

East Lancashire Prostate Cancer Support Group Newsletter



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Life-Saving Prostate Scanner Appeal Reaches Target Burnley Express 08/04/2014

What's Inside

Scanner Ap- P1
peal Reaches
Target

Latest News P2
on EN2 Test

Non Invasive P3
Monitoring



Chair of East Lancs Prostate Cancer Support Group Dave Riley, Stuart Marshall (secretary), Burnley MP Gordon Birtwistle, Tracy Cooke (clinical nurse specialist neurology) and Mr Mohan Pillai (consultant neurologist) with the old scanner.

A massive £50,000 fund-raising campaign by Burnley's MP to replace a life-saving prostate scanner at Burnley General Hospital which he helped fund 10 years ago has reached its target.

Mr Gordon Birtwistle, who was moved to launch the campaign after his father died from prostate cancer, said he had been overwhelmed by the generosity of Burnley people and said the vital equipment has now been ordered.

The scanner should be up and running and open to

patients in around six weeks.

"Negotiations for the base scanner for the hospital have been ongoing and we have managed to get it for £40,000. I wrote the cheque on Friday," said Mr Birtwistle.

"The response from people in Burnley has been absolutely fantastic. I never believed the appeal would have done so well. We only started the appeal at the end of June. We now need to raise a further £17,000 for the portable prostate scanner and portable bladder cancer scanner.

"We haven't been given any money from big organisations, this has all come from the people of Burnley giving what they can, from people stopping me in the street to give £5 to two people who have plenty of money giving me £4,000 a piece.

"It was daunting when we first started this but the support we've had has been amazing."

Mr Birtwistle helped to fund the hospital's current scanner, which he said is now outdated, when he was Mayor of Burnley a decade ago.

Please Note!

**May Meeting 2014
Has Been Cancelled
Due To Unavailability
Of The Usual
Venue & That This
Decision Was Best To
Maintain Continuity.**

**Many Thanks
The Crew**

Stop prostate cancer in its tracks with this honeybee humdinger

Dear Reader,

Prostate cancer? For the head-in-the-sand brigade it's still something that only happens to the other guy.

For those who take on board the widespread publicity, it's a very real fear that stalks men, especially of a certain age.

And it's hardly reassuring when Iain Frame, director of research at Prostate Cancer UK, describes diagnosis of the disease as a 'minefield'.

Especially when you consider that prostate cancer is officially the third biggest killer of men in the UK, affecting one in 12 men, with 9500 fatalities amongst the 22,000 contracting the disease.

So, the announcement of a new and more accurate form of diagnosis than the notoriously unreliable PSA blood test, which has been the standard method of testing for years, can only be good news.

Dr Frame's full comment was: 'The minefield of prostate cancer diagnosis is one of the biggest hurdles facing treatment of the disease today. Current tests fail to differentiate between aggressive cancers that could go on to kill and cancers that may never cause any harm.'

'This lack of clarity means that too often men and their doctors are left having to make incredibly difficult decisions on whether to treat the disease or not.'

The new test, pioneered by a team at Surrey University, involves searching the patient's urine for a protein called EN2, which is not made by healthy people, but is pumped out by tumours.

In trials, it detected about 70 per cent of prostate cancers, making it twice as accurate as the PSA test.

The test has a second advantage. Unlike PSA, the amount of EN2 in urine corresponds with the size of the tumour.

This is important because, as Dr Frame points out, prostate cancer is not always life-threatening. It often grows slowly and does not always need to be treated straight away.

Whilst this new test is not 100 per cent accurate, it could bring new hope for many men with tumours that will do them little harm, and potentially save them from unnecessary surgery and radiotherapy - both of which carry a high risk of incontinence and impotence.

If you're at all concerned about your prostate – or you just want to avoid problems occurring in the first place, then find out [HERE](#) how you can bypass Big Pharma with cutting edge natural solutions proven to prevent and fight prostate problems, including the honeybee humdinger that's been shown to stop cancer cells in their tracks.

Here's to perfect prostate health!

Rachael Linkie
Editor
Journal of Natural Health Solutions

[P.S. Read here how you can protect yourself with 112 natural approaches for a perfect prostate.](#)

William Smith 16th April 2014



From Left to Right Hazel Goulding (Treasurer) Leon D Wright (IT Admin) Stuart Marshall (Secretary) Steve Laird (Vice Chairman) Dave Riley (Chairman)

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We are a group of local people who know about prostate cancer. We are a friendly organisation dedicated to offering support to men who have had or who are experiencing the effects of this potentially life threatening disease.

The East Lanc's Prostate Cancer Support Group offers a place for free exchange of information and help for local men and their supporters (family and friends) who may be affected by this increasingly common form of male cancer.

At each meeting we strive to be a happy, supportive and upbeat group of people; encouraging open discussion on what can be a very difficult and perhaps for some an embarrassing subject. We have lively, informative, interactive, sharing and above all supportive meetings.

For active monitoring of prostate cancer, non-invasive imaging can be used instead of repeated biopsy

Your body's cells have two major interconnected energy sources: the lipid metabolism and the glucose metabolism. Most cancers feed themselves by metabolizing glucose, and thus can be seen in Positron Emission Topography (PET) scans that detect radiolabeled glucose. However, prostate cancers tend to use the lipid metabolism route and so cannot be imaged in this way effectively.

A University of Colorado Cancer Center study presented at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting 2014 describes a novel method to "manipulate the lipid metabolism in the cancer cell to trick them to use more radiolabeled glucose, the basis of PET scanning," says Isabel Schlaepfer, PhD, investigator at the CU Cancer Center Department of Pharmacology, and recipient of a 2014 Minority Scholar Award in Cancer Research from AACR.

The current study used the clinically safe drug etomoxir to block prostate cancer cells' ability to oxidize lipids. With the lipid energy source removed, cells switched to glucose metabolism and both cells and mouse models roughly doubled their uptake of radiolabeled glucose.

"Because prostate cancer can be a slow-growing disease, instead of immediate treatment, many men choose active surveillance - they watch and wait. But that requires repeated prostate biopsies. Instead, now we could use this metabolic technique to allow PET imaging to monitor prostate cancer progression without the need for so many biopsies," says Schlaepfer.

Schlaepfer also points out possible therapeutic application of the technique: while immediately useful for imaging, it may be that cutting off a prostate cancer cell's ability to supply itself with energy from lipids could make it difficult for these cells to survive.