

Prostate cancer mortality benefit seen for family Hx-based screens

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One author disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical and medical device industries.

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(HealthDay)—Screening white men with a family history of prostate cancer appears to be associated with a decrease in prostate cancer-specific mortality, according to a study published in the January issue of *The Journal of Urology*.

Michael A. Liss, M.D., from the University of California-San Diego Health System, and colleagues used data from the PLCO (Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian) [cancer screening](#) trial to compare [prostate cancer](#)-specific mortality in the screening and usual care arms of men with and without family history of [prostate](#) cancer. Data were included for 65,179 white subjects, of whom 11.2 percent were diagnosed with prostate cancer and 7.4 percent had a family history of prostate cancer.

The researchers found that positive family history correlated with significantly increased incidence of prostate cancer (16.9 versus 10.8 percent; P

"With these promising data it may be more prudent to focus screening efforts on high-risk groups such as those with a positive [family history](#), and possibly even black men and others with a genetic predisposition rather than abandoning them in general as suggested by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force," the authors write.

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