



Concerns: Prostate Cancer

Findings suggest that prostate screening should be a priority for military veterans living with HIV.

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Military veterans living with HIV received prostate-specific antigen (PSA) screening less often and were diagnosed with prostate cancer at a later stage than HIV-negative veterans, a recent study showed. While prostate cancer is the most common malignancy among HIV-positive people in the U.S., it does not appear to occur more often among these individuals than HIV-negative people. Using Veterans Aging Cohort Study-HIV data from 2001 to 2018, researchers identified 791 HIV-positive and 2,778 HIV-negative veterans with confirmed prostate cancer. Prior to diagnosis, men with HIV were less likely than HIV-negative men to receive PSA screening. At the time of diagnosis, more than 60% of men with HIV had a detectable viral load, indicating suboptimal treatment. HIV-positive veterans with prostate cancer had significantly higher PSA levels and were more likely to be diagnosed with intermediate or high-risk localized cancer or metastatic cancer. These findings suggest that prostate screening should be a priority for men living with HIV.

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