

The Coronavirus pandemic is a worrying time for us all.

But for me, it means I'm more at risk than I have ever been.

Back in 2017 I was diagnosed with colorectal cancer. It was a devastating time for me and my family as I underwent chemotherapy and surgery to remove any trace of the cancer. At the time there were no additional factors to prevent my recovery; I was determined to overcome it.

Late last year, tests showed that the cancer had come back - it had metastasised in my lungs. Thankfully, after surgery and chemotherapy, tests showed that the cancer had been cleared.

After my surgery, I was told about the services Cancer Council WA offered to cancer survivors like myself including counselling, therapies and financial support to help pay bills and buy groceries during my chemotherapy. I welcomed this support and benefitted greatly from it.

I am alive today and am optimistic about making a full recovery.

But as I undergo my final round of chemotherapy, my greatest concern now lies with the uncertainty of this pandemic.

You see, for me it's far more serious. My immune system is weak because of the chemotherapy, and if I contract Coronavirus, the impact on my health will be far worse than for most people - especially while my body is already trying to recover.

This weekend I'll be going in to quarantine. Not only from the rest of the community, but also from my wife and two kids. Being exposed to Coronavirus is a risk I simply can't afford to take.

During these uncertain times, I've needed support more than ever. By supporting Cancer Council WA, you've helped them provide me with invaluable assistance in looking after my family.

There are many more patients and survivors, like me, who need your support now more than ever. As a community, I know we can get through this together.

Take care of yourself,
Drayton