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## Prostate Cancer in African American Men

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# **Prostate Cancer in African American Men**

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#### Introduction

Prostate cancer originates in the tissues of the male prostate gland. It is the second most diagnosed cancer in men in the United States (after skin cancer) and the sixth leading cause of death in the world, although the cause is not quite understood, although genetic, hormonal and environmental factors are considered.

American Cancer Society estimates that about 1 in 7 men will develop prostate cancer with 161,360 new cases and 26,730 deaths from PC in 2017 (American Cancer Society, 2016). Prostate cancer comes with racial disparity.

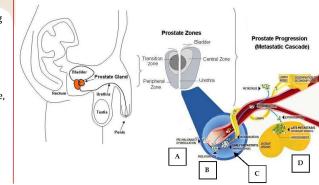
According to US Department of Health and Human Services, African American men have higher incidence and greatest mortality from prostate cancer than other ethnic groups in the US. It is usually diagnosed in middle to older age. Prostate cancer is usually slow growing and is treatable when caught early. Study shows that more African American men are concerned about cost, length and impact of treatment, and this as a result affects outcome,

#### **Signs and Symptoms**

The prostate gland changes as a man ages. These changes which include developing prostate cancer can present with symptoms. Very early stage of prostate cancer does not usually present with symptoms and when they eventually show, they arise from bladder outlet obstruction;

- slow urinary stream,
- Hesitancy or trouble starting the flow
- · Frequency especially at night
- dysuria and incomplete emptying of bladder
- Pain or burning with urination
- local invasion of prostate cancer can obstruct ureter or bowel.
- Symptoms of late disease can be pain at the site of metastasis like bone pathologic fracture, liver enlargement, or altered mental status from brain metastasis

# Prostate Biopsy for PIN or PIA (Abnormal Cells but not Cancer) (Pamily History (Pamily Hi



# Pathophysiology and significance of pathophysiology

Typical aging process include changes to the prostate gland. Adenocarcinoma (type of cancer that develops in the gland cells) is the most common type of prostate cancer.

Prostate cancer develops when there is uncontrolled tumor growth due to inequality in the rate of cell division and cell death

Most prostate cancer are multifocal; 70% from peripheral zone, 15-20% from central zone, 10-15% from transitional zone and 4% from urothelial lining.

Hormonal causes have been postulated because androgen deprivation causes regression of pc and eunuchs do not develop adenocarcinoma of the prostate.

African American morpresent with higher grade admor that is more advance, and aggressive. Gene and a croRNA profiling of Africa American and Caucasian American tumor demonstrated racial variation.

Prostatic Intraplitellal neoplasia

Prostate cancer

According to Myers et al

tumor biology is underexplored

due to inadequate availability of

specimens'. Their study shows

that expression of beta-catenin

and caveolin-1 (genes) may be

specific. It has a striking racial

health disparity. More African

Americans get diagnosed at a

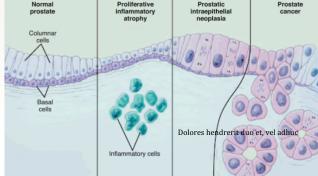
younger age than other ces.

prostate cancer and race

(2017), 'the contribution of

African-American patient-

derived cell lines and



Literature review by Gokce et al (2017) found that "Epigenetic DNA alterations, chromosomal alterations, and

gene expression profile alterations have been identified as factors associated with racial disparities".

### **Nursing implications**

The most common site of metastasis for prostate cancer is the bone, lymph node, lung liver and brain. Bone metastasis causes bone pain, impaired mobility, cord compression, pathological fracture, hypercalcemia. The nurses' understanding facilitates care and better outcome.

More advanced stage of prostate cancer causes acute urinary obstruction. Nursing care and concern focus on providing patient with accurate and timely information need to make informed decision about treatment, promoting comfort and managing complications from disease process.

According to USPSTF,

African American men should be educated on their increased risk as well as potential benefits and harms of screening, so that they can make informed personal decision. Rice et all (2017) believes that knowledge of prostate cancer and screening tests helps men to initiate or participate in informed decision making in prostate cancer screening. They suggested a need for community and clinic based approach to improved risk comprehension in African Americans. So nurses continues to be teachers and advocates.

#### Conclusion

Prostate cancer is a disease of the male prostate gland. The gland changes with advanced age. Part of this change includes cancer development. Most men, if lived ling enough, will develop prostate cancer.

There is racial disparity with prostate cancer, making African American men more at risk than any other race. Studies have shown that genetic make up can play a role in this health and racial disparity.

African American men are more at risk for developing prostate cancer and the more aggressive kind. It is suggested that African Americans should be aware of this difference and therefore increased education and awareness will help them make informed decision about testing and treatment, leading to better outcomes.

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