

Patient Journey at Richmond Hospital: **Dominic Chung**

“I know you’ll be alright.”

The nurse at Richmond Hospital smiled as she spoke the words, and they were like music to my ears. With her reassurance, I felt more calm, peaceful, and ready to face the difficult fight ahead.

On April 4th, I was diagnosed with Stage 3 colon cancer. As soon as I heard the words, “You have cancer,” I was thrust into a fast-paced whirl of complicated procedures, treatments and medications.

I’m a composer and musician, and having the chance to write for some famous artists such as Lo Man (Roman) Tam, Teresa Teng Li-Jun, and Paula Tsui Siu Fung, I always felt my toughest challenges would lie in front of piano keys, not a battle with cancer.



But when I faced the challenge, I was surprised to learn I could seek my cancer treatment here, in my home community, thanks in part to the support people like you provide to Richmond Hospital Foundation.

I was scheduled for surgery within two weeks, and I was grateful that the nurses at Richmond Hospital answered all my questions clearly and patiently. Their friendly manner helped put me at ease.

Even so, everything was unfamiliar. I was even asked to walk into the operating room on my own two feet – not at all like I’d seen in movies or on TV! However, the staff at Richmond Hospital explained each step of the process clearly, and made me feel very comfortable with what was happening. Most importantly, the nurses didn’t make me feel as though a cancer diagnosis was a death sentence. Their encouragement and attentive care helped me maintain a positive attitude. I knew I was in good hands.

This high standard of care is only possible with your help. It’s surprising to learn, but much of the advanced medical equipment our doctors rely on at Richmond Hospital is funded by Richmond Hospital Foundation, through the support of private donors like you. Government funding only covers the most

basic health care costs. Your generous donations help purchase life-saving equipment, renovate out-of-date facilities, and fund necessary programs and services. The Foundation works closely with the hospital to make sure every dollar is used wisely, where it's needed most.

After my surgery, I woke up with my wife by my side. My surgeon, Dr. Nguyen, had done an excellent job. I wasn't sleepy or in pain, and was able to enjoy visiting with my family well into the evening. During the night, I noticed that the night-shift nurse came by to check on me and the other patients every hour. I appreciated the professional, responsible care the staff provided. I've never seen that kind of service – not even in my hometown of Hong Kong.

Having seen it first hand, I appreciate the services Richmond Hospital provides our growing community. Equipment and services vital to my diagnosis and treatment were available when I needed them, thanks in part to people like you that cared enough to support Richmond Hospital Foundation.

I'm nearing the end of my battle with cancer, and recent tests are showing it's a battle I'm winning. As I undergo my final chemotherapy treatments at the Cancer Care Clinic operated at Richmond Hospital, a clinic partially made possible by the support of Richmond Hospital Foundation, I feel blessed to have received treatment close to home. I've learned over 2,500 patients like me receive treatment through the Cancer Care Clinic each and every year. It's a service we're lucky to have in Richmond.

The staff at Richmond Hospital has been with me every step of the way – just like they'll be here for you when you need them. Yet, as the Richmond community grows, so do the needs of the hospital.

Please give generously today in support of the important work of the Foundation, so our families and our neighbours will continue to receive the high quality care available at Richmond Hospital.

Thanks to the staff at Richmond Hospital, I'm thankful to be alive and I'm ready to continue living my life to its fullest.