

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PENNSYLVANIA
PROSTATE
CANCER COALITION**KRISTINE WARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
KRISTINE@PAPROSTATECANCER.ORG
717 514-0321

PA PROSTATE CANCER TASK FORCE REPORT IS RELEASED

*PA Prostate Cancer Coalition rallies on March 7 to ask the Legislature
To fund and implement recommendations to save lives.*

Harrisburg, PA: Created by Act 66 of 2015, the Prostate Cancer Task Force spent the last year addressing the complicated issues and challenges that Pennsylvania faces in prostate cancer, the most commonly diagnosed cancer for men. ***On Tuesday, March 7, at 9 am, the PA Prostate Cancer Coalition will rally in the Capitol Rotunda—asking the General Assembly to include recommendations from this report in their 2017-18 state budget.***

The Task Force identified many areas of concern, which are grouped into the following categories in the report: Surveillance, Screening, Diagnosis & Treatment, Survivorship, and Policy. This report addresses the need to address the full spectrum of prostate health services for Pennsylvania men. This service spectrum ranges from information and education to disease surveillance to medical and quality of life services to insurance coverage for such services.

“As the only statewide organization focused on prostate cancer in PA, we are picking up this report and running with the recommendations,” said COL (Ret) James Williams (USA), Chairman of the PA Prostate Cancer Coalition (PPCC) and Prostate Cancer Task Force member. “So many reports just sit on a shelf and collect dust when they’re completed. I promised my colleagues on the task force that PPCC and its network of survivors and caregivers wouldn’t let that happen,” continued Mr. Williams.

The PA Prostate Cancer Coalition has identified a few key recommendations in the report which, if funded in a public-private partnership, will provide the most impact in the shortest timeline:

1. Allocate resources to collect and analyze better diagnosis and treatment data for prostate cancer and establish a statewide database supporting performance measurement and quality improvement in prostate cancer care and outcomes. The Pennsylvania Urologic Regional Collaborative is an example of a pilot program that collects, analyzes, and reports data from diagnosis through treatment to improve patient outcomes at participating health systems and urology practices.
2. Advance educational strategies to improve public knowledge of prostate health and smart screening guidelines. The PPCC has been promoting prostate cancer awareness campaigns for three years in pockets of Pennsylvania, but needs additional support to make a difference statewide.
3. Educate primary care physicians and other health care providers about prostate cancer screening recommendations, and promote the use of new technologies for enhanced diagnosis of prostate cancer. All Pennsylvania men should have their prostate cancer risk assessed, and discussions about prostate cancer screening and treatment, without regard of where they seek care.

About the PA Prostate Cancer Coalition

The Pennsylvania Prostate Cancer Coalition (PPCC) is the only statewide men’s health advocacy coalition in the Commonwealth. The PPCC works to increase the public’s health literacy of prostate cancer risks and to educate Pennsylvania legislators on improvements to men’s health policy.

Pennsylvania’s fathers, brothers and sons need timely and accurate information about prostate cancer. One in seven men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. One in ten of those men diagnosed will be under age 55. Without prostate cancer education, health literacy, and proper screening, the men we care about won’t be getting the healthcare they deserve.



**PENNSYLVANIA
PROSTATE
CANCER COALITION**

MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT: KRISTINE WARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
717 514-0321  KRISTINE@PAPROSTATECANCER.ORG

PA PROSTATE CANCER TASK FORCE REPORT IS RELEASED

*PA Prostate Cancer Coalition rallies on March 7 to ask the Legislature
To fund and implement recommendations to save lives.*

WHO: Pennsylvania Prostate Cancer Coalition

The Pennsylvania Prostate Cancer Coalition (PPCC) is the only statewide men's health advocacy coalition in the Commonwealth. With a mission to extend and improve the quality of life for our fathers, brothers, and sons through prostate cancer awareness, education and the advocacy of responsible screening, the PPCC works to increase the public's health literacy of prostate cancer risks and to educate Pennsylvania legislators on improvements to men's health policy.

WHAT: Press Conference & Rally in support of Prostate Cancer Task Force Report

Created by Act 66 of 2015, the Prostate Cancer Task Force spent the last year addressing the complicated issues and challenges that Pennsylvania faces in prostate cancer, the most commonly diagnosed cancer for men.

Speakers Include:

State Sen. Bob Mensch, Sponsor of SB 609/Act 66 of 2015

COL (Ret) James E. Williams, Jr. (USA), Chairman of PA Prostate Cancer Coalition and Prostate Cancer Task Force Member

Dr. Marc Smaldone, MD, MSHP, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Department of Surgical Oncology, Collaborative Clinical Champion, PURC

WHERE: PA State Capitol, Main Rotunda

WHEN: Tuesday, March 7 at 9:00 am

WHY: Pennsylvania's fathers, brothers and sons need timely and accurate information about prostate cancer. One in seven men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. One in ten of those men diagnosed will be under age 55. Without prostate cancer education, health literacy, and proper screening, the men we care about won't be getting the healthcare they deserve.
