A child’s cancer diagnosis and treatment affects the whole family. During this time, siblings may benefit from additional support.

**Sibling Adjustment Concerns:** When siblings experience difficulty adjusting to and coping with the impact of cancer on the family, they may exhibit the following signs:

- Acting out
- Increased dependency on parents
- Changes in behavior toward sibling with cancer (more argumentative or more protective)
- Difficulty sleeping
- Difficulty with peer relationships
- Withdrawn or irritable mood
- Inattentiveness
- Declining performance in school

**Types of Support:** Varying levels and degrees of support are available for siblings. Examples include:

- School adjustment counselors
  - Your psychosocial provider can provide consultation to school counselors to facilitate increased individual support.
- The Sibling Program through Jimmy Fund Clinic
  - Group and individual resources available for school-aged and teen-aged siblings of JFC patients.
  - Contact at 617-632-5359; SiblingProgram@dfci.harvard.edu
- Community Mental Health Providers
  - Contact your child’s primary care physician, insurance company customer service, or search the “Find A Therapist” section on [www.psychologytoday.com](http://www.psychologytoday.com) to locate a provider.