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# Perception of Screening of Healthcare Staff for the Prevention of Prostate Cancer: A Greek Perspective

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## Abstract

*Background:* Prostate cancer screening relies mainly on prostate-specific antigen (PSA) testing, yet optimal implementation remains debated, even among healthcare professionals. This study assessed knowledge and practice patterns regarding prostate cancer screening among hospital workers in Greece.

*Methods:* A multicentre, questionnaire-based study was conducted across five secondary and tertiary hospitals. The anonymous questionnaire collected demographic and professional data and evaluated knowledge of the screening method, recommended age for PSA testing, and earlier screening in men with a positive family history. Associations between knowledge, screening behaviour, professional role, hospital type, education, income and work experience were analysed.

*Results:* Overall, 1,470 healthcare workers participated, including doctors, nurses, administrative staff and other paramedical personnel. Most respondents (95.6%) identified PSA testing as the preferred screening method. However, knowledge regarding the appropriate age to initiate screening was less consistent: 38.2% selected 50 years for the general population, while 37.4% selected 45 years for men with a positive family history. Physicians achieved significantly higher correct-response rates than other professional groups, and tertiary-hospital workers performed better than those from secondary hospitals. Higher knowledge scores were associated with tertiary hospital employment, higher income, medical profession, higher educational level and specialty category. Among male respondents, 37.6% had undergone PSA testing, often earlier than recommended.

*Conclusions:* Although awareness of PSA as the main prostate cancer screening tool was high, important gaps remain regarding guideline-consistent screening initiation. Professional background, hospital setting and education significantly influenced knowledge and practice. Targeted educational interventions and structured preventive-care systems may improve adherence to evidence-based screening recommendations.
**Keywords:** prostate cancer, screening, PSA, healthcare professionals