

East Lancashire Prostate Cancer Support Group Newsletter



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Statin drugs can delay prostate cancer progression in patients receiving androgen deprivation therapy, study shows May 07, 2015

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Men who went on cholesterol-lowering statin drugs when they began androgen deprivation therapy for prostate cancer had a longer time in which their disease was under control than did men who didn't take statins, a clinical trial led by Dana-Farber Cancer Institute investigators shows. In a study published online today by *JAMA Oncology*, the researchers report that men who had been taking statins since the start of androgen deprivation

therapy (ADT) went a median of 27.5 months before their disease began to worsen, compared to 17.4 months for men who didn't take statins. The trial involved 926 patients, 70 percent of whom had their



Philip Kantoff, MD

disease progress during a six-year period. "This median 10-month benefit in delay-

ing disease progression suggests that statins could be a valuable addition to our current therapies for prostate cancer," says the study's first author, Lauren Harshman, MD, medical oncologist at the Lank Center for Genitourinary Oncology at Dana-Farber.

"These results are supported by multiple prior epidemiologic studies demonstrating that statin use may be associated with improved outcomes in prostate cancer, but require validation." Lauren Harshman,

MD

The trial grew out of laboratory studies that suggested statins could delay prostate cancer growth in patients receiving ADT. (ADT reduces the amount of androgen in the body, preventing prostate cancer cells from using it to fuel their growth. For many years, it has been the frontline treatment for patients with hormone-sensitive prostate cancer that has spread beyond the prostate gland.

The laboratory phase of the research focused on a protein called SLCO2B1, which helps a variety of drugs and hormones enter cells. One of these immigrants to the cell is dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate (DHEAS), a precursor of testosterone, the hormone that spurs prostate cancer cell growth. Statin drugs, too, rely on SLCO2B1 to gain entry to cells.

In a series of experiments, the researchers showed that statins could interfere with DHEAS uptake in lab-grown prostate cancer cell lines. By monopolizing the available pool of SLCO2B1 within a prostate tumor, statins essentially deny

DHEAS a passkey to the cancer cells. The clinical study results suggest this approach could be effective in patients.

"We present a plausible mechanism by which statins may work in prostate cancer by decreasing the tumor's available androgen pool and thus improving patient outcomes," says the study's senior author, Philip Kantoff, MD, leader of the Lank Center for Genitourinary Oncology and chief of solid tumor oncology at Dana-Farber. "Further study is required to validate our findings."

Co-authors of the study are Xiaodong Wang, PhD, Mari Nakabayashi, MD, Wanling Xie, MS, Loana Valenca, MD, Lillian Werner, MS, Aaron Kantoff, Christopher Sweeney, MBBS, Mark Pomerantz, MD, and Gwo-Shu Mary Lee, PhD, of Dana-Farber; Yongjiang Yu, PhD, of Dana-Farber and Xinhua Hospital, Shanghai, China; and Lorelei Mucci, ScD, of Harvard School of Public Health.

The research was funded by the Dana-Farber Prostate

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Lauren Harshman, MD



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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.

“DIY Colonoscopy Kit” by LIDL ***From France Just For You.***

By Colin Ormiston



East Lancs PC Support Group - Article for Tackle Mag

Good morning Hugh, John Goulding and myself attended a private event last night at Burnley FC - (FRi 26th June)

The event was organised by Lauren Fallows and her Father - John, the event titled Burnley v Cancer was the second year that they have held the event following the loss of Lauren's Grandad to Prostate Cancer and they are really very passionate about raising awareness of the disease. Having seen the promotional article in our local Burnley newspaper back in May I contacted Lauren to offer her the use of our Display Stand and she really thought it was an excellent idea!

Just over 350 people were present at the event - and what an event it was! The whole evening was themed with a 1920s Gangster twist and 12 casino tables, a soul/ blues style band, raffle & food. **Both** events they have held each raised over £4000 for Cancer Research UK and local PC causes. At the end of the evening we were given quite a surprise when John and Lauren offered us a £250 donation for our support group!

We all offer them our sincere thanks for their efforts in raising awareness and supporting the needs of Prostate Cancer.

Photo: Lauren/father john - Centre, John Goulding - left, yours truly- right

Stuart Marshall



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For more information, please contact Lesley Pierce on 07900953001 or email
nhflesley@aol.com



24 June 2015

Dear Dave. This email is being sent all of the member groups of the Prostate Cancer Support Federation and to you as the point for contact for East Lancs PCSG. Please would you distribute it to your committee and members as you think fit.

East Lancs PCSG

Dear Dave,

Once more, I am asking for articles for Prostate Matters. If your group have held an event or done something you would like to tell us about, please let me know.

Entries need to be in Microsoft Word format, have a maximum of 300 words and have one or two illustrations/photos. So that the reproduction of photo's is possible, they need to be Hi Res JPGs or PDFs with a file size of at least one meg. Scans from newspapers do not work, nor do pictures embedded in Word documents.

We are also having a letters page, so if you have anything to say, please email me at the above address.

Prostate Matters is YOUR newsletter and if you have any suggestions on how we can improve it, please let me know.

Best wishes

Hugh

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