

Image Resources

Compiled by the [Johns Hopkins Open Education Lab](#) and [JHSPH Center for Teaching and Learning](#)

All of the following linked resources contain open images, but it is the user's responsibility to check for use restrictions (copyright) for the individual images found on the sites. In addition, any time an image is used (or downloaded for potential use), it is appropriate to give proper credit and helpful to fully cite.

Scientific

[JHSPH OpenCourseWare Image Library](#) - repository of images created for JHSPH OpenCourseWare. Browse by category or search.

[Biomed Central](#) - Open access scientific journal publisher. Use Advanced Search to search figure and table captions.

[The Cell Image Library](#) – Photographs and illustrations are categorized by cell process, cell component, cell type, organism, and data sets and can be searched by key word.

[Public Library of Science](#) (PLOS) - Open access scientific journal publisher. Use Advanced Search to search figure and table captions.

Government-Supported

[Learn how copyright applies to U.S. Government works.](#)

[Cancer.Gov Visuals](#) – A large repository, but *a fair portion of the images are copyright protected*. No way to filter search results by copyright status. Limited utility unless you are looking for something very specific and don't mind spending time hunting for it.

[Cancer Imaging Archive](#) (TCIA) – Images stored in DICOM format are indexed by disease, image modality, and location and can be downloaded by collection. Some collections have copyright-protected use protection. (See their [usage policies and restrictions](#) page.)

[CDC Public Health Image Library \(PHIL\)](#) – An collection of CDC images indexed according to MeSH. Note that some images are copyright protected. (See [their FAQ.](#))

[MedPix](#) – Formerly residing on the [Uniformed Services University \(USU\) of Health Science](#) site, this searchable medical image repository is presented by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Search by keyword or browse by diagnosis, image caption, disease location, pathology category or more. Note that many images are *not* in the public domain and you should contact the original contributor to request permission for anything beyond face-to-face teaching and personal use.

[National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences \(NCATS\)](#) – The photo albums link from this page to Flickr. On the NCATS page it refers to the linked images as “public” (i.e., public domain), though the Flickr source information for most images is listed as “All rights Reserved”.

[National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health](#) – This gallery of images is indexed by treatment (acupuncture, herbs, massage, tai chi, yoga) and category. All images are free for non-commercial scientific and educational use. Beyond that, please read their [terms of use](#).

[National Cancer Institute \(NCI\) Visuals Online](#) – As with most of the government-supported image repositories, most of these images are in the public domain but some are copyright protected. Make certain to acknowledge the “reuse restrictions” for any image you are interested in using.

[National Eye Institute Photos and Images](#) – The site provides links to NEI albums on Flickr, categorized by eye condition, diagnoses, etc. Many images are licensed under Creative Commons but the usage rights should be read for each individual image.

[National Human Genome Research Institute \(NHGRI\) Image Gallery](#) – The gallery is not indexed but includes “general biomedical and research-related images, genome and patient-related images and portraits of the NHGRI director.” Each image has an external link (to Flickr). Except where noted on the Flickr details page, these images are in the public domain.

[National Institute on Aging Scientific Images](#) – Images of the brain, neurons, and Alzheimer’s Disease mechanisms and processes are provided in both low and high resolution. All images are in the public domain.

[National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases \(NIAMS\) Image Gallery](#) – The advanced search allows you to search images by graphic type, equipment, and indexed keyword as well as a free-text search. Includes several stock photos of diverse people in “everyday” as well as medical environments. Some images can be downloaded directly, others have to first be added to the “Lightbox”.

[National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research \(NIDCR\) Image Gallery](#) – This small collection of images are not indexed but are categorized by “Science” and “Oral Health”.

[National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases \(NIDDK\) Image Library](#) – Anatomical and Medical, Instructional, and Lifestyle and Activity top-level categories sort the searchable database of public domain illustrations.

[National Institute of General Medical Sciences \(NIGMS\) Image and Video Gallery](#) – Photos and illustrations are searchable by key word.

[National Institute of Mental Health \(NIMH\) Image Library](#) – Photographs and illustrations are categorized by Brain Research/Imaging, Genetics, Research Labs and Tools, and Therapy/Medical Care but can also be searched by key word.

[National Biomedical Imaging Archive \(NBIA\)](#) – Simple and advanced keyword searches are allowed as well as browsing by category indexed according to collection, image modality, and anatomical site.

[National Institutes of Health \(NIH\) Image Gallery](#) – Images are stored on the NIH Flickr site, where images are categorized into albums including Brain, Flu, NIH 3D Print Images, Historical Images and more.

[NIH Images from the History of Medicine](#) – This collection of postcards, portraits, photographs, caricatures, and posters can be searched by clicking on the link for “Search IHM”. These images come from a variety of sources, and many are not open source nor public domain. Make certain to read the NIH statement on [Copyright and Historical Materials](#).

[National Science Foundation \(NSF\) Multimedia Gallery](#) – To search for only images, make certain to filter your search by the type of media before performing a keyword search or simply displaying images categorized by research areas including Chemistry, Computing, Nanoscience, and more.

[Library of Congress: Government Resources for Science Images and Videos](#) – This site links to several other collections categorized by science reference section including health science and medicine.

Generic

[Creative Commons](#) – Search several image collections (Open Clip Art, Pixabay, Flickr, Google, Wikimedia Commons, etc.) that have CC licensed work.

[Connexions OpenStax](#) - Open textbooks, including Anatomy & Physiology, Biology, Genetics, and Statistics. All content is Creative Commons BY – which mandates that even though you are free to reuse the images, you must give the original author/source proper credit (which is accomplished with a citation).

[Flickr](#) - Search for open images by filtering by license in Advanced settings. [Instructions are available here.](#)

[Gaderinge](#) - Public domain stock images for illustrating generic concepts

[Google Image Search](#) - Search images and filter by usage rights under Search Tools menu. [Instructions are available here.](#)

[Morguefile.com](#) – Several hundred thousand free stock photos. The [full license and suggested citation](#) is available from the site’s menu.

[The Noun Project](#) - thousands of icons on a huge range of topics. Icons may be purchased or downloaded and used for free with attribution.

[Open Clip Art](#) - If you must use clip art, find it here

[Photogrammar](#) - 170K Public Domain images from 1935 to 1945 created by the US Farm Security Administration and Office of War Information. Searchable by tags.

Photoshare – This site is a service of the K4Health project, based at JHSPH Center for Communication Programs (CCP). It has thousands of images that are free to use for nonprofit and educational use. The image database is indexed by family planning, public health, condom, and mobile health (mhealth) topics. They’ve also provided [tips for crediting the Photoshare images](#).

Pixabay - Creative Commons 0 (public domain) images only. If you ignore the sponsored results, everything is open.

Wellcome images – Historical and contemporary images are indexed and sorted into collections including child birth, child development, international health, and more. (The collections can be searched by “image number” as explained in the [“How do I?” page](#).) Usage rights are listed for each image; if an image is not marked “Rights-managed”, then it is free to use under a CC-BY license.

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