

January 20, 2025

Chair Deeds and Members of the Senate Commerce & Labor Committee:

This is my Presentation, Peter Moon PhD, VCU Professor Emeritus, 31 year Prostate Cancer survivor with PCa and 22 year support group leader of RVa Us Too Prostate Cancer Support Group/Zero Cancer (rvacancersupport.org).

I want to say that I wholeheartedly support the arguments put forward by other speakers in an effort to provide cost free prostate cancer screening to Virginia men. I have been concerned since 2010 when a doctor's panel (which knew little about the suffering of prostate cancer recommended mistakenly against

Screening for Prostate cancer). I have noticed prostate cancer deaths have increased from about 26,000 in 2010 (and going down to) over 34,000 in 2023. These numbers have bothered me for the last 15 years as I have seen them grow and know men are being diagnosed with more advanced disease to the point some are collapsing with broken backbones from metastasis to the point they never get out of bed before they die in severe bone pain. I have seen this severe pain in the good men of our RVa group. It Motivates me to do all I can to help them in their fight, including a 60-year-old friend with metastatic prostate cancer in both legs and his brain that I took to his doctors for treatment since this new year.

I have a unique approach to fighting PCa from my background as Research Scientist and Teaching professor of 48 years at VCU Dental school in which I continually strived to improve the manipulation and modify the composition of dental materials so that they gave better, longer and effective service. (I did not want to be stuck on the "Standard of Care" for the patients but to teach my students how to accomplish improved effective service.) My education in Engineering Physics (Undergraduate BS) and MS & PHD in Materials Science gives me the ability to modify physical processes, structure and composition of materials. I bring this same process to cancer treatment by researching how to modify the standard of care so there are less side-effect problems with treatment, to prevent a decrease in the quality of life and stop more cancer growth pathways. An example of what I learned from my dental research is the application of doxycycline to prevent loosing of teeth applied in periodontal disease from MMPs (matrix metalloproteinases) that break down collagen ligaments holding teeth into the Jawbone into gelatin so teeth fall out. But, in cancer MMPs break down the extracellular matrix surrounding cancer masses so the cancer cells can spread into the blood vessels to form metastasis elsewhere in the patient's body. A 100 mg/day doxycycline was added to a research trial treatment reported in 1995 by Dr. Gerald Androile showed cancer control for

three years. But, for me and at least another member of RVA Us Too with 100 mg/d of doxycycline added it lasted 14 years. This is one of the three off label treatments that has helped me survive after my Initial prostate surgery in 1994 surgery at 54 years became biochemical recurrent cancer in 1999. The initial surgery found I had an aggressive prostate cancer in both prostate lobes that extended outside of the prostate capsule. I use google research to search the trillions of dollars of research available on the internet to guide my off-label treatments. I was fortunate that my oldest brother at 57 years was diagnosed with Prostate cancer so I was forewarned of the danger and got a prostate cancer screening which has helped keep me live these many years.

In the last two years, I have defeated 11 metastases from melanoma with Immunotherapy, 8 SBRT radiations to them, Brain surgery and many 100 gm IV of vitamin C Treatments with help from my Doctors.

I could not walk from the brain mets for about two months before the brain surgery removed metastases there and stropped pressure in my brain and rehab helped. Research suggests that having prostate cancer increases your chances of Melanoma progression by 20%. It was 100% in my case.

Wishing Your Committee Success in Your Important Work!