

High-Grade Prostate Cancer Associated With Chronic Inflammation

In an online article published April 18, 2014, in the journal *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention*, researchers at Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center reveal a link between chronic inflammation and a greater risk of high-grade prostate cancer.*



The study included 191 men with prostate cancer and 209 controls without the disease who received a placebo in the Prostate Cancer Prevention Trial, which evaluated the effect of finasteride on prostate cancer prevention. Biopsies conducted at the end of the study provided information on the presence of inflammation in benign prostate tissue.

Among men who had inflammation in one or more biopsy cores, there was a **78%** higher risk of having prostate cancer and more than **twice the risk** of aggressive disease in comparison with subjects who had no cores indicating inflammation.

Editor's Note: "What we've shown in this observational study is a clear association between prostate inflammation and prostate cancer, although we can't prove that inflammation is a cause of prostate cancer," senior author Elizabeth A. Platz, ScD, MPH, concluded. "I think there will be strategies going forward for either preventing inflammation or intervening when it occurs."

—D. Dye

Reference

* *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarker Prev.* 2014 Apr 18.