



WHAT IS CYSTIC FIBROSIS?

➤ ABOUT CF

- CF causes various effects on the body, but mainly affects the digestive system and lungs.
- The degree of cystic fibrosis severity differs from person to person, however, the persistence of ongoing infection in the lungs causing destruction of the lungs and loss of lung function, will eventually lead to death in the majority of people with CF.
- **Typical complications caused by cystic fibrosis are:**
 - Difficulty digesting fats and proteins
 - Malnutrition and vitamin deficiencies because of inability to absorb nutrients
 - Progressive lung damage from chronic infections and aberrant inflammation
 - CF related diabetes
 - Sinus infections

Cystic fibrosis (CF) is the most common fatal genetic disease affecting Canadian children and young adults.

At present, there is no cure.

 **4338 Canadians with CF**

 **35 % Children**

 **65 % Adults**

 **Estimated median age of survival is 57.3 years of age**

➤ CAUSES OF CF

Cystic fibrosis is a genetic disease that occurs when a child inherits two abnormal genes, one from each parent. Approximately, one in 25 Canadians carry an abnormal version of the gene responsible for cystic fibrosis. Carriers do not have cystic fibrosis, nor do they exhibit any of the symptoms of the disease.

