










## Workshop: Complementary & Alternative Medicine (CAM) and Cancer: How to make and support safe and informed decisions?

Members of the CCAM Research Team: Lynda Balneaves, Anne Leis, Laura Vanderheyden, Jennifer Millard, Jawaid Younus, Alison Brazier  
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### USEFUL WEBSITES FOR CAM AND CANCER

Evidence-based Reviews of Natural Health Products and CAM Therapies	
 <b>CAMline</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.camline.ca">www.camline.ca</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, patients, public      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> This site provides up-to-date evidence-based reviews of natural health products and CAM therapies, including common uses, adverse effects, cautions/contraindications, dosage, quality issues, and regulatory status. Reviews are provided in two formats, for professionals and for patients. All reviews include references and can be printed in a friendly format. Free access.</p>
 <b>Passeport Santé</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.passeportsante.net">www.passeportsante.net</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, patients, public      <b>Languages:</b> French</p> <p><b>Content:</b> Passeport Santé provides current, research based information on complementary and alternative medicine and conventional medicine for health promotion and the prevention of illness. All information is reviewed by medical doctors and/or Canada Research Chairs in Quebec. Information highlights include herbal supplements, Traditional Chinese Medicine and nutrition, including healthful recipes. An in-depth dictionary of ailments and therapies is also included. Free access.</p>
 <b>CAM on PubMed</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nccam/camonpubmed.html">www.nlm.nih.gov/nccam/camonpubmed.html</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> This site contains a search tool which accesses the PubMed database of medical and life science journals, but limits the search to articles on CAM. This is a joint project of the National Centre for CAM (NCCAM) and the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Links to many full-text articles through various journal websites and other web resources are available through the main PubMed site. Free general access, although some subscriptions are required for full-text articles.</p>







 <b>Medline Plus</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginformation.html">www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginformation.html</a> (Herbs) <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/complementaryandalternativetherapies.html">www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/complementaryandalternativetherapies.html</a> (CAM)</p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers, patients, public      <b>Languages:</b> English, Spanish</p> <p><b>Content:</b> This site provides a searchable (alphabetical) database of information about drugs, herbs, dietary supplements, and other CAM therapies. This is a joint service offered by the National Institutes of Health (US) and the National Library of Medicine (NLM). It includes links to the Natural Standards database (an evidence-based site) and the US Food and Drug Administration (which provides information about drug safety and advisories). Free access.</p>
 <b>Research Council for Complementary Medicine</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.rccm.org.uk">www.rccm.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers, patients, public      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> The aim of this website is to provide practitioners and their patients with information about the effectiveness of individual therapies and the treatment of specific conditions. The Complementary &amp; Alternative Medicine Evidence Online (CAMEOL: <a href="http://www.rccm.org.uk/comeol">www.rccm.org.uk/comeol</a>) database allows searches by conditions (e.g. cancer) and by specific therapies (e.g. acupuncture), with much of the content based on Cochrane reviews. It also contains a link to the National electronic Library for Health on CAM (NeLCAM: <a href="http://libraries.nelh.nhs.uk/cam/">http://libraries.nelh.nhs.uk/cam/</a>), a specialist library resource linked with the UK's National electronic Library on Health. Free access.</p>
 <b>HerbMed</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.herbmed.org">www.herbmed.org</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers, public      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> An interactive, electronic evidence-based searchable database that strives to provide clear, balanced, and neutral data underlying the use of herbs for health. Both scientific and common herb names are listed. This site is sponsored by a US non-profit organization, the Alternative Medicine Foundation. A membership fee or pay-per-day (\$5.99 USD/24 hours) option is required to access the site. An enhanced version "HerbMedPro" is also available for an additional fee.</p>
 <b>Natural Standard</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.naturalstandard.com">www.naturalstandard.com</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers, patients, public      <b>Languages:</b> English, some Spanish</p> <p><b>Content:</b> Natural Standard is a widely recognized source of evidence-based information about CAM. Site content includes comprehensive databases on: herbs &amp; supplements, disease conditions, complementary practices, CAM dictionary, interactions, and brand names. Information is systematically gathered from scientific data and expert opinions and is rated using a validated scale. A subscription is required for a fee.</p>






 <b>Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database</b>	<b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.naturaldatabase.com">www.naturaldatabase.com</a> <b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers, patients, public <b>Languages:</b> English <b>Content:</b> This website presents a searchable database of natural medicines that allows the user to enter any natural product name, disease or condition, or drug name and search for product information, effectiveness ratings, potential interactions with drugs and other information. Highlighted services include the "Natural product effectiveness checker" and the "Natural product-drug interaction checker". This site is updated regularly. A subscription is required for a fee.
 <b>Information on Dietary Supplements Database (IBIDS)</b>	<b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://dietary-supplements.info.nih.gov/">http://dietary-supplements.info.nih.gov/</a> <b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers <b>Languages:</b> English <b>Content:</b> A searchable database of over 730,000 consumer and peer-reviewed articles and abstracts from published, international, and scientific literature on dietary supplements. Topics included use and function of herbal supplements, animal studies on supplements related to human nutrition, chemical and nutritional composition of botanicals & supplements, surveys on dietary supplement use by various populations, and other topics related to dietary supplements. Free access.
 <b>Complementary and Alternative Medicine Assessment in the Cancer Field (CAM-CANCER)</b>	<b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.cam-cancer.org">www.cam-cancer.org</a> <b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers <b>Languages:</b> English <b>Content:</b> This site provides reliable information on complementary and alternative medicine relating to cancer. All content is written by members of the CAM-Cancer Consortium, a group of internationally recognized CAM and cancer researchers coupled with a patient representative, a nurse representative and a CAM practitioner representative. The site provides CAM summaries, systematic reviews and an overview of CAM legal status in Europe.
<b>CAM Research Networks</b>	
 <b>Canadian Interdisciplinary Network of Complementary &amp; Alternative Medicine Research (IN-CAM)</b>	<b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.incamresearch.ca">www.incamresearch.ca</a> <b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers, students, policy makers <b>Languages:</b> English, French <b>Content:</b> An interdisciplinary, collaborative network of those interested in complementary & alternative medicine research in Canada. IN-CAM's mission is to create a sustainable, well-connected, highly trained CAM research community in Canada that is internationally recognized and known for both its excellence in research and its contributions to understanding CAM and its use. Members sign up for free to gain access to a searchable database of CAM researchers, conference announcements, funding opportunities, research news, email newsflashes and a quarterly bulletin.



<p> <b>Complementary &amp; Alternative Medicine Education and Research Network of Alberta (CAMera)</b></p>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.cameraresearchnetwork.ab.ca">www.cameraresearchnetwork.ab.ca</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers, students      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> CAMera is a non-profit organization founded in 2002 in response to the need to expand research on issues around safety, effectiveness and integration of CAM into mainstream medicine, as well as barriers to conducting this research. CAMera offers research workshops, educational opportunities, training, guidance, one-on-one research consultations, a research course which allows researchers the opportunity to work on a research proposal, and communication about CAM events and funding opportunities. Membership is currently free.</p>
<p> <b>Natural Health Product Research Society of Canada (NHRSC)</b></p>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.nhpresearch.bcit.ca">www.nhpresearch.bcit.ca</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Researchers, health professionals, students      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> NHRSC is a non-profit organization founded in 2003 with a mission to facilitate and support meaningful, scientifically rigorous research and education on natural health products (NHPs) in Canada. The website contains information about the background of the society and upcoming events on NHPs. A resource section is currently under construction. An annual membership fee is required to join, but the website is free for open access.</p>
<p> <b>International Society for Complementary Medicine Research (ISCMR)</b></p>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.iscmr.org">www.iscmr.org</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Researchers, health professionals, students      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> An international scientific organization of researchers, practitioners and policy makers that fosters complementary and integrative medicine research and provides a platform for knowledge and information exchange to enhance international communication and collaboration. The website contains useful information about CAM publications, upcoming events and links to other CAM sites. An annual membership fee is required to join the society, but there is a free sign-up option for the website which provides access to news bulletins and other membership benefits.</p>
<p> <b>Alternative &amp; Complementary Health Research Network (ACHRN)</b></p>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.achrn.net">www.achrn.net</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Researchers, health professionals, students      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> ACHRN aims to provide a forum for members to present their research and to stimulate debate and dialogue on critical research issues in the wider alternative medicine community. The website provides up to date information on CAM seminar series and annual conferences in the UK. An annual membership fee is required (£20 non-students, £10 students).</p>



<b>CAM and/or Cancer Healing/Treatment Centres</b>	
 <b>Centre for Integrated Healing</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.healing.bc.ca">www.healing.bc.ca</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Cancer patients &amp; their families, health professionals      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> A non-profit society which provides an integrated complementary cancer care program for <i>people with cancer and their families</i>. Located in Vancouver, BC, this centre encourages a holistic, healing approach to cancer care including nutritional and lifestyle counselling, mind-body awareness, an introduction to healing modalities, as well as information about and medical supervision of vitamins, supplements and safe complementary medical therapies which have a record of enhancing the healing process. The website provides information about the CIH's mission, philosophy, programs, and contact information. For an annual fee (\$45 CDN), members can join the CIH Society and receive newsletters; general website is open for free access.</p>
 <b>The Richard &amp; Hinda Rosenthal Center for Complementary &amp; Alternative Medicine</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.rosenthal.hs.columbia.edu">www.rosenthal.hs.columbia.edu</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, researchers, students      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> Founded in 1993 and based at Columbia University's College of Physicians &amp; Surgeons Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, this centre builds bridges between diverse therapeutic traditions and modern medicine and promotes a more inclusive medical system by using scientific inquiry to ensure that the valuable health practices of other cultures are better understood and integrated with Western medical practices. The website provides information about ongoing CAM research, current events, training courses, frequently asked questions, and a special section on cancer.</p>
 <b>Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre</b>	<p><b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.mskcc.org">www.mskcc.org</a></p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Health professionals, cancer patients and their families      <b>Languages:</b> English</p> <p><b>Content:</b> The Integrative Medicine Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center was established in 1999 to complement mainstream medical care and address the emotional, social, and spiritual needs of patients and families. The Service includes inpatient and outpatient clinical care as well as research, education and training. Some features of the website include an easy-to-search database of natural health products for clinicians and patients, information on individual CAM therapies, workshops and educational events, CAM research, and clinical trials.</p>



## Other Complementary and Alternative Medicine/Natural Health Product Organizations

### Natural Health Products Research Directorate (NHPD),

**Web address:** [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/branch-dirgen/hpfb-dgpsa/nhpd-dpsn/index\\_e.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/branch-dirgen/hpfb-dgpsa/nhpd-dpsn/index_e.html)

**Audience:** Researchers, administrators, policy makers      **Languages:** English, French

**Content:** Under the auspices of Health Canada, the NHPD is the regulating authority for natural health products for sale in Canada. Their role is to ensure that Canadians have ready access to natural health products that are safe, effective and of high quality while respecting freedom of choice and philosophical and cultural diversity. The site provides information about Canadian NHP regulations, legislation and guidelines, application forms for NHPD approval which are required to conduct research on NHPs in Canada, as well as reports. Free access.

### National Centre for Complementary & Alternative Medicine (NCCAM)

**Web address:** [www.nccam.nih.gov](http://www.nccam.nih.gov)

**Audience:** Researchers, health professionals, administrators, government, students, patients      **Languages:** English, Spanish

**Content:** As part of the National Institutes of Health, NCCAM is dedicated to exploring complementary and alternative healing practices in the context of rigorous science, training complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) researchers, and disseminating authoritative information to the public and professionals. The site provides information about current CAM research and clinical trials, funding opportunities, training opportunities, and general health information related to CAM. Free access.

### ClinicalTrials.gov

**Web address:** [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov)

**Audience:** Researchers, health professionals      **Languages:** English

**Content:** This website provides regularly updated information about US federally and privately supported clinical research, including the trial's purpose, who may participate, locations, and contact information. Some trials listed are CAM trials. The site allows searches by condition, sponsor/funder, and recruitment status as well as resource information about clinical trials.

### Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine (OCCAM)

**Web address:** [www.cancer.gov/cam](http://www.cancer.gov/cam)

**Audience:** Researchers, health professionals, students      **Languages:** English

**Content:** The OCCAM was established in 1998 to coordinate and enhance the activities of the National Cancer Institute in the arena of complementary and alternative medicine. Its goal is to increase the amount of high-quality cancer research and information about the use of complementary and alternative modalities by promoting research and providing an interface for health practitioners and researchers regarding CAM cancer issues. The site is cancer-focused and contains extensive information on CAM research, clinical trials, evaluation of CAM therapies, as well as news and upcoming events.