



PLWC Bulletin

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

IN THIS ISSUE: New Content | This Week on PLWC | Patients' Toolbox | In the News

October 2007

 FORWARD TO A FRIEND >>

Cancer-related Syndromes on PLWC

This month, PLWC added a new section on **nevroid basal cell carcinoma syndrome** (also known as Gorlin syndrome), a hereditary condition characterized by multiple basal cell skin cancers.

With this addition, PLWC now offers detailed information on 31 cancer-related syndromes, listed alphabetically within its *Cancer Types* section. Each section undergoes an annual review for medical accuracy under the direction of the PLWC Editorial Board.

Be sure to visit PLWC if you're looking for information on hereditary syndromes that increase the risk of developing certain types of cancer.

New on PLWC

- **PLWC Podcasts on Coping.** Listen to the latest PLWC Podcasts, which cover two topics related to coping strategies: *Parenting while Caring for Your Parent with Cancer* and *Coping with the Fear of Side Effects*.
- **ASCO Fact Sheet on Clinical Trials.** If you're looking to learn more about the basics of clinical trial participation, including the patient safety measures in place, read ASCO's new fact sheet (PDF).
- **Latest Updates to PLWC Guides to Cancer.** Several of the website's *Cancer Types* have been recently updated, including the sections on, in English, liver cancer and childhood acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) and, en Español, cáncer de mama and cáncer de cuello uterino.

This Week on PLWC

ASCO Expert Corner: Talking With Your Child About His or Her Cancer

In this new article, PLWC Associate Editor for Pediatric Cancer Gregory Reaman, MD, answers common questions of parents looking for guidance on how to explain cancer and its treatment in an age-appropriate way. This includes how to first approach the conversation, important points to discuss, and how to address fears that children often have after diagnosis. Dr. Reaman is the Chair of the Children's Oncology Group.

Read this ASCO Expert Corner.

Did You Know?

ASCO's Find an Oncologist Database is consistently one of the most visited pages on PLWC! This database provides readers with the contact information for oncologists who are ASCO members and who have agreed to share their information through this searchable tool. Its goal is to help people connect with specialists for their type of cancer.

The search form is easy to use. The database can be searched by doctor's name, location, specialty, or certification – or a combination of criteria.

ASCO members: If your information is not listed or if you need to update your contact information, contact the ASCO Membership Department at 888-282-2552 or membermail@asco.org. All members need to give specific permission to have their information listed in this public database.

The **Find an Oncologist Database** can be found in PLWC's *Diagnosis and Treatment* section. Use the blue navigation bar below to visit this and other sections of the website.

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:

- **Grocery Shopping Made Easier** offers some practical tips on how to save time and energy when deciding what to eat, going to the grocery store, and preparing meals.
- **When You and Your Family Differ on Treatment Choices** outlines how to keep the lines of communication open when people disagree as the patient decides on his or her treatment plan.
- **Endoscopic Techniques** reviews the development and usage of the endoscope, which in its simplest form is a lighted, flexible tube used to examine different parts of the body.
- **How to Support Your Partner** provides guidance on how to balance being a caregiver to your partner with cancer while also finding the support you need.
- **Going Back to Work After Cancer** discusses the questions that may arise when a person transitions back to the workplace following cancer treatment.
- *Don't forget that you can also check out 140+ other **Feature Articles** on PLWC!*

[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 or call 888-651-3038.

In the News

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

- October 16, 2007: Fruit compound fights head and neck cancer (Reuters Health)
- October 15, 2007: Cancer death rates continue to fall (Reuters Health)
- October 9, 2007: Low-fat diet may lower ovarian cancer risk (Reuters Health)
- October 5, 2007: African Americans lag whites in hospice care (Reuters Health)
- October 5, 2007: Thalidomide improves myeloma survival in elderly (Reuters Health)
- October 1, 2007: Lifestyle factors, obesity impact lymphoma 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.

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