

BETA



Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment - Adaptable Resource Instructions



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Please [share with us](#) your feedback on how to improve this **Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment** and how we can bring it to the next level!

About this tool



WHY should you use this tool?

This Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment - adaptable resource has been co-created to **support patient advocates and patient organizations** in helping patients find the right information and make informed decisions at the right time. Once adapted, this resource can also be shared with the HCP community and become a supporting tool to provide patients during their consultations.

This resource can be used to:

- **Update existing biomarker testing resources**, ensuring that all the crucial elements are covered;
- **Create a new biomarker testing resource** by adapting this backbone resource to the relevant country and disease.

WHAT will you find in this tool?

This is an adaptable resource on Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment which can be tailored to a specific disease and geography. It builds on good resources, aims to reduce the fragmentation of information, and is developed in plain language to improve the level of understandability.

WHO should use this tool?

Patient advocates, patient organizations and other Precision Medicine champions who would like to develop/update a biomarker testing resource for their patient population.

Keep in mind that this resource was not created to cover hereditary mutations.

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How to use the Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment Adaptable Resource

The following steps outline how to use this tool. We recommend following a co-creation approach when using this resource. This involves working collaboratively with different stakeholders (e.g. patient advocates, individual patients, healthcare professionals) to ensure that different perspectives are taken into account.

Step 1: Download and open the Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment Adaptable Resource

From Testing to Targeted Treatments
Biomarker testing for cancer treatment adaptable resource

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- 1. Is biomarker testing part of precision medicine?**
 Biomarker testing is an important part of precision medicine. For cancer treatment, precision medicine means using biomarker testing and other tests to select treatments that are most likely to help you, while sparing you from receiving ineffective treatments.
- 2. What is biomarker testing for cancer treatment?**
 Biomarker testing looks for genes, proteins, or other biological molecules in your blood, bodily fluids, or tissues to help diagnose or identify the type of cancer you have.
- 3. Why are biomarker tests used in oncology?**
 Biomarker tests can be used to:
 - a. Determine whether you are at risk of developing cancer.
 - b. Determine whether you have cancer.
 - c. Determine how aggressive your disease is.
 - d. Predict how your body will respond to a treatment.
 - e. Determine how your disease might progress.
- 4. How is biomarker testing performed?**
 Biomarker testing involves collecting a sample of your cancer cells through surgery, tissue biopsy, or a liquid biopsy.
- 5. What happens after I get tested?**
 Your samples will be sent to a special lab where they will be tested for certain biomarkers. The lab will provide you with a list of the biomarkers in your cancer cells and potentially beneficial treatments.
- 6. Do I have a right to biomarker testing?**
 As a patient you have the right to engage in shared decision-making with your healthcare team when discussing your personalized treatment plan, which may include the use of biomarker testing.
- 7. What questions should I ask my healthcare team before and after biomarker testing?**
 Empower yourself with information by arriving at each appointment with a list of questions to ask your healthcare team.
- 8. How to get additional resources and support**
- 9. Glossary of common biomarker cancer testing terminology**
- 10. Acknowledgment**
 Useful guidance for the adaptation of the resource

Instructions for adaptation:
 Please read the text below, adapt it to your patient population and edit it with your own text. If there is any additional information that should be included for your patient population, include it in the relevant sections.

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE RESOURCE

© Cancer Institute (2021) Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment.

Step 2: Adapt the text

Read the text of each section of the resource, check that the information applies to your patient population and edit it with disease-specific information where needed. If there is any additional information that should be included for your patient population, include it in the relevant sections.

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Step 3: Test & Refine

- It is encouraged to work collaboratively with different stakeholders to ensure that different perspectives are taken into account. For example, you can test the resource with other advocates.
- Ensure that the plain language is appropriate for the target audience, and the language used addresses local, cultural, linguistic, and functional challenges/differences.
- Ensure to recognize the original works that inspired this resource.
- If possible, have a medical professional review the content before finalization.

Step 4: Save your adapted resource as PDF & Download

If you have any additional questions, the FT3 team is here to help: get in touch with silvia@thesynergist.org.

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*To maximize your impact and make your resource widely available, consider uploading it to [Precision Medicine Synapse](#), a mapping and networking tool to reduce duplication, and increase opportunities for collaborations.

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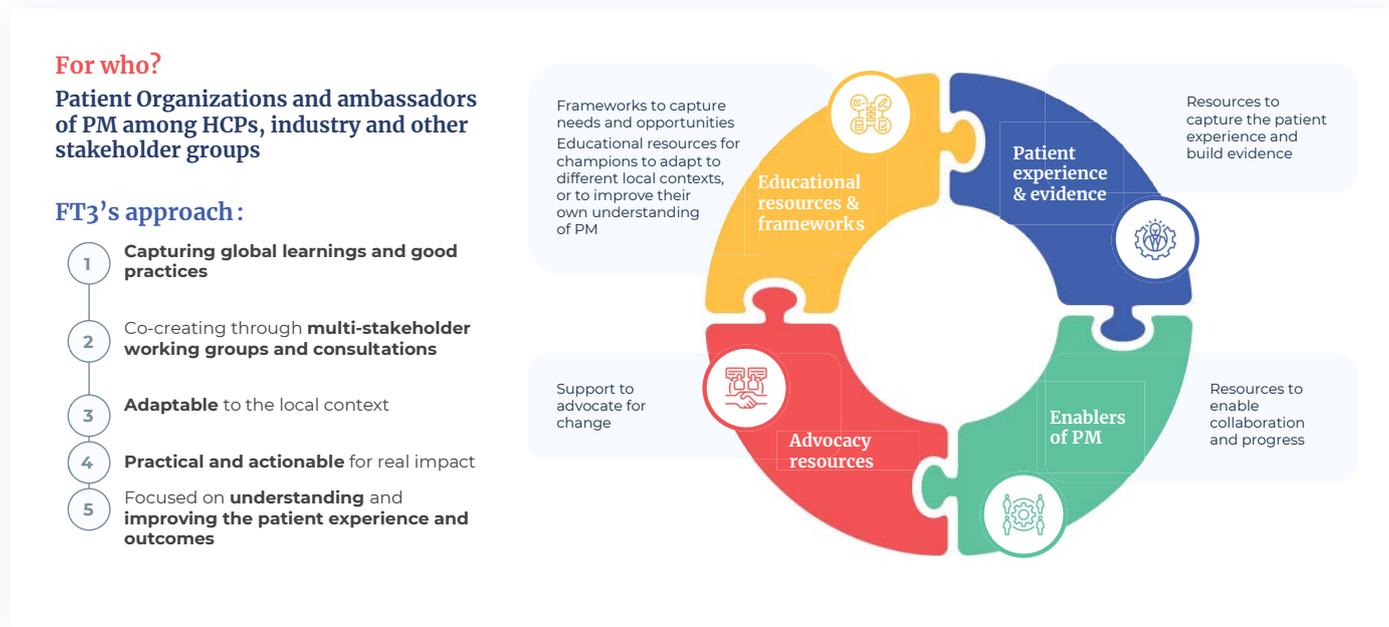
fromtestingtotargetedtreatments.org



Annex 1.

FT3 Toolkit for Precision Medicine Champions

This Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment adaptable resource is part of a broader Toolkit for Precision Medicine Champions. The toolkit is one of the methods that the “From Testing to Targeted Treatments Program (FT3)” community aims to utilize to make precision medicine a reality for all who can benefit from it. Through pilots and consultations, these tools and resources will continue to be refined and expanded. If you are interested in learning more, getting involved or piloting the tools, please [contact us](#).



The From Testing to Targeted Treatment Program (FT3) is a non-profit multi-stakeholder collaborative program that aims to unify, accelerate and build on existing efforts to make precision medicine a reality for all patients who could benefit from it.

FT3 brings together diverse stakeholders and activities in precision medicine to identify shared needs, build on existing good practices and learnings and make them replicable through practical and actionable tools and resources for precision medicine champions to drive real change and impact, starting with cancer and testing.

Ultimately, the goal is to develop integrated and optimized resources for different stakeholders to improve access to precision medicine, and to develop a positive momentum to be able to improve patient outcomes and experiences.

This was developed thanks to the [FT3 Members](#) and Community of Practice.

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Annex 2.

How this resource was co-created and co-designed

This resource was co-created by a global, multi-stakeholder group with the shared goal to make precision medicine an accessible reality for all patients who could benefit from it. The journey started with a landscape analysis, with the mapping of 320+ existing patient information resources and the identification of +220 patient information needs through the [Patient Engagement Open Forum](#) in September 2020. These needs were co-reviewed and co-refined by the FT3 Education & Awareness Working Group in several meetings and consultations to define the best ways to approach these information needs.

Building on existing good practice resources and through discussion with over 25 multi-stakeholder representatives, the Education & Awareness working group identified an opportunity to create a biomarker testing for cancer treatment resource designed to be adapted by patient organizations, patient advocates and other Precision Medicine champions to the needs of their specific patient population disease and/or local context.

The following resources were consulted in developing this adaptable resource:

- Cancer Support Community. Precision Medicine, Biomarker Testing. Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pciz_jZYGOU
- Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation, For cancer patients biomarkers matter https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t_7wuuZAOAg&t=77s
- Lung Cancer Europe, Factsheet: what is biomarker testing. Available at: <https://lucedev.digitizeict.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/LuCE-Factsheet-Biomarker-testing.pdf>
- Lungevity (2021) Comprehensive biomarker testing: why it's important for lung cancer. Available at: <https://www.lungevity.org/sites/default/files/nom/NOM-Biomarker-Quick-Facts-041421.pdf>
- Lungevity (2021) Patient Bill of Rights. Available at: <https://www.lungevity.org/sites/default/files/nom/NOM-Patients-Bill-of-Rights-041421.pdf>
- Lungevity. Biomarker testing. Available at: <https://www.lungevity.org/for-patients-caregivers/navigating-your-diagnosis/biomarker-testing>
- National Cancer Institute (2021) Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment. Available at: <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/types/biomarker-testing-cancer-treatment>
- Research Advocacy Network. Precision Medicine Oncology Available at: https://researchadvocacy.org/advocate-institute/precision-medicine-oncology-educational-resources?_ga=2.166125884.328009269.1641898522-1479582868.1636559867

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Acknowledgments



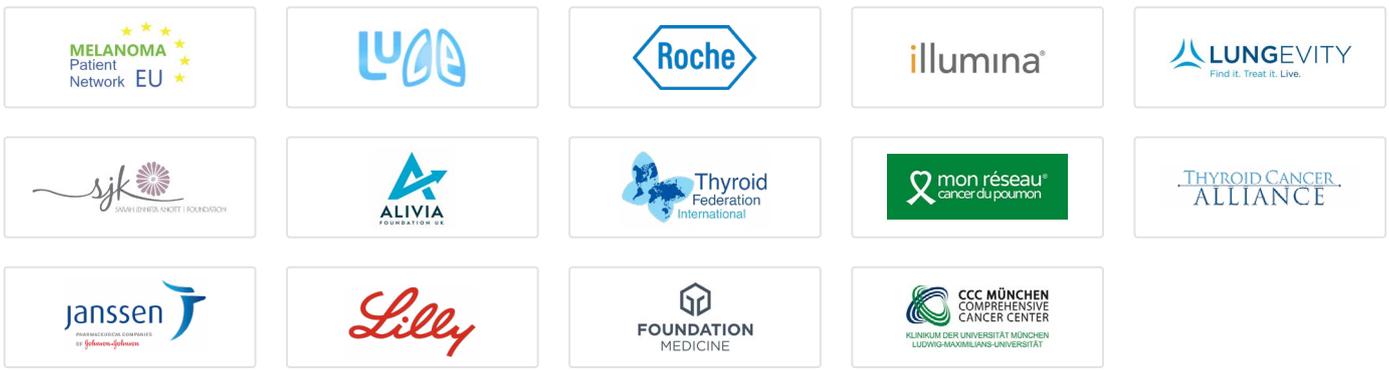
This is the result of the aggregation of resources originally developed by LUNgevity, Lung Cancer Europe, the National Cancer Institute, and the Research Advocacy Network which emerged as good resources in terms of scientific credibility, patient centricity, plain language, and ease of use. We thank them for their good practice inspiration.

This resource was co-developed in a multi-stakeholder working group representing patient organizations, healthcare providers and researchers, pharmaceutical and diagnostics companies, and external experts.

Special thanks to the core team for drafting, editing, reviewing, and maintaining momentum to deliver the resource:

Jean Jenkins, Karen Wood, Christine Ghione, Krystin Larkin, Lisa Giuroiu, Maria Watson, Susan McClure

And big thanks to the rest of the contributors who provided insights and feedback:



Violeta Astratinei (MPNE), Shirlene Badger (Illumina), Anne-Marie Baird (Lung Cancer Europe), Sandra Blum (Roche), Ellen Bowe, Laura Divine, Andrea Ferris (Lungevity), Tanya Knott (SJK Foundation), Ralph Riley (Janssen), Judith Taylor (Thyroid Cancer Alliance), Brian Tomlinson (Foundation Medicine), Sonia Ujupan (Eli Lilly), Ben Westphalen (Comprehensive Cancer Center).

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