

GLOSSARY

This glossary includes not only terms used in prostate cancer treatment, research, and sexuality but also colloquial terms that have specific meanings or nuances within the LGBT community. We gratefully acknowledge the online NCI Dictionary of Cancer terms, the Oxford Living Concise Dictionaries, and Wikipedia for standard definitions. Definitions, colloquialisms, and contextual terms have been tailored to the focus of this text.

Active surveillance: A treatment plan that involves closely watching a patient's condition but not giving any treatment unless there are changes in test results that show the condition is getting worse. During active surveillance, exams and tests are done on a regular schedule.

AIDS-defining cancers: Three cancers—Kaposi('s) sarcoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and cervical cancer—are termed AIDS-defining cancers because a diagnosis of any one of them in a person diagnosed with HIV then determines a diagnosis of AIDS.

Androgen deprivation therapy (ADT): Treatment to suppress or block the production or action of male hormones. This treatment requires having the testicles removed, taking female sex hormones, or taking drugs called antiandrogens. Also called *androgen ablation* and *androgen suppression*.

Anodyspareunia: Recurrent or persistent pain experienced by the receptive

partner during anal stimulation or intercourse. To meet clinical criteria, it must be (a) recurrent or persistent, (b) sufficient to cause marked distress or interpersonal difficulty, and (c) not caused by other medical or mental conditions or exclusively by other behavioral determinants (such as lack of lubrication or relaxation technique).

Antiretroviral (ARV) treatment: Denoting or relating to a class of drugs that inhibit the activity of retroviruses such as HIV. Also called *antiretroviral treatment (ART)*, *highly active antiretroviral treatment (HAART)*, and referred to colloquially as *HIV drug cocktail* or *HIV medications*.

Aporia: In the context of prostate cancer treatment in gay and bisexual men, the introduction of doubt and distrust in the patient generated by the specialist's response (or lack of response), such as denial of the patient's experience.

Asynchronous: *Adjective.* A term used in online research to specify that the study does not require participants to complete activities at the same time. An online focus group is a typical example of a synchronous activity, whereas posting to a message board or commenting on other's posts is typically asynchronous.

Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH): An enlarged prostate due to normal aging. As the prostate enlarges, it can put pressure on the urethra,

causing voiding problems. It does not lead to prostate cancer.

Bicalutamide: Sold under the brand name Casodex, bicalutamide is an antiandrogen medication that is primarily used to treat prostate cancer.

Biopsy: A prostate gland biopsy is a test to remove small samples of prostate tissue to be looked at under a microscope. A thin hollow needle is inserted up the rectum and through the wall of the rectum into the prostate. Most urologists will take about 12 core samples from different parts of the prostate.

Bisexual: *Adjective:* Pertaining to sexual activity with both genders. *Noun:* Someone who is romantically attracted to or sexually oriented toward both genders. *Identity label:* Someone who identifies as sexually oriented toward both genders.

Bother: One of two scales commonly used in prostate cancer research to estimate the effect of treatment on quality of life. Whereas *function* refers to the frequency of difficulties in sexual, urinary, bowel, or hormone-related behavior, *bother* refers to how big a problem it is in a person's day-to-day life. See also **Function** and **Health-related quality of life**.

Bottom: *Verb:* To engage in oral, anal, or vaginal sex as the receptive partner. *Identity label:* Someone who identifies as being or preferring to be the receptive partner (typically in anal sex).

Bowel incontinence: Inability to hold feces in the bowel. Lack of voluntary control over defecation.

Brachytherapy: The treatment of cancer, especially prostate cancer, by the insertion of radioactive implants directly into the tissue.

Butt plug: A phallic- or spindle-shaped object flanged or handled at the bottom designed to completely fill the anus.

Case-control study: A research study that compares persons with a condition or outcome of interest (cases) with persons who do not have the condition or outcome (controls), and retrospectively compares how frequently the exposure to a risk factor is present in each group.

Caverject injection: A prostaglandin injection into the penis. It works by relaxing certain muscles in the penis and widening blood vessels, which increases blood flow to the penis and helps cause an erection.

Chosen family: A term used in the gay community and sex research to denote a network of friends who function as an intimate support network (and often as a substitution for or in contrast to biological family in situations where the biological family is estranged).

Chronic disease: A condition that persists over a long period and generally cannot be prevented by vaccines or cured by medication, and one that does not just disappear.

Cisgender: A person whose sense of personal identity and gender corresponds with his or her birth sex.

Climacturia: Urination during orgasm. It is a relatively common side

effect of radical prostatectomy, occurring in 22% to 43% of men after prostatectomy.

Cock ring: A penile vasoconstrictive device, often made of rubber and worn at the base of the penis, to increase rigidity and duration of penile erection.

Cohort study: A study design in which one or more groups of people (called *cohorts*) are followed prospectively and evaluated at subsequent times for a disease or outcome. The study is conducted to identify which risk factors are associated with a disease.

Coitus: Penis-vagina sexual intercourse.

Comorbidity: The simultaneous presence of two or more chronic diseases or conditions (e.g., HIV and prostate cancer) in a patient.

Controlled study: A study in which one group of people (e.g., GBM prostate cancer survivors) is compared with another group (e.g., heterosexual prostate cancer survivors) to identify differences in variables of interest (e.g., urinary function) between the groups.

Couplehood: A term used in research to describe two persons or a dyad who identify as a couple or as being in some form of a long-term relationship.

Couple's disease: A description of prostate cancer that emphasizes how the sexual and other effects of treatment have an influence on both partners in a relationship.

Cowper's glands: A pair of small pea-

shaped glands located beneath the prostate that open into the urethra at the base of the penis. They secrete pre-ejaculate and add to ejaculate.

Da Vinci robot: A robotic surgical system, approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2000, designed to facilitate complex surgery, including radical prostatectomy, using a minimally invasive approach.

Decisional (or treatment) regret: Distress or remorse about an earlier health-care decision.

Depend: A popular brand of disposable diapers or underwear containing absorbent material that is used by persons with incontinence.

Diagnosis: The process of identifying a disease, condition, or injury from its signs and symptoms.

Digital rectal exam (DRE): An examination in which a health provider inserts a lubricated, gloved finger into the rectum to feel for abnormalities.

Discrimination: Unjust or prejudicial acts against a person or group on the grounds of an actual or perceived characteristic. In social science research, it is one of two types of stigma. See also **Stigma**.

Ejaculation: The release of semen through the penis during orgasm.

Epidemiology: The study of the prevalence, distribution, and possible control of disease and other factors relating to health at the community or population level.

Erectile dysfunction (ED): An inability to achieve and sustain erection of

the penis sufficient for completion of sexual activity. In prostate cancer research, ED has been operationalized, historically, as an erection of the penis adequate for coital sexual intercourse. Also called **Impotence**.

Eunuch: A man who does not have functioning gonads. In prostate cancer treatment, there are two common treatments that result in this condition: surgical castration, in which the testicles are removed, and chemical castration, in which the production of androgen is suppressed. See also **Androgen deprivation therapy**.

Finasteride: Sold under the brand names Proscar and Propecia, among others, finasteride is a medication used for the treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia (enlarged prostate).

Function: One of two scales commonly used in prostate cancer research to estimate the effect of the frequency of sexual, urinary, bowel, and hormonal difficulties on quality of life. See also **Bother** and **Health-related quality of life**.

Gay: *Adjective:* Referring to sexual interest in or activity with the same gender, most commonly used to describe interest or activity between two men. *Noun:* Someone who is romantically attracted to or sexually oriented toward the same gender. *Identity label:* Someone who identifies as sexually oriented toward the same gender.

Gay and bisexual men (GBM): An umbrella term to cover the population of cisgender and transgender

men who are attracted to or sexually active (or both) with other men, including those who identify as gay or bisexual and those who have these attractions or behavior but do not identify as such.

Gay community: See **Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI)**.

Gay couple: An ongoing sexual or romantic relationship involving two men, implying a commitment to each other. Also termed a *male couple* or a *same-sex male couple*.

Gay pride: 1. A sense of dignity and satisfaction in connection with the public acknowledgment of one's own homosexuality. 2. An annual celebration by the LGBT community, usually held in June (in the Northern Hemisphere), to commemorate Stonewall, a series of violent demonstrations against a police raid from June 28 to July 1, 1969, at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City. The demonstrations mark the birth of the modern LGBT community.

Gender and sexual minorities (GSM): A social science, legal, and policy umbrella term that identifies LGBT persons as a minority population with challenges and concerns similar to those of other racial, ethnic, and indigenous populations. See also **Gender minority** and **Sexual-minority men**.

Gender minority: An umbrella term for anyone who transcends traditional concepts of gender as binary (male-

female) and does not identify with the gender assigned at birth. Sometimes it is used as analogous to *transgender* and sometimes more broadly to include anyone who may transcend or transgress gender roles.

Gender-reassignment surgery: The surgical procedure(s) by which transgender persons' physical appearance and the function of their existing sexual characteristics are altered to resemble their identified gender. It is part of the treatment for gender dysphoria (and also for intersex conditions). Also known as *gender-reassignment surgery*, *genital-reconstruction surgery*, *gender-confirmation surgery*, or *sex-realignment surgery*. For transgender women, it may involve feminizing genitoplasty, penectomy, orchidectomy, and vaginoplasty (none of which typically includes the removal of the prostate).

Gleason score: A grading of prostate cancer tissue on the basis of how it looks under a microscope. Gleason scores range from 2 to 10 and indicate how likely it is that a tumor will spread. A low Gleason score means the cancer tissue is similar to normal prostate tissue and the tumor is less likely to spread; a high Gleason score means the cancer tissue is very different from normal tissue and the tumor is more likely to spread.

Grounded theory: A method used in qualitative research involving the construction of theory through systematic analysis of data.

Gynecomastia: The swelling of the breast tissues in boys or men, caused by

an imbalance of the hormones estrogen and testosterone, sometimes a side effect in hormonal treatment for prostate cancer.

Health disparities: A public health term to describe demographic differences in health outcomes. Often used to denote differences by race or ethnicity, the term also denotes differences by sex, sexual identity, age, disability, socioeconomic status, and geography. In 2016 the U.S. National Institutes of Health formally included **Gender and sexual minorities** as part of health disparities research.

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA): HIPAA is a law in the United States governing privacy standards to protect patients' medical records and other health information.

Health-related quality of life (HRQOL): The overall enjoyment of life. Many research studies assess the effects of prostate cancer and its treatment on the quality of life. The measures used in prostate cancer research typically assess the ability to carry out activities (termed **Function**) and the difficulty, pain, or challenge in doing so (termed **Bother**).

Hegemonic: *Adjective:* A social science term to denote social, cultural, ideological, or economic influence (or a combination) exerted by a dominant group. In this context, it describes how heterosexual society influences gender and sexuality norms.

Heterocentrism: A heterosexual bias or focus that may result in the discrim-

ination, exclusion, marginalization, or neglect of LGBT persons.

Heteronormativity: The belief that people fall into distinct and complementary genders (male and female) with natural roles in life, and that this is both normal and desirable.

Heterosexism: A system of attitudes, biases, and discrimination that favors opposite-sex sexuality and relationships. It includes the presumption that other people are (or should be) heterosexual.

Heterosexual: *Adjective:* Descriptor of opposite-sex-oriented sexual attraction and behavior in humans or other species used in clinical, research, legal, and other professional communication. *Identity label:* Someone who identifies as romantically or sexually oriented toward the other gender. Also known colloquially as *straight*.

HIV/AIDS: Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) comprise a spectrum of conditions caused by infection with HIV. HIV/AIDS is endemic in GBM communities and in recent decades has been the leading cause of death of GBM.

HIV-positive: Having had a positive result in a blood test for the virus HIV.

Homosexual: *Adjective:* Descriptor of same-sex sexual behavior or attractions in humans or other species used in clinical, research, legal, and other professional communication. *Identity label:* Used historically as

an identity label but now dated. Currently used to identify same-sex sexually oriented individuals to pathologize, criminalize, politicize, or denigrate them.

Hormone therapy: Treatment that adds, blocks, or removes hormones. To slow or stop the growth of prostate cancer, synthetic hormones or other drugs may be given to block the body's natural hormones. Also called *endocrine therapy* and *hormonal therapy*.

Illness Intrusiveness Theoretical

Framework (IITF): The study of how chronic life-threatening health conditions disrupt or compromise quality of life.

Immunodeficiency: A weakening of a body's ability to fight infections and diseases. It is either congenital (i.e., present at birth) or acquired (e.g., through infection with HIV).

Impotence: A synonym for **Erectile dysfunction**.

Incidence: A measure in epidemiology of the number of new cases during some time period, often expressed as a percentage rate within a population.

Inclusion/exclusion criteria: Criteria used in research studies to identify who is eligible (inclusion) or not eligible (exclusion) to participate in a study.

Insertive partner: In the context of gay male sex, the man or transgender woman who places the penis into another person's anus, mouth, or vagina.

Interdependence theory: A social exchange theory that examines how the rewards and costs of interpersonal relationships influence human interactions.

Internalized homonegativity: Negative attitudes (e.g., shame, guilt) that gay men have toward their own and others' gay sexual orientation. In colloquial language, it is sometimes still called *internalized homophobia* (but this term is now considered inaccurate because it does not resemble a clinical phobia or pathology).

Intracavernosal injection: An injection into the base of the penis often used to treat erectile dysfunction in men. See also **Caverject injection**.

Kegels: Exercises performed to strengthen the pelvic floor muscles, developed originally for women recovering from childbirth, but used also to combat urinary incontinence. See also **Pelvic floor rehabilitation**.

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI): The LGBT community, also referred to as the gay community, is loosely defined groups of lesbian (L), gay (G), bisexual (B), and transgender (T) persons — to which queer-identified or questioning (Q) and intersex (I) are added. LGBT-supportive people or allies (A) are sometimes also added: organizations, businesses, and subcultures united by a common culture and social movements.

Libido: The sexual urge, desire, instinct, or drive.

Liminality: A transitional or initial stage of a process.

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI): A procedure in which radio waves and a powerful magnet linked to a computer are used to create detailed pictures of areas inside the body, including the prostate. In preparation for prostate cancer biopsies, it can be used to better detect likely areas of cancer.

Marginalization: Treatment of a person, group, or concept as insignificant or peripheral.

Minority stress theory: The theory that racial, sexual, gender, and other minorities experience chronic high levels of stress through the experience of discrimination, microaggression, marginalization, and other stigma. Minority stress has been put forward as an explanation for higher rates of psychological distress in LGBTQI populations.

MyChart: An electronic medical record software that stores medical data electronically and allows both health professionals and patients to access the record remotely. It includes such features as appointment reminders, graphs of medical data, and the ability for providers and patients to e-mail each other within a secure system that complies with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Observational study: A type of study in which individuals are observed or certain outcomes are measured (e.g., a survey or interviews). Unlike

clinical trials, which may test a treatment, no attempt is made to affect the outcome.

Oncology: A branch of medicine that specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. It includes medical oncology (the use of chemotherapy, hormone therapy, and other drugs to treat cancer), radiation oncology (the use of radiation therapy to treat cancer), surgical oncology (the use of surgery and other procedures to treat cancer), and psycho-oncology (focusing on psychosocial aspects of living with cancer or cancer survivorship).

Oral sex: Sexual activity using the mouth. In the context of gay male sex, oral sex typically involves mouth-on-penis (fellatio), but it can also include mouth-on-testicles (tea-bagging) and mouth-on-anus (anilingus).

Orchidectomy: Surgery to remove one or both testicles. Also called *orchiectomy*.

Orgasm: The climax of sexual excitement, characterized by intensely pleasurable feelings usually centered in the genitals. Orgasm is a central nervous system activity resulting in feelings usually of pleasure that are distinct from ejaculation (the physiologic production of seminal or other fluid). See also **Sexual response cycle**.

Outness: The quality or state of being out, originally focused on sexual orientation, but which can also be applied to how public or private a person is about having a disease, such as HIV or prostate cancer.

Ovariectomy: Surgery to remove the ovaries.

Pelvic floor rehabilitation: A series of exercises to strengthen the muscular base of the abdomen, used in prostate cancer treatment primarily to treat urinary incontinence.

Penile implant: A firm rod or inflatable device that is placed in the penis during a surgical procedure. The implant makes it possible to have and keep an erection. Penile implants are used to treat erectile dysfunction, or impotence.

Phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitor (PDE5i) drugs: A class of erectile-enhancing medications used to treat erectile dysfunction. They work by increasing blood flow to the penis, causing an erection. Common PDE5 inhibitors recommended for the treatment of erectile dysfunction include sildenafil (Viagra), tadalafil (Cialis), and vardenafil (Levitra).

Potency: The ability to achieve an erection or to reach orgasm.

Prevalence: A count, used in epidemiology, of the total number of individuals with a condition. Common prevalence measures include lifetime prevalence (e.g., the number of men who will be diagnosed with prostate cancer over their lifetime), period prevalence (e.g., the number of men sexually active with men during the last five years), and point prevalence (e.g., the number with a condition at a specific time).

Prostate: A gland in the male reproductive system. The prostate surrounds the part of the urethra (the tube that empties the bladder) just below the

bladder and in front of the rectum, and produces a fluid that forms part of the semen.

Prostate cancer: Cancer that forms in tissues of the prostate. Prostate cancer usually occurs in older men.

Prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test: A laboratory test that measures the amount of prostate-specific antigen (PSA) in the blood. PSA is a protein made by the prostate gland. The amount of PSA is typically higher in men who have prostate cancer, benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), or infection or inflammation of the prostate.

Prosthesis: A device, such as an artificial leg, that replaces a part of the body. In prostate cancer, an alternative term for **Penile implant**.

Quality of life (QoL): See **Health-related quality of life (HRQOL)**.

Queer: Sexual or gender identity that does not correspond to established ideas of sexuality and gender, especially heterosexual norms.

Queer theory: An approach to social and cultural studies that seeks to challenge or deconstruct traditional ideas of sexuality and gender that appear based in **heteronormativity**.

Radiation therapy: The treatment of cancer or other diseases using X-rays or other forms of radiation.

Radical prostatectomy: Surgery to remove the entire prostate and some of the tissue around it. Nearby lymph nodes may also be removed.

Receptive partner: In the context of gay male sex, the man or transgender woman who has a penis or other object inserted into the anus, mouth, or vagina.

Rehabilitation: A medical term to describe the process of restoring to health through training and therapy. In prostate cancer, it denotes training and therapy to address the common sexual, urinary, bowel, and hormonal effects of treatment.

Relationality: The state of being in relationship or considered in relation to another.

Role-in-sex: In same-sex relationships, the pattern or preference to be the insertive partner (see **Top**), receptive partner (see **Bottom**), or to be in both roles (see **Versatile**). It is distinct from sex roles, which are defined as roles or behavioral patterns learned by a person as appropriate to his or her gender and typically determined by prevailing cultural norms.

Saturation: A term used in qualitative research to describe the point at which collecting more data will not yield more information on the research question(s). It is frequently used to describe the number of persons who need to be interviewed to sufficiently investigate a research question.

Seeds: Radioactive seed implants are a form of radiation therapy for prostate cancer. Also known as **brachytherapy** or *internal radiation therapy*. A doctor implants 40 to 100 seeds into the prostate gland, using ultrasound for guidance.

Semen: The fluid that is released through the penis during orgasm. Semen is made up of sperm from the testicles and fluid from the prostate and other sex glands. Colloquially known as *cum*.

Semen exchange or "gifting": Playing with ejaculate in some deliberate way, for example, licking it off a body, transferring it through kissing, or otherwise giving it from one person to another.

Serum: The clear liquid part of the blood that remains after blood cells and clotting proteins have been removed.

Sex roles: The roles persons learn as appropriate to their gender, as determined by prevailing cultural norms.

Sexual disqualification: The experience of no longer being considered, or not considering oneself, a sexual person.

Sexual dysfunction: An umbrella term covering any difficulty in performing sex across the sexual response cycle. It includes difficulties in sexual interest (libido), arousal (e.g., difficulties getting or sustaining erections, or pain in receptive sex), and orgasm (e.g., anorgasmia or pain during orgasm).

Sexual health: A state of physical, mental, and social well-being in relation to sexuality. It requires a positive and respectful approach to sexuality and sexual relationships, as well as the possibility of having pleasurable and safe sexual experiences that are free of coercion, discrimination, and violence (World Health Organization definition). See also **Sexual well-being**.

Sexually transmitted infection (STI): An infection passed from one person to another or others through sexual contact, such as oral, vaginal, or anal sex (e.g., syphilis, gonorrhea). Older terms for STI include *sexual transmitted disease (STD)* and *venereal disease (VD)*.

Sexual-minority men: Men whose sexual identity, orientation, or practices are different from those of the majority (i.e., exclusively heterosexual men). The term is used primarily to refer to the LGBT population but also includes persons who engage in sex with men, but may not identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. In demography research, *gender and sexual minority* is becoming the preferred term; it denotes the population of persons whose gender identity or sexual identity, orientation, or practice is different from the majority's. The term *gender and sexually diverse persons* is also sometimes used.

Sexual mode: An Australian term for **Role-in-sex**.

Sexual orientation: An enduring pattern of romantic or sexual attraction to persons of the opposite gender (heterosexual), the same gender (homosexual, gay, or lesbian), or both or more than one gender (bisexual).

Sexual response cycle: A physiological model describing human sexual behavior across distinct phases of sexual expression, from desire to arousal and excitement, to plateau, then to orgasm and resolution.

Sexual subcultures: Subgroups of people, often with distinct sexual beliefs or interests. As used in this text, gay sexual subcultures might include such groups as leather men, the bear community (hairy men), the polygamous community (multiple sex partners), S&M (giving and receiving pain during sex), and party and play (sex with party drugs).

Sexual well-being: The state of being comfortable, healthy, or happy with one's sexuality and sexual life. The term *well-being* is sometimes used to reflect a broader meaning not narrowly defined by physical health or functioning; it is often used by clinicians working with patients diagnosed with chronic disease.

Shared decision-making (SDM) model: A structured approach to patient-centered care whereby clinicians and patients work together to make decisions that balance risks and expected outcomes with patient preferences and values. In the United States, prostate cancer treatment is one of six conditions for which SDM is recommended.

Spatiality: Any property relating to or occupying space.

Stigma: Something with a significant negative association attached to it. Social science distinguishes at least two types of stigma: enacted stigma (e.g., experience of **Discrimination**) and felt stigma (e.g., **Internalized homonegativity**).

Surveillance: A public health term for

the ongoing systematic collection, recording, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of data that reflect the current health status of a community or population.

Survivorship: In cancer research, survivorship focuses on the health and life of a person with cancer after treatment and extending until the end of life. It covers the physical, psychosocial, and economic issues of cancer beyond the diagnosis and treatment phases. Survivorship includes issues related to the ability to get healthcare and follow-up treatment, late effects of treatment, second cancers, and quality of life. Family members, friends, and caregivers are also considered part of the survivorship experience.

Temporality: The state of existing within, or having some relationship with, time.

Tenesmus: Cramping rectal pain. Tenesmus makes a person feel that he needs to have a bowel movement, even if he just had one.

Top: *Verb:* To engage in oral, vaginal, or anal sex as the insertive partner. *Identity label:* Someone who identifies as the insertive partner (typically in anal sex).

Transgender: A person whose personal identity and gender do not correspond with the sex assigned at birth. It is also an umbrella term for anyone whose gender identity is not exclusively male or female. Colloquially the term *trans* is commonly used.

Transgender woman (TGW): A person who was assigned male at birth because of being born with male genitals (and with a prostate) who now identifies as a woman and who may have had gender-reassignment surgery.

Transsexual: A term historically used to describe transgender individuals.

Tumor-nodes-metastasis (TNM): A grading system used in prostate cancer treatment. It describes a tumor on the basis of how abnormal the cancer cells and tissue look under a microscope and how quickly the cancer cells are likely to grow and spread. Also called *tumor grade* and *histologic grade*.

Urinary incontinence: Inability to hold urine in the bladder, a lack of voluntary control over urination.

Urinary leakage during sex: A common symptom following prostate cancer treatment whereby a man who cannot sufficiently tighten the muscles that close off the urethra releases urine at some time during sex or at orgasm. See also **Climacturia**.

Urology: The surgical specialty that deals with the treatment of conditions

involving the male and female urinary tract and the male reproductive organs (including prostate cancer).

Vacuum pump (vacuum erection device): A pump consisting of a plastic tube, which fits over the penis and creates a vacuum to help the penis become erect, and a tight band (or constriction ring) to maintain the erection.

Versatile: *Adjective:* Engaging in oral, anal, or vaginal sex as both the insertive and receptive partner. *Identity label:* Someone who identifies as preferring to be both the insertive and receptive partner or having no preference (typically when referring to anal sex between two men).

Viagra: See **Phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitor (PDE5i) drugs**.

Watchful waiting: Closely watching a patient's medical condition but not giving treatment unless symptoms appear or change. Watchful waiting is sometimes used in conditions that progress slowly. It is also used in advanced cancer patients when the risks of treatment are greater than the possible benefits. See also **Active surveillance**.