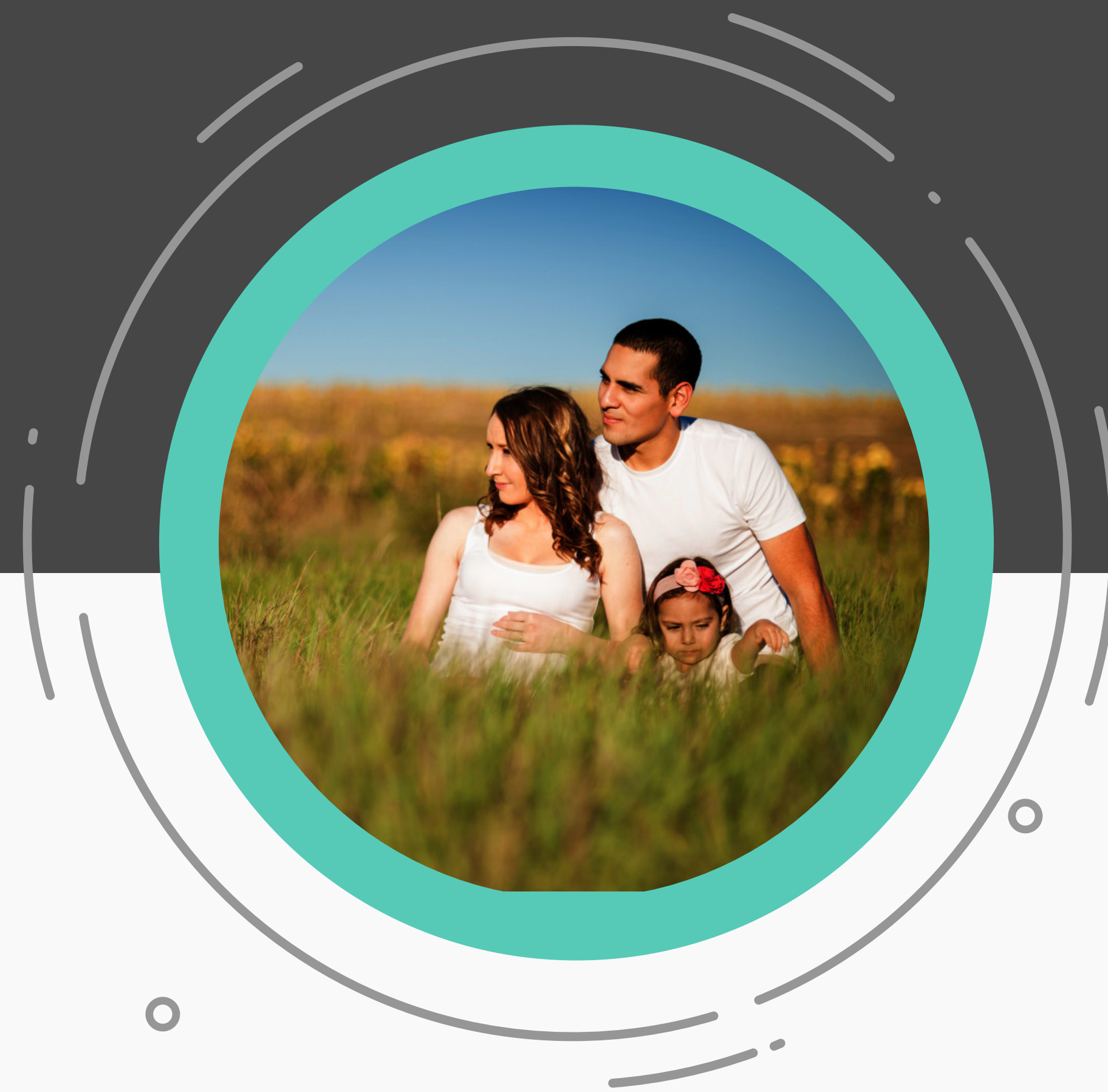


The Prostate Clinic

# Fees and Charges

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## Costs Explained



Dr Tom Shannon

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## Fees and charges – Introduction

A cancer diagnosis is an unsettling event and unfortunately not all treatment expenses are covered by medicare and health funds. Whilst surgery is cheaper than radiotherapy or chemotherapy, the cost is borne more proportionally by the patient than other treatments.

In most cases you will have out of pocket expenses for prostate cancer treatment and it is important to understand this in detail. We will provide you with a written quote and our staff will help you through the journey with health funds etc.

This practice specialises in prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment. We have done this because prostate cancer is a complex disease which requires a team of specially trained doctors, nurses and allied health providers to achieve the best results. Unlike breast cancer, there is very little government support for these roles and the specialised nature of the surgery. As a high volume prostate cancer surgeon, Dr Shannon has treated thousands of men with prostate cancer and has built a dedicated team in his practice and at Hollywood Private Hospital. In addition, Dr Shannon has served as Board member of the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia and WA Urological Research Organisation. He is also an advisor to the Exercise Medicine Research Institute at ECU Joondalup.

## Our results reflect our focus

Please see the information sheet on our results for more information. We are proud of our results and the only practice who make them public. Our surgical results rival those of any major international centre of excellence and are significantly better than expected results from published literature. In cancer surgery these results have significant implications for long term survival and outcomes.

## Expenses

Our fees - Item numbers 37210 or 37211 are used for prostate cancer surgery. Our surgery takes around half a day and our fees reflect this time. Our fees are similar or less than would be charged for smaller less complex cases that take a similar time to complete. Surgical fees cover your operation, in hospital care and outpatient care in the immediate post operative period should you need it.

Assistant - Dr Glenn Liew has 10 yrs experience in prostate cancer assisting Ph 61610661

Hospital - Health funds and medicare cover most of the hospital cost, which includes your hospital bed and theatre fee, with the exception of the robot fee - currently \$2500 to cover the cost of the machine and disposables used.

Histoathology - Uropath is a specialty practice dedicated to prostate cancer pathology. Please contact uropath on 9388 3180

Pharmacy and pathology - you may receive bills for blood test, medications and even fluids used during your stay.



## Nursing Services

You will meet several nurses during your journey. Nurses Lisa Ferri and Francesca Leggott are prostate cancer specialist nurses who have worked closely in Dr Shannon's practice for a number of years and undertaken speciality training. They will be involved in your education and decision making. There is no charge for their services at Hollywood Hospital. Melissa Hadley Barrett is a nurse practitioner, who looks after sexual health and rehabilitation. As a nurse practitioner, Melissa is able to work independently of doctors, order tests and write prescriptions. There are fees for her services and medicare rebates are available. Products and medications are available at discounted prices from Melissa.

## Physiotherapist / Psychologists / Dieticians

Ancillary services are provided by outside providers and incur additional fees.

## Weight loss / Trench Health and Fitness

Trench health and fitness run programs designed by Ionic health, specific for pre operative patients. We have found this to be the most successful method of achieving weight loss in a short period of time, which can be essential to surgical success. The periods of weight loss are much less than with other programs, effectively reducing costs. Trench Health and Fitness pay a fee to Ionic health in which Dr Shannon has an interest, with monies used to develop these programs further. A dietician and exercise physiologist will be involved with your care. Rebates are available with a care plan from your GP.

## Payment options

There are options to help ease out of pocket fees.

Ex gratia payments - health funds recognise the funding shortfall and are limited by medicare in their payouts. Some health funds will pay substantial ex gratia payments to help meet this shortfall. You will need to ask specifically. Payments are usually proportional to length of membership and cleaning history.

Robot fees - some health funds will cover the robot fee of \$2500. Dr Shannon has performed open, laparoscopic and robotic surgery in large numbers and is proficient at each. He can discuss reasons for selecting a treatment in your case.

Superannuation - Superannuation can be accessed for the treatment of prostate cancer and can be used for the surgery, pre operative and after care. Please access <http://mysupercare.com.au>

Tax deductibility - up to 20% of out of pocket expenses over \$2218 can be claimed against tax. You will need to get independent advice regarding your own situation.

Health financing - There are several financing companies dedicated to health. Examples include Mac credit - <https://www.macccredit.com.au/Mediplan> -

<http://www.mediplan.com.au> We do not have any relationships with these financiers and suggest you look online at options.

Cancer council - Will pay up to \$500 off your non medical bills after a cancer diagnosis.

Trauma Insurance - Prostate cancer will trigger a payout in most trauma insurance policies. Some superannuation funds have in built trauma insurance. Trauma insurance will usually cover the complete cost of your care and provide for a period off work. Pad costs - support may be available for the costs of continence pads. Our nurses can help with this.