

## ELEVATED PSA BUT NEGATIVE BIOPSY?

Here is an interesting recent study from October 2009:

<http://tinyurl.com/ykyqjgt>

Hidden prostate cancer tumours evade treatment: study

Canadian researchers have found that some hidden prostate cancer tumours cannot be diagnosed with the current procedures. Researchers at Toronto University say their findings explain why some men with elevated prostate specific antigen (PSA) levels who are carefully monitored and undergo repeated negative biopsies still develop aggressive prostate cancer. They say these hidden tumours located on the top of the prostate evade traditional diagnostic procedures, including ultrasound guided needle biopsy. In their research, published Thursday in the British Journal of Urology International, the Canadians say that magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is the best tool to reveal such tumours. As part of their research, a team of urologists, surgeons, radiologists and pathologists studied 31 patients who had positive biopsy results and tumours on top of their prostate as shown on MRI. They found that MRI was able to help diagnose hidden prostate tumours 87 percent of the time. —Our findings identify a specific high-risk group who tumours are difficult to diagnose because of location. These men benefit from MRI which guides the biopsy procedure with a high degree of accuracy,|| said study author Nathan Lawrentschuk, urologic oncology fellow at the university. —The research team call the clinical presentation of elevated PSA and repeated negative biopsy results ‘prostate evasive anterior tumour syndrome’ (PEATS),|| he added. Lead researcher Neil Fleshner said: —Knowing about PEATS may also be important for men already on ‘active surveillance’ – patients with slow-growing prostate cancer who are being regularly monitored through PSA and biopsy. —Every man does not need an MRI, but knowing about PEATS will help identify those who do.