New Phone Line Connects Canadians to Health Ministers as Pancreatic Cancer Drug Remains Out of Reach

The Heather Cutler Foundation and Pancreatic Cancer Can't Wait launch a national call campaign on World Pancreatic Cancer Day. Daraxonrasib is approved in the United States and Europe; in Canada, no application has been filed.

MOUNT PEARL, N.L., Nov. 19, 2026 — The Heather Cutler Foundation and Pancreatic Cancer Can't Wait today launched a national toll-free line that connects Canadians directly to the office of the federal Minister of Health or their provincial health minister. The campaign asks governments to name a lead on Canadian access to daraxonrasib, and to tell patients what happens next.

Daraxonrasib, marketed as Rasonque, was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Aug. 26, 2026, for certain adults with metastatic pancreatic cancer. Its manufacturer, Revolution Medicines, announced European Commission approval on Nov. 16, 2026. In the clinical trial supporting the U.S. approval, median overall survival was 13.2 months with daraxonrasib, compared with 6.7 months with standard chemotherapy.

In Canada, the regulatory process has not begun. Revolution Medicines told the Foundation on Nov. 5, 2026, that it has not filed a submission with Health Canada and could not provide a filing date. Health Canada's review target is 300 days from filing, or 180 days under priority review. Provincial funding decisions follow.

"Diplomacy with drug manufacturers is a luxury that patients with terminal illnesses don't have," said Christopher Cutler, founder and executive director of The Heather Cutler Foundation. "We believe in constructive dialogue. But dialogue cannot become an excuse for indefinite delays, unanswered questions or inaction. For patients facing a terminal diagnosis, time is not an administrative consideration. It is something they are running out of."

FEW OPTIONS FOR CANADIAN PATIENTS

- Clinical trial sites in Canada are limited.
- Revolution Medicines describes a paid access route for patients outside the United States, but has not said what a Canadian patient would be charged. The U.S. list price is US$39,800 for a 30-day supply.
- No government, federal or provincial, has told patients who is responsible for securing an answer.

The delay compounds gaps the Foundation has already documented. Its October 2026 report card, *Where You Live Matters*, assessed how all 13 provinces and territories respond to pancreatic cancer. None operates a dedicated pancreatic cancer program. Of $23.3 million in federal pancreatic cancer research funding, about one per cent reached Atlantic Canada. Newfoundland and Labrador received a grade of C.

The Foundation is named for Heather Cutler, a registered nurse who served Newfoundland and Labrador for more than 35 years. She was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2022, at age 60. She was unable to enrol in a clinical trial, and a drug already approved by Health Canada was not covered for her.

"My mother was a nurse. She knew exactly what to ask, and she still could not get an answer," said Cutler. "Eight or nine families now write to us every week asking how to get this drug, and we cannot tell them when, how or at what cost. Canadians are at a standstill, and families are left to find their own way through. We cannot sit by and wait."

HOW THE CAMPAIGN WORKS

Anyone in Canada can call **(855) 754-5045** and press 1 to be connected to the office of the federal Minister of Health or of the health minister in any of the 10 provinces. A short script is available at heathercutler.ca/daraxonrasib, along with an option to write instead. Calls are not recorded or monitored. Written replies received from ministers' offices will be published with their dates.

Patients, caregivers and families are also invited to share how the delay is affecting them. After a call, participants may record a message of up to two minutes. With each person's permission, these messages will be shared on the campaign page as audio clips, alongside patient impact videos.

Earlier this week, the Foundation wrote to the offices of the federal Minister of Health and of every provincial and territorial health minister to notify them in advance of the public launch.

A JOINT CAMPAIGN

The campaign is an equal partnership between The Heather Cutler Foundation and Pancreatic Cancer Can't Wait, a patient-led campaign started by Salman Syed, a husband and father of two in Ontario who is living with metastatic pancreatic cancer.

"I'm fighting for affordable access, for myself and for every Canadian who needs it," Syed says on the campaign's website.

Together, the two organizations are asking:

- the federal Minister of Health to name a lead on Canadian access to daraxonrasib and to coordinate with the manufacturer, the provinces and the territories;
- provincial and territorial health ministers to name a lead and to say whether interim or exceptional funding could be considered for eligible patients; and
- Revolution Medicines to file with Health Canada and publish a clear access route for Canadian patients.

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ABOUT THE HEATHER CUTLER FOUNDATION

The Heather Cutler Foundation is a registered Canadian charity (743014227 RR 0001) based in Mount Pearl, Newfoundland and Labrador. Founded by Christopher Cutler in memory of his mother, Heather Cutler, RN, the Foundation works in pancreatic cancer education, patient support and advocacy, with a focus on people living outside Canada's large urban centres. heathercutler.ca

ABOUT PANCREATIC CANCER CAN'T WAIT

Pancreatic Cancer Can't Wait is a patient-led campaign started by Salman Syed of Ontario, who is living with metastatic pancreatic cancer. It calls for affordable access to Rasonque for every Canadian who needs it, including a compassionate or cost-shared supply program from the manufacturer and exceptional-access funding from the provinces. The campaign reports that hundreds of patients, caregivers, health professionals and advocates across Canada have added their voice. It is independent of Revolution Medicines and Health Canada. pancreaticcantwait.ca

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MEDIA CONTACT

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CAMPAIGN

Call (855) 754-5045 and press 1
heathercutler.ca/daraxonrasib
Media kit: heathercutler.ca/daraxonrasib/media

Sources: U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Aug. 26, 2026 (approval and trial results). Revolution Medicines, Nov. 16, 2026 (European Commission approval). The Heather Cutler Foundation, "Revolution Medicines responds," Nov. 5, 2026 (filing status, access route and U.S. list price). Health Canada review performance targets. The Heather Cutler Foundation, *Where You Live Matters*, October 2026.

This release provides general information and is not medical advice. Daraxonrasib is a treatment, not a cure, and is not appropriate for every patient.