

Program Overview

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I. Introduction

I look at prostate cancer as a continuum. It's something that in many cases becomes a chronic disease. Even those who feel that they are cured always have in the back of their minds that maybe it's going to come back again. Last Monday I celebrated my 16th year as a survivor, but every time you go for the PSA test you still have a little bit of fear, which is why we are focusing today on advanced stage disease management. No one dies from early stage prostate cancer. They die after the disease has grown, progressed and spread. We need to understand how this disease advances, how it grows, how it lives, and how it ultimately begins to kill us, and we need to know what we can do now that we haven't been able to do before in terms of really being able to manage the disease.

II. Agenda

Dr. Catalona will be talking in his keynote address about many of the new and emerging therapies and many of the options for treatment that are available. We also want to talk a little bit about the emerging therapies because we have more opportunities today to treat prostate cancer than we ever had before. We have to look at the plethora of options that we have, understand the choices we need to make and empower ourselves to make those choices. We have to get to a point of understanding that in this world, in a day in particular of healthcare reform, changes in compensation, and the desire and necessity of healthcare industries to make money, oftentimes the best standard of patient care is not made available to you. You have to be able to say I want to do this or that. One of the things I had to learn early on as a patient is we have to be able to decide what is right for us. Today you are going to learn the things that will empower you to make those choices. Our commitment is to fight this disease where we can fight it by giving patients the tools they need to be able to make change happen.