



## PENNSYLVANIA PROSTATE CANCER COALITION

# PUBLIC POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROSTATE CANCER

***The PA Prostate Cancer Coalition recommends the General Assembly consider and adopt the following policy initiatives as a high priority.***

**Allocate resources to collect and analyze diagnosis and treatment data for prostate cancer, and establish a statewide database supporting performance measurement and quality improvement in prostate cancer care and outcomes.**

The Pennsylvania Urologic Regional Collaborative (PURC) is a pilot program that collects, analyzes, and reports data from diagnosis through treatment to improve patient outcomes at several health systems and urology practices. Currently, PURC collects data from about 25% of the board certified urologists in Pennsylvania. Participation rates would be higher, but the doctors have to pay to join the collaborative in order to cover the costs of the software and the training.

We estimate that extending the data collaborative statewide would cost about \$3,000 annually per board certified urologist, or a total of about \$1.3 million annually.

**Advance educational strategies to improve public knowledge of prostate health and smart screening guidelines.**

The PPCC has been promoting prostate cancer awareness campaigns for three years in pockets of Pennsylvania, but needs additional support to make a difference statewide. Our proven campaigns such as Don't Fear the Finger™, It's an Us Problem, and SPARE PARTS: Men After Prostate Cancer have already reached thousands of men across the state.

Additional support for these campaigns to be placed in markets across the Commonwealth will bring much needed prostate cancer education and awareness to men and caregivers. The state does not currently invest in prostate cancer education and awareness, and we recommend a public-private partnership to expand existing, successful programs.

**Educate primary care physicians and other health care providers about prostate cancer screening recommendations, and promote the use of new technologies for enhanced diagnosis of prostate cancer.**

All Pennsylvania men should have their prostate cancer risk assessed, and discussions about prostate cancer screening and treatment, without regard of where they seek care. The Commonwealth should work with the medical community to ensure that all health care providers are aware of new screening and treatment technologies and modalities.

*The Pennsylvania Prostate Cancer Coalition (PPCC) is the only statewide men's health advocacy coalition in the Commonwealth. The PPCC works to increase the public's health literacy of prostate cancer risks and to educate Pennsylvania legislators on improvements to men's health policy. Pennsylvania's fathers, brothers and sons need timely and accurate information about prostate cancer. One in seven men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. One in ten of those men diagnosed will be under age 55.*

Please contact Kristine Warner, PPCC Executive Director, at [kristine@paprostatecancer.org](mailto:kristine@paprostatecancer.org) with any questions.