



**Capital Area  
Carcinoid  
Survivors  
(CACS)**

Address  
Phone: 703-255-0519  
Fax: 301-610-9376  
Website: [http://  
hometown.aol.com/  
cacsva/](http://hometown.aol.com/cacsva/)

**Officers & Directors**

Mitch Berger  
Silver Spring, Md.

Larry Chinnery  
Rockville, Md.

Kim Cunningham  
Baltimore, Md.

Bea Lehming  
Vienna, Va.

Harry Lyle  
Vienna, Va.

Linda Silversmith  
Rockville, Md.

Al Simms  
Fredericksburg, Va.

Lois Simms  
Fredericksburg, Va.

260 New Mark Esplanade  
Rockville, MD 20850-2733  
bchinnry@verizon.net  
<http://hometown.aol.com/cacsva/>  
August 23, 2004

Governor Mark Warner  
Attn.: Jimmy Grappone  
State Capitol  
Richmond, Va. 23219

In re: **Request to declare October 2004 "Carcinoid Awareness Month"**

Dear Governor Warner:

Each year a few dozen citizens of Virginia are diagnosed with Carcinoid cancer, a very rare disease. It is so rare that these people frequently go through many months and even years of misdiagnoses because the symptoms of these tumors mirror other diseases---such as irritable bowel syndrome, anxiety, menopausal hot flashes, and Crohn's disease.

This lack of awareness of Carcinoid cancer by many healthcare providers in Virginia all too frequently results in untimely death because of faulty diagnosis. In fact, Carcinoid patients are all too often made to feel their symptoms are "all in their head" because many doctors are unaware of the telltale diagnostic patterns of this disease.

The carcinoid patients and caregivers of the **Capital Area Carcinoid Survivors** support group want to make healthcare providers more sensitive to its symptoms and the public aware of this disease---thereby reducing the number of misdiagnoses of patients and enabling earlier detection and treatment that enhance patient quality of life and chances for survival.

We are planning several educational activities for October 2004---including hosting a presentation by a top carcinoid specialist and mailing informational materials to many physicians in **DC and tri-state region (MD, VA, WV)**.

We would very much appreciate it if you will designate October as "**Virginia Carcinoid Awareness Month**" to call attention to this insidious disease.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to discussing this with you or your designee.

Yours truly,

Lawrence W. Chinnery  
CACS president