

The Curtis D. Robinson Men's Health Institute at Saint Francis is an innovative partnership between Saint Francis and Hartford area religious and community organizations aimed at improving the health of our community. Specifically, CDR/MHI addresses the racial disparities in Men's Health, particularly in the areas of patient education, early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of African-American men at risk for prostate cancer.

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The Curtis D. Robinson Men's Health Institute at Saint Francis

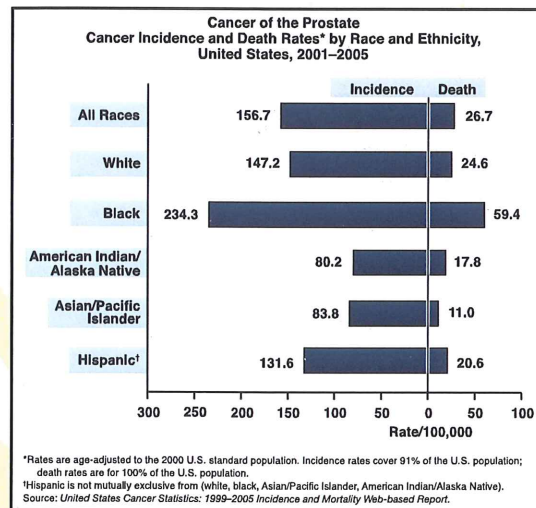
The Program Has Three Main Components:

- A community education program, held at the partnering church or community organization to inform African-American men and their families of the risk of prostate cancer.
- A community based early detection program which includes free testing for men at risk for prostate cancer.
- Access to minimally invasive treatment options such as the da Vinci Robotic Surgical System® to minimize potential negative side effects of treatment.

Risk Factors

Prostate cancer risk factors include:

- **Age.** The older a man is, the greater his risk for getting prostate cancer.
- **Family History.** A man with a father, brother, or son who has had prostate cancer is two to three times more likely to develop the disease himself.
- **Race.** Prostate cancer incidence and death rates are higher in African-American men as compared to other groups, possibly due to certain genes or other environmental factors. (see chart below)



Researchers are trying to determine the causes of prostate cancer and whether it can be prevented. They do not yet agree on the factors that can influence a man's risk of developing the disease, either positively or negatively. Some of the factors under study include:

- Vitamins and herbal supplements.
- Diets high in animal fat, especially polyunsaturated fat.
- Men's hormone levels.
- Environmental agents (pesticide residue on foods and industrial and occupational exposures).
- Physical inactivity.

To schedule a program for your organization, please contact The Curtis D. Robinson Men's Health Institute at 860-714-5770. Or visit www.sfmhi.com