

Florida Prostate Connection

An independent monthly newsletter

dedicated to providing information on prostate cancer awareness, education & support

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Orlando, FL

Younger Men With Advanced Prostate Cancer Have Shorter Survival Times

While young men with prostate cancer have a low risk of dying early, those with advanced forms of cancer do not live as long as older men with similar forms of the disease. That is the conclusion of a new study in the July 2009 issue of *CANCER*, a peer-reviewed journal of the American Cancer Society.

▼ BIOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN YOUNGER & OLDER MEN?

The paradoxical findings indicate that there may be biological differences between prostate cancers that develop in younger men and those that develop in older men, and that uncovering these differences may help tailor screening and treatment strategies for patients based on age.

In general, a younger cancer patient has a better prognosis than an older patient with the same type of cancer. Few studies have analyzed the health of younger vs. older men after diagnosis and treatment for prostate cancer, though.

To investigate the impact of age on prostate cancer prognosis, Daniel Lin, M.D., of the University of Washington and colleagues designed a study to examine the association between age at diagnosis and health outcomes in men diagnosed with prostate cancer in the United States.

The analysis revealed that, over time, men are being diagnosed with prostate cancer at younger ages, likely due to more extensive screening. Also, younger men are more likely to be treated with prostatectomy, have less aggressive cancers, and have a better chance of survival after 10 years compared with older men.

However, among men with advanced prostate cancers, the youngest men (aged 35 to 44 years) have a particularly poor prognosis compared with older men. These young men are more likely to die from cancer or another cause sooner than older men with similar forms of cancer.

Mining the National Cancer Institute's database for

Surveillance, Epidemiology, & End Results (SEER),

investigators identified 318,774 men diagnosed with prostate cancer between 1988 & 2003.

Men aged 35 to 74 years

were stratified by age

at the time of diagnosis,

& researchers examined differences in tumor characteristics, treatment, & survival in each age group.

▼ UNEXPECTED FINDING UNCLEAR

-- While the reasons for this unexpected finding are not clear, the researchers suspect that young men with advanced prostate cancer may have biologically more aggressive forms of the disease than the forms that are diagnosed in older men.

Additional studies are needed to determine what, if any, underlying differences exist between advanced prostate cancer found in young men vs. those found in older men. These studies may help clinicians improve screening in young men and could

ultimately lead to the development of better treatment strategies for these patients.

Article: "Treatment and survival outcomes in young men diagnosed with prostate cancer: a population based cohort study." Daniel W. Lin, Michael Porter, and Bruce Montgomery.

CANCER; Published Online: May 22, 2009 (DOI: 10.1002/cncr.24324); Print Issue Date: July 1, 2009.

medicalnewstoday.com/articles/151047.php

emaxhealth.com/1020/33/31321/younger-men-advanced-prostate-cancer-have-shorter-lifespan.html

Source: David Sampson, American Cancer Society

Major League Baseball's Reminder on Father's Day

Entire league sports blue for prostate cancer awareness

Once a curiosity, now it's a tradition. Once a little spot of Sunday color, now it's a tribute opposing players and umpires can share alike with pride, and in many different ways. It's a symbol not only of awareness, but of hope, and of success. But when it comes down to it, it's a powder-blue reminder that there's a killer out there.

Major League Baseball was blue all over to commemorate Father's Day once again Sunday, June 21, from the original wristbands tribute to lineup cards and uniform logos. The program began in 1996 in conjunction with the Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF).

With these blues, the PCF, a leader in the fight against the cancer that strikes one in six men, will continue to find great joy, because the message is being conveyed and resources are being gathered to fight the dreaded disease.

This is one killer that early detection and heightened awareness can combat, and that's where baseball's players and teams -- and more important, its fans -- have stepped up to the plate and delivered.

► **Home Run Challenge** -- Spearheaded by the annual Home Run Challenge, this 13-year partnership has raised more than \$31 million for the cause, with those funds going directly to the PCF for research. From what began with a few blue wristbands a few years ago, it's now a full-fledged enterprise of awareness and hope.



► **Everyone on the field wore blue** -- So again this Father's Day, baseball honored dads by spreading the word. At every game played on Blue Sunday, players, managers, coaches, trainers, umpires and groundskeepers wore blue wristbands and ribbon uniform decals, all clubs used a special blue dugout lineup card and at stadiums across the country valuable information was imparted.

► **The goal of of it all?** -- To promote awareness of prostate cancer and show support for those fighting it and those whose families have been touched by it.

The Home Run Challenge, the keynote of this ongoing effort with one Major Leaguer representing each club, came to its conclusion for another year on Father's Day as well. The annual homer challenge enables fans to make monetary donations to the Prostate Cancer Foundation at www.pcf.org for each home run hit during MLB games from June 11-21, including all games played on Dad's Day. Major League Baseball Charities has committed \$50,000 to PCF as part of the "Home Run Challenge" program.

It's all part of one big, blue reminder about prostate cancer.

► **Baseball's other cancer awareness programs** -- Indeed, much like their participation with the Mother's Day "Going to Bat Against Breast Cancer" program and the Stand Up To Cancer initiative involving ABC, CBS, NBC and the entertainment industry, people around baseball reach out oftentimes because they have been touched by the disease themselves, directly or indirectly.

Thus, the PCF, MLB and other organizations have a fight on their hands, with awareness their main weapon.

<http://mlb.com/news/article>

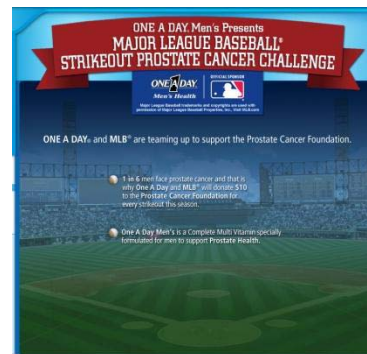
One A Day & Major League Baseball Once Again Team Up To Strike Out Prostate Cancer

This is the second year of the Strikeout Prostate Cancer Challenge. During the inaugural 2008 season, the program raised a total of \$333,780.

Based on that success, One A Day and Major League Baseball will again make a \$10 donation for every strikeout recorded this season to The Prostate Cancer Foundation, to support research for prostate cancer.

Bayer HealthCare is the manufacturer of One A Day products, including One A Day Men's.

<http://sev.prnewswire.com/entertainment/20090616/NY3262316062009-1.html>



MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS -- 2009

JANUARY -- Support group presentation at Macy's in Millenia Mall... Other cancers: Breast cancer in men: not common, but men do get it... presentation on estate planning: wills, revocable living trusts, durable power of attorney, health care surrogates & living wills... presentation on hospice & palliative care

FEBRUARY -- Expectant Management (Watchful Waiting) cancer.org... Surgical robot draws attention during local visit... Other cancers: Five Myths About Colon cancer -- cancer.org... Spousal caregivers may live longer

MARCH -- Target scan 3D ultrasound biopsy - medicalnewstoday.com/articles/135795.php... Other cancers: Lung cancer -- Several types -- cancer.org

APRIL -- New study: Early results favorable for 5-day radiation treatment of early stage prostate cancer; sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/03/090316075719; Radio host has prostate cancer; His show could educate & raise fund for research -- news.bostonherald.com/2009_03_17_Don_Iamus_prostate_cancer

MAY -- Two Clinical Trials: New England Journal of Medicine -- Debate Rages On -- Prostate Cancer Screening: Weigh Risks, Benefits With Your Doctor; Speak up! Contact your Senators to support Prostate Cancer Research at The Dept. of Defense

JUNE -- Biomarkers May Predict Aggressiveness of Prostate Cancer -- forbes.com 5/5/2009...