

East Lancashire Prostate Cancer Support Group Newsletter



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“EXTRA TIME”

Life Saving PSA Testing Event

3rd April 2016

After 2 Years & 3 Events 1,120 Men have been tested 273 in 2015 465 in Feb & 382 in April

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PSA Testing Figures for 2016 Surpass the Result of 2015 Inaugural Event “869”

On behalf of the East Lancashire Prostate Cancer Support Group I would once again like to thank you for permitting us to place leaflets and (or) Posters in your premises to help with the promotion of the **‘Extra Time’ Prostate Cancer Blood testing event** at Burnley Football Club, Turf Moor on Saturday 2nd April. This event was organised primarily to facilitate all the men who could not be tested at the February testing due to the sheer number of men who turned up for the test. At the event on February 13th **465** men were tested with another 150 – 200 having to be ‘turned away’ due to lack of time and materials.

Once again the April 2nd event proved amazingly successful with a further **404** men attending! (between 9-30 am and 12noon) to have the simple test.

In February 2015 we held the first ever PSA Blood Testing Event in the North West and the first at a major Football Club. **A total of 1,142 men have now been tested for Prostate Cancer over the three events thanks to your help.**

In line with the national average just under 10% of the men tested have been recommended to visit their GP’s for further consultation.

We thank you greatly for your support and for ‘potentially’ helping to save men’s lives, we hope that you can support us again in the future.

Out of the 404 tested 350 Results were Green 16 Amber & 38 Red.

“The cholesterol drug 'that kills prostate cancer': Compound within experimental treatment is found to cause cancerous cells to fall apart and die”

An experimental drug designed to lower cholesterol may turn out to be an effective weapon against prostate cancer, research has shown.

Tumours need cholesterol to build their cell walls. By cutting their cholesterol production a chemical compound known as RO 48-8071 causes the cancerous cells to fall apart and die.

Professor Salman Hyder, from the University of Missouri in the US, who led the research said: 'Often, cancer patients are treated with toxic chemotherapies.



Tumours need cholesterol to build their cell walls but by cutting their cholesterol production a chemical compound known as RO 48-8071 causes the cancerous cells to fall apart and die (file photo)

'We focused on reducing the production of cholesterol, which could kill [the] cancer and reduce the need for chemotherapy.'

The study, to appear in the journal *OncoTargets and Therapy*, tells how Professor Hyder's team found that the drug killed cancer cells in the laboratory.

Nearly 11,000 men die from prostate cancer in Britain each year.

The compound was originally developed by the drug company Roche for the treatment of high cholesterol.

Prof Hyder's team found that human prostate cancer cells exposed to the drug in the laboratory died.

When the drug was injected into mice with human prostate cancer, tumour growth was curbed.

Importantly, the drug appeared to be effective against prostate cancer cells that had become resistant to hormone treatments.

Prostate cancer is initially tackled by preventing its growth being fuelled by the male hormone testosterone. But over time, the cancer stops responding to this treatment.

Professor Salman Hyder, from the University of Missouri in the US, who led the research said: 'Often, cancer patients are treated with toxic chemotherapies' (file photo)

One way tumours ensure their survival is by manufacturing their own testosterone through a process that relies on cholesterol.

'Cholesterol ... can contribute to the development of anti-hormone resistance because cholesterol is converted into hormones in tumour cells,' said Prof Hyder.

'Therefore, these cholesterol-forming pathways are attractive therapeutic targets for the treatment of prostate cancer.'

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-3544934/The-cholesterol-drug-kills-prostate-cancer-Compound-experimental-treatment-cause-cancerous-cells-fall-apart-die.html#ixzz46AgOkDlv>

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

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.

Sponsors



Minutes of meeting 63 Thursday 3rd March 2016

Venue Mackenzie centre Burnley Gen. Hospital

20 people present, including wives of members and Debbie our specialist Urology nurse. Apologies received from Leon, Kevin and Alan and Sandra P.

Chairman's Report

Dave opened the meeting by reading the Minutes of the February Meeting and discussing matters arising. He mentioned that we had been awarded a grant from the Federation and explained that £50 of the money + £50 extra had gone to last month's speaker "Medical Detection Dogs". Dogs that may detect cancer by sniffing urine samples, particularly Prostate Cancer in men. £500 has been donated to Prostate Cancer Research and a grateful thank-you letter has been received mentioning that it will enable them to carry on with their work of Prostate Cancer detection and other illnesses.

The chairman of "tackle" Roger Wotton is going to be the speaker next month. He will be attending Christie's hospital for a talk and he kindly intends to stop another night to give us a talk on the Thursday of our next meeting

Blood testing event at Burnley Football Club Saturday 13th February 2016. Dave thanked all helpers of the above event. 465 men were tested with approximately 150 – 200 being turned away. Some of the men were understandably not happy after waiting for more than 1 hour, but if there was a negative to it there was more positive! Talks are underway about holding another event soon, to "capture" all the men who unfortunately had to be turned away.

Dave spoke on a future event to be held at Christies Hospital on 9th April 2016. It is a PC (NW) sponsorship event called "Bone Health and survivorship". There is to be another speaker, hopefully a G.P. but more will be reported on this at the next meeting.

Secretary's Report

Stuart reported on the above blood testing event, saying that there were 20 people giving out leaflets, about the future blood testing event, at the Burnley Hull City match, 6th February – most of them connected to the East Lancs Prostate Cancer Support Group. The blood testing event was well publicised with Radio Lancashire doing their Saturday morning programme from the event at Turf Moor. 465 people were tested with 21 people in the red bracket - (serious) and 18 people amber - (to see their own doctor). A general discussion took place as to why men go to a blood testing event when it's held at a football club or similar yet find it difficult to go to their own doctor.

John H. thought that it could be extended to all football clubs (with perhaps some other sort of health checks too)! It was mentioned that it saved the National Health lots of money. Whilst talking about this John H asked for volunteers for the bucket collection at Turf Moor by Prostate Cancer UK and organised by John and his trusty cohorts – for the pre match collection, 9th March – Wolves v Burnley.