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### **PROSTAID Calgary**

is a proud member of the Prostate Cancer Canada Network of support groups.

# The Digital Examiner www.prostaidcalgary.org

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"We have two options, medically and emotionally: give up or fight like hell." – Lance Armstrong

## AGM Highlights - Minutes June 9th, 2020

The Society AGM was held on June 9th via Zoom. There were approximately 20 members in good standing present, thus reaching quorum.

The Financial Statements for the year ending December 31st, 2019 and the report from the auditor (MNP) are available to any members requesting to see them. Please contact the Treasurer. Financial Statements and Auditors Report were accepted as presented. MNP has been appointed the auditor for the Society for this year as well.

The Society has 10 Directors who have indicated their willingness to be in the position for one more year. Bob Phillips was appointed as a new Director to the Board. The bylaws allow for as many as 15 Directors and there are currently two who would like to step down. If you are interested in becoming more involved, please contact any member of the Board directly.

Our guest speaker was Dr. Colleen Cuthbert speaking on "Patients as Partners in Cancer Research". You can watch/listen to her presentation on the You tube Channel <u>here</u>.

President Brad Sterling also provided a video update. You can view that <u>here</u> as well.

Have a walk through of our newly updated website. We are trying to keep you as informed as possible, even with the current precautions and restrictions. If you have suggestions or comments, please feel free to reach out and let us know. Meeting Schedule Next regular meeting TBD, 2020 depending on Kerby Centre Re-opening and precautions

# info@prostaidcalgary.org

# SIDE BAR:

Wow, August, already... hope everyone is enjoying the sunny days and incredible evening storms.



#### Of particular note:

- Trying out some new content for the DE; by including more articles on various topics, hoping to spur some conversations/discussions. Comments can be sent via the website or on our Facebook page. You can also contact me directly: program.director@PROSTAID.org
- \* The Kerby Centre has reopened with considerable precautions in place. The Board is being cautious on behalf of the membership regarding returning to inperson general meetings. The earliest possible would be October. We are also considering a September VIRTUAL General Meeting with a guest speaker.
- Taking advantage of the digital format and including extra content this month too.

Have a safe and wonderful summer,

Dorothy Rodehutskors Program Director PROSTAID Calgary

Digital Examiner Page 2

# **Recent Articles of Interest:**

## Implementation of Germline Testing for Prostate Cancer - June 11, 2020

Germline testing (GT) is a central feature of prostate cancer (PCa) treatment, management, and hereditary cancer assessment. Critical needs include optimized multigene testing strategies that incorporate evolving genetic data, consistency in GT indications and management, and alternate genetic evaluation models that address the rising demand for genetic services.

Read the full article here...

## Integrating Geriatric Assessment and Management into Cancer Care Improves Quality of Life, Reduces Hospital Admissions for Older Patients - May 13, 2020

Comprehensive geriatric assessment is a detailed systematic evaluation of an older person that identifies medical, psychosocial, and functional limitations. Currently, a person with cancer is typically referred to a geriatrician only in the later stages of their illness when they experience significant problems with completing everyday tasks. However, an integrated approach involving comprehensive geriatric assessment and early geriatrician involvement (also known as "integrated oncogeriatric care") can help create a coordinated plan to optimize the older person with cancer.

#### Read rest of the news release ...

Related article ....



"Men have four problems in life son. Women, money, booze, and prostate."

WordPress.com

# Active Surveillance for Low-Risk Prostate cancer—

This is the inaugural video in a new UroToday Center of Excellence focused on localized prostate cancer in which one of our major areas of interest is going to be active surveillance and evolution of management for low-risk prostate cancer.

Watch the full video or read the transcript ...

## Benefits of PSA Test for Prostate Cancer Substantially Greater than Generally Appreciated - June 17, 2020

The benefits of the prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test to screen men for prostate cancer may be greater than the harm, say investigators at Weill Cornell Medicine, New York-Presbyterian, University of Washington School of Medicine and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Physicians have been lukewarm or opposed to the routine use of the PSA test, but in a commentary published in the New England Journal of Medicine, the investigators demonstrate that these recommendations are based on problematic estimates of the benefits and harms of screening. They argue that the evidence suggests more widespread screening will reduce deaths and help men avoid debilitating metastatic disease.

#### Read the full article here ...

#### Related article ...

## New Recommendations on Implementing Genetic Testing for Prostate Cancer - July 1, 2020

An international panel of experts have published the first multidisciplinary, consensus-driven prostate cancer genetic implementation framework for the precision medicine era. The consensus framework is a unified approach to help guide a spectrum of health care providers in facilitating prostate cancer genetic testing in a timely and responsible manner.

Key recommendations include a strong endorsement to test all men with metastatic prostate cancer to inform precision medicine or clinical trial eligibility, as well as men with a family history suggesting hereditary prostate cancer.

Read full Blog post here ....

Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at the Kerby Centre (TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED due to Co-Vid 19) Digital Examiner Page 3



In the News:

Dr. Kamran Shazand is a Canadian geneticist who recently moved from Toronto to Tampa, FL to head up a new research institute at the Shriners Hospital for children. On March 21st, he started to exhibit symptoms of COVID 19. He tested positive.

World reports suggest that men are hit harder than women with the virus. They are more likely to be hospitalized, more likely to end up in ICU and significantly more likely to die.

Canada is teaming up with the UK and the US, hoping to better understand the genes behind the disease. **Other Newsletters:** 

Canadian Urological Association, Spring 2020 Newsletter



Read more here.... The Globe & Mail

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# Videos:

<u>10 June 2020 Prostate Cancer Highlights</u> - virtual discussion about the main prostate cancer highlights from ASCO 2020. Dr. Kim Chi of the BC Cancer Research Centre is part of the panel.

## 19 June 2020 Practice Changers in Palliative

<u>Care and Acupuncture</u> - Two interesting presentations: one on acupuncture and how it might impact patient care, the other on earlier palliative care and patients actually live longer and have a higher quality of life.

## Treating Incontinence after Prostate Cancer

<u>Surgery</u> - Certified specialist presents on one of the most challenging complications; post-prostatectomy incontinence. The full transcript of the video is also included.



**New in Our Library** 

Look for all the new material on the library table at our next in-person meeting. The resources are physically located at the Kerby Centre and not accessible at this time.

If you require assistance in locating online resources, please contact us and someone will be happy to help.



