

11 - RESEARCHING CANCERS

11(A) PHYSICIANS DATA QUERY (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. Again, review the text as is or use the “**Printable Version**”.
- 8 - Then, to obtain the experimental, “**clinical trials**”, using the tab at the top of the same page, select that link.
- 9 - Select the link for “**Finding Clinical Trials**.”
- 10 - Select the link, “**Search for Clinical Trials**”.
- 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. In the “**Show**” pop-up menu, select “**All**”.
- 14 - To see the details of a particular protocol, select the **linked text**.

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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 sections, each with a list of sub-links:

- 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: caregivers, health professionals

A callout line points from the text "Scroll down to the section entitled 'PDQ'" to the "PDQ®" link.

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

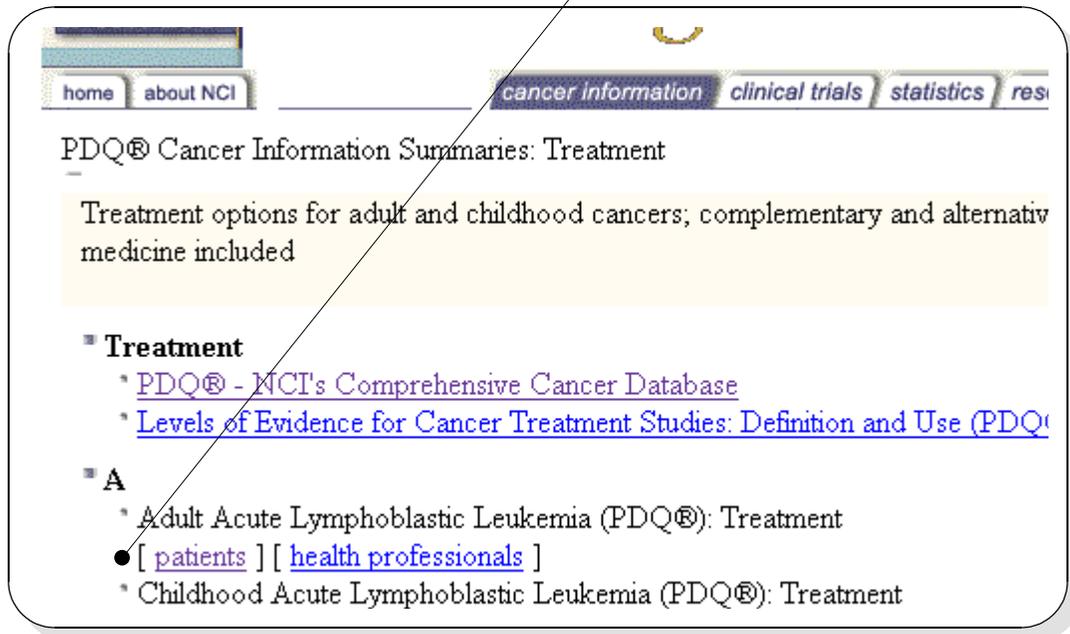
Monthly changes to the PDQ Cancer Information Summaries

- **Cancer Information Summaries**
Clear descriptions of the latest cancer information reviewed and updated monthly
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 Me.](#)
Information on complementary and alternative forms of cancer treatment

A callout line 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.



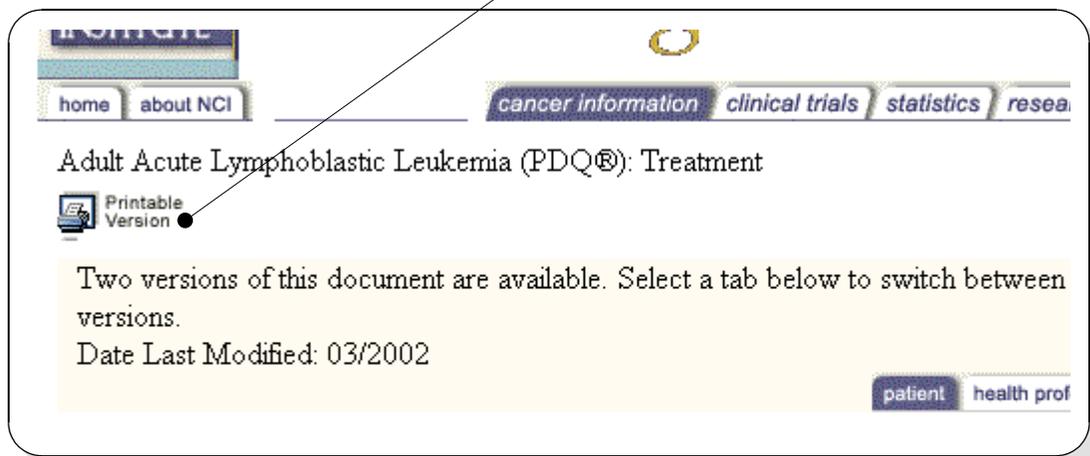
The screenshot shows the NCI website navigation menu with 'cancer information' selected. The page title is 'PDQ® Cancer Information Summaries: Treatment'. A yellow highlighted box contains the text: 'Treatment options for adult and childhood cancers; complementary and alternative medicine included'. 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 are more links:

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

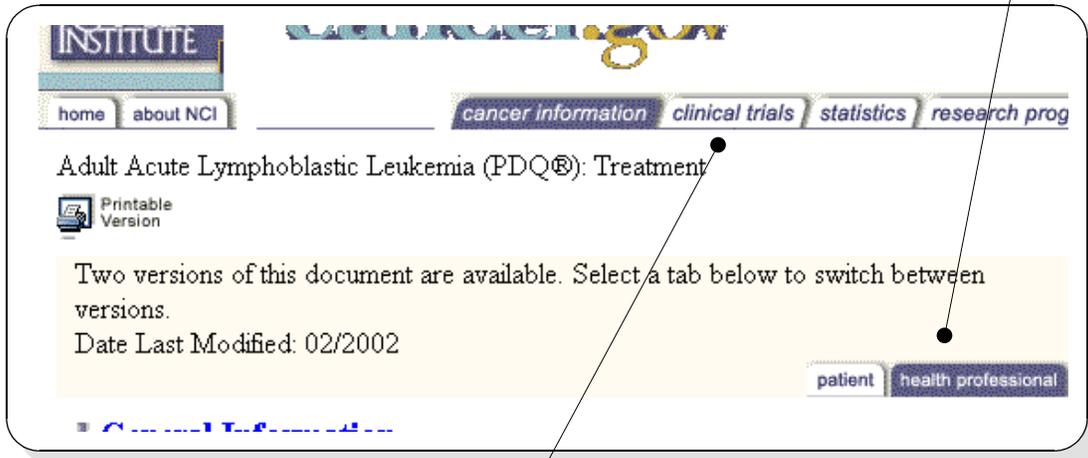
You may read this on-line, or select the “**Printable Version**”. To save it to a file, use your browser’s functions (**File -> SaveAs**), and use a file name with a **.txt** extension.



The screenshot shows the NCI website navigation menu with 'cancer information' selected. 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 are two tabs: 'patient' and 'health prof'.

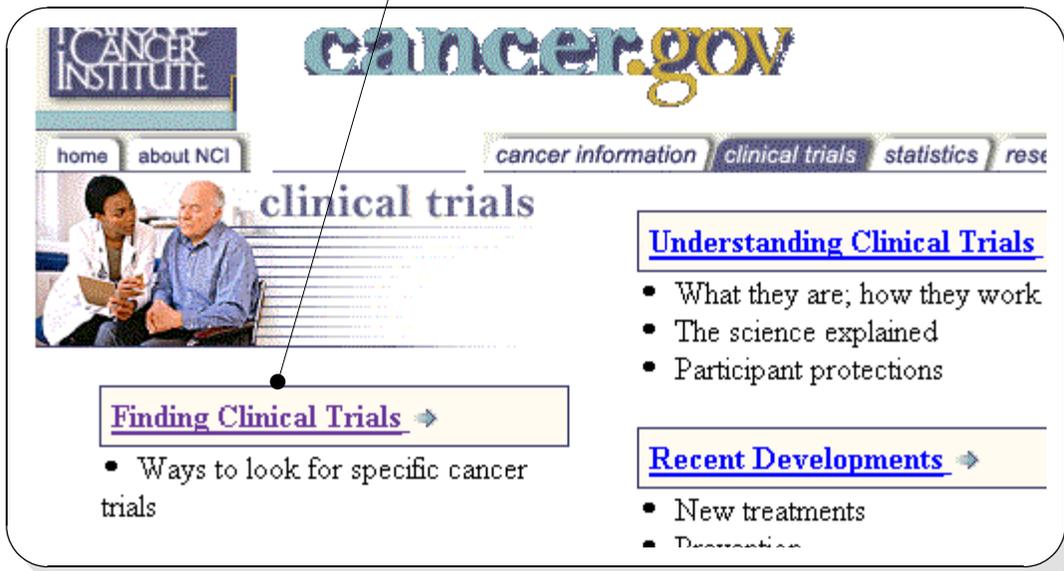
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To download the more technical protocol, while on the same page, select the “**health professional**” link and repeat the procedures for reading, printing, or saving to file.



The screenshot shows the NCI website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'home', 'about NCI', 'cancer information', 'clinical trials', 'statistics', and 'research prog'. Below this, the main heading is 'Adult Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (PDQ®): Treatment'. There is a 'Printable Version' icon and text. A yellow box contains the text: 'Two versions of this document are available. Select a tab below to switch between versions. Date Last Modified: 02/2002'. At the bottom right of this box, there are two tabs: 'patient' and 'health professional'. A line points from the 'health professional' tab to the text in the paragraph above.

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



The screenshot shows the NCI website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'home', 'about NCI', 'cancer information', 'clinical trials', 'statistics', and 'rese'. Below this, the main heading is 'clinical trials'. There is a photo of a doctor and a patient. A yellow box contains the text: 'Finding Clinical Trials →'. Below this box, there is a list of items: 'Ways to look for specific cancer trials'. To the right, there is a section titled 'Understanding Clinical Trials' with a list of items: 'What they are; how they work', 'The science explained', and 'Participant protections'. Below this, there is a section titled 'Recent Developments →' with a list of items: 'New treatments' and 'Prevention'. A line points from the 'Finding Clinical Trials' link to the text in the paragraph above.

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Select the link, “**Find Clinical Trials**”.

The screenshot shows a webpage section titled "clinical trials". On the left, there is a banner image of a man at a computer with the text "Searching for Clinical Trials? Try our new search forms" and a right-pointing arrow. Below the banner is a yellow button labeled "Finding Clinical Trials" with a right-pointing arrow. To the right of the banner, there are two yellow boxes. The top one is titled "Understanding Clinical Trials" with a right-pointing arrow and contains a bulleted list: "What they are; how they work", "The science explained", and "Participant protections". The bottom one is titled "Recent Developments" with a right-pointing arrow and contains a bulleted list: "New treatments" and "Prevention". A black dot with a line points from the "Finding Clinical Trials" button to the instruction above.

Select the link “**Search for Clinical Trials**”.

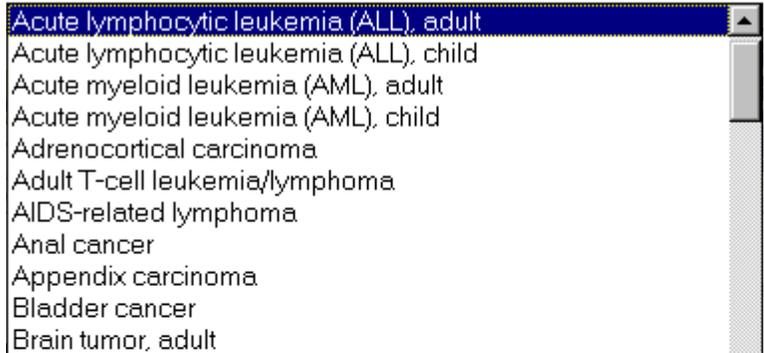
The screenshot shows a webpage section titled "Finding Clinical Trials". Below the title is a yellow box containing the text "Ways to look for specific cancer clinical trials." Below this is a section titled "Ways to Find Clinical Trials" with a right-pointing arrow, containing a bulleted list of links: "Search for Clinical Trials", "Cancer Information Service", and "NCI's Clinical Studies Support Center". A black dot with a line points from the "Search for Clinical Trials" link to the instruction above.

Select the **pop-up** menu.

The screenshot shows a webpage section titled "Search for Clinical Trials". Below the title is a yellow box containing two links: "User's Guide for PDQ® Clinical Trials Search" and "LiveHelp: Online Chat with Information Specialist". Below the links is a label "Type of Cancer:" followed by a dropdown menu with the text "select from list" and a downward-pointing arrow. A black dot with a line points from the dropdown menu to the instruction above.

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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.

search

Need to specify additional search criteria? Try the [advanced search form](#).

Selecting that retrieves the current clinical trials. In the pop-up menu “**Show**”, select “**All**”.

Results: 1 - 10 of 71 Show 10 results per page

Title of Trial ▲

[Diagnostic Study of Cytogenetics in Patients With Previously Untreated Acute Myeloid Leukemia, Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, and Myelodysplastic Syndromes](#)

[Molecular Monitoring Study in Adults With Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia](#)

[Phase I Pilot Study of a Non-Myeloablative Conditioning Regimen Followed By Umbilical Cord Blood Transplantation in Patients With Hematologic Malignancies or Severe Aplastic Anemia](#)

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To see the details of a particular protocol, select the **linked text**.

Title of Trial ▲	
Diagnostic Study of Cytogenetics in Patients With Previously Untreated Acute Myeloid Leukemia, Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, or Myelodysplastic Syndromes	
Molecular Monitoring Study in Adults With Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia	
Phase I Pilot Study of a Non-Myeloablative Conditioning Regimen Followed By Umbilical Cord Blood Transplantation in Patients With Hematologic Malignancies or Severe Aplastic Anemia	C CV
Phase I Randomized Study of Tipifamib in Patients With Advanced Hematologic Malignancies	U
Phase I Study of 12-O-tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate (TPA) in Patients with Relapsed or Refractory Hematologic Malignancies or Bone Marrow Disorders	C N TT

The full protocol is then displayed.

Clinical Trials (PDQ®)

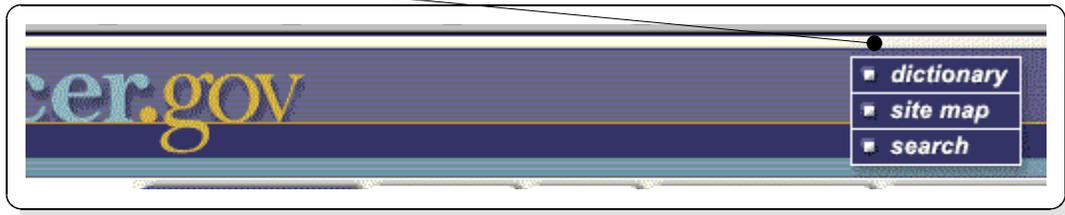
Important: This information is formatted especially for use by patients. A health professional format is also available. If you have questions about this topic, you can ask your doctor, or call the Cancer Information Service at 1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237).

Table of Contents

- [Title](#)
- [Basic Study Information](#)
- [Study Lead Organizations](#)
- [Study Sites and Contacts](#)

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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](#)

▪ **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 C](#)



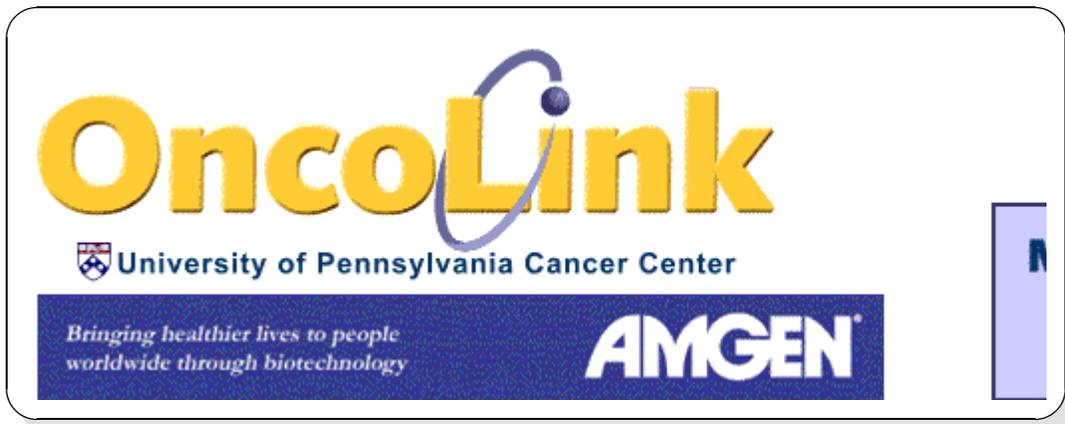
11(B) - RESEARCHING CANCER - ONCOLINK

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.



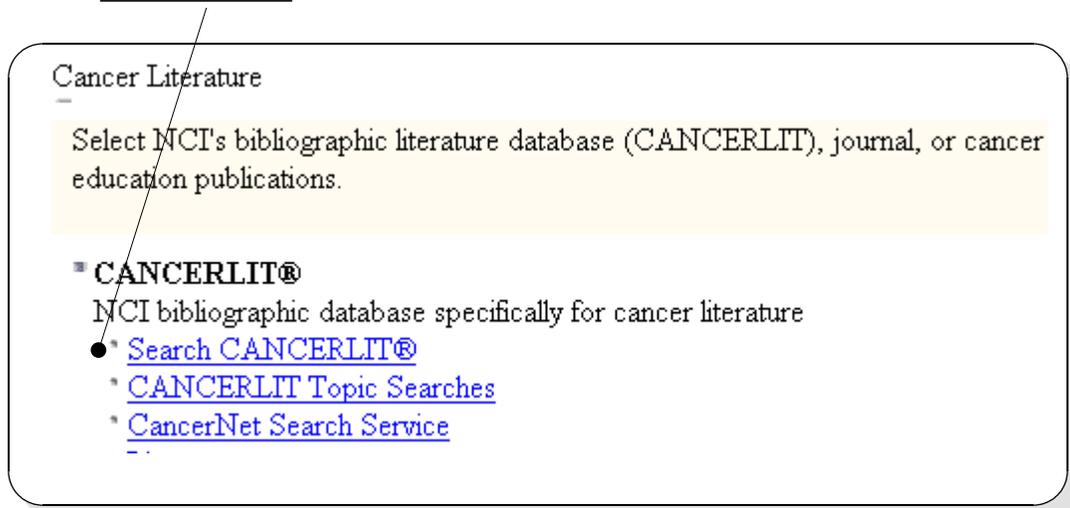
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11(c) - CANCERLIT

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