

# Sweden

## Prostate Cancer Screening Facts



Life expectancy



82.5 years<sup>1</sup>

Incidence



10,780 annually<sup>1</sup>

Prostate Cancer\*



32%<sup>1</sup>

\*Share of new cancer diagnoses that are prostate cancer

### Health Care System

All Swedish residents are covered for health services, regardless of nationality. The national government is responsible for regulation and the 21 regions are responsible for financing, purchasing and providing health services.<sup>2</sup>

Reimbursement PSA



Yes

Main Testing Location



GP

National Cancer Plan



Yes

### What’s happening in practice?

Most testing for prostate cancer is unorganised. Over 70% of men have had a PSA test, with highest rates in men aged 60-79. In the capital Stockholm, 20% of men aged 50-69 had a PSA test in the previous 12 months.<sup>3</sup>

In Sweden, there are three national screening programmes in the field of cancer; for breast, colorectal and cervical. It is the National Board of Health and Welfare that evaluates and recommends whether a screening programme should be implemented. The implementation then takes place in the 21 regions through political decisions.

### National Clinical Guidelines

#### Government

The Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare advises against a national screening programme, as it was not assessed that the benefits clearly outweigh the negative effects at the population level.

Most regional healthcare providers are offering organised prostate cancer testing after systematic, active information about pros and cons with a gradually increasing coverage.<sup>4</sup>

#### Urologist

Men with two or more first degree relatives with prostate cancer or a mutation in the BRCA2 gene should have targeted health screening using the PSA test.<sup>5</sup>

#### GP

Asymptomatic men who ask for a prostate check or a PSA test must be recommended to read the text about pros and cons published on the official, national healthcare website.<sup>6</sup>

More information  
praise-u@uroweb.org  
uroweb.org/praise-u



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#### References

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- [4] Bratt O, et al. Swedish regional population-based organised prostate cancer testing: why, what and how? Scand J Urol 2025; 60:97-104
- [5] National Board of Health and Welfare (2018) <https://www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer/screening-for-prostatancer--rekommendation-och-bedomningsunderlag-2018-10-15/>;
- [6] <https://www.1177.se/undersokning-behandling/undersokningar-och-provtagning/upptack-och-forebygg-cancer/psa-prov-for-tidig-upptackt-av-prostatancer/>