

VPCC

Virtual Prostate Cancer Clinic

YOUR ONCOLOGIST REFERRED YOU TO THE VPCC. NOW WHAT?

After your prostate cancer treatment, we want to carefully monitor your condition to make sure your cancer does not come back and quickly address any treatment-related symptoms. We monitor for prostate cancer with a blood test called a PSA test. As part of your care after radiation therapy, there is a PSA testing schedule and we help arrange PSA testing for you, so we can review the results. We will also check for any symptoms that may occur after treatment.

We know that the travel, parking, and time related to trips to the hospital can be difficult. We created the VPCC so you can avoid some of those trips and do your testing and monitoring in more convenient ways.

These are some features of the VPCC:

- PSA testing can be done at a lab close to home.
- Your symptoms are monitored using on-line surveys.
- Your visits with providers take place from home. You can choose a phone or video visit.

Simply put, we want to give you the best care in the way that is right for you. If at any time you want to be seen in person or you need additional testing, the VPCC will schedule you for an in-person visit with your doctor.

How does it work?



After enrolling, our VPCC staff will call you to talk through any concerns you have and will ask you to choose a lab for PSA testing close to your home¹. If you have any concerns about finding a lab, the VPCC staff can advise you.



Once the VPCC gets your PSA results and your Symptom Survey, a provider will review them. If there are any concerns about your PSA results or your symptoms, a VPCC provider will call you to discuss them in detail within 24-48 hours.



One month before your next VPCC monitoring appointment, you'll receive an email reminder to visit your chosen lab for your PSA blood test and a link to fill out a Symptom Survey.



If your PSA results look good and you have few or no symptoms, you will be notified right away. Afterward, you can arrange to speak with a provider to discuss any concerns you have.

¹ Affiliated labs are preferred because those results can be viewed by the VPCC immediately. If no affiliated labs are available in your area, you may go to a local laboratory with a lab order containing instructions to fax the results to our office.

Program Options



VPCC Only Program

With the VPCC Only Program, the VPCC team works with your referring provider, coordinates your PSA testing and symptom monitoring, reviews all results, and schedules all your monitoring appointments.



Shared Care Program

Your monitoring appointments and scheduling duties alternate between the VPCC & another provider. This allows other providers to remain involved in your care while still reducing your expenses and travel time.

Patient Benefits

- VPCC patients continue to receive the highest quality care in a more convenient way.
- PSA results are tracked to catch a return of your cancer early. If concerns arise, you're fast-tracked for a clinic visit with your doctor.
- Patients have multiple ways to communicate with VPCC providers, year-round.
- Patients have seen...
 - Lower out-of-pocket expenses
 - Less travel related stress
 - Less time spent getting to and from visits

More questions?

If you have any questions or concerns between visits, don't wait until you receive a reminder. We're available to you year-round and will respond within 24-48 hours to any questions you have.



617-525-8431



VPSAM@partners.org

BRIGHAM HEALTH



BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S
Department of Radiation Oncology
Virtual Prostate Cancer Clinic

VPCC FAQs

What is a PSA Level?

Prostate Specific Antigen: A protein in the blood that is used to check for prostate cancer. It's measured in a blood test, and is reported in nanograms per milileter. A good range is unique to each patient.

What is a Symptom Survey?

A list of question, similar to those you answered during radiation treatment which helps the VPCC understand the symptoms you're experiencing and evaluate your chance of relapse.

Meet the Clinicians



ASHLEIGH KOWTONIUK PA

Ashleigh Kowtoniuk has been working at the Dana Farber / Brigham and Women's Cancer Center since 2019 treating Prostate Cancer with our Radiation Oncologists.



RICHARD BOYAJIAN NP

Richard Boyajian has been working at the DFCI BWH Cancer Center since 2000. Rich has been working with the BWH DFCI Radiation Oncologists treating Prostate Cancer since 2013.