THE CANCER DICTIONARY

THE CANCER DICTIONARY

Roberta Altman

Michael J. Sarg, M.D.

Associate Chief of Medical Oncology,
St. Vincent's Hospital, New York City

Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine,
New York Medical College

Facts On File

AN INFOBASE HOLDINGS COMPANY

The Cancer Dictionary

Facts On File, Inc.
460 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

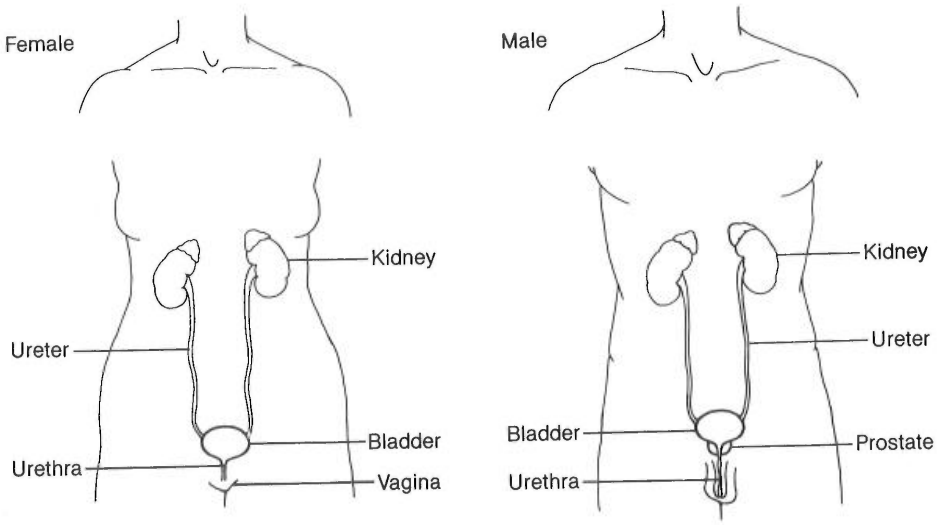
Altman, Roberta
The cancer dictionary / Roberta Altman, Michael Sarg.
p. cm.
Includes Bibliographical references and index.
ISBN 0-8160-2608-4 (hc/alk. paper)
ISBN 0-8160-3027-8 (pb)
1. Cancer—Dictionaries. I. Sarg, Michael. II. Title.
[DNLM: 1. Neoplasms—dictionaries. QZ 13 A468c]
RC262.A39 1992
616.99'4'003—dc20
DNLM/DLC
for Library of Congress 91-46941

Facts On File books are available at special discounts when purchased in bulk quantities for businesses, associations, institutions, or sales promotions. Please contact our Special Sales Department in New York at 212/683-2244 or 800/322-8755.

Text design by Ron Monteleone
Jacket design by Mary McKenna-Ridge
Composition by the Maple-Vail Book Manufacturing Group
Manufactured by Hamilton Printing Company
Printed in the United States of America

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

This book is printed on acid-free paper.



The female and male urinary systems. Courtesy NCI.

biotechnology the use of living organisms or their products to make or modify a substance. It includes genetic engineering and HYBRIDOMA TECHNOLOGY. This area of research, investigation, and production expanded greatly during the 1980s and continues to do so.

bis (chloromethyl ether) see CARCINOGENS.

bladder cancer the presence of malignant (cancerous) cells in the bladder. Although not seen that often in the United States as compared with other countries, it is the more frequent cancer of the urinary tract. In 1992 about 51,600 people were diagnosed with bladder cancer in the United States, and about 9,500 died from the disease. Bladder cancer occurs most frequently in white adults between the ages of 50 and 70, with men developing it about three times more often than women.

The most common type of bladder cancer is transitional cell carcinoma (90%), which arises from the transitional epithelial cells that line the bladder. The other types of bladder cancer include papillary, squamous cell carcinoma, and adenocarcinoma.

Scientists believe that bladder cancer develops over many years as a gradual change in bladder cells. The precise cause of bladder cancer is still not known. However, several risk factors have been identified. It is estimated that smoking is a contributing factor in as many as half the bladder cancers in men and a third of the bladder cancers in women. Smokers have a two to three times greater risk of developing bladder cancer. Exposure of workers in the dye industries is thought to be a contributing factor in bladder cancer. Other occupations that have been linked to an increased risk of bladder cancers include those in the rubber, leather, textile, and chemical industries, as well as hairdressers, machinists, metalworkers, painters, printers, and truck drivers. A bladder infection caused by the parasitic flatworm Schistosoma haematobium increases the risk of squamous cell bladder cancer. Other urinary infections may also increase the risk.

Some medical treatments may present a risk as well. The Food and Drug Administration has banned the use of phenacetin, which has been associated with bladder cancer, in painkillers. The risk of bladder cancer increases as a result of treatment with the anticancer drug cyclophosphamide. Some studies have shown an association between radiation therapy to the pelvis and bladder cancer.

The most common symptom of bladder cancer is blood in the urine, usually associated with increased frequency of urination. (This can be a symptom for

TAX see TAXOL.

taxol (tax'ol) [TAX] an anticancer drug under investigation for its use in the treatment of ovarian and other cancers. While it has shown great promise, obtaining it in quantities sufficient to treat all the patients who might benefit from it is a problem. Taxol is derived from the bark of the slow-growing Pacific yew tree located in the rapidly dwindling ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest. The bark from as many as 4,000 trees may be used to produce one kilogram of taxol. Since it takes about 20 years for the yew trees to grow shoulder high, the development of a synthetic taxol is being investigated. Taxol is undergoing CLINICAL TRIALS based on the expectation that eventually it will be available in a quantity sufficient to meet the demand.

TBI (total body irradiation) see WHOLE BODY RADIATION.

TC a combination of the anticancer drugs 6-TG and ARA-C sometimes used in the maintenance therapy of ALL. See individual drug listings for side effects. See also COMBINATION CHEMOTHERAPY.

TCC see TRANSITIONAL CELL CANCER OF THE RENAL PELVIS AND URETER.

T cell [T lymphocytes] one of the two major types of lymphocytes, which are white blood cells. (The other major type is the B CELL.) T cells are processed in the thymus and are part of the body's IMMUNE SYSTEM. Regulatory T cells play a major role in orchestrating the very complex immune system. The most important T cells are the "helper/inducer" cells (identified by the T4 marker), which activate B cells, other T cells, NATURAL KILLER CELLS, and MACROPHAGES. Another regulatory T cell (identified by the T8 marker) turns off or suppresses those same cells. The killer cytotoxic T cells (also identified by the T8 marker) rid the body of cells that are perceived as harmful—cells infected by a virus or transformed by cancer—and reject foreign substances such as tissue and organ grafts as well. See WHITE BLOOD CELLS.

T cell leukemia a type of acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) affecting immature STEM CELLS. It accounts for about 12% of ALL cases. It occurs primarily in older adolescents and young adults.

T cell lymphoma see MYCOSIS FUNGOIDES.

technesium (tek-ne'ze-um) a radioactive substance that may be used in some NUCLEAR SCANS.

tegafur [Florafur, 5-fluoro-1-tetrahydro-2-furyl-uracil] an anticancer drug being investigated for its use in the treatment of breast, stomach, esophagus, colon/rectal, and genitourinary tract cancers. It is administered by IV (injected into a vein) or taken by mouth. Common side effects may include nausea, vomiting, flushing, dizziness, and apprehension with rapid administration. Occasional or rare side effects may include mouth sores, loss of muscle coordination, diarrhea, lethargy, and confusion.

teletherapy see EXTERNAL RADIATION THERAPY.

10-EDAM see EDATREXATE.

teniposide [VM-26] an anticancer drug being investigated for its use in the treatment of LYMPHOMA, LEUKEMIA, MELANOMA, and cancers of the brain, bladder, lung, ovary, breast, and kidney. It is administered by IV (injected into a vein). BONE MARROW DEPRESSION may be a side effect. Other, less common side effects may include nausea, vomiting, hair loss, fever, liver problems, and loss of reflexes.

TENS see TRANSCUTANEOUS ELECTRICAL NERVE STIMULATION.

tension relaxation see RELAXATION TECHNIQUES.

teratoma a neoplasm (abnormal growth of tissue) composed of a number of different types of tissue. One type of TESTICULAR CANCER is called teratoma, as is one type of congenital BRAIN CANCER.

terminal in cancer, a term used to characterize a patient with progressive advanced disease with vital organ involvement who has a very limited life expectancy in the absence of any useful further therapy. Duration of life has been defined in various ways, but most understand "terminal" to be six months or less left to live.

Teslac [testolactone] see ANDROGEN.

DOCKET ALARM

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts

Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research

With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips

Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS
Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS
Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.