

Know the signs- Penile Cancer Awareness



80+

men are diagnosed with penile cancer every year.

It occurs on:

- The outside or inside of the foreskin
- The head of the penis (glans penis)
- The shaft of the penis

Men over 50 are most at risk of getting penile cancer, but it can affect younger men.

Signs and symptoms

Any of the following changes in the penis or foreskin:

- A lump or swelling on the penis or foreskin
- Bleeding or discharge from the penis or foreskin



- Swelling of the penis that makes it difficult to retract the foreskin
- A non-healing rash on the foreskin or head of the penis
- Lumps or swellings that are new in the groin

Risk factors

- **HPV: 6 in 10 penile cancers** are caused by HPV (human papillomavirus).

Most sexually active people come into contact with HPV during their lifetime



- **Smoking**
- **Phimosis:** a tight foreskin that does not “pull back”
- **Pelvic radiotherapy**
- **Immunosuppression:** People with weakened immune systems or HIV
- **Poor penile hygiene**

Reduce your risk

HPV vaccine



Vaccination against HPV can reduce your risk of penile cancer.

Get the HPV vaccine if it is available to you.

Don't smoke:

Visit quit.ie



Gently wash your penis daily

If you have a foreskin, carefully pull it back and clean under the foreskin and the tip of your penis.

You only need to use water.

It is fine to use gentle soap, but using too much could irritate your penis.

Look after your assets!



Scan the QR code
or search 'penile cancer'
to find out more



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Contact your GP if you have worries about changes in your penis or it's becoming difficult to clean under your foreskin.

