



# GASTROINTESTINAL

## Did you know?

- Neuroendocrine Tumours (NETs) are the second most common cancer of the digestive tract<sup>3</sup>
- NETs of the gastrointestinal tract are often found in the appendix, colon and rectum but can also affect the stomach and small intestines<sup>10,11</sup>
- Symptoms of Gastrointestinal NETs can include abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting, gastrointestinal bleeding, and skin flushing<sup>11</sup>

When it comes to NETs,  
**AWARENESS OF THIS DISEASE IS KEY TO DIAGNOSING IT.**

If healthcare professionals do not think about NETs, they will not look for them.<sup>9</sup>

Help us raise awareness of NETs, including NETs of the digestive tract.

LEARN MORE ABOUT DIAGNOSING NETS



Neuroendocrine (NET) Cancer Day is an annual **event held on the 10th of November**, created to increase awareness of Neuroendocrine (NET) cancers and to provide a voice to the NET community for improved diagnostics, treatments, information, care and research.

NETs are a unique group of cancers that arise from neuroendocrine cells.<sup>1</sup> These tumours can arise in many organs of the body.<sup>2</sup>

NETs affect thousands of people living in Canada every year, and this number has been increasing.<sup>2</sup>

NETs generally affect people over the age of 50.<sup>3</sup>

Symptoms of NETs vary and are often non-specific.<sup>1</sup> This is due to their ability to secrete an excess of different hormones.<sup>4</sup>

The symptoms may depend on the organ where the NET is located, and can include abdominal pain, skin flushing, diarrhea, cough, and back pain.<sup>5</sup>

As a distinct class of tumours, NETs require specialized tests and treatments.<sup>1</sup>

As with other types of cancer, early diagnosis and treatment can improve survival.<sup>6,7</sup>

Unfortunately, most NETs are not found until it is too late. Results from a global survey show an average delay of 4 years from first symptoms to diagnosis.<sup>8</sup>

This is generally due to the perception that NETs are uncommon and a lack of awareness of the disease.<sup>1,9</sup>

World NET Cancer Day is about drawing attention to this uncommon and often misdiagnosed form of cancer and starting a global conversation amongst communities, medical professionals and governments.

**#LetsTalkAboutNETs**

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