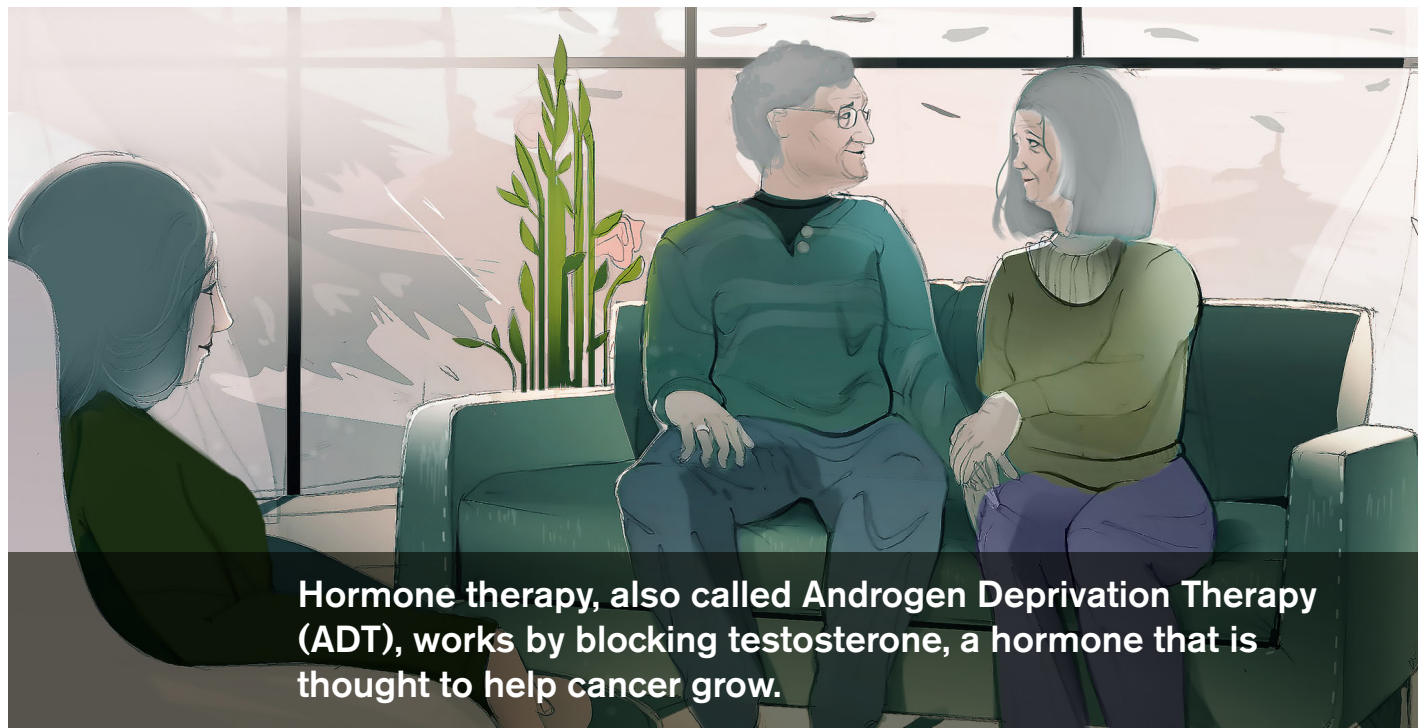


About Your Prostate Cancer Treatment

Hormone Therapy



Hormone therapy, also called Androgen Deprivation Therapy (ADT), works by blocking testosterone, a hormone that is thought to help cancer grow.

How will hormone therapy affect your sex life?

Every kind of prostate cancer treatment causes changes to sexual function. Here are some ways hormone therapy may affect your sex life:

What can you do about the sexual side effects?

- Your doctor can prescribe medications or devices to help you have erections.
- A certified sex therapist can help you find a way to stay sexually active. In the US, you can find a certified sex therapist near you through the website for the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists – aasect.org.

Lower sex drive

- Loss of testosterone usually lowers your sex drive.
- If your hormone treatment is temporary, your sex drive may return about 6 months after ending treatment.
- Some men may not get back to a normal testosterone level even after stopping hormone therapy, and their sex drive may stay lower.

Genital shrinkage

- When your hormone levels decrease, you may notice that your testicles or penis get smaller.

Problems with erections (Erectile dysfunction / ED)

- ED usually starts within six weeks of treatment.
- If you have to stay on hormone therapy long-term, ED may be permanent.
- If your therapy is short-term, you may see recovery of erections about six months after stopping treatment.

Trouble having an orgasm

- Low testosterone can make it harder for some men to reach orgasm.
- When you reach orgasm, less semen will come out.



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