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It’s rarely talked about but bladder cancer is the fourth most common cancer among men globally, and ninth most common overall. If diagnosed early, it is highly treatable, but due to a lack of awareness and understanding, bladder cancer often goes unnoticed and can quickly progress to a more aggressive form of the disease.

Bladder cancer has the highest recurrence rate of any cancer, resulting in a very high lifetime treatment cost per patient.

There are several risk factors that can increase the likelihood of bladder cancer. Smoking is a significant contributing factor with around one in every two new bladder cancer patients having a history of smoking. Incidences also increase with age, meaning the older you are, the greater the potential for bladder cancer. Occupations that have frequent exposure to certain industrial chemicals or carcinogens can also increase the risk. Such occupations include fire fighters, painters, miners, hairdressers and drycleaners.

Bladder cancer often begins in the cells that line the inside of the bladder and can continue to grow into the underlying layers of the bladder. One of the most common symptoms is blood in the urine, known as haematuria. Often the bleeding is very minimal and may not be painful. Other symptoms can include increased frequency of urination, difficulty or urgency and pain when passing urine. If you have these symptoms, it doesn’t necessarily mean you have bladder cancer, however it is important to tell your doctor early so they can determine if bladder cancer is present.

Traditionally, diagnosis begins with a referral by your doctor to a urologist – which can involve a lengthy waiting time – for a range of tests, the most common being a cystoscopy. This involves having a cystoscope (thin tube with a light and camera) inserted up the urethra and into the bladder to look for signs of the disease. Today there is a strong demand for an accurate, non-invasive supplementary test to aid both your doctor at first consultation, as well as urologists in the early detection of bladder cancer. Developed by New Zealand-based biomedical company, Pacific Edge, Cxbladder provides the ideal solution for this demand. Cxbladder is a non-invasive test for the detection of bladder cancer that can make a meaningful difference in a patient’s treatment. This simple urine test works at a molecular level and can help detect cancers not normally visible by cystoscopy. The test requires just 5ml of urine - collected at home or at the clinic - which is sent to Pacific Edge’s Laboratory in Dunedin. Results are then sent to your healthcare professional.

Cxbladder is a quick, reliable and objective option to support early detection or to help rule out the presence of bladder cancer. For patients, Cxbladder is convenient and easy to use and provides the peace of mind of accurate, non-invasive testing, with the opportunity to be active participants in their care and recovery.

The difference in cancer detection

• Cxbladder is a non-invasive urine test for bladder cancer that may reduce the need for unnecessary diagnostic procedures
• The sensitive test enables early detection, allowing treatment to be fast-tracked
• Results available within five working days
• Available from both your doctor and urologist

For more information about the Cxbladder test, please talk to your doctor or visit cxbladder.com