

Soundbite Script - Shedding Light on Bladder Cancer

Dr. Ismael Shaukat, hematologist oncologist, OSF HealthCare

“There are about 80,000 new cases that have occurred in the United States, and this is the 9th most common malignancy in the whole world. Unfortunately the incidence is rising.”

Dr. Ismael Shaukat, hematologist oncologist, OSF HealthCare

“Risk factors for bladder cancer include smoking, which is the greatest risk factor we see in our population. It affects the lining of the bladder. We see a lot of patients come in because of this because they have a heavy history of smoking.”

Dr. Ismael Shaukat, hematologist oncologist, OSF HealthCare

“A lot of times patients notice they are bleeding but have no pain associated with it. Sometimes it can be associated with a simple urinary tract infection known as a UTI. But if patients notice an increase in bleeding known as ‘frank bleeding,’ then they should go to their primary care physician for further evaluation.”

Dr. Ismael Shaukat, hematologist oncologist, OSF HealthCare

“There are two things I want to convey. Number one is early detection. Once you see something please do not ignore it. Number two is smoking cessation. I can’t say this enough. It’s not just for bladder cancer, but it’s for a slew of other carcinomas that can occur because of this.”