



ARGENTINA

BRIDGING THE GAP

Advancing Equity and Innovation in Prostate Cancer Care in Argentina

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Argentina has an established framework for prostate cancer care, with nationwide screening availability, standardized treatment protocols, and access to modern therapies in both public and private sectors. However, disparities persist between urban and rural regions in diagnostic capacity, advanced treatment availability, and palliative care reach. Out-of-pocket costs and uneven implementation of guidelines also limit equity.

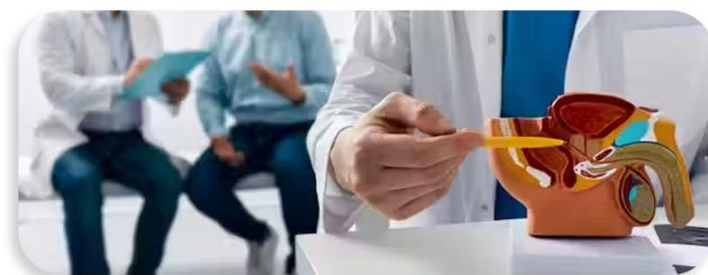
This policy brief assesses Argentina's current status at **Level 3 – Established** maturity and proposes targeted reforms to strengthen nationwide access, ensure consistency in care delivery, and further integrate innovation into the health system.

INTRODUCTION

Building on a Strong Foundation with an Eye Toward Equity

Prostate cancer is one of the most common cancers among Argentine men, with early detection programs contributing to relatively high survival rates. The country benefits from a robust network of urology and oncology specialists, public health insurance schemes, and well-defined clinical pathways in major hospitals. Nonetheless, gaps in resource distribution, delayed access to advanced therapies in the public sector, and limited palliative care integration hinder optimal outcomes, particularly in underserved provinces.

Argentina is well-positioned to transition from **Level 3 – Established** to a more advanced, innovation-driven system with equitable access across all regions.



Argentina Ranks at Level 3 – Established Prostate Cancer Maturity Framework



PROSTATE CANCER IN ARGENTINA

Current Landscape and Strategic Gaps

Pillar	Current Status	Strength	Policy Action
Early Detection & Diagnosis	Opportunistic PSA testing and DRE are widely available; some provinces have organized programs targeting men 50+.	Strong awareness campaigns and accessible diagnostics in urban centers.	Expand organized screening programs nationwide and ensure outreach in rural and remote communities.
Biomarker & Molecular Testing	Available in tertiary centers and some private facilities; access in the public sector is limited by budget constraints.	Advanced diagnostic capability in major cities like Buenos Aires and Córdoba.	Expand reimbursement for biomarker testing in the public system to enable personalized treatment planning.
Treatment Access	Surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, and hormonal therapies widely available; access to newer agents (e.g., novel anti-androgens) can be delayed in public hospitals.	Comprehensive oncology services in major hospitals.	Streamline approval and procurement processes for innovative therapies in the public sector.
Clinical Guidelines	National and regional treatment guidelines exist, largely aligned with international standards.	Strong adherence among specialist centers.	Enhance training and auditing to ensure uniform implementation across all regions and facility levels.
Palliative & Survivorship Care	Growing palliative care network, but uneven coverage outside major cities; survivorship programs remain limited.	Palliative care incorporated into some oncology centers.	Expand integrated palliative and survivorship services to provincial hospitals and community settings.



CONCLUSION & Call to Action

Argentina's prostate cancer care system is mature in many respects, yet equity and access challenges remain. Bridging the gap between well-resourced urban centers and underserved rural areas will be critical to improving outcomes. A renewed focus on universal access to diagnostics, equitable distribution of advanced therapies, and integrated survivorship care will help the country move toward a higher maturity level.

KEY POLICY PRIORITIES

1 Strengthen Nationwide Screening Programs: Standardize and expand PSA-based screening to all provinces with risk-adjusted protocols.

2 Improve Access to Advanced Diagnostics: Ensure public coverage for biomarker testing and genetic profiling.

3 Accelerate Access to Innovation: Shorten the time from regulatory approval to public-sector availability for new treatments.

4 Harmonize Guideline Implementation: Enforce national treatment standards across public and private facilities.

5 Expand Palliative and Survivorship Services: Integrate long-term follow-up and quality-of-life programs into routine cancer care.

CONCLUSION

With its **Level 3 – Established maturity**, Argentina has already laid a strong foundation for prostate cancer care. The challenge now is to extend this high-quality care equitably to all regions and patient populations. By enhancing public-sector access to advanced diagnostics and therapies, strengthening guideline adherence, and scaling palliative and survivorship programs, Argentina can progress toward a fully integrated, innovation-led prostate cancer system that ensures timely, effective, and compassionate care for every patient.