Cholangiocarcinoma = cancer of the bile ducts

- The bile ducts form a “biliary tree” that connects the liver and gallbladder to the pancreas and small intestine
- The bile ducts play a large role in digestion, specifically digestion of fats
- There are three types of cholangiocarcinoma based on anatomical location: intrahepatic (proximal), perihilar (hilar), and extrahepatic (distal)
- Kelly green signifies cholangiocarcinoma awareness
- Cholangiocarcinoma is rare. Nearly 2-3,000 of Americans develop cholangiocarcinoma every year
- Cholangiocarcinoma typically develops in older people, with the average age being early 70’s. However, approximately 1/3 of patients are under 65 when diagnosed, with the youngest known patient being 12 years old.
- It is very difficult to detect and diagnose cholangiocarcinoma and, as a result, patients usually present with more developed tumors
- The 5-year survival rate ranges from 2-30%
- Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma is typically associated with a worse prognosis than extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma
- Due to the difficulty of the location and detection, there is no known cure and little is understood. Therefore, research plays a large role in our ability to find answers

www.cholangiocarcinoma.org/giving-tuesday