



Someone to talk to . . .  
*who understands*

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Us TOO is a 501-c-3 charitable  
organization founded in 1990 by  
and for Prostate Cancer Survivors,  
their families and men at risk

July 22, 2010

Dear Us TOO Support Group/Chapter Leaders and Friends,

Enclosed is the August 2010 edition of Us TOO's *HotSheet*. Two articles about Dendreon's Provenge are featured on the cover page and one in particular has rapidly become a hot issue worthy of your attention and immediate action.

Last week on Friday July 16<sup>th</sup> I sent an email to our contact lists giving people a heads up on the decision by the Federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to study whether it is "reasonable and necessary" to cover the costs of Provenge. This study could take a full year. This is further study of a new treatment that we saw the FDA finally approve after a long, rigorous and in-depth review. Local Regional Medicare intermediary organizations are making coverage decisions as CMS completes this study so there will be disparities as a result.

Fortunately, CMS has provided an opportunity for public comment; please make your voices heard. This opportunity is time limited, however, and you must take action before July 30. To find more detail on CMS's plan go to <http://www.cms.gov/mcd/viewtrackingsheet.asp?from2=viewtrackingsheet.asp&id=247&> and to view comments and make some of your own go to [http://www.cms.gov/mcd/viewnca.asp?from=basket&nca\\_id=247&viewAMA=N&basket=nca%3A00422N%3A247%3AAutologous+Cellular+Immunotherapy+Treatment+of+Metastatic+Prostate+Cancer%3AOpen%3ANew%3A3](http://www.cms.gov/mcd/viewnca.asp?from=basket&nca_id=247&viewAMA=N&basket=nca%3A00422N%3A247%3AAutologous+Cellular+Immunotherapy+Treatment+of+Metastatic+Prostate+Cancer%3AOpen%3ANew%3A3). Please speak up.

On a more positive note, you will also see a new "Conquer Prostate Cancer" leather wristband to raise awareness of prostate cancer is featured on the front page. This item was developed by designer Joseph Bruno and net proceeds of the sales will benefit Us TOO. Spread the word and help generate needed funds to drive our mission.

To add positive data to the on-going debate on PSA screening, there is an article on Swedish research we included which shows screening lowered lives lost to prostate cancer by over 40%. We also included an article about the new drug Cabazitaxel which the FDA approved as we went to print with the July edition. Sanofi-aventis told us last week that the drug is available now this week.

Come to Chicago for the Us TOO 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Summit, Symposium and Celebration to learn more about what you are seeing in the *HotSheet*, meet and greet those who create and contribute to the *HotSheet* such as Jonathan McDermid, Snuffy Myers, Mark Moyad and Gerry Chodak. The Us TOO Board of Directors, the members of the planning committee, other volunteers and the staff and consultants are working to move Us TOO forward. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Thomas N. Kirk, President and CEO