
It's a NICE endorsement for cancer web tool

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The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has endorsed the Predict Prostate model and web tool created by Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust's (CUH) Academic Urology Group and the University of Cambridge's Department of Epidemiology and Winton Centre.



It is the first such resource to be endorsed by NICE in support of its guidelines and has been shown to reduce the likelihood of patients being recommended to have unnecessary treatment.

It is free to use anywhere in the world and can be accessed at prostate.predict.nhs.uk. It has already been used by more than 22,000 patients and clinicians worldwide since its launch in January.

Each year thousands of men are diagnosed with early stage prostate cancer and face the difficult decision about whether or not to opt for treatment and the risk of side effects such as incontinence or impotence.

To help make an informed choice, Predict Prostate takes patient information such as blood test results, the cancer grade and stage, and details about the patient's age and overall health. This is compared to data from over 10,000 men to calculate 10 and 15 year survival

estimates and whether treatment would make a difference.

The work was led by CUH consultant urologist, Vincent Gnanapragasam, and University of Cambridge professor, Paul Pharaoh, and undertaken by specialty registrar, David Thurtle, from CUH's Department of Urology and Surgery.

Mr Gnanapragasam, who has previously developed a prostate biopsy device called CamProbe, said: "We are delighted that our work has been endorsed by NICE, since it means it can be used with absolute confidence by patients and their clinicians to make better informed decisions. We are equally pleased that the website is proving of great use to people all over the globe."

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence is an executive non-departmental public body of the Department of Health. It publishes guidelines in four areas including use of new health technologies and guidance on the appropriate treatment and care of people with specific diseases and conditions.