



THE BIG 5 CANCERS AFFECTING MEN IN SA KAPOSI SARCOMA

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT **1 IN 315** SOUTH AFRICAN MEN
WILL DEVELOP KAPOSI SARCOMA

SYMPTOMS

- Kaposi's sarcoma (KS) is a cancer that causes patches of abnormal tissue to grow under the skin, in the lining of the mouth, nose, and throat or in other organs
- Before the HIV/AIDS epidemic, KS usually developed slowly. In HIV/AIDS patients though, the disease moves quickly
- Skin lesions are usually the first symptom
- Treatment for HIV itself can shrink the lesions

SCREENING

To be sure that a lesion is caused by KS, the doctor will do a biopsy to take a small sample of tissue from the lesion and send it to a laboratory to be analysed.

TREATMENT AND PROGNOSIS

- Treatment of Kaposi sarcoma can be difficult due to the immunosuppressed state of many of the people who are affected
- The doctor will recommend treatment based on the patient's general health as well as on where the lesions are, how extensive they are, and how many there are
- For people with AIDS, anti-HIV medications are used against the virus. This can improve the person's overall health and help treat Kaposi sarcoma
- Outlook for Kaposi's sarcoma depends on the form of the disease
- About one-third of people with classic Kaposi's sarcoma develop another cancer which can be fatal



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REDUCING YOUR CANCER RISK

A person can reduce his risk by avoiding known risk factors that raise risk of HIV infection:

- Avoid risky sexual practices, such as having unprotected sex
- Avoid using intravenous (IV) needles that have been used by someone else