

# Controversies in Prostate Cancer Screening

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Disclosure: Beckman Coulter, a manufacturer of PSA assays,  
provides research support

# PSA Screening Recommendations

- **Pro-Screening**
- American Cancer Society
- American Urological Association
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network
- American College of Radiology

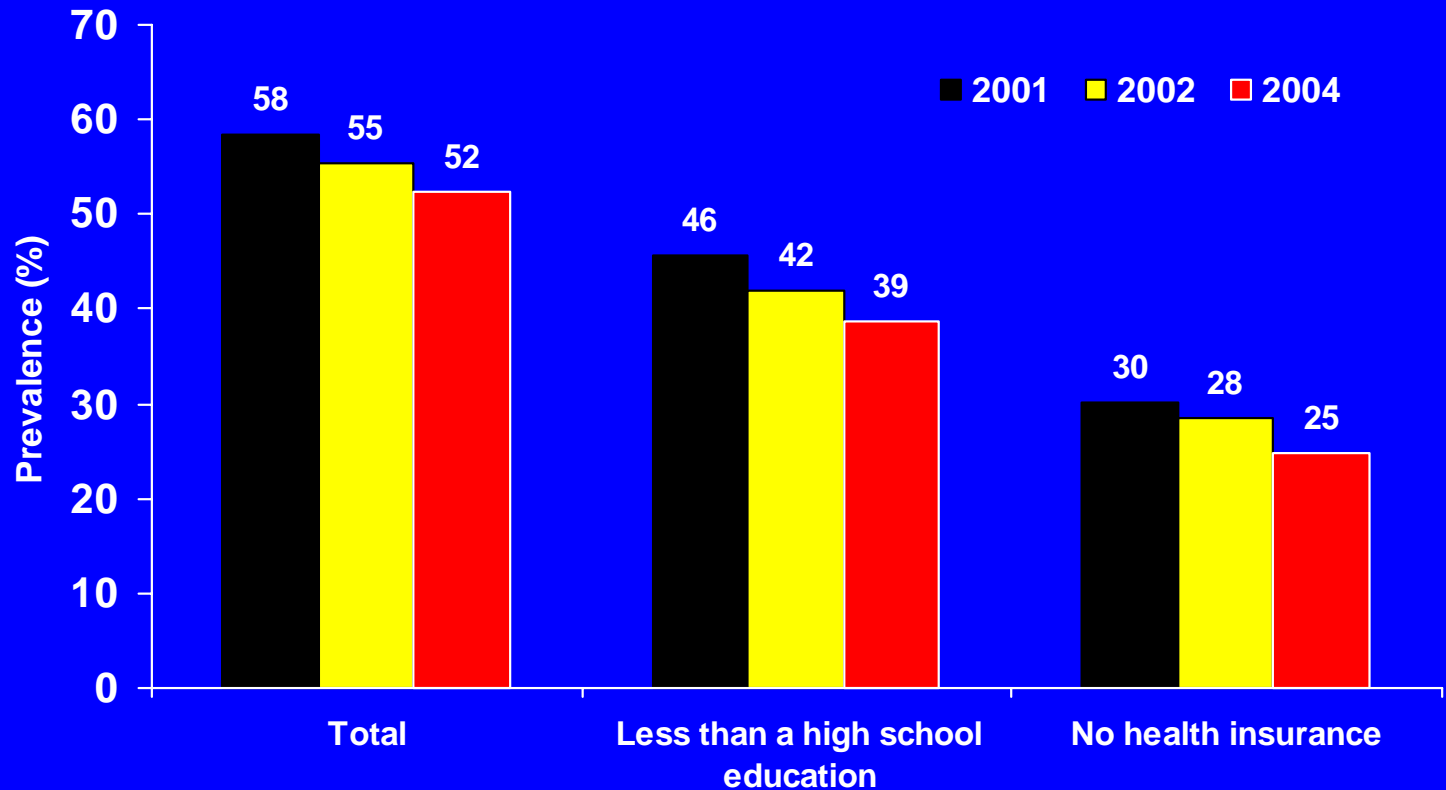
- **Anti-Screening**
- American College of Physicians
- United States Preventive Services Task Force

**Neutral**

NIH

CDC

# Recent\* Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) Test Prevalence (%) Men 50 Years and Older, US, 2001-2004



\*A prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test within the past year. Note: Data from participating states and the District of Columbia were aggregated to represent the United States.

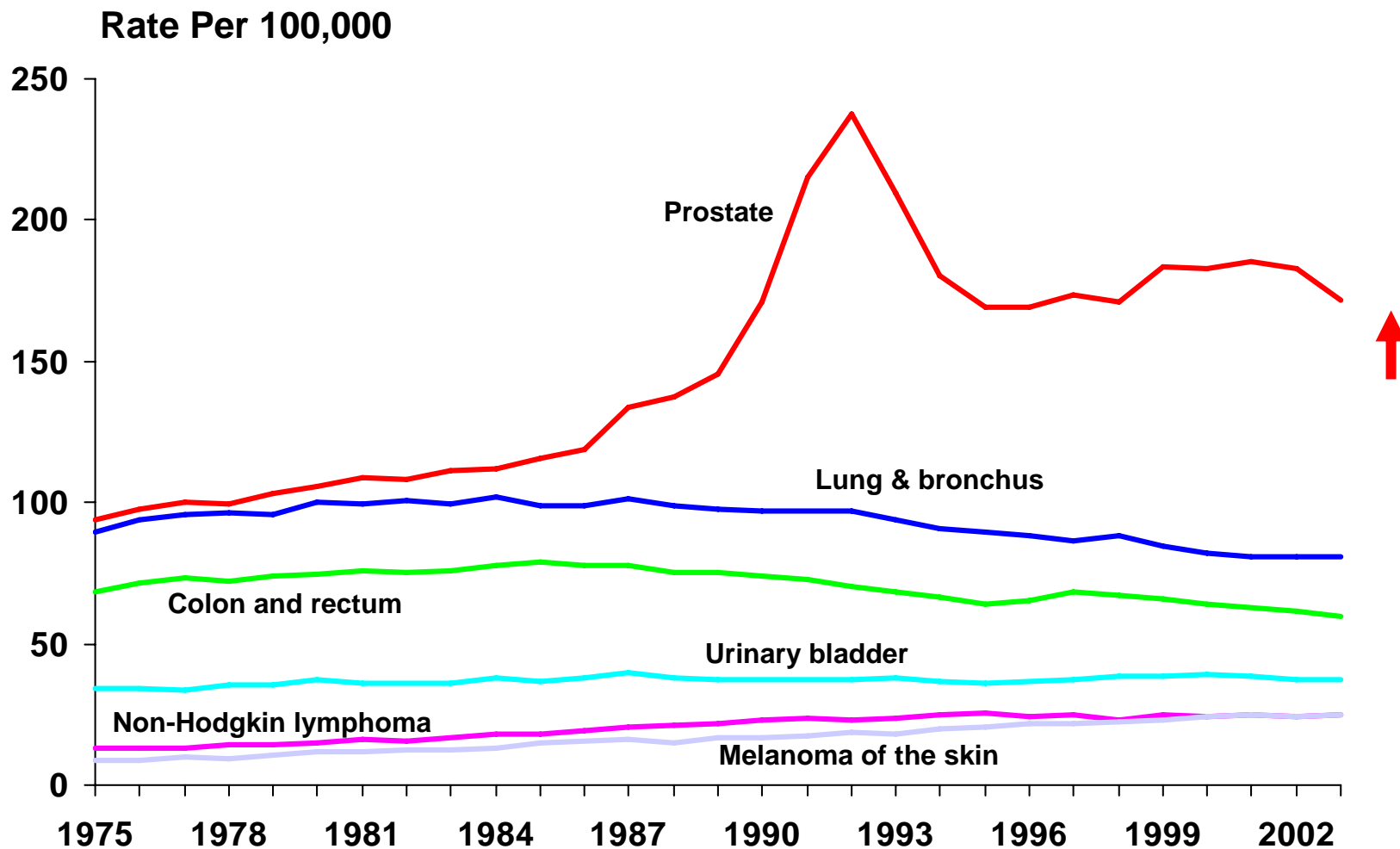
Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Public Use Data Tape (2001, 2002, 2004), National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2002, 2003, 2005.

# PSA Testing in Physicians

- 87% of male physicians age  $\geq 50$  years had a PSA test

*Chan EC et al J Gen Intern Med Epub Jan 20, 2006; Walsh PC J Urol 176:583, 2006*

# Cancer Incidence Rates\* for Men, 1975-2003

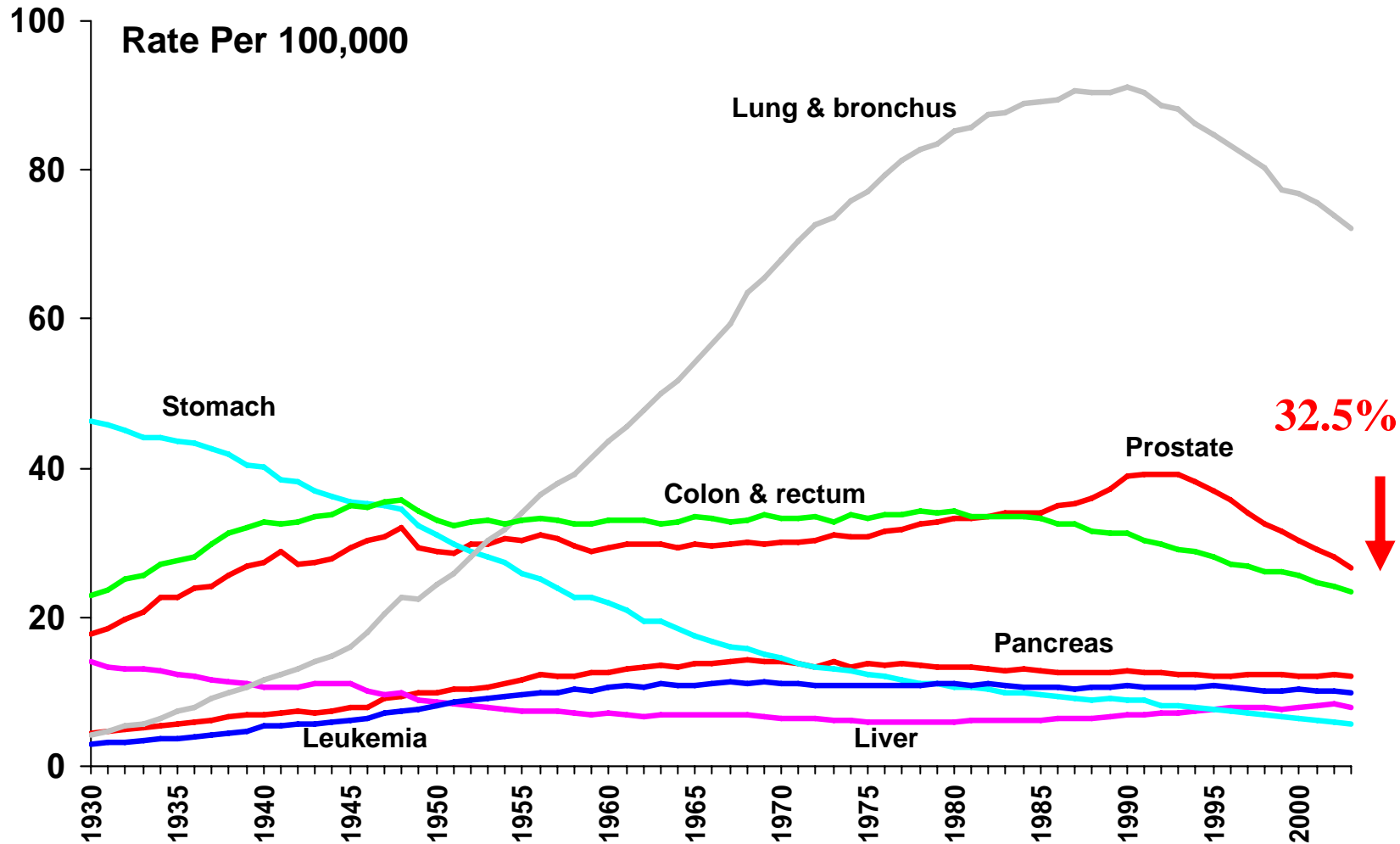


\*Age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population and adjusted for delays in reporting.  
Source: Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program, 1975-2003, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute, 2006.

# First Sign of Success of PSA Screening: Stage Migration

- **A 70% reduction in metastatic disease at diagnosis since the beginning of the PSA era**

# Cancer Death Rates\*, for Men, US, 1930-2003



\*Age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population.

Source: US Mortality Public Use Data Tapes 1960-2003, US Mortality Volumes 1930-1959, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2006.

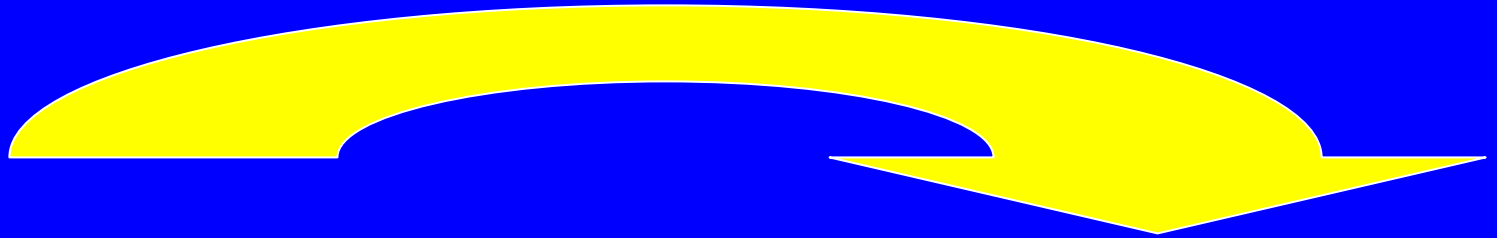
# Jemal A et al, Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev 2005;14:590

Examined relation of PSA screening to stage at diagnosis and prostate cancer death rates in 30 population-based US cancer registries (30 states, District of Columbia & Atlanta: ~ 68% of US population)

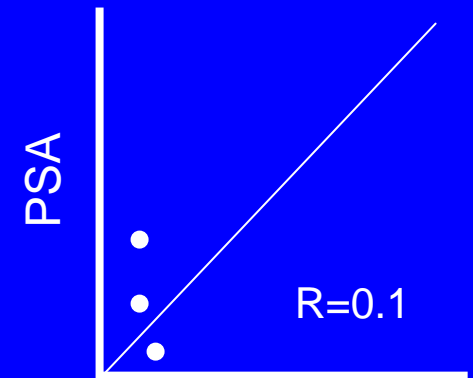
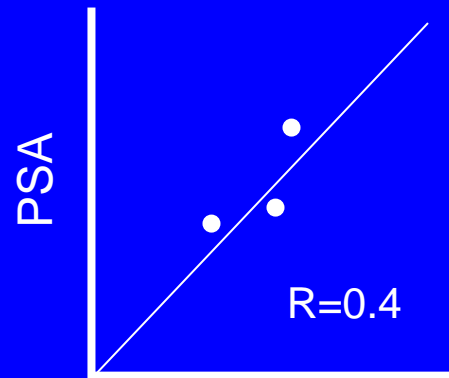
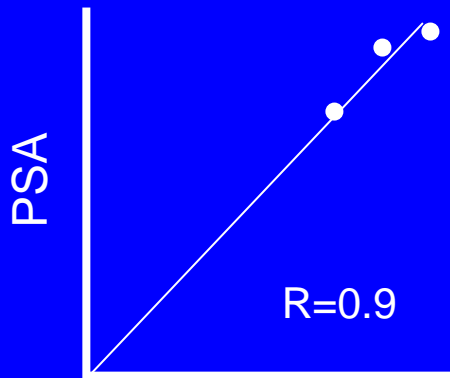
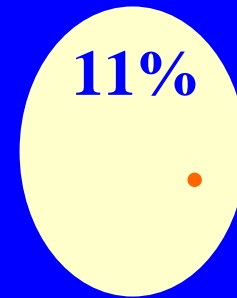
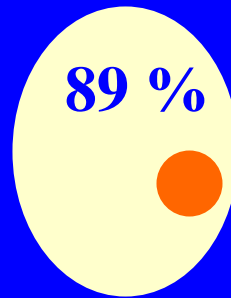
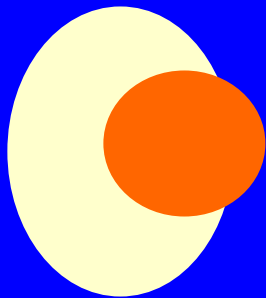
- *The more PSA testing, the less late-stage disease, and the lower the prostate cancer death rate*



# Has PSA become a victim of its own success?



Over-diagnosis



Ca Volume

Ca Volume

Ca Volume

# “Over-Diagnosis”

- **Over-diagnosis**
- Epidemiological criteria:  $\geq 25\%$ -85%
- Clinical and pathologic criteria: 3%-18%
- **Under-diagnosis** – 20% to 30%
- >20% extra-prostatic tumor extension or positive surgical margins in radical prostatectomy series
- > 30% require further treatment after surgery

# “Insignificant” Cancer

- Patients with low-grade cancer (Gleason < 7) rarely suffer and die from prostate cancer

**“Active monitoring” with  
deferred treatment**

# Information Available with Newly Diagnosed PCa

- **PSA, PSAV, PSAD, % free PSA**
- Estimated tumor volume in biopsies
- Biopsy Gleason score
- DRE findings
- Imaging studies (TRUS, MRI, MRS)

# European Screening Trial

| PSA Range | 2-2.9 | 3-3.9 | 4-9.9 |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|

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|        |      |     |      |
|--------|------|-----|------|
| Volume | 0.48 | 0.7 | 1.27 |
|--------|------|-----|------|

# Criteria for Recommending Intervention

- Gleason pattern 4 or 5
- > 2 biopsy cores involved
- > 50% of a biopsy core is involved
- Cancer on every biopsy procedure
- **PSA criteria (PSAV, PSAD, % free PSA)**

# Current Trigger Points

- Patient anxiety from living with untreated cancer
- **Rising PSA level**
- Repeat biopsy results that suggest greater tumor volume or Gleason grade



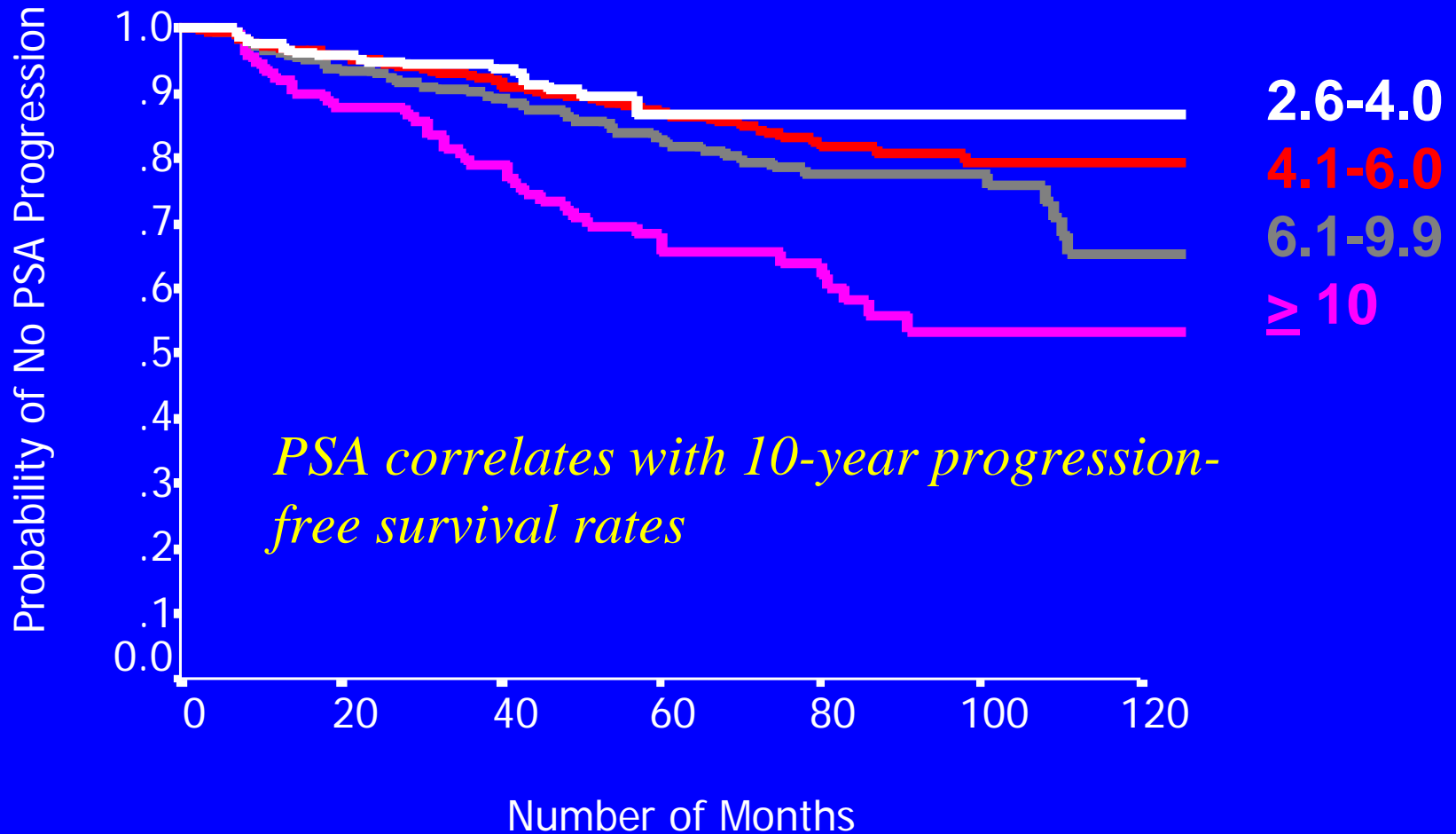
# Drawbacks of Active Monitoring

- Repeat biopsies are subject to sampling errors
- **Repeat biopsies might induce inflammatory changes that cause fluctuations in PSA levels**
- May cause scarring that interferes with subsequent nerve-sparing surgery

# PSA

- Cancers treated at lower PSA have better progression-free survival than those treated at higher PSA

# T1c Patients with RRP by PSA at Diagnosis ( PSA Follow-up Study)



# Results of Treatment at Progression

- In most studies 25%-50% of patients develop evidence of progression within 5 years
- The percentage of patients with curable cancer at the time of progression has been reported to be 33%-92%

Patel MI, J Urol, 2004.171, 1520; Neulander EZ et al BJU Int, 2000. 85: 699.

# PSA Conversion to $> 4$ ng/ml

|       | PSA | PSA | PSA | PSA |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|       | 0-1 | 1-2 | 2-3 | 3-4 |
| 2 yrs | 0.5 | 2.5 | 13  | 44  |
| 4 yrs | 1.4 | 6.6 | 30  | 77  |
| 5 yrs | 1.6 | 7.6 | 35  | 83  |

Crawford D et al J Urol 167: 99, 2002 from PLCO Trial

# Delayed Treatment after Active Monitoring: Toronto

- >200 patients followed for up to 10 years
- About 60% remained on active monitoring
- **But, of patients who underwent radical prostatectomy for progression,**
  - **The tumor was organ confined in only 42%**
  - **58% had tumor extension beyond the prostate, and 8% had lymph node metastases**

# Risk Assessment for Different Age Groups

- Median PSA for age group in men without prostate cancer

# Median PSA in Men without Prostate Cancer: PSA Study (32,000 Men )

| Age Group | Median PSA |
|-----------|------------|
| 40s       | 0.7        |
| 50s       | 0.9        |
| 60s       | 1.3        |
| 70s       | 1.7        |

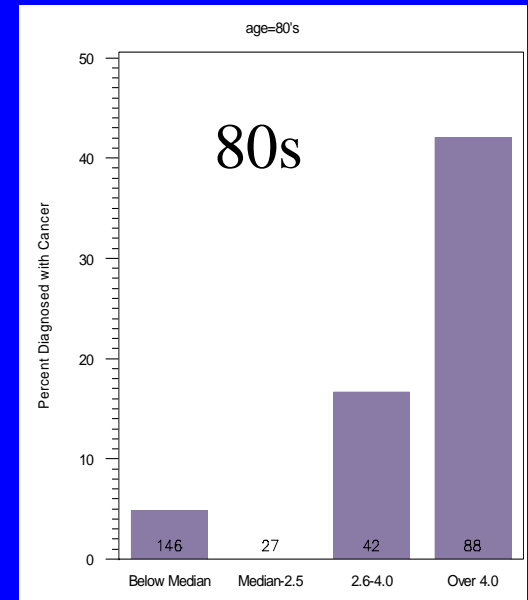
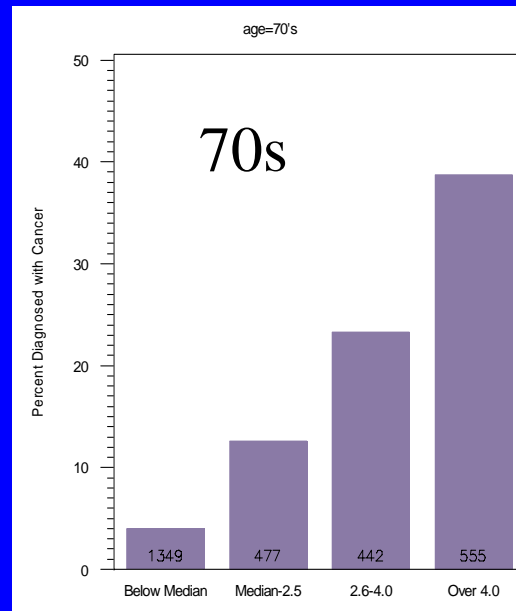
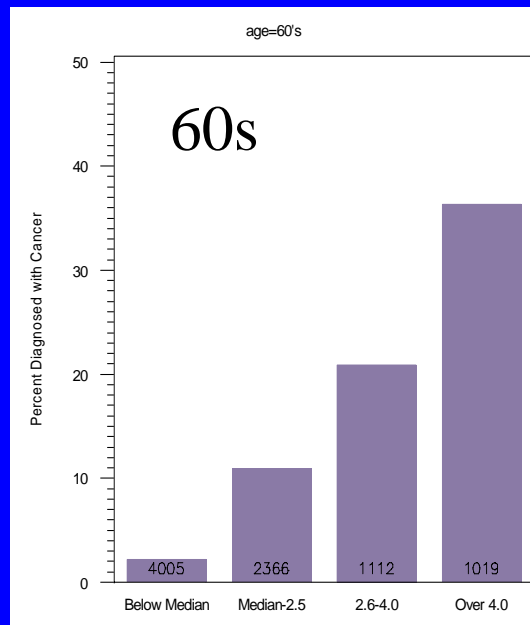


# Baseline PSA Predicts Risk and Aggressiveness

|                  | <b>PSA range</b> | <b>Relative Risk</b> |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Age 50-59</b> | <b>ng/ml</b>     |                      |
|                  | <b>&lt; 0.9</b>  | <b>1</b>             |
|                  | <b>0.9-2.5</b>   | <b>7</b>             |
|                  | <b>2.6-4.0</b>   | <b>27</b>            |
|                  | <b>&gt; 4.0</b>  | <b>44</b>            |

*Loeb S, et al. Urology 67:316-20, 2006*

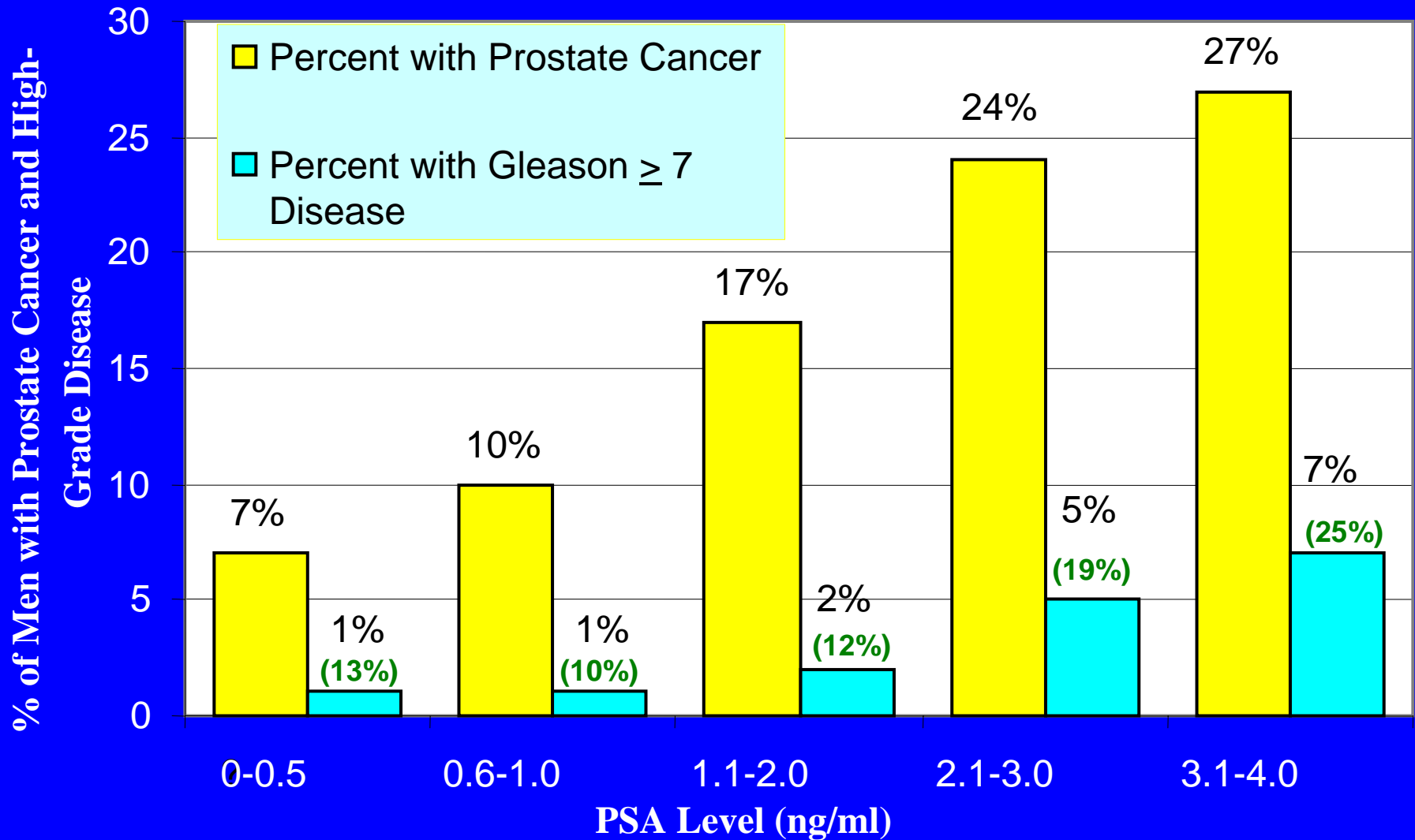
## Prostate Cancer Detection Rates by PSA Category



< median    median-2.5ng/ml    2.6-4 ng/ml    >4ng/ml

Data from PSA Study: 36,000 men followed for up to 12 years

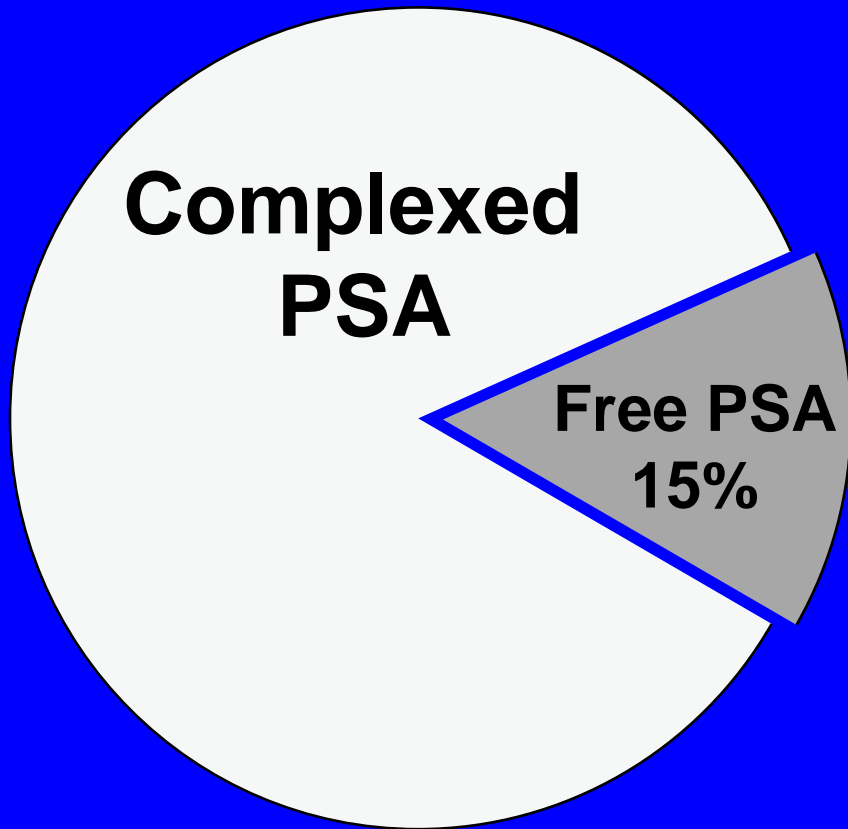
# Prevalence of Prostate Cancer with PSA $\leq 4.0$ ng/ml.



# PSA Confounding

- Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia
- Prostatitis
- Ejaculation
- Prostate manipulation
- Assay standardization
- Biologic variation

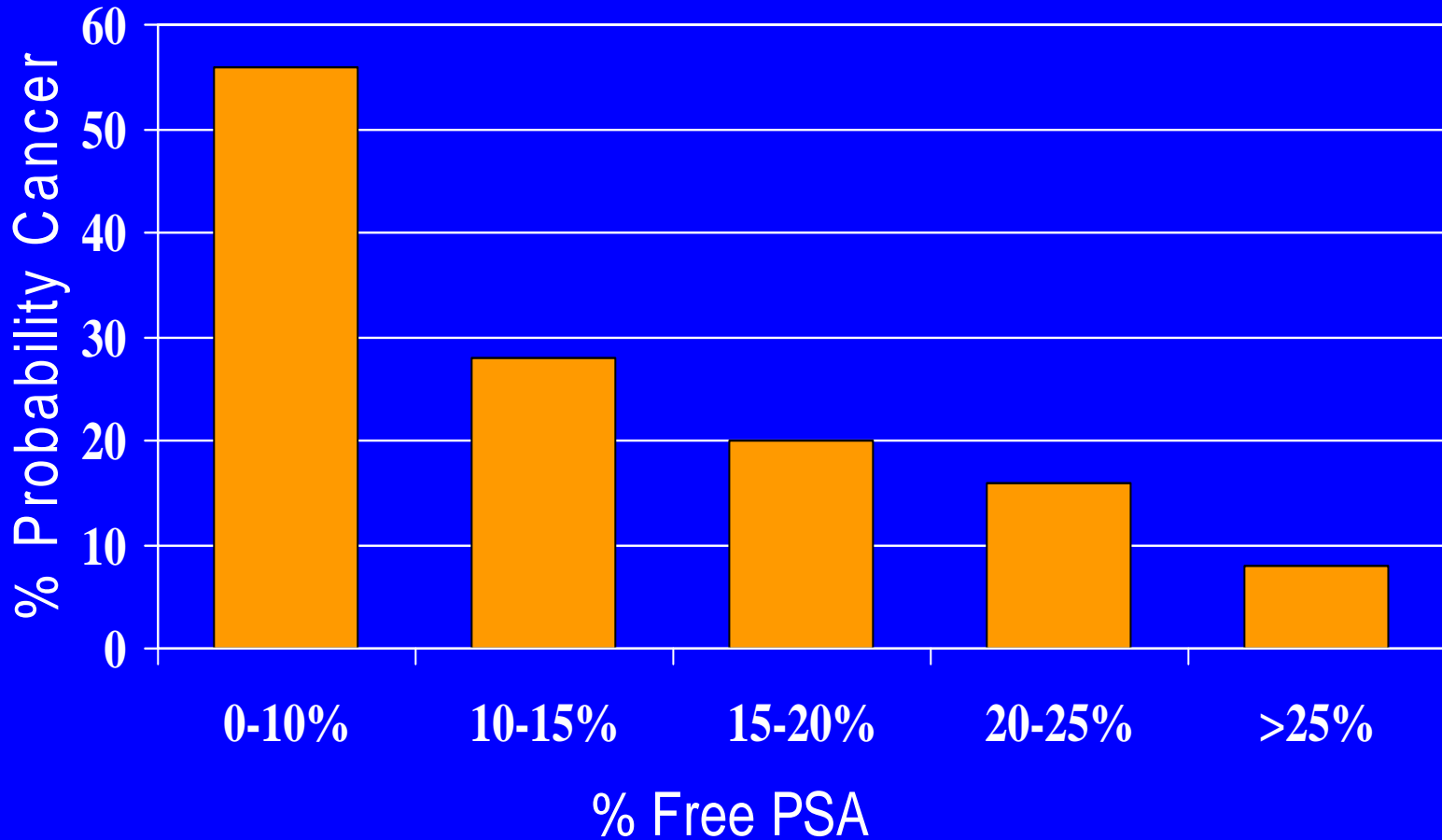
# What is Free PSA in Serum?

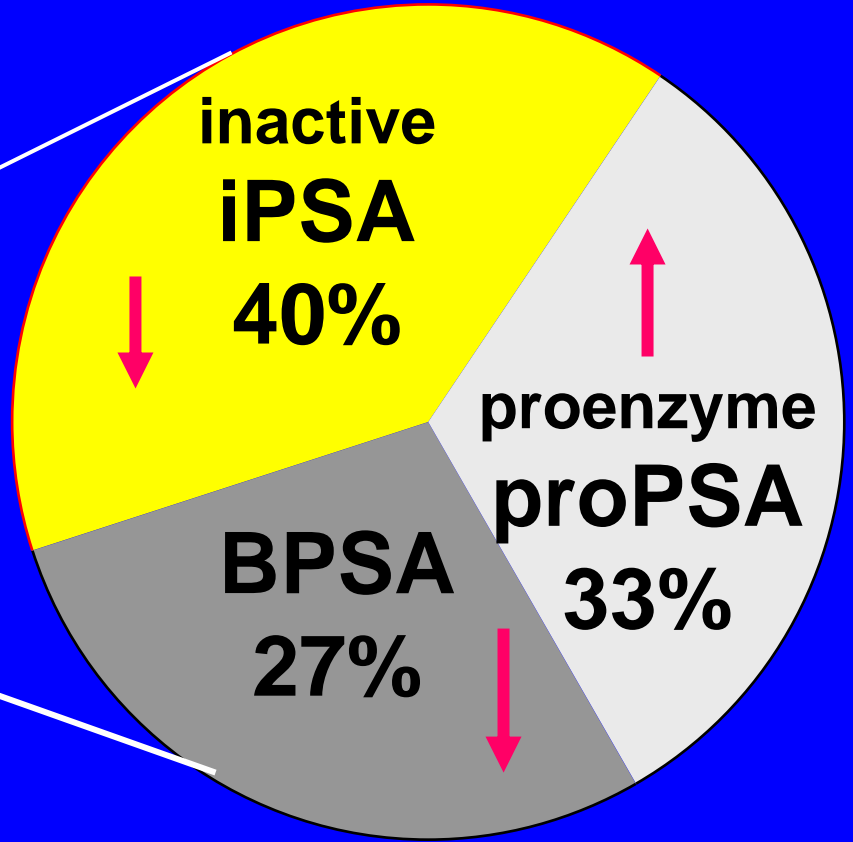
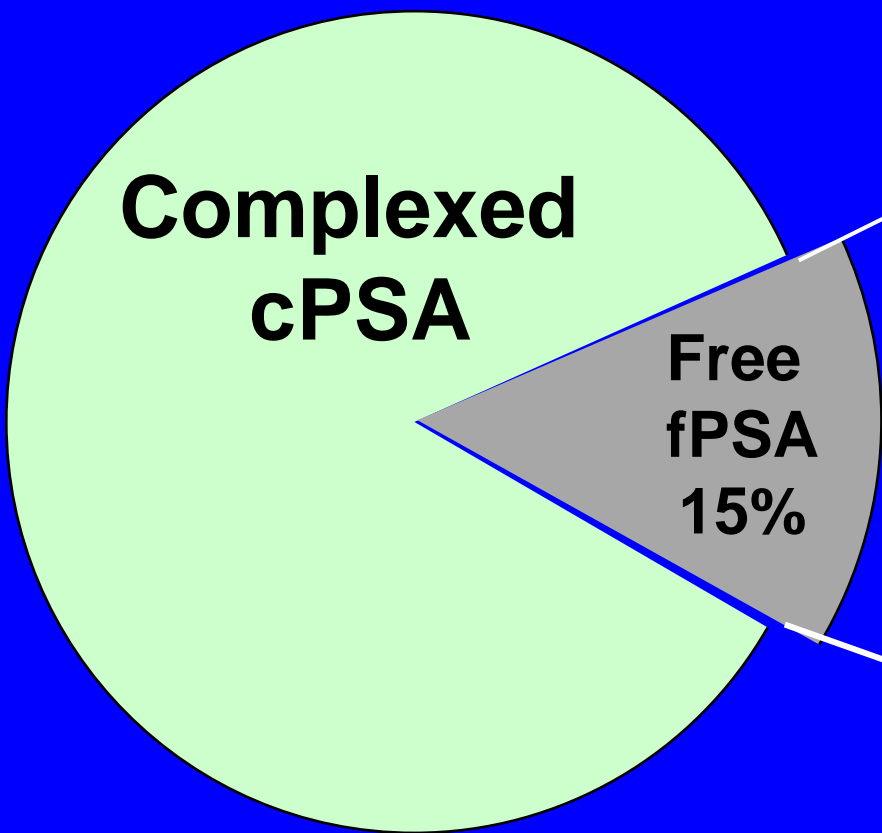


- Enzymatically inactive
- Does not complex with ACT
- Lower % in cancer

# Probability of Cancer

*PSA 4-10 ng/ml*





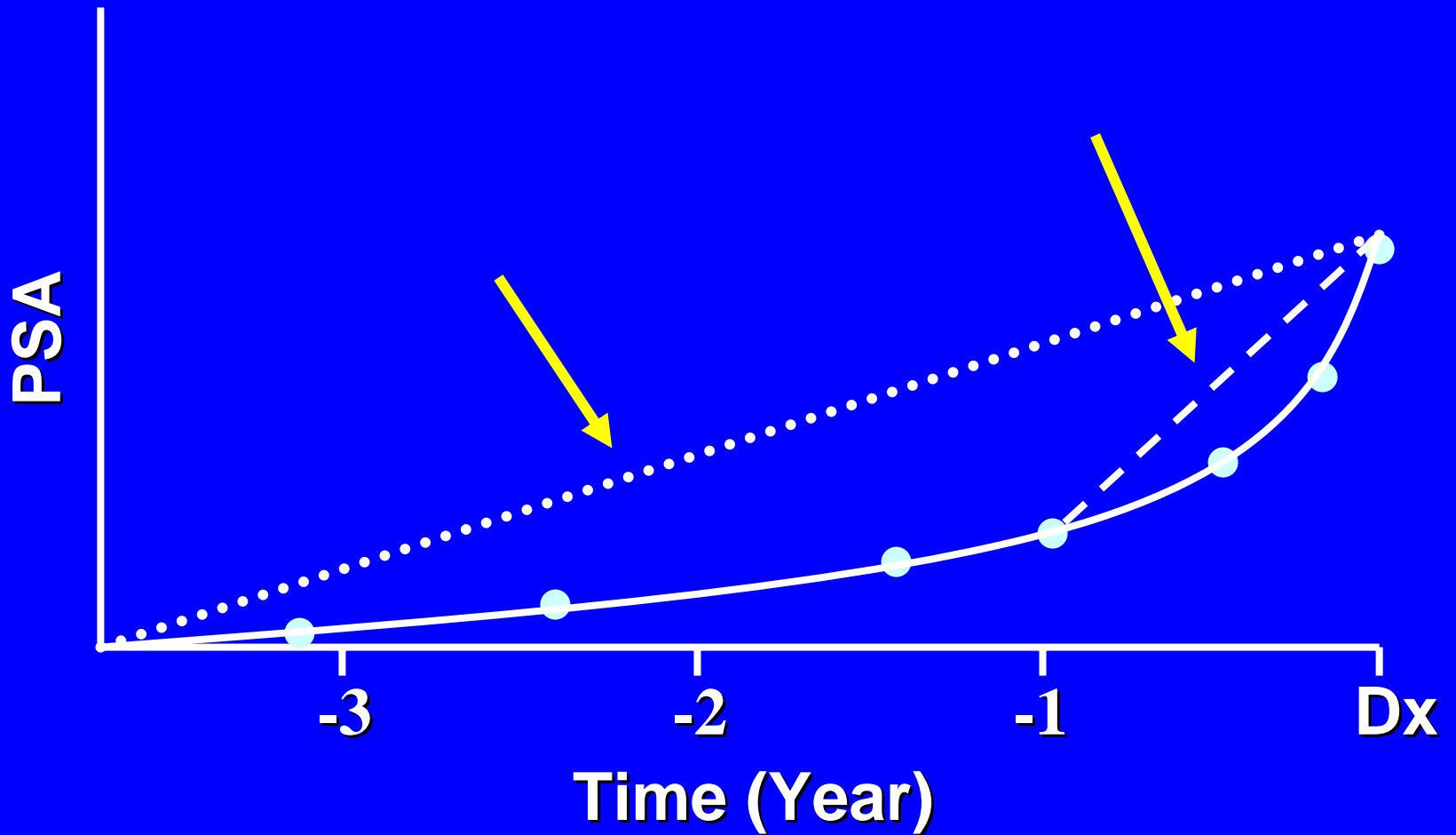
# PSA Density

## (PSA / Prostate Volume)

- PSA density  $> 0.10 - 0.15$  is suspicious for cancer
- PSA density has been shown to correlate with progression-free survival



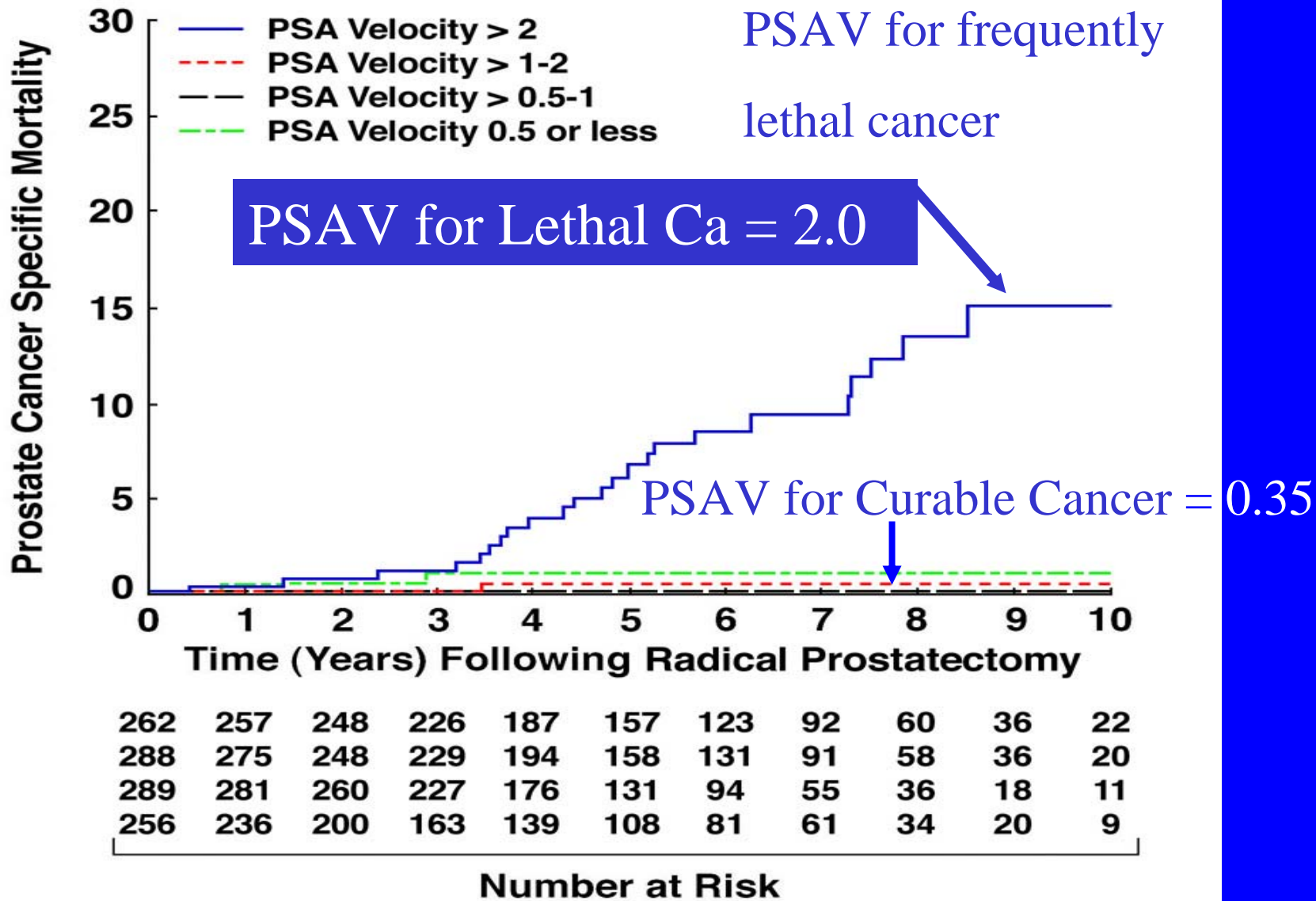
# PSA Kinetics



# PSA Velocity in PSA Study

|                              | <b>Median<br/>PSAV<br/>(ng/ml/yr)</b> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Cancer</b>                | 0.8                                   |
| <b>Non-Cancer<br/>Biopsy</b> | 0.1                                   |
| <b>No Biopsy</b>             | 0.1                                   |

P<0.0001



*D'Amico et al, NEJM 351:125, 2004*

# Long-Term PSAV $>0.35$ ng/ml/year Correlates with CaP-Specific Mortality Rate

- PSAV calculated in 980 men from Baltimore Longitudinal Study on Aging
- *PSAV  $>0.35$  ng/ml/year associated with 5-fold increased risk prostate cancer death 15 or more years later*

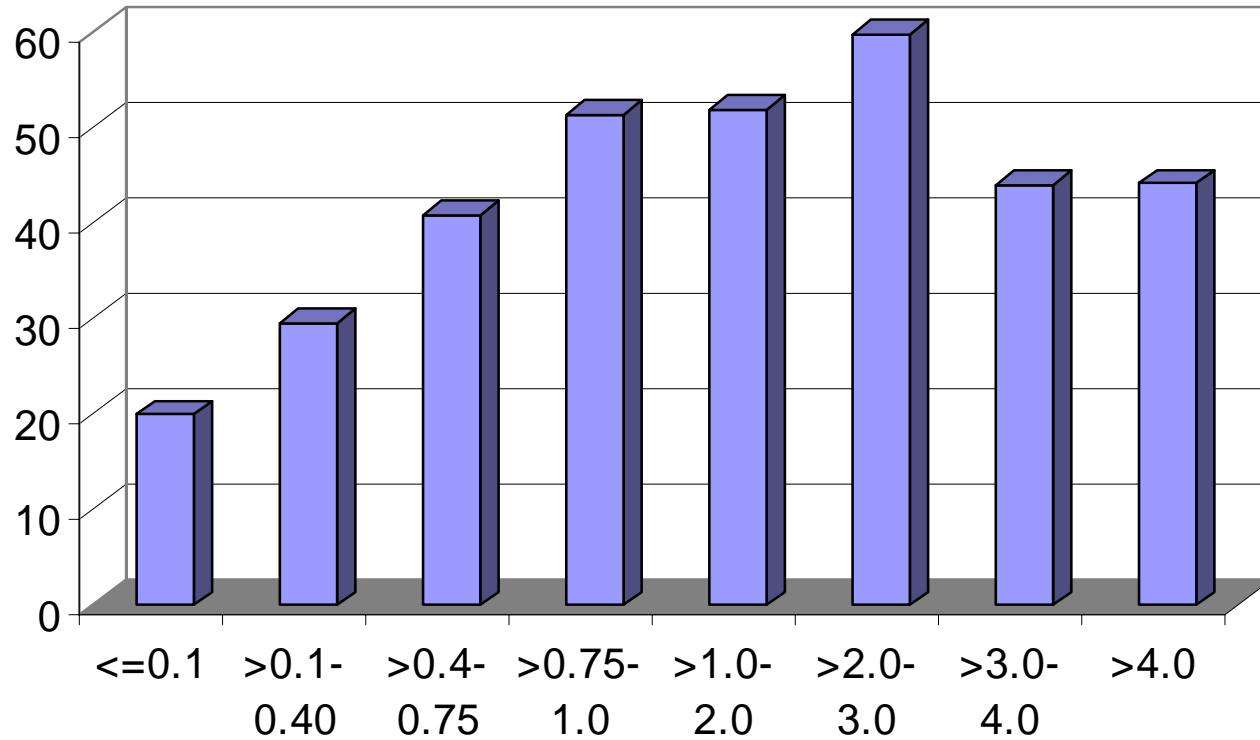
*Carter HB et al. JNCI 2006; 98: 1521*

# PSA Velocity to Predict CaP

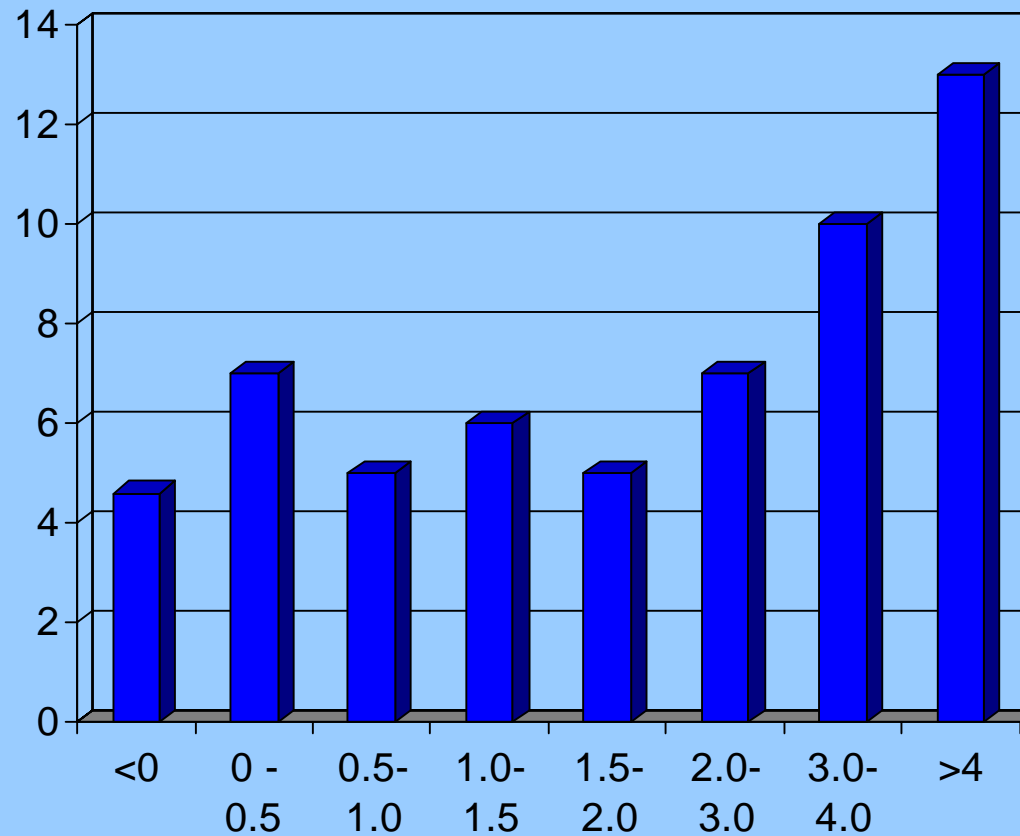
- Traditional PSAV cutoff for Bx = **0.75**, established in men with PSA > 4 ng/ml
- If PSA < 4 ng/ml, a cutoff of **0.3-0.5** ng/ml/yr should be used
- 2006 National Comprehensive Cancer Center (NCCN) Guidelines recommend **0.5** ng/ml/year (**0.35** in 2007)
- 2007 AUA may recommend **0.4** ng/ml/year

*Smith DS et al J Urol 1994 152 1163; Fang et al Urol 2002 59 889; Berger D, et al abstract 485, 2006.\**

# Cancer Detection Rate by PSAV



## Rate of prostatitis on first biopsy, stratified by PSA V



# PSA Decreases with Antibiotics in Many Patients with Prostatitis

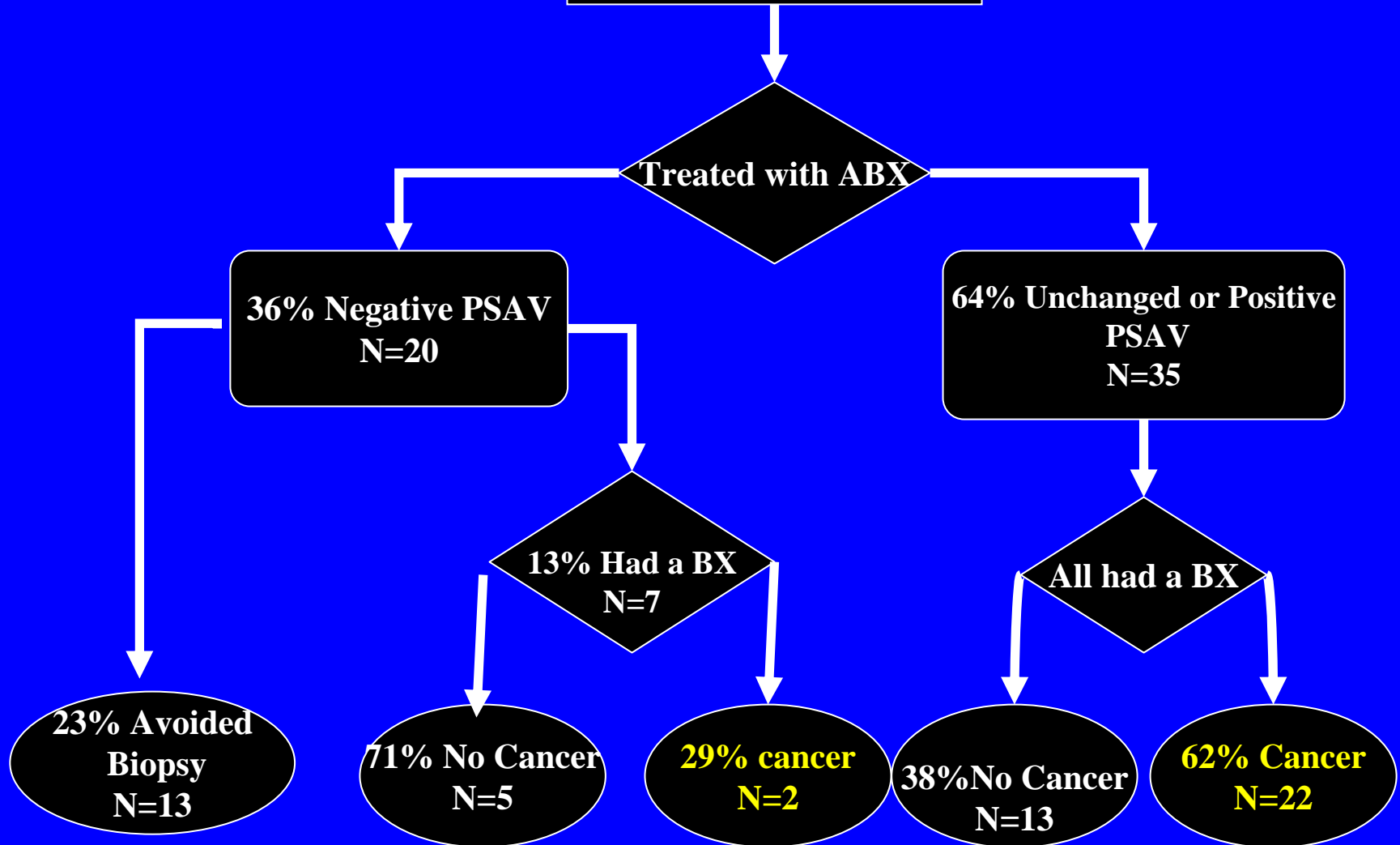
- PSA before and after 28-day course of fluoroquinolone antibiotic therapy in patients with chronic bacterial prostatitis
- Median PSA decreased from 8.3 to 5.3 ng/ml
- In 42% with PSA > 4 ng/ml, PSA decreased to < 4ng/ml after antibiotics



# Prospective Cohort Treated with an Empiric Antibiotics

55 Men With Elevated PSA

Median Baseline  
PSA=4.7ng/ml



# Different PSA Standards

- Hybritech 1986 and WHO 1999
- WHO-standardized assays give PSA levels ~23% lower
- Hybritech 4.0 = WHO 3.1
- Hybritech 2.5 = WHO 2.0
- This bias affects: PSA cutoffs, PSAV, PSADT, PSA density, % free PSA

*Sotelo R et al Urology 69:1143,2007*

# Intelligent Use of PSA

- Start annual PSA testing at age 40 and track changes
- Know the standardization of PSA assays used
- Assess PCa risk using age-group median PSA values
- Use PSA density and % free or % complexed PSA to evaluate confounding from BPH
- Rule out prostatitis with antibiotics and **repeat PSA measurements**
- Use PSA velocity to identify more aggressive tumors
  - Use PSAV cutoff: 0.3–0.5 ng/ml/yr