

Letter to the Editor: Response to “No Answers for Men with Prostate Cancer”

To the Editor:

The recent editorial, “No Answers for Men with Prostate Cancer” highlights the disturbing fact: There is no evidence that existing treatments for prostate cancer are superior to doing nothing at all, and yet they cause multiple complications. The reason for this health care crisis is equally disturbing: Current prostate diagnostics are not reliable.

Indeed, current prostate diagnostics fail to provide reliable information - such as cancer location, extent and virulence – critical for guidance and success of treatment. This lack of accurate diagnostics and its impact on treatment is particularly troubling because prostate cancer strikes as many as 1 in 6 American men.

Federal funding for breast cancer diagnostics transformed early detection, saved lives and improved quality of lives for many women. Similarly to breast cancer, which strikes 1 in 7 women, prostate cancer must be recognized as a national priority.

Sincerely,

Faina Shtern, M.D.

Boston, MA

Dr. Shtern is the President and CEO of AdMeTech Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of technologies to improve the diagnosis and treatment of life threatening and widespread diseases such as prostate cancer