

EXPAND ACCESS TO BIOMARKER TESTING IN MINNESOTA

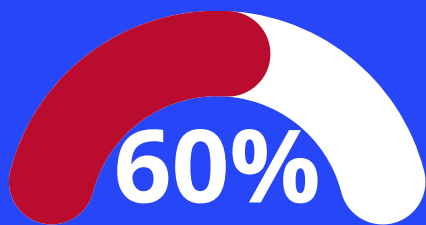
The right treatment at the right time.

WHAT IS BIOMARKER TESTING?

Biomarker testing is often used to help determine the best treatment for a patient.

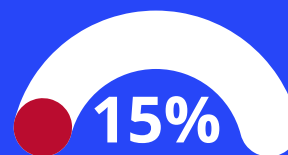
- It is the analysis of a patient's tissue, blood, or biospecimen for the presence of a biomarker.
- Biomarker testing is an important step for accessing **precision medicine**, including targeted therapies that can lead to improved survivorship and better quality of life for patients.
- While most current applications of biomarker testing are in oncology and autoimmune disease, there is research underway to benefit patients with other conditions including **heart disease, neurological conditions like Alzheimer's disease, infectious disease and respiratory illness.**

THE IMPORTANCE OF BIOMARKER TESTING IN ONCOLOGY

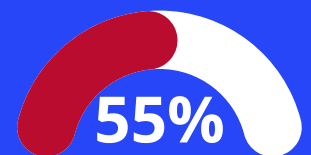


of oncology drugs launched in the past five years require or recommend biomarker testing prior to use

In 2000:



In 2018:



of cancer clinical trials involved biomarkers

BIOMARKER TESTING & HEALTH EQUITY

Not all communities in Minnesota are benefitting from the latest advancements in biomarker testing and precision medicine.

- Patients who are older, Black, uninsured, or Medicaid-insured, are less likely to be tested for certain guideline-indicated biomarkers for colorectal cancer.
- There are lower rates of testing in community oncology settings versus academic medical centers.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Access to appropriate biomarker testing can help to achieve:

- better health outcomes
- improved quality of life
- reduced health care costs by identifying which treatments can be most effective for an individual patient.

Insurance coverage for biomarker testing is failing to keep pace with innovation and advancement in treatment.

- Without action, this could increase existing disparities in outcomes by race, ethnicity, income, and geography.
- Insurers should play by the same rules and keep up with the science so that patients get the testing they need to get the right treatment at the right time.

Arizona, Illinois, Louisiana and Rhode Island have recently passed legislation to expand coverage of comprehensive biomarker testing.

A PATIENT PERSPECTIVE

“IN 2017, I WAS DIAGNOSED WITH STAGE 1 LUNG CANCER. I WAS WORKING TWO JOBS AT THE TIME AND AFTER FEELING OFF FOR A WHILE, I WENT TO THE DOCTOR AND WAS EVENTUALLY DIAGNOSED. I HAD SURGERY AND WAS CONSIDERED CANCER-FREE, BUT A YEAR LATER, THE CANCER WAS BACK IN STAGE 4 AND I WAS GIVEN 9 MONTHS TO LIVE. THANKFULLY, I HAD BIOMARKER TESTING DONE THAT LED MY DOCTOR TO THE TREATMENT I HAVE NOW BEEN ON FOR 4 AND A HALF YEARS. I WOULDN'T BE ALIVE WITHOUT BIOMARKER TESTING.”



Cindy Nelson, Isanti

SUPPORTERS OF SF 1948 (SEEBERGER)/ HF 1978 (REYER)



✉ emily.myatt@cancer.org

☎ 608-295-5985

For more information please contact: Emily Myatt, ACS CAN Minnesota Government Relations Director