

# Understand your options.



ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE IS ONE OF SEVERAL TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR LOW-RISK, EARLY-STAGE PROSTATE CANCER. EACH HAS BENEFITS AND RISKS.

	BENEFITS	RISKS
ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE	<p>Men with low-risk cancer can closely monitor their cancer and may live out their entire lives without ever needing surgery or radiation</p> <p>Avoid the side effects of immediate treatment, including long-term urinary, bowel, and sexual problems</p>	<p>Despite close monitoring, the cancer may grow and spread, but remains curable in most cases</p> <p>Regularly scheduled doctor visits and tests to monitor the cancer</p>
SURGERY	<p>Men may be free of prostate cancer for the rest of their lives if their tumor has not spread and the surgeon is able to remove all the cancer</p>	<p>Long-term problems with urinary incontinence</p> <p>Long-term erectile dysfunction</p> <p>30% to 40% chance of recurrence if the tumor is more aggressive than at biopsy</p> <p>Hospital stay, loss of days or weeks from work and normal activities, and use of a catheter for 1 to 2 weeks</p>
RADIATION	<p>Men may be free of prostate cancer for the rest of their lives if their tumor has not spread and the radiation kills all the cancer</p>	<p>Long-term problems with urinary incontinence</p> <p>Long-term erectile dysfunction</p> <p>Long-term changes in bowel control</p> <p>Rectal bleeding</p>

*In addition to these treatments, there are other options your doctor may discuss with you including cryosurgery, hormonal therapy, or possible new treatments that are under investigation.*