



PLWC Bulletin

Oncologist-approved cancer information from the American Society of Clinical Oncology & The ASCO Foundation

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February 2008

 FORWARD TO A FRIEND >>

Discover PLWC Slide Decks

Be sure to check out the new additions to the PLWC Slide Deck Series, including presentations on brain tumors and ovarian cancer. Based on the PLWC Guides to Cancer, the series provides reliable, oncologist-approved cancer information in a turn-key Microsoft PowerPoint presentation. These slide decks are intended for oncologists, oncology nurses, and other health-care team members who give patient and community group lectures. Check out the 15 slide decks now available at www.plwc.org/slidedecks; look for new titles to appear soon.

In addition, the *Learning About Cancer* section helps people with cancer and their families better understand the disease, its causes, and its treatment. It also covers information on items such as early detection and screening, genetics,

New on PLWC

- **Cancer Advances: 2008 Genitourinary Cancers Symposium.** Review important research news for patients from this first bi-annual meeting, held last week in San Francisco. In addition, listen to the podcast of the meeting highlights, led by Howard M. Sandler, MD, MS.
- **ASCO Answers Fact Sheets.** Read new fact sheets that provide an introduction on bladder, kidney, prostate, and testicular cancers. Each fact sheet is a PDF that includes an overview of what the cancer is, an illustration of where the cancer starts, how it is treated, terms to know, and questions to ask the doctor. Fact sheets on colorectal, esophageal, liver, pancreatic, and stomach cancers are also available; look for new titles to appear soon.
- **JCO Cancer Advances on Cancer Risk Reduction and Ovary Removal.** Learn more about this study, published in ASCO's *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, reporting that preventive removal of the ovaries and fallopian tubes in women with *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* mutations reduces the risk of both gynecological and breast cancers.
- **PLWC Podcast on Tobacco Use.** Listen to this new podcast that debunks myths related to quitting smoking – the single most important thing you can do to lower your cancer risk – and offers resources to help you quit. Download this and other helpful podcasts at www.plwc.org/podcasts.
- **Latest Updates to PLWC Guides to Cancer.** Some of the website's sections of cancer types and cancer-related syndromes have been recently updated, including mastocytosis, pancreatic cancer, vaginal cancer, and Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Updated *Cancer Types* that have been translated into Spanish include cáncer laríngeo e hipofaríngeo (laryngeal and hypopharyngeal cancer).

prevention, and risk factors. Learn more about the basics of cancer at www.plwc.org/understanding.

Survivors of All Ages: Submit Your Artwork for the 2009 Expressions of Hope Calendar

ASCO is now accepting artwork submissions for our annual Expressions of Hope wall calendar. We invite anyone who has been affected by cancer – patients, survivors, friends, families, caregivers – to share their emotions through art and inspire hope in others.

Find out more about the artwork specifications and how to submit an entry.

For more information on *News and Events*, use the blue navigation bar below to explore this and other sections of PLWC.

This Week on PLWC

ASCO Expert Corner: Research Highlights From the 2008 Genitourinary Cancers Symposium

In this new article, Howard M. Sandler, MD, MS, discusses some of the new research related to the prevention, screening, and treatment of cancers of the prostate, kidney, bladder, and testicles.

Read this ASCO Expert Corner.

Patients' Toolbox

Each month, PLWC offers original **Feature Articles**, which address common challenges for people living with cancer and offer practical, how-to information. In addition to the *ASCO Expert Corner* article outlined above, the latest Features include:

- **ASCO Expert Corner: World Cancer Day 2008** is led by Paul A. Bunn, Jr., MD, who highlights the campaign's theme, "I love my smoke-free childhood," by explaining what secondhand smoke is, listing resources to help parents quit smoking, and discussing what ASCO is doing to promote tobacco control and prevention.
- **Give Your Kids a Smoke-Free Childhood** details the health dangers of children who are exposed to secondhand smoke and offers practical tips for parents and caregivers on how to protect their children.
- **Cancer and the Winter Months** describes some extra health precautions, such as getting a flu vaccination, protecting your skin, and getting enough vitamin D, that people with cancer may want to take when the temperature drops.
- *Don't forget that you can also check out 150+ other **Feature Articles** on PLWC!*

[Cancer Types](#)
[Learning About Cancer](#)
[Diagnosis and Treatment](#)
[Coping](#)
[Survivorship](#)
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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 15, 2008: Blood test detects ovarian cancer early (Reuters Health)
- February 12, 2008: Smoking may raise risk of colon polyps (Reuters Health)
- February 8, 2008: Protein offers clue to what makes melanoma spread (Reuters Health)
- February 8, 2008: Psoriatic arthritis does not raise risk of cancer (Reuters Health)
- February 8, 2008: Urine-based test for prostate cancer promising (Reuters Health)
- February 1, 2008: Breast cancer protein doesn't help select therapy (Reuters Health)
- February 1, 2008: Osteoporosis common in stomach cancer survivors (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 more than 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.