



Urologic Consultants **NEWS**

of Southeastern Pennsylvania

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 18, 2010

CONTACT: 610-632-4100

New Hope for Men with Recurrent Prostate Cancer *Urologic Consultants is participating in study to determine the effectiveness of high intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU)*

When prostate cancer returns in men who have been treated with radiation therapy, their only option has been hormone therapy, which can slow the growth of the cancer but is not a cure. A treatment known as high intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU), which has been approved in Europe, Canada, Mexico, India and South America, may offer men new hope for a cure. HIFU is in the final stages of FDA approval nationwide. Urologic Consultants of Southeastern Pennsylvania in collaboration with Drexel University College of Medicine are currently the only clinical investigative site in the state of Pennsylvania.

HIFU is designed as a minimally invasive, outpatient prostate cancer treatment. The technology allows physicians to destroy cancerous tissue with extreme heat generated from focused ultrasound waves. The ultrasound energy is delivered in rapid-fire succession to targeted tissue throughout the gland. The tissue at each target is destroyed while surrounding tissue remains unharmed. It does not use radiation and is not a surgical procedure.

“We hope that HIFU will make patients with recurrent prostate cancer disease free, without the side effects of hormone therapy or other treatments,” says Laurence Belkoff, DO, urologist with Urologic Consultants of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Side effects of hormone therapy can include heart disease, diabetes and osteoporosis.

To qualify for the study, men must be experiencing a rising PSA after having been previously treated for prostate cancer with external beam radiation therapy. A biopsy and other tests must show that the cancer has returned, but has not spread beyond the prostate. The study is not available to men who received brachytherapy and were treated with radiation seeds. The study requires several office visits and a procedure at Hahnemann University Hospital.

Urologic Consultants participate in other clinical trials related to prostate cancer and other urologic disorders as well. For more information, call 610-667-0458 or visit www.urologicconsultsepa.com. Urologic Consultants is a practice of 14 physicians with extensive general as well as specialized experience. They have offices in eight locations throughout the greater Philadelphia region.

Drexel University College of Medicine conducts numerous multicenter clinical trials and provides research management services within its own campus as well as its affiliated hospitals. For more information, visit www.drexelmed.edu.

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