



# PLWC Bulletin

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

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May 2007

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## News for Patients from ASCO's Annual Meeting

During ASCO's 2007 Annual Meeting, June 1-5, be sure to visit [www.plwc.org](http://www.plwc.org) to hear special *PLWC Podcasts* and read *Cancer Advances* articles explaining the meeting's breaking news. PLWC's extensive coverage will give patients, and their families and friends, a greater perspective and context on the importance of new research findings announced at ASCO's Annual Meeting that will be reported by the national media.

If you are attending the Annual Meeting this year, stop by the ASCO Booth (Booth #7000) in the exhibit hall to learn more about PLWC and ASCO's other patient information resources.

## New on PLWC

- **ASCO Patient Guide on Bisphosphonates for Multiple Myeloma.** Read the updated recommendations about the use of bisphosphonates for people with multiple myeloma, including monitoring and management of potential side effects.
- **Cancer in Older Adults Booklet.** This new, comprehensive booklet can be downloaded in an easy PDF format on PLWC at no charge. Written for patients and their families, it contains information on managing daily life and care, co-existing conditions, and clinical trials. To order copies, send an email to [contactus@plwc.org](mailto:contactus@plwc.org).
- **Skin Reactions to Targeted Therapies.** Learn more about skin reactions from drugs that block specific molecules in cancer cells, in this newly updated section on common side effects from cancer treatment.
- **Latest Updates to PLWC Guides to Cancer.** As part of PLWC's ongoing peer-review process, several of the website's 120+ *Cancer Types* have been recently updated with the latest information, including the sections on MDS, testicular cancer, thyroid cancer, and cáncer de ovario.

## Introducing PLWC Podcasts

## Did You Know?

ASCO is always ready to provide complimentary promotional materials to help oncologists, oncology nurses, social workers, patient advocates, and others share PLWC with people with cancer. Items such as PLWC referral cards, leaflets, mouse pads, and cancer information prescription pads are ideal to give directly to patients or to display in waiting rooms and patient information areas.

To order your supply of materials, visit [www.plwc.org/materials](http://www.plwc.org/materials) to download the order form in PDF, call 888-651-3038, or email [contactus@plwc.org](mailto:contactus@plwc.org).

Explore the comprehensive information PLWC provides for people with cancer using the blue navigation bar below.

PLWC is pleased to announce the launch of **PLWC Podcasts**, which offers some of its wealth of patient information on cancer research, treatment, and coping in a new technologic format: audio podcast.

People can now access these free 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. And, new podcasts will be added on a regular basis, so this collection of audio podcasts will be a repository of information for people with cancer, their families, and friends, to tap into.

PLWC's launch includes podcasts on how to choose an oncologist, follow-up care for colorectal cancer, how to explain medical procedures to a child with cancer, preventing lymphedema after breast cancer treatment, and first steps to take after being diagnosed with cancer. Upcoming podcasts will cover coping with the fear of side effects, finding a treatment center, and explaining palliative care. What's more, watch for special podcasts about the news from ASCO's 2007 Annual Meeting.

Check out the files now available under the PLWC Podcast series today!

## 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:

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.

- **ASCO Expert Corner: Approaching the End of Active Treatment** discusses one of the least understood aspects of a patient's cancer experience. As people complete their cancer treatment, they may feel a range of emotions, from relief to apprehension. How to cope with this transition is outlined by PLWC Associate Editor Lidia Schapira, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital.
- **Guest Author Series: Part IV: Questions and Answers About Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplantation** is the final article in a four-part series designed to help patients who are considering transplantation. PLWC's special guest author is Edward Agura, MD, Director of the Program in Blood and Marrow Transplant at Baylor University Medical Center.
- **Donating Bone Marrow** explains the ongoing need for people of all races and ethnicities to register to become bone marrow donors and how easy it is to become part of a national registry.
- **Protecting Your Skin From the Sun** reminds everyone that most cases of skin cancer can be prevented by taking simple steps to reduce exposure to the sun's harmful rays.
- **Upper Endoscopy—What to Expect** offers a full description of what happens before, during, and after this common test that doctors use to examine the upper portion of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract.
- *Don't forget that you can also check out 130+ other **Feature Articles** on PLWC!*

## In the News

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

- May 22, 2007: Exercise helps women after breast cancer treatment (Reuters Health)
- May 15, 2007: Too many vitamins linked with prostate cancer (Reuters Health)
- May 14, 2007: Cancer patients vary widely in support group use (Reuters Health)
- May 11, 2007: Lung cancer tied to family risk of other cancers (Reuters Health)
- May 9, 2007: Men less likely to survive early breast cancer (Reuters Health)
- May 8, 2007: Hepatitis C linked with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (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](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.

