

## CHAPTER 6

# The Social Dimensions of Prostate Cancer in Gay Men's Sexuality

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### CHAPTER SUMMARY

Much of the research on men and prostate cancer has neglected gay and bisexual men. Assumptions are made that gay men are men too, so they must have the same experiences as heterosexual men. Recent research, however, has shown marked differences between gay and bisexual men and heterosexual men in diagnosis, treatment, care, and support. This chapter considers the recent research that is beginning to understand gay men's different experiences of prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment, arguing that a focus on the social dimensions of gay men's sexuality is needed. Three issues are explored: gay sex and sexuality, gay relationships and gay community, and HIV infection.

### KEY TERMS

gay community, gay men, gay relationships, HIV infection, sex, sex-based sociality, sexuality

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