17th Annual Meeting & Dinner
National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions

“Educate, Participate, and Celebrate”

November 4 - 6, 2022
Fairmont Hotel, Washington, D.C.
On behalf of the Board of Directors and Officers of the National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions (aka “The Prostate Cancer Alliance”), I would like to welcome all of you to our 17th Annual Meeting, back to our Fall schedule!

I offer sincere thanks to our stellar faculty who traveled here to share their expertise and knowledge of best practices and dreams of better outcomes on the horizon. Every year I think the Annual Meeting can’t be any better than the last, but this year promises to be just that. This is once again a weekend of “Education, Participation, and Celebration”. Although we have far to go, there have been many advances in diagnostic capabilities, in new therapies, and in better quality of life for prostate cancer patients and their families.

And of course, a huge thank you to our many sponsors, who recognize the value of our Prostate Cancer Alliance, and of the Annual Meeting, and the work that we do - as well as of our esteemed PROSTATEPEDIA Magazine and weekly DIGEST. Sponsors’ names appear in this Brochure and on materials you will see throughout the weekend.

Thanks to our Executive Committee: LaTanya Patton, Tony Minter, Jan Marfyak, Donald Lynam, and Tom Kirk, and to our tireless staff, Tiffany and George Razzo, who helped organize and make this 17th Annual Meeting the unique event that it is: an outstanding opportunity to learn, share best practices, and network on a national level.

Enjoy the 17th Annual Meeting, and take home and disseminate what you learn here, for the betterment of all.

Respectfully,

Merel Grey Nissenberg,
President, “The Prostate Cancer Alliance” (NASPCC)
17th ANNUAL MEETING  
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF STATE PROSTATE CANCER COALITIONS  
“EDUCATE, PARTICIPATE AND CELEBRATE”  
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2022 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM RECEPTION  
FAIRMONT HOTEL, WASHINGTON, DC  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5  
AGENDA

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SESSION NAME</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>8:00 – 8:45</td>
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I. THE BASICS

1. Introduction and Welcome  
   9:00-9:10  
   *Merel Nissenberg, Esq.  

2. Prostate Cancer in 2022:  
   9:10-9:35  
   *Vincent Laudone, MD  
   Memorial Sloan Kettering, New York  

3. Prostate Cancer Genetics  
   Predictive Genetic Testing and Testing after Diagnosis  
   9:35-10:00  
   *Jacob Berchuck, MD  
   Dana Farber Cancer Institute  
   Harvard Medical School, Boston  

4. Pathology: Aggressive Variant  
   Prostate Cancer &/or Treatment-Associated Small Cell Neuroendocrine Prostate Cancer  
   10:20-10:40  
   *Jonathan Epstein, MD  
   Johns Hopkins, Baltimore  

5. Androgen Deprivation Therapy and Novel Anti-Androgens  
   10:40-11:10  
   *Mark Markowski, MD  
   Johns Hopkins, Baltimore  

MORNING BREAK  
11:10-11:15  

II. LOCALIZED PROSTATE CANCER

6. Active Surveillance, Surgery  
   11:15-11:45  
   *Vincent Laudone, MD  
   Memorial Sloan Kettering  

7. Radiation, Focal Therapy  
   11:45-12:15  
   *Daniel Spratt, MD,  
   Case Comprehensive Cancer Center  
   *Daniel Song, MD  
   Johns Hopkins, Baltimore  

Q&A  
12:00-12:15  
All
LUNCH  
12:15-1:00

III. PSA RECURRENT DISEASE

8. PSMA PET and Functional Imaging  
   1:15-1:35  
   *Thomas Hope, MD  
   UCSF, San Francisco

9. PSA Persistence and Recurrence: Salvage Therapy  
   1:35-1:55  
   *Daniel Spratt, M.D  
   Case Comprehensive Cancer Center

10. Oligometastatic Disease: Metastasis-Directed Therapy and SBRT  
    1:55-2:15  
    *Daniel Song, MD  
    Johns Hopkins, Baltimore

Q&A  
2:15-2:30  
All

IV. ADVANCED PROSTATE CANCER

11. Treatment Options and Treatment Sequencing: BAT and Other New Combinations; HRR Mutations and PARP Inhibition  
    2:30-3:10  
    *Mark Markowski, MD  
    *Andrew Armstrong, MD  
    Duke Medical Center, Durham, NC

Q&A  
3:10-3:30  
All

V. PRECISION MEDICINE IN PROSTATE CANCER

12. PSMA Expression on Circulating Tumor Cells and the PROpel data; PROPHECY Trial  
    3:30-3:50  
    *Andrew Armstrong, MD  
    Duke Medical Center, Durham, NC

Q&A  
3:50-4:00  
All

VI. IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY IN PROSTATE CANCER

13. Car-T Cell Therapy and Bi-Specifics  
    4:00-4:20  
    *Vivek Narayan, MD, MS  
    University of Pennsylvania

14. Vaccine Strategies and Checkpoint Inhibitors  
    4:20-4:40  
    *James L. Gulley, MD, PhD  
    National Institutes of Health

Q&A  
4:40-5:00  
All

ADJOURN  *****

Dinner and cocktails start at 6:30 P.M.

DINNER PRESENTATION: “PSMA-Lutetium and Theranostics”
Thomas Hope, MD
UC San Francisco Department of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging associate professor and director of molecular therapy in the Molecular Imaging & Therapeutics Section, and now Vice Chair, Clinical Operations and Strategy

AWARDS PRESENTATION TO FOLLOW
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

AGENDA

SESSION NAME          TIME

Breakfast             8:00-8:45

IV. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS and FUTURE DIRECTIONS

15. General Primer on Genomics  8:45-9:00  *Chris Bland, PhD, MBA  Pfizer, US Medical Affairs
16. Somatic Testing in Prostate Cancer  9:00-9:20  *Jacob Berchuck, MD  Dana Farber Cancer Institute  Harvard Medical School, Boston
Q&A                  9:20-9:30  All
17. New Directions in Radiotherapy  Revolutionizing the Treatment of Prostate Cancer  9:30-9:55  *Michael Zelefsky, MD  Memorial Sloan Kettering, NY
18. A Validated Prostate Cancer Map to Aid in Focal Treatment Planning  9:55-10:10  *Alan Priester, PhD  Avenda Health
Q&A                  10:10-10:25  All
19. PROMISE Registry  10:25-10:40  *Kathy Wiedemer  Steering Committee, PROMISE Registry

BREAK                  11:10-11:15

Discussion             11:10-11:20  *Clarence Williamson, David Sauls

ELECTIONS for 2023 Board                    11:20-11:45  Jan Marfyak, Secretary


LUNCH                  12:15-1:00

22. Report from the STEERING COMMITTEE  1:00-1:10  *Thomas Kirk, Chair
23. A NEW 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN  1:10-1:45  *LaTanya Patton, Merel Nissenberg
24. Attendees’ General Discussion  1:45-2:00  *All Attendees
25. Calendaring and Wrap-Up  2:00-2:15  *Merel Nissenberg

17TH ANNUAL MEETING ADJOURNS  2:15 p.m.
The National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions (NASPCC) is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit organization, with an extensive network and national outreach through many state prostate cancer organizations and individuals. We are an Alliance comprised of many entities, including state prostate cancer coalitions, foundations, associations, and others who are interested in helping to save the lives of men with prostate cancer.

NASPCC – “The Prostate Cancer Alliance” was formed in October 2004 to serve as an umbrella organization in which state prostate cancer organizations could participate and help generate “strength in numbers”. We have become a large critical mass and voice for prostate cancer patients and their families.

We publish PROSTATEPEDIA Magazine (8 times a year) and a weekly PROSTATEPEDIA DIGEST, a compendium of the most current curated articles, abstracts, and press releases. Subscriptions are free and these are sent to 20,000+ people on our Subscription List. The Magazines are archived on our www.naspcc.org website.

We advocate for Informed Decision-Making in prostate cancer, and we disseminate durable, laminated 2-sided education tools for both patients AND for physicians. There are 5 completed Laminates and 6 in queue. See www.prostatecaif.org/patient-guide. We hold an Annual Meeting to enhance education and to share best practices with patients across the country. The resources we disseminate make their way through to the states and reach down through to the local levels, including support groups and individuals who do not participate in those groups.

We actively provide, through our participating organizations: support groups, educational forums, Webinars, Workshops, prostate cancer information, and awareness and educational activities. Our website www.naspcc.org is very dynamic and we have an active Facebook Page “National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions” as well.

We advocate for the highest quality of life for prostate cancer patients and their families.

We have an Advisory Board comprised of influential and respected physicians, scientists and researchers.

We are many states strong and growing. We are “The Prostate Cancer Alliance”!

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of NASPCC’s 17th Annual Meeting & Gala, attendees should be aware of the basics of prostate cancer; fundamentals of testing (genetic, genomic and other tests and imaging); critical aspects of prostate cancer pathology; risk assessment for treatment planning; fundamentals of treatment for different stages of prostate cancer; new developments in molecular imaging with PSMA; fundamentals of Low-Risk Disease, Focal Therapy, and Active Surveillance; Advanced and untreated metastatic disease, as well as non-metastatic castrate-resistant disease; fundamentals of immunotherapy; fundamentals of recurrence; and how to ensure that patients have appropriate access to optimal care, whether they are treated at an academic center or in a community setting. This information should then enable patients – and those that help them make treatment choices – to make informed, individualized decisions with their physicians.
Prostatepedia features informal conversations with doctors, patients, and activists about prostate cancer. Each issue tackles a different topic facing prostate cancer patients today—from how imaging has impacted treatment to dealing with erectile dysfunction after radiation or surgery to the evolving field of immunotherapy.

Prostatepedia Magazine (eight times a year) and the weekly Prostatepedia Digests became part of NASPCC starting with the August 2020 Issue of the magazine.

Use the links below to view/read each issue on the user-friendly “flipping book” page. If you would prefer to download and print out your copy of the issue, use the link on that issue’s page to download a PDF version.

Here are the most recent 2022 PROSTATEPEDIA Magazine and Supplement Issues (Please see www.naspcc.org for prior Issues):

October 2022 - Immunotherapy
  Prostatepedia Magazine - Vol 6 No. 11 - Flipping Book format: https://online.flippingbook.com/view/940171425/

June - July 2022 - Testing
  Prostatepedia Magazine - Vol 6 No. 10 - Flipping Book format: https://online.flippingbook.com/view/794099350/

March - April 2022 - ADT + Antiandrogens
  Prostatepedia Magazine - Vol 6 No. 9 - Flipping Book format: https://online.flippingbook.com/view/324023396/

Supplement - Theranostics
  Prostatepedia Magazine - Vol 6 No. 8 - Flipping Book format: https://online.flippingbook.com/view/380818562/

January - February 2022 - Radiation Therapy
  Prostatepedia Magazine - Vol 6 No. 7 - Flipping Book format: https://online.flippingbook.com/view/887211619/

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NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF STATE PROSTATE CANCER COALITIONS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Merel Nissenberg, Esq. (California)
President, National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions
Merel Grey Nissenberg, Esq., is a medical malpractice attorney in Los Angeles handling cases around the country, and she is President of three non-profits in healthcare: the National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions (NASPCC); the California Prostate Cancer Coalition (CPCC), both of which she co-founded; and the Clifton F. Mountain Foundation for Education & Research in Lung Cancer. She is a member of two National Cancer Institute SPORES (one in Prostate Cancer at UCLA, one in Lung Cancer at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center), and she is on the UCLA SPORE Executive Committee. She is also the Advocate for the Canary Foundation/PASS Trial at Stanford (Prostate Active Surveillance) and is part of a PCORI Grant with UCLA dealing with decision aids in prostate cancer. Additionally, through her consulting group Informed Health Consulting she and her partner help accrue patients to Clinical Trials and also create Patient Ambassador Programs and Roundtables. Merel has been actively involved for almost ten years as one of three national Patient Advocates for the Early Detection Research Network (EDRN) of the National Cancer Institute, handling three of the four Collaborative Groups: GU Cancers, GYN Cancers, and Lung Cancer. In her law practice she has represented many cancer patients and has advocated for them and for their families. Merel is extremely interested in the early detection of cancers when they are still curable and is dedicated to improving the lives of patients, including those as-yet-undiagnosed.

Anthony Minter (South Carolina)
Treasurer, National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions
Anthony Minter has been involved with Prostate Cancer Advocacy since 2012. As a Survivor, he made it his mission to provide support, education and awareness within his community and throughout the nation. Tony is the leader of the Columbia Chapter of UsToo International and a Consumer Advocate for Zero Prostate Cancer. He is also on the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Cancer Alliance. Recently, he has been selected to serve on the Executive Board of the National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions (NASPCC) and is the current treasurer. He has participated in numerous health fairs and information sessions concerning prostate cancer and has been a link between the patients, their families and their physician. He is a Certified Professional Executive Coach, specializing in Relationships, Leadership, Career and life. Tony was also selected to be a Consumer Reviewer for the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP), responsible for screening applications for research grants aimed at finding new treatment therapies, creating better detection tools and decreasing the Prostate Cancer health disparity in men of African descent.

Jan Marfyak (New Mexico)
Secretary, National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions
Jan Marfyak is one of the founders of NASPCC, served as its Treasurer, and is currently Secretary. He has been on the Board of Directors since 2004, the year of its organization. Jan served in Wisconsin State government after leaving the University of Wisconsin, and later moved to Washington DC, first at the Department of Justice and later at the Department of Energy. He is a prostate cancer survivor (1975) and is Secretary of the Prostate Cancer Support Association of New Mexico, an active state prostate cancer organization.

Following treatment, Jan volunteered at the Foundation for Urological Disease in Baltimore, MD and later started the Pennsylvania State Prostate Coalition. Jan has been instrumental in helping to start other state prostate cancer organizations and in sharing his knowledge of budget and advocacy issues.

Donald Lynam, PhD (Kentucky)
Director at Large, National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions
Don has been active in the prostate cancer community for approximately 20 years, with NASPCC, and before that, Us TOO. He has served on the Board of Directors (BOD), Executive Committee, and Treasurer of NASPCC for the past 9 years. Don is Vice Chairman of KY PCC. He is a past member and Vice Chairman of the BOD of Us TOO, and Chapter Leader of Us TOO of the Bluegrass (Lexington, KY) for the past 15 years.

Don has degrees in Engineering (B.S. and M.S.) from the University of Kentucky and Environmental Health (M.S. and Ph.D.) from the University of Cincinnati. He served 3 years in the US Air Force, as a commissioned officer, primarily at the US Air Force Flight Test Center and Rocket Propulsion Laboratory at Edwards AFB in California. He spent a successful career in the metals and petroleum chemicals industry in engineering and environmental health, retiring as Corporate Vice President.

LaTanya Patton (Missouri)
Vice President, National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions
LaTanya currently serves as the President and CEO of Missouri Prostate Cancer Alliance (MoPCA) which she co-founded 2013. In addition to her professional work, she is the primary caregiver for her mother who is stricken with Alzheimer’s disease. LaTanya is a brain aneurysm survivor and supports the University of
LaTanya Patton continued
Kansas Health System Brain Aneurysm support group.

Prior to Missouri Prostate Cancer Alliance, she worked for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City; Heart to Heart International – assigned to the country of Haiti; served as President and CEO of a small minority agency; Vice-President of Community Relations of MAST Ambulance and worked in various capacities for the City of Kansas City Missouri for 16 years including the Health Department before leaving to furthering her professional career.

LaTanya’s community service activities include serving as an Ambassador for American Heart Association, The Mayor’s Commission on AIDS/HIV (TGA), Ivy Community Service and Education Foundation, Swope Ridge Geriatric Center Board of Directors. She serves on the Board of Directors of NASPCC - Director at Large. LaTanya has been an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated for 34 years and is the immediate past President her chapter.

LaTanya has earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri and is pursuing a Master in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix with an emphasis in organizational development and non-profit leadership. In addition, LaTanya considers herself a consistent leaner and is completing a teaching certification program at Western Bible College in Christian Education.

She has been a devoted member of her church in Kansas City, Missouri for the past 35 years where she serves as Culinary Leader, Youth Director and Vacation Bible School Director. She wants you to know that she is a “CHILD OF THE KING.” She has received numerous awards and recognitions.

LaTanya is happily married to Frederick Patton and has two beautiful daughters, Lauren Patton, and Logan Patton. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, shopping, participating community service activities with the sorority, volunteering and traveling with her family.

Thomas Kirk
Invited Member, National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions

Tom Kirk has been heavily involved in Patient Advocacy Non-Profit Organizations. He currently serves as the Vice-President of the California Prostate Cancer Coalition (CPCC), which is “A Proud Participant in the National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions” (NASPCC). Tom is also an Invited Member of the NASPCC Executive Committee.

Tom Kirk developed the Strategic Plan for NASPCC in 2017 and as Chair of NASPCC’s Steering Committee, he monitors the Plan’s implementation with the NASPCC Committees that were created to move it forward. Tom also serves on the NASPCC Advocacy and Public Policy Committee which, following NASPCC’s 2018 Bone Health Access Initiative (BHI), and the October Bone Health Access Roundtable, prioritized “Step Therapy and Access” as an issue.

In prostate cancer, Tom served as the President and CEO of Us TOO International in suburban Chicago for over 10 years, before moving to California in 2016. He currently works as a Co-Founder of Informed Health Consulting (IHC).

Additionally, Tom worked for over 12 years at the National Alzheimer’s Association headquartered in Chicago. He worked on the Senior Management Team where he was the Vice President of Patient, Family and Education Services. He has also assisted other Residential Care Providers (Mather Life Ways and Belmont Village) develop their Dementia Care Services, and he worked as the Vice President of Operations for Life Care Centers of America’s Garden Terrace Associates managing their specialized Dementia-Specific Long-Term Care Centers and Dementia Care Units. Tom holds an MSSW Degree in Planning and Administration from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023

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*Deceased
“Reaching Thousands of Prostate Cancer Patients and their Families Across the U.S. Since 2004”

MISSION STATEMENT

NASPCC is a nation-wide organization, comprised of state prostate cancer coalitions, dedicated to saving men’s lives and enhancing the quality of life of prostate cancer patents and their families, through awareness and education and the development of a public policy network.

LEADERSHIP

NASPCC has an elected Board of Directors made up of State Representatives, which meets four times a year; and a Standing Executive Committee which meets monthly, composed of the four Officers, an elected Director-at-Large and an Invited Member. Eight Advisory Committees were formed in November 2017 to help accomplish the goals of the Strategic Plan adopted in July 2017. In September 2018, the Executive Committee created a Standing Committee, chaired by Tom Kirk, to monitor and strengthen the progress of these Eight Advisory Committees:

- Advocacy and Public Policy, Chair: Vacant
- Annual Meeting Committee, Chair: Merel Grey Nissenberg
- Budget Committee, Chair: Tony Minter
- Communications Committee, Chair: Fran Franklin
- Education and Awareness Committee, Chair: Clarence Williamson
- Fundraising Committee, Chair: Merel Grey Nissenberg
- Medical Advisory Committee, Chair: Michael Zaragoza, MD
- State Coalition Development Committee, Chair: Vacant

REACHING PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

NASPCC supports the development of state prostate cancer organizations, each of which is comprised of patient networks and support groups. NASPCC through its Annual Meeting, webinars and other activities shares prostate cancer information with all of its participating state prostate cancer organizations, and this material is then disseminated to patients and their families, demonstrating the breadth and depth of our reach. NASPCC also helps equip patients and their families to actively engage in the prostate cancer cause.

THE NASPCC ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting pulls together leaders in the rapidly developing field of prostate cancer – patients and families, researchers, practitioners, and people interested in the disease – who want to share, learn and lead. The patient community is unique and the contemporary overview in the Take Home Messages from the Annual Meeting allows them to become empowered to do things locally. NASPCC creates support and a forum to enrich and rejuvenate these individuals and state organizations.
Dr. Jonathan I. Epstein is a Professor of Pathology, Oncology and Urology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He also serves as the Director of Surgical Pathology at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. He is recognized as a leader in the field of urological pathology. Dr. Epstein completed a combined liberal arts and medical degree program at Boston University, receiving both B.A. and M.D. degrees. He obtained his residency training in anatomic pathology at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, followed by a fellowship in oncological pathology at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. He has been on the faculty at Johns Hopkins since 1985. Dr. Epstein lectures widely in the United States and overseas on urological pathology, with emphasis on prostatic and bladder disease, and has written 7 books and more than 800 articles. Among many awards, he has been honored with the Koss Medal for Advancement of Urological Pathology, the Arthur Purdy Stout Surgical Pathology Prize and the American Cancer Society Clinical Oncology Career Development Award. Dr. Epstein has one of the largest surgical pathology consulting services in the world with approximately 12,000 cases per year, covering the full range of urologic pathology. Dr Epstein uses these consultations to train 4 genitourinary pathology fellows each year, the largest genitourinary pathology fellowship in the world. He is a member of the American Urologic Association, the Arthur Purdy Stout Society of Surgical Pathologists and the International Society of Urologic Pathology. He holds editorial appointments to 11 medical journals, including American Journal of Surgical Pathology, Urology, and Human Pathology.

Research Interest: Prediction of disease progression following radical prostatectomy; Diagnosis of limited adenocarcinoma on needle biopsy; Mimickers of genitourinary malignancy; Grading of prostate cancer; Precursor lesions to prostate cancer.

Thomas Hope, MD, is the Vice Chair of Clinical Operations and Strategy in the Department of Radiology. He also serves as the Director of Molecular Therapy. He serves as Chief of Nuclear Medicine at the San Francisco VA Medical Center and as chair of the Cancer Center’s Molecular Imaging & Radionuclide Therapy Site Committee. In 2007, he received his medical degree from Stanford University School of Medicine and he completed a one-year internship at Kaiser Permanente, San Francisco. From 2008-2012, Dr. Hope completed a residency in Diagnostic Radiology at the University of California, San Francisco, followed by a clinical fellowship in Body MRI and Nuclear Medicine from Stanford Medical Center in 2013.

Dr. Hope’s main research focus is on novel imaging agents and therapies, particularly in prostate cancer and neuroendocrine tumors. He led the development of Ga-68 PSMA-11, which subsequently led to the approval of this drug by the FDA. He has combined his interest in MR imaging with PET in the simultaneous modality PET/MRI, helping lead the development of the clinical PET/MRI program. Additionally, he leads the PRRT (peptide receptor radionuclide therapy) program for neuroendocrine tumors and PSMA Radioligand Therapy at UCSF.

An international leader in PET/MR research and the translation of new molecular imaging agents, Dr. Hope launched the highly successful PSMA prostate program at UCSF and championed the use of multiple new targeted therapies to treat patients with neuroendocrine and other tumors. He is the recipient of numerous accolades in molecular imaging, including the Henkin Fellow and Marc Tetalman Memorial Award from the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, the Young Investigator Award from the Prostate Cancer Foundation and the Wylie J. Dodds Research Award from the Society of Abdominal Radiology.
Hello, my name is Clarence Williamson and I’m a twenty-year prostate cancer “warrior”. I used to call myself a survivor until I saw the word warrior on the back of T-shirts at an annual prostate cancer event. Immediately, I recognized that I’m not just a cancer survivor but a “warrior”; I fight cancer everyday with every fiber of my being. I don’t consciously think about cancer; I go about each day with faith, hope and joy.

Just as most men diagnosed with prostate cancer, I was totally surprised when my physician told me my PSA was elevated, what could be causing it and I needed to get a retest in 3 months. This was in September 1997 during one of my routine annual examinations; I was 53 years old and just as fit and healthy as ever.

The timing was not good; my wife Paulette and I were preparing to relocate from Chicago to Memphis because of my job transfer in December. After moving, the demands of the job transition and long stressful hours, a PSA retest was the furthest thing from my mind. But something happened to bring it to my attention. It was March of 1998 and my allergies required a doctor’s visit. While there the male Nurse Practitioner asked when did I last have my prostate checked? I immediately told him about my ~ 3.5 PSA 6 months earlier and that I needed a retest to verify the results. He referred me to a Urologist, and my retest PSA results were ~ 7.5, roughly doubled in only 6 months. A biopsy followed and verified that I indeed had PROSTATE CANCER (PCa). It hit me like a ton of bricks! I was totally surprised but never afraid; for some strange reason I felt a calm and knowing that all would be well. After all it was classified as early detection. This physician suggested I get a second opinion if it would give me more comfort.

Again, I got busy with work and months passed without finding a second opinion physician. Then Paulette, who was attending a seminar, met a man, a perfect stranger, and started talking to him about my diagnosis. Ironically he had experienced PCa surgery and gave her a business card of his Urologist. His name was Dr. Mitchell Steiner and after meeting him we both knew that he would by my Urologist. He talked with us, seeming like for hours, explaining results, giving all options available and answering all of our questions. That feeling of calm and confidence grew even more. A 3rd PSA was ordered by Dr. Steiner showing an increase to ~ 16.5, another doubling in less than 6 months. This was an indication that my prostate cancer was aggressive, which I later discovered was common in African American men.

I opted to have surgery, a radical prostatectomy in August 1998. My mother and 4 family members came down to be with us during this time. The morning of my surgery another GOD event occurred. While having an early morning coffee, I walked to the front yard of our home, turned around and saw a full rainbow over our house. We shared a prayer and knew all would be well. Surgery went well and my lymph node margins were clear, however, as it sometimes happens my cancer returned in two and a half years. After several tests metastatic bone lesions were discovered in ribs and shoulder blades. Androgen Deprivation Treatment (ADT), also known as Hormone Therapy followed and was successful in keeping my PSA and cancer growth at bay for ~ 12 years. Side effects from the 6 month injections were terrible but decreased over time and I eventually adjusted. Each day I went through life living as though there was no cancer, following my medical protocol and relying on my faith that God has plans for me.

During this time, I’ve volunteered with the American Cancer Society (12 yrs.), chaired the Memphis Man2Man Prostate Cancer Support Group (8 yrs.), and lead Us TOO support groups. I’m currently part of the National Alliance of Prostate Cancer Coalitions (NASPCC) and serve as chairman on the Education & Awareness Committee. My mission is to empower men with life saving information, especially to those who are most effected and in the underserved communities.

My current medical treatment is that of active surveillance; I see my Oncologist every 6 months for labs and evaluation to monitor my status. I stopped ADT over 3 years ago to do “intermittent treatment”. This marks my 24th year as a prostate cancer warrior and I attribute this miracle to (1) early detection, (2) improvements in PCa medical treatment and (3) faith that God is the ultimate physician.

Statics show that early detection is then number one determinant in improving prostate cancer outcomes. Generally, recommendations for PCa screening starts at age 55-60 but for African men the suggestion is to start screening at age 45 and even earlier if PCa runs in your family. We have had many men attend our support group after being diagnosed in their middle forties. There is no known prevention and most men will get PCa later in life as they age, but will die from something else. Also genetics plays a significant role in this disease. However, the closest thing to prevention is a heart healthy diet, regular exercise, proper rest and low stress life style; this may reduce your chances of prostate cancer. But let me stress that without early detection, the prognosis to treatment is reduced dramatically.
focusing on clinical prostate cancer research. Medical Director within the Pfizer Oncology US Medical Affairs, Texas, University of Houston, Baylor College of Medicine, Johnson University. He has previously held positions at the University of journals, including resistance. His research has been published in several high impact cancer and investigating mechanisms of prostate cancer treatment focused on developing cell-free DNA and tissue-based biomarkers prostate cancer. Dr. Berchuck also conducts translational research genitourinary medical oncologist focuses on caring for men with Pennsylvania and at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore.

Jacob Berchuck, MD
Medical Oncologist,
Dana Farber Cancer Institute, and Harvard Medical School
Dr. Jacob Berchuck is a Medical Oncologist at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Instructor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Berchuck received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Duke University, trained in Internal Medicine at the University of California San Francisco, and completed his fellowship in Medical Oncology at Dana-Farber/Mass General Brigham. His clinical practice as a genitourinary medical oncologist focuses on caring for men with prostate cancer. Dr. Berchuck also conducts translational research focused on developing cell-free DNA and tissue-based biomarkers to guide therapeutic decision-making for men with prostate cancer and investigating mechanisms of prostate cancer treatment resistance. His research has been published in several high impact journals, including Nature Medicine, Cancer Cell, Annals of Oncology, and JAMA Oncology.

Andrew J. Armstrong, MD, MSc
Medical Oncologist,
Duke University School of Medicine
Dr. Andrew J. Armstrong is a board-certified medical oncologist at Duke University with a focus on genitourinary malignancies -- prostate, kidney, bladder, and testicular cancers. He is also a clinical and translational researcher focused on drug development and biomarker studies in prostate and kidney cancer. This research includes prognostic and predictive biomarkers, circulating tumor cell biology, and how cancer spreads (metastasis). He oversees multiple clinical trials of new therapies for patients ranging from new hormonal and chemotherapies to new immunotherapies, and molecularly targeted agents. Dr. Armstrong received his MD from the University of Virginia in 2000 and trained at the University of Pennsylvania and at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore.

Jonathan Epstein, MD
Professor of Urologic Pathology, the Johns Hopkins Hospital; Professor of Pathology, Oncology, and Urology, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Dr. Jonathan Epstein is the Reinhard Professor of Urologic Pathology and a Professor of Pathology, Oncology, and Urology at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. He is also the Director of Surgical Pathology at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. He received his MD from Boston University and trained in Anatomic Pathology at Johns Hopkins and in Oncological Pathology at Memorial Sloan Kettering in New York, and has been on the Faculty at Johns Hopkins since 1985. Dr. Epstein has written 7 books and more than 900 articles, and he has been honored with the Koss Medal for Advancement of Urological Pathology, the Arthur Purdy Stout Surgical Pathology Prize and the American Cancer Society Clinical Oncology Career Development Award. Dr. Epstein has one of the largest surgical pathology consulting services in the world with approximately 12,000 cases per year, covering the full range of urologic pathology, and he runs the largest genitourinary pathology fellowship in the world. He is a member of the American Urologic Association, the Arthur Purdy Stout Society of Surgical Pathologists, Former President of the International Society of Urologic Pathology, and one of the Founding Members of the Genitourinary Pathology Society.

James Gulley, MD, PhD, FACP
NIH Lead Prostate Cancer Researcher
Dr. James Gulley is an internationally recognized expert in immunotherapy for cancer. He graduated from Loma Linda University in California with a PhD in microbiology in 1994 and an MD in 1995. As part of this eight-year MD/PhD Medical Scientist Training Program, he completed a dissertation on tumor immunology. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Emory University in 1998, followed by a Medical Oncology fellowship at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Dr. Gulley serves within the Center for Cancer Research (CCR) of the National Cancer Institute as Chief of the Genitourinary Malignancies Branch (GMB), the Director of the Medical Oncology Service (CCR), and also Head of the Immunotherapy Section within the GMB. He has been instrumental in the clinical development a number of therapeutic cancer vaccines. In addition, he was the coordinating PI of an international trial of avelumab that led to regulatory approval and serves as the coordinating PI of the international M7824 bifunctional agent targeting PD-L1 and TGF-beta. Dr. Gulley serves on many national and NIH boards and committees. He has been an investigator on more than 120 clinical trials, authored more than 250 scientific papers or chapters, serves on a number of editorial boards and has made hundreds of presentations at national / international meetings. This will be his third appearance for NASPCC’s Annual Meetings.

Chris Bland PhD, MBA
Chris Bland has worked for over 20 years in the oncology field as a scientist and medical director; in academic institutions, biotech, and the pharmaceutical industry. Chris earned a BS in microbiology from the University of Texas, followed by a Ph.D. in molecular and cellular biology from Baylor College of Medicine and an MBA from Duke University. He has previously held positions at the University of Texas, University of Houston, Baylor College of Medicine, Johnson & Johnson and GlaxoSmithKline. Chris currently resides in Philadelphia and serves as the Senior Medical Director within the Pfizer Oncology US Medical Affairs, focusing on clinical prostate cancer research.

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Vincent Laudone, MD  
Chief of Surgery,  
Josie Robertson Surgery Center (JRSC) at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC).  
Dr. Vincent Laudone is Chief of Surgery for the Josie Robertson Surgery Center (JRSC) at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC). Dr. Laudone joined the Urology Service in the Department of Surgery at MSKCC in 2008 and was charged with building the robotic surgical program for the Department. Prior to that he completed a fellowship in Urologic Oncology at MSKCC in 1986 and practiced for twenty years as a founding member of the Connecticut Surgical Group working at Hartford Hospital and the University of Connecticut. In his current role as Chief of Surgery for the JRSC, Dr. Laudone is part of the team that helped design, open, and now run MSKCC’s new unique short-stay ambulatory cancer surgery facility. His clinical focus is on the treatment of men with prostate cancer and his research on improving the effectiveness, efficiency, and quality of care delivered in an ambulatory surgical environment.

Mark Markowski, MD, PhD  
Assistant Professor, John Hopkins University  
Dr. Mark Markowski is a medical oncologist at the Kimmel Cancer Center at Sibley Memorial Hospital, as well as an instructor in the Department of Oncology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Markowski participates in multidisciplinary clinics at Sibley and The Johns Hopkins Hospital, and sees patients in the genitourinary clinics of both hospitals. He is board-certified in medical oncology and internal medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Markowski treats numerous types of cancers, with a specialty in prostate cancer.

Thomas Hope, MD  
Thomas Hope, MD, is the Vice Chair of Clinical Operations and Strategy in the Department of Radiology. He also serves as the Director of Molecular Therapy. He serves as Chief of Nuclear Medicine at the San Francisco VA Medical Center and as chair of the Cancer Center’s Molecular Imaging & Radionuclide Therapy Site Committee. In 2007, he received his medical degree from Stanford University School of Medicine and he completed a one-year internship at Kaiser Permanente, San Francisco. From 2008-2012, Dr. Hope completed a residency in Diagnostic Radiology at the University of California, San Francisco, followed by a clinical fellowship in Body MRI and Nuclear Medicine from Stanford Medical Center in 2013.

Dr. Hope’s main research focus is on novel imaging agents and therapies, particularly in prostate cancer and neuroendocrine tumors. He led the development of Ga-68 PSMA-11, which subsequently led to the approval of this drug by the FDA. He has combined his interest in MR imaging with PET in the simultaneous modality PET/MRI, helping lead the development of the clinical PET/MRI program. Additionally he leads the PRRT (peptide receptor radionuclide therapy) program for neuroendocrine tumors and PSMA Radioligand Therapy at UCSF.

Daniel Y. Song, MD  
Professor, Johns Hopkins Medicine  
Dr. Daniel Song is Professor of Radiation Oncology, with joint appointments in Urology and Oncology. He serves as the Co-Director of the Prostate Cancer Multidisciplinary Clinic at the Johns Hopkins Hospital and the Physician Advisor and Director of Faculty Affairs for the Department of Radiation Oncology and Molecular Radiation Sciences. His area of clinical expertise is in the management of genitourinary cancers, including cancers of the prostate, bladder and urinary tract, and testicular cancer. Dr. Song applies his expertise and clinical experience in the utilization of a variety of radiation modalities including external beam radiation, image-guided and intensity-modulated radiation, prostate brachytherapy (seed implants), and stereotactic body radiation therapy. He received his MD from the Medical College of Georgia, and trained at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Song is a reviewer and examiner for the American Board of Radiology. He has co-authored consensus guidelines on low-dose-rate brachytherapy, stereotactic body radiation therapy, and image-guided robotic brachytherapy. He also served as Faculty for NASPCC’s 15th Annual Meeting in October 2019.
Daniel Spratt, MD  
Case Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Dr. Daniel Spratt is the Chairman and Professor of Radiation Oncology at University Hospitals (UH) Seidman Cancer Center and Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). He obtained his medical degree from Vanderbilt Medical School and completed his radiation oncology residency at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He served as the Vice Chair in the Department of Radiation Oncology and Chair of the Genitourinary Clinical Research Team at the University of Michigan until April 2021 when he joined UH and CWRU.

Dr. Spratt is an international expert in the management of prostate cancer and the development and validation of prognostic and predictive biomarkers. He has published over 300 peer-reviewed manuscripts and runs a National Institute of Health-funded translational lab. He serves as the Chair for NRG Oncology's Intact Prostate Cancer Subcommittee, and for the National Cancer Institute's Genitourinary Steering Committee. He is the PI of numerous national and international randomized clinical trials in prostate and bladder cancer, and has mentored over 40 students and faculty.

Vivek Narayan, MD, MS  
Dr. Vivek Narayan, MD MSCE is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Medical Oncology at the University of Pennsylvania's Abramson Cancer Center. His clinical and research interests are specifically focused on the care of patients with advanced prostate cancer and kidney cancer. He serves as principal investigator on several therapeutic oncology clinical trials, including multiple investigator-initiated studies and immune and cellular therapies for advanced prostate cancer. He additionally seeks to improve survivorship care for patients with cancer, including the evaluation and management of cardiac toxicities of cancer therapies for prostate and kidney cancers. Dr Narayan’s early career achievements have been nationally recognized, with selection as the 2018 AUA Urology Care Foundation Outstanding Graduate Scholar Award, as well as a recipient of the 2018 Prostate Cancer Foundation Young Investigator Award. He has received research funding from the American Cancer Society, American Urological Association, and the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

Kathy Wiedemer  
Kathy Wiedemer serves on the Steering Committee of the PROMISE Registry Study, a US-wide prostate cancer genetic registry managed by the Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium. Kathy is Director of Partnerships and Community Engagement for the study. She has been executive director at Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation and executive director of development at the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Michael Zelefsky, MD  
Dr Michael J Zelefsky is Professor of Radiation Oncology and Director of Genitourinary Radiation Oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He serves as the Chief of Brachytherapy for the Cancer Center and is the recipient of the Steven Greenberg Chair for Prostate Cancer Research at MSKCC. Dr Zelefsky is a prolific author with over 400 publications in peer-reviewed journals and has co-edited several textbooks on Prostate Cancer. He is the Editor in Chief of Brachytherapy, an international journal dedicated to the field of Brachytherapy. He is a renowned thought leader in the field of prostate cancer and has lectured extensively nationally and internationally. He is an active clinician and clinical researcher and has mentored hundreds of physicians in the field. He pioneered the use of intensity modulated radiotherapy for prostate demonstrating reduced side effects with this approach and his current focus is in the area of stereotactic radiosurgery and targeted brachytherapy approach to intensify dose to intra-prostatic disease while at the same time minimizing dose to normal tissue in an effort to reduce the side effects of therapy.
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