

Mayo Clinic Minute

Prostate problems go beyond cancer

Video	Audio
	Prostate cancer affects more than 250,000 people in the U.S. with about 60% of cases diagnosed in people over age 65.
Matthew Tollefson, M.D. Urology/Oncology Mayo Clinic	“The prostate gland is a gland that sits around the urethra in men just below the bladder. That gland then is responsible for producing semen.”
	But cancer isn’t the only problem that can occur in prostates.
	Dr. Matthew Tollefson, a Mayo Clinic urologic oncologist, explains the prostate grows over time.
	“Men basically urinate through the middle of the prostate – kind of like through the hole in a donut – as that donut gets larger, that starts to pinch off the urinary stream.”
	The result is a tough time emptying the bladder and a need to go more frequently.
	Infections of the prostate are also common and can have similar symptoms.
	That's why it's important to share information with your health care team.
	“There’s no reason to really suffer and go through side effects of progression and that type of thing when, really, these things are generally very well treated and with very little side effect.”
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Alex Osiadacz (oh-side-us).