

PROSTATE CANCER

What is prostate cancer?

Cancer is a disease in which cells in the body grow out of control. When these abnormal cells grow in the prostate, it is called prostate cancer. The prostate is a walnut-sized gland that is part of the male reproductive system. It makes the fluid that carries sperm. The prostate is located in front of the rectum and just below the bladder.

Some prostate cancers grow slowly. Others grow quickly, spread to other body parts and can lead to death. Prostate cancer may not induce any symptoms. If symptoms appear, they include blood in the urine, problems urinating, or pain in the lower back, pelvis, or upper thighs.

What increases your chance of getting prostate cancer?

- All men can get prostate cancer.
- The risk increases as men get older.
- African-American men are more likely to get aggressive prostate cancer than other men in the United States.
- Men who have a father or brother who have had prostate cancer are at greater risk for developing it themselves.

Is there a test for prostate cancer?

- The prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test is a blood test that checks for high levels of a marker that may be a sign of cancer.
- The digital rectal examination (DRE) is another test that is done by a doctor to feel for any abnormalities in the prostate gland.
- The only way to know if an abnormal test is due to cancer is to do a biopsy. A biopsy is a minor surgery to get small pieces of the prostate to look at under a microscope

Who should get the prostate cancer test?

- All men over 50 years old and African American men over 40, should talk to a doctor about getting tested for prostate cancer.
- PSA testing is usually done once a year.

Where to get more information

Ask your doctor or any health care professional, or call the following:

Haitian American Association Against Cancer	305-572-1825
Jessie Trice Center for Community Health	305-805-1700
Liberty City Health Services (Jackson Health System)	305-835-2200

Free telephone and online-information:

American Cancer Society www.cancer.org	800-227-2345
Cancer Information Service www.cancer.gov	800-4-CANCER
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center www.sylvester.org	305-243-1000



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