



GLOBAL ACTION PLAN 3 GLOBAL PROSTATE CANCER
ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE INITIATIVE

GAP3 INFO SHEET

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Active Surveillance is an alternative option to active treatment that involves regularly monitoring low-risk or slow-growing prostate cancer instead of undergoing active therapy (surgery, radiation, etc.) This allows men with seemingly low risk prostate cancer to avoid, or at least delay the start of, active treatment, many of which have significant side effects such as incontinence, sexual and bowel dysfunction. The GAP3 initiative aims to create the largest centralized prostate cancer Active Surveillance database to date, comprising around half of the world's Active Surveillance patient data. This database will be used to optimize the management of men diagnosed with low-risk prostate cancer and reduce the side effects of over-treatment in men with truly low risk disease. This could be through reducing the number of men switching to active therapy with the view of greatly improving their quality of life.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

GAP3 began in August 2014 and will take two and a half years to complete. It is now towards the end of its first year. A centralized database has been designed to hold the patient datasets from institutions around the world, and is currently being tested.

HOW WILL THIS HELP MEN?

The analysis of the data collected will allow clinicians to better select men that are eligible for Active Surveillance. This will provide a safer option for men choosing to delay or avoid the potential side effects such as erectile dysfunction and incontinence that can be incurred by treatments such as surgery and radiation therapy. New guidelines will be created to allow clinicians to be able to more confidently identify men suitable for Active Surveillance and to also better determine when a man's prostate cancer has progressed and therefore requires active treatment. This will provide reassurance to men that they have made the most informed treatment decision for their type of disease.

**AUD 2.35
MILLION
COMMITTED
TO DATE**

WHAT'S TO COME?

The second phase commencing in mid-2015 will involve centralisation of the project database reviewing and refining global Active Surveillance guidelines.

WHO'S INVOLVED?

24 researchers and their teams across 19 institutions in 9 countries:



Professors
Chris Bangma
and Monique Roobol
from Erasmus Medical
Centre, Netherlands,
coordinate the GAP3
initiative.

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PAUL VILLANTI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PROGRAMS SAYS:

“GAP3 IS THE LARGEST GLOBAL EFFORT OF ITS TYPE TO INTEGRATE PATIENT DATA FROM MEN WITH PROSTATE CANCER ON ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE PROTOCOLS. THIS PROJECT WILL ALLOW CLINICIANS AND PATIENTS TO HAVE GREATER CONFIDENCE IN THE DECISION TO EITHER DELAY OR PROCEED WITH ACTIVE TREATMENT BASED ON THE MOST UP-TO-DATE DATA AND CLINICAL GUIDELINES AVAILABLE. THIS IS A HUGE SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT HELPING TACKLE A VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE – OVER-TREATMENT OF MEN WITH PROSTATE CANCER. THROUGH BETTER GUIDELINES, WE CAN HELP IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIVES FOR MEN BY REDUCING THE RISK OF OVER-TREATMENT AND ITS ASSOCIATED SIDE EFFECTS.”