

STAR Program Overview

As a result of more effective treatment protocols, advanced research and an ever-increasing number of clinical trials, more than 85 percent of children diagnosed with cancer will be survivors. With survivorship, however, comes the risk of developing long-term side effects that are specific to a child's treatment regimen.

People who have had cancer or a stem cell transplant in childhood have a risk of later health impacts due to treatment. The STAR Program provides care for people ages 25 and younger who are survivors of childhood cancer or who have had a stem cell transplant.

STAR Program Location

Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital

25 North Winfield Road
Winfield, Illinois 60190
630.933.4291
TTY: 711

nm.org/luriechildrens

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital and Northwestern Medicine Delnor Hospital is a collaborative program between Northwestern Memorial HealthCare and Lurie Children's and its affiliated physician groups. The physicians participating in this program are neither agents nor employees of Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital or Northwestern Medicine Delnor Hospital.



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STAR Program

Survivors Taking Action & Responsibility



Specialized care for young survivors

About six in 10 survivors of childhood cancer, brain tumors and stem cell transplants develop long-term side effects from treatment. The Survivors Taking Action & Responsibility (STAR) Program at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital is here to help.

For patients ages 25 and younger, we offer:

Monitoring for known complications of therapy

Health guidance

Support services

Treatment, if necessary

Patients come to the STAR Program two years from their last treatment.

STAR Program Mission

- Provide risk-based care using national and international guidelines for childhood cancer and hematopoietic stem cell transplant survivors
- Contribute to ongoing improvements in survivorship care and quality-of-life research
- Focus on overall wellness and surveillance for late effects

Goals of the STAR Program

The STAR Program care team wants to help survivors improve their health and overall quality of life. They do this in many ways:

Deliver expert, comprehensive survivorship care

Identify treatment-related complications before they become health problems

Provide vital early detection, prompt intervention and coordination of comprehensive care for our patients

Empower survivor's awareness and identification of late complications as well as continue to identify potential complications of therapy for survivors

Communicate, coordinate care and educate healthcare providers about the unique needs of childhood cancer and SCT survivors

Ensure appropriate transition to an adult childhood cancer and SCT survivorship program by the age of 25

A leader in survivorship care

The STAR Program has been caring for childhood cancer survivors since 2001. The Institute of Medicine recommends lifelong surveillance for these survivors.

Medical professionals in the STAR Program are members of national organizations leading the way on survivorship care, including:

- Children's Oncology Group (COG)
- Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses (APHON)

What to expect in the STAR Program

Through the STAR Program, survivors will have a comprehensive annual visit with our experienced childhood cancer and stem cell transplant survivorship team. This team includes advanced practice nurses, social workers and physicians from Lurie Children's at Central DuPage Hospital.

Visits are designed to meet each person's needs based on their medical history.

Each visit includes:

A written summary of diagnosis and treatment

A physical examination

Updated patient and family medical history

Education on potential late effects of treatment and health maintenance

Testing, as needed

Referral to specialists as needed

Emotional, psychological and neurocognitive support services

Genetic counseling as appropriate

Introduction to community resources and social support services

To learn more about the STAR Program or ask for a referral, talk to your Lurie Children's at Central DuPage Hospital Oncology team, your primary care physician or call 630.933.4291.