



Prostate Cancer and Black Men: Starting Screenings Earlier

Black men are nearly 70% more likely to develop prostate cancer and twice as likely to die from it compared to white men. Starting prostate cancer screening earlier can help catch the disease sooner, when treatment is most effective.

Regular screening helps detect prostate cancer early, when it is most treatable.

Prostate cancer is one of the most common cancers among men, but it impacts Black men more severely. Age, family history, lifestyle factors like smoking and obesity, and barriers to care can all increase risk. Some studies also suggest that tumor biology in Black men may lead to faster-growing disease.

Because of this, updated guidelines from the Prostate Cancer Foundation now recommend that Black men consider beginning prostate-specific antigen (PSA) screening as early as age 40 to 45. Detecting cancer early can lead to better outcomes and save lives.

Why It Matters

- Black men face a disproportionately higher risk of both developing and dying from prostate cancer.
- Prostate cancer may appear earlier and progress more aggressively in Black men.
- Early detection through screenings gives the best chance for effective treatment.

What Can You Do

- Talk with your doctor about starting prostate screenings between the ages of 40 and 45.
- Learn about the two main screening tools: PSA blood tests and digital rectal exams.
- Ask about your family history and how it may affect your personal risk.
- Consider participating in clinical trials and research studies to improve treatment options for Black men.
- Share information within your community to encourage others to take action.



For more Information, visit www.mskcc.org



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