

# Portugal

## Prostate Cancer Screening Facts



Life expectancy



81.1  
years

Incidence



7,529  
annually

Prostate Cancer\*



19.90%

\*Share of new cancer diagnoses that are prostate cancer

### Health Care System

Portugal’s National Health Service (NHS) is a universal tax-financed public health system, covering all residents.<sup>1</sup>

Reimbursement PSA



Yes

Main Testing Location



GP/  
Urologist

National Cancer Plan



Yes

### What’s happening in practice?

Portugal has been successful with early detection as GPs are responsible for referrals to breast and cervical cancer screenings and facilitate access to these services for the target population. There is a high uptake of screening programmes.<sup>2</sup> Screening for prostate cancer is currently opportunistic.<sup>4</sup> A decision aid was successfully translated and adapted to Portuguese in a study setting.

No screening programme information available.

### National Clinical Guidelines

Government

The National Health Department and the Prostate Institute recommend that GPs do opportunistic screening every two years.<sup>3</sup>

Urologist

Prostate cancer is a highly lethal disease in the country, but population-based screening is not recommended. In men between 45 and 70 years of age, the decision to have tests (PSA and rectal touch) should be individualised, with the same information shared about the risks and possible benefits.<sup>4</sup>

GP

According to the Portuguese Directorate General of Health, opportunistic screening using PSA may be prescribed to men who ask for this examination. Before they can receive this examination, they must be informed about the benefits and risks of the procedure by a healthcare professional.

More information  
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