



## CANCER LIBRARIANS SECTION

Medical Library Association

# Recommended Web Sites

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The charge of the MLA Cancer Librarians Recommended Web Sites project is to provide medical librarians with a resource to use in their daily practice and teaching. Secondly, it is our contribution to the Medical Library Association so that the headquarters staff can refer oncology professionals to a list of quality health web sites.

Our goal is to have a limited number of resources that meet the quality criteria for currency, credibility, content, audience, etc., as described on our website. The Cancer Librarians Section has a guide for [Evaluating Websites](#) that contains good tips for assessing health information on the Internet.

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## Cancer Resources for Special Population Groups - Children & Adolescents

*Editor: Jan T. Orick, MLIS, AHIP  
St Jude Children's Research Hospital, Biomedical Library  
Memphis, TN*

### [American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology](#)

This web site is a forum for communication about the field of pediatric hematology/oncology and ASPHO's programs for its members. It also serves patients and families by providing a source of current peer-reviewed scientific and clinical research and links to aid in finding other related information through the Internet.

### [CureSearch](#)

This site contains comprehensive coverage for all aspects of childhood cancer for health professionals, patients, and families. CureSearch is a united effort of the [Children's Oncology Group \(COG\)](#) and the National Childhood Cancer Foundation (NCCF).

### [Childhood Cancer Guides](#)

This is a not-for-profit group of individuals. The educational website that shares portions of the books, provides referrals to helpful resources, and additional links. Content is from the books on childhood cancer and leukemia co-authored by Nancy Keene.

### [St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital](#)

This web site contains authoritative information about the treatment of pediatric cancer and rare diseases such as sickle cell anemia. Information is provided for patients, families, clinicians, and basic scientist. The site provides definitions of different types of pediatric cancer, medical terminology and access to a drug database. Information is also provided for adolescents and

survivors of pediatric cancers.

#### [Starlight Starbright](#)

This site brings together experts from pediatric health care, technology, and entertainment to create programs that educate, entertain and inspire seriously ill children. The website provides access for children and teens to find friends online, learn more about a disease, or just spend time together with their family, the programs help children and families deal with the challenges of being sick. The website provides online animated stories to explain about specific illnesses and procedures.

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## Clinical Trials

*Editor: Tanya Smith, MPH, CHES  
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#### [National Cancer Institute \(NCI\): Clinical Trials](#)

This is a comprehensive resource from the NCI that provides links to educational materials describing what clinical trials are and why they are important, a searchable database for current cancer clinical trials that are recruiting patients, and a link to summaries of noteworthy results from completed clinical trials.

#### [Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups](#)

This organization provides information to improve public and patient awareness of clinical trials. The site provides access to TrialCheck®, a searchable database for current cancer clinical trials. TrialCheck® contains more than 4,000 cancer clinical trials from Cooperative Groups, National Cancer Institute (NCI), academic centers, and pharmaceutical and biotech companies, and it is updated on a daily basis.

#### [ClinicalTrials.gov](#)

This National Library of Medicine site provides regularly updated information about federally and privately supported clinical research for a variety of diseases and conditions taking place in the United States and in 153 countries.

#### [CenterWatch](#)

This commercial site contains a listing of more than 41,000 industry and government-sponsored clinical trials (not all specific to Oncology) as well as new drug therapies recently approved by the FDA.

#### [Clinical Trials Group, National Cancer Institute of Canada \(NCIC CTG\)](#)

The official web site of the National Cancer Institute of Canada's Clinical Trials Group. It provides information about their programs.

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## Consumer & Patient Resources

*Editor: Gail Y. Hendler, MLS, AHIP  
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#### [American Cancer Society](#)

This comprehensive website offers a wealth of information in English and Spanish to patients/survivors, their families and caregivers, and the public. Noteworthy for its growing collection of various Asian language documents, and for links to statistics; a cancer drug database; support resources; NCCN patient treatment guidelines; treatment center locator, and treatment decision tools meant to help patients make better informed healthcare decisions.

#### [Ask NOAH About: Cancer](#)

For over a decade, New York Online to Health (NOAH) has been improving the public's health by providing bilingual (English and Spanish) full-text online information that is unbiased, timely and relevant. Here, cancer information includes cancer by type as well as information on sexuality, support, pregnancy, fatigue, cancer genetics and links to the Healthology Video Library.

#### [Cancerbackup](#)

Staffed by cancer nurses, the largest specialist cancer information service in Europe is located in the UK and provides high-quality, online patient information about precancerous conditions; cancer background information and information by type; treatments ranging biological, hormonal, supportive and complementary therapies. The site also links to a European clinical trials database, and a searchable list of 1,000 questions and answers about cancer.

#### [Cancer Care](#)

CancerCare's mission is provide free professional support services to anyone diagnosed with cancer, their friends, relatives and caregivers. The CancerCare website provides links to the "Reading Room" that contains PDF brochures discussing various cancer types and their medical, emotional and practical concerns in English and Spanish. An online community message board is available as well as links to information about support groups and monthly schedules for telephone education sessions.

#### [Cancer Risk Questionnaire - Harvard Center for Cancer Prevention](#)

The Harvard Center for Cancer Prevention has created an interactive tool that allows users to estimate risk for 12 different cancer types and offers personalized tips on how to best prevent these cancers.

#### [CancerQuest](#)

Emory University has done an outstanding job in explaining tumor biology to patients, family and other interested users. Video and text clearly present complex concepts with information translated into Spanish, Chinese and Russian.

#### [CancerSymptoms.org](#)

The Oncology Nursing Society website helps patients and caregivers learn about and manage the symptoms of ten common cancer treatment symptoms: anorexia, cognitive dysfunction, depression, dyspnea, fatigue, hormonal disturbances, neutropenia, pain, peripheral neuropathy, sexual dysfunction and supplies links to resources supplying information about other cancer symptoms.

#### [Corporate Angel Network](#)

Thanks to 530 American corporations, cancer patients can receive free flights to and from approved cancer treatment facilities anywhere in the United States on unused seats on corporate jets.

#### [Inside Cancer](#)

This website is a guide for the layman about the biology of cancer; how cancer occurs, evolves and how it can be treated. Curated by the Cold Spring Harbor National Laboratory, experts in the field combine with clear graphics and text to explain cancer on the molecular level.

#### [Medlineplus](#)

The National Library of Medicine(NLM) offers patients and the public links authoritative, full-text information from the NLM, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and other government agencies and select health-related organizations. In addition to a comprehensive collection of cancer information, special features include "easy to read" documents, low-vision documents, and a selection of interactive health tutorials on a variety of cancer topics.

#### [National Cancer Institute's Cancer.gov](#)

In addition to the PDQ cancer information summaries for patients, this website contains links to statistics, the Dictionary of Cancer Terms, NCI Drug Dictionary, clinical trials search, Cancer Genetics Service directory, and the "Understanding Cancer" series that enhances learning about the science behind the medicine.

#### [National Cancer Institute's Cancer.gov en Espanol](#)

A new Spanish language Web site provides Hispanic/Latino communities with accurate and up-to-date cancer information. Visitors can learn about different types of cancer, treatments, detection and prevention as well as read about the experiences of Latino cancer survivors.

#### [Patient Advocate Foundation](#)

This non-profit organization was established in 1996 to assist cancer patients resolve insurance, debt, employment and discrimination issues due to cancer diagnosis. The organization actively “seeks to provide avenues of access to insurance funding for evolving cancer therapies” and acts as a liaison between patients and their insurers, creditors and employers.

#### [People Living with Cancer](#)

The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) offers peer-reviewed information for patients, families and caregivers. Coverage includes over 85 types of cancer, basic cancer information, support, coping, advocacy, and information about special populations. Special and notable features on this website include a Medical Illustrations Gallery of common cancer sites organized by cancer type; ASCO Patient Guides that comprise a growing list of well-written and up-to-date documents on a variety of discrete subjects such as, *Understanding Tumor Markers for Breast and Colon Cancer*, and a monthly “Ask the Expert” forum meant to invite patients, families, and the public to ask leading cancer experts questions via an online chat forum.

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## Government & Organization Web Sites

*Editor: Frank Davis, MSLS, AHIP  
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#### [American Cancer Society](#)

The ACS site has information for both healthcare professionals and patients that includes disease overviews, treatment options, prevention and coping strategies, and news.

#### [American Society of Clinical Oncology](#)

ASCO membership is comprised of clinical oncologists from all oncology disciplines and sub-specialties. The web site has information for practice guidelines, policy statements, career development, and news.

#### [American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology \(ASTRO\)](#)

The site has links to resources for research, economics, government issues, and patient information.

#### [Association of Community Cancer Centers](#)

The ACCC helps oncology professionals adapt to the complex challenges of program management, cuts in reimbursement, hospital consolidation and mergers, and legislation and regulations that threaten to compromise the delivery of quality cancer care. The website maintains a valuable list of links for clinicians and patients.

#### [Canadian Cancer Organizations and Information by Cancer Site \(Type\)](#)

This authoritative list of Canadian organizations is maintained by Christine Marton of the University of Toronto.

#### [FDA Oncology Tools](#)

This site contains a variety of information related to cancer and approved cancer drug therapies. Rather than grouping all drug product information together, this web page is a first effort at pulling together information by disease category which we hope will make this information easier to find and use.

#### [International Agency for Research on Cancer \(IARC\)](#)

The IARC is involved in both epidemiological and laboratory research and disseminates scientific information through publications, meetings, courses, and fellowships.

#### [International Union Against Cancer](#)

The world's largest independent, non-profit, non-governmental association of cancer-fighting organizations, UICC brings together a wide range of organizations, including voluntary cancer societies, research and treatment centres, public health authorities, patient support networks and advocacy groups.

### [National Cancer Institute](#)

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). NCI coordinates the National Cancer Program, which conducts and supports research, training, and health information dissemination.

[NCI Research Resources](#) This page has over 100 key resources for categories such as family registries, genomics, scientific computing and specimen resources.

### [Oncolink](#)

Oncolink was founded in 1994 by University of Pennsylvania cancer specialists with a mission to help cancer patients, families, health care professionals and the general public get accurate cancer-related information at no charge. Oncolink contains comprehensive information about specific types of cancer, updates on cancer treatments and news about research advances.

### [Oncology Nursing Society](#)

The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) is a professional organization of more than 32,000 registered nurses and other healthcare providers dedicated to excellence in patient care, education, research, and administration in oncology nursing.

### [Society of Surgical Oncology](#)

The Society of Surgical Oncology is a professional association for surgical oncologists and non-physician healthcare providers involved in oncologic patient care. The site has links to career information, educational opportunities, and research resources.

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## News & Current Awareness

*Editor: Mark Vrabel, MLS, AHIP  
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### [ASCO Annual Meeting - Cancer News for Patients](#)

News for patients about the cancer care and treatment advances announced during the American Society of Clinical Oncology's (ASCO) Annual Meeting each year.

### [Cancer Treatment News](#)

Provided by CancerConsultants.com

### [Google News search for "Cancer"](#)

A customized search of Google News using the term "cancer".

### [NCI Recent News Releases](#)

Provided by the National Cancer Institute.

### [New Cancer Drug Approvals/FDA Updates](#)

Provided by the Oncology Nursing Society.

### [National Health Observances](#)

This calendar lists national health observances along with the sponsoring organizations and information about supporting materials that will be available.

### [Medscape.com Hematology-Oncology News](#)

Provided by Medscape.com and WebMD.

### [Oncolink's Cancer News](#)

Provided by the Abramson Cancer Center at the University of Pennsylvania.

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## Professional Society Meeting Abstracts

*Editor: Gail Y. Hendler, MLS, AHIP  
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- [American Association for Cancer Research \( AACR \)](#)
- [American Society for Hematology \( ASH \)](#)
- [American Society of Clinical Oncology \( ASCO \)](#)
- [American Society of Clinical Oncology \( ASCO \) Abstracts for Patients](#)  
Patient-friendly summaries of the ASCO meeting abstracts. These focus on cancer care and treatment advances announced during the ASCO Annual Meeting each year.
- [American Society for Therapeutic Radiology \( ASTRO \)](#)  
*Note: Full-text access to abstracts is limited to individuals with subscriptions to International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, and Physics.*
- [Oncology Nursing Society \( ONS \)](#)
- [San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium \( SABCS \)](#)
- [Sigma Theta Tau database at the Virginia Henderson International Nursing Library](#)  
This abstracts database covers the proceedings of more than 13 nursing society conferences.
- [Society of Gynecologic Oncologists \( SGO \)](#)  
*Note: In order to search this site, it requires users to register for a free account, then login with user name/password.*
- [Society of Surgical Oncology \( SSO \)](#)

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## Practice Guidelines & Treatment Overviews

*Editor: Frank Davis, MSLS, AHIP  
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### [American Society of Clinical Oncology Practice Guidelines](#)

Guidelines can address specific clinical situations (disease-oriented) or use of approved medical products, procedures, or tests (modality-oriented). Using the best available evidence, ASCO's expert panels identify and develop practice recommendations for specific areas of cancer care that would benefit from the availability of practice guidelines.

### [European Society for Medical Oncology: Clinical Recommendations](#)

This site contains recommendations from a 2005 supplement of *Annals of Oncology*.

### [National Comprehensive Cancer Network](#)

This alliance of 20 major cancer centers maintains a good collection of guidelines, clinical trials, and drug information. Creation of a free personal account is required to access some of the information.

### [National Guideline Clearinghouse](#)

This resource contains an interdisciplinary compilation of evidence-based clinical guidelines. The site is an initiative of the [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\)](#), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

### [PDQ \(Physician's Desk Query\)](#)

National Cancer Institute's comprehensive cancer database. It contains peer-reviewed summaries on cancer treatment, screening, prevention, genetics, and supportive care, and complementary and alternative medicine; a registry of more than 4,000 open and 15,000 closed cancer clinical trials from around the world; and directories of physicians, professionals who provide genetics services, and organizations that provide cancer care.

### [PubMed: Cancer Subset](#)

*Limits* hotlink (below search screen) can be selected and *Publication Types* can be set to *Practice Guideline*. Key words can then be typed and search results will be MEDLINE journal citations identified as Practice Guidelines.

[Society of Surgical Oncology Research and Practice Resources](#)

The site maintains links to summary documents and relevant clinical trials.

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## Statistics & Epidemiology

*Editor: Frank Davis, MSLS, AHIP*  
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[Cancer Statistics](#)

Provided by the American Cancer Society

[SEER \(Statistics, Epidemiology and End Results\)](#)

The Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program, maintained at National Cancer Institute, is an authoritative source of information on cancer incidence and survival in the United States.

[NCI Fact Book, 2006](#)

This annual publication has incident and mortality rates, plus information about NCI funding and organizational structure.

[National Cancer Data Base \(NCDB\)](#)

NCDB is a nationwide, facility-based, oncology data set that currently captures 75% of all newly diagnosed cancer cases in the United States annually. Data collected include patient characteristics, tumor staging and histology characteristics, type of first course treatment administered, disease recurrence, and survival information. The site is the result of a partnership between American College of Surgeons and National Cancer Society.

[CANCERmondial](#)

This website provides access to information on the occurrence of cancer world-wide compiled by the Descriptive Epidemiology Group (DEP) of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).

[National Center for Health Statistics: Cancer](#)

This page, from a CDC agency, has links to a variety of government reports containing cancer information, usually within the context of a wider subject area. **Note:** When searching full-text of the reports, the term "neoplasms" often brings more results than using the term "cancer".

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## Treatment Options - Alternative, Complementary, & Holistic Resources

*Editor: Frank Davis, MSLS, AHIP*  
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[CAM-Cancer](#)

The aims of CAM-Cancer project are to build a European authoritative network around CAM in cancer with an international panel of experts in CAM research and/or in cancer care with privileged contacts with cancer organizations. The project's main achievement will be to prepare and disseminate suitable evidence based information for health professionals in order to help them to inform their patients.

#### [Office of Cancer Complementary & Alternative Medicine](#)

This National Cancer Institute unit's goal is to increase the amount of high-quality cancer research and information about the use of complementary and alternative modalities.

#### [Pharmacological and Biological Treatment](#)

American Cancer Society page lists evidence-based overviews, with reference, for non-traditional therapies.

#### [Sloan Kettering - About Herbs, Botanicals, and Other Products](#)

This site provides objective information for oncologists and healthcare professionals, including a clinical summary for each agent and details about constituents, adverse effects, interactions, and potential benefits or problems. Evaluations of alternative or unproved cancer therapies, as well as products for sexual dysfunction are included.

#### [Unconventional Therapies](#)

British Columbia Cancer Agency maintains this web site. The pages are designed to provide objective information for patients and their families, relating to alternative and complementary therapies. Most of the information consists of direct quotations from the medical, peer-reviewed book and journal literature.

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## Treatment Options - Drugs & Biologics

*Editor: Frank Davis, MSLS, AHIP  
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#### [FDA Approved Oncology Drugs](#)

The site contains the list of FDA-approved oncology drugs and regulatory information. Also lists assessment tools for staging, performance status, toxicity, and human and animal dosage calculators.

#### [Approved Drug Products With Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations - \*Electronic Orange Book\*](#)

The FDA produces this book which contains products that have been approved under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. It can be searched by active ingredient, proprietary name, or application holder.

#### [NCI Drug Dictionary](#)

The site contains technical definitions and synonyms for more than 500 agents that are being used in the treatment of patients with cancer or cancer-related conditions.

#### [Pharmacological and Biological Treatment](#)

American Cancer Society web page listing non-traditional therapies with structured overviews and references.

#### [RxList](#)

This commercial site can be searched by drug name, plus Advanced Search options for keyword, interaction, or side effects.

#### [Cancer Care Ontario Drug Formulary](#)

CCO Drug Formulary is an online Cancer Drug and Regimen *information only* website, reflecting the choices of chemotherapy used across Ontario. Resources include monographs for healthcare professionals; drug regimens by disease site and for supportive care and symptom control; plus ancillary information.

#### [Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research \(CBER\)](#)

FDA site contains information on research projects and product approval. Not all links are specific to cancer or oncology.

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## Selection Process & Disclaimer

No direct recommendation or sponsorship by MLA Cancer Section or MLA of these listed web resources is implied. The resources referenced here are intended to provide general information for you. Some resources will contain information that is the opinion of the author and is not necessarily that of your own healthcare providers. Please consult your healthcare provider for individual information on your specific condition.

The [Medical Library Association \(MLA\)](#) and MLA Cancer Librarians Section endorse the [Criteria for Assessing the Quality of Health Information on the Internet](#) of the [Health Summit Working Group](#). These sites have been reviewed using HSWG guidelines. These criteria include: credibility, sponsorship/authorship, content, audience, currency, disclosure, purpose, links, design, interactivity, and caveats. These sites met this criteria as of the published date of this web page.

All sites on this page have been reviewed by members of the Cancer Librarians Section of MLA. Comments and suggestions should be sent to the section [Web Editor](#) for review by the selection committee.

### [Web Editor](#)

Last modified: 08-January-2009

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