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URL of this page: <https://medlineplus.gov/cancer.html>

Cancer

Also called: Carcinoma, Malignancy, Neoplasms, Tumor

What is cancer?

Cancer is not just one disease but many diseases. Cancer begins in your cells, which are the building blocks of your body. Usually, your body forms new cells as needed, replacing old cells that die. Sometimes this process goes wrong. New cells grow even when you don't need them, and old cells don't die when they should. These extra cells can form a mass called a tumor.

Tumors can be benign or malignant. Benign tumors [<https://medlineplus.gov/benigntumors.html>] aren't cancer, while malignant ones are. Cells from malignant tumors can invade nearby tissues. They can also break away and spread to other parts of your body. The spread of cancer from one part of the body to another is called metastasis. Symptoms and treatment depend on the type of cancer and how advanced it is.

What are the types of cancer?

There are more than 100 different types of cancer. Cancer can start almost anywhere in your body. Most cancers are named for where they start. For example, lung cancer starts in the lung, and breast cancer starts in the breast.

Cancer may also be described by the type of cell that formed it, such as sarcoma if cancer begins in your bone and soft tissue. Carcinoma is the most common type of cancer. It is formed by epithelial cells, the cells that cover the inside and outside surfaces of your body.

How does cancer develop?

Cancer is a genetic [<https://medlineplus.gov/geneticdisorders.html>] disease. That means changes in your genes cause it. Changes in your genes are also called gene variants or mutations. Genes are parts of DNA in your cells that you inherit from your parents. However, only some cancers are caused by genes passed down from your parents.

Genetic changes can occur to your genes over your lifetime that affect how your cells function. Usually, your body gets rid of damaged cells before they turn cancerous, but this ability goes down as you age. Other factors that may affect your risk of developing cancer can include:

- Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun [<https://medlineplus.gov/sunexposure.html>]
- Smoking [<https://medlineplus.gov/smoking.html>]
- Your diet [<https://medlineplus.gov/diets.html>]
- Physical inactivity [<https://medlineplus.gov/healthrisksofaninactivelifestyle.html>]

What are the symptoms of cancer?

Cancer symptoms depend on the type of cancer. For example, some of the symptoms that cancer may cause can include:

- A lump in your breast
- Blood in your urine (pee) or stool (poop)
- Bleeding [<https://medlineplus.gov/bleeding.html>] or bruising [<https://medlineplus.gov/bruises.html>] for no known reason

- A sore that doesn't heal
- Trouble swallowing
- A new mole or a change to a mole you already have

Cancer may cause various symptoms but often doesn't cause pain. Don't wait until you're having pain before seeing your health care provider. See your provider if you have symptoms that don't get better in a few weeks.

How is cancer diagnosed?

There is no single test that can diagnose cancer. The tests ordered are usually based on your symptoms. Your provider may:

- Ask about your **medical history**
- Ask about your **family health history**, including relatives who have had cancer
- Do a **physical exam**
- Do a screening test [<https://medlineplus.gov/healthscreening.html>] such as a mammogram [<https://medlineplus.gov/mammography.html>] , colonoscopy [<https://medlineplus.gov/colonoscopy.html>] , or a Pap test [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/pap-smear/>]
- Order blood tests or imaging tests [<https://medlineplus.gov/diagnosticimaging.html>]

To find out if you have cancer, your provider may order a biopsy [<https://medlineplus.gov/biopsy.html>] . A biopsy is the procedure of removing and examining tissue, cells, or fluids from your body.

What are the treatments for cancer?

Treatment depends on the type of cancer and how advanced it is. Most treatment plans may include surgery, radiation [<https://medlineplus.gov/radiationtherapy.html>] , and/or chemotherapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerchemotherapy.html>] . Some may involve hormone therapy, immunotherapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerimmunotherapy.html>] or other types of biological therapy, or stem cell transplantation [<https://medlineplus.gov/stemcells.html>] .


Can cancer be prevented?

It's usually not possible to know exactly why cancer develops in some people but not others. There are some things that you can't control which may increase or decrease your risk of getting cancer, such as inheriting certain genes or your age. But some lifestyle habits may increase your risk of certain types of cancer. Avoid or reduce lifestyle habits such as:


- Smoking and tobacco use
- Having too much sun exposure
- Drinking too much alcohol [<https://medlineplus.gov/alcoholusedisorderaud.html>]
- Not getting enough physical activity
- Having obesity [<https://medlineplus.gov/obesity.html>]

NIH: National Cancer Institute

Start Here

- Cancer [<https://familydoctor.org/condition/cancer/?adfree=true>] (American Academy of Family Physicians)
- What Is Cancer? [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/understanding/what-is-cancer>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/naturaleza/que-es>]

Diagnosis and Tests


- Biopsy: Types of Biopsy Procedures Used to Diagnose Cancer [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/cancer/in-depth/biopsy/ART-20043922?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/cancer/in-depth/biopsy/art-20043922?p=1>]
- Cancer Screening Overview [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/screening/patient-screening-overview-pdq>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/deteccion/aspectos-generales-deteccion-paciente-pdq#_1]

- Cancer Staging [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/diagnosis-staging/staging>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/diagnostico-estadificacion/estadificacion>]
- Computed Tomography (CT) Scans and Cancer [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/diagnosis-staging/ct-scans-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/diagnostico-estadificacion/hoja-informativa-tomografia-computarizada>]
- Exams and Tests for Cancer [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/diagnosis-staging/tests.html>] (American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/diagnostico-y-etapa-del-cancer/pruebas.html>]
- Fine Needle Aspiration [<https://www.enthealth.org/conditions/fine-needle-aspiration/>]
(American Academy of Otolaryngology--Head and Neck Surgery)
- How Cancer is Diagnosed [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/diagnosis-staging/diagnosis>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/diagnostico-estadificacion/diagnostico>]
- Karyotype Genetic Test [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/karyotype-genetic-test/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/prueba-de-cariotipo/>]
- Lactate Dehydrogenase (LDH) Test [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/lactate-dehydrogenase-ldh-test/>]
 (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/prueba-de-lactato-deshidrogenasa-ldh/>]
- Pathology Reports [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/diagnosis-staging/diagnosis/pathology-reports-fact-sheet>]
 (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/diagnostico-estadificacion/diagnostico/hoja-informativa-informes-de-patologia>]
- Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/diagnosis-staging/staging/sentinel-node-biopsy-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/diagnostico-estadificacion/estadificacion/hoja-informativa-ganglio-centinela>]
- Tumor Grade [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/diagnosis-staging/diagnosis/tumor-grade>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/diagnostico-estadificacion/diagnostico/grado-del-tumor>]
- Tumor Marker Tests [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/tumor-marker-tests/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/marcadores-tumorales/>]
- Tumor Markers [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/diagnosis-staging/diagnosis/tumor-markers-fact-sheet>]
 (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/diagnostico-estadificacion/diagnostico/hoja-informativa-marcadores-de-tumores>]














Prevention and Risk Factors

- Antioxidants and Cancer Prevention [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/diet/antioxidants-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/alimentacion/hoja-informativa-antioxidantes>]
- Cancer Prevention Overview [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/patient-prevention-overview-pdq>]
 (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/aspectos-generales-prevencion-paciente-pdq>]
- Diet Choices to Prevent Cancer [<https://familydoctor.org/cancer-diet-choices-to-prevent-cancer/?adfree=true>]
(American Academy of Family Physicians)
Also in Spanish [<https://es.familydoctor.org/cancer-opciones-de-dieta-para-prevenir-el-cancer/?adfree=true>]
- Lowering Your Cancer Risk: Healthy Living for Cancer Prevention [<https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2021/02/lowering-your-cancer-risk>]  (National Institutes of Health)
Also in Spanish [<https://salud.nih.gov/recursos-de-salud/nih-noticias-de-salud/como-reducir-el-riesgo-de-sufrir-cancer>]
- Tobacco [<https://canceratlas.cancer.org/risk-factors/tobacco/>] (American Cancer Society)


Treatments and Therapies

- A to Z List of Cancer Drugs [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/drugs>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- Adjuvant Therapy: Treatment to Keep Cancer from Returning [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/cancer/in-depth/adjuvant-therapy/ART-20046687?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)


Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/cancer/in-depth/adjvant-therapy/art-20046687?p=1>]












- **Angiogenesis Inhibitors** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/types/immunotherapy/angiogenesis-inhibitors-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/tratamiento/tipos/inmunoterapia/hoja-informativa-inhibidores-angiogenesis>]
- **Cancer Alternative Therapies: MedlinePlus Health Topic** [<https://medlineplus.gov/canceralternativetherapies.html>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/canceralternativetherapies.html>]
- **Cancer Chemotherapy: MedlinePlus Health Topic** [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerchemotherapy.html>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/cancerchemotherapy.html>]
- **Cancer Immunotherapy: MedlinePlus Health Topic** [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerimmunotherapy.html>]  (National Library of Medicine)
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- **Cancer Surgery: Physically Removing Cancer** [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/cancer/in-depth/cancer-surgery/ART-20044171?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/cancer/in-depth/cancer-surgery/art-20044171?p=1>]
- **Carcinoma of Unknown Primary Treatment** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/unknown-primary/patient/unknown-primary-treatment-pdq>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- **Drugs Approved for Solid Tumors Anywhere in the Body** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/drugs/solid-tumors>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- **Extragonadal Germ Cell Tumors Treatment** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/extragonadal-germ-cell/patient/extragonadal-treatment-pdq>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- **Finding Cancer Care** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/managing-care/finding-cancer-care>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- **Hyperthermia to Treat Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/types/hyperthermia>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/tratamiento/tipos/terapia-de-hipertermia>]
- **Immunotherapy to Treat Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/types/immunotherapy>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/tratamiento/tipos/inmunoterapia>]
- **Lasers to Treat Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/types/surgery/lasers>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/tratamiento/tipos/cirugia/terapia-laser>]
- **Radiation Therapy: MedlinePlus Health Topic** [<https://medlineplus.gov/radiationtherapy.html>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/radiationtherapy.html>]
- **When Cancer Spreads: Improving Treatments for Metastasis** [<https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2024/08/when-cancer-spreads>]  (National Institutes of Health)
Also in Spanish [<https://salud.nih.gov/recursos-de-salud/nih-noticias-de-salud/cuando-el-cancer-se-disemina>]

Living With

- **Cancer--Living with Cancer: MedlinePlus Health Topic** [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerlivingwithcancer.html>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/cancerlivingwithcancer.html>]

Related Issues




- **Adjusting to Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/coping/adjusting-to-cancer>]  **Easy-to-Read** (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/sobrellevar/adaptacion-al-cancer>]
- **Cancer Causes: Popular Myths about the Causes of Cancer** [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/cancer/in-depth/cancer-causes/ART-20044714?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/cancer/in-depth/cancer-causes/ART-20044714?p=1>]







- Cancer Clusters** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/substances/cancer-clusters-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/sustancias/hoja-informativa-brotes>]
- Chemicals in Meat Cooked at High Temperatures and Cancer Risk** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/diet/cooked-meats-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/alimentacion/hoja-informativa-carne-cocinada>]
- Common Cancer Myths and Misconceptions** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/myths>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/mitos>]
- Emotions and Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/coping/feelings>]  *Easy-to-Read* (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/sobrellevar/sentimientos>]
- Hair Dyes, Other Hair Products, and Cancer Risk** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/substances/hair-dyes-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/sustancias/hoja-informativa-tintes-para-cabello>]
- Informal Caregivers in Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/coping/family-friends/family-caregivers-pdq>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/sobrellevar/familia-y-amigos/familiares-a-cargo-pdq>]
- Obesity and Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/obesity/obesity-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/obesidad/hoja-informativa-obesidad>]
- Physical Activity and Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/obesity/physical-activity-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/obesidad/actividad-fisica-hoja-informativa>]
- Recurrent Cancer: When Cancer Comes Back** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/recurrent-cancer>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/cancer-que-regresa>]
- Stay Away from Tobacco** [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/risk-prevention/tobacco.html>] (American Cancer Society)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/prevencion-del-riesgo/tabaco.html>]
- Stress and Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/coping/feelings/stress-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/sobrellevar/sentimientos/hoja-informativa-estres>]
- Vaccinations and Flu Shots for People with Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/managing-cancer/side-effects/infections/vaccination-during-cancer-treatment.html>] (American Cancer Society)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/como-sobrellevar-el-cancer/efectos-secundarios/infecciones/vaccination-during-cancer-treatment.html>]
- Vitamin D and Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/diet/vitamin-d-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/alimentacion/hoja-informativa-vitamina-d>]

Specifics



- Advance Directives** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/managing-care/advance-directives>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/manejo-del-cancer/instrucciones-adelantadas>]
- Metastatic Cancer: When Cancer Spreads** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/metastatic-cancer>]  (National Cancer Institute)
 Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/cancer-metastatico>]

Genetics





- BAP1 tumor predisposition syndrome: MedlinePlus Genetics** [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/bap1-tumor-predisposition-syndrome>]  (National Library of Medicine)
- Bloom syndrome: MedlinePlus Genetics** [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/bloom-syndrome>]  (National Library of Medicine)
- Cowden syndrome: MedlinePlus Genetics** [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/cowden-syndrome>]  (National Library of Medicine)

- DICER1 syndrome: MedlinePlus Genetics [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/dicer1-syndrome>]  (National Library of Medicine)
- Genetic Testing for Inherited Cancer Risk [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/genetics/genetic-testing-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- Genetics of Cancer [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/genetics>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/genetica>]
- Peutz-Jeghers syndrome: MedlinePlus Genetics [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/peutz-jeghers-syndrome>]  (National Library of Medicine)
- Rhabdoid tumor predisposition syndrome: MedlinePlus Genetics [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/rhabdoid-tumor-predisposition-syndrome>]  (National Library of Medicine)
- Understanding Genetic Testing for Cancer Risk [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/risk-prevention/genetics/genetic-testing-for-cancer-risk/understanding-genetic-testing-for-cancer.html>] (American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/prevencion-del-riesgo/genetica/pruebas-geneticas-para-evaluar-el-riesgo-de-cancer/comprencion-de-las-pruebas-geneticas-para-el-cancer.html>]
- Werner syndrome: MedlinePlus Genetics [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/werner-syndrome>]  (National Library of Medicine)

Videos and Tutorials

- Understanding Cancer Prognosis [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/diagnosis-staging/prognosis>]   (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/diagnostico-estadificacion/pronostico>]

Statistics and Research

- About Cancer Clinical Research [<https://www.cancer.gov/research/participate/about-cancer-clinical-research>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/investigacion/participe/acerca-de-la-investigacion-clinica-del-cancer>]
- Cancer Clinical Trials at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/clinical-center>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/tratamiento/centro-clinico>]
- Cancer Data and Statistics [<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/data/>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- Cancer Statistics [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/understanding/statistics>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/naturaleza/estadisticas>]
- Obesity and Cancer [<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/risk-factors/obesity.html>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/es/risk-factors/obesity.html>]
- Statistics and Graphs: Cancer Survivorship [<https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/ocs/statistics>]  (National Cancer Institute)

Clinical Trials



- Clinical Trials Information for Patients and Caregivers [<https://www.cancer.gov/research/participate/clinical-trials>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/investigacion/participe/estudios-clinicos>]
- ClinicalTrials.gov: Carcinoma [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Carcinoma%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)
- ClinicalTrials.gov: Neoplasms [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Neoplasms%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)
- NCI's Clinical Trials Programs and Initiatives [<https://www.cancer.gov/research/infrastructure/clinical-trials>]  (National Cancer Institute)
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- Article: Multi-institutional, randomized, controlled trial to assess the efficacy and tolerability of...
[<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40742459>]
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Reference Desk

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Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/publicaciones/diccionarios/diccionario-cancer/>]
- National Cancer Institute News [<https://www.cancer.gov/news-events>]  (National Cancer Institute)

Find an Expert

- American Cancer Society [<https://www.cancer.org/>]
- Choosing a Cancer Doctor [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/managing-cancer/finding-care/where-to-find-cancer-care/choosing-a-cancer-doctor.html>] (American Cancer Society)
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- National Cancer Institute [<https://www.cancer.gov/>] 
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol>]
- NCI - Designated Cancer Centers [<https://www.cancer.gov/research/infrastructure/cancer-centers>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/investigacion/infraestructura/centros-oncologicos>]
- Organizations that Offer Cancer Support Services [<https://supportorgs.cancer.gov/home.aspx>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://supportorgs.cancer.gov/home.aspx?lang=2>]

Children

- Cancer in Children: MedlinePlus Health Topic [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerinchildren.html>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/cancerinchildren.html>]

Teenagers

- Adolescents and Young Adults with Cancer [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/aya>]  (National Cancer Institute)
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Men

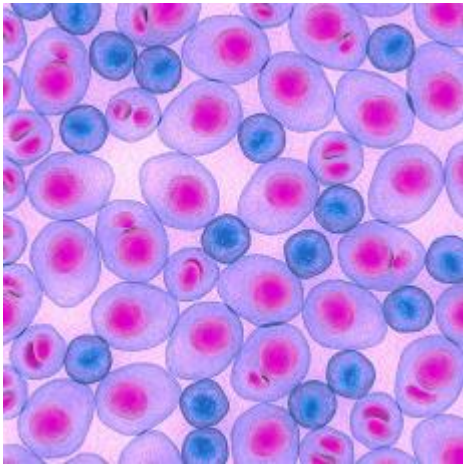
- Cancer and Men [<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/features/cancer-and-men.html>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
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Women

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Patient Handouts

- **Cancer** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001289.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
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- **Cancer and lymph nodes** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000824.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
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- **Cancer treatment - early menopause** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000912.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
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- **Cancer treatment - preventing infection** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000913.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000913.htm>]
- **Cancer treatments** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000901.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000901.htm>]
- **How to research cancer** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000927.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000927.htm>]
- **How to tell your child that you have cancer** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000934.htm>]
(Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000934.htm>]
- **Hyperthermia for treating cancer** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000904.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000904.htm>]
- **Laser therapy for cancer** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000905.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000905.htm>]
- **Photodynamic therapy for cancer** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000906.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000906.htm>]
- **Targeted therapies for cancer** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000902.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000902.htm>]
- **Understanding your cancer prognosis** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000926.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000926.htm>]
- **Your cancer care team** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000929.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000929.htm>]
- **Your cancer diagnosis - Do you need a second opinion?** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000930.htm>]
(Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000930.htm>]



MEDICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA

Cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001289.htm>]

Cancer and lymph nodes [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000824.htm>]

Cancer prevention: take charge of your lifestyle [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000825.htm>]

Cancer treatment - early menopause [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000912.htm>]

Cancer treatment - preventing infection [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000913.htm>]

Cancer treatments [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000901.htm>]

CEA blood test [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003574.htm>]

CSF analysis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003369.htm>]

CSF cell count [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003625.htm>]

Diet and cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002096.htm>]

Genetic testing and your cancer risk [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000842.htm>]

How to research cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000927.htm>]

How to tell your child that you have cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000934.htm>]

Hyperthermia for treating cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000904.htm>]

Lactate dehydrogenase test [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003471.htm>]

Laser therapy for cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000905.htm>]

Lymphangiogram [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003798.htm>]

Malignant teratoma of the mediastinum [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001316.htm>]

Peutz-Jeghers syndrome [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000244.htm>]

Photodynamic therapy for cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000906.htm>]

Pleural fluid analysis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003624.htm>]

Protein electrophoresis - serum [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003540.htm>]

Syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000314.htm>]

Talking with a child about a parent's terminal illness [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000848.htm>]

Targeted therapies for cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000902.htm>]

Targeted therapy: questions to ask your doctor [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000829.htm>]

Tumor [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001310.htm>]

Understanding cancer staging [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000850.htm>]

Understanding your cancer prognosis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000926.htm>]

Upper airway biopsy [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003856.htm>]

What if cancer comes back? [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000833.htm>]

When your cancer treatment stops working [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000851.htm>]

Your cancer care team [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000929.htm>]

Your cancer diagnosis - Do you need a second opinion? [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000930.htm>]

Related Health Topics

Cancer Alternative Therapies [<https://medlineplus.gov/canceralternativetherapies.html>]

Cancer Chemotherapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerchemotherapy.html>]

Cancer Immunotherapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerimmunotherapy.html>]

Cancer--Living with Cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerlivingwithcancer.html>]

Radiation Therapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/radiationtherapy.html>]

Tumors and Pregnancy [<https://medlineplus.gov/tumorsandpregnancy.html>]

National Institutes of Health

The primary NIH organization for research on *Cancer* is the National Cancer Institute [<http://www.cancer.gov/>]

Other Languages

Find health information in languages other than English [<https://medlineplus.gov/languages/cancer.html>] on *Cancer*

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