

November 2, 2011

To the United States Preventative Services Task Force:

Founded in 1998, Malecare, Inc. has grown to become America's leading men's cancer survivor support and advocacy national nonprofit organization. Our online and in-person support groups help tens of thousands of men and their families cope with prostate cancer diagnosis, treatment and survivorship.

Malecare is managed by eight volunteer social workers, psychologists and doctors. Most all of us have published peer reviewed journal articles, book chapters, books and research. Each of us has, individually, posted our responses directly to the USPSTF comment website. However, we feel that Malecare brings added value to your call for comments by our unique ability to present a profile of the national prostate cancer survivor population.

Our cancer survivor clients presented concern, anger and fear around the USPSTF's recent draft recommendation on prostate cancer screening. On Tuesday, October 11, 2011, we saw several thousand of our clients click through to the USPSTF comment website, unaware that the site was down. Over a thousand then forwarded their comments to Malecare. Malecare also quickly developed the website, www.psaandme.org, as an easy way for people to post their comments until the USPSTF website was back online.

We have selected 635 of our client's comments; 635 rhyming with the problematic and most common pathology report of Gleason 6, three cores of 5% each. We've also included sixty photographs of some of the men and women who contributed to this submission. We have combined these into a 192 page presentation, which we attached. Please notice that the majority of photographs are of African American men, a population whom we feel your proposal disproportionately challenges with life threatening consequences.

We understand that the panel is tasked with examining evidenced based research as the basis for its recommendations. However, we ask that you temper your review with an understanding of who your recommendation affects. We hope that Malecare's submission will meet with your respect and interest and will help to fully illuminate your difficult work.

Regards,
Darryl Mitteldorf, LCSW
Executive Director
Malecare, Inc.
Men fighting cancer, together.
www.malecare.org
darryl@malecare.org

ACCEPTED ON NOVEMBER 10, 2011