

BLADDER CANCER. MORE THAN 70,000 AMERICANS WILL BE DIAGNOSED WITH BLADDER CANCER THIS YEAR. ABOUT 75% OF THEM WILL BE MEN. ¹

VETERANS AND CANCER⁴

Among white veterans, the risk was significantly elevated for several cancers, including bladder cancer⁵

The prevalence rate of bladder cancer among veterans is increasing⁶

- About 35,000 new cases of cancer occur in VA patients each year
- Cancer is the second leading cause of death among veterans.
- The course of the disease is often protracted, and the treatment is quite demanding of resources.
- As the veteran population ages, this will increase.



RISK FACTORS³



Smoking is the major risk

Workplace exposure to chemicals, combustible gases

Arsenic in drinking water



Chemotherapy or radiation

Family history or personal history of bladder cancer



Men with a history of gonorrhea

The risk increases with age.

VETERANS HAVE A HIGHER RISK FOR BLADDER CANCER. VETERANS DEVELOP BLADDER CANCER AT A RATE NEARLY TWICE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE.²

DETECT BLADDER CANCER EARLY

If bladder cancer is detected early, it is very treatable. One also needs to be vigilant and aware of symptoms. Bladder cancer has the highest rate of recurrence of all cancers. The five-year survival rate is about 95% for bladder cancer detected in an early stage. Survival drops to as low as 10% if the cancer is found in more advanced stages. About 25% of people are diagnosed when the cancer is advanced and more deadly.



Blood in the urine can be visible to the naked eye or microscopic. When blood is detected, patients are often referred to an urologist who specializes in bladder cancer diagnosis and other urinary issues.

A combination of tests is used to diagnose bladder cancer. The primary tool is a cystoscope (a visual look at the inside of the bladder). Urine tests are frequently part of the evaluation. Today, a simple urine test referred to as the NMP22 test is being used in conjunction with a cystoscopic exam and provides results within 30 minutes. This test is also being used by medical centers and occupational health groups to advance early detection of this cancer –either at the worksite or community health fairs.

A PAINLESS URINE TEST



KNOW THE SIGNS

- Blood in urine
- Urinary irritation
 - Burning
 - Pain
 - Frequent urination
 - Feeling the urge to urinate
 - Feeling of incomplete bladder emptying.

**DON'T WAIT.
SEE YOUR DOCTOR.
GET TESTED.**

Women and Bladder Cancer A Deadly Disease

60% more women were diagnosed with bladder cancer last year than cervical cancer¹.

More women died last year from bladder cancer than cervical cancer¹.



- ◆ **Women have worse survival rates than men;** 5-year survival rate is less than 10-year survival rate in men [incidence of bladder cancer is 3 times higher in men]. **Black women are diagnosed when the disease is more advanced⁷**
- ◆ **Women smokers have twice the risk of bladder cancer than men;** and 11 times the risk of non-smokers⁸
- ◆ **NMP22 Test identified 100% of aggressive tumors** in women with symptoms or risk factors for bladder cancer⁹

Why should veterans be tested for bladder cancer?

- A documented high prevalence and increased risk factor compared to general population
- Detecting in early stage improves survival
- Limiting testing to high-risk groups improves detection rates and reduces false positive tests.
- Smoking is the number one risk factor and among the VA there is a disproportionate number of smokers or individuals who had sometime smoked

Veterans and Smoking



- 40% of veterans 65 years or older are smokers
- More Vietnam veterans smoke than other groups of veterans 43% vs. 32%
- 35% of veterans are “ever” smokers vs. 28% of all U.S. citizens
- Smokers will live on the average 13-14 fewer years than non-smokers



Testing is safe, easy with a simple urine test

The NMP22® BladderChek® Test is the only FDA approved in-office test used as an aid in the initial diagnosis and monitoring of bladder cancer in conjunction with standard diagnostic procedures. A painless and noninvasive assay that requires only four drops of urine, the NMP22 BladderChek Test detects elevated amounts of the NMP22 protein. People with bladder cancer may have urinary levels of NMP22 protein that are 25 times greater than levels in healthy individuals¹⁰. Results are ready in 30 minutes. The test costs less than \$30 and is approved by Medicare and major insurance companies.

References

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- 9 Analysis of 1,331 patients, 23 site clinical trial published in February 16, 2005 JAMA. Data on file at Inverness Medical
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Signs of bladder cancer and bladder cancer facts: ACS, American Cancer Society, data and information
