

THE PSA TEST

TO DETECT PROSTATE CANCER

When detected early, the survival rate for prostate cancer is close to 100% after five years. Detected late, it drops to 28%. The PSA test is the best way to detect prostate cancer early.



Ask your doctor these questions about the PSA test:

What is it?

1



- A blood test measuring amount of the prostate specific antigen (PSA) protein
- It's normal to have PSA in your blood, but high levels can mean something is wrong - potentially prostate cancer

Should I get tested?

2



- Before deciding to be tested, discuss advantages and disadvantages with your doctor

Am I at risk?

3



- You may be at higher risk if
- you are older than 50 - risk increases as you age
 - you have a family history of prostate cancer
 - you are black

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Ask your doctor these questions about the PSA test:

When should I start being tested?

4



- Age 50
- Age 45 if at high risk

How often should I be tested?

5



- It depends on your PSA levels and can be different for each man

When should I stop testing?

6



- It depends on your PSA level, age and general health
- Usually at age 70
- In your 60s if PSA levels are low

Prostate Cancer Information Service

1.855.PCC.INFO (1.855.722.4636) | support@prostatecancer.ca

prostatecancer.ca/PSA