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# RAWHIDE HEALTH – MEDICINE IN A BETTER WAY

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St. Maries, Idaho – Telephone 208.582.3056 – [RawhideHealth.com](http://RawhideHealth.com)

## *Cancer Care Coordination*

Cancer education and care coordination – done in support of a patient or the family of a patient that has been diagnosed with cancer. Dr. Ross provides a commitment to a deeper discussion to review and work through the barrage of medical information and recommendations and what the options will mean in practical terms. He has worked diligently over the years to help patients and their loved ones come to a point that they can feel that they know what they need to, to make their decisions.

Cancer can be one of those overwhelming words that sweeps across the mind and begins a whole cascade of thinking that can end up not really being helpful. Immediately after the phrase is laid out as a diagnosis, a flood of “what about” and “how come” begin churning around. At this same time however is when the physician is attempting to get their patient to say yes to the plan they have in mind. Some doctors do a better job than others in taking the time that is needed, but time often feels at a premium and sometimes important points do not get brought up.

Many cancers are highly treatable, depending on when they are discovered. And though the medical community has made tremendous strides in survival from diagnosis and even cure in a select few types of cancer, *statistically significant improvement* to a physician is a medical concept which does not necessarily mean the same thing that a patient believes it should when they are told what the treatment can accomplish. This, along with many other points, is why Dr. Ross wants to ensure no questions remain unasked. Treatment should be started and treatment should be declined only with the full knowledge of the person that it is going to mean the most to; the patient.

Often the scariest question from patients regarding cancer diagnoses is, “Does this mean I am going to die?!” Some services involved in some cancer care are about end of life planning; though having a cancer diagnosis in and of itself is not synonymous with a terminal diagnosis. Great care should be taken to discuss personal goals and desires as well as to understand what each individual is truly after when it comes to how they live out their life. Dr. Ross would encourage every person to consider this part of life assessment regardless of whether their health is the strongest that it could be or a finite time has been become a potential reality.

If you or a loved one has been told that cancer is a diagnosis, it is being considered as a diagnosis, or your personal and family history has gotten you thinking about what is cancer and what are your risks for it, make an appointment with Dr. Ross to learn what you can, and gain more peace of mind regarding what you know.