

About the Life Raft Group



WHAT WE DO

LRG Patient Registry - Our unparalleled registry consists of over 2400 records, with patients from over 90 countries. Our Registry tracks patients over time and across institutional boundaries, providing them with one location for their records, and one-on-one support from our staff. Utilizing the highest standards of quality control, the registry has generated quality data for peer-reviewed journals.

GIST Collaborative Tissue Bank - To accelerate the research process, we created the GIST Collaborative Tissue Bank, which has collected over 800 tissue samples to date to aid GIST research.

Virtual Tumor Board - Originally developed to offset the NIH Pediatric and Wildtype GIST Clinic, these case reviews are available for physicians treating challenging cases around the world.

Global Surveillance Team - A network of global physicians and researchers who collaborate regularly on topics related to patient survival.

GIST Mentors - A program to support people with GIST and their loved ones as they navigate through diagnosis, treatment and recovery.

GIST Chat - Our closed online community, GIST patients and caregivers are free to discuss and share information and thoughts.

Education and Training Programs - Through our website, educational materials, webinars, and GIST Days of Learning, we empower patients to have meaningful involvement in their care.

Research - Taking a dual approach to research, pairing traditional lab-based research and clinical trials with a patient-powered real world evidence approach, we contribute to the GIST body of knowledge through support of studies and publication of our findings in peer-reviewed journals.

Advocacy - From facilitating access to treatment to affecting change in legislation and treatment guidelines, the LRG has a global footprint.

WHAT IS GIST?

Gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST), usually found in the gastrointestinal tract, belong to a rare group of cancers called soft-tissue sarcomas.

Although GIST is often spoken of in the singular, it is actually a family of cancers that encompasses “adult”, SDH / Pediatric, and familial (hereditary) forms.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Life Raft Group is to enhance survival and quality of life for people living with GIST through patient-powered research, education and empowerment, and global advocacy efforts.

LEARN MORE

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