

Brenda Blackburn



Brenda Blackburn is a Personal & Professional Development Facilitator. In June 2008 (age 41), after experiencing two weeks of pain in her calf (which she assumed was from a pulled or strained muscle), Brenda was diagnosed with DVT. Luckily she sought medical attention before boarding a cross-country flight. While an outpatient at the hospital, she also had a pulmonary embolism. After more than a year of Warfarin treatment had stopped, she went for blood tests and tested positive for the hereditary Factor V Leiden in September 2009.

Since her first diagnosis, Brenda was unable to find a related patient support in Canada, so decided to get involved. Her mission became twofold: to raise awareness and education, and to be a patient advocate/supporter. She quickly became an advocate member with the NATF, and in October 2008 she founded the DVT Support Group of the Lower Mainland (in BC, Canada): <http://www.meetup.com/DVT-Support-Group-of-the-Lower-Mainland/>. Her group continually grows, and she also receives referrals from the Thrombosis Clinic at Vancouver General Hospital, and from the Anti-Coagulation Clinic of Burnaby Hospital. Her vision is to expand, creating satellite support groups across Canada. <http://www.brendablackburn.com/her-cause.php>

NATF Active Advocacy Member