I’ve been a practicing urologist for just over 30 years. I have always stressed the importance of annual prostate screening because early diagnosis saves lives. While some feel that delaying the diagnosis or treatment of prostate cancer is justified, rising death rates from prostate cancer show that this approach is ill advised.

Prostate cancer is detected with a 15 second prostate examination and a blood test. If either of those are abnormal, a prostate biopsy is the next step. It’s virtually painless. I can vouch for that because I just had one done!

Traditional biopsies are done with ultrasound guidance in the office. Now, there is a dramatic improvement in biopsy procedures. For the first time, urologists have the remarkable imaging advances that most other areas of medicine use in biopsies of other areas of our bodies, including breasts, kidneys, bones, abdominal masses, etc. Until now, doing a prostate biopsy did not benefit from the precision of real time imaging to direct a biopsy needle into an abnormal area.

At Western States HIFU/Pacific Coast Urology Medical Center, we are proud to be the FIRST private practice west of the Mississippi to offer UroNav – an advanced technology for patients who may have prostate cancer! This is truly a potential game changer in both diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer.

UroNav is a software program that fuses MRI images of the prostate with instant ultrasound images from our state-of-the-art GE Medical Systems Ultrasound system. Our new, GE Logic 8 is one of the most sophisticated ultrasound units in the world, allowing us to merge MRI data with ultrasound images, so our patients get the most precise biopsies possible. This can result in little or no damage to surrounding prostate tissue! UroNav has the potential to diagnose and treat prostate cancer with more precision than ever before!

What does that mean for you? I can give you proper information and counseling about your prostate cancer so you can choose among many treatment options that include surveillance (watchful waiting), radical robotic surgery, radiation (from proton beams to cyberknives), cryoablation and the latest FDA-approved High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU). We are the most experienced HIFU practice in the western United States to help you navigate all of your treatment options and choose what is best for your cancer. Learn more about these treatment options at www.WesternStatesHifu.com