



Get Informed:

**Discuss
Prostate Cancer
Screening
With Your
Health Care
Provider**

Prostate cancer is the second most common type of cancer among men in New York City.

The prostate is a small gland in men that helps make semen. Prostate cancer responds best to treatment if detected early.

More men die from prostate cancer than any other type of cancer besides lung cancer. Getting screened for prostate cancer and detecting it early may save your life.

What is the **screening test** for prostate cancer?

If you choose to get screened, you should have a blood test for prostate-specific antigen (PSA). Less commonly, your health care provider may also recommend other tests. If your PSA level is higher than it should be, your provider may recommend a biopsy.



What are the **signs and symptoms** ?

If you have prostate cancer, you may not have any symptoms. If you do have symptoms, they may include:

- Trouble starting urinating
- Urinating often
- Trouble emptying your bladder completely
- Pain or burning during urination
- Weak or interrupted flow of urine
- Painful ejaculation
- Blood in your urine or semen
- Pain in your back, hips or pelvis that does not go away

What are the **risk factors**?

The risk of prostate cancer increases as you get older. You may also be at increased risk for prostate cancer if you:

- Are Black or African American
- Have a family history of prostate cancer
- Have a family history of certain other cancers

Discuss your family's history of cancer with your provider.

What are the **benefits and risks** of screening and treatment?

The benefit of screening is being able to detect prostate cancer early, which may save your life.

In some people, prostate cancer will not spread, cause symptoms or become life-threatening.

Treatments for prostate cancer have risks. If you have a low-risk tumor, you can discuss plans for monitoring or treatment with your provider.

Black men are at the highest risk of both getting and dying from prostate cancer. Make sure to discuss screening with your provider.

Who should **get screened?**

Talk to your provider about screening to see if it is right for you. Men should discuss starting screening with their provider at age:

- 40 if they have more than one close family member who had prostate cancer before age 65
- 45 if they are Black or have one close family member who had prostate cancer before age 65
- 50 if they do not have specific risk factors

How much do **screening and care cost?**

Most health insurance providers cover PSA screening. If you do not have insurance, call **311**.

If you are uninsured and need treatment for prostate cancer, the Medicaid Cancer Treatment Program may be able to help. For more information, call 866-442-2262.





Visit nyc.gov/health
and search for
prostate cancer
to learn more.