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In addition to the most well known risk factors for prostate cancer – age, ethnicity and family history – accumulating evidence is pointing to a role of chronic inflammation in the development of prostate cancer. *Cutibacterium acnes* (C. acnes), bacteria commonly associated with acne vulgaris and also frequently found in the prostate, have been proposed as a possible cause of carcinogenic prostatic inflammation. Exposures during the development and maturation of the prostate have further been suggested to influence the risk of prostate cancer. The aim of this thesis was therefore to investigate possible biological mechanisms underlying the proposed association between inflammation and prostate cancer, by observational studies of early adulthood inflammatory conditions – including acne – circulating inflammation markers and prostate cancer risk.