

# THE PROSTATE CANCER ADVISORY COUNCIL 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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<http://prostatecanceradvisorycouncil.org/>

## Situation Analysis

The Florida Prostate Cancer Advisory Council (PCAC) was established in 2004 by state statute 381.911 and remains under the direction of the University of Florida Prostate Disease Center (UFPDC). The task of PCAC is to advise the governor, state surgeon general and state legislature on statewide issues regarding prostate cancer incidence and mortality as well as related health disparities for access to care and prostate cancer treatment. PCAC is a collaborative, multi-institutional and inter-disciplinary advisory body focused on a communication platform that promotes education and awareness as well as improved detection and management of prostate cancer statewide. PCAC is required to file an annual report update to the Governor, State Surgeon General and the Florida Legislature.

Membership in the UFPDC PCAC is by appointment of the executive director of the UFPDC in consultation with the Department of Health's Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and State Surgeon General to cover a geographically and institutionally diverse advisory council that shall consist of 9 members:

- Two persons from prostate cancer survivor groups or cancer-related advocacy groups.
- Four persons, one of whom is a physician licensed under chapter 458, one of whom is a physician licensed under chapter 459, one of whom is a scientist, one of whom is the executive director of the UFPDC or designee.
- Three persons who are engaged in the practice of cancer related medical specialty from health organizations committed to cancer research and control.

## 2022 PCAC Proposed Membership Renewals

- **Matthew C. Abramowitz, MD**
  - Statute: Researcher/Scientist
  - Term: January 2022 – January 2024                      2 Years
  
- **Wayne Brisbane, MD**
  - Executive Director PCAC, University of Florida
  - Term: January 2022 – January 2026                      4 Years
  
- **Charles Griggs**
  - Statute: Patient Advocate/Prostate Cancer Survivor Group
  - Term: January 2022 - January 2024                      2 Years
  
- **Daniel Landau, MD**
  - Statute: Cancer Related Specialty
  - Term: January 2022 - January 2023                      1 Year
  - \*serving the remainder of Dr. Hajdenberg's term*

## Executive Summary

The 2021 annual meeting of the Florida Prostate Cancer Advisory Council was held virtually on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Board members and guests attended by invitation and public notice. Speakers and participants addressed the pandemic impact on prostate cancer screening overall but especially as it affected pre-existing disparities in screening. Additionally, experts across the fields of genetics, imaging, and simulation addressed the evolution of precision diagnosis and treatment. Statewide institutions represented included UF Gainesville and UF Jacksonville, Mayo Clinic Jacksonville, University of Miami Sylvester Cancer Center, Orlando Health Cancer Institute, and H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center. The Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council (CCRAB) was represented by Chairperson Dr. Clement Gwede and the Florida Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC) was represented by Chairperson Dr. Daniel Armstrong.

PCAC working goals for 2021 emphasized the ongoing collaboration with the existing statewide cancer councils (CCRAB and BRAC) including the support of the statewide cancer plan in regards to reducing statewide prostate cancer morbidity and mortality. Prostate cancer related goals within the cancer plan include the broad discussion of screening with all men at risk with implementation of screening especially in subpopulations of men at increased risk for aggressive prostate cancer.

Education of patients, patient advocates, researchers and providers across the state in regards to prostate cancer issues is paramount to the mission of PCAC. In that regard, PCAC continues to strengthen its educational partnerships including with the CDC (Centers for Disease Prevention and Control) and PHEN (Prostate Health Education Network) to share updated links and enhanced information. The website has been additionally upgraded to a more user-friendly format(<http://prostatecanceradvisorycouncil.org/>). The vision of PCAC is to improve outcomes related to the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer and to address and reduce ethnic/racial disparities related to prostate cancer.

Dr. Lisa Richardson from the CDC and Dr. Keith Crawford from PHEN shared data with the board that reflected the impact of the pandemic on prostate cancer screening. 2020 data revealed a decrease in prostate cancer screening of 35% based on billing frequencies. Although 2021 data, including from the American Cancer Society, suggests a partial reversal of that trend, the question remains what is the long-term impact of decreased screening and subsequent delayed diagnosis on survival. We have previously seen the long-term negative impact of delayed diagnosis based on the Grade D recommendations for screening by the USPSTF in 2012. We have also seen the additional impact of less screening on high risk populations. African American men are known to be at greater risk for the development as well as death from prostate cancer and are the least likely to participate in screening programs. An additional concern is whether the negative impact of the pandemic on screening mirrored or exacerbated pre-existing screening disparities.

Dr. Richardson also commented on the legislative landscape for prostate cancer including H.R. 6092 which was recently passed. This bill was introduced by Florida Congressman Neal Dunn and establishes a national clinical pathway for prostate cancer and standardizes treatment in the veteran's health system. Dr. Richardson also discussed H.R. 5558 which has been referred to the

house committee on Energy and Commerce. This bill reauthorizes preventive health measures in respect to prostate cancer and funds CDC programs to prevent and detect prostate cancer.

Board member Dr. Ali Kasraeian addressed the board on variations of care between specialists across the state for treatment of prostate cancer patients based on Medicare data. The board discussed barriers to treatment which were primarily financial and payer issues. Education of patients and providers was proposed to help with copays, care coordination and improve care.

Updates on technology included a presentation from Dr. Robert Bridwell on the application of the recently FDA approved PSMA PET/CT for the evaluation and staging of both the treatment naive and treatment failure patient. PSMA has a 27% greater accuracy over conventional imaging at lower levels of PSA. PSMA expression is associated with prostate cancer aggressiveness and has prognostic significance. Dr. Bridwell also discussed the future FDA approval of novel therapeutics attached to the protein to turn diagnostics into targeted therapy. Dr. Wayne Brisbane from the UF Department of Urology presented a lecture on the application of bedside micro-ultrasound technology to provide high-resolution imaging to better define prostate anatomy for improved sampling as well as targeting for focal therapy. Dr. Sem Lampotang from the UF Departments of Anesthesiology and Urology presented updated information on training simulation models for transrectal and transperineal prostate biopsy including the validated and peer-reviewed mastery training program at UF. Dr. Lisa Brown from the UF Health Hereditary Cancer Program updated the board on current recommendations through the NCCN for high risk patients which include multigene panel testing to better guide specific treatment and the understanding of familial risk. Dr. Brown also shared protocols at UF for routine genetic counseling and testing for high-risk prostate cancer patients to better define prognosis and family risk and to provide guidance for targeted therapies.

The respective chairmen of CCRAB and BRAC, Drs. Clement Gwede and Danny Armstrong updated the board on respective statewide activities related to cancer control and research in regards to prostate cancer. Each year, 12,000 Florida men are diagnosed with prostate cancer and over 2,000 will die from the disease. PCAC has previously recommended early discussion of prostate cancer screening as well as increased scrutiny of men at risk for prostate cancer secondary to racial and familial concerns. Dr. Armstrong reviewed current funding and active state grants for biomedical and cancer research. The current state budget supports less than half of highly ranked cancer research proposals.

The overarching goal of PCAC is to serve as the voice of patients, advocates and scientists in regards to the impact of prostate cancer on Floridians. In so doing, PCAC strives to be the reliable source of updated prostate cancer education in broad collaboration with their health care partners across the state and nation. PCAC is uniquely comprised of scientists, physicians, and patient advocates representing diverse communities and institutions. The Council is dedicated to the improvement of prostate cancer related outcomes across the state.

Lastly, PCAC has as an aspirational long-term goal to provide a framework that results in increased and focused prostate cancer screening to both underserved and at-risk populations of men in Florida. There continues to be a disparity in prostate cancer screening, diagnosis and treatment that requires post-pandemic awareness. We have examples of successful efforts to overcome screening disparities in other states including the Men's Health Event in Detroit,

Michigan. This has been in place since 2010 and since inception has provided 150,000 free health screenings. PCAC aspires to achieve a similar impact with involvement and sustainability across the state.

In closing, I want to recognize the many-year contributions of both past and current PCAC board members. In particular, PCAC recognizes Ed Droste as a long-time member representing cancer-related advocacy and Dr. Julio Hajdenberg representing Orlando Health and cancer related specialties. Both have made sustained and durable contributions to PCAC. I want to additionally recognize and promote Dr. Wayne Brisbane in the role of Executive Director of the UF Prostate Disease Center and PCAC. Wayne has boundless energy and unmatched vision for the enhancement of the role of PCAC in statewide issues related to prostate cancer diagnosis and management. We also welcome Daniel Landau, MD (Orlando Health Cancer Institute) to fulfill the Cancer Related Specialty Statue and Charles Griggs (100 Black Men of Jacksonville) to fulfill the Patient Advocate/Prostate Cancer Survivor Group Statute. Thank you for your support the last five years. I offer the following reiteration of PCAC goals for 2022.

### Goal Focus 2022

1. Continue collaboration with statewide cancer councils (CCRAB, BRAC) to support the statewide cancer plan and to seek funded research support for prostate cancer.
2. Continue collaboration with national partners (CDC, PHEN, AUA) to expand educational efforts including the enrollment of at-risk populations into prostate cancer clinical trials.
3. Seek partners in multiple practice settings to improve access to care as well as quality of care.
4. Continue efforts to broaden and update prostate cancer education for patients, advocates and providers in the state of Florida.

Respectfully Submitted by



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