

# Transforming Prostate Cancer Care & Support: Impacts & Opportunities



Summary of results from an independent  
2020 evaluation of prostate cancer survivors  
and their immediate family/supports.

Prepared for Island Prostate Centre

# Island Prostate Centre (IPC) fills a unique need, reducing the burden on Vancouver Island's healthcare system.



IPC's Prostate Health Nurse Navigator Program is effectively providing vital support and resources to prostate cancer patients on Vancouver Island.

IPC provides unbiased and comprehensive information that assists patients in making decisions. This service is offered free of charge, both in-person and virtually.



**90%**

Report increased knowledge about prostate cancer.



**84%**

Report increased understanding of treatment options and potential side effects.



**71%**

Report that their loved ones were better able to support them after meeting with IPC.



**79%**

Report feeling empowered in navigating their diagnosis.



**79%**

Report feeling more confident making treatment decisions.



**81%**

Report reduced anxiety and stress.

View the full report at [islandprostatecentre.com/NN-Evaluation-2020](https://islandprostatecentre.com/NN-Evaluation-2020)

**9/10**

Average patient satisfaction score for IPC's Nurse Navigator.

*"IPC saves me time: after consulting the Nurse Navigator, patients return more knowledgeable about treatment options, possible side effects, terminology and prostate health."*

Urologist, Victoria BC

After navigating treatment side effects, the most significant challenge patients face is the lack of information, communication, responsiveness and follow-up by health professionals.

*“Cancer knowledge and information resources are out there, but IPC was the greatest resource. There is a lot of confusion in the decision making, but once I went to IPC, all the options were more understandable.”*

*Survivor,  
Victoria BC*

Survivors recommend to patients that the IPC Nurse Navigator be their first stop after receiving a prostate cancer diagnosis.

## Building Community (IPC 2019 Program Access)

443

*Patients accessed the Nurse Navigator Program.*

54%

*Met with the Nurse Navigator more than once – from testing through post-treatment.*

385

*People attended monthly Prostate Cancer Support Group Meetings.*

2,139

*Visits to the Cancer Recovery Exercise Program.*

Everyone’s experience living with prostate cancer is unique. This makes patients’ need for ongoing community support and resources critical.

IPC, including its Nurse Navigator program, was the *only* patient-centred service identified on Vancouver Island that also systematically offers support to family members.

*“IPC was a combination of a beacon of hope, security blanket and an anchor ... it’s not something that people are finding elsewhere in the medical system.”*

*Spouse, Victoria BC*



## Opportunity #1

### Refer every prostate cancer patient to IPC's Nurse Navigator

It was more common for patients to hear about IPC by 'word of mouth' or online search than through their GP or oncologist.

## Opportunity #2

### Expand IPC's reach to cover all of Vancouver Island

31% of those living outside the CRD had never heard of IPC.

- This gap relates to both the fact that IPC's physical office is located in the City of Victoria, as well as IPC having a reduced presence outside the CRD.

## How prostate cancer patients found IPC

62%

Urologist

37%

Word of mouth or internet search

16%

Oncologist

13%

Family Doctor

"The bottom line is IPC shows up as a real resource and help for people. IPC was a critical resource from diagnosis to post-treatment."

Survivor, Victoria BC

## We need your help

There is an opportunity for key stakeholders in the community to partner with IPC in continuing to provide its critical support:

- 1 Ensure that all health professionals refer their patients to IPC for support.
- 2 Help secure core funding for IPC to continue providing critical services and extending its reach across Vancouver Island.

Together we can transform prostate cancer care and support!

Contact Leanne Kopp, Executive Director, to find out more about these opportunities.



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