pharmaceutical companies or the government have been circulating for years. However, there is no credible scientific evidence to support these claims. The reality is that cancer is a complex disease with many different types and subtypes, each requiring its own unique approach to treatment. While significant progress has been made in the field of oncology, finding a universal cure for cancer remains a major challenge.

It is important to approach discussions about cancer with an open mind and to rely on evidence-based information from reputable sources. If you have any concerns about your health or are interested in learning more about cancer prevention, detection, or treatment options, it is best to consult with a qualified healthcare professional who can provide you with accurate and up-to-date information.

Questions:

1. According to the text, what percentage of all cancers are caused by genetic factors?
 - A. 5-10%
 - B. 10-15%
 - C. 90-95%
 - D. 95-100%
2. What is one of the common misconceptions about cancer mentioned in the text?
 - A. Cancer is always a death sentence.
 - B. Cancer is caused by exposure to UV radiation.
 - C. Cancer can be cured with a positive attitude.
 - D. Cancer is a modern disease.
3. According to the text, what has significantly improved the survival rates for certain types of cancer?
 - A. Genetic factors
 - B. Positive mindset
 - C. Advances in medical technology
 - D. Changes in lifestyle and environment
4. Which age group is most commonly affected by breast cancer, according to the text?
 - A. Children and adolescents
 - B. Older women
 - C. Older men
 - D. Young adults
5. What is the main message of the text?
 - A. Cancer is caused by genetics.
 - B. A positive attitude can cure cancer.
 - C. Cancer is always fatal.
 - D. Misconceptions about cancer should be addressed with evidence-based information.