



# PLWC Bulletin

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

IN THIS ISSUE: New Content | What's Next | Patients' Toolbox | In the News

January 2007

✉ FORWARD TO A FRIEND >>

## Medical Illustrations Gallery

PLWC's collection of medical illustrations includes anatomic illustrations for about 50 types of cancer, as well as visual depictions of stage I through IV of the most common cancer types. They were created by a certified medical illustrator in collaboration with the PLWC Editorial Board specifically for PLWC. Illustrations can be viewed in PLWC's Medical Illustrations Gallery.

PLWC has also packaged the graphics for the top 10 most common cancers in a CD as an educational tool. To receive a copy of this free CD, send your request and full contact information to [contactus@plwc.org](mailto:contactus@plwc.org). (Limited supplies available.)

## New on PLWC

- **ASCO Expert Corner: HPV Vaccination for Cervical Cancer.** In this new Feature Article format, Maurie Markman, MD, answers common questions about the use and effectiveness of the HPV vaccine for cervical cancer.
- **ASCO Expert Corner: Research Highlights From the 2007 Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium.** A. William Blackstock, MD, explains the importance of recent findings regarding stomach, esophageal, pancreatic, colorectal and other gastrointestinal cancers.
- **Clinical Cancer Advances 2006.** If you haven't already, be sure to visit PLWC to read ASCO's report *Clinical Cancer Advances 2006: Major Research Advances in Cancer Treatment, Prevention, and Screening*, a review of key cancer research findings in the past year.
- **Recent Cancer Type Updates.** As part of PLWC's peer-review process, several Cancer Types have been recently updated with the latest information, including the sections on Pancreatic Cancer, Esophageal Cancer, and Melanoma.

## What's Next on PLWC

## Did You Know?

PLWC's information on 120 + types of cancer and cancer-related syndromes are all reviewed on an annual basis to provide readers with the latest scientific updates, like the esophageal cancer, melanoma, and pancreatic cancer sections highlighted above. 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.

In addition, PLWC offers translations in Spanish for the 19 most common cancers among Hispanics/Latinos in the United States. This information can be found in the new navigation area entitled **PLWC En Español**, a section that will see regular expansion in 2007 to include new content translations. The blue navigation bar below can help you explore these and other sections of PLWC.

In the coming weeks, PLWC will begin offering some of its wealth of patient information on cancer research, treatment, and coping in a new technologic format: **audio podcast**.

People will be able to access these free, pre-recorded audio files through their computers or listen to them on their MP3 players, so they can get oncologist-approved information when and how they want to. Similar to the archive of written transcripts of "Ask the ASCO Expert" events on PLWC, this collection of audio podcasts will create a new repository of information for people with cancer, their families, and friends, to tap into.

Watch for the launch of *PLWC Podcasts* – Coming soon!

## 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 two "ASCO Expert Corner" articles noted above, the latest Features include:

- **Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scan—What to Expect** offers patients a full description of what happens before, during, and after this common imaging test used to detect cancer, determine the stage of cancer, and evaluate the effectiveness of cancer treatments.
- **Specimen Processing (Updated)** reviews what happens to a tissue sample after it is removed for a biopsy, including who examines it, what they are looking for, and how a diagnosis is reached.
- **Sigmoidoscopy—What to Expect** is an article explaining this screening test that allows a doctor to see inside the lower part of the colon.
- **Finding a New Doctor** includes practical suggestions and coping strategies to help people who are conducting a search to find a new oncologist.

Learning About Cancer ▶

Cancer Types ▶

Diagnosis and Treatment ▶

Coping ▶

Survivorship ▶

Library ▶

ASCO Resources ▶

News and Events ▶

PLWC En Español ▶

For more information about ASCO's patient information resources, visit [www.plwc.org](http://www.plwc.org) or call 888-651-3038.

- *Don't forget that you can also check out 120+ other **Feature Articles** on PLWC!*

## In the News

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

- January 19, 2007: Pancreatic cancer vaccine may help some patients (Reuters Health)
- January 17, 2007: Cancer deaths declining in U.S. (Reuters Health)
- January 16, 2007: Calcium lowers colon polyp formation up to 5 yrs (Reuters Health)
- January 9, 2007: Call can boost cancer screening in minorities (Reuters Health)
- January 9, 2007: Intervention can protect teens from skin cancer (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 23,000 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](http://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.