Renal Cell Carcinoma is the most common type of kidney cancer, with a low five-year survival rate of just 12 percent in metastatic patients.

“It was a scary deal because, you know, all of a sudden, everything flashes before my eyes. What’s going to happen? Am I going to see any of my friends, my family anymore? How serious is this? What do we do about it? I just had all sorts of questions.”
~Bruce Gowin

Today, there are treatment options available for patients whose Renal Cell Carcinoma has progressed during therapy in the Advanced setting.

“The good thing is, there are different types of drugs to choose from, some with better quality of life than others, some with different side effect profiles than others. And it’s important to have that choice and discuss that with your oncologist when you see them.”
~Dr. Daniel Heng

The concept of immunotherapy, which harnesses the bodies own immune system to fight the tumor, versus one that is cytotoxic, is one that resonates with both patients and physicians alike.

“Immunotherapy for treatment of cancers has been around for a very long time. We actually used to use immunotherapy a lot to treat advanced kidney cancers until the targeted therapy era came, where we used pills to treat the kidney cancer instead. But now, there has been a re-emergence of immuno-oncology agents, next generation checkpoint inhibitors that actually rev up a patient’s immune system, so that the immune system attacks their own tumor. And, they’ve been able to extend survival, improve quality of life, and really revolutionize how we treat kidney cancer today.”
~Dr. Daniel Heng