# New SYNC-T treatment offers breakthrough hope for advanced prostate cancer patients including Joe Biden



A groundbreaking cancer treatment hailed as a 'holy grail' is offering new hope to patients previously thought to have only months to live. This innovative technique emerges from a recent study conducted in California, which involved 15 men suffering from late-stage prostate cancer, a condition that notably affects former President Joe Biden.

During the study, participants received a novel therapy involving injections of liquid nitrogen to freeze tumours, followed by a powerful combination of immunotherapy drugs designed to mobilise the immune system against the cancer. Remarkably, 53 percent of the patients—eight men—showed no signs of cancer following treatment. Additionally, five experienced significant tumour shrinkage, while two saw their disease stabilise. None of the patients experienced further cancer progression, a notable achievement given that these individuals were already gravely ill; 13 had cancers that had spread to their bones and failed to respond to standard treatments.

In the context of stage four prostate cancer, where the median survival rate hovers around two to three years, these findings are particularly striking. The study revealed that nine out of ten participants remained alive after 14 months, suggesting that the new therapy may significantly extend patient survival times even in severe cases. Dr. Jason Williams, the scientist behind this pioneering study, expressed his optimism regarding these results. He indicated that should healthier patients receive this treatment earlier in their disease progression, outcomes could be even more favourable. “These results were really good, even for patients who were metastatic, heavily treated, and had failed all other immunotherapies,” he remarked.

This innovative treatment, known as SYNC-T, works by first freezing part of a tumour to destroy some cancer cells and provoke an immune response, before introducing a cocktail of four immunotherapy drugs directly into the tumour to enhance the immune attack on the cancer cells. According to scientists, this method helps the immune system recognise and eliminate cancer cells throughout the body, not just in the treated tumour area. The study was unveiled at the ASCO 2025 conference in Chicago, prompting enthusiastic reactions from those in attendance.

While the excitement surrounding this treatment is palpable, the implications extend further when contextualised within the broader landscape of cancer care that President Biden's administration has been championing. The Biden Cancer Moonshot initiative, relaunched in 2022, aims to reduce cancer death rates by at least 50% over the next 25 years, particularly focusing on improving survival rates among high-risk populations. This initiative acknowledges the staggering statistics surrounding prostate cancer, which annually affects approximately 236,000 men in the United States and results in over 35,000 deaths.

In May 2025, President Biden disclosed his battle with an aggressive form of prostate cancer that has metastasised to his bones, underscoring the relevance of this new research. His diagnosis had been cloaked in concern given his advanced age of 82, alongside existing public scrutiny regarding his health. Despite these challenges, Biden has maintained a positive outlook, expressing confidence in overcoming this significant health hurdle. Dr. Williams mentioned that Biden's medical team is aware of this treatment, adding, “Hopefully, they can make a decision, because he clearly has advanced prostate cancer, and this is an advanced treatment option.”

Biden’s administration has been proactive in addressing health disparities, particularly within underserved communities, including efforts to ensure better diagnostic tools and treatment accessibility. This commitment is vital, especially as health disparities in cancer treatment can lead to delayed diagnoses, particularly among Black and Hispanic men. Critics have voiced concerns regarding Biden's health and age in relation to his leadership abilities; however, advancements like the SYNC-T therapy provide a glimmer of hope that innovative treatments may change the prognosis for many patients facing dire health situations.

The study's findings not only open doors for future treatment avenues but also highlight an urgent need to advance cancer research. Importantly, with ongoing advancements being made, experts encourage the adoption of innovative methods such as direct tumour injections rather than traditional systemic therapies that may offer limited effectiveness. Such steps may serve as a catalyst for a new era of cancer treatment.

As society grapples with the complexities surrounding cancer, particularly in high-profile individuals like Biden, there lies a necessary recognition of the importance of innovative research, health equity, and rapid advances in cancer treatment modalities. In doing so, patients might not only see extended survival, but could also experience enhanced quality of life, a crucial component of any successful treatment approach.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-14770743/prostate-cancer-joe-biden-treatment.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[7]](https://www.reuters.com/world/us/former-us-president-biden-diagnosed-with-prostate-cancer-his-office-says-2025-05-18/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-14770743/prostate-cancer-joe-biden-treatment.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2025/01/15/fact-sheet-marking-historic-progress-the-biden-cancer-moonshot-convenes-mission-report-and-announces-new-government-and-private-sector-actions-to-accelerate-progress-against-cancer/), [[4]](https://www.whitehouse.gov/cancermoonshot/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/08/30/a-proclamation-on-national-prostate-cancer-awareness-month-2024/), [[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Age_and_health_concerns_about_Joe_Biden)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-14770743/prostate-cancer-joe-biden-treatment.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2025/01/15/fact-sheet-marking-historic-progress-the-biden-cancer-moonshot-convenes-mission-report-and-announces-new-government-and-private-sector-actions-to-accelerate-progress-against-cancer/> - In January 2025, the Biden Cancer Moonshot initiative convened a mission report and announced new actions to accelerate progress against cancer. The initiative aims to cut the cancer death rate by at least 50% over 25 years, with a focus on addressing health disparities and supporting underserved communities. New commitments include expanding diagnostic platforms and launching initiatives to increase prostate cancer survival rates among high-risk populations. The initiative also plans to implement solutions in underserved communities to reduce late-stage diagnoses, especially among Black men and veterans.
3. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/08/30/a-proclamation-on-national-prostate-cancer-awareness-month-2024/> - In August 2024, President Biden proclaimed September as National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. The proclamation highlighted the impact of prostate cancer, noting that nearly 300,000 American men are diagnosed annually, with over 35,000 deaths, making it the second leading cause of cancer death for men. The initiative aims to increase awareness, improve treatment options, and support those affected by the disease, with a particular focus on addressing health disparities among Black and Hispanic men.
4. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/cancermoonshot/> - The Cancer Moonshot is a Biden administration initiative aimed at accelerating cancer research and improving patient outcomes. The initiative focuses on increasing access to cancer care, supporting patients and caregivers, and addressing health disparities. It includes commitments from insurance companies to reimburse for navigation services and actions from cancer centers to bring support to more communities. The initiative also emphasizes the importance of cancer navigation services in improving patient outcomes and advancing health equity.
5. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Original_Sin_(Tapper_and_Thompson_book)> - Original Sin: President Biden's Decline, Its Cover-up, and His Disastrous Choice to Run Again is a 2025 non-fiction book by journalists Jake Tapper and Alex Thompson. The book details claims of a cover-up regarding President Biden's health decline during his term and his re-election campaign, leading up to the 2024 presidential election. It explores the implications of these actions and the decision for Biden to run for a second term despite health concerns.
6. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Age_and_health_concerns_about_Joe_Biden> - This Wikipedia article discusses the age and health concerns surrounding Joe Biden, particularly during his presidency. It covers topics such as his cognitive health, public perception of his mental acuity, and the impact of these concerns on his 2024 re-election campaign. The article also touches on the broader implications of age and health in political leadership and public perception.
7. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/former-us-president-biden-diagnosed-with-prostate-cancer-his-office-says-2025-05-18/> - In May 2025, former U.S. President Joe Biden, 82, was diagnosed with an aggressive form of prostate cancer that had metastasized to his bones, placing it at Stage 4. The diagnosis came after he exhibited urinary symptoms. Despite the severity, his office noted the cancer appears hormone-sensitive, making it more manageable with current treatments. The cancer scored a high 9 out of 10 on the Gleason scale, indicating its aggressiveness. Biden, who lost his son Beau to brain cancer in 2015, has been a vocal advocate for cancer research, relaunching the Cancer Moonshot initiative in 2022. Messages of support poured in from both Democrats and Republicans, including former President Donald Trump. Biden’s health had been under scrutiny throughout his presidency (2021-2025), and he exited the 2024 election race following concerns about his age and performance in debates. He has led a relatively private life since leaving office, occasionally defending his record publicly. Medical experts noted that while metastatic prostate cancer isn't curable, many patients can live for several years with appropriate treatment due to recent advancements.