Bladder cancer is one of the top 10 most common cancers in the world\(^1\) and occurs when a growth of abnormal tissue (a tumour) develops in the lining of the bladder\(^2\). Older people are the most likely group to get bladder cancer but people of all ages can be affected\(^3\). Whilst more common in men\(^1\), women are more likely to be diagnosed in the advanced stages of the disease which is likely to be due to late diagnosis.\(^4\)

Having these symptoms does not necessarily mean you have bladder cancer, so don’t panic. The symptoms could be a result of other less serious conditions such as urinary infections.\(^5\) Nevertheless, if you notice blood in your urine or experience any of the following symptoms for a prolonged period of time, it is recommended that you visit your doctor.

### Signs and symptoms

The following checklist includes the most common signs and symptoms of bladder cancer.

**Blood in, or discolouration of the urine\(^2\)**

Blood in the urine is the most common symptom of bladder cancer. If you notice blood in your pee, or your pee turning red or brown\(^6\), it doesn’t necessarily mean you have bladder cancer but it is recommended that you visit your doctor.

**Abdominal (stomach) pain\(^6\)**

**Lower back pain\(^2\)**

**Bladder irritation\(^2\)**

Such as experiencing a sudden, urgent, uncontrollable need to pee.\(^5\)

Other symptoms include pain during urination,\(^2\) unexplained weight loss,\(^5\) urinary infections that don’t respond to antibiotics\(^7\) and incontinence\(^8\)

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