



PEANUT ALLERGY

A 3-IN-1 MEDICAL REFERENCE

Medical Dictionary

Bibliography &

Annotated Research Guide

TO INTERNET REFERENCES

PEANUT ALLERGY

A MEDICAL DICTIONARY, BIBLIOGRAPHY,
AND ANNOTATED RESEARCH GUIDE TO
INTERNET REFERENCES



JAMES N. PARKER, M.D.
AND PHILIP M. PARKER, PH.D., EDITORS

ICON Health Publications
ICON Group International, Inc.
4370 La Jolla Village Drive, 4th Floor
San Diego, CA 92122 USA

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The collective knowledge generated from academic and applied research summarized in various references has been critical in the creation of this book which is best viewed as a comprehensive compilation and collection of information prepared by various official agencies which produce publications on peanut allergy. Books in this series draw from various agencies and institutions associated with the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and in particular, the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services (OS), the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), the Administration on Aging (AOA), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Healthcare Financing Administration (HCFA), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Indian Health Service (IHS), the institutions of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Program Support Center (PSC), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). In addition to these sources, information gathered from the National Library of Medicine, the United States Patent Office, the European Union, and their related organizations has been invaluable in the creation of this book. Some of the work represented was financially supported by the Research and Development Committee at INSEAD. This support is gratefully acknowledged. Finally, special thanks are owed to Tiffany Freeman for her excellent editorial support.

About the Editors

James N. Parker, M.D.

Dr. James N. Parker received his Bachelor of Science degree in Psychobiology from the University of California, Riverside and his M.D. from the University of California, San Diego. In addition to authoring numerous research publications, he has lectured at various academic institutions. Dr. Parker is the medical editor for health books by ICON Health Publications.

Philip M. Parker, Ph.D.

Philip M. Parker is the Eli Lilly Chair Professor of Innovation, Business and Society at INSEAD (Fontainebleau, France and Singapore). Dr. Parker has also been Professor at the University of California, San Diego and has taught courses at Harvard University, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, and UCLA. Dr. Parker is the associate editor for ICON Health Publications.

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ICON Group International, Inc.
4370 La Jolla Village Drive, Fourth Floor
San Diego, CA 92122 USA
Fax: 858-546-4341
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FORWARD

In March 2001, the National Institutes of Health issued the following warning: "The number of Web sites offering health-related resources grows every day. Many sites provide valuable information, while others may have information that is unreliable or misleading."¹ Furthermore, because of the rapid increase in Internet-based information, many hours can be wasted searching, selecting, and printing. Since only the smallest fraction of information dealing with peanut allergy is indexed in search engines, such as **www.google.com** or others, a non-systematic approach to Internet research can be not only time consuming, but also incomplete. This book was created for medical professionals, students, and members of the general public who want to know as much as possible about peanut allergy, using the most advanced research tools available and spending the least amount of time doing so.

In addition to offering a structured and comprehensive bibliography, the pages that follow will tell you where and how to find reliable information covering virtually all topics related to peanut allergy, from the essentials to the most advanced areas of research. Public, academic, government, and peer-reviewed research studies are emphasized. Various abstracts are reproduced to give you some of the latest official information available to date on peanut allergy. Abundant guidance is given on how to obtain free-of-charge primary research results via the Internet. **While this book focuses on the field of medicine, when some sources provide access to non-medical information relating to peanut allergy, these are noted in the text.**

E-book and electronic versions of this book are fully interactive with each of the Internet sites mentioned (clicking on a hyperlink automatically opens your browser to the site indicated). If you are using the hard copy version of this book, you can access a cited Web site by typing the provided Web address directly into your Internet browser. You may find it useful to refer to synonyms or related terms when accessing these Internet databases. **NOTE:** At the time of publication, the Web addresses were functional. However, some links may fail due to URL address changes, which is a common occurrence on the Internet.

For readers unfamiliar with the Internet, detailed instructions are offered on how to access electronic resources. For readers unfamiliar with medical terminology, a comprehensive glossary is provided. For readers without access to Internet resources, a directory of medical libraries, that have or can locate references cited here, is given. We hope these resources will prove useful to the widest possible audience seeking information on peanut allergy.

The Editors

¹ From the NIH, National Cancer Institute (NCI): <http://www.cancer.gov/cancerinfo/ten-things-to-know>.

CHAPTER 1. STUDIES ON PEANUT ALLERGY

Overview

In this chapter, we will show you how to locate peer-reviewed references and studies on peanut allergy.

Federally Funded Research on Peanut Allergy

The U.S. Government supports a variety of research studies relating to peanut allergy. These studies are tracked by the Office of Extramural Research at the National Institutes of Health.² CRISP (Computerized Retrieval of Information on Scientific Projects) is a searchable database of federally funded biomedical research projects conducted at universities, hospitals, and other institutions.

Search the CRISP Web site at http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/crisp/crisp_query.generate_screen. You will have the option to perform targeted searches by various criteria, including geography, date, and topics related to peanut allergy.

For most of the studies, the agencies reporting into CRISP provide summaries or abstracts. As opposed to clinical trial research using patients, many federally funded studies use animals or simulated models to explore peanut allergy. The following is typical of the type of information found when searching the CRISP database for peanut allergy:

- **Project Title: ALLERGY PEPTIDE ARRAY**

Principal Investigator & Institution: Srinivasan, Anupama N.; Illumina, Inc. 9885 Towne Centre Dr San Diego, Ca 921211975

Timing: Fiscal Year 2004; Project Start 15-MAR-2004; Project End 14-MAR-2005

Summary: (provided by applicant): This proposal describes the application of a bead-based microarray platform for the rapid and simultaneous screening of multiple

² Healthcare projects are funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and Office of Assistant Secretary of Health (OASH).

allergies. With increasing costs of medical care, rapid tests, which allow multiplexed screening of disease conditions in many samples simultaneously, will be invaluable. Allergies will be screened using the same basic immunoassay format currently employed in allergy testing. The innovation lies in adapting existing solid-phase immunoassay methods to the Sentrix/Tm BeadArray/Tm platform and in multiplexing and miniaturizing the assays. In the R21 Phase, using **peanut allergy** as a model system for proof of concept, peptide microarrays will be developed for screening peanut allergen-specific IgE binding, using known peanut allergen peptide epitopes. The peptide microarray development will avail of the available ability to synthesize large numbers of different peptides in a short time. Chemistry techniques for conjugating peptides with paired encoding oligonucleotides to beads have been deduced and will be further optimized. The plan for the R33 Phase of this project is to develop methodology on the Sentrix platform to screen multiple food allergies at the same time, including cow's milk, peanut, egg white and soy. Optimization of the multiplexed food allergies will be done to ensure quantitative assays with high reproducibility, precision and accuracy.

Website: http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/crisp/Crisp_Query.Generate_Screen

- **Project Title: EFFECT OF CHINESE HERBAL MEDICINE ON FOOD ALLERGY**

Principal Investigator & Institution: Li, Xiu-Min; Pediatrics; Mount Sinai School of Medicine of Nyu of New York University New York, Ny 10029

Timing: Fiscal Year 2004; Project Start 01-JAN-2004; Project End 31-DEC-2007

Summary: (provided by applicant): **Peanut allergy** (PNA) is one of the major causes of fatal and near fatal food induced-anaphylactic reactions and at this time there is no definitive therapy. The need to develop treatments for PNA and other food allergies is urgent and challenging. Traditional Chinese Medicine, one of the oldest medical practices in the world, has benefited patients for thousands of years in China and herbal medicines have been suggested as potential herbal interventions for treating allergic disorders. Previous studies showed that Food Allergy Herbal Formula (FAHF)-I blocked systemic anaphylactic symptoms and histamine release, reduced mast cell degranulation, PN-specific serum IgE and Th2 cytokine secretion, and had no toxic effects on liver or kidney functions in a murine model of PNA, all of which could be of benefit to peanut allergic patients. Thus, the overall goals of this project are to further investigate Chinese herbal medicine for treating food allergy and to explore the mechanisms of its effects by pursuing three specific aims. Studies in Aim # 1 will minimize the number of herbs in FAHF-1 (11 herbs) in order to generate a simplified formula (sFHAF) to increase ease of standardization and safety profiles of the herbal product. One newly developed sFAHF (FAHF-2) containing 9 herbs shows therapeutic efficacy equivalent to that of FAHF-1 in the mouse model of PNA. Further reduction in the number of herbs in FAHF-2 will be carried out based upon preliminary data on the effects of the individual herbs in FAHF-2 to determine if sFAHF containing 1 to 3 herbs will have therapeutic effects comparable to FAHF-2. If a simplified formula is equivalent, more rigorous standardization methods will be performed to effectively monitor the quality of herbal product, as well as safety assessment. Aim#2 will determine the effects of sFHAF tested in Aim#1 on murine T cells including Th1, Th2 and Th3 cells and on human T cells and basophils from peanut allergic patients. In Aim #3, Phase I and II clinical studies will be initiated to evaluate the safety and efficacy of the sFHAF in human PNA. These clinical studies will be double blind, randomized, placebo controlled and multiple dose trials in peanut allergic patients. Accomplishing these aims will be of fundamental importance in validating the possible clinical

usefulness of Chinese herbal medicine in PNA, and understanding the mechanisms of actions. These studies may lead to a novel approach for treating PNA, and other IgE mediated food allergies.

Website: http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/crisp/Crisp_Query.Generate_Screen

- **Project Title: GENETIC BASIS OF PEANUT ALLERGY**

Principal Investigator & Institution: Sicherer, Scott H.; Pediatrics; Mount Sinai School of Medicine of Nyu of New York University New York, Ny 10029

Timing: Fiscal Year 2002; Project Start 01-JUL-2000; Project End 30-JUN-2005

Summary: This application is designed to provide Scott H. Sicherer, MD with a program of mentored, patient-oriented research that will facilitate his development as an independent physician scientist. Dr. Sicherer completed his residency and chief residency in pediatrics, his fellowship in allergy and immunology and he has been Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Mount Sinai School of Medicine since July, 1997. During the latter portion of his fellowship training and as faculty, he has concentrated his research efforts on the clinical manifestations of food allergy, particularly **peanut allergy**. He has amassed clinical data on a large group of peanut-allergic patients including preliminary data to indicate a genetic influence on **peanut allergy**. This award would allow him the unique opportunity to acquire cross- training in genetics while pursuing a multidisciplinary, patient- oriented research project to dissect the genetic basis of **peanut allergy**. Allergy to peanut affects 0.6 percent of the general population, is responsible for the majority of severe, life-threatening food allergic reactions, and sensitivity is rarely outgrown. Because peanut is ubiquitous in the American diet, sensitization among susceptible individuals is the rule and accidental ingestions among allergic individuals is common. Despite the seriousness of the allergy, little is known about the genetic basis of this or any other food allergy. This proposal will test the hypothesis that **peanut allergy** is a complex genetic disease. Several approaches will be taken to test the hypothesis: 1) The heritability of **peanut allergy** will be determined by comparing the concordance rate of the allergy in mono- and dizygotic twin pairs; 2) Since HLA class II molecules are an attractive candidate as one determinant for **peanut allergy**, serotyping will be performed and genotype frequencies compared for evidence of association in families with affected probands; and 3) a genome- wide search will be performed on families with two affected siblings using highly polymorphic markers that systematically cover the entire genome and the data analyzed for linkage to major loci contributing to **peanut allergy**. Dr. Sicherer will be supported in his endeavors with protected research time, access to the General Clinical Research Center and institutional core facilities, and dedicated laboratory space. His development will be fostered by the serious commitment of his mentors to guide him in the proposed studies and in the responsible conduct of research, and by the outstanding research and intellectual environment at Mount Sinai.

Website: http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/crisp/Crisp_Query.Generate_Screen

- **Project Title: IMMUNOMODULATION OF FOOD ALLERGY BY DNA BASED IMMUNITY**

Principal Investigator & Institution: Sampson, Hugh A.; Professor; Pediatrics; Mount Sinai School of Medicine of Nyu of New York University New York, Ny 10029

Timing: Fiscal Year 2002; Project Start 01-MAY-1998; Project End 30-APR-2004

Summary: (Adapted from Investigator's abstract): Recent studies indicate that food allergy is the leading cause of anaphylaxis treated in American hospital emergency

departments, and it is estimated that about 100 deaths occur each year in the US due to food-induced anaphylaxis. **Peanut allergy** accounts for the majority of these severe anaphylactic reactions. Given the lifelong nature of **peanut allergy**, these findings highlight the need for novel and effective therapeutic strategies. DNA-based immunization has been an attractive approach in altering the host immune response to antigen (Ag). Recently, the efficacy of intramuscular DNA-based immunization approach in the suppression of IgE synthesis and Th2- associated immune responses has been suggested. The proposed study is directly aimed at determining the immunologic basis of gene immunization, and exploring the utility of this approach in modulating peanut allergen-induced hypersensitivity. The model for this study is hypersensitivity to peanut allergens in an inbred strain of mice (C3H), in which several quantitative parameters of hypersensitivity, including symptom score, the levels of serum specific IgE, plasma histamine, and mast cell degranulation are established. Ara h 2 (17kD) is a major allergen in peanuts, and the T- cell response to Ara h2 appears to be dominant and common in both humans and sensitized C3 mice. In this application, the investigators propose to: (i) generate Ara h2-gene expression constructs, (ii) identify critical Ag-presenting cells; (iii) determine the effects of DNA immunization on peanut allergen-induced IgE synthesis and hypersensitivity, and (iv) examine the modulatory mechanism of DNA-based immunization in peanut hypersensitivity.

Website: http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/crisp/Crisp_Query.Generate_Screen

- **Project Title: NATURAL HISTORY OF PEANUT PROTEIN ALLERGY**

Principal Investigator & Institution: Wood, Robert A.; Johns Hopkins University 3400 N Charles St Baltimore, Md 21218

Timing: Fiscal Year 2002

Summary: Patients with **peanut allergy** are typically advised that **peanut allergy** is severe and lifelong. The purpose of this study was to determine the number of children with **peanut allergy** who become tolerant of peanut later in life.

Website: http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/crisp/Crisp_Query.Generate_Screen

- **Project Title: REDEFINING THE MAJOR PEANUT ALLERGENS**

Principal Investigator & Institution: Dreskin, Stephen C.; Medicine; University of Colorado Hlth Sciences Ctr P.O. Box 6508, Grants and Contracts Aurora, Co 800450508

Timing: Fiscal Year 2003; Project Start 01-JUL-2003; Project End 31-DEC-2005

Summary: (provided by applicant): Allergic reactions to peanuts occur because susceptible individuals respond to exposure to peanuts by producing a plasma protein, IgE that binds to a high affinity receptor, FcepsilonRI on mast cells and basophils. This IgE can be cross-linked by specific allergens leading to activation of mast cells and basophils and subsequent allergic reactions. Three major peanut allergens have been described in detail based on their ability to bind IgE on Western blots and to interact with IgE in RAST-inhibition assays. These are Ara h1, Ara h2, and Ara h3. The degree to which these allergens contribute functionally to the activity in crude peanut extracts has never been documented. We propose to use in vitro functional assays to better define the major peanut allergens and will test our in vitro findings in vivo using a mouse model of **peanut allergy**. Our preliminary data suggests that most of our patients with hypersensitivity to peanuts react to Ara h2 at a 2 log or better sensitivity than to Ara h1. As part of this proposal, these observations will be correlated with independent analysis of these sera on immunoblot. We have further assessed the reactivity of our patients to Ara h1 and Ara h2 by quantitating the reactivity to purified proteins and comparing that

reactivity to the reactivity with crude peanut extracts. Based on our preliminary data, neither Ara h1 nor Ara h2 appear to be major functional allergens in 6 of 7 patients we have examined, whereas Ara h2 may be of great importance in one of seven patients. In a preliminary study, we have separated peanut proteins by anion exchange chromatography and find that a significant portion of the functional allergic activity chromatographs in fractions that do not contain Ara h1 or Ara h2. The contents of these fractions is unknown but will be analyzed by functional assays, 2d gels, mass spectroscopy, and IgE immunoblotting. Therefore, we propose to combine functional assays with standard immunoblotting techniques and the power of proteomics to define in molecular detail the peanut allergens quantitatively responsible for mast cell activation in patients with systemic reactions to peanuts. Employment of this approach to define novel, functional major allergens has the potential to completely change our thinking as to which peanut allergens are the most important in specific patients for allergic reactions.

Website: http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/crisp/Crisp_Query.Generate_Screen

E-Journals: PubMed Central³

PubMed Central (PMC) is a digital archive of life sciences journal literature developed and managed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) at the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM).⁴ Access to this growing archive of e-journals is free and unrestricted.⁵ To search, go to <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=Pmc>, and type "peanut allergy" (or synonyms) into the search box. This search gives you access to full-text articles. The following is a sample of items found for peanut allergy in the PubMed Central database:

- **Peanut allergy: a growing phenomenon.** by Burks W.; 2003 Apr 1;
<http://www.pubmedcentral.gov/articlerender.fcgi?tool=pmcentrez&artid=152593>
- **Peanut allergy: an overview.** by Al-Muhsen S, Clarke AE, Kagan RS.; 2003 May 13;
<http://www.pubmedcentral.gov/articlerender.fcgi?tool=pmcentrez&artid=154188>
- **Resolution of peanut allergy: case-control study.** by Hourihane JO, Roberts SA, Warner JO.; 1998 Apr 25;
<http://www.pubmedcentral.gov/articlerender.fcgi?tool=pmcentrez&artid=28527>

The National Library of Medicine: PubMed

One of the quickest and most comprehensive ways to find academic studies in both English and other languages is to use PubMed, maintained by the National Library of Medicine.⁶

³ Adapted from the National Library of Medicine: <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/about/intro.html>.

⁴ With PubMed Central, NCBI is taking the lead in preservation and maintenance of open access to electronic literature, just as NLM has done for decades with printed biomedical literature. PubMed Central aims to become a world-class library of the digital age.

⁵ The value of PubMed Central, in addition to its role as an archive, lies in the availability of data from diverse sources stored in a common format in a single repository. Many journals already have online publishing operations, and there is a growing tendency to publish material online only, to the exclusion of print.

⁶ PubMed was developed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) at the National Library of Medicine (NLM) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The PubMed database was developed in conjunction with publishers of biomedical literature as a search tool for accessing literature citations and linking to full-text

The advantage of PubMed over previously mentioned sources is that it covers a greater number of domestic and foreign references. It is also free to use. If the publisher has a Web site that offers full text of its journals, PubMed will provide links to that site, as well as to sites offering other related data. User registration, a subscription fee, or some other type of fee may be required to access the full text of articles in some journals.

To generate your own bibliography of studies dealing with peanut allergy, simply go to the PubMed Web site at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>. Type "peanut allergy" (or synonyms) into the search box, and click "Go." The following is the type of output you can expect from PubMed for peanut allergy (hyperlinks lead to article summaries):

- **20% of sufferers could outgrow peanut allergy.**
 Author(s): Marshall H.
 Source: Trends in Immunology. 2001 April; 22(4): 183.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=11274915

- **An evaluation of the sensitivity of subjects with peanut allergy to very low doses of peanut protein: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled food challenge study.**
 Author(s): Hourihane JO'B, Kilburn SA, Nordlee JA, Hefle SL, Taylor SL, Warner JO.
 Source: The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. 1997 November; 100(5): 596-600.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=9389287

- **Assessment of quality of life in children with peanut allergy.**
 Author(s): Avery NJ, King RM, Knight S, Hourihane JO.
 Source: Pediatric Allergy and Immunology : Official Publication of the European Society of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology. 2003 October; 14(5): 378-82.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=14641608

- **Clinical characteristics of peanut allergy.**
 Author(s): Hourihane JO, Kilburn SA, Dean P, Warner JO.
 Source: Clinical and Experimental Allergy : Journal of the British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology. 1997 June; 27(6): 634-9.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=9208183

- **Clinical practice. Peanut allergy.**
 Author(s): Sampson HA.
 Source: The New England Journal of Medicine. 2002 April 25; 346(17): 1294-9.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=11973367

- **Clinical update on peanut allergy.**
 Author(s): Sicherer SH.
 Source: *Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology* : Official Publication of the American College of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunology. 2002 April; 88(4): 350-61; Quiz 361-2, 394. Review.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=11991552
- **Cross-allergenicity of peanut and lupine: the risk of lupine allergy in patients allergic to peanuts.**
 Author(s): Moneret-Vautrin DA, Guerin L, Kanny G, Flabbee J, Fremont S, Morisset M.
 Source: *The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*. 1999 October; 104(4 Pt 1): 883-8.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=10518837
- **Educational program for children with peanut allergy.**
 Author(s): Rance P, Bidat E.
 Source: *Allerg Immunol (Paris)*. 2000 May; 32(5): 209-11.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=10900492
- **Effect of anti-IgE therapy in patients with peanut allergy.**
 Author(s): Leung DY, Sampson HA, Yunginger JW, Burks AW Jr, Schneider LC, Wortel CH, Davis FM, Hyun JD, Shanahan WR Jr; Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children Study Team.
 Source: *The New England Journal of Medicine*. 2003 March 13; 348(11): 986-93. Epub 2003 Mar 10.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=12637608
- **Factors associated with the development of peanut allergy in childhood.**
 Author(s): Lack G, Fox D, Northstone K, Golding J; Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children Study Team.
 Source: *The New England Journal of Medicine*. 2003 March 13; 348(11): 977-85. Epub 2003 Mar 10.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=12637607
- **Food allergen (peanut)-specific TH2 clones generated from the peripheral blood of a patient with peanut allergy.**
 Author(s): de Jong EC, Spanhaak S, Martens BP, Kapsenberg ML, Penninks AH, Wierenga EA.
 Source: *The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*. 1996 July; 98(1): 73-81.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=8765820

- **Genetics of peanut allergy: a twin study.**
Author(s): Sicherer SH, Furlong TJ, Maes HH, Desnick RJ, Sampson HA, Gelb BD.
Source: The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. 2000 July; 106(1 Pt 1): 53-6.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=10887305
- **HLA class II DRB1, DQB1 and DPB1 genotypic associations with peanut allergy: evidence from a family-based and case-control study.**
Author(s): Howell WM, Turner SJ, Hourihane JO, Dean TP, Warner JO.
Source: Clinical and Experimental Allergy : Journal of the British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology. 1998 February; 28(2): 156-62.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=9515587
- **Immunological responses in peanut allergy.**
Author(s): Dean TP.
Source: Clinical and Experimental Allergy : Journal of the British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology. 1998 January; 28(1): 7-9.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=9537783
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Source: *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*. 1998 January; 91(1): 59.
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Author(s): Hunter HH.
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Author(s): Hourihane JO.
Source: Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine. 1997; 90 Suppl 30: 40-4. Review.
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 Author(s): Hourihane JO.
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 Author(s): Emmett SE, Angus FJ, Fry JS, Lee PN.
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 Author(s): Kagan RS, Joseph L, Dufresne C, Gray-Donald K, Turnbull E, Pierre YS, Clarke AE.
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 Author(s): Hourihane JO.
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Author(s): Busse PJ, Nowak-Wegrzyn AH, Noone SA, Sampson HA, Sicherer SH.
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Author(s): Simonte SJ, Ma S, Mofidi S, Sicherer SH.
Source: The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. 2003 July; 112(1): 180-2.
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Author(s): Spergel JM, Beausoleil JL, Pawlowski NA.
Source: Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology : Official Publication of the American College of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunology. 2000 December; 85(6 Pt 1): 473-6.
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Author(s): Kelso JM.
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Author(s): David T.
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Author(s): Hourihane JO, Roberts SA, Warner JO.
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Author(s): Dorion BJ, Leung DY.
Source: Pediatric Allergy and Immunology : Official Publication of the European Society of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology. 1995 May; 6(2): 95-7.
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 Author(s): van Odijk J, Ahlstedt S, Bengtsson U, Hulthen L, Borres MP.
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 Author(s): Wensing M, Penninks AH, Hefle SL, Koppelman SJ, Bruijnzeel-Koomen CA, Knulst AC.
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- **The natural history of peanut allergy in young children and its association with serum peanut-specific IgE.**
 Author(s): Vander Leek TK, Liu AH, Stefanski K, Blacker B, Bock SA.
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 Author(s): Skolnick HS, Conover-Walker MK, Koerner CB, Sampson HA, Burks W, Wood RA.
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 Author(s): Bock SA, Atkins FM.
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 Author(s): Fleischer DM, Conover-Walker MK, Christie L, Burks AW, Wood RA.
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Author(s): Long A.
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- **The production of interferon-gamma in response to a major peanut allergy, Ara h II correlates with serum levels of IgE anti-Ara h II.**
Author(s): Dorion BJ, Burks AW, Harbeck R, Williams LW, Trumble A, Helm RM, Leung DY.
Source: The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. 1994 January; 93(1 Pt 1): 93-9.
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Author(s): Castells M, Boyce J.
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Author(s): Legendre C, Caillat-Zucman S, Samuel D, Morelon S, Bismuth H, Bach JF, Kreis H.
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- **Transference of peanut allergy through liver transplantation.**
Author(s): Trotter JF, Everson GT, Bock SA, Wachs M, Bak T, Kam I.
Source: Liver Transplantation : Official Publication of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases and the International Liver Transplantation Society. 2001 December; 7(12): 1088-9.
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Author(s): Oppenheimer JJ, Nelson HS, Bock SA, Christensen F, Leung DY.
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- **Two approaches to peanut allergy.**
Author(s): Metzger H.
Source: The New England Journal of Medicine. 2003 March 13; 348(11): 1046-8. Epub 2003 Mar 10.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=12637615
- **What should we be doing for children with peanut allergy?**
Author(s): Sampson HA.
Source: The Journal of Pediatrics. 2000 December; 137(6): 741.
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CHAPTER 2. NUTRITION AND PEANUT ALLERGY

Overview

In this chapter, we will show you how to find studies dedicated specifically to nutrition and peanut allergy.

Finding Nutrition Studies on Peanut Allergy

The National Institutes of Health's Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) offers a searchable bibliographic database called the IBIDS (International Bibliographic Information on Dietary Supplements; National Institutes of Health, Building 31, Room 1B29, 31 Center Drive, MSC 2086, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-2086, Tel: 301-435-2920, Fax: 301-480-1845, E-mail: ods@nih.gov). The IBIDS contains over 460,000 scientific citations and summaries about dietary supplements and nutrition as well as references to published international, scientific literature on dietary supplements such as vitamins, minerals, and botanicals.⁷ The IBIDS includes references and citations to both human and animal research studies.

As a service of the ODS, access to the IBIDS database is available free of charge at the following Web address: <http://ods.od.nih.gov/databases/ibids.html>. After entering the search area, you have three choices: (1) IBIDS Consumer Database, (2) Full IBIDS Database, or (3) Peer Reviewed Citations Only.

Now that you have selected a database, click on the "Advanced" tab. An advanced search allows you to retrieve up to 100 fully explained references in a comprehensive format. Type "peanut allergy" (or synonyms) into the search box, and click "Go." To narrow the search, you can also select the "Title" field.

⁷ Adapted from <http://ods.od.nih.gov>. IBIDS is produced by the Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) at the National Institutes of Health to assist the public, healthcare providers, educators, and researchers in locating credible, scientific information on dietary supplements. IBIDS was developed and will be maintained through an interagency partnership with the Food and Nutrition Information Center of the National Agricultural Library, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The following information is typical of that found when using the “Full IBIDS Database” to search for “peanut allergy” (or a synonym):

- **Immunogenetic analysis of the heavy chain variable regions of IgE from patients allergic to peanuts.**
Author(s): Tenovus Laboratory, Southampton University Hospitals, United Kingdom.
Source: Janezic, A Chapman, C J Snow, R E Hourihane, J O Warner, J O Stevenson, F K J-Allergy-Clin-Immunol. 1998 March; 101(3): 391-6 0091-6749
- **Oral gene delivery with chitosan--DNA nanoparticles generates immunologic protection in a murine model of peanut allergy.**
Author(s): Department of Biomedical Engineering, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland 21205, USA.
Source: Roy, K Mao, H Q Huang, S K Leong, K W Nat-Med. 1999 April; 5(4): 387-91 1078-8956

Federal Resources on Nutrition

In addition to the IBIDS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provide many sources of information on general nutrition and health. Recommended resources include:

- healthfinder®, HHS’s gateway to health information, including diet and nutrition: <http://www.healthfinder.gov/scripts/SearchContext.asp?topic=238&page=0>
- The United States Department of Agriculture’s Web site dedicated to nutrition information: www.nutrition.gov
- The Food and Drug Administration’s Web site for federal food safety information: www.foodsafety.gov
- The National Action Plan on Overweight and Obesity sponsored by the United States Surgeon General: <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/topics/obesity/>
- The Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition has an Internet site sponsored by the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services: <http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/>
- Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture: <http://www.usda.gov/cnpp/>
- Food and Nutrition Information Center, National Agricultural Library sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture: <http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/>
- Food and Nutrition Service sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns/>

Additional Web Resources

A number of additional Web sites offer encyclopedic information covering food and nutrition. The following is a representative sample:

- AOL: <http://search.aol.com/cat.adp?id=174&layer=&from=subcats>
- Family Village: http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu/med_nutrition.html

- Google: <http://directory.google.com/Top/Health/Nutrition/>
- Healthnotes: <http://www.healthnotes.com/>
- Open Directory Project: <http://dmoz.org/Health/Nutrition/>
- Yahoo.com: <http://dir.yahoo.com/Health/Nutrition/>
- WebMD® Health: <http://my.webmd.com/nutrition>
- WholeHealthMD.com: <http://www.wholehealthmd.com/reflib/0,1529,00.html>

CHAPTER 3. PERIODICALS AND NEWS ON PEANUT ALLERGY

Overview

In this chapter, we suggest a number of news sources and present various periodicals that cover peanut allergy.

News Services and Press Releases

One of the simplest ways of tracking press releases on peanut allergy is to search the news wires. In the following sample of sources, we will briefly describe how to access each service. These services only post recent news intended for public viewing.

PR Newswire

To access the PR Newswire archive, simply go to <http://www.prnewswire.com/>. Select your country. Type “peanut allergy” (or synonyms) into the search box. You will automatically receive information on relevant news releases posted within the last 30 days. The search results are shown by order of relevance.

Reuters Health

The Reuters’ Medical News and Health eLine databases can be very useful in exploring news archives relating to peanut allergy. While some of the listed articles are free to view, others are available for purchase for a nominal fee. To access this archive, go to <http://www.reutershealth.com/en/index.html> and search by “peanut allergy” (or synonyms). The following was recently listed in this archive for peanut allergy:

- **Vaccine to treat peanut allergy effective in mice; human trials planned**
Source: Reuters Industry Briefing
Date: July 10, 2003

- **Vaccine for peanut allergy effective in mice**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: July 10, 2003
- **Immune system offers clue to kicking peanut allergy**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: April 03, 2003
- **Creams with peanut oil up kids' peanut allergy risk**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: March 13, 2003
- **Hope for people with deadly peanut allergy**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: March 10, 2003
- **Anti-IgE therapy reduces sensitivity in patients with severe peanut allergy**
Source: Reuters Medical News
Date: March 10, 2003
- **Peanut allergy may be outgrown, but can return**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: December 02, 2002
- **Peanut allergy from playing cards a losing hand**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: September 12, 2002
- **Skin prick test and IgE assay improve screening for peanut allergy**
Source: Reuters Medical News
Date: July 30, 2002
- **Tanox reports positive phase II results for peanut allergy drug**
Source: Reuters Industry Briefing
Date: May 02, 2002
- **Tanox says court allows for independent development of peanut allergy drug**
Source: Reuters Industry Briefing
Date: October 11, 2001
- **Peanut allergy may resolve in some children**
Source: Reuters Medical News
Date: January 17, 2001
- **Oral vaccine protective in mouse model of peanut allergy**
Source: Reuters Medical News
Date: March 30, 1999
- **Experimental vaccine for peanut allergy**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: March 29, 1999
- **Peanut allergy often starts early**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: July 15, 1998
- **Some Grow Out Of Peanut Allergy**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: April 24, 1998

- **Peanut Allergy Transplanted with Liver**
Source: Reuters Health eLine
Date: September 18, 1997
- **Peanut Allergy Transmitted With Liver Transplant**
Source: Reuters Medical News
Date: September 18, 1997
- **Closing In On Sources Of Peanut Allergy**
Source: Reuters Medical News
Date: November 25, 1996

The NIH

Within MEDLINEplus, the NIH has made an agreement with the New York Times Syndicate, the AP News Service, and Reuters to deliver news that can be browsed by the public. Search news releases at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/alphaneews_a.html. MEDLINEplus allows you to browse across an alphabetical index. Or you can search by date at the following Web page: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/newsbydate.html>. Often, news items are indexed by MEDLINEplus within its search engine.

Business Wire

Business Wire is similar to PR Newswire. To access this archive, simply go to <http://www.businesswire.com/>. You can scan the news by industry category or company name.

Market Wire

Market Wire is more focused on technology than the other wires. To browse the latest press releases by topic, such as alternative medicine, biotechnology, fitness, healthcare, legal, nutrition, and pharmaceuticals, access Market Wire's Medical/Health channel at http://www.marketwire.com/mw/release_index?channel=MedicalHealth. Or simply go to Market Wire's home page at <http://www.marketwire.com/mw/home>, type "peanut allergy" (or synonyms) into the search box, and click on "Search News." As this service is technology oriented, you may wish to use it when searching for press releases covering diagnostic procedures or tests.

Search Engines

Medical news is also available in the news sections of commercial Internet search engines. See the health news page at Yahoo (http://dir.yahoo.com/Health/News_and_Media/), or you can use this Web site's general news search page at <http://news.yahoo.com/>. Type in "peanut allergy" (or synonyms). If you know the name of a company that is relevant to peanut allergy, you can go to any stock trading Web site (such as <http://www.etrade.com/>) and search for the company name there. News items across various news sources are reported on indicated hyperlinks. Google offers a similar service at <http://news.google.com/>.

BBC

Covering news from a more European perspective, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) allows the public free access to their news archive located at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>. Search by “peanut allergy” (or synonyms).

Academic Periodicals covering Peanut Allergy

Numerous periodicals are currently indexed within the National Library of Medicine’s PubMed database that are known to publish articles relating to peanut allergy. In addition to these sources, you can search for articles covering peanut allergy that have been published by any of the periodicals listed in previous chapters. To find the latest studies published, go to <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>, type the name of the periodical into the search box, and click “Go.”

If you want complete details about the historical contents of a journal, you can also visit the following Web site: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/jrbrowser.cgi>. Here, type in the name of the journal or its abbreviation, and you will receive an index of published articles. At <http://locatorplus.gov/>, you can retrieve more indexing information on medical periodicals (e.g. the name of the publisher). Select the button “Search LOCATORplus.” Then type in the name of the journal and select the advanced search option “Journal Title Search.”

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A. PHYSICIAN RESOURCES

Overview

In this chapter, we focus on databases and Internet-based guidelines and information resources created or written for a professional audience.

NIH Guidelines

Commonly referred to as “clinical” or “professional” guidelines, the National Institutes of Health publish physician guidelines for the most common diseases. Publications are available at the following by relevant Institute⁸:

- Office of the Director (OD); guidelines consolidated across agencies available at <http://www.nih.gov/health/consumer/conkey.htm>
- National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS); fact sheets available at <http://www.nigms.nih.gov/news/facts/>
- National Library of Medicine (NLM); extensive encyclopedia (A.D.A.M., Inc.) with guidelines: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/healthtopics.html>
- National Cancer Institute (NCI); guidelines available at <http://www.cancer.gov/cancerinfo/list.aspx?viewid=5f35036e-5497-4d86-8c2c-714a9f7c8d25>
- National Eye Institute (NEI); guidelines available at <http://www.nei.nih.gov/order/index.htm>
- National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI); guidelines available at <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/index.htm>
- National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI); research available at <http://www.genome.gov/page.cfm?pageID=10000375>
- National Institute on Aging (NIA); guidelines available at <http://www.nia.nih.gov/health/>

⁸ These publications are typically written by one or more of the various NIH Institutes.

- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA); guidelines available at <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/publications.htm>
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID); guidelines available at <http://www.niaid.nih.gov/publications/>
- National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS); fact sheets and guidelines available at <http://www.niams.nih.gov/hi/index.htm>
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD); guidelines available at <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/publications/pubskey.cfm>
- National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD); fact sheets and guidelines at <http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/>
- National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR); guidelines available at <http://www.nidr.nih.gov/health/>
- National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK); guidelines available at <http://www.niddk.nih.gov/health/health.htm>
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA); guidelines available at <http://www.nida.nih.gov/DrugAbuse.html>
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS); environmental health information available at <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/external/facts.htm>
- National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH); guidelines available at <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/practitioners/index.cfm>
- National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS); neurological disorder information pages available at http://www.ninds.nih.gov/health_and_medical/disorder_index.htm
- National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); publications on selected illnesses at <http://www.nih.gov/ninr/news-info/publications.html>
- National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering; general information at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/becon/becon_info.htm
- Center for Information Technology (CIT); referrals to other agencies based on keyword searches available at http://kb.nih.gov/www_query_main.asp
- National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM); health information available at <http://nccam.nih.gov/health/>
- National Center for Research Resources (NCRR); various information directories available at <http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/publications.asp>
- Office of Rare Diseases; various fact sheets available at http://rarediseases.info.nih.gov/html/resources/rep_pubs.html
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; various fact sheets on infectious diseases available at <http://www.cdc.gov/publications.htm>

NIH Databases

In addition to the various Institutes of Health that publish professional guidelines, the NIH has designed a number of databases for professionals.⁹ Physician-oriented resources provide a wide variety of information related to the biomedical and health sciences, both past and present. The format of these resources varies. Searchable databases, bibliographic citations, full-text articles (when available), archival collections, and images are all available. The following are referenced by the National Library of Medicine:¹⁰

- **Bioethics:** Access to published literature on the ethical, legal, and public policy issues surrounding healthcare and biomedical research. This information is provided in conjunction with the Kennedy Institute of Ethics located at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/databases_bioethics.html
- **HIV/AIDS Resources:** Describes various links and databases dedicated to HIV/AIDS research: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/aidsinfs.html>
- **NLM Online Exhibitions:** Describes “Exhibitions in the History of Medicine”: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/exhibition.html>. Additional resources for historical scholarship in medicine: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/hmd.html>
- **Biotechnology Information:** Access to public databases. The National Center for Biotechnology Information conducts research in computational biology, develops software tools for analyzing genome data, and disseminates biomedical information for the better understanding of molecular processes affecting human health and disease: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>
- **Population Information:** The National Library of Medicine provides access to worldwide coverage of population, family planning, and related health issues, including family planning technology and programs, fertility, and population law and policy: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/databases_population.html
- **Cancer Information:** Access to cancer-oriented databases: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/databases_cancer.html
- **Profiles in Science:** Offering the archival collections of prominent twentieth-century biomedical scientists to the public through modern digital technology: <http://www.profiles.nlm.nih.gov/>
- **Chemical Information:** Provides links to various chemical databases and references: <http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/Chem/ChemMain.html>
- **Clinical Alerts:** Reports the release of findings from the NIH-funded clinical trials where such release could significantly affect morbidity and mortality: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/alerts/clinical_alerts.html
- **Space Life Sciences:** Provides links and information to space-based research (including NASA): http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/databases_space.html
- **MEDLINE:** Bibliographic database covering the fields of medicine, nursing, dentistry, veterinary medicine, the healthcare system, and the pre-clinical sciences: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/databases_medline.html

⁹ Remember, for the general public, the National Library of Medicine recommends the databases referenced in MEDLINEplus (<http://medlineplus.gov/> or <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/databases.html>).

¹⁰ See <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/databases.html>.

- **Toxicology and Environmental Health Information (TOXNET):** Databases covering toxicology and environmental health: <http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/Tox/ToxMain.html>
- **Visible Human Interface:** Anatomically detailed, three-dimensional representations of normal male and female human bodies:
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/visible/visible_human.html

The NLM Gateway¹¹

The NLM (National Library of Medicine) Gateway is a Web-based system that lets users search simultaneously in multiple retrieval systems at the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM). It allows users of NLM services to initiate searches from one Web interface, providing one-stop searching for many of NLM's information resources or databases.¹² To use the NLM Gateway, simply go to the search site at <http://gateway.nlm.nih.gov/gw/Cmd>. Type "peanut allergy" (or synonyms) into the search box and click "Search." The results will be presented in a tabular form, indicating the number of references in each database category.

Results Summary

Category	Items Found
Journal Articles	225
Books / Periodicals / Audio Visual	1
Consumer Health	571
Meeting Abstracts	0
Other Collections	0
Total	797

HSTAT¹³

HSTAT is a free, Web-based resource that provides access to full-text documents used in healthcare decision-making.¹⁴ These documents include clinical practice guidelines, quick-reference guides for clinicians, consumer health brochures, evidence reports and technology assessments from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), as well as AHRQ's Put Prevention Into Practice.¹⁵ Simply search by "peanut allergy" (or synonyms) at the following Web site: <http://text.nlm.nih.gov>.

¹¹ Adapted from NLM: <http://gateway.nlm.nih.gov/gw/Cmd?Overview.x>.

¹² The NLM Gateway is currently being developed by the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications (LHNCBC) at the National Library of Medicine (NLM) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

¹³ Adapted from HSTAT: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/hstat.html>.

¹⁴ The HSTAT URL is <http://hstat.nlm.nih.gov/>.

¹⁵ Other important documents in HSTAT include: the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Consensus Conference Reports and Technology Assessment Reports; the HIV/AIDS Treatment Information Service (ATIS) resource documents; the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (SAMHSA/CSAT) Treatment Improvement Protocols (TIP) and Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (SAMHSA/CSAP) Prevention Enhancement Protocols System (PEPS); the Public Health Service (PHS) Preventive Services Task Force's *Guide to Clinical Preventive Services*; the independent, nonfederal Task Force on Community Services' *Guide to Community Preventive Services*; and the Health Technology Advisory Committee (HTAC) of the Minnesota Health Care Commission (MHCC) health technology evaluations.

Coffee Break: Tutorials for Biologists¹⁶

Coffee Break is a general healthcare site that takes a scientific view of the news and covers recent breakthroughs in biology that may one day assist physicians in developing treatments. Here you will find a collection of short reports on recent biological discoveries. Each report incorporates interactive tutorials that demonstrate how bioinformatics tools are used as a part of the research process. Currently, all Coffee Breaks are written by NCBI staff.¹⁷ Each report is about 400 words and is usually based on a discovery reported in one or more articles from recently published, peer-reviewed literature.¹⁸ This site has new articles every few weeks, so it can be considered an online magazine of sorts. It is intended for general background information. You can access the Coffee Break Web site at the following hyperlink: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Coffeekbreak/>.

Other Commercial Databases

In addition to resources maintained by official agencies, other databases exist that are commercial ventures addressing medical professionals. Here are some examples that may interest you:

- **CliniWeb International:** Index and table of contents to selected clinical information on the Internet; see <http://www.ohsu.edu/clinweb/>.
- **Medical World Search:** Searches full text from thousands of selected medical sites on the Internet; see <http://www.mwsearch.com/>.

¹⁶ Adapted from <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Coffeekbreak/Archive/FAQ.html>.

¹⁷ The figure that accompanies each article is frequently supplied by an expert external to NCBI, in which case the source of the figure is cited. The result is an interactive tutorial that tells a biological story.

¹⁸ After a brief introduction that sets the work described into a broader context, the report focuses on how a molecular understanding can provide explanations of observed biology and lead to therapies for diseases. Each vignette is accompanied by a figure and hypertext links that lead to a series of pages that interactively show how NCBI tools and resources are used in the research process.

APPENDIX B. PATIENT RESOURCES

Overview

Official agencies, as well as federally funded institutions supported by national grants, frequently publish a variety of guidelines written with the patient in mind. These are typically called “Fact Sheets” or “Guidelines.” They can take the form of a brochure, information kit, pamphlet, or flyer. Often they are only a few pages in length. Since new guidelines on peanut allergy can appear at any moment and be published by a number of sources, the best approach to finding guidelines is to systematically scan the Internet-based services that post them.

Patient Guideline Sources

The remainder of this chapter directs you to sources which either publish or can help you find additional guidelines on topics related to peanut allergy. Due to space limitations, these sources are listed in a concise manner. Do not hesitate to consult the following sources by either using the Internet hyperlink provided, or, in cases where the contact information is provided, contacting the publisher or author directly.

The National Institutes of Health

The NIH gateway to patients is located at <http://health.nih.gov/>. From this site, you can search across various sources and institutes, a number of which are summarized below.

Topic Pages: MEDLINEplus

The National Library of Medicine has created a vast and patient-oriented healthcare information portal called MEDLINEplus. Within this Internet-based system are “health topic pages” which list links to available materials relevant to peanut allergy. To access this system, log on to <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/healthtopics.html>. From there you can either search using the alphabetical index or browse by broad topic areas. Recently, MEDLINEplus listed the following when searched for “peanut allergy”:

Asthma in Children

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/asthmainchildren.html>

Drug and Medical Device Safety

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/drugandmedicaldevicesafety.html>

Food Allergy

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/foodallergy.html>

Food Safety

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/foodsafety.html>

Infant and Toddler Nutrition

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/infantandtoddlernutrition.html>

Latex Allergy

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/latexallergy.html>

You may also choose to use the search utility provided by MEDLINEplus at the following Web address: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/>. Simply type a keyword into the search box and click "Search." This utility is similar to the NIH search utility, with the exception that it only includes materials that are linked within the MEDLINEplus system (mostly patient-oriented information). It also has the disadvantage of generating unstructured results. We recommend, therefore, that you use this method only if you have a very targeted search.

The Combined Health Information Database (CHID)

CHID Online is a reference tool that maintains a database directory of thousands of journal articles and patient education guidelines on peanut allergy. CHID offers summaries that describe the guidelines available, including contact information and pricing. CHID's general Web site is <http://chid.nih.gov/>. To search this database, go to <http://chid.nih.gov/detail/detail.html>. In particular, you can use the advanced search options to look up pamphlets, reports, brochures, and information kits. The following was recently posted in this archive:

- **Commonly Asked Questions About Food Allergies**

Source: Fairfax, VA: Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network. 2000. 16 p.

Contact: Available from Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN). 10400 Eaton Place, Suite 107, Fairfax, VA 22030-2208. (800) 929-4040. Fax (703) 691-2713. E-mail: faan@foodallergy.org. Website: www.foodallergy.org. PRICE: \$5.00 plus shipping and handling.

Summary: A food allergy is the immune system's abnormal response to a food; these allergies occur in 1 to 3 percent of school children. While any food potentially can cause a food allergy, the few foods that are responsible for most food allergic reactions in children include eggs, cow milk, peanuts, soy, wheat, fish, shellfish, and tree nuts. This booklet answers common questions about food allergies. The booklet defines adverse food reactions, then discusses the differences between food allergy and food intolerance, the common food allergies in children, the diagnostic tests used to confirm food allergies, treatment options, the likelihood of outgrowing food allergies, the serious nature of **peanut allergy**, oral allergy syndrome, the symptoms of food allergy, cooking strategies, food labeling, and how to obtain help in coping with food allergies. The

booklet concludes with a glossary of related terms, a list of additional sources of information, including the Food Allergy Network, and organizations through which readers can locate a board certified allergist or a catalog of allergy free foods.

The NIH Search Utility

The NIH search utility allows you to search for documents on over 100 selected Web sites that comprise the NIH-WEB-SPACE. Each of these servers is “crawled” and indexed on an ongoing basis. Your search will produce a list of various documents, all of which will relate in some way to peanut allergy. The drawbacks of this approach are that the information is not organized by theme and that the references are often a mix of information for professionals and patients. Nevertheless, a large number of the listed Web sites provide useful background information. We can only recommend this route, therefore, for relatively rare or specific disorders, or when using highly targeted searches. To use the NIH search utility, visit the following Web page: <http://search.nih.gov/index.html>.

Additional Web Sources

A number of Web sites are available to the public that often link to government sites. These can also point you in the direction of essential information. The following is a representative sample:

- AOL: <http://search.aol.com/cat.adp?id=168&layer=&from=subcats>
- Family Village: <http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu/specific.htm>
- Google: http://directory.google.com/Top/Health/Conditions_and_Diseases/
- Med Help International: <http://www.medhelp.org/HealthTopics/A.html>
- Open Directory Project: http://dmoz.org/Health/Conditions_and_Diseases/
- Yahoo.com: http://dir.yahoo.com/Health/Diseases_and_Conditions/
- WebMD®Health: http://my.webmd.com/health_topics

Finding Associations

There are several Internet directories that provide lists of medical associations with information on or resources relating to peanut allergy. By consulting all of associations listed in this chapter, you will have nearly exhausted all sources for patient associations concerned with peanut allergy.

The National Health Information Center (NHIC)

The National Health Information Center (NHIC) offers a free referral service to help people find organizations that provide information about peanut allergy. For more information, see the NHIC’s Web site at <http://www.health.gov/NHIC/> or contact an information specialist by calling 1-800-336-4797.

Directory of Health Organizations

The Directory of Health Organizations, provided by the National Library of Medicine Specialized Information Services, is a comprehensive source of information on associations. The Directory of Health Organizations database can be accessed via the Internet at <http://www.sis.nlm.nih.gov/Dir/DirMain.html>. It is composed of two parts: DIRLINE and Health Hotlines.

The DIRLINE database comprises some 10,000 records of organizations, research centers, and government institutes and associations that primarily focus on health and biomedicine. To access DIRLINE directly, go to the following Web site: <http://dirline.nlm.nih.gov/>. Simply type in "peanut allergy" (or a synonym), and you will receive information on all relevant organizations listed in the database.

Health Hotlines directs you to toll-free numbers to over 300 organizations. You can access this database directly at <http://www.sis.nlm.nih.gov/hotlines/>. On this page, you are given the option to search by keyword or by browsing the subject list. When you have received your search results, click on the name of the organization for its description and contact information.

The Combined Health Information Database

Another comprehensive source of information on healthcare associations is the Combined Health Information Database. Using the "Detailed Search" option, you will need to limit your search to "Organizations" and "peanut allergy". Type the following hyperlink into your Web browser: <http://chid.nih.gov/detail/detail.html>. To find associations, use the drop boxes at the bottom of the search page where "You may refine your search by." For publication date, select "All Years." Then, select your preferred language and the format option "Organization Resource Sheet." Type "peanut allergy" (or synonyms) into the "For these words:" box. You should check back periodically with this database since it is updated every three months.

The National Organization for Rare Disorders, Inc.

The National Organization for Rare Disorders, Inc. has prepared a Web site that provides, at no charge, lists of associations organized by health topic. You can access this database at the following Web site: <http://www.rarediseases.org/search/orgsearch.html>. Type "peanut allergy" (or a synonym) into the search box, and click "Submit Query."

APPENDIX C. FINDING MEDICAL LIBRARIES

Overview

In this Appendix, we show you how to quickly find a medical library in your area.

Preparation

Your local public library and medical libraries have interlibrary loan programs with the National Library of Medicine (NLM), one of the largest medical collections in the world. According to the NLM, most of the literature in the general and historical collections of the National Library of Medicine is available on interlibrary loan to any library. If you would like to access NLM medical literature, then visit a library in your area that can request the publications for you.¹⁹

Finding a Local Medical Library

The quickest method to locate medical libraries is to use the Internet-based directory published by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM). This network includes 4626 members and affiliates that provide many services to librarians, health professionals, and the public. To find a library in your area, simply visit <http://nmlm.gov/members/adv.html> or call 1-800-338-7657.

Medical Libraries in the U.S. and Canada

In addition to the NN/LM, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) lists a number of libraries with reference facilities that are open to the public. The following is the NLM's list and includes hyperlinks to each library's Web site. These Web pages can provide information on hours of operation and other restrictions. The list below is a small sample of

¹⁹ Adapted from the NLM: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/psd/cas/interlibrary.html>.

libraries recommended by the National Library of Medicine (sorted alphabetically by name of the U.S. state or Canadian province where the library is located)²⁰:

- **Alabama:** Health InfoNet of Jefferson County (Jefferson County Library Cooperative, Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences), <http://www.uab.edu/infonet/>
- **Alabama:** Richard M. Scrushy Library (American Sports Medicine Institute)
- **Arizona:** Samaritan Regional Medical Center: The Learning Center (Samaritan Health System, Phoenix, Arizona), <http://www.samaritan.edu/library/bannerlibs.htm>
- **California:** Kris Kelly Health Information Center (St. Joseph Health System, Humboldt), <http://www.humboldt1.com/~kkhic/index.html>
- **California:** Community Health Library of Los Gatos, <http://www.healthlib.org/orgresources.html>
- **California:** Consumer Health Program and Services (CHIPS) (County of Los Angeles Public Library, Los Angeles County Harbor-UCLA Medical Center Library) - Carson, CA, <http://www.colapublib.org/services/chips.html>
- **California:** Gateway Health Library (Sutter Gould Medical Foundation)
- **California:** Health Library (Stanford University Medical Center), <http://www-med.stanford.edu/healthlibrary/>
- **California:** Patient Education Resource Center - Health Information and Resources (University of California, San Francisco), <http://sfguide.ucsf.edu/barnett/PERC/default.asp>
- **California:** Redwood Health Library (Petaluma Health Care District), <http://www.phcd.org/rdwdlib.html>
- **California:** Los Gatos PlaneTree Health Library, <http://planetreesanjose.org/>
- **California:** Sutter Resource Library (Sutter Hospitals Foundation, Sacramento), <http://suttermedicalcenter.org/library/>
- **California:** Health Sciences Libraries (University of California, Davis), <http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/healthsci/>
- **California:** ValleyCare Health Library & Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center (ValleyCare Health System, Pleasanton), <http://gaenet.stmarys-ca.edu/other.libs/gbal/east/vchl.html>
- **California:** Washington Community Health Resource Library (Fremont), <http://www.healthlibrary.org/>
- **Colorado:** William V. Gervasini Memorial Library (Exempla Healthcare), <http://www.saintjosephdenver.org/yourhealth/libraries/>
- **Connecticut:** Hartford Hospital Health Science Libraries (Hartford Hospital), <http://www.harthosp.org/library/>
- **Connecticut:** Healthnet: Connecticut Consumer Health Information Center (University of Connecticut Health Center, Lyman Maynard Stowe Library), <http://library.uchc.edu/departm/hnet/>

²⁰ Abstracted from <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/libraries.html>.

- **Connecticut:** Waterbury Hospital Health Center Library (Waterbury Hospital, Waterbury), <http://www.waterburyhospital.com/library/consumer.shtml>
- **Delaware:** Consumer Health Library (Christiana Care Health System, Eugene du Pont Preventive Medicine & Rehabilitation Institute, Wilmington), http://www.christianacare.org/health_guide/health_guide_pmri_health_info.cfm
- **Delaware:** Lewis B. Flinn Library (Delaware Academy of Medicine, Wilmington), <http://www.delamed.org/chls.html>
- **Georgia:** Family Resource Library (Medical College of Georgia, Augusta), http://cmc.mcg.edu/kids_families/fam_resources/fam_res_lib/frl.htm
- **Georgia:** Health Resource Center (Medical Center of Central Georgia, Macon), <http://www.mccg.org/hrc/hrchome.asp>
- **Hawaii:** Hawaii Medical Library: Consumer Health Information Service (Hawaii Medical Library, Honolulu), <http://hml.org/CHIS/>
- **Idaho:** DeArmond Consumer Health Library (Kootenai Medical Center, Coeur d'Alene), <http://www.nicon.org/DeArmond/index.htm>
- **Illinois:** Health Learning Center of Northwestern Memorial Hospital (Chicago), http://www.nmh.org/health_info/hlc.html
- **Illinois:** Medical Library (OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, Peoria), <http://www.osfsaintfrancis.org/general/library/>
- **Kentucky:** Medical Library - Services for Patients, Families, Students & the Public (Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington), <http://www.centralbap.com/education/community/library.cfm>
- **Kentucky:** University of Kentucky - Health Information Library (Chandler Medical Center, Lexington), <http://www.mc.uky.edu/PatientEd/>
- **Louisiana:** Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation Library (Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation, New Orleans), <http://www.ochsner.org/library/>
- **Louisiana:** Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Medical Library-Shreveport, <http://lib-sh.lsuhscc.edu/>
- **Maine:** Franklin Memorial Hospital Medical Library (Franklin Memorial Hospital, Farmington), <http://www.fchn.org/fmh/lib.htm>
- **Maine:** Gerrish-True Health Sciences Library (Central Maine Medical Center, Lewiston), <http://www.cmmc.org/library/library.html>
- **Maine:** Hadley Parrot Health Science Library (Eastern Maine Healthcare, Bangor), <http://www.emh.org/hll/hpl/guide.htm>
- **Maine:** Maine Medical Center Library (Maine Medical Center, Portland), <http://www.mmc.org/library/>
- **Maine:** Parkview Hospital (Brunswick), <http://www.parkviewhospital.org/>
- **Maine:** Southern Maine Medical Center Health Sciences Library (Southern Maine Medical Center, Biddeford), <http://www.smmc.org/services/service.php3?choice=10>
- **Maine:** Stephens Memorial Hospital's Health Information Library (Western Maine Health, Norway), <http://www.wmhcc.org/Library/>

- **Manitoba, Canada:** Consumer & Patient Health Information Service (University of Manitoba Libraries), <http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/health/reference/chis.html>
- **Manitoba, Canada:** J.W. Crane Memorial Library (Deer Lodge Centre, Winnipeg), http://www.deerlodge.mb.ca/crane_library/about.asp
- **Maryland:** Health Information Center at the Wheaton Regional Library (Montgomery County, Dept. of Public Libraries, Wheaton Regional Library), <http://www.mont.lib.md.us/healthinfo/hic.asp>
- **Massachusetts:** Baystate Medical Center Library (Baystate Health System), <http://www.baystatehealth.com/1024/>
- **Massachusetts:** Boston University Medical Center Alumni Medical Library (Boston University Medical Center), <http://med-libwww.bu.edu/library/lib.html>
- **Massachusetts:** Lowell General Hospital Health Sciences Library (Lowell General Hospital, Lowell), <http://www.lowellgeneral.org/library/HomePageLinks/WWW.htm>
- **Massachusetts:** Paul E. Woodard Health Sciences Library (New England Baptist Hospital, Boston), http://www.nebh.org/health_lib.asp
- **Massachusetts:** St. Luke's Hospital Health Sciences Library (St. Luke's Hospital, Southcoast Health System, New Bedford), <http://www.southcoast.org/library/>
- **Massachusetts:** Treadwell Library Consumer Health Reference Center (Massachusetts General Hospital), <http://www.mgh.harvard.edu/library/chrcindex.html>
- **Massachusetts:** UMass HealthNet (University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester), <http://healthnet.umassmed.edu/>
- **Michigan:** Botsford General Hospital Library - Consumer Health (Botsford General Hospital, Library & Internet Services), <http://www.botsfordlibrary.org/consumer.htm>
- **Michigan:** Helen DeRoy Medical Library (Providence Hospital and Medical Centers), <http://www.providence-hospital.org/library/>
- **Michigan:** Marquette General Hospital - Consumer Health Library (Marquette General Hospital, Health Information Center), <http://www.mgh.org/center.html>
- **Michigan:** Patient Education Resource Center - University of Michigan Cancer Center (University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, Ann Arbor), <http://www.cancer.med.umich.edu/learn/leares.htm>
- **Michigan:** Sladen Library & Center for Health Information Resources - Consumer Health Information (Detroit), <http://www.henryford.com/body.cfm?id=39330>
- **Montana:** Center for Health Information (St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center, Missoula)
- **National:** Consumer Health Library Directory (Medical Library Association, Consumer and Patient Health Information Section), <http://caphis.mlanet.org/directory/index.html>
- **National:** National Network of Libraries of Medicine (National Library of Medicine) - provides library services for health professionals in the United States who do not have access to a medical library, <http://nnlm.gov/>
- **National:** NN/LM List of Libraries Serving the Public (National Network of Libraries of Medicine), <http://nnlm.gov/members/>

- **Nevada:** Health Science Library, West Charleston Library (Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, Las Vegas), http://www.lvcld.org/special_collections/medical/index.htm
- **New Hampshire:** Dartmouth Biomedical Libraries (Dartmouth College Library, Hanover), http://www.dartmouth.edu/~biomed/resources.html#conshealth.html#
- **New Jersey:** Consumer Health Library (Rahway Hospital, Rahway), <http://www.rahwayhospital.com/library.htm>
- **New Jersey:** Dr. Walter Phillips Health Sciences Library (Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, Englewood), <http://www.englewoodhospital.com/links/index.htm>
- **New Jersey:** Meland Foundation (Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, Englewood), <http://www.geocities.com/ResearchTriangle/9360/>
- **New York:** Choices in Health Information (New York Public Library) - NLM Consumer Pilot Project participant, <http://www.nypl.org/branch/health/links.html>
- **New York:** Health Information Center (Upstate Medical University, State University of New York, Syracuse), <http://www.upstate.edu/library/hic/>
- **New York:** Health Sciences Library (Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park), <http://www.lij.edu/library/library.html>
- **New York:** ViaHealth Medical Library (Rochester General Hospital), <http://www.nyam.org/library/>
- **Ohio:** Consumer Health Library (Akron General Medical Center, Medical & Consumer Health Library), <http://www.akrongeneral.org/hwlibrary.htm>
- **Oklahoma:** The Health Information Center at Saint Francis Hospital (Saint Francis Health System, Tulsa), <http://www.sfh-tulsa.com/services/healthinfo.asp>
- **Oregon:** Planetree Health Resource Center (Mid-Columbia Medical Center, The Dalles), <http://www.mcmc.net/phrc/>
- **Pennsylvania:** Community Health Information Library (Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Hershey), <http://www.hmc.psu.edu/commhealth/>
- **Pennsylvania:** Community Health Resource Library (Geisinger Medical Center, Danville), <http://www.geisinger.edu/education/commlib.shtml>
- **Pennsylvania:** HealthInfo Library (Moses Taylor Hospital, Scranton), <http://www.mth.org/healthwellness.html>
- **Pennsylvania:** Hopwood Library (University of Pittsburgh, Health Sciences Library System, Pittsburgh), http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/guides/chi/hopwood/index_html
- **Pennsylvania:** Koop Community Health Information Center (College of Physicians of Philadelphia), <http://www.collphyphil.org/kooppg1.shtml>
- **Pennsylvania:** Learning Resources Center - Medical Library (Susquehanna Health System, Williamsport), <http://www.shscars.org/services/lrc/index.asp>
- **Pennsylvania:** Medical Library (UPMC Health System, Pittsburgh), <http://www.upmc.edu/passavant/library.htm>
- **Quebec, Canada:** Medical Library (Montreal General Hospital), <http://www.mghlib.mcgill.ca/>

- **South Dakota:** Rapid City Regional Hospital Medical Library (Rapid City Regional Hospital), <http://www.rcrh.org/Services/Library/Default.asp>
- **Texas:** Houston HealthWays (Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library), <http://hhw.library.tmc.edu/>
- **Washington:** Community Health Library (Kittitas Valley Community Hospital), <http://www.kvch.com/>
- **Washington:** Southwest Washington Medical Center Library (Southwest Washington Medical Center, Vancouver), <http://www.swmedicalcenter.com/body.cfm?id=72>

ONLINE GLOSSARIES

The Internet provides access to a number of free-to-use medical dictionaries. The National Library of Medicine has compiled the following list of online dictionaries:

- ADAM Medical Encyclopedia (A.D.A.M., Inc.), comprehensive medical reference:
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/encyclopedia.html>
- MedicineNet.com Medical Dictionary (MedicineNet, Inc.):
<http://www.medterms.com/Script/Main/hp.asp>
- Merriam-Webster Medical Dictionary (Inteli-Health, Inc.):
<http://www.intelihealth.com/IH/>
- Multilingual Glossary of Technical and Popular Medical Terms in Eight European Languages (European Commission) - Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish: <http://allserv.rug.ac.be/~rvdstich/eugloss/welcome.html>
- On-line Medical Dictionary (CancerWEB): <http://cancerweb.ncl.ac.uk/omd/>
- Rare Diseases Terms (Office of Rare Diseases):
<http://ord.aspensys.com/asp/diseases/diseases.asp>
- Technology Glossary (National Library of Medicine) - Health Care Technology:
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/ta101/ta10108.htm>

Beyond these, MEDLINEplus contains a very patient-friendly encyclopedia covering every aspect of medicine (licensed from A.D.A.M., Inc.). The ADAM Medical Encyclopedia can be accessed at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/encyclopedia.html>. ADAM is also available on commercial Web sites such as drkoop.com (<http://www.drkoop.com/>) and Web MD (http://my.webmd.com/adam/asset/adam_disease_articles/a_to_z/a).

Online Dictionary Directories

The following are additional online directories compiled by the National Library of Medicine, including a number of specialized medical dictionaries:

- Medical Dictionaries: Medical & Biological (World Health Organization):
<http://www.who.int/hlt/virtuallibrary/English/diction.htm#Medical>
- MEL-Michigan Electronic Library List of Online Health and Medical Dictionaries (Michigan Electronic Library): <http://mel.lib.mi.us/health/health-dictionaries.html>
- Patient Education: Glossaries (DMOZ Open Directory Project):
http://dmoz.org/Health/Education/Patient_Education/Glossaries/
- Web of Online Dictionaries (Bucknell University):
<http://www.yourdictionary.com/diction5.html#medicine>

PEANUT ALLERGY DICTIONARY

The definitions below are derived from official public sources, including the National Institutes of Health [NIH] and the European Union [EU].

Adolescence: The period of life beginning with the appearance of secondary sex characteristics and terminating with the cessation of somatic growth. The years usually referred to as adolescence lie between 13 and 18 years of age. [NIH]

Affinity: 1. Inherent likeness or relationship. 2. A special attraction for a specific element, organ, or structure. 3. Chemical affinity; the force that binds atoms in molecules; the tendency of substances to combine by chemical reaction. 4. The strength of noncovalent chemical binding between two substances as measured by the dissociation constant of the complex. 5. In immunology, a thermodynamic expression of the strength of interaction between a single antigen-binding site and a single antigenic determinant (and thus of the stereochemical compatibility between them), most accurately applied to interactions among simple, uniform antigenic determinants such as haptens. Expressed as the association constant (K litres mole⁻¹), which, owing to the heterogeneity of affinities in a population of antibody molecules of a given specificity, actually represents an average value (mean intrinsic association constant). 6. The reciprocal of the dissociation constant. [EU]

Albumin: 1. Any protein that is soluble in water and moderately concentrated salt solutions and is coagulable by heat. 2. Serum albumin; the major plasma protein (approximately 60 per cent of the total), which is responsible for much of the plasma colloidal osmotic pressure and serves as a transport protein carrying large organic anions, such as fatty acids, bilirubin, and many drugs, and also carrying certain hormones, such as cortisol and thyroxine, when their specific binding globulins are saturated. Albumin is synthesized in the liver. Low serum levels occur in protein malnutrition, active inflammation and serious hepatic and renal disease. [EU]

Algorithms: A procedure consisting of a sequence of algebraic formulas and/or logical steps to calculate or determine a given task. [NIH]

Allergen: An antigenic substance capable of producing immediate-type hypersensitivity (allergy). [EU]

Allergy and Immunology: A medical specialty concerned with the hypersensitivity of the individual to foreign substances and protection from the resultant infection or disorder. [NIH]

Allograft: An organ or tissue transplant between two humans. [NIH]

Alternative medicine: Practices not generally recognized by the medical community as standard or conventional medical approaches and used instead of standard treatments. Alternative medicine includes the taking of dietary supplements, megadose vitamins, and herbal preparations; the drinking of special teas; and practices such as massage therapy, magnet therapy, spiritual healing, and meditation. [NIH]

Amine: An organic compound containing nitrogen; any member of a group of chemical compounds formed from ammonia by replacement of one or more of the hydrogen atoms by organic (hydrocarbon) radicals. The amines are distinguished as primary, secondary, and tertiary, according to whether one, two, or three hydrogen atoms are replaced. The amines include allylamine, amylamine, ethylamine, methylamine, phenylamine, propylamine, and many other compounds. [EU]

Amino acid: Any organic compound containing an amino (-NH₂) and a carboxyl (-COOH)

group. The 20 α -amino acids listed in the accompanying table are the amino acids from which proteins are synthesized by formation of peptide bonds during ribosomal translation of messenger RNA; all except glycine, which is not optically active, have the L configuration. Other amino acids occurring in proteins, such as hydroxyproline in collagen, are formed by posttranslational enzymatic modification of amino acids residues in polypeptide chains. There are also several important amino acids, such as the neurotransmitter γ -aminobutyric acid, that have no relation to proteins. Abbreviated AA. [EU]

Amino Acid Sequence: The order of amino acids as they occur in a polypeptide chain. This is referred to as the primary structure of proteins. It is of fundamental importance in determining protein conformation. [NIH]

Anaphylaxis: An acute hypersensitivity reaction due to exposure to a previously encountered antigen. The reaction may include rapidly progressing urticaria, respiratory distress, vascular collapse, systemic shock, and death. [NIH]

Antibodies: Immunoglobulin molecules having a specific amino acid sequence by virtue of which they interact only with the antigen that induced their synthesis in cells of the lymphoid series (especially plasma cells), or with an antigen closely related to it. [NIH]

Antibody: A type of protein made by certain white blood cells in response to a foreign substance (antigen). Each antibody can bind to only a specific antigen. The purpose of this binding is to help destroy the antigen. Antibodies can work in several ways, depending on the nature of the antigen. Some antibodies destroy antigens directly. Others make it easier for white blood cells to destroy the antigen. [NIH]

Antigen: Any substance which is capable, under appropriate conditions, of inducing a specific immune response and of reacting with the products of that response, that is, with specific antibody or specifically sensitized T-lymphocytes, or both. Antigens may be soluble substances, such as toxins and foreign proteins, or particulate, such as bacteria and tissue cells; however, only the portion of the protein or polysaccharide molecule known as the antigenic determinant (q.v.) combines with antibody or a specific receptor on a lymphocyte. Abbreviated Ag. [EU]

Arteries: The vessels carrying blood away from the heart. [NIH]

Assay: Determination of the amount of a particular constituent of a mixture, or of the biological or pharmacological potency of a drug. [EU]

Atopic: Pertaining to an atopen or to atopy; allergic. [EU]

Bacteria: Unicellular prokaryotic microorganisms which generally possess rigid cell walls, multiply by cell division, and exhibit three principal forms: round or coccid, rodlike or bacillary, and spiral or spirochetal. [NIH]

Base: In chemistry, the nonacid part of a salt; a substance that combines with acids to form salts; a substance that dissociates to give hydroxide ions in aqueous solutions; a substance whose molecule or ion can combine with a proton (hydrogen ion); a substance capable of donating a pair of electrons (to an acid) for the formation of a coordinate covalent bond. [EU]

Basophil: A type of white blood cell. Basophils are granulocytes. [NIH]

Bile: An emulsifying agent produced in the liver and secreted into the duodenum. Its composition includes bile acids and salts, cholesterol, and electrolytes. It aids digestion of fats in the duodenum. [NIH]

Biological response modifier: BRM. A substance that stimulates the body's response to infection and disease. [NIH]

Biotechnology: Body of knowledge related to the use of organisms, cells or cell-derived constituents for the purpose of developing products which are technically, scientifically and

clinically useful. Alteration of biologic function at the molecular level (i.e., genetic engineering) is a central focus; laboratory methods used include transfection and cloning technologies, sequence and structure analysis algorithms, computer databases, and gene and protein structure function analysis and prediction. [NIH]

Blood pressure: The pressure of blood against the walls of a blood vessel or heart chamber. Unless there is reference to another location, such as the pulmonary artery or one of the heart chambers, it refers to the pressure in the systemic arteries, as measured, for example, in the forearm. [NIH]

Bone Marrow: The soft tissue filling the cavities of bones. Bone marrow exists in two types, yellow and red. Yellow marrow is found in the large cavities of large bones and consists mostly of fat cells and a few primitive blood cells. Red marrow is a hematopoietic tissue and is the site of production of erythrocytes and granular leukocytes. Bone marrow is made up of a framework of connective tissue containing branching fibers with the frame being filled with marrow cells. [NIH]

Bradykinin: A nonapeptide messenger that is enzymatically produced from kallidin in the blood where it is a potent but short-lived agent of arteriolar dilation and increased capillary permeability. Bradykinin is also released from mast cells during asthma attacks, from gut walls as a gastrointestinal vasodilator, from damaged tissues as a pain signal, and may be a neurotransmitter. [NIH]

Branch: Most commonly used for branches of nerves, but applied also to other structures. [NIH]

Bronchial: Pertaining to one or more bronchi. [EU]

Carrier Proteins: Transport proteins that carry specific substances in the blood or across cell membranes. [NIH]

Cell: The individual unit that makes up all of the tissues of the body. All living things are made up of one or more cells. [NIH]

Cell Degranulation: The process of losing secretory granules (secretory vesicles). This occurs, for example, in mast cells, basophils, neutrophils, eosinophils, and platelets when secretory products are released from the granules by exocytosis. [NIH]

Chromosome: Part of a cell that contains genetic information. Except for sperm and eggs, all human cells contain 46 chromosomes. [NIH]

Clinical trial: A research study that tests how well new medical treatments or other interventions work in people. Each study is designed to test new methods of screening, prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of a disease. [NIH]

Cloning: The production of a number of genetically identical individuals; in genetic engineering, a process for the efficient replication of a great number of identical DNA molecules. [NIH]

Coagulation: 1. The process of clot formation. 2. In colloid chemistry, the solidification of a sol into a gelatinous mass; an alteration of a disperse phase or of a dissolved solid which causes the separation of the system into a liquid phase and an insoluble mass called the clot or curd. Coagulation is usually irreversible. 3. In surgery, the disruption of tissue by physical means to form an amorphous residuum, as in electrocoagulation and photocoagulation. [EU]

Collapse: 1. A state of extreme prostration and depression, with failure of circulation. 2. Abnormal falling in of the walls of any part of organ. [EU]

Complement: A term originally used to refer to the heat-labile factor in serum that causes immune cytolysis, the lysis of antibody-coated cells, and now referring to the entire

functionally related system comprising at least 20 distinct serum proteins that is the effector not only of immune cytolysis but also of other biologic functions. Complement activation occurs by two different sequences, the classic and alternative pathways. The proteins of the classic pathway are termed 'components of complement' and are designated by the symbols C1 through C9. C1 is a calcium-dependent complex of three distinct proteins C1q, C1r and C1s. The proteins of the alternative pathway (collectively referred to as the properdin system) and complement regulatory proteins are known by semisystematic or trivial names. Fragments resulting from proteolytic cleavage of complement proteins are designated with lower-case letter suffixes, e.g., C3a. Inactivated fragments may be designated with the suffix 'i', e.g. C3bi. Activated components or complexes with biological activity are designated by a bar over the symbol e.g. C1 or C4b,2a. The classic pathway is activated by the binding of C1 to classic pathway activators, primarily antigen-antibody complexes containing IgM, IgG1, IgG3; C1q binds to a single IgM molecule or two adjacent IgG molecules. The alternative pathway can be activated by IgA immune complexes and also by nonimmunologic materials including bacterial endotoxins, microbial polysaccharides, and cell walls. Activation of the classic pathway triggers an enzymatic cascade involving C1, C4, C2 and C3; activation of the alternative pathway triggers a cascade involving C3 and factors B, D and P. Both result in the cleavage of C5 and the formation of the membrane attack complex. Complement activation also results in the formation of many biologically active complement fragments that act as anaphylatoxins, opsonins, or chemotactic factors. [EU]

Computational Biology: A field of biology concerned with the development of techniques for the collection and manipulation of biological data, and the use of such data to make biological discoveries or predictions. This field encompasses all computational methods and theories applicable to molecular biology and areas of computer-based techniques for solving biological problems including manipulation of models and datasets. [NIH]

Consumption: Pulmonary tuberculosis. [NIH]

Contraindications: Any factor or sign that it is unwise to pursue a certain kind of action or treatment, e. g. giving a general anesthetic to a person with pneumonia. [NIH]

Coronary: Encircling in the manner of a crown; a term applied to vessels; nerves, ligaments, etc. The term usually denotes the arteries that supply the heart muscle and, by extension, a pathologic involvement of them. [EU]

Coronary Thrombosis: Presence of a thrombus in a coronary artery, often causing a myocardial infarction. [NIH]

Cytokine: Small but highly potent protein that modulates the activity of many cell types, including T and B cells. [NIH]

Cytoplasm: The protoplasm of a cell exclusive of that of the nucleus; it consists of a continuous aqueous solution (cytosol) and the organelles and inclusions suspended in it (phaneroplasm), and is the site of most of the chemical activities of the cell. [EU]

Day Care: Institutional health care of patients during the day. The patients return home at night. [NIH]

Decarboxylation: The removal of a carboxyl group, usually in the form of carbon dioxide, from a chemical compound. [NIH]

Diagnostic procedure: A method used to identify a disease. [NIH]

Digestion: The process of breakdown of food for metabolism and use by the body. [NIH]

Direct: 1. Straight; in a straight line. 2. Performed immediately and without the intervention of subsidiary means. [EU]

Dissociation: 1. The act of separating or state of being separated. 2. The separation of a

molecule into two or more fragments (atoms, molecules, ions, or free radicals) produced by the absorption of light or thermal energy or by solvation. 3. In psychology, a defense mechanism in which a group of mental processes are segregated from the rest of a person's mental activity in order to avoid emotional distress, as in the dissociative disorders (q.v.), or in which an idea or object is segregated from its emotional significance; in the first sense it is roughly equivalent to splitting, in the second, to isolation. 4. A defect of mental integration in which one or more groups of mental processes become separated off from normal consciousness and, thus separated, function as a unitary whole. [EU]

Double-blind: Pertaining to a clinical trial or other experiment in which neither the subject nor the person administering treatment knows which treatment any particular subject is receiving. [EU]

Dyes: Chemical substances that are used to stain and color other materials. The coloring may or may not be permanent. Dyes can also be used as therapeutic agents and test reagents in medicine and scientific research. [NIH]

Efficacy: The extent to which a specific intervention, procedure, regimen, or service produces a beneficial result under ideal conditions. Ideally, the determination of efficacy is based on the results of a randomized control trial. [NIH]

Elective: Subject to the choice or decision of the patient or physician; applied to procedures that are advantageous to the patient but not urgent. [EU]

Environmental Health: The science of controlling or modifying those conditions, influences, or forces surrounding man which relate to promoting, establishing, and maintaining health. [NIH]

Enzymatic: Phase where enzyme cuts the precursor protein. [NIH]

Enzyme: A protein that speeds up chemical reactions in the body. [NIH]

Enzyme Inhibitors: Compounds or agents that combine with an enzyme in such a manner as to prevent the normal substrate-enzyme combination and the catalytic reaction. [NIH]

Eosinophils: Granular leukocytes with a nucleus that usually has two lobes connected by a slender thread of chromatin, and cytoplasm containing coarse, round granules that are uniform in size and stainable by eosin. [NIH]

Epitopes: Sites on an antigen that interact with specific antibodies. [NIH]

Erythrocytes: Red blood cells. Mature erythrocytes are non-nucleated, biconcave disks containing hemoglobin whose function is to transport oxygen. [NIH]

Exocytosis: Cellular release of material within membrane-limited vesicles by fusion of the vesicles with the cell membrane. [NIH]

Family Planning: Programs or services designed to assist the family in controlling reproduction by either improving or diminishing fertility. [NIH]

Fibrinogen: Plasma glycoprotein clotted by thrombin, composed of a dimer of three non-identical pairs of polypeptide chains (alpha, beta, gamma) held together by disulfide bonds. Fibrinogen clotting is a sol-gel change involving complex molecular arrangements: whereas fibrinogen is cleaved by thrombin to form polypeptides A and B, the proteolytic action of other enzymes yields different fibrinogen degradation products. [NIH]

Fixation: 1. The act or operation of holding, suturing, or fastening in a fixed position. 2. The condition of being held in a fixed position. 3. In psychiatry, a term with two related but distinct meanings : (1) arrest of development at a particular stage, which like regression (return to an earlier stage), if temporary is a normal reaction to setbacks and difficulties but if protracted or frequent is a cause of developmental failures and emotional problems, and (2) a close and suffocating attachment to another person, especially a childhood figure, such

as one's mother or father. Both meanings are derived from psychoanalytic theory and refer to 'fixation' of libidinal energy either in a specific erogenous zone, hence fixation at the oral, anal, or phallic stage, or in a specific object, hence mother or father fixation. 4. The use of a fixative (q.v.) to preserve histological or cytological specimens. 5. In chemistry, the process whereby a substance is removed from the gaseous or solution phase and localized, as in carbon dioxide fixation or nitrogen fixation. 6. In ophthalmology, direction of the gaze so that the visual image of the object falls on the fovea centralis. 7. In film processing, the chemical removal of all undeveloped salts of the film emulsion, leaving only the developed silver to form a permanent image. [EU]

Food Labeling: Use of written, printed, or graphic materials upon or accompanying a food or its container or wrapper. The concept includes ingredients, nutritional value, directions, warnings, and other relevant information. [NIH]

Gastric: Having to do with the stomach. [NIH]

Gels: Colloids with a solid continuous phase and liquid as the dispersed phase; gels may be unstable when, due to temperature or other cause, the solid phase liquifies; the resulting colloid is called a sol. [NIH]

Gene: The functional and physical unit of heredity passed from parent to offspring. Genes are pieces of DNA, and most genes contain the information for making a specific protein. [NIH]

Gene Expression: The phenotypic manifestation of a gene or genes by the processes of gene action. [NIH]

Genetics: The biological science that deals with the phenomena and mechanisms of heredity. [NIH]

Genotype: The genetic constitution of the individual; the characterization of the genes. [NIH]

Gland: An organ that produces and releases one or more substances for use in the body. Some glands produce fluids that affect tissues or organs. Others produce hormones or participate in blood production. [NIH]

Governing Board: The group in which legal authority is vested for the control of health-related institutions and organizations. [NIH]

Graft: Healthy skin, bone, or other tissue taken from one part of the body and used to replace diseased or injured tissue removed from another part of the body. [NIH]

Graft Rejection: An immune response with both cellular and humoral components, directed against an allogeneic transplant, whose tissue antigens are not compatible with those of the recipient. [NIH]

Growth: The progressive development of a living being or part of an organism from its earliest stage to maturity. [NIH]

Haptens: Small antigenic determinants capable of eliciting an immune response only when coupled to a carrier. Haptens bind to antibodies but by themselves cannot elicit an antibody response. [NIH]

Heredity: 1. The genetic transmission of a particular quality or trait from parent to offspring. 2. The genetic constitution of an individual. [EU]

Heterogeneity: The property of one or more samples or populations which implies that they are not identical in respect of some or all of their parameters, e. g. heterogeneity of variance. [NIH]

Histamine: 1H-Imidazole-4-ethanamine. A depressor amine derived by enzymatic decarboxylation of histidine. It is a powerful stimulant of gastric secretion, a constrictor of bronchial smooth muscle, a vasodilator, and also a centrally acting neurotransmitter. [NIH]

Histamine Release: The secretion of histamine from mast cell and basophil granules by exocytosis. This can be initiated by a number of factors, all of which involve binding of IgE, cross-linked by antigen, to the mast cell or basophil's Fc receptors. Once released, histamine binds to a number of different target cell receptors and exerts a wide variety of effects. [NIH]

Histidine: An essential amino acid important in a number of metabolic processes. It is required for the production of histamine. [NIH]

Homologous: Corresponding in structure, position, origin, etc., as (a) the feathers of a bird and the scales of a fish, (b) antigen and its specific antibody, (c) allelic chromosomes. [EU]

Host: Any animal that receives a transplanted graft. [NIH]

Hypersensitivity: Altered reactivity to an antigen, which can result in pathologic reactions upon subsequent exposure to that particular antigen. [NIH]

Id: The part of the personality structure which harbors the unconscious instinctive desires and strivings of the individual. [NIH]

Immune response: The activity of the immune system against foreign substances (antigens). [NIH]

Immune Sera: Serum that contains antibodies. It is obtained from an animal that has been immunized either by antigen injection or infection with microorganisms containing the antigen. [NIH]

Immune system: The organs, cells, and molecules responsible for the recognition and disposal of foreign ("non-self") material which enters the body. [NIH]

Immunization: Deliberate stimulation of the host's immune response. Active immunization involves administration of antigens or immunologic adjuvants. Passive immunization involves administration of immune sera or lymphocytes or their extracts (e.g., transfer factor, immune RNA) or transplantation of immunocompetent cell producing tissue (thymus or bone marrow). [NIH]

Immunoassay: Immunochemical assay or detection of a substance by serologic or immunologic methods. Usually the substance being studied serves as antigen both in antibody production and in measurement of antibody by the test substance. [NIH]

Immunoglobulins: Glycoproteins present in the blood (antibodies) and in other tissue. They are classified by structure and activity into five classes (IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG, IgM). [NIH]

Immunologic: The ability of the antibody-forming system to recall a previous experience with an antigen and to respond to a second exposure with the prompt production of large amounts of antibody. [NIH]

Immunology: The study of the body's immune system. [NIH]

Immunosuppressive: Describes the ability to lower immune system responses. [NIH]

Immunosuppressive therapy: Therapy used to decrease the body's immune response, such as drugs given to prevent transplant rejection. [NIH]

Immunotherapy: Manipulation of the host's immune system in treatment of disease. It includes both active and passive immunization as well as immunosuppressive therapy to prevent graft rejection. [NIH]

In vitro: In the laboratory (outside the body). The opposite of in vivo (in the body). [NIH]

In vivo: In the body. The opposite of in vitro (outside the body or in the laboratory). [NIH]

Infancy: The period of complete dependency prior to the acquisition of competence in walking, talking, and self-feeding. [NIH]

Infarction: A pathological process consisting of a sudden insufficient blood supply to an

area, which results in necrosis of that area. It is usually caused by a thrombus, an embolus, or a vascular torsion. [NIH]

Infection: 1. Invasion and multiplication of microorganisms in body tissues, which may be clinically unapparent or result in local cellular injury due to competitive metabolism, toxins, intracellular replication, or antigen-antibody response. The infection may remain localized, subclinical, and temporary if the body's defensive mechanisms are effective. A local infection may persist and spread by extension to become an acute, subacute, or chronic clinical infection or disease state. A local infection may also become systemic when the microorganisms gain access to the lymphatic or vascular system. 2. An infectious disease. [EU]

Interferon: A biological response modifier (a substance that can improve the body's natural response to disease). Interferons interfere with the division of cancer cells and can slow tumor growth. There are several types of interferons, including interferon-alpha, -beta, and -gamma. These substances are normally produced by the body. They are also made in the laboratory for use in treating cancer and other diseases. [NIH]

Interferon-alpha: One of the type I interferons produced by peripheral blood leukocytes or lymphoblastoid cells when exposed to live or inactivated virus, double-stranded RNA, or bacterial products. It is the major interferon produced by virus-induced leukocyte cultures and, in addition to its pronounced antiviral activity, it causes activation of NK cells. [NIH]

Intramuscular: IM. Within or into muscle. [NIH]

Intrinsic: Situated entirely within or pertaining exclusively to a part. [EU]

Kb: A measure of the length of DNA fragments, 1 Kb = 1000 base pairs. The largest DNA fragments are up to 50 kilobases long. [NIH]

Leukocytes: White blood cells. These include granular leukocytes (basophils, eosinophils, and neutrophils) as well as non-granular leukocytes (lymphocytes and monocytes). [NIH]

Library Services: Services offered to the library user. They include reference and circulation. [NIH]

Linkage: The tendency of two or more genes in the same chromosome to remain together from one generation to the next more frequently than expected according to the law of independent assortment. [NIH]

Liver: A large, glandular organ located in the upper abdomen. The liver cleanses the blood and aids in digestion by secreting bile. [NIH]

Liver Transplantation: The transference of a part of or an entire liver from one human or animal to another. [NIH]

Lymphocyte: A white blood cell. Lymphocytes have a number of roles in the immune system, including the production of antibodies and other substances that fight infection and diseases. [NIH]

Lymphoid: Referring to lymphocytes, a type of white blood cell. Also refers to tissue in which lymphocytes develop. [NIH]

MEDLINE: An online database of MEDLARS, the computerized bibliographic Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System of the National Library of Medicine. [NIH]

Mental: Pertaining to the mind; psychic. 2. (L. mentum chin) pertaining to the chin. [EU]

Mental Health: The state wherein the person is well adjusted. [NIH]

Mentors: Senior professionals who provide guidance, direction and support to those persons desirous of improvement in academic positions, administrative positions or other career development situations. [NIH]

MI: Myocardial infarction. Gross necrosis of the myocardium as a result of interruption of the blood supply to the area; it is almost always caused by atherosclerosis of the coronary arteries, upon which coronary thrombosis is usually superimposed. [NIH]

Microorganism: An organism that can be seen only through a microscope. Microorganisms include bacteria, protozoa, algae, and fungi. Although viruses are not considered living organisms, they are sometimes classified as microorganisms. [NIH]

Modification: A change in an organism, or in a process in an organism, that is acquired from its own activity or environment. [NIH]

Molecular: Of, pertaining to, or composed of molecules : a very small mass of matter. [EU]

Molecule: A chemical made up of two or more atoms. The atoms in a molecule can be the same (an oxygen molecule has two oxygen atoms) or different (a water molecule has two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom). Biological molecules, such as proteins and DNA, can be made up of many thousands of atoms. [NIH]

Monitor: An apparatus which automatically records such physiological signs as respiration, pulse, and blood pressure in an anesthetized patient or one undergoing surgical or other procedures. [NIH]

Myocardium: The muscle tissue of the heart composed of striated, involuntary muscle known as cardiac muscle. [NIH]

Need: A state of tension or dissatisfaction felt by an individual that impels him to action toward a goal he believes will satisfy the impulse. [NIH]

Neurotransmitter: Any of a group of substances that are released on excitation from the axon terminal of a presynaptic neuron of the central or peripheral nervous system and travel across the synaptic cleft to either excite or inhibit the target cell. Among the many substances that have the properties of a neurotransmitter are acetylcholine, norepinephrine, epinephrine, dopamine, glycine, γ -aminobutyrate, glutamic acid, substance P, enkephalins, endorphins, and serotonin. [EU]

Neutrophils: Granular leukocytes having a nucleus with three to five lobes connected by slender threads of chromatin, and cytoplasm containing fine inconspicuous granules and stainable by neutral dyes. [NIH]

Nucleus: A body of specialized protoplasm found in nearly all cells and containing the chromosomes. [NIH]

Pathologic: 1. Indicative of or caused by a morbid condition. 2. Pertaining to pathology (= branch of medicine that treats the essential nature of the disease, especially the structural and functional changes in tissues and organs of the body caused by the disease). [EU]

Patient Education: The teaching or training of patients concerning their own health needs. [NIH]

Pediatrics: A medical specialty concerned with maintaining health and providing medical care to children from birth to adolescence. [NIH]

Peptide: Any compound consisting of two or more amino acids, the building blocks of proteins. Peptides are combined to make proteins. [NIH]

Peripheral blood: Blood circulating throughout the body. [NIH]

Pharmacologic: Pertaining to pharmacology or to the properties and reactions of drugs. [EU]

Physiologic: Having to do with the functions of the body. When used in the phrase "physiologic age," it refers to an age assigned by general health, as opposed to calendar age. [NIH]

Plasma: The clear, yellowish, fluid part of the blood that carries the blood cells. The proteins

that form blood clots are in plasma. [NIH]

Plasma cells: A type of white blood cell that produces antibodies. [NIH]

Plasma protein: One of the hundreds of different proteins present in blood plasma, including carrier proteins (such albumin, transferrin, and haptoglobin), fibrinogen and other coagulation factors, complement components, immunoglobulins, enzyme inhibitors, precursors of substances such as angiotension and bradykinin, and many other types of proteins. [EU]

Platelets: A type of blood cell that helps prevent bleeding by causing blood clots to form. Also called thrombocytes. [NIH]

Pneumonia: Inflammation of the lungs. [NIH]

Polymorphic: Occurring in several or many forms; appearing in different forms at different stages of development. [EU]

Polysaccharide: A type of carbohydrate. It contains sugar molecules that are linked together chemically. [NIH]

Practice Guidelines: Directions or principles presenting current or future rules of policy for the health care practitioner to assist him in patient care decisions regarding diagnosis, therapy, or related clinical circumstances. The guidelines may be developed by government agencies at any level, institutions, professional societies, governing boards, or by the convening of expert panels. The guidelines form a basis for the evaluation of all aspects of health care and delivery. [NIH]

Prevalence: The total number of cases of a given disease in a specified population at a designated time. It is differentiated from incidence, which refers to the number of new cases in the population at a given time. [NIH]

Progression: Increase in the size of a tumor or spread of cancer in the body. [NIH]

Protein S: The vitamin K-dependent cofactor of activated protein C. Together with protein C, it inhibits the action of factors VIIIa and Va. A deficiency in protein S can lead to recurrent venous and arterial thrombosis. [NIH]

Proteins: Polymers of amino acids linked by peptide bonds. The specific sequence of amino acids determines the shape and function of the protein. [NIH]

Public Health: Branch of medicine concerned with the prevention and control of disease and disability, and the promotion of physical and mental health of the population on the international, national, state, or municipal level. [NIH]

Public Policy: A course or method of action selected, usually by a government, from among alternatives to guide and determine present and future decisions. [NIH]

Pulse: The rhythmical expansion and contraction of an artery produced by waves of pressure caused by the ejection of blood from the left ventricle of the heart as it contracts. [NIH]

Quality of Life: A generic concept reflecting concern with the modification and enhancement of life attributes, e.g., physical, political, moral and social environment. [NIH]

Randomized: Describes an experiment or clinical trial in which animal or human subjects are assigned by chance to separate groups that compare different treatments. [NIH]

Receptor: A molecule inside or on the surface of a cell that binds to a specific substance and causes a specific physiologic effect in the cell. [NIH]

Recurrence: The return of a sign, symptom, or disease after a remission. [NIH]

Refer: To send or direct for treatment, aid, information, de decision. [NIH]

Regimen: A treatment plan that specifies the dosage, the schedule, and the duration of treatment. [NIH]

Remission: A decrease in or disappearance of signs and symptoms of cancer. In partial remission, some, but not all, signs and symptoms of cancer have disappeared. In complete remission, all signs and symptoms of cancer have disappeared, although there still may be cancer in the body. [NIH]

Respiration: The act of breathing with the lungs, consisting of inspiration, or the taking into the lungs of the ambient air, and of expiration, or the expelling of the modified air which contains more carbon dioxide than the air taken in (Blakiston's Gould Medical Dictionary, 4th ed.). This does not include tissue respiration (= oxygen consumption) or cell respiration (= cell respiration). [NIH]

Screening: Checking for disease when there are no symptoms. [NIH]

Secretion: 1. The process of elaborating a specific product as a result of the activity of a gland; this activity may range from separating a specific substance of the blood to the elaboration of a new chemical substance. 2. Any substance produced by secretion. [EU]

Secretory: Secreting; relating to or influencing secretion or the secretions. [NIH]

Secretory Vesicles: Vesicles derived from the golgi apparatus containing material to be released at the cell surface. [NIH]

Sensitization: 1. Administration of antigen to induce a primary immune response; priming; immunization. 2. Exposure to allergen that results in the development of hypersensitivity. 3. The coating of erythrocytes with antibody so that they are subject to lysis by complement in the presence of homologous antigen, the first stage of a complement fixation test. [EU]

Serologic: Analysis of a person's serum, especially specific immune or lytic serums. [NIH]

Serum: The clear liquid part of the blood that remains after blood cells and clotting proteins have been removed. [NIH]

Shock: The general bodily disturbance following a severe injury; an emotional or moral upset occasioned by some disturbing or unexpected experience; disruption of the circulation, which can upset all body functions: sometimes referred to as circulatory shock. [NIH]

Side effect: A consequence other than the one(s) for which an agent or measure is used, as the adverse effects produced by a drug, especially on a tissue or organ system other than the one sought to be benefited by its administration. [EU]

Skin test: A test for an immune response to a compound by placing it on or under the skin. [NIH]

Smooth muscle: Muscle that performs automatic tasks, such as constricting blood vessels. [NIH]

Social Environment: The aggregate of social and cultural institutions, forms, patterns, and processes that influence the life of an individual or community. [NIH]

Specialist: In medicine, one who concentrates on 1 special branch of medical science. [NIH]

Specificity: Degree of selectivity shown by an antibody with respect to the number and types of antigens with which the antibody combines, as well as with respect to the rates and the extents of these reactions. [NIH]

Stimulant: 1. Producing stimulation; especially producing stimulation by causing tension on muscle fibre through the nervous tissue. 2. An agent or remedy that produces stimulation. [EU]

Stimulus: That which can elicit or evoke action (response) in a muscle, nerve, gland or other excitable issue, or cause an augmenting action upon any function or metabolic process. [NIH]

Substance P: An eleven-amino acid neurotransmitter that appears in both the central and peripheral nervous systems. It is involved in transmission of pain, causes rapid contractions of the gastrointestinal smooth muscle, and modulates inflammatory and immune responses. [NIH]

Suppression: A conscious exclusion of disapproved desire contrary with repression, in which the process of exclusion is not conscious. [NIH]

Symptomatic: Having to do with symptoms, which are signs of a condition or disease. [NIH]

Systemic: Affecting the entire body. [NIH]

Threshold: For a specified sensory modality (e. g. light, sound, vibration), the lowest level (absolute threshold) or smallest difference (difference threshold, difference limen) or intensity of the stimulus discernible in prescribed conditions of stimulation. [NIH]

Thymus: An organ that is part of the lymphatic system, in which T lymphocytes grow and multiply. The thymus is in the chest behind the breastbone. [NIH]

Tissue: A group or layer of cells that are alike in type and work together to perform a specific function. [NIH]

Toxic: Having to do with poison or something harmful to the body. Toxic substances usually cause unwanted side effects. [NIH]

Toxicology: The science concerned with the detection, chemical composition, and pharmacologic action of toxic substances or poisons and the treatment and prevention of toxic manifestations. [NIH]

Toxins: Specific, characterizable, poisonous chemicals, often proteins, with specific biological properties, including immunogenicity, produced by microbes, higher plants, or animals. [NIH]

Transfection: The uptake of naked or purified DNA into cells, usually eukaryotic. It is analogous to bacterial transformation. [NIH]

Transfer Factor: Factor derived from leukocyte lysates of immune donors which can transfer both local and systemic cellular immunity to nonimmune recipients. [NIH]

Transplantation: Transference of a tissue or organ, alive or dead, within an individual, between individuals of the same species, or between individuals of different species. [NIH]

Unconscious: Experience which was once conscious, but was subsequently rejected, as the "personal unconscious". [NIH]

Urticaria: A vascular reaction of the skin characterized by erythema and wheal formation due to localized increase of vascular permeability. The causative mechanism may be allergy, infection, or stress. [NIH]

Vaccine: A substance or group of substances meant to cause the immune system to respond to a tumor or to microorganisms, such as bacteria or viruses. [NIH]

Vascular: Pertaining to blood vessels or indicative of a copious blood supply. [EU]

Vasodilator: An agent that widens blood vessels. [NIH]

Veterinary Medicine: The medical science concerned with the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases in animals. [NIH]

Viruses: Minute infectious agents whose genomes are composed of DNA or RNA, but not both. They are characterized by a lack of independent metabolism and the inability to replicate outside living host cells. [NIH]

Vitro: Descriptive of an event or enzyme reaction under experimental investigation occurring outside a living organism. Parts of an organism or microorganism are used

together with artificial substrates and/or conditions. [NIH]

Vivo: Outside of or removed from the body of a living organism. [NIH]

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