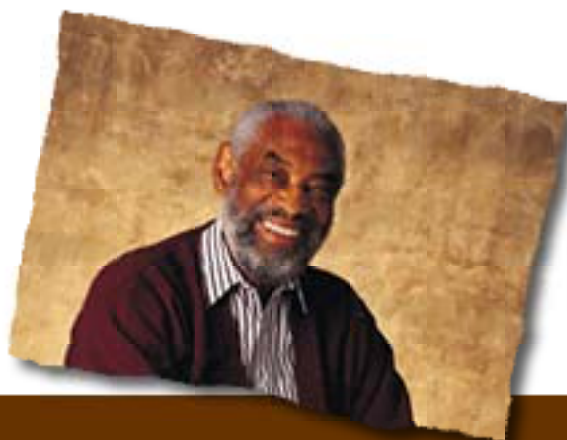


Who We Are...

In the mid-1980's, a group of African American leaders in North Carolina met with representatives of the American Cancer Society to discuss the disproportionate number of African American males diagnosed with prostate cancer.

The **NORTH CAROLINA MINORITY PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS ACTION TEAM (MPCAAT)** was established in 1985 to develop and implement strategies to decrease the incidence of prostate cancer in the minority community. Since its founding, the MPCAAT has worked towards the following goals:

1. Educating minority men and their families about prostate cancer.
2. Ensuring access to care for minority men who need to be screened for prostate cancer.
3. Advocating for state, local and federal funds for minority prostate cancer research.
4. Building a network of organizations, agencies and leaders to make prostate cancer a state and national priority.



Early Detection is the Key to Successful Treatment and Cure

NC MPCAAT AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

- *Church-based awareness and education*
- *Exhibits/Displays at conferences and sporting events*
- *Print and broadcast media interviews*
- *Annual statewide strategy sessions on prostate cancer*
- *African American Prostate Cancer Support Group - Umoja*
- *Barbershop campaign and promotion*
- *PC Angels program*
- *PC Shepherds program*



Possible Signs of Prostate Cancer...

- ◆ Difficulty urinating (trouble starting or stopping, or a weak or interrupted flow)
- ◆ A need to urinate more often.
- ◆ Blood in the urine
- ◆ A burning or painful sensation when urinating
- ◆ Pain in the pelvis, lower back or upper thighs



These symptoms can also be signs of many other, noncancerous diseases. If you have any of these warning signs, you should see your doctor immediately.

What You Should Do...

- ✓ Remember...the most common sign is NO SIGN at all.
- ✓ See a doctor. Ask about a Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test (a simple blood test) and a Digital Rectal Exam (DRE).
- ✓ The American Cancer Society recommends that men ages 50 and over see their doctor every year for a DRE and PSA test. However, because of the high death rate among African American men, they are encouraged to seek testing at an earlier age starting at 40 years old.