



## Looking Ahead

### *Things to consider as your child transitions off treatment*

If your child will soon finish active treatment at Dana-Farber/Boston Children's, consider the following steps to help ease this transition.

- 1. Write down a list of questions and concerns to ask your child's medical team.** For example, you may want to ask these questions:
  - *What follow-up appointments will be needed?* (These might include appointments for screenings such as EKG, MRI, CT scans, lab work, ophthalmology, neuropsych, dental, physical therapy, cardiology, endocrinology, nutrition, and more.)
  - *When will these appointments be needed? Who should set them up?*
  - *If I have a health concern about my child, when should I call Dana-Farber/Boston Children's? When should I call our child's pediatrician?*
  - *How long will my child be immuno-compromised?*
  - *What vaccinations will my child need? When can my child receive vaccinations?*
  - *When will my child's central line be removed? How will future blood draws be done?*
  - *Is my child at risk for other health issues?*
  - *Will my child have any physical limitations?*
- 2. Discuss any school concerns you might have.** Ask whether someone in the Jimmy Fund Clinic can help you find resources at your child's school or in your community. Talk with your team if you would like to meet with a psychosocial clinician.
- 3. Re-establish your relationship with your child's pediatrician.** You will want to talk with him or her about issues such as routine immunizations and the late effects of treatment.
- 4. Ask your team for a *treatment summary* and any *transitioning off treatment materials*.** You will want to share these with your child's pediatrician.
- 5. Attend one of the Dana-Farber/Boston Children's *Transitioning Off Treatment information sessions*.** These are led by a psychosocial clinician and other parents who have experienced the transition that you are going through now.

To learn more about services and programs for survivors of childhood cancer, visit <http://danafarberbostonchildrens.org/survivorship> and click on "Transition to Survivorship."

These tips were prepared by the Pediatric Patient Family Advisory Council (Pediatric PFAC), a group of families and staff members who offer guidance on patient care and support. <http://danafarberbostonchildrens.org/pfac>