



Tiffany Tran

Inspiration

Living Well With Cancer

Tiffany Tran

Life can shake you up and calm you down – all in a short period of time, says Tiffany Tran.

A computer specialist, Tiffany, 29, says her challenges with cancer often left her without the energy to get through the day. Like other young cancer patients, she worried about her hair falling out, her future relationship, her ability to have children.

Still, she says, the cancer didn't take any of her life away from her. "And I had Dr. Tchekmedyan and his team to make sure that it did not. Looking back, I can honestly say that it gave me more life, more determination, and a perspective that has forever changed how I think," Tiffany says. "I am greatly interested in connecting with other young cancer patients – and especially those who are newly diagnosed."



Tiffany recognized early on that she could not do it alone. "The unavoidable side effects of chemotherapy and radiation put everyday socializing on the back burner," she says. "The feeling of being alone – even when I was not – was sometimes a reality. So I bought a dog. Her name is Lexi. I highly recommend doing this. The unconditional love a dog can provide is worth a million bucks!"

Tiffany also continues doing what she enjoys, as well as doing new things.

"I still play a mean game of golf. I still ride my motorcycle. And my new interest is to design a line of modern, contemporary golf apparel for the petite woman. Now that is something to keep me busy."



Tiffany's Buell

by Simon Tchekmedyan, MD

When I first saw Tiffany Tran in the exam room, she looked like a teenager. I wondered who the patient was; it was Tiffany. She was 28 and had just been diagnosed with breast cancer. After that, a tough road of harsh treatments ended with a strong and enduring friendship.

Given that breast cancer at such a young age can be due to genetic mutations, we did genetic testing to assess her future cancer risk. We did not find a genetic mutation.

Tiffany was remarkably practical and mature throughout her treatment. As soon as she started to recover, she showed a deep interest in helping other cancer patients and in working with organizations that support and care for cancer patients. Tiffany has shown a great interest in connecting with younger cancer patients to share experiences.

She has contributed her time to the Beckstrand Cancer Foundation with enthusiasm. We keep a very close eye on her, but our conversations nowadays take a lighter turn; we talk mostly about her golf game, her motorcycle, and her dog.

And they are all doing fine.



Lexi

Breast Cancer