

Factors Influencing Treatment Decisions for Prostate Cancer Patients

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Prostate Cancer: Many Options

- Because of screening, most men with prostate cancer are diagnosed before it has spread
- These patients have many options:
 - Active surveillance
 - Surgery
 - Radiation (multiple types)
- This can be a confusing decision process

Surveillance vs Radiation vs Surgery

- Many factors go into each patient's decision-making process
 - Aggressive treatment/cure
 - Side effects and quality of life issues
 - Cost
 - Recovery time and affecting ability to work
 - Etc
- Lack research: what factors are most important for each patient in making a decision

Disparities In Prostate Cancer

- African American men are more likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer
 - and have more aggressive prostate cancer
- But, African American men are less likely to receive aggressive treatment
- Why?

Disparities In Prostate Cancer

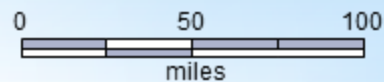
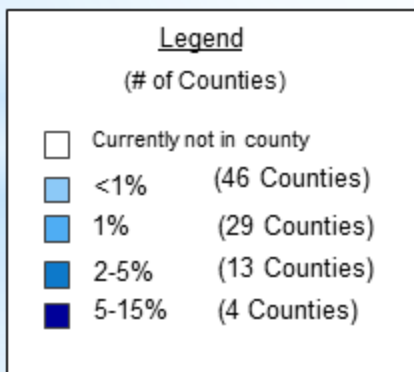
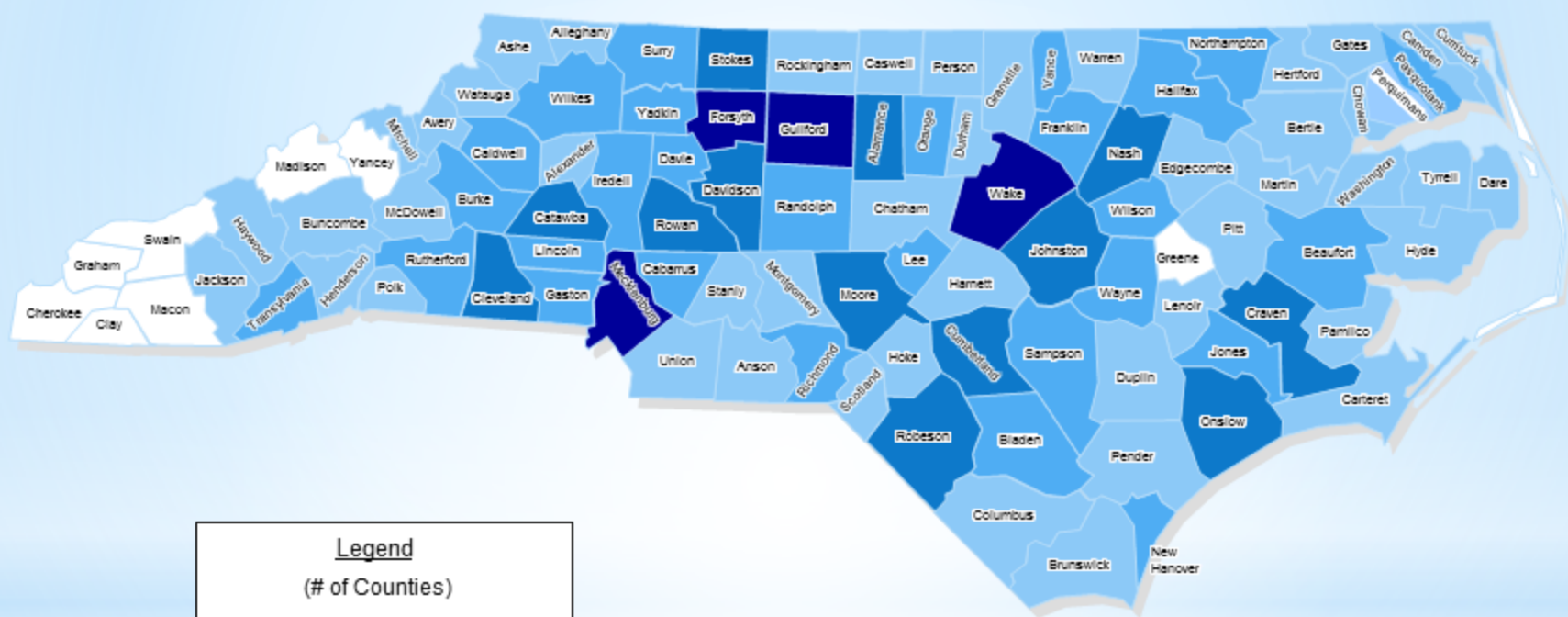
- African American men are more likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer
 - and have more aggressive prostate cancer
- But, African American men are less likely to receive aggressive treatment
- Why?
- Are there different factors that are important for African American vs Caucasian patients?

Research Study

- North Carolina Prostate cancer Comparative Effectiveness & Survivorship Study (NC ProCESS)
- Large study funded by federal agencies
 - Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality (AHRQ)
 - National Cancer Institute (NCI)
 - Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)
- Collaboration with PHEN
- Surveyed 1,170 men with newly-diagnosed prostate cancer



Recruitment Across NC



Is This Important?

Is this an important factor in your decisions about prostate cancer treatment?

	African American	Caucasian
Curing the cancer	95.6%	93.9%
Preserving quality of life	87.9%	82.6%
Bowel problems	93.9%	81.1%
Urinary problems	89.5%	78.4%

Is This Important?

Is this an important factor in your decisions about prostate cancer treatment?

	African American	Caucasian
Cost of treatment	65.8%	32.1%
Treatment time	75.7%	39.0%
Recovery time	80.7%	49.5%
Impact on daily activities	73.5%	57.6%

What Does This Mean?

- Why do African American prostate cancer patients receive less aggressive treatment?
 - Both AA and Caucasian men care about curing the cancer
 - Both AA and Caucasian men care about side effects and quality of life issues
 - But financial issues may be more of a concern for AA men
- This research shows that financial considerations may be a significant barrier for some patients to receive the treatments they need