

11 - RESEARCHING CANCERS

11(A) CANCER.GOV/PDQ



DoctorInternet

A Base Report on cancer, in addition to the “review” citations from MEDLINE, necessarily includes the information from Cancer.gov/PDQ.

PDQ (Physician Data Query) is a specialized database which gives up-to-date, clinical information on all types of cancer. The system is maintained by the National Cancer Institute (NCI). In general, it represents the most authoritative approach for treating the particular type of cancer about which one is concerned. The emphasis is on “conventional” therapies; however, “alternative” and “complimentary” treatments are included. There are 3 main sectors of the database - Patients, Health Professionals, and Clinical Trials. The first section (i.e., Patients) is oriented mostly for the person with cancer and the facilitator(s). The second section (Professionals) is designed more for the treating physician(s); however, that can and should be reviewed by the patient and by anyone else who is helping. The third section (Clinical Trials) includes the experimental trials which are currently being conducted. The site also includes information on supportive care for dealing with many of the side effects of both the disease and the treatments. Further, there are sectors on prevention, diagnosis, and other aspects. The information in PDQ is revised routinely by some of the foremost cancer experts in the world. The function of these experts is to formulate what, in their opinion, would be the appropriate treatment for the specific type of cancer at each particular stage. They integrate

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research findings and clinical trails with standard practice - the objective being to help make the practice of cancer therapy as close as possible to state-of-the-art medicine. The PDQ protocols and recommendations are revised routinely. Thus, you will want to re-check the database periodically to stay abreast of changes. In reading this information, pay close attention to those sections which discuss your "stage". In treating cancer with conventional modalities, almost everything depends on the proper classification of the cell type and on the stage of its progression.

By now, you may feel sufficiently confident to use the Expert Summary below. Otherwise, a graphical explanation of the routines follows.

Expert Summary	
11 - CANCER.GOV/PDQ - EXPERT SUMMARY OF PROCEDURES	
1	- Log to: [http://www.cancer.gov]
2	- Select " <u>Cancer Information</u> "
3	- Scroll down and Select <u>PDQ</u> .
4	- Scroll down and Select " <u>PDQ - Cancer Information Summaries: Treatment</u> "
5	- In the Table of Contents page, scroll down to find the particular subject of interest and select the " <u>patients</u> " protocol
6	- Review the text as is or use the " <u>Printable Version</u> ".

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- 7 - For the technical protocol, select the “**health professional**” link and repeat the display routines.
- 8 - Then, to obtain the experimental, “**clinical trials**”, while on the same page, select that link.
- 9 - Select the link for “**Finding Clinical Trials**.”
- 10 - Select the link, “**Search NCI s Clinical Trials Database**”.
- 11 - Using the **pop-up** menu, select the desired type of cancer.
- 12 - Scroll to the bottom of this page and select the “**search**” function.
- 13 - That retrieves the current clinical trials. Select “**display**”.
- 14 - To see the details of a particular protocol, select the **linked text**. Or select the **check box** for the protocols desired and then “**display**” them simultaneously.

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Log to: [<http://www.cancer.gov>]. This takes you to the homepage and the various options. Select the link to “**Cancer Information**”.

Location: <http://www.cancer.gov/>

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

cancer.gov

home about NCI cancer information clinical trials statistics res

Statements on Mammography Screening →

Research Programs →

- NCI Research Priorities
- Research Portfolio
- Research Sponsored by NCI
- Research Conducted at NCI
- NCI Research Resources

Cancer Information →

- Types of Cancer
- Treatment
- Prevention, Genetics, and Screening and Testing
- Coping with Cancer
- Support and Resources
- Cancer Literature
- PDQ

Clinical Trials →

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Scroll down to the section entitled “**PDQ**” and select that link.

The screenshot shows a navigation menu with four main categories, each in a yellow box with a blue link and a right-pointing arrow:

- Treatment** →
 - Treatment information
 - Chemotherapy, radiation therapy
 - Complementary/alternative medicine
- Prevention, Genetics, Causes** →
 - Prevention information
 - Genetics, genetic testing
 - Search for genetics professionals
- Cancer Literature** →
 - CANCERLIT®
 - NCI Publications
- PDQ®** →
 - What is PDQ?
 - Current cancer information

Text to the right of the menu includes "caregivers, health professionals". A black dot and a line callout points from the text "Scroll down to the section entitled 'PDQ'" to the "PDQ®" link.

Scroll down and select “**PDQ - Cancer Information Summaries: Treatment**”.

The screenshot shows the following content:

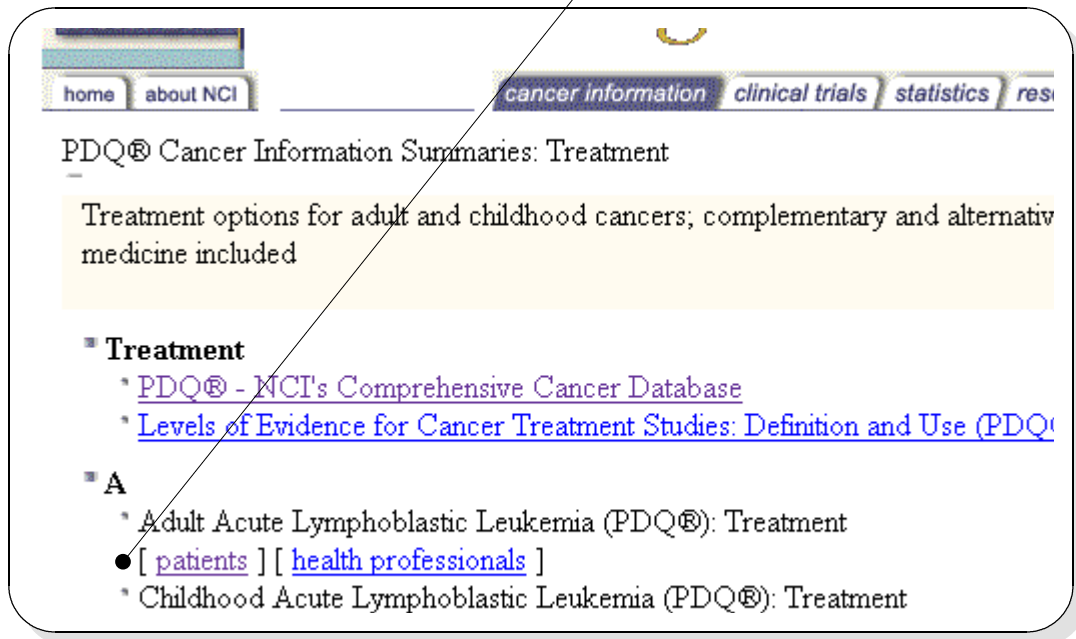
Monthly changes to the PDQ Cancer Information Summaries

- **Cancer Information Summaries**
Clear descriptions of the latest cancer information reviewed and updated monthly by cancer [experts](#)
 - [PDQ® Cancer Information Summaries: Treatment](#)
Treatment options for adult and childhood cancers; complementary and alternative medicine included
 - [PDQ® Cancer Information Summaries: Complementary and Alternative Medicine](#)
Information on complementary and alternative forms of cancer treatment

A black dot and a line callout points from the text "Scroll down and select 'PDQ - Cancer Information Summaries: Treatment'" to the "PDQ® Cancer Information Summaries: Treatment" link.

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This leads to a Table of Contents page for all types of cancers. Scroll down to find the particular subject of interest and select the “**patients**” protocol.



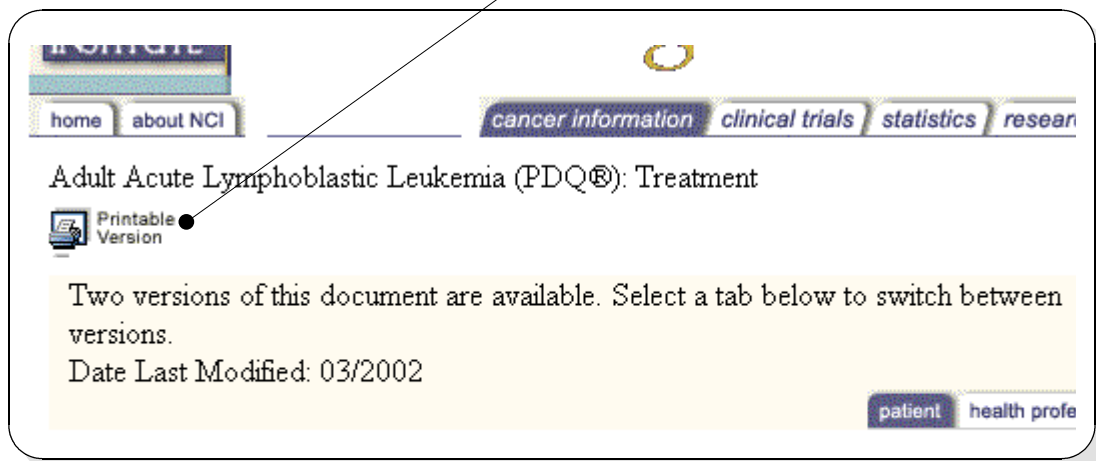
The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with links for home, about NCI, cancer information, clinical trials, statistics, and research. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "PDQ® Cancer Information Summaries: Treatment". A yellow highlighted box contains the text: "Treatment options for adult and childhood cancers; complementary and alternative medicine included". Below this, there is a list of links under the heading "Treatment":

- [PDQ® - NCI's Comprehensive Cancer Database](#)
- [Levels of Evidence for Cancer Treatment Studies: Definition and Use \(PDQ®\)](#)

Under the heading "A", there is a list of links:

- [Adult Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia \(PDQ®\): Treatment](#)
- [\[patients \] \[health professionals \]](#)
- [Childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia \(PDQ®\): Treatment](#)

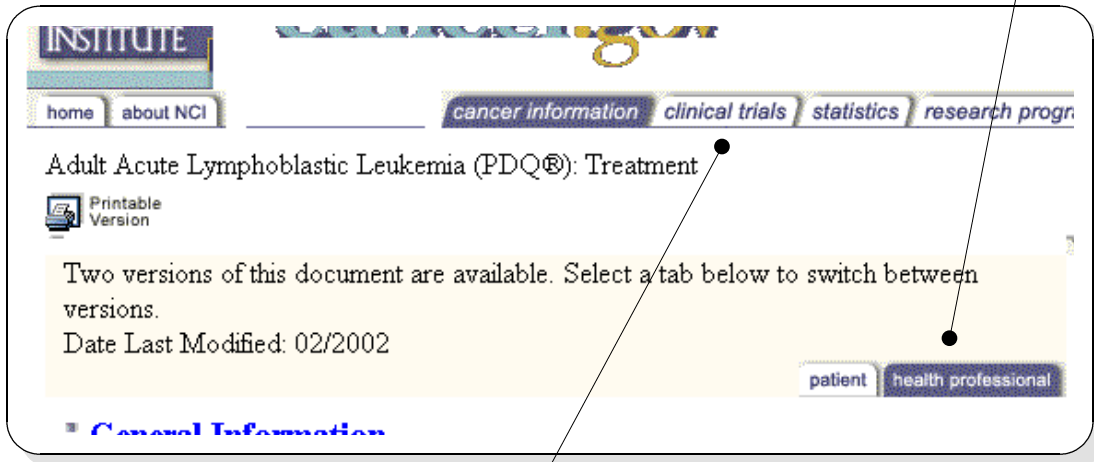
You may read this on-line, or select the “**Printable Version**”. To save it to a file, use your browser’s functions (**File -> SaveAs**), and use a file name with a **.txt** extension.



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with links for home, about NCI, cancer information, clinical trials, statistics, and research. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "Adult Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (PDQ®): Treatment". A yellow highlighted box contains the text: "Two versions of this document are available. Select a tab below to switch between versions. Date Last Modified: 03/2002". Below this, there is a tabbed interface with two tabs: "patient" and "health prof". The "patient" tab is selected.

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To download the more technical protocol, while on the same page, select the “**health professional**” link and repeat the procedures for reading, printing, or saving to file.



INSTITUTE

home about NCI

cancer information clinical trials statistics research progr

Adult Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (PDQ®): Treatment

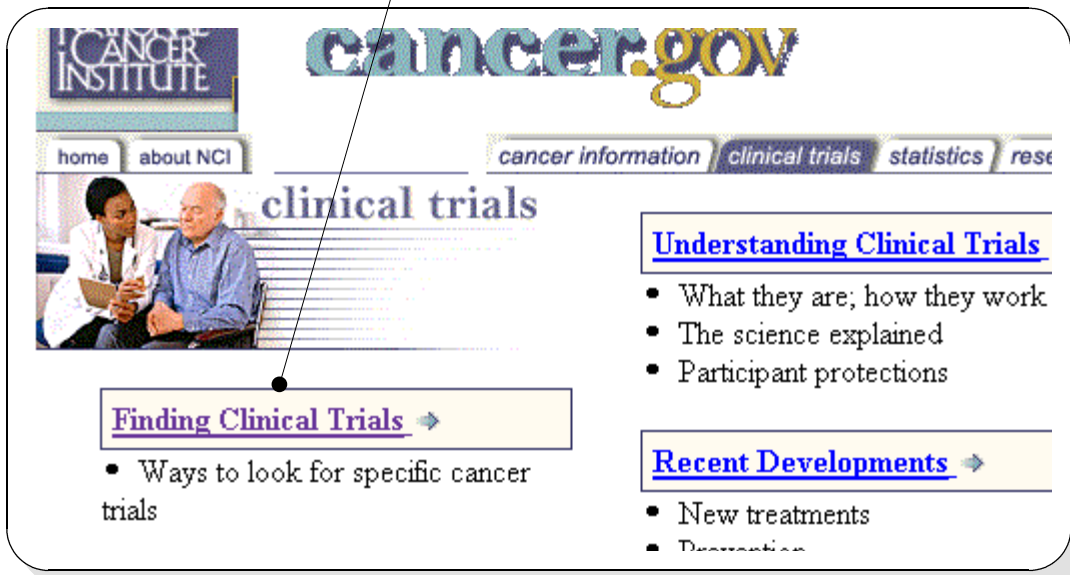
Printable Version

Two versions of this document are available. Select a tab below to switch between versions.
Date Last Modified: 02/2002

patient health professional

General Information

Next, to obtain the experimental, “**clinical trials**”, while on the same page, select that link. Select the link for “**Finding Clinical Trials**”.



CANCER INSTITUTE

cancer.gov

home about NCI

cancer information clinical trials statistics rese

clinical trials

[Finding Clinical Trials](#) →

- Ways to look for specific cancer trials

[Understanding Clinical Trials](#)

- What they are; how they work
- The science explained
- Participant protections

[Recent Developments](#) →

- New treatments
- Development

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Select the link, “[Search NCI's Clinical Trials Database \(PDQ\)](#)”.

Finding Clinical Trials

Ways to look for specific cancer clinical trials.

- **Ways to Find Clinical Trials**
 - [Search NCI's Clinical Trials Database \(PDQ®\)](#)
 - [NCI's Clinical Studies Support Center](#)
- **Other Places to Look**
 - [ClinicalTrials.gov](#)

Select the **pop-up** menu.

Search for Clinical Trials

[PDQ® Clinical Trials Database User's Guide](#)
Information and guidance on how to effectively build your Clinical Trial search.
[LiveHelp](#)
Need help finding information? Chat online with an Information Specialist Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time.
[Search for clinical trials for military personnel \(active/veterans\) and their dependents](#)

Type of Search:
[Advanced Search](#)
[Clinical Trials](#)
[Cancer Literature](#)

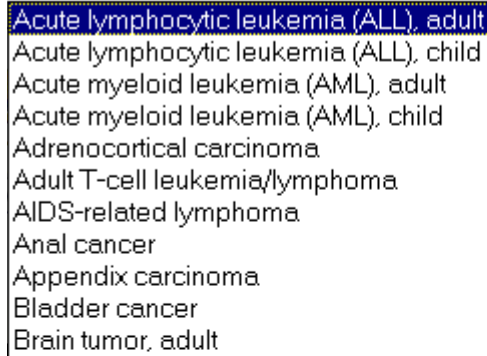
▪ **Type of Cancer:**

▪ **Type of Trial:** (choose 1 or more)*

treatment
genetics

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Scroll to find the type of cancer on which you desire the clinical trials, and select it.



Acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL), adult
Acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL), child
Acute myeloid leukemia (AML), adult
Acute myeloid leukemia (AML), child
Adrenocortical carcinoma
Adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma
AIDS-related lymphoma
Anal cancer
Appendix carcinoma
Bladder cancer
Brain tumor, adult

At the bottom of this page is the “**search**” function. Selecting that retrieves the current clinical trials. Select “**display**”.

*** NOTE: To choose multiple items:**

On a PC - Hold Ctrl key and click on items

On a MAC - Hold Command key and click on items

search

clear

Search for Clinical Trials (PDQ®)

[PDQ® Clinical Trials Database User's Guide](#)

Information and guidance on how to effectively build your Clinical trial search.

[Live Help](#)

Need help finding information? Chat online with an Information Specialist Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

Your search retrieved 77 clinical trials for:

Type of cancer:	acute lymphocytic leukemia (all), adult	City:	
Type of trial:	all types	State:	all states
Status of trial:	open/active	Country:	all countries
Protocol ID:		NIH Clinical Center only:	no
Organization:	any	Version of results:	health professional

display

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To see the details of a particular protocol, select the **linked text**. Or select the **check box** for the protocols desired and then **display** them simultaneously.

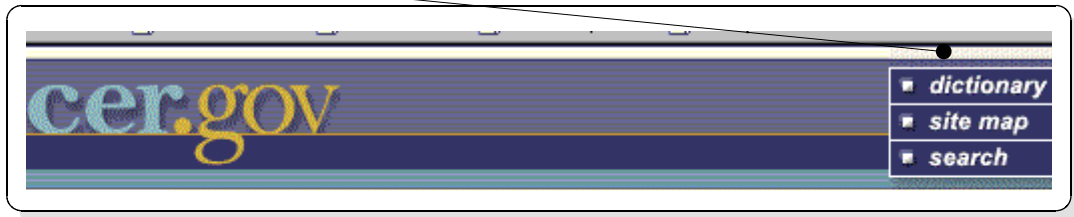
Results: 1 - 10 of 77

1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Genetic, Clinical, and Epidemiological Study of Individuals and Families at High Risk of Cancer (Summary Last Modified 04/2001)	NCI-78-C-003
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Molecular Monitoring Study in Adults With Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (Summary Last Modified 10/2000)	CLB-9862
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Phase I Pilot Study of Donor Th2 Cells for Prevention of Graft-Versus-Host Disease Following Non-Myeloablative, HLA-Matched Allogeneic Peripheral Blood Stem Cell Transplantation in Patients With Hematologic Malignancies (Summary Last Modified 01/2001)	NCI-3491, NCI-99-C-014
4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Phase I Randomized Study of R115777 in Patients With Advanced Hematologic Malignancies (Summary Last Modified 04/2001)	NCI-42, UCCRC-10294

display clear

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A **dictionary** of cancer terms is provided on this site.



That takes you to an alphabetical listing with the terms and their definitions below.

Cancer.gov Dictionary

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#)

G

G-CSF

Granulocyte colony-stimulating factor. A colony-stimulating factor that stimulates the production of neutrophils (a type of white blood cell). It is a cytokine that belongs to the family of drugs called hematopoietic (blood-forming) agents. Also called filgrastim.

gabapentin

A substance that is being studied as a treatment for relieving hot flashes in

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The National Cancer Institute's site, Cancer.gov, has other useful sectors, one of which is for "Support and Resources". Spend some time browsing.

Support and Resources

Information about cancer support organizations, finances, insurance, hospice care, home care.

▪ General Support Information

- [Facing Forward - A Guide for Cancer Survivors](#)
- [How To Find Resources in Your Own Community If You Have Cancer](#)
- [Taking Time: Support for People With Cancer and the People Who Care About Them](#)
- [When Cancer Recurs: Meeting the Challenge](#)
- [When Someone in Your Family Has Cancer](#)
- [Your Health Care Team: Your Doctor Is Only the Beginning](#)

▪ Support Organizations

- [Questions and Answers About Finding Cancer Support Groups](#)
- [National Organizations That Offer Services to People With Cancer and Their Families](#)

▪ Finances, Insurance

- [Clinical Trials and Insurance Coverage - A Resource Guide](#)
- [Digest Page: State Initiatives and Legislation](#)
- [Financial Assistance for Cancer Care](#)
- [President Announces Medicare Coverage for Clinical Trials](#)
- [NCI and VA Make It Easier for Veterans to Enter Studies, Get Advanced Care](#)



11(B) - RESEARCHING CANCER - ONCOLINK

11(B) - ONCOLINK

There are numerous web-sites on the Internet which specialize in cancer information. When you use the search engines such as Yahoo.com, Google.com, etc. you will discover them. One of the more popular ones, which physicians seem to endorse is Oncolink.com. The URL is:

[<http://www.oncolink.com>].

The site is maintained by the University of Pennsylvania Cancer Center with the editorial board from faculty; and it is funded, in part, by commercial sponsors. It was founded in 1994 by the “university cancer specialists with a mission to help cancer patients, families, health care professionals and the general public get accurate cancer-related information. There is no charge.” The coverage is fairly comprehensive, dealing with specific types of cancer, and providing updates on cancer treatments and news about research advances. They update the information everyday and provide information at various levels, from introductory to in-depth.



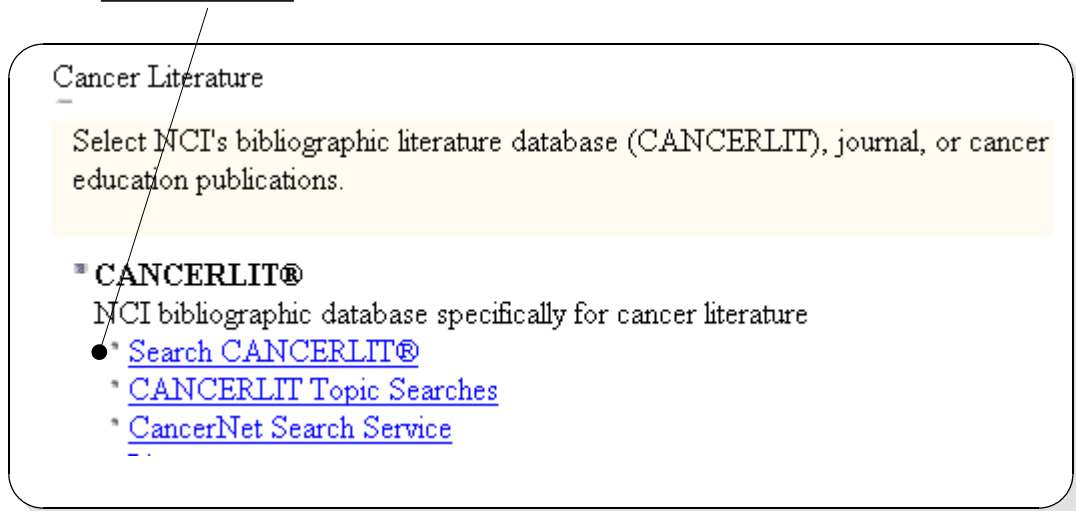
11(c) - RESEARCHING CANCER - CANCERLIT

11(c) - CANCERLIT

CANCERLIT® is a bibliographic database that specializes in cancer research and that contains more than 1.5 million citations and abstracts from over 4,000 different sources including biomedical journals, proceedings, books, reports, and doctoral theses. Produced by the National Cancer Institute's International Cancer Information Center, CANCERLIT has been in existence for more than twenty years and contains references to the vast realm of cancer literature published from 1963 to the present. CANCERLIT is updated with more than 8,000 records every month.

[http://www.cancer.gov/cancer_information/cancer_literature/]

Select the **CANCERLIT** link



Cancer Literature

Select NCI's bibliographic literature database (CANCERLIT), journal, or cancer education publications.

- **CANCERLIT®**
NCI bibliographic database specifically for cancer literature
 - [Search CANCERLIT®](#)
 - [CANCERLIT Topic Searches](#)
 - [CancerNet Search Service](#)

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Search terms are typed into the box and an appropriate Boolean Operator of “and” “or” “and not” (See Chapter 14) may be used to associated two or three terms.

Search Terms:

in

and or and not

in

and or and not

in

Only search records that have abstracts.

Various delimiters, below, may be selected to narrow the search.

Publication:

type:
Clinical Trial
Letter

year: 1996
to
present
 1993
to
present
 all

Language:
English
French