

PSA testing for prostate cancer.

The facts.

What is prostate cancer?

The prostate is a small gland in the male body that sits underneath the bladder. The prostate makes the fluid that protects and carries sperm. When the cells for the prostate develop or multiply abnormally, prostate cancer can develop. Prostate cancer can grow very slowly and remain in the prostate, never causing any symptoms or problems. However, the cancer can sometimes spread outside the prostate into nearby or distant parts of the body.

How is it tested?

The prostate can be tested for cancer in a number of ways. The first step is a PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) blood test that may be accompanied by an examination and further testing, depending on your PSA result.

What does PSA testing mean?

PSA stands for Prostate-Specific Antigen, a protein produced by normal as well as malignant cells of the prostate gland. The PSA reading is often elevated in men with prostate cancer.

A high PSA reading however does not necessarily mean the presence of prostate cancer, but it does indicate that further examination and tests are required to establish if the cancer is present and to help determine the type of cancer. Some cancers are slow moving and require little or no intervention apart from active surveillance to track the cancer. Some are more dangerous and require different degrees of surgical treatment, radiation and hormone treatments. The good news is that early detection is saving lives.

Why APC?

The Australian Prostate Centre in North Melbourne is a best practice centre dedicated to the complete treatment and support of all prostate cancer patients.

Men and their families can now access specialist medical services like urology, oncology and active surveillance, plus full recovery and rehabilitation services including exercise classes and psychology, all under the one roof.

Australian Prostate Centre 

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