

Advanced Prostate Cancer: Understanding Your Prostate Cancer Diagnosis

Did You Know?

In the U.S., **1 in 8 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during the course of their lifetime.** That risk increases to 1 in 5 for the veteran population.¹ Black men are more likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer than men of other races.

Prostate Cancer Testing

Your healthcare team will use a variety of tests to better understand your disease. They may include:

- Biopsy
- PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) Test
- Imaging:
 - * Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
 - * Computed Tomography (CT) Scan

Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA): A blood test used primarily to screen for prostate cancer. The test measures the amount of prostate-specific antigen (PSA) in your blood.

Stages of Prostate Cancer

Stage I: Indicates a slower growing disease that is confined to the prostate.

Stage II: Cancer is only in the prostate, but the disease may have an increased chance of growing or spreading.

Stage III: Cancer has spread to areas close to the prostate and may be considered locally advanced.

Stage IV: Cancer has spread beyond the prostate and is considered advanced prostate cancer.

What Steps Can You Take to Better Understand Your Diagnosis?

- Ask about the stage of your prostate cancer and whether it is aggressive.
- Confirm that you have had all relevant testing to inform an accurate diagnosis, including genetic testing.
- Review your test results together with your team to make sure you understand how they impact your care and treatment options.
- Ask about your Gleason score and how it impacts your decisions.
- Consider seeking a second opinion with a prostate cancer specialist.
- Visit credible advocacy group websites, such as:
 - Prostate Cancer Foundation: pcf.org
 - Prostate Cancer Research Institute: pcri.org
 - Prostate Health Education Network: prostatehealthd.org
 - ZERO—The End of Prostate Cancer: zerocancer.org

Gleason Score: Based on how abnormal a patient's prostate cancer cells appear under the microscope, the grading system measures how likely the cancer is to advance and spread.

Learn more:



¹ Zhu, Kangmin, et al. "Cancer Incidence in the U.S. Military Population: Comparison with Rates from the Seer Program." American Association for Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, 8 June 2009, <https://aacrjournals.org/cebp/article/18/6/1740/66901/Cancer-Incidence-in-the-U-S-Military-Population>.