



CancerCon 2023 Call for Sessions FAQ

Where can I apply?

Submit your proposal [here](#).

What should I include in my submission?

Please review our [submission guidelines and requirements](#).

When are submissions due?

All submissions for CancerCon 2023 are due by February 26, 2023.

Who can submit?

Anyone is welcome to submit, but Stupid Cancer is looking for mostly professional experts and speakers to share their expertise in issues relevant to the AYA cancer community. Speakers should be able to conduct open, interactive, and age-appropriate sessions tailored to the unique and unmet needs of our specific AYA population.

If you are a patient or survivor community member with an idea for a breakout session, you are welcome to submit a proposal and request to be paired with a professional to develop the session.

I am a survivor/patient/caregiver looking to share my story. Is submitting to Call for Sessions the right thing for me?

The goal of our breakout sessions is to provide attendees with psychosocial support, educational materials, and practical tools to bring into their everyday lives.

We love to share the stories of our community members, and there are opportunities to do so as an attendee of CancerCon, but this Call for Sessions is not the appropriate venue for survivors and caregivers looking to share their story.

However, experienced public speakers with a proven track record of addressing large audiences are welcome to submit a proposal for a General Session Keynote presentation. A sample video of the speaker presenting the content or story is required for consideration (footage from prior speaking events or self-recorded footage are both accepted).

You are always welcome to submit a story to our Story Library at stpcn.cr/shareastory.

Which CancerCon event should I submit for?

Most sessions are appropriate for both Digital CancerCon and CancerCon Live. You may submit your session to be considered for one or both of the CancerCon events. Key differences are outlined below:

Digital CancerCon

- Hosted on the Stupid Cancer website **April 16 - 30, 2023**.
- Mix of pre-recorded presentations and live discussions via Zoom.
 - Pre-recorded sessions must be recorded & submitted no later than April 12.
 - Live sessions will take place during the afternoon/evening April 17 - 28, based on overall schedule and speaker availability.
- Possible formats: powerpoint presentations, panel discussions, workshops, or guided group discussions.
- All sessions capped at 60 minutes.

CancerCon Live

- All breakout sessions to be held **August 18 - 20, 2023** at the OMNI Hotel/CNN Center in Atlanta, GA.
 - Speakers must be available for all dates; we cannot guarantee an exact session date/time upon accepting a proposal.
- Possible formats: powerpoint presentations, panel discussions, workshops, or guided group discussions.
- Presentation-style sessions capped at 60 mins; interactive/discussion sessions capped at 90 minutes.

What kinds of topics are you looking for?

Stupid Cancer is looking for submissions that address our attendees' needs and crucial topics in AYA cancer. Recurring core topics are mental health, sex, relationships, fertility, career, and advocacy.

We prioritize sessions that are tailored to specific audience groups. Examples include:

- Patients: Newly Diagnosed & In Treatment
- Survivors: Post Treatment
- Survivors: Chronic/Metastatic
- Caregivers
- Non-Profit Professionals
- Health Professionals

Below is a sample agenda to give you an idea of the range of sessions we plan to offer.

Friday August 18	Breakout Session 1	Becoming Your Best Self-Advocate (presentation)
		Caregiver Burnout (discussion)
Saturday August 19	Breakout Session 2	Childhood Cancer Survivors (discussion)
		Living with Metastatic or Chronic Cancer (discussion)
		Cancer as Work: Nonprofit & Healthcare Professionals (discussion)
Saturday August 19	Breakout Session 3	Parenting as a Cancer Patient (discussion)
		Wellness that Works: Nutrition & Exercise (presentation)
		Grieving Infertility (discussion)
Saturday August 19	Breakout Session 4	Mental Health after Treatment (discussion)
		Sex after Cancer (presentation)
		Navigating College & School (presentation)
Sunday August 20	Breakout Session 5	Just the Guys (discussion)
		Therapeutic Journaling (discussion & workshop)
		Self Care for Survivors (presentation & workshop)
Sunday August 20	Breakout Session 6	Health Disparities in Cancer Care (presentation)
		Dealing with Cancer as a Couple (discussion)
		Living Single with Cancer (discussion)

I'd like to submit a disease-specific session. Are those accepted?

While we occasionally offer sponsored disease-specific pre-conference panels, we are not looking for disease-specific breakout sessions.

How are speakers chosen?

Submissions will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of Stupid Cancer staff, patient and professional community members, and industry professionals. Proposals will be chosen based on the following criteria:

- qualifications and expertise of speakers
- priority and relevance of session topic
- quality of proposal and session design
- fitting into the overall needs of the conference agenda

I would like to submit a panel but I do not know all of the people who will be joining me yet. Can I still submit my session?

Yes. While we prefer to know all of the speakers participating in a session, you can still submit without confirmed panelists. If you are a patient/survivor with a session idea that would like to be paired with a professional, please indicate that in your proposal.

If there are additional panelists that you plan to invite, please outline the credentials/experience of your desired speakers. DO NOT include information for any panelists or co-presenters that have not confirmed their participation.

There must be at least one confirmed speaker for all submissions.

When will I find out if I have been accepted to speak?

All submissions for CancerCon 2023 will receive notification, regardless of status, in March 2023.

Do you cover travel or hotel accommodations for speakers?

Stupid Cancer is a small nonprofit with a limited budget. While we are able to offer a modest honorarium to selected speakers, we are unfortunately not able to provide travel or hotel accommodations. Speakers are able to book rooms at the conference hotel, the Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center, at our group rate of \$195/night..