

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.

What is it?



- 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?



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

Am I at risk?



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

When should I start being tested?



- Age 50
- Age 45 if at high risk

How often should I be tested?



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

When should I stop testing?



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