

About The Life Raft Group

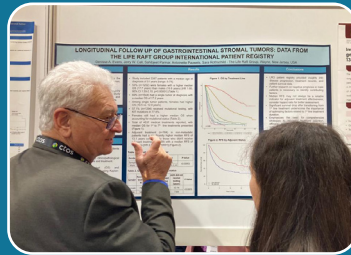


Our Mission

The Life Raft Group is committed to enhancing the survival and quality of life for people living with Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor (GIST), and other rare diseases, through patient-powered research, education & empowerment, and global advocacy efforts.

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.



What We Do

Patient Support

Education & Training Programs

Through our website, educational materials, webinars, and GIST Days of Learning (GDOLs), we empower patients with resources to have meaningful involvement in their own care.

GIST Mentor Program

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

GIST Chat

In our closed online community, GIST patients and caregivers are free to discuss their concerns and thoughts, and share information privately.

Research

We advance GIST research through a dual approach, combining traditional lab studies and clinical trials with patient-powered real-world data.

Our initiatives include:

LRG GIST Patient Registry

With over 2700 records from our global GIST community, our registry tracks patients across institutions, offering centralized record-keeping and personalized support. Our rigorous quality control ensures that this valuable data is an asset for research criteria.

Patient & Caregiver Support Groups

These virtual & in-person groups meet to encourage and support each other through their cancer journey.

Advocacy

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

Learn More:
lifteraftgroup.org



email: lifteraft@lifteraftgroup.org

GIST Collaborative Tissue Bank

This bank holds 800+ tissue samples that are tied to clinical data facilitating the understanding and the acceleration of GIST research.

Virtual Tumor Boards

Originally developed to support the NIH Pediatric and Wildtype GIST Clinic, these case reviews aid physicians worldwide in treating challenging cases.

Global Surveillance Team

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