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Original Article

The Relationship of Baseline Prostate Specific Antigen and Risk of Future Prostate Cancer and Its Variance by Race

Daniel P. Verges M.D. ^a ... Nicholas T. Karanikolas M.D. ^c [Show more](#)<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jnma.2016.09.001>[Get rights and content](#)

Abstract

Purpose

Several studies suggest that a baseline prostate specific antigen (PSA) measured in young men predicts future risk of prostate cancer. Considering recent recommendations against PSA screening, high-risk populations (e.g. black men, men with a high baseline PSA) may be particularly vulnerable in the coming years. Thus, we investigated the relationship between baseline PSA and future prostate cancer in a black majority–minority urban population.

Materials and methods

A retrospective analysis was performed of the prostate biopsy database ($n = 994$) at the Brooklyn Veterans Affairs Hospital. These men were referred to urology clinic for elevated PSA and biopsied between 2007 and 2014. Multivariate logistic regression was used to predict positive prostate biopsy from log-transformed baseline PSA, race (black, white, or other), and several other variables.

Results

The majority of men identified as black (50.2%). Median age at time of baseline PSA and biopsy was 58.6 and 64.8, respectively. Median baseline PSA was similar among black men and white men (2.70 vs 2.91 for black men vs white men, $p = 0.232$). Even so, black men were more likely than white men to be diagnosed with prostate cancer (OR 1.62, $p < 0.0001$). Black men less than age 70 were at particularly greater risk than their white counterparts. Baseline PSA was not a statistically significant predictor of future prostate cancer ($p = 0.101$).

Conclusions

Black men were more likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer than were white men, despite comparable baseline PSA. In our pre-screened population at the urology clinic, a retrospective examination of baseline PSA did not predict future prostate cancer.

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Keywords

Prostate cancer; Prostate-specific antigen; Screening; Preventive care; Minority population; Urology

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