

Be Smart - Screen Now

Prostate Cancer Awareness Week

September 15-21

As men age, the prostate may become a source of problems. Prostate cancer is the most common type of cancer (excluding skin cancer) among American men. According to the American Cancer Society, men aged 50 and older, and those over the age of 45 who are in high risk groups, such as African-American men and men with family history of prostate cancer, should have a prostate-specific (PSA) blood test and digital rectal exam (DRE) once every year.

This type of cancer is the most common cancer in American men. The American Cancer Society estimates that about 230,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer annually in the United States and that about 29,000 men die of the disease.

If prostate cancer is detected early - when it's still confined to the prostate gland - you have a better chance of successful treatment with minimal or short-term side effects. Successful treatment of cancer that has spread beyond the prostate gland is more difficult. But treatments exist that can help control the cancer.

Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

Ovarian Cancer is the sixth most common cancer in women. It's diagnosed in about 23,000 women in the United States each year, and almost 14,000 women die of the disease annually.

Your chance of surviving cancer are better if the cancer is found early. But because of the disease is difficult to detect in its early stage, only 25 percent of ovarian cancers are found before tumor growth has spread into tissues and organs beyond the ovaries. Most of the time, the disease has already advanced before it's diagnosed.

Because ovarian cancer is often deadly and the signs and symptoms are subtle, knowing them is important to detect the disease as early as possible. See your doctor or gynecologist for a yearly pelvic examination and Pap test, which may help to detect the disease early.

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