

# EXPAND ACCESS TO BIOMARKER TESTING IN OHIO

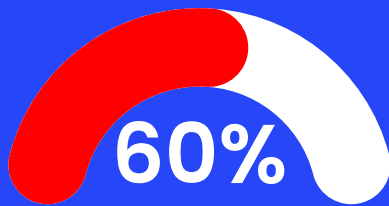
THE RIGHT TREATMENT AT THE RIGHT TIME

## WHAT IS BIOMARKER TESTING?

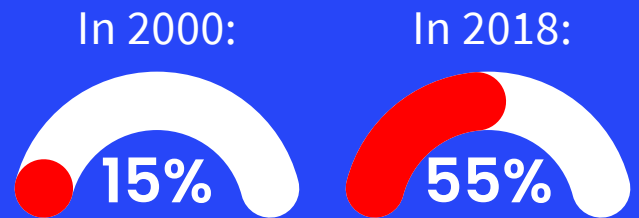
**Biomarker testing is often used to help determine the best treatment for a patient.**

- It is the analysis of a patient's tissue, blood, or 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 there are current applications for autoimmune and rare diseases as well. There is research underway to benefit patients with other conditions including heart disease, infectious diseases, respiratory diseases and neurological conditions, including Alzheimer's disease.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF BIOMARKER TESTING



Of oncology drugs launched in the past five years require or recommend biomarker testing prior to use <sup>1</sup>



Of cancer clinical trials involved biomarkers <sup>2</sup>

## BIOMARKER TESTING & HEALTH EQUITY

- **Not all communities in Ohio 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.
  - People in rural communities and those receiving care in nonacademic medical centers are less likely to benefit from biomarker testing.

## THE BOTTOM LINE

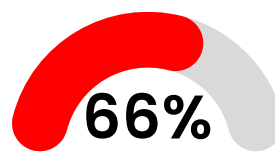
**Access to appropriate biomarker testing can help to achieve:**

- 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:**

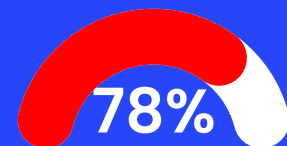
- Without action, this could increase existing disparities in health outcomes by race, ethnicity, income and geography.

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



Of oncology providers reported that insurance coverage is a **significant or moderate barrier** to appropriate biomarker testing for their patients. <sup>3</sup>

**In Ohio:**



Of commercial insurance plans provide coverage that is more restrictive than National Comprehensive Cancer Network guidelines <sup>4</sup>

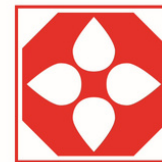
# BENEFITS OF BIOMARKER TESTING FOR OHIO PATIENTS

"I am a Research Scientist in Cancer Survivorship and Supportive Services. I am also a two-time Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) survivor. After 22 years, my AML relapsed. The day I was diagnosed we conducted biomarker testing on my cancer to help us understand what the best treatment would be. Luckily, we learned that because of my biomarkers a bone marrow transplant was not necessary. This was a blessing because of all the complications that come along with a bone marrow transplant and how risky the procedure is. I was then given a targeted therapy. This therapy targeted the specific biomarkers of my cancer and would attach to those cells and kill them throughout my body. This therapy saved my life. Biomarker testing saved me from having to do an expensive and risky bone marrow transplant."



**Alique Topalian, Cincinnati**

## SUPPORTERS OF OHIO BIOMARKER TESTING LEGISLATION - HB 24



- 1 Global Oncology Trends 2021. IQVIA Institute; June 2021.
- 2 The Evolution of Biomarker Use in Clinical Trials for Cancer Treatments: Key Findings and Implications. Personalized Medicine Coalition, 2019.
- 3 ACS CAN. "Survey Findings Summary: Understanding Provider Utilization of Cancer Biomarker Testing Across Cancers." December 2021.
- 4 Wong WB, Anina D, Lin CW, and Adams D. Alignment of health plan coverage policies for somatic multigene panel testing with clinical guidelines select solid tumors. Per Med 2022; 10.2217/pme-2021-0174.

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