# **BIOMARKER TESTING**

THE RIGHT TREATMENT FOR THE RIGHT PATIENT AT THE RIGHT TIME



#### WHAT IS BIOMARKER TESTING?

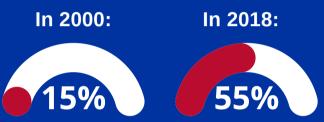
Biomarker testing is often used to help determine the best treatment for a patient.

- Biomarker testing is the analysis of a patient's tissue, blood, or other 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 cancer 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 diseases, and respiratory illness.

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF BIOMARKER TESTING



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



of cancer clinical trials involved biomarkers

### **BIOMARKER TESTING & HEALTH EQUITY**

Not all Texas communities 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 costs

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

 Without action, this could increase existing disparities in cancer outcomes by race, ethnicity, income, and geography.



of oncology providers reported that insurance coverage is a significant or moderate barrier to appropriate biomarker testing for their patients

# PLEASE SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO BIOMARKER TESTING IN TEXAS

### SUPPORTERS OF BIOMARKER TESTING LEGISLATION













Build a bridge, save a life.

























For questions or to join the coalition please contact: James Gray, ACS CAN Texas Sr. Government Relations Director

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fightcancer.org/TXBiomarkers