Prostate Cancer: Addressing global health problems from Middleville

About one out of every eight men in the U.S. will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in his lifetime. In 2020, about 18.6 per 100,000 men in the U.S. died of prostate cancer (American Cancer Society). But this number has declined significantly over the years. One of his research projects focuses on African American men, who have the highest prostate cancer rates in the world. His research is particularly relevant to Middleville-Baldwin County, where 42% of the population identify as Black or African American.

“Cultural influences, African American, African American—there are significant cultural differences that may influence an impact on some of the disparities we’re seeing,” he said. “If we find early, prostate cancer is very treatable, so we’re trying to change the culture.”

For the last few years, he’s worked with Georgia College students and residents to discover what’s causing these disparities in survival rates for Black men and what healthcare providers can do to improve them. “If we provide early education to patients, we can save multiple lives,” he said.

Middleville-Baldwin County is one of the few counties in the state of Georgia, and the university’s Georgia College’s Nursing program is tied for fourth in the state of Georgia, and the university’s psychology programs were also recognized.

The category for best Undergraduate Teaching Programs for public regional universities in the South focuses on schools that “have faculty with an unusually strong commitment to undergraduates’ teaching,” according to the U.S. News & World Report website, and “whose faculty and administrators are committed to teaching undergraduate students in a high-quality manner.”

This report is part of an endowed lecture series on Medicine and Society and is open to the public. Georgia’s Health (1957-1972) was a distinguished English biologist and physician in the area of Queen Elizabeth I. William Shakespeare and Galileo.

If you or someone you know is struggling with prostate cancer, or willing to share their survivorship experience, please reach out to Ernie Kaninjing at ernie.kaninjing@gcsu.edu.

“Many men are reluctant to talk about this,” he said. “We’re slowly trying to overcome this barrier with education and patience. We want to influence the culture to be more open to talking about health matters.”

“Maintaining these relationships means you never go to the community empty-handed,” he said. “You’ve gone to them with something that could enhance their life. They bring educational materials, like flyers and pamphlets, host clinical speakers and bring people to speak about the community with useful information that will improve their health. They raise awareness of prostate cancer, the importance of maintaining your family history and educating yourself on alternative options that might mean success long-term and saving lives.”

“Dr. Kaninjing’s research is critical to understanding prostate cancer in our community,” said Dr. Mariano Rizzo, professor of surgery in the division of Surgical Oncology at Emory University’s School of Medicine. This free talk is part of an endowed lecture series on Medicine and Society and is open to the public. Georgia’s Health 1957-1972 was a distinguished English biologist and physician in the area of Queen Elizabeth I. William Shakespeare and Galileo.

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New beloved initiative for pizza hut students to visit on West Campus.