

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 10, 2021

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FREE PSA TESTING EVENT COMBATS DELAY IN CANCER SCREENINGS

Eddie Check and Provision CARES Proton Therapy Team Up for Blood Drive and Free PSA Screenings

Knoxville, Tenn. -- The COVID pandemic has led to an increase in delayed cancer screenings, with many people postponing routine tests that could help with early detection. That makes this year's Eddie Check more important than ever. On Thursday, September 9 and Friday, September 10, men will have access to a free PSA screening, which can indicate abnormalities in the prostate.

Prostate cancer is the 2nd most common cancer and the 2nd leading cause of cancer death among American men. The American Cancer Society estimates about *248,530 new cases* and more than *34,000 deaths* from prostate cancer in 2021 alone.

What's more? The pandemic resulted in a significant drop in screenings from April to June 2020:

- *22 million* missed cancer screenings
- *60% fewer* PSA tests
- *80,000 patients* at risk for delayed or missed cancer diagnoses

There *is* good news, though. If prostate cancer is caught early, the 5-year survival rate is nearly 100%. A PSA test is an important tool in early detection of prostate cancer. The numbers say it all: *Get tested!*

Rockford-based Nisus Corporation has teamed up with Provision CARES Proton Therapy, MEDIC Regional Blood Center, and American Esoteric Laboratories for Eddie Check 2021, an annual event that provides free PSA screening for prostate cancer during the 2-day blood drive. Visiting any Eddie Check location, men can quickly and easily get a blood sample drawn for the screening. Nisus has a personal stake in the fight, as company President & CEO Kevin L. Kirkland lost his father, Eddie Kirkland, to the disease. In fact, "Eddie Check" is named after Eddie Kirkland.

Eddie Check will be held at 16 different locations across 11 East Tennessee counties, including Knox, Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Cumberland, Hamblen, Jefferson, McMinn, Roane, Scott, and Sevier. This free PSA screening is recommended for men aged 40 or older. For more information including locations and times, please visit **EddieCheck.com**.

Available to Media Outlets:

- *Interview with Kevin Kirkland, son of the event's namesake, Eddie, to share his father's story and discuss the importance of PSA screening and how easy Eddie Check makes it.*
- *Still photos of past events*
- *Access to testing location of your choice on day of event*