

Reliable cancer and genetics websites

The Internet is a great way to find information, but you are probably aware that some Internet information is unreliable.

Here's a list of websites on genetics, cancer and related issues. They are user friendly, provide credible links and are easy to search.

Most of the sites provide evidence-based information for patients, their families, general readers and health professionals. (By evidence-based, we mean the information has been researched and evaluated in accepted scientific ways.)

In this list, we give their addresses and sources, and also highlight special features of each site.

We have tried to give accurate information, but websites can change over time. Let us know if there is anything in this list that you think needs to be amended.

Genetics

Australia

www.cancervic.org.au/how-we-can-help/family-cancer (Cancer Council Victoria)

Special features:

- provides accredited information to individuals about genetics and risk
- provides information about genetic counselling, genetic testing and family cancer clinics

www.genecrc.org (Gene Cooperative Research Centre, of the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute and Gene Technology Access Centre)

Special features:

- comprehensive coverage of the latest genetic research and ethical issues
- regular review by genetic experts
- excellent 'kids only' section
- excellent educational resources for teachers

www.genetics.com.au (Centre for Genetics Education NSW)

Special features:

- general information on genetics and genetic disorders
- excellent educational resources for consumers, health professionals and educators
- regular review by genetic experts
- fact sheets which may be downloaded
- multilingual resources

United States

www.dnalc.org (Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory)

Special features:

- discussion of all aspects of genetics
- the Eugenic Archive: a history of the US eugenics movement
- educational tools for all levels of learning
- current genetic news updates

<http://gslc.genetics.utah.edu/> (Genetic Science Learning Center, University of Utah)

Special features:

- general information on genetics and genetic disorders
- excellent resources for educators
- information also in Spanish

www.genome.gov (National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health)

Special features:

- detailed background information about the Human Genome Project
- information about research, health, ethics and policies in genetics practice
- educational resources
- information also in Spanish

Risk factors and cancer

Australia

www.nbcc.org.au (National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre)

Special features:

- information about risk factors, early detection, treatment, statistics, resources and research, support and advocacy groups, activities and training programs
- personal stories by those affected by breast cancer, including excellent information for male partners
- information also in other languages

www.nbcc.org.au/risk/ (National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre)

Special features:

- helpful information on risk and breast cancer
- has online information resource and a risk calculator for women who have not had breast or ovarian cancer to enable them to calculate their risk

United States

www.susanlovemd.com (Sue Rochman, medical editor, Susan Love)

Special features:

- up-to-date personalised, understandable information, links and support for women diagnosed with, or at risk of, breast cancer
- an excellent frequently asked questions section

<http://envirocancer.cornell.edu> (Program on Breast Cancer and Environmental Risk Factors, Cornell University)

Special features:

- information on the relationship between breast cancer and environmental risk factors, including pesticides and dietary factors
- fact sheets which may be downloaded

Genetic testing

Australia

www.cancervic.org.au/how-we-can-help/family-cancer (Cancer Council Victoria)

Special features:

- helpful information on genetic testing for cancer predisposition genes

www.genetics.com.au (Centre for Genetics Education NSW)

Special features:

- information on genetic testing for genetic conditions
- fact sheets which may be downloaded



United States

www.accessexcellence.org/AE/AEPC/NIH/ (National Health Museum)

Special features:

- comprehensive, thoughtful answers to questions about the complexities associated with genetic testing

Support for those at increased risk

Australia

www.pinkhope.org.au (Pink Hope)

Special features:

- a helpful resource that provides accredited information to women at high risk of breast and ovarian cancer
- provides helpful resources and tips
- specifically for young women

www.cancervic.org.au/familycancer (Victorian Family Cancer Genetics Service)

Special features:

- provides information about online and telephone support to individuals at increased genetic risk of cancer

United States

www.facingourrisk.org/ (Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered: FORCE)

Special features:

- a helpful resource for people who are at risk of cancer or who wonder whether they are at risk – or who care about the concerns faced by those at risk
- supported by an advisory board of medical experts

Cancer

Australia

www.cancervic.org.au (Cancer Council Victoria)

Special features:

- extensive information about Cancer Council services, programs and research
- information about cancer in 17 languages

www.cancervic.org.au/familycancer (Victorian Family Cancer Genetics Service)

Special features:

- information for health professionals and the community on the VFCGS, family cancers (breast, ovarian, bowel and melanoma) and genetic testing, genetic counselling and risk.

For more information on family cancer websites:

- Genetic Health Services Victoria: www.genetichealthvic.net.au
- Monash Medical Centre: 03 9594 2026 (no website)
- Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre: www.petermac.org
- Royal Melbourne Hospital: www.mh.org.au/RMHGenetics

www.virtualcancercentre.com (Virtual Medical Centre)

Special features:

- a virtual cancer centre, which you can tour to see how cancer is managed
- a quick search option to find out about a specific cancer, drug or symptom
- the latest cancer news and research

www.canceranswers.com.au (sponsored by the drug companies Mundipharma, Janssen-Cilag, Bristol-Myers Squibb and Lilly)



Special features:

- an up-to-date list of cancer service providers
- cancer-specific and treatment-specific chat rooms

United States

www.cancer.gov (National Cancer Institute)

Special features:

- comprehensive information about cancer diagnosis and treatment
- an excellent register of international clinical trials
- information also in Spanish

www.uicc.org (International Union Against Cancer)

Special features:

- information about this non-government association of more than 290 voluntary cancer societies, cancer research and/or treatment centres and ministries of health from over 85 countries

www.cancer.org (American Cancer Society)

Special features:

- a survivors network link
- personal stories of surviving cancer
- information also in Spanish and some Asian languages

www.oncolink.upenn.edu (University of Pennsylvania)

Special features:

- an excellent 'Ask the Expert' section
- the 'Oncolink Art Gallery': individual perspectives on cancer through art
- information also in Spanish

www.acor.org (Association of Cancer Online Resources Inc)

Special features:

- online communities/support groups designed to provide timely and accurate information about cancer and its treatments

www.nccam.nih.gov (National Center of Complementary and Alternative Medicine, National Institutes of Health)

Special features:

- reports of research into and information about complementary and alternative medicine

United Kingdom

www.cancerbacup.org.uk (Cancer BACUP)

Special features:

- comprehensive information about cancer diagnosis and treatment
- an excellent section about chemotherapy drugs and potential side effects
- a questions and answers section with over 1000 topics

www.cancer.org.uk (Cancer Research UK)

Special features:

- patient information
- latest cancer news
- teaching resources

IVF

www.mivf.com.au (Melbourne IVF)

Special features:

- an overview of the service
- personal stories of infertility

www.monashivf.edu.au (Monash IVF)

Special features:

- a profile of the service
- fact sheets, newsletters and access to other publications



Government

www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au
(Department of Health, Victoria)

Special features:

- reliable, up-to-date and locally relevant health information
- regular review

www.health.vic.gov.au (Department of Health, State Government of Victoria)

Special features:

- a gateway to health services in Victoria

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