



News from the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Public Information Contacts: Linda Van Zandt / Joanne Vuoso / Lisa Krueger
908.231.7020 publicinfo@co.somerset.nj.us

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Somerset County Officials to Kick Off Prostate Cancer Awareness Week

State Health Commissioner to Attend Press Conference

SOMERVILLE – A recent survey of health-related data reveals that prostate cancer is the most common cancer in Somerset County.

On **Monday, Sept. 19**, New Jersey Health and Senior Services Commissioner Fred M. Jacobs will join the Somerset County Board of Freeholders to kick off Prostate Cancer Awareness Week (Sept. 18-24) with a press conference and information forum at **noon** on the steps of the historic courthouse on East Main Street.

Freeholder Robert Zaborowski, county health department liaison, will welcome Commissioner Jacobs and members of the Somerset County Cancer Coalition. The freeholders recently issued a proclamation for the week, urging men over 50 to get screened.

Information on local screening locations and other cancer-related topics will be available in the lobby of the county administration building at 20 Grove St. throughout the week.

According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), prostate cancer is the second leading cause of male cancer death in the United States. Based on ACS projected 2005 estimates for new cancer cases in males nationwide, approximately 33 percent of all new male cases will be prostate cancer.

Other key facts from the Prostate Cancer Education Council state that the five-year survival rate of prostate cancer when detected early is nearly 100 percent. African-American men are at special risk for this disease. They are twice as likely to get prostate cancer and twice as likely to die from it. They have the highest rate of prostate cancer in the world. In fact, the incidence rate in African Americans is 60 percent higher than in white males with nearly two-and-a-half times the mortality rate.

To learn more about Prostate Cancer Awareness Week, visit www.pcaw.com.

For more information about the Somerset County Cancer Coalition, to become a member or to find out about available cancer screening locations, dates, times and eligibility, contact Cancer Coalition Coordinator Lucille Y-Talbot at (908) 203-6077 or visit www.co.somerset.nj.us/health.

** See Next Page for Programs & Screening Information **

Rick Fontana, Freeholder Director * Ken Scherer, Freeholder Deputy Director
Denise Coyle, Freeholder * Peter S. Palmer, Freeholder * Robert Zaborowski, Freeholder
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Programs and Screening Information for Prostate Cancer September 2005

Somerset Medical Center

Title **Prostate Screening**
Date Thursday, September 29, 2005
Time 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Location Somerset Family Practice Conference Room, Rehill Avenue, Somerville
Phone (908) 685-2814
Cost **Free**
Description Urologist Anthony Catanese, M.D., will conduct prostate cancer screenings that include a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test and digital rectal exam (DRE). This screening is for men age 50 and older who are not under the care of a urologist or have not been previously diagnosed with prostate cancer. **Pre-registration is required.**

Title **Can Prostate Problems Be Avoided?**
Date Wednesday, September 21, 2005
Start Time 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Location Somerville Elks, Route 28, Bridgewater
Phone (908) 595-2345
Cost **Free**
Description Urologist Anthony Catanese, M.D., will discuss early detection, prevention and the latest treatment in prostate cancer. **Pre-registration required.**

Title **For Women Who Care: Information on Prostate Disease to Share with the Men in Your Life**
Date Thursday, September 15, 2005
Time 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Location Somerset Medical Center, Fuld Auditorium, Rehill Avenue, Somerville
Phone (908) 203-6234
Cost **Free**
Description Why would women want to learn about prostate disease? Women are generally more concerned about health issues and more comfortable talking about health than men. Somerset Medical Center urologist Anthony Catanese, M.D., will discuss facts, concerns, tests and issues related to prostate disease. By being better informed and sharing this information with a man over 40 whose health is important to you – a husband, father, brother, son or close friend – you may save him a great deal of difficulty and possibly even his life. **Pre-registration is required.**

Other Screening Information

Women's Health and Counseling Center (WHCC)
71 Fourth Street, Somerville
(908) 526-2335

Prostate and colorectal cancer screenings available all year for underinsured. The eligibility requirements are:

- Financial (must be 250% above the poverty level)
- Age (50 or below, if there is an identified risk)
- Somerset County resident (will make an occasional exception)

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