

Advancing Patient Access to NGS for Cancer in APAC

Key considerations and a value assessment framework

Clinical outcomes for cancer in APAC still lag behind the West, with estimated mortality-to-incidence ratio (MIR) of...

APAC
(0.52) (MIR)

Western and Northern EU, and USA
(0.32) (MIR)

Innovative technologies like Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) are invaluable tools to address societal and economic burden of cancer in APAC

KEY BARRIERS TO NGS ACCESS ACROSS THE APAC REGION



Policy Barriers

- Lack of full NGS inclusion into national strategies
- Lack of coherence across regulatory, reimbursement and clinical implementation policies
- Lack of investment into NGS testing and data infrastructure



Clinical Barriers

- Lack of HCP awareness or education
- Lack of local clinical guidelines for NGS



Reimbursement/HTA-related Barriers

- Insufficient and siloed funding across different tests/cancers
- Conventional value assessment frameworks do not appreciate the full potential of NGS

APACMED PROPOSES 6 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS to address these barriers and advance patient access to NGS for cancer in APAC

Include NGS for tumor profiling in national strategies / programs

Ensure linkage between regulatory, reimbursement and clinical implementation policies for local and overseas testing

Promote digital technologies and decision tools to drive multi-disciplinary collaboration and workforce efficiency

Develop national genomics infrastructure to enable local evidence generation on NGS benefits

Invest in NGS-based trials to increase access to matched therapies in the short term and support local evidence generation

Establish a Value Assessment Framework (VAF) that recognizes the full value of NGS tumor testing

APACMed proposes a fit-for-purpose VAF to capture the full value of NGS across the entire healthcare ecosystem



CALL FOR ACTION

We encourage all healthcare ecosystem stakeholders to collaborate and enable NGS access across a broader spectrum of cancer patients and cancer types



Policymakers

Implement a VAF to recognize the full value of NGS to both in-territory and overseas NGS testing, catalyzing its consideration and its inclusion in the downstream national healthcare policies impacting access

Patient advocacy groups

Advocate for NGS as a priority for full inclusion into national strategy; highlighting its clinical, economical, and societal benefits

Payers

Lead the adaptation and assessment of the VAF for NGS into existing evaluation frameworks

Academics

Reinforce clinical utility of NGS through conducting NGS-based trials and providing expertise in adopting and localizing VAF

Providers

Support the digitisation of existing NGS capabilities and collaborate with other provider groups to establish national level networks

Industry

Enable short-term access measures for NGS and matched therapies, and serve as a trusted knowledge partner to all stakeholders in the healthcare ecosystem

Clinicians and pathologists

Develop local clinical guidelines for NGS and promote impact of genomic information on patient outcomes



The Asia Pacific Medical Technology Association (APACMed) represents manufacturers and suppliers of medical equipment, devices and in vitro diagnostics, industry associations, and other key stakeholders associated with the medical technology industry in the Asia Pacific region. APACMed's mission is to improve the standards of care for patients through innovative collaborations among stakeholders to jointly shape the future of healthcare in Asia-Pacific.

To find out more about their work or to get involved, please contact: info@apacmed.org

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