

Prostate cancer—the facts



The stats

One in nine Australian men will get prostate cancer.

Every three hours an Australian man dies of prostate cancer.

Men over 40, and with a family history of the disease, should talk to their GP.

It claims nine men a day or approximately 3300 a year—around the same number as breast cancer in women.

Today, there are more than 61 000 Australian men fighting prostate cancer and another 20 000 will be diagnosed in the next year.

The impact

Just imagine how many families will lose their fathers, sons, brothers and grandfathers to prostate cancer. Current screening methods can be inaccurate and treatment is invasive with possible side effects that most men don't like to talk about. Medical research is the key to improved diagnosis methods and enhanced treatment.

Bringing hope through research

Mater Medical Research Institute (MMRI) scientists are working to better understand prostate cancer in numerous ways. They want to understand the molecular events underpinning prostate cancer—how it starts and spreads around the body. This includes the cancer spreading to the bones which is one of the most common areas for cancer to spread and currently bone cancer is incurable.

One team of MMRI scientists are working to identify what genes and proteins predispose men to developing prostate cancer with the goal of informing future generations of men, early in life, about their risks.

This important research is expensive and can only continue with your support.

Another team are exploring how prostate cancer cells protect themselves in response to treatments with the view to developing strategies to sensitise cancers to therapy.

Through better understanding of the disease scientists at MMRI are contributing to the global fight against prostate cancer leading to better ways to diagnose and treat the disease.

So what can you do?

Talk about it!

Talking about prostate cancer saves lives. If you are male and aged over 40, you should talk to your GP about regular checks. Like most cancers, prostate cancer is more likely to be successfully treated if it's caught in its early stages.

Support Talking PC

Everyone can raise awareness of prostate cancer and funds for vital research by taking part in *Talking PC*. It can be as simple as holding a BBQ or morning tea at your workplace; *Facing your Fear* and holding a challenge event; or making a donation. To find out more visit www.talkingpc.org.au or call 1800 440 155.