Children with Cancer
A Guide for Parents

Who is this guide for?
Designed and written for parents who have a child with cancer, this guide has information and advice to help parents, children with cancer, and their siblings.

What does this guide cover?
This guide explains:
- Childhood cancers
- Medical tests and procedures
- Treatments, including clinical trials
- Health issues such as nutrition, infection, and pain
- Integrative medicine approaches
- Advanced cancer
- Survivorship

It has practical information to help parents:
- Find a doctor and hospital
- Talk with your child about cancer
- Cope and find support for you, your child, and their siblings
- Stay organized and track key information

This guide is designed to be used by parents as a tool, in consultation with their child’s health care team. Each section highlights key information and includes quotes from parents, links to related resources, and questions to ask the doctor.

How can I get a copy of this guide?
You can access this guide on your computer, phone, e-reader, or tablet through our publications page. E-book versions and a PDF are at www.cancer.gov/guide-for-parents. To get information about NCI print files for this booklet send an email to nciopoetinfo@mail.nih.gov.

What parents are saying about the guide?
- “It’s more than a very good introduction — it’s something to take along with you for the first year of your child being diagnosed!”
- “Love the combination between the medical and the social stuff.”
- “It’s unique and different. I’ve never seen anything like this — so all in one!”
- “Commonly asked questions about clinical trials stood out as being particularly good.”
- “Written in very narrative way — easy to swallow and then get into.”

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