



Jackson County Department of Public Health

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PROSTATES AND PINTS EVENT IN HONOR OF MEN'S HEALTH MONTH

June is Men's Health Awareness Month, a time to raise awareness of preventable health problems and encourage early detection and treatment of diseases among men and boys. This month is an opportunity for health care providers, the media, families, and men alike to seek regular medical advice from their primary care providers about the diseases that most often affect men. In honor of this month, agencies such as the Jackson County Department of Public Health (JCDPH), Harris Regional Hospital, and the Great Smokies Health Foundation have come together to urge men to take charge of their health and learn more about prostate health.

Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in American men, behind only lung cancer. About 1 man in 41 will die of prostate cancer. The American Cancer Society estimates that for 2022 there have been close to 268,490 new cases of prostate cancer diagnosed and 34,500 deaths from prostate cancer. While it is a serious disease, most men diagnosed with prostate cancer do not die from it. The cancer is very treatable; more than 3.1 million men who have been diagnosed with the disease at some point in their life are still alive today.

Researchers have found several risk factors that may affect a man's risk of getting prostate cancer. They include:

- **Age:** Men older than 65 years are at a greater risk of developing this cancer. It should be noted that the chance of having prostate cancer rises rapidly after age 50.
- **Race/ethnicity:** Prostate cancer occurs more often in African-American and Caribbean men than in men of other races.
- **Family History:** Prostate cancer seems to run in families which suggests that in some cases, there may be a genetic factor to getting the disease. Having a father or brother with prostate cancer more than doubles a man's risk of developing this cancer.

To increase awareness and to share information about prostate health, JCDPH, Harris Regional Hospital, and the Great Smokies Health Foundation are sponsoring a Pints and Prostate Event on Thursday, June 23 at Innovation Station in Dillsboro from 5 PM- 7 PM. This event will include a brief talk by Dr. Jarred Tanksley with the Harris Regional Cancer Center, PSA blood prostate cancer screening, guest speaker and information sharing. The event is free and open to all men in our community; a drink ticket, refreshments and giveaways will be provided.



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To learn more about the event, call 828-587-8225. The event is made possible by donations to the Great Smokies Health Foundation Urology Education Fund created in memory of Dr. Il Whan Thomas Chung.

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