UNDERSTANDING YOUR
Prostate Cancer Diagnosis
Important Information For The Newly Diagnosed Patient

INTRODUCTION
No one is ever really prepared to be told that they have prostate cancer. You’re not alone. Prostate cancer is one of the most frequently diagnosed cancer in American men—and it’s also one of the most manageable and treatable.¹

According to the American Cancer Society, the overall relative 5-year survival rate for all men with prostate cancer is nearly 100%. However, every man is unique, and statistics can’t predict exactly what will happen in your case. Talk with your cancer treatment team if you have questions about your own condition.¹

PROSTATE CANCER DEFINED
The prostate is part of the male reproductive system and produces fluid that makes up a part of semen. Prostate cancer occurs when abnormal cells within the prostate gland grow out of control. Testosterone plays an integral role in the growth and treatment of prostate cancer.¹

WHAT IS A PSA TEST?
A PSA test measures the level of prostate-specific antigen in your bloodstream. PSA levels of over 4 nanograms per millimeter (ng/mL) are considered the upper limit of normal and may indicate a possibility of prostate cancer, especially if risk factors are present. However, up to 25% of men with prostate cancer have a number below 4.0 ng/mL, and 1 out of 4 men with a borderline PSA level between 4 and 10 have a chance at getting prostate cancer.²,³

WHAT DOES THE PRESENCE OF PSA IN THE BLOODSTREAM MEAN?
There are usually small amounts of PSA that escape from the prostate gland into the bloodstream of healthy men. A high level of PSA in the bloodstream is a warning sign that prostate cancer or other prostate disease is present.¹ After treatments such as surgery or radiation, PSA blood levels may drop to a low level. The blood level of PSA in a person with prostate cancer, however, may rise from this low level after treatment.⁴
Advanced prostate cancer: A tumor that has spread outside of the prostate to other areas of your body is considered to be advanced prostate cancer. Your doctor may need to perform additional blood tests in order to confirm that you have advanced prostate cancer. If those tests indicate a rising PSA level, it could mean your prostate cancer has advanced—even without symptoms.1,5

Digital rectal exam (DRE): An exam in which your doctor inserts a lubricated, gloved finger into the rectum to feel your prostate through the rectal wall, checking for hard or lumpy areas.4

GnRH agonists: Synthetically made hormones, chemically similar to natural gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH). With continuous use in men, they block the production of the male hormone testosterone by the testicles and are frequently used in the palliative treatment of advanced prostate cancer.4

Hormonal therapy: Treatment with drugs that interfere with hormone production or hormone action, or the surgical removal of hormone-producing glands.4

Hormone: A chemical substance the body produces to regulate the growth and functioning of certain cells and organs.4

Palliative treatment: Treatment that helps alleviate symptoms, rather than cure the disease.2

Prostate-specific antigen (PSA): A protein produced by cells of the prostate gland. PSA levels are used to help identify disorders of the prostate.2

Testosterone: A male sex hormone produced primarily by the testes that is important in male physical and sexual function and development.5

Transrectal biopsy: A small tissue sample is removed from your prostate. A pathologist checks the sample for cancer cells.4

Transrectal ultrasound: Using sound waves to produce a sonogram, ultrasound allows your doctor to look closely.