



Return on our June 15 webinar

Treating advanced prostate cancer

Speaker:

Dr. Paul Toren

Urologist-Oncologist and researcher, CHU de Québec

Summary in 5 points:

Your cancer has returned? We can still go for a cure or control the intruder in the long term

Usually, your doctor will see a recurrence when your PSA level starts to rise again. In the event of a recurrence, various treatment options may be used, with the aim of curing, if not controlling its progression, if it is aggressive. Standard hormone therapy is often part of the treatment option.

2. Your PSA levels are going up despite your hormone therapy?

Your doctor may delay the start of additional treatment if the level increases very slowly over a long period of time. However, if you have a rapid increase in your PSA, next-generation hormone therapy may be offered. They can delay the onset of metastases by several years. This is called castrate-resistant prostate cancer without metastasis.

3. Your cancer is progressing and we are in the presence of metastases?

Being diagnosed with metastatic prostate cancer is rather rare these days due to screening tests. If you start hormone therapy as soon as metastases are detected, survival is significantly prolonged. Also, the addition of a new generation hormone therapy, can be given in the presence of metastases, whether you are resistant or sensitive to your standard hormone therapy. This makes it possible to «hit hard» the cancer at the beginning and thus keep it in remission as long as possible.

4. Have I exhausted my treatment options if I no longer respond to hormone therapy?

Hormone therapy - standard or new generation - can keep your cancer under control for several years. If your cancer develops resistance to these classes of drugs, you could be treated with chemotherapy, radium-223, or through a research protocol, if there is one of course. One thing is certain: your treatment will aim to prolong your life, slow the progression of your cancer, relieve your symptoms if you have any, and improve your quality of life.

5. Your cancer is stubborn and continues to grow? The importance of advances in research

For more than 10 years, several studies have allowed the approval of multiple treatments in patients at this stage. For example, the use in medical imaging of PSMA, a specific marker, will change the management of prostate cancer. It will make it possible to detect a recurrence or lymph node metastases at the very beginning or will allow find tumors and destroy them in the process. In the near future, treatments will be personalized according to your genetic map (DNA).













