

NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

HALIFAX HEALTHLINK TO HOST SEMINAR ON PROSTATE CANCER

ROANOKE RAPIDS, NC - (September 19, 2008) - Halifax HealthLink will offer a free educational forum on prostate cancer Thursday, September 25.

The seminar will begin at 6 p.m. at Halifax HealthLink at Becker Village Mall. A question and answer session will follow the presentation by Natarajan Rajan, M.D., a urologist at Halifax Regional. Light refreshments will be served.

Prostate cancer is second only to skin cancer in its rate of occurrence in the United States. The disease affects one out of every six men over the age of 60 and leads to the death of nearly 30 thousand men each year.

"It is important to build awareness of this disease that affects so many men in our community," said Rajan. "Prostate cancer has a better than 90% cure rate when discovered in its early stages. Men should know what the symptoms are, what treatments are available, and how to seek help when they have questions," he added.

Men over the age of 50 should have annual prostate screenings and be aware of any changes in their health. Common symptoms of prostate cancer include

- Frequent urination, especially at night
- Difficulty starting urination or holding back urine
- Weak or interrupted flow of urine
- Painful or burning urination
- Difficulty urinating
- Blood in urine
- Frequent pain or stiffness in lower back, hips or upper thighs

For more information about the seminar, contact Jackie Cieslinski, Resource Center Coordinator, at (252) 535-4334.

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About Halifax Regional

Halifax Regional Medical Center is licensed for 206 beds, including psychiatric and nursery. A non-profit organization, Halifax Regional is fully accredited by the Joint Commission. For more information, visit www.halifaxregional.us.