



Ref: 315-EOECA- NCG PSA 80+

28th July 2025

Gemini House
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Updated Guidance on PSA Testing in Men Over 80 Years of Age

Dear Colleague,

NICE published new guidance on PSA testing in April 2025, available at:
<https://cks.nice.org.uk/topics/prostate-cancer/diagnosis/assessment/>

This guidance clearly states that the aim of PSA testing is to detect early prostate cancer, when treatment can be offered that may cure the cancer or extend life.

PSA testing should be offered to men over 50 years who request it, but is not recommended for men with a life expectancy of less than 10 years.

NHSE GIRFT Urology in 2024 endorsed the recommendations of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges guidance for **PSA testing in men aged 80 years and over** (also included in the NICE CKS guidance). **The East of England Cancer Alliance Urology Network Clinical Group has reviewed the recommendations and the evidence base to produce the attached guidance for regional adoption. This guidance is fully endorsed by the East of England Regional Clinical Leadership Group (CLG) and the EoE CA Primary Care Group.** We hope it will support all primary care clinicians in their decision-making regarding the investigation of this patient group.

We would particularly like to highlight the use of Advice & Guidance to your local urology team where uncertainty remains and secondary care input is required.

We recognise there is variation and some confusion in the approach to PSA testing, which NICE guidance does not fully resolve. It points out that most cases of prostate cancer are asymptomatic while advising against testing asymptomatic men. Additionally, the value of DRE is in question, and patient feedback suggests this examination can deter some men from coming forward.

Regional urology and primary care groups remain committed to working together to provide greater clarity for clinicians. In the interim, we hope that PSA testing remains freely available in primary care, particularly for those at higher risk due to ethnicity or family history.

Yours sincerely



Dr Peter Holloway, GP & Chair of Primary Care Group - EoE Cancer Alliance



Prof. Vincent Gnanapragasam, Professor of Urology & Clinical Lead for Urology - EoE Cancer Alliance



Prof. Peter Hoskin, Consultant in Clinical Oncology & Medical Director – EoE Cancer Alliance

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Sent to:

- Trust Cancer Managers
- Trust Cancer Lead Nurses
- Trust Cancer Clinical Leads
- EOE Urology NCG distribution List
- ICB Cancer Programme Leads & Cancer Clinical Leads
- EoE Clinical Leadership Group
- EoE Cancer Alliance SMT
- EoE Primary Care Group