



PLWC Bulletin

Oncologist-approved cancer information from the American Society of Clinical Oncology

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February 2007

✉ FORWARD TO A FRIEND >>

Cancer Rehabilitation

Cancer rehabilitation is the process that assists people with cancer in obtaining maximum physical, social, psychological, and work-related functioning during and after treatment. This can provide an invaluable source of support to patients and their families, allowing them to regain control over many aspects of their lives.

To learn more about how cancer rehabilitation can improve quality of life, or for more information on specialists who may become part of a person's rehabilitation team, read **Rehabilitation** under PLWC's *Survivorship* section.

New on PLWC

- **Cancer Advances on Personalized Medicine.** Learn more about personalized medicine, in which treatment decisions are based on the specific biology of the individual person and the individual cancer.
- **Cancer Advances: Patients' Spiritual Needs.** A new study finds that many people with advanced cancer do not feel their spiritual and religious needs are being met by the medical system or the religious community.
- **Cancer Advances: Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM).** The same issue of *Cancer Advances* also includes a summary of research that found more than one-third of patients in Phase I clinical trials used some form of CAM therapy, including vitamins and herbal supplements.
- **Cancer Advances: Early HER2-Positive Breast Cancer.** Read this analysis of two studies that evaluated the effectiveness and cost of trastuzumab (Herceptin) when used after surgery.
- **Updated Statistics Available.** PLWC has updated incidence and survival statistics for all of the cancer types it offers information on, based on the American Cancer Society's *2007 Cancer Facts & Figures* report.

What's Next on PLWC

Did You Know?

Updated information is now available for PLWC's Guides to **Kidney Cancer**, **Anal Cancer**, and **Bone Cancer**. These are just a few of the 120+ types of cancer and cancer-related syndromes for which specific information is available on PLWC. And, each one is reviewed on an annual basis to provide readers with the latest scientific updates.

Through the guidance and efforts of the PLWC Editorial Board, this peer-review process positions PLWC as the authoritative cancer information website for people with cancer and their families and friends. Use the navigation bar below to visit the *Cancer Types* section.

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ASCO Expert Corner: Research Highlights from the 2007 Prostate Cancer Symposium

Watch PLWC for a coming "ASCO Expert Corner" Feature Article, explaining key research findings from the 2007 Prostate Cancer Symposium, being held February 22-24 in Orlando, Fla. This will include the latest information on screening and early detection, treatment advances, and tests to help predict prognosis.

Cosponsors of the symposium include ASCO, the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO), and the Society of Urologic Oncology (SUO).

Patients' Toolbox

Each month, PLWC offers original **Feature Articles**, which address common challenges for people living with cancer and offer practical, how-to information. The latest Features include three articles as part of a special series on common diagnostic tests used in cancer care:

- **Computed Tomography (CT) Scan—What to Expect** explains what happens before, during, and after this common imaging test, which is a series of x-ray pictures that are combined by a computer to create detailed, cross-sectional images of a patient's body.
- **Integrated PET-CT Scan—What to Expect** discusses this combination of a CT scan and a positron emission tomography (PET) scan, which may be performed at the same time on the same machine.
- **Digital Rectal Exam (DRE)—What to Expect** offers an overview of what a patient can anticipate happening while having a DRE, which is test that allows a doctor to check for abnormalities and cancer in the lower colon/rectum, prostate, and pelvis.
- *Don't forget that you can also check out 120+ other **Feature Articles** on PLWC!*

For more information about ASCO's patient information resources, visit www.plwc.org or call 888-651-3038.

In the News

Here are some of this month's cancer-related news headlines:

- February 20, 2007: Breast cancer therapies' side effects vary by age (Reuters Health)
- February 13, 2007: Lung cancer in nonsmokers more common in women (Reuters Health)
- February 12, 2007: Many elders aren't screened for colon cancer (Reuters Health)
- February 9, 2007: Obese men more apt to have PSA test (Reuters Health)
- February 6, 2007: Hodgkin's disease therapy ups heart attack risk (Reuters Health)
- *For more headlines, visit PLWC's News Articles section.*

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The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) is the world's leading professional organization representing physicians of all oncology subspecialties who care for people with cancer. ASCO's nearly 25,000 members from the United States and abroad set the standard for patient care worldwide and lead the fight for more effective cancer treatments, increased funding for clinical and translational research, and, ultimately, cures for the many different types of cancer that strike an estimated 10 million people worldwide each year. In addition to producing the award-winning patient information website *People Living With Cancer* (www.plwc.org), ASCO publishes the *Journal of Clinical Oncology* (JCO), the preeminent, peer-reviewed medical journal on clinical cancer research, and the *Journal of Oncology Practice* (JOP), the authoritative resource for practicing oncologists making day-to-day decisions regarding clinical and administrative management.