

Black Men & Prostate Cancer

The Facts

Prostate cancer starts in the prostate. The prostate is a small gland in the male reproductive system.



The Numbers:



1 in 6 Black men will get prostate cancer in their lifetime



Every 9 minutes, a Black man learns he has prostate cancer



Every day, about 17 Black men die from prostate cancer



Black men are 1.7 times more likely to get prostate cancer than white men



Black men are 2 times more likely to die from prostate cancer than white men



More than 3.5 million prostate cancer survivors are alive in the USA today



Black Men Face Higher Risk:

Black men in the U.S. and Caribbean get prostate cancer more than men anywhere else in the world.



The Good News:

Finding cancer early saves lives! When found early, more than 99 out of 100 people with prostate cancer will be alive in five years.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY. CANCER STATISTICS FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN AND BLACK PEOPLE 2026. ATLANTA: AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, 2026.

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Know Your Risk:



Older men: Most cases happen in men 65 and older



Black men: Black men get prostate cancer more often than other men



Family history: Cancer in your family may raise your risk



Gene changes: Some people are born with genes that raise their risk



Veterans: Military members exposed to toxic chemicals have a higher risk

Take a quiz to learn about your risk at zerocancer.org/risk-factors.



Talk About Screening:

- Early prostate cancer usually has no signs. This is why screening is so important.
- Find a health care provider you trust. Black men and those with a family history of cancer should talk to their provider about testing beginning at age 40.
- They will use a simple blood test called a PSA test.



After Screening:

If screening suggests you might have cancer, your health provider may do a biopsy (take a small tissue sample). If they find cancer, doctors may do more tests to learn about it. These tests can show the best way to treat it.

There are many treatment options. If caught early, care may involve close monitoring of the cancer. You and your health care provider can decide together what is right for you.

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