



MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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TO: MSSNY Council
FROM: MSSNY's Heart, Lung, Cancer Committee
DATE: March 5, 2019
RE: 2018 House of Delegates Resolution 150 – Common Sense Prostate Cancer Screening
Introduced by New York State Urological Society

The following resolution was referred to the Council by the House of Delegates. The resolution was forwarded to the MSSNY Heart, Lung Cancer Committee for further study and recommendation for the MSSNY Council's consideration:

RESOLVED, That physicians should have an informative discussion about the risk of prostate cancer with their male patients at age 40 and identify those patients who are at higher than average risk based on family history, race, ethnicity, lifestyle factors and other chronic illnesses; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That physicians should offer male patients, at age 40 for higher risk and age 50 for average or low risk, yearly testing, including but not limited to, serum PSA and its various available subtypes, as well as MRI imaging and genomic testing when appropriate, with or without digital rectal exam, and be referred to a specialist if findings suggest the possibility of prostate cancer; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that all patients diagnosed with prostate cancer have available to them all accepted methods of risk stratification to best determine appropriate treatment including the judicious use of active surveillance protocols.

The Public Health and Education Reference committee had recommended that some of this resolution be incorporated into MSSNY Policy 125.996 which was originally crafted by MSSNY's Heart, Lung, Cancer Committee. The reference committee offered up a substitute amendment so to direct MSSNY to amend existing *Policy 125.996, Screening Programs and Interventions Most Beneficial to Improving the Overall Health of the Public*. However, this resolution was debated and eventually referred to MSSNY Council for further action. The Council referred the resolution to the Heart Lung Cancer Committee. A representative of the NYS Urological Society was invited, and agreed to attend the October 17, 2018 meeting of the Heart, Lung Cancer Committee to discuss the resolution. Ultimately, the physician did not participate at the committee meeting, nor respond to request to attend the January 2019 committee meeting. .

While the Heart, Lung, Cancer Committee has proceeded with its revision to MSSNY Policy 125.996 (see request for additional council action on these revisions), there was state legislation that passed regarding prostate screening provisions. The measure, Chapter 335, Laws of NY State, provides that diagnostic testing for prostate cancer for men having a prior history, men 40 and over with a family history and men 50 and over who are asymptomatic and that these tests not be subject to annual deductibles or coinsurance. MSSNY supported this measure. Governor Cuomo signed the legislation into law and the act became effective on January 1, 2019.

Therefore, since part of the goal of this resolution has already been enacted in New York State, the committee recommends non-adoption of the resolution.

RECOMMENDATION: The 2018 House of Delegates Resolution 150 Not Be Adopted.

(FOR COUNCIL ACTION)