

Patient-physician communication is critical for prostate cancer survivors' health

May 4 2016

For prostate cancer patients who had their prostates surgically removed, patient-physician communication was key for helping them cope with their disease and for improving their health-related quality of life.

The authors of the 1772-patient study note that patient-physician communication is not only a question of patients' [wellbeing](#) or feeling accepted, but an issue of physical, cognitive, emotional, and [social functioning](#) when living with localized prostate cancer and dealing with the side effects of treatments.

"At least 3 years after [prostatectomy](#), patient-physician communication is associated with patients' quality of life. Efforts to build and maintain a trustful relationship should be part of long-term follow-up care for prostate cancer patients and survivors," said Dr. Nicole Ernstmann, lead author of the *BJU International* study.

More information: N Ernstmann et al, Patient-physician-communication and health related quality of life of localized prostate cancer patients undergoing radical prostatectomy - a longitudinal multilevel analysis, *BJU International* (2016). [DOI: 10.1111/bju.13495](https://doi.org/10.1111/bju.13495)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Patient-physician communication is critical for prostate cancer survivors' health (2016,

May 4) retrieved 20 April 2023 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2016-05-patient-physician-critical-prostate-cancer-survivors.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.