Living Well / Aging Well Prostate Cancer Screening



What is prostate cancer screening?

Two tests are available to screen for prostate cancer. You should discuss the benefits and risks of prostate screening with your doctor and the best test for you. Here is a short description of each test. For more information on the specifics of these tests, see the CDC website:

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/prostate/basic_info/screening.htm

Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) Test

The prostate specific antigen (PSA) test measures the level of PSA in the blood. PSA is a substance made by the prostate. The levels of PSA in the blood can be higher in men who have prostate cancer.

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/prostate/basic info/screening.htm

Digital Rectal Examination (DRE)

During the digital rectal examination (DRE) a health care provider inserts a gloved, lubricated finger into a man's rectum to feel the prostate for anything abnormal, such as cancer.

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/prostate/basic_info/screening.htm

What are the signs of prostate cancer?

The prostate is a part of the male reproductive system, which includes the penis, prostate, and testicles. Some men have signs of prostate cancer, but some do not. The signs may include:

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



These signs can happen with other illnesses that are not cancer, so please discuss them with your doctor.

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/prostate/basic info/symptoms.htm