



Affiliated with Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia

And supported by Redcliffe Hospital, YMCA and Moreton Bay Regional Council

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Where we meet:

The group meets at 6pm on the 1st floor of the Mango Hill YMCA Community Centre. Entrance from the car park at 22 Linear Drive, Mango Hill on the 2nd THURSDAY of the month (Except January). Refreshments are provided from 6pm.

I TOLD MY WIFE SHE WAS DRAWING
HER EYEBROWS TOO HIGH.
SHE LOOKED SURPRISED.

Social Events:

The new year is underway and commenced with the first Men's and Ladies morning teas for the year. At the men's morning tea several new members were welcomed into the group. We wish these people well in their cancer journey and look forward to seeing them at monthly meetings.



Moreton Bay Regional Prostate Cancer
Support Group

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www.prostatesupportgroup.org

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Our ladies group has also held its first morning tea at Degani's café Capestone Boulevard. Any women having an interest in prostate cancer are most welcome to attend these events. The coffee and food are excellent, and you can be assured of a warm welcome. Next month's dates will be the Ladies 22nd Feb & Men's 24th Feb.

My wife told me to stop impersonating a flamingo. I had to put my foot down.

Guest speaker:

Our next guest speaker on 8th February will be Associate Professor David MacFarlane who is the co-ordinator of theranostic services for the ICON cancer centre at North Lakes.

Theranostics is a personalised approach to treating cancer, using both diagnosis and therapy tools as part of the treatment. Theranostics uses PET scan imaging (a special type of scan) to see if specific targets, known as tumour receptors, are present on tumour cells.

A/Prof Macfarlane has previously held appointments in the Department of Molecular Imaging and Therapy at Austin Health; Gold Coast University Hospital and Nuclear Medicine Physician and Medical Monitor at Genesiscare. He has also served as Chair of the Australian PET Data Collection Working Committee and Vice Chair of Australian and New Zealand Association of Physicians in Nuclear Medicine forerunner of the AANMS.

A/Prof Macfarlane accepts Theranostics referrals for patients with advanced prostate cancer and selected neuroendocrine tumours.



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New Treatments

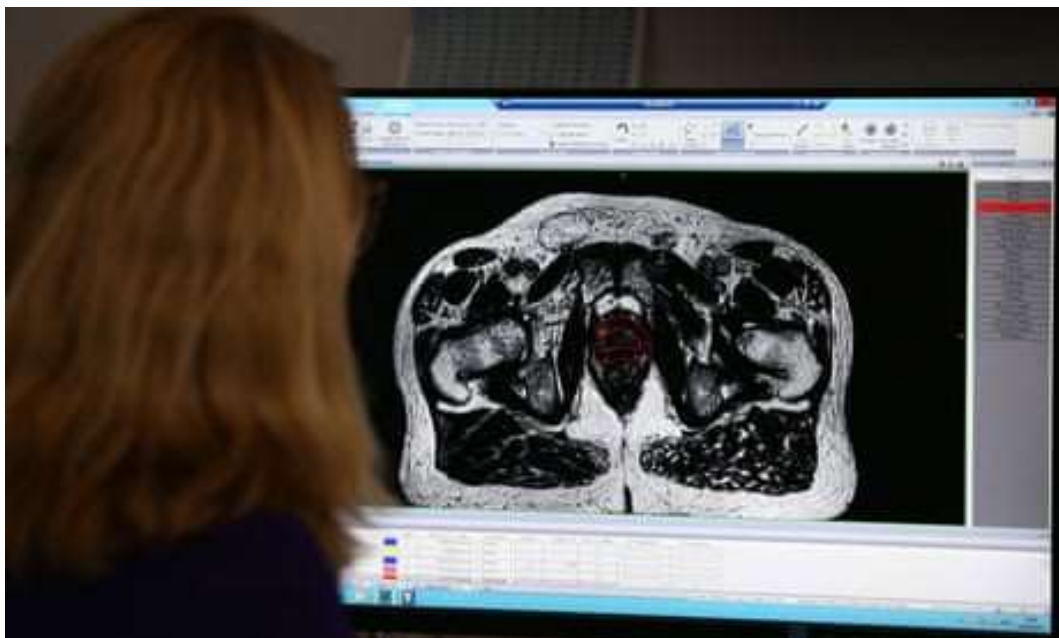
Scientists say a new way to treat prostate cancer may be on the horizon after finding it is possible to reverse its resistance to therapy.

More than a million men worldwide are diagnosed with the disease each year. The chances of survival are generally good, particularly if it is diagnosed early. Many can live for decades without symptoms or needing treatment.

But some with advanced forms of prostate cancer find it is able to evade treatment by using their immune system to resist the impact of drugs. Now scientists have discovered a way to stop it being able to do this, opening up the possibility of treatments for men left with little hope.

By blocking the secret messages that cancer cells send to hijack healthy white blood cells, researchers were able to reverse resistance to therapy in a small group of patients. In some, they were able to shrink tumours or halt their growth. The findings were published in Nature.

“This is tremendously exciting and it suggests we have an entirely new way to treat prostate cancer on the horizon,” said Johann de Bono, a professor of experimental cancer medicine at the Institute of **Cancer** Research and consultant medical oncologist at the Royal Marsden NHS foundation trust.



Radiotherapy doses for prostate cancer could be cut by three-quarters, trial finds.



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In a trial led by the ICR, the Royal Marsden and the Institute of Oncology Research in Switzerland, scientists recruited 23 patients with advanced prostate cancer that had stopped responding to hormone therapy.

They were given a combination of AZD5069, an experimental drug that prevents white blood cells from being dragged inside tumours, and enzalutamide, a hormone therapy commonly used to treat prostate cancer.

Of 21 patients who could be evaluated, five (24%) showed evidence of their tumours responding to the combination, the ICR reported.

Their tumours shrunk by more than 30%, they experienced “dramatic decreases” in circulating levels of prostate specific antigen (PSA), a marker often elevated by cancer, or their blood levels of circulating tumour cells dropped, it said.

Patients also showed a drop in the white blood cells targeted by the treatment – myeloid cells – in the blood, and biopsies revealed fewer of them in their tumours.

“It’s hugely rewarding to see our theory proven in a trial of patients with this disease,” said De Bono. “Myeloid cells may be implicated in treatment resistance in a range of cancers, so the impact of this research could be very broad, across multiple cancer types.”

Murphy, Collins and Vella are drinking in a pub when a drunk comes in, staggers up to them, and points at Collins, shouting,

“Your mum’s the best shag in town!” Everyone expects a fight, but Collins ignores him, so the drunk wanders off and sticks his nose into a pint of Guinness at the far end of the bar.

Ten minutes later, the drunk comes back, points at Collins again, and says, “I just screwed your mum, and it was grand!”

Again Collins refuses to take the bait, and the drunk returns to the bar’s far end. Ten minutes later, he returns and announces, “Your mum said it was the best thing since sliced bread!”

Finally, Collins interrupts. “Go home, Dad, you’re pissed!”



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