

PCFA Information and Consent Form

Thank you for contacting Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. This document provides you with important information about accessing the MatesCONNECT program and allows you to make an informed decision about whether you wish to proceed. We are required to provide you with this information as part of our duty of care to patients and the community.

The first point we want to highlight is that we are required to collect and record relevant information such as your name, contact information, and basic details concerning your prostate cancer diagnosis. The information you provide will be private and confidential and recorded electronically by PCFA in a password protected database.

The second point we want to highlight is that you have the right to access your personal information and to lodge a complaint if you have concerns about how you or your data have been treated.

Confidentiality of your personal information

The personal information we collect will remain confidential, with exceptions in the event that your information is subpoenaed by a court or otherwise required or authorised by law, or in instances where our failure to disclose the information would place you or another person at serious risk to life, health or safety.

Provision of a peer support service

MatesCONNECT is a telephone-based peer support service for men affected by prostate cancer. If you've recently been diagnosed with prostate cancer, our MatesCONNECT service can connect you to a trained volunteer who understands what you're going through. All of our volunteers have been through prostate cancer. Our volunteers can offer you practical advice on surgery and treatment, and the side effects of treatment, such as incontinence, erectile dysfunction, and coping with hormone therapy.

Our volunteers are not trained or permitted to offer you clinical or medical advice. If you would like to access the service, it's important to continue seeing your health care team for evidence-based medical advice from qualified professionals.

Statement of consent

By ticking the consent box at <https://pcfa.org.au/online-self-referral-form>, you confirm that you understand the type of service provided by PCFA's MatesCONNECT program and that you provide your informed consent for PCFA to confidentially collect your personal information.

You confirm that you have read and understood the information provided to me in this letter and have been provided with the opportunity to ask any questions.

You confirm that you agree to receive this phone-based peer support provided by a PCFA volunteer.

Service Information

Duration and Sessions

Depending on your situation, you will be referred to a volunteer who has been through a similar experience in their own prostate cancer treatment. The session will be scheduled at a time convenient to both parties. Your peer support volunteer will not be able to work with you if you are under the influence of alcohol or other mind-altering substances. If this is found to be the case, they will end the session.

The MatesCONNECT program is unable to provide a crisis intervention service. Should you need emotional support between sessions, please contact your GP or one of the following organisations for assistance:

Lifeline 131114

MensLine 1300 78 99 78

Beyond Blue 1300 2246 36

In the event of an emergency always dial 000.

Or for between-sessions support regarding prostate cancer-specific medical or practical issues please call our Prostate Cancer Specialist Telenursing Service on 1800 22 00 99.

Donations to PCFA are welcome and can be made via www.pcfa.org.au/donate.