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Prostate Cancer

Patient name: _____

Admission: _____

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- I. The client/caregiver can define the prostate gland.**
- It squeezes fluid into the urethra during ejaculation to aid in transport and nourishment of the sperm.
 - It is a small walnut sized gland that surrounds the male urethra at the neck of the bladder.
- II. The client/caregiver can list general facts about prostate cancer.**
- It is a cancer of the prostate gland.
 - It is the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths in men.
 - It is detected through digital exam.
 - Prostate cancers grow slowly and have a high survival rate if detected early.
 - Most prostate tumors are not cancerous.
- III. The client/caregiver can list factors that can increase risk of prostate cancer.**
- Advanced age
 - Race (Blacks have increased risk)
 - Heredity
 - Diet high in fat
 - Occupation—working with cadmium, zinc, rubber, dewaxing process in oil refining
 - Obesity
 - Sexually transmitted disease
- IV. The client/caregiver can recognize symptoms of prostate cancer, which usually only appears at advanced stages.**
- Frequent urination, especially at night
 - Difficulty starting or holding urine
 - Weak or interrupted urine flow
 - Pain or burning during urination
 - Blood in urine
 - Pain in lower back, upper pelvis, and upper thighs
 - Weight loss

- V. The client/caregiver can list common diagnostic tests.**
- Digital exam
 - Prostatic-specific antigen
 - Transrectal ultrasound
 - Needle biopsy with ultrasound probes
 - Bone scan

- VI. The client/caregiver can list stages of prostate cancer.**
- Stage I—early cancer as seen on microscopic exam of tissue.
 - Stage II—cancer can be felt, but remains confined to prostate gland.
 - Stage III—cancer has spread outside the prostate.
 - Stage IV—cancer has spread to lymph nodes or organs far away from prostate such as bones, lungs, or other organs.

- VII. The client/caregiver can state possible treatments.**
- Surgery
 - Radiation
 - External
 - Implantation
 - Hormone therapy

- VIII. The client/caregiver can list measures for management of disease.**

- Eat a well-balanced diet with adequate fluid intake.
- Exercise daily with planned rest periods.
- Take medications as ordered.
- Keep follow-up appointments with physician including annual digital exam.
- Report signs of decreased output, swelling, hypertension, weight gain, and so forth.

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IX. The client/caregiver can list possible complications.

- A. Spread of cancer
- B. Pain
- C. Urinary incontinence
- D. Erectile dysfunction or impotence
- E. Depression

RESOURCES

American Urology Association
www.urologyhealth.org/index.cfm

Prostate Cancer Foundation
www.prostatecancerfoundation.org/

Support groups

Sexual counseling

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