

## HOW TO FIND TRUSTED ONLINE INFO ABOUT LUNG CANCER



### Top Tips for Searching Online for Lung Cancer Information

- 1. Don't focus on lung cancer survival statistics.**

These are averages for broad populations gathered over many years, and do not reflect recent advances in lung cancer treatment. Your cancer is unique to you, and many considerations will factor into your survival. You do not have an expiration date printed anywhere on your body.
- 2. Start reading at trusted websites and social media sites.**
  - Lung cancer nonprofits
  - Professional medical societies related to lung cancer
  - Government organizations that deal with cancer
  - Academic cancer centers that specialize in lung cancer research and treatment
- 3. Look for blogs and moderated online communities focused on your type of cancer.**
- 4. Evaluate cancer stories and treatment claims for potential “fake news.”**
  - Who runs the website? Who pays for it?
  - What is the purpose of the website?
  - What are the credentials of the author(s)?
  - Who reviewed the information?
  - Does it present fact, or opinion? Does it provide authoritative references to support its claims, or does it rely on anecdotes?
  - How current is the information?
  - Do the headlines use terms big claims like “breakthrough” and “cure”?

### Learn More About Evaluating Online Cancer Information:

- [Evaluating Online Information](#) (Georgetown University Library)
- [How To Evaluate Health Information On The Internet](#) (National Institutes of Health)
- [Evaluating Health Information](#) (National Library of Medicine) – includes a great video tutorial
- [Evaluating Cancer Information on the Internet](#) (American Society of Clinical Oncology)
- [Cancer Treatment Scams](#) (Federal Trade Commission)
- [Fake Cancer "Cures" Consumers Should Avoid](#) (Food and Drug Administration)
- [How Do You Know If A Research Study Is Any Good?](#) (Elsevier, Science Writers of New York)

This is not intended to be a list of “best” pages, but rather an introduction to a variety of trusted online information sources.

## A SAMPLING OF TRUSTED LUNG CANCER RESOURCES



### **For the newly diagnosed**

- What is lung cancer: <http://www.freetobreathe.org/lung-cancer-info/understanding-a-diagnosis/what-is-lung-cancer>
- Questions to ask your lung cancer doctor: <https://www.lungevity.org/for-patients-caregivers/asking-right-questions>
- Navigating lung cancer treatment: <https://www.lungcancerfoundation.org/patients/portal/handbook/>
- Should I get a second opinion: <https://www.cancercare.org/questions/206>
- Remote second opinion: <https://www.uchealth.org/services/cancer-care/remote-second-opinions/>
- Support services for cancer patients: <https://supportorgs.cancer.gov/home.aspx?js=1>

### **Lung cancer diagnostics, treatment, and research**

- Types of cancer treatment: <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/types/>
- Professional Guidelines for Standard of Care: [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/f\\_guidelines.asp](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/f_guidelines.asp)
- Lung cancer screening: <http://www.lungcanceralliance.org/am-i-at-risk/>
- Biopsy: <http://www.cancer.net/navigating-cancer-care/diagnosing-cancer/tests-and-procedures/biopsy>
- Testing for biomarkers: <http://www.lung.org/assets/documents/lung-cancer/interactive-library/what-you-need-to-know-about-tumor-testing.pdf>
- Lung cancer research news: <http://lcfamerica.org/research/>
- Clinical trials: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/about-studies/learn>
- About Herbs, Botanicals & Other Products: <https://www.mskcc.org/cancer-care/diagnosis-treatment/symptom-management/integrative-medicine/herbs>
- Palliative care in cancer to improve quality of life: <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/advanced-cancer/care-choices/palliative-care-fact-sheet>
- Analysis of new lung cancer treatments: <http://cancergrace.org/lung/>

### **To find a good hospital for lung cancer**

- Cancer centers that have NCI-sponsored lung cancer Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs): <https://trp.cancer.gov/spores/lung.htm>
- Members of the NCI's National Comprehensive Cancer Network: <https://www.nccn.org/members/network.aspx>
- Top cancer hospitals (US News and World Report): <http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals/rankings/cancer>
- Top lung cancer hospitals ranked by patients: <https://surviveit.org/find-care/lung-cancer/>