WHAT IS PROSTATE CANCER?

What is the Prostate Gland?
The prostate gland is an organ in the male reproductive system. It makes some of the fluid that is part of semen.

What is Prostate Cancer?
Normally, as cells grow old or become damaged, they die, and new cells take their place. With cancer, this order is disrupted, and there is more cell growth than cell death. Prostate Cancer is the abnormal growth of cells in the prostate gland.

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PROSTATE CANCER PREVENTION
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SCREENING
There are two types of screening for prostate cancer:

**Digital Rectal Exam**
A screening test that physically feels the prostate.
For a digital rectal exam (DRE), the doctor inserts a gloved, lubricated finger into the rectum to feel for any bumps or hard areas on the prostate that might be cancer.

**Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) Test**
Prostate-specific antigen is a protein made by cells in the prostate gland. We are able to check for this protein through a blood test.
The chance of having prostate cancer goes up as the PSA level goes up, so your risk of cancer can be monitored through the PSA test. But there is no set cutoff point that can tell if a man has or doesn’t have prostate cancer.

RISK FACTORS
- Age – over the age of 40
- Family History
- Race – Black men are more likely to develop prostate cancer than any other race
- Genetic mutations
- Other risk factors associated with Prostate Cancer – Smoking and Poor Diet

SYMPTOMS
Early prostate cancer usually has no symptoms, but symptoms can include:
- Problems urinating, including a slow or weak urinary stream or the need to urinate more often, especially at night
- Blood in the urine or semen
- Trouble getting an erection (erectile dysfunction or ED)
- Weakness or numbness in the feet/legs
- Loss of bladder or bowel control
- Consistent pain in the hips, back, chest, or other area