

MGFEB

Marlene is a 40-year-old female living with a diagnosis of colon cancer. Marlene had colorectal surgery last week and remains in hospital. Marlene is expecting that she will receive chemotherapy and RT treatments post-operative.

Marlene resides with her husband and three children. Marlene reports that her diagnosis has put a strain on finances as she is sole household earner, while her husband stays home with the children. This has caused additional stress. Marlene is receiving disability benefits through work and described her employer as supportive. Marlene has strong family support, but they are also grieving her diagnosis. Marlene has been trying to balance being open with the children, while also providing reassurance and continuation of routine. Marlene's mother and father are also strong supports.

Marlene shared that she has a strong connection to the catholic church and personal faith, which has provided comfort to her. Marlene is however still struggling with uncertainty and the potential this diagnosis may have on her life and family. Marlene hopes for more information to be shared with her by her treatment team and has at times felt a lack of communication. Marlene also hopes to receive care from her treatment team that will consider the implication that her cancer experience has on her life and family. Marlene wishes to remain connected with an oncology counsellor.