

# The Da Vinci Surgical System is a breakthrough in treating prostate cancer.

## And Maimonides is the only hospital in Brooklyn that has it.



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Prostate cancer strikes some 230,000 men each year. For a long time, many were too embarrassed to talk about it or find out whether they were at risk. Now, thanks to better public education, more men are getting tested and seeking treatment. Prostate cancer is treatable when detected early, and after successful treatment, patients can go on to live long, active lives.

Prostate cancer occurs when cancer cells form in the prostate, a walnut-sized gland just below the bladder. A physician can often detect it early by testing the amount of prostate-specific antigen in your blood or conducting a digital rectal examination. If either test result raises a red flag during a routine yearly examination, any cancer you may have has probably been found at an early, more treatable stage.

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The cause of prostate cancer remains unknown. Advanced age is the most common risk factor—most diagnoses are made in men 65 and older. The disease's prevalence is highest among African-American men. Family history is a key factor. And some studies have indicated that a high-fat diet may increase risk.

Treatment options and prognosis depend on factors that include the patient's age and the stage of the cancer. One common treatment option is the surgical removal of the prostate. This requires an abdominal incision and can result in significant blood loss, a long and sometimes painful recovery, and the risk of impotence and incontinence. But a new, less invasive method of removing a cancerous prostate can reduce these negative effects.

I am proud that Maimonides Medical Center is the first and only medical center in Brooklyn to offer robotically-assisted laparoscopic prostate cancer surgery using a remarkable technology called the Da Vinci Surgical System. It requires only small incisions and helps us bring a new level of precision to our work and improve outcomes for our patients. Yet precise as this system is, it is only as effective as the surgeon at the controls. At Maimonides, we have assembled a skilled and highly experienced surgical team to provide the most effective and compassionate care available today.

Get tested for prostate cancer. If your doctor recommends that you seek specialized care, contact us at (718) 283-7153 to set up an appointment.



**Maimonides**  
Medical Center

**For more information, visit [www.maimonidesmed.org](http://www.maimonidesmed.org).  
To find the right doctor for you, call (888) MMC-DOCS (662-3627).**