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**Family Resource Center**  
**Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Room 301**

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BOOKS AND VIDEOS DEALING  
WITH CANCER Feb. 2008**

1. **Alex's Journey: The Story of a Child with a Brain Tumor.** (Des Plaines, IL; American Brain Tumor Association, 1994) Fictional story about a boy named Alex who has a brain tumor. Alex gets better with the help of many people who care about him. Audience: 8 - 12
  
2. Baker, Lynne S. **You and Leukemia: A Day at a Time** (Philadelphia, Saunders, 2002). Explains the cause, types, treatments, and complications of leukemia and offers advice on learning to live with the disease.
  
3. Bearison, David. **"They Never Want To Tell You". Children Talk About Cancer** (Cambridge, Mass. 1991) Narratives of children coping with cancer. They speak with a candor that breaks through the cultural taboos ostensibly designed to protect us from the disease.
  
4. Berglund, Rita. **An Alphabet about Kids With Cancer.** (Denver, CO; Children's Legacy, 1994) Each page makes use of a letter of a word that is linked to cancer.
  
5. Bridge, Chris. **Andrew's Story: A Book about a Boy Who Beat Cancer.** (Minneapolis, MN; Lerner Publications, 2002)  
Traces the true story of Andrew's experience with cancer from the age of 3-9 after which he is able to put his illness behind him. However he has to still cope with the emotional effects of hospitalization. After returning to the hospital as a visitor instead of a patient, Andrew comes to terms with his feelings of people hurting him. Audience: 3-10. Description is in the form of poetry, pictures and photographs with cancer.
  
6. **Brothers and Sisters and Brain Tumors: A Child's Point of View for Coping With Cancer in the Family** (presented by Nancy Barbach; Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>)

2003; Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, CD) A number of siblings of children who had brain tumors are interviewed about their experience.

7. **Cancer: What Causes It, What Does Not** (American Cancer Society, 2003) An attempt to clarify what is cancer, what are the rumors about it that abound.

8. **Chicken Soup for the Soul: 101 Stories of Courage and Inspiration From Those Who Have Survived Cancer** (Health Communications, 1996)

9. Connolly, Harry. **Fighting Chance: Journeys Through Childhood Cancer.** (Baltimore, MD; Woodholme House. 1997)

Containing 200 images, this book follows courageous patients, strong families in battling cancer in and out of the hospital. Photographed over the course of three years, it includes contributions from best-selling author Tom Clancy and Dr. Curt Civin, Director of Johns Hopkins Hospital's Pediatric Oncology Unit. Other insight comes from nurses, parents, siblings, and the children themselves.

10. Cranston, Linda et al. **You and Your Cancer: A Child's Guide.** (B.C. Decker, 2001) A description of cancer is presented in a very child-friendly manner with many colorful illustrations.

11. Cukier, Daniel et al. **Coping with Chemotherapy and Radiation.** (McGraw-Hill, 2004) Discusses the most common side effects and the best way to deal with them, how to prepare physically and emotionally for treatment, and how radiation, chemotherapy, and surgery work together.

12. Dollinger, Malin et al. **Everyone's Guide to Cancer Therapy: How Cancer is Diagnosed, Treated, and Managed Day to Day.** 4<sup>th</sup> edition. (Andrews McMeel, 2002)

Top cancer authorities discuss diagnosis and treatment; supportive care; quality of life; new advances in research, and risk assessment.

13. Dodd, Marylin J. **Managing the Side Effects of Chemotherapy and Radiation.** (San Francisco, CA; UCSF Nursing Press, 2001) Designed to help patients and their families get through treatment. Describes all the possible side effects caused by these therapies, and tells how each of these symptoms can be alleviated, managed, or minimized.

14. Dorfman, Elena. **The C - Word: Teenagers and Their Families Living With Cancer**. (San Francisco, CA; Elena Dorfman, 1998)  
The stories of 5 teenagers and their experience with cancer.  
Audience: young adults and adults
15. **Emotional Aspects of Childhood Leukemia: A Handbook for Parents**. (Baltimore, MD; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, 2001)
16. Eyre, Harmon et al. **Informed Decisions: The Complete Book of Cancer Diagnosis, Treatment, and Recovery**, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (American Cancer Society, 2002)
7. Holland, Jimmie C. **The Human Side of Cancer: Living With Hope, Coping With Uncertainty**. (Harper Collins, 2000)
17. Foss, Karen Sue. **The Problem With Hair: A Story For Children Who Are Learning About Cancer**. (Centering Corporation, 1996) The kids in the neighborhood complain about their hair. When Louella comes back from the hospital she is afraid that her friends will tease her about her lack of hair, but they tell her that she is so lucky that she doesn't have a problem with her hair, and have bought her a hat. Audience: 5 - 9
18. Frevert, Patricia Dendtler. **Patty Gets Well**. (Mankato, MN; Creative Education, Inc.) Patty Ness learned that she had leukemia at age ten. With the help of her large and loving family, teachers and friends at school, and a caring doctor, Patty won her battle against leukemia.
19. Gaes, Jason. **My Book For Kids With Cansur: A Child's Autobiography of Hope**. (Aberdeen, SD; Melius & Peterson Publishing Inc. 1987)  
A young boy in his own words describes his eventually successful two-year battle with cancer, and offers advice to other cancer patients.  
Audience: any age
20. Ganz, Pam. **Life Isn't Always a Day at the Beach: A Book for All Children Whose Lives are Affected by Cancer**. (High Five, 1996)
21. Gravelle, Karen & Bertram John, **Teenagers Face to Face with Cancer** (authorsguildbackinprint.com, 2000) Sixteen teenagers, 15 of whom have or had cancer, talk openly about their experience with the disease- from the physical difficulties of coping with treatment to the emotional trauma that can be as painful as the illness itself.

22. Grealy, Lucy. **Autobiography of a Face**. (Perennial, 1994)  
The true story of the author who suffered from cancer from the age of nine. The worst part of the experience was the merciless taunting of children due to the appearance of her face which had been very much disfigured due to the cancer. However she displays a tremendous amount of resilience in overcoming the obstacles in her life, and finally emerges as a professional writer. adult
23. Harphan, Wendy S. **Becky and the Worry Cup**. (NY; HarperCollins, 1997)  
Six-year-old Becky has many adjustments to make and new feelings to deal with when her mother is diagnosed with cancer. Audience: 8 - 10
24. Housden, Maria. **Hanna's Gift: Lessons From a Life Fully Lived**. (Bantam Books, 2002) Hannah's mother writes about her relationship with her daughter while struggling through cancer to her death.
25. Hughes, Monica. **Hunter in the Dark**. (New York; Atheneum, 1983) A teenage boy goes on a secret hunting trip alone without his parent's knowledge. He is trying to come to terms with his leukemia and to test his strength and resourcefulness in battling the elements and stalking the white-tailed deer.  
Audience: young adult
26. **It Can't Be**. (Ullman Cancer Foundation for Young Adults, *after 2000*).  
A workbook for young adults with cancer, which includes the following topics: education; doctors; record keeping; reactions and actions; people and issues in one's life; a parent's perspective.
27. James-Hodder, Honna and Nancy Keene. **Childhood Cancer: A Parent's Guide to Solid Tumor Cancers**. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. (CA; O'Reilly & Associates, 2002)
28. Karu, Tyler and Tim Karu. **Henry and the White Wolf**. (Workman, 2000)  
For one courageous little hedgehog called Henry, it means facing the darkest fears of his illness. He clings to his good-luck stone, and uses all of his inner strength to help him feel better. Audience: 3 - 8
29. Keene, Nancy. **Childhood Leukemia**. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. (CA; O'Reilly & Associates, 2002) Provides medical information and advice for coping with procedures, hospitalizations, school, and associated social, emotional, and financial problems.

30. Keene, Nancy, Wendy Hobbie, Kathy Ruccione. **Childhood Cancer Survivors: A Practical Guide to Your Future.** (CA; O'Reilly & Associates, 2007) Informs survivors about the medical late effects from treatment; emotional aspects of surviving cancer; schedules for follow-up care; challenges in the healthcare system; lifestyle choices to maximize health; discrimination in employment or insurance.

31. **Kids' Cancer Pages.** (Portland, OR; Children's Cancer Association, 2001) The first comprehensive national resource guide of its kind. Provides hundreds of listings that will help families make decisions about medical treatments and pain management, find information about financial aid and healthcare assistance.

32. Klein, Nancy. **Healing Images for Children: Teaching Relaxation and Guided Imagery to Children Facing Cancer and Other Serious Illnesses.** (Watertown, WI, 20010) Advice, stories and relaxation techniques to help children draw on positive images to help them heal.

33. Klett, Amy. **The Amazing Hannah: Look at Everything I Can Do!** (Fairfax, VA. Growing Hope Foundation, 2002) Also a Spanish version  
The story of a little girl with leukemia and the procedures she has to endure.

34. Krisher, Trudy. **Kathy's Hats: A Story of Hope.** (Morton Grove, IL; Albert Whitman & company, 1992)  
Kathy's love of hats comes in handy when the chemotherapy treatments make her hair fall out. Audience: Preschool - Grade 3

35. Murray, Lisa. **Angels and Monsters: A Child's View of Cancer.** (American Cancer Society, 2002) Lisa works with the children as an art therapist and Billy Howard takes photos of them.

36. **The Official Parent's Sourcebook on Childhood Acute Myeloid Leukemia: A Revised and Updated Directory for the Internet Age.** (ICON Health Publications, 2002)

37. **Post-Traumatic Stress: Helping Families Survive Childhood Cancer.** (A paper presented by Dr. Anne Kazak at a conference May 29, 2002. Format is CD)

38. Shaminski-Maher, Patsy Cullen & Maria Sansalone. **Childhood Brain & Spinal Cord Tumors.** (Sebastopol, CA; O'Reilly, 2001)

Includes chapters on understanding the diagnosis, getting state-of-the-art treatment; finding emotional support; identifying resources.

39. **Sibling Issues: The Impact of Cancer on Healthy Siblings.** (Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation of the United States, presented by Kathleen Tilley, LCSW; 2002) Presented at a conference focusing on the issues facing children with brain tumors; CD.

40. Rogers, Fred. **Some Things Change and Some Things Stay the Same.** (Pittsburgh, PA; Family Communications, Inc., 1989)  
Mr. Rogers demonstrates that as difficult as it is to accept life with cancer, there is still much that one can enjoy in life, and that other good things remain the same.  
Preschool - Grade 3

41. Romenesko, Ross. **I Had a Tumor, It Wasn't a Rumor: A Cancer Survivor's Story.** (Ross Romenko Team Ltd., 2003)  
The true story of Ross Romenko's journey with cancer, and how it affected the whole family. Audience: any

42. Schulz, Charles M. **Why Charlie Brown, Why? A Story About What Happens When a Friend is Very Ill.** (New York; Topper Books, 1990) (also video with same title)  
The members of the Peanuts gang have varying reactions when they learn that their friend Janice has leukemia, and they follow her treatment and ultimate recovery.  
Audience: any

43. Slote, Alfred. **Hang Tough, Paul Mather.** (New York; HarperCollins Publishers, 1973)  
A baseball pitcher with an incurable blood disease is determined to get in as much time on the mound as possible.  
Audience: young adult

44. Todd, A.D. **Double Vision: East-West Collaboration for Coping with Cancer.** (Wesleyan U. 1994) The author has had her own experience with alternative therapy, and now has a son with a brain tumor, and makes use of both east and west). An Autobiography.

45. Trillin, Alice. **Dear Bruno.** (New York; The New York Press, 1988). In this letter to a friend's son who has just been diagnosed with cancer the author shares her own experiences with a tumor and offers a listening heart. Audience: Grades 3- 6.

46. Trull, P. **On With My Life** (NY; Putnam, 1983)

Diagnosed as having osteosarcoma at the age of fifteen and having her leg amputated as a result, the author relates her determination to overcome a potentially lethal disease, and her later experiences as a therapist to cancer patients in a children's hospital.

47. **Understanding Childhood Cancer**. CD. (Savage Knowledge Systems, 1998)

An interactive multimedia presentation primarily intended for the parents and families of children who have recently been diagnosed with cancer.

48. Warner, Sally. **Sort of Forever**. (Knopf, 1999) Twelve-year-olds Cady and Nana explore the strengths of their special friendship as they cope with Nana's cancer. Audience: 11 - 14

## VIDEOS

1. **I Have Something to Tell You: Living with Childhood Cancer**. (Atlanta, GA, AFLAC Cancer Center, 1997) Interviews with patients and family members provide insight into the feelings and reactions of young people affected by cancer.

2. **Kids Tell Kids What It's Like ...When a Family Member Has Cancer** (Cancervive) video; 30 mins.

3. **Living With Cancer: What it Means To Teens**. (Ashley Foundation, 2005. DVD)

4. **Fred. Mister Rogers Talks with Parents About Childhood Cancer**. (Atlanta, GA; American Cancer Society, 1989)

5. Rogers, Fred. **Mister Rogers Talks About Childhood Cancer**. (American Cancer Society, 1988)

Both the above programs introduce themes, such as feelings of anger, fear, sadness, and guilt that are common, natural, and normal for children who have cancer. These can be healthy ways to express even the most difficult feelings by talking, drawing, and playing.

6. **Something So Big: Teenagers and Cancer**. (Toronto, CA; The Caber Production Company, 1995) Cancer patients, ranging in age from 13-20, describe their diagnosis, treatment, and return to school in interviews conducted in hospitals, homes, and community. Audience: young adults