

A 70-year-old man, who experienced some bowel dysfunction and serious erectile dysfunction since localized prostate cancer treatment:

‘Indeed, I feel well, even though I have some problems with erections now. But when I think of what may have happened without the operation... Then I’m happy that I was operated. It is quite a relief to me.’

Primary treatment of localized prostate cancer may cause side effects, mainly urinary and erectile dysfunction after radical prostatectomy (surgery), and bowel and erectile dysfunction after external radiotherapy. In spite of these side effects, men treated for localized prostate cancer on average report high generic quality of life scores. What do side effects actually mean to patients? That is the question we explored in the studies presented in this thesis.



Localized prostate cancer and quality of life

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Screening, treatment and methodological issues

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