



ENDORSED PROGRAM

# FIREFIGHTER CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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Cancer is the most dangerous under-recognized threat to the health and safety to our nation's firefighters. It is the #1 cause of firefighter line-of-duty deaths.

The overview of common cancer found in firefighters compared to the general population from the NIOSH study is as follows:

- Testicular cancer - 2.02 times the risk
- Mesothelioma - 2.0 times the risk
- Multiple myeloma - 1.53 times the risk
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma - 1.41 times the risk
- Brain cancer - 1.32 times the risk
- Prostate cancer - 1.28 times the risk
- Colon cancer - 1.21 times the risk
- Leukemia - 1.14 times the risk
- Esophageal cancer - 1.16 times the risk

Early diagnosis is key to create the best chance for optimal outcomes and treatment strategies for cancer related health issues. A physical fitness evaluation should address the following key points:

- Annual physical exams for early detection of potential illness
- Refer to the updated recommendations for annual physicals for high-risk employee:
  - <https://www.safetystanddown.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/FCS-N-Letter-to-Primary-Care-Provider.pdf>



[www.iaff.org](http://www.iaff.org)



[www.firefightercancersupport.org](http://www.firefightercancersupport.org)

*This information is brought to you by the International Association of Firefighters and the Firefighter Cancer Support Network*