



Lung Cancer Factsheet: Insights & Key Developments

Key Insights on Lung Cancer Care
and Infrastructure

Core Pillars:

1. Infrastructure
2. Treatment Access, Research Funding and Awareness Campaigns
3. Survival Rates, Early Detection and Palliative Care
4. Utilization of Biomarkers
5. Clinical Guidelines
6. Reimbursement
7. Lung Cancer Screening

Lung cancer remains one of the most prevalent cancers worldwide, affecting millions of individuals each year. Despite advancements in diagnostics, treatment, and awareness, disparities in access to care, molecular testing, and specialized centers persist.

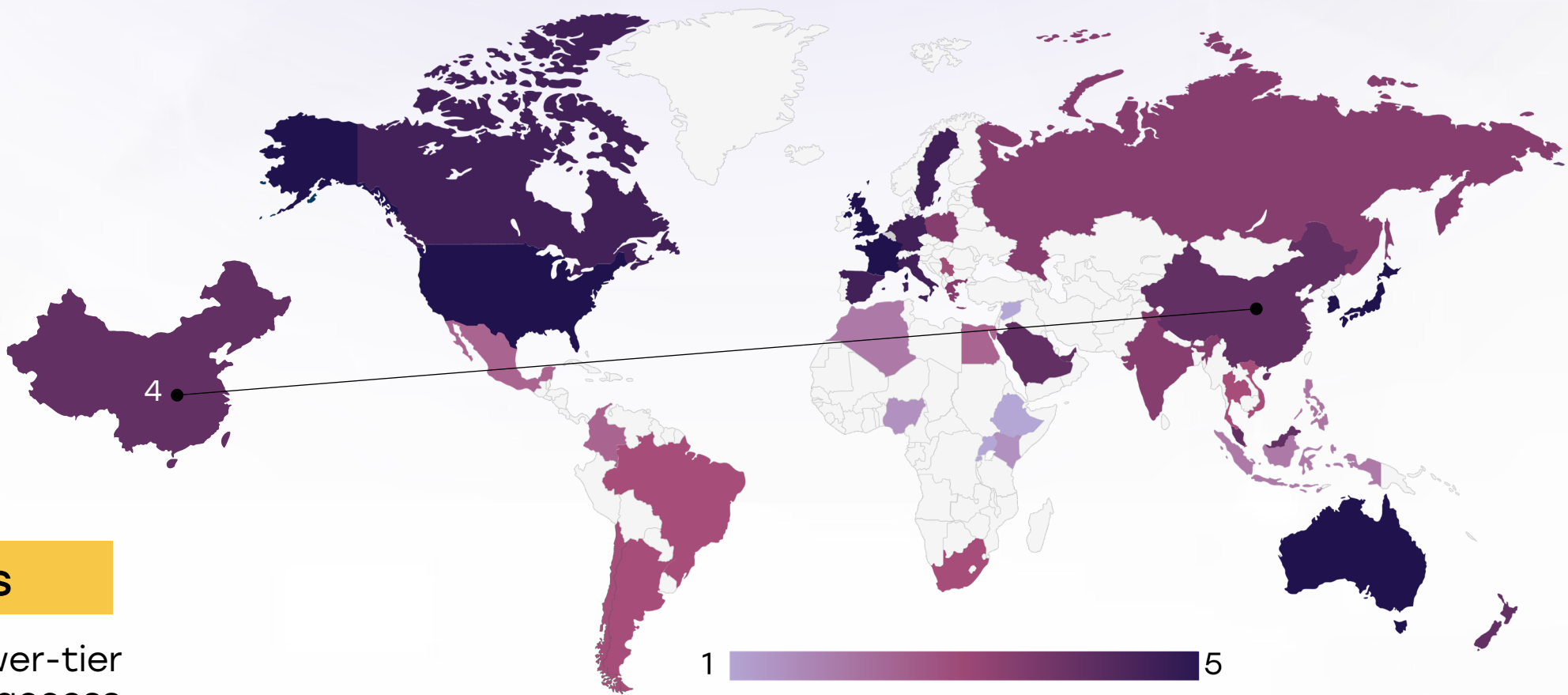
This factsheet provides a comprehensive overview of key pillars shaping lung cancer care, including specialized infrastructure, treatment accessibility, research funding, early detection, and palliative care.

- Lung cancer incidence (2022): ~850,000 new cases annually
- Incidence rate: ~58 per 100,000
- Lung cancer deaths (2022): ~715,000 deaths
- 5-year survival rate: ~19.7%
- 10-year survival rate: Data not specified
- Most affected age group: 60–74 years
- Daily new diagnoses: ~2,300 per day
- Daily deaths: ~1,960 per day
- Smoking prevalence (adults): ~26.6% (over 50% among men)
- Stage at diagnosis: ~70% diagnosed at late stages (Stage III or IV)
- Common histological type: Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) is the most prevalent

China



Infrastructure



Strengths

- Over 80% of Tier 3A hospitals in metropolitan areas offer molecular testing for key biomarkers like EGFR, ALK, and PD-L1.
- Leading cancer centers (e.g., National Cancer Center, Fudan University) drive advanced diagnostics and research.

Weakness

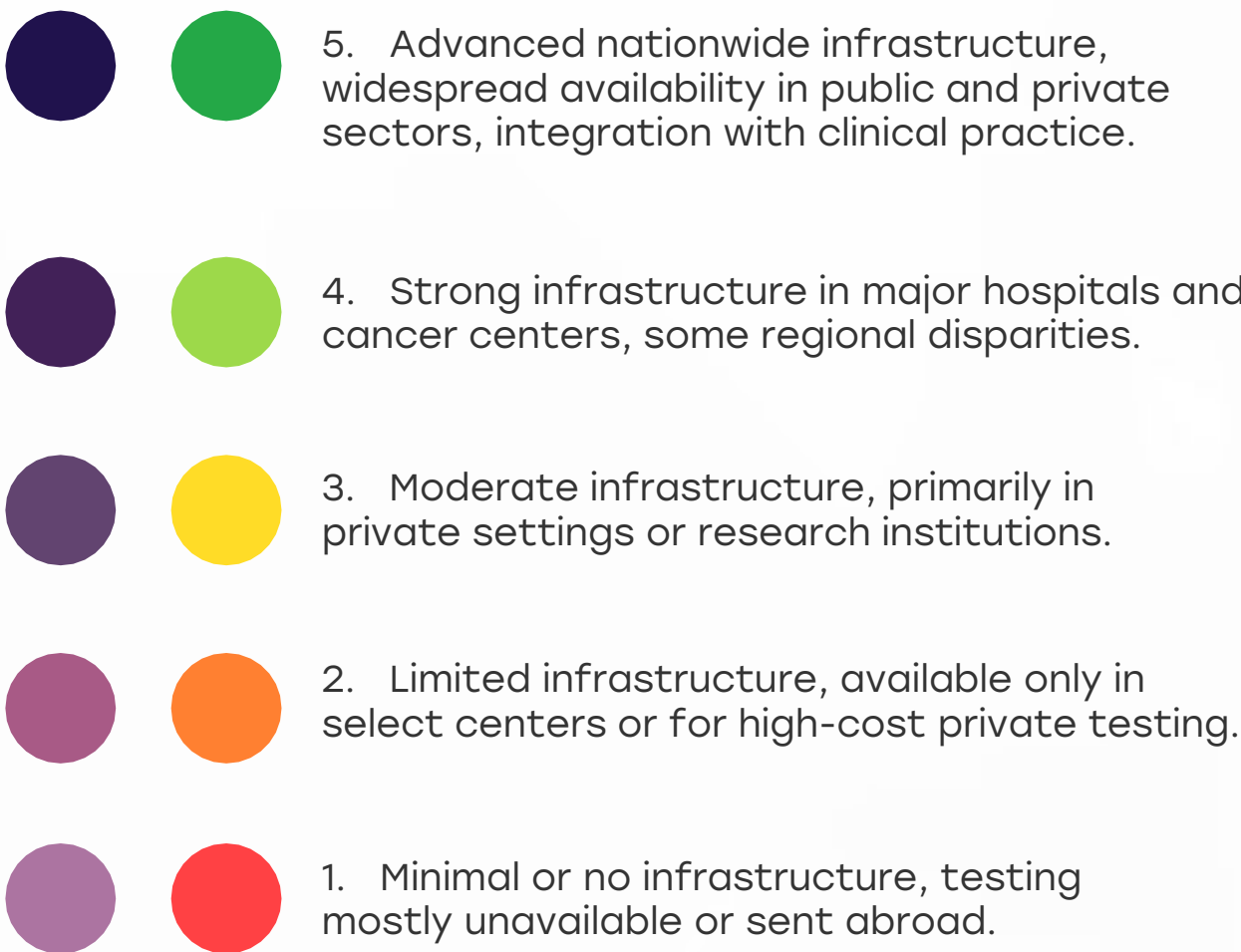
- Only 35% of lower-tier hospitals have access to molecular testing, creating urban-rural disparities.

Opportunity

- The Healthy China 2030 plan aims to improve cancer care infrastructure and reduce regional disparities.

Threats

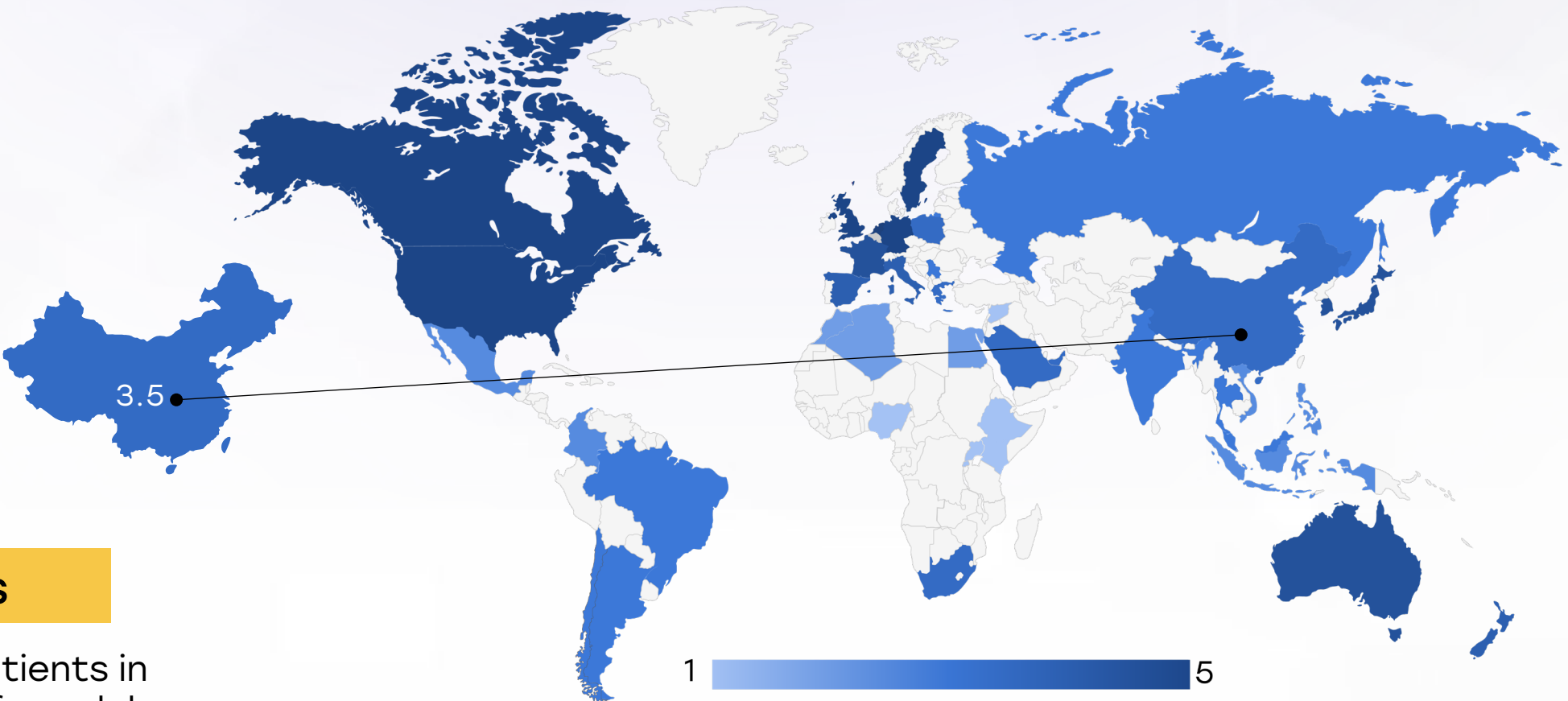
- Unequal access to molecular testing and treatment between urban and rural areas could perpetuate healthcare gaps.



Country	Specialized Centers	Genetic & Molecular Testing Infrastructure
South Africa		
Kenya		
Nigeria		
Egypt		
Morocco		
Algeria		
Ethiopia		
India		
Japan		
South Korea		
China		
Thailand		
Singapore		
United Kingdom		
Germany		
France		
Netherlands		
Sweden		
Italy		
Spain		
Poland		
Mexico		
Brazil		
Argentina		
Chile		
Colombia		
United States		
Canada		
Australia		
New Zealand		
Greece		
Rwanda		
Uganda		
Serbia		
Saudi Arabia		
UAE		
Syria		
Indonesia		
Vietnam		
Philippines		
Russia		
Malaysia		

China

Treatment Access, Research Funding and Awareness Campaigns



Strengths

- Targeted therapies and immunotherapies like osimertinib and alectinib are available in major urban centers, with inclusion in the national reimbursement drug list improving access.
- Government-backed research programs, such as the National Key R&D Program, support translational research.

Weakness

- Over 40% of patients in western China face delays in receiving appropriate lung cancer care due to rural healthcare access gaps.
- Public awareness of early symptoms and screening is low in rural communities.

Opportunity

- Continued investments in public education and awareness campaigns can bridge knowledge gaps in rural areas.
- Expansion of treatment access to rural areas through infrastructure development and policy reforms.

Threats

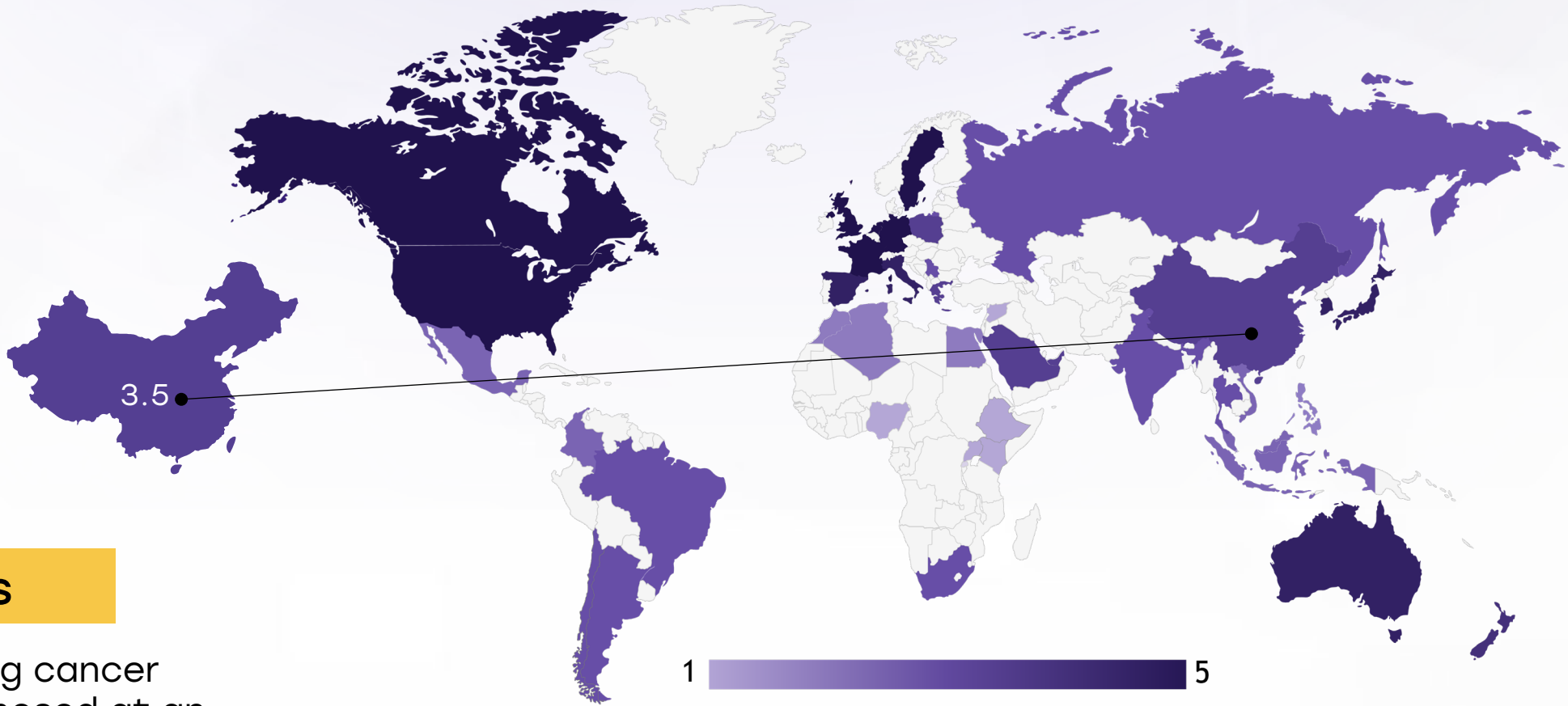
- Regional disparities in treatment access and public awareness may limit equitable cancer care outcomes.

5. Strong healthcare infrastructure with comprehensive treatment access, high research funding, and nationwide awareness campaigns. Patients have access to advanced therapies, clinical trials, and widespread early detection programs.
4. Well-developed system with good treatment availability, strong research funding, and effective but regionally focused awareness campaigns. Some disparities may exist in rural areas or between public and private sectors.
3. Moderate development, with specialized treatments available in major hospitals, research funding concentrated on specific cancers, and occasional but limited awareness efforts. Healthcare access may be restricted by cost or geography.
2. Limited system where cancer treatment is available only in select urban centers, research funding is minimal or sporadic, and awareness campaigns are rare or underfunded. Patients often face long wait times or financial barriers.
1. Poor infrastructure with severe barriers to treatment, little to no research funding, and lack of structured awareness campaigns. Cancer care is largely inaccessible, with many patients relying on out-of-pocket expenses or external aid.

Country	Treatment Access	Research Funding	Awareness Campaigns
South Africa			
Kenya			
Nigeria			
Egypt			
Morocco			
Algeria			
Ethiopia			
India			
Japan			
South Korea			
China			
Thailand			
Singapore			
United Kingdom			
Germany			
France			
Netherlands			
Sweden			
Italy			
Spain			
Poland			
Mexico			
Brazil			
Argentina			
Chile			
Colombia			
United States			
Canada			
Australia			
New Zealand			
Greece			
Rwanda			
Uganda			
Serbia			
Saudi Arabia			
UAE			
Syria			
Indonesia			
Vietnam			
Philippines			
Russia			
Malaysia			

China

Survival Rates, Early Detection and Palliative Care



Strengths

- The 5-year survival rate for lung cancer has improved to 19.7%, with better outcomes in economically developed provinces like Beijing and Shanghai.
- The Healthy China 2030 initiative has boosted palliative care services, expanding specialized centers and pain management in urban areas.

Weakness

- Only 25% of lung cancer cases are diagnosed at an early stage, and access to LDCT screening is limited outside urban centers.
- Palliative care coverage remains limited in rural areas.

Opportunity

- Expanding LDCT screening programs in urban and rural areas could improve early detection and survival rates.
- Scaling up community-based palliative care can enhance end-of-life support nationwide.

Threats

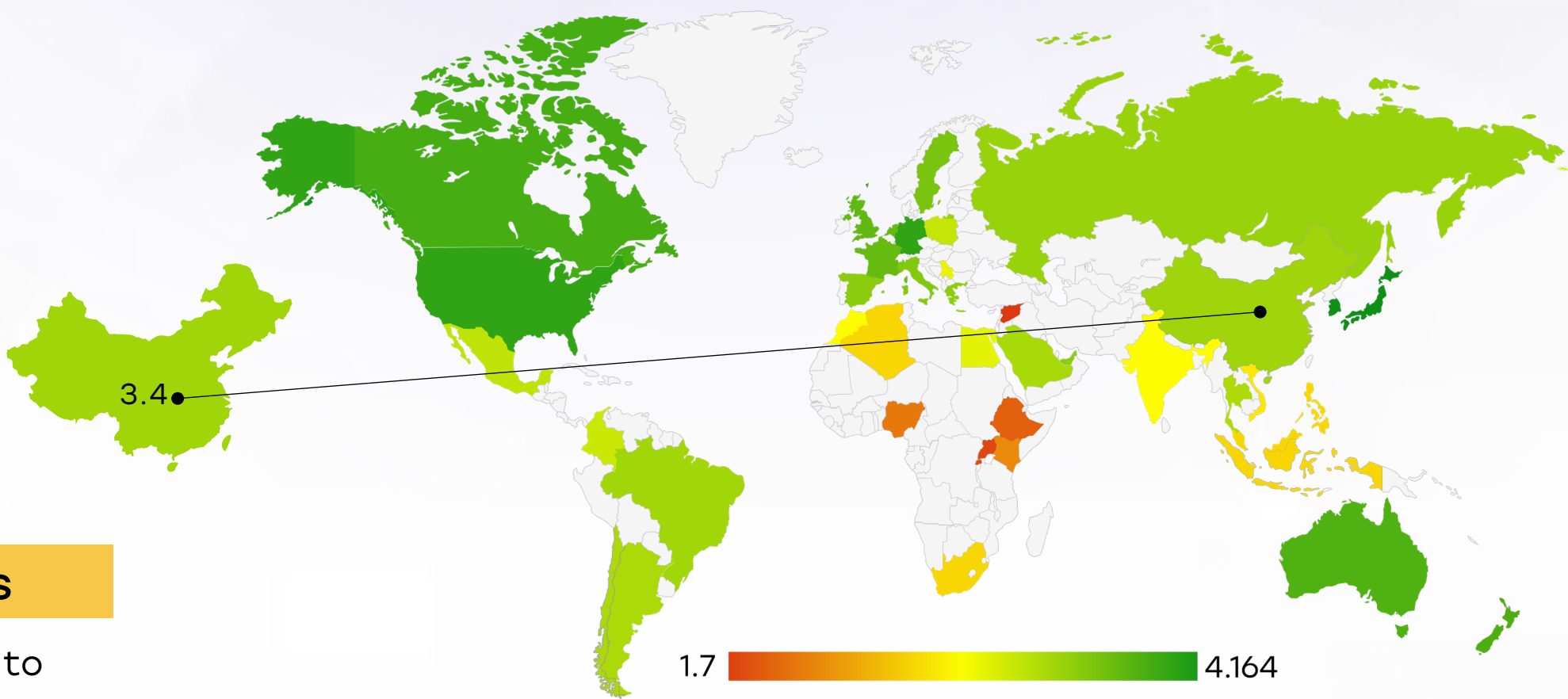
- Regional disparities in early detection and palliative care may hinder equitable improvements in survival outcomes.

5. High survival rates, strong early detection programs, and well-established palliative care services. Patients have access to timely diagnosis, advanced treatments, and comprehensive end-of-life care.
4. Good survival rates, effective early detection efforts, and accessible but regionally limited palliative care. Some disparities may exist in rural areas or for specific cancer types.
3. Moderate survival rates, early detection available but not widespread, and palliative care services mainly in urban centers. Some patients experience delays in diagnosis or limited end-of-life care.
2. Low survival rates, early detection efforts are inconsistent or underfunded, and palliative care is minimal or only available in select hospitals. Cancer patients face significant access barriers.
1. Very low survival rates, poor early detection infrastructure, and almost no palliative care services. Many patients are diagnosed late and lack proper support for pain management and end-of-life care.

Country	Survival Rates	Early Detection	Palliative Care
South Africa			
Kenya			
Nigeria			
Egypt			
Morocco			
Algeria			
Ethiopia			
India			
Japan			
South Korea			
China			
Thailand			
Singapore			
United Kingdom			
Germany			
France			
Netherlands			
Sweden			
Italy			
Spain			
Poland			
Mexico			
Brazil			
Argentina			
Chile			
Colombia			
United States			
Canada			
Australia			
New Zealand			
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Malaysia			

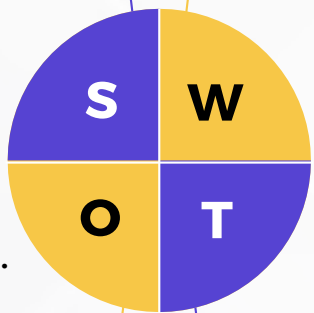
China

Utilization of Biomarkers



Strengths

- EGFR mutation testing covers about 80% of NSCLC patients, with high adoption in urban centers.
- PD-L1 expression testing is performed in approximately 85% of eligible patients, aiding immunotherapy decisions.



Weakness

- Limited access to comprehensive biomarker testing for MET, ROS1, BRAF, and KRAS outside major cities.
- Regional disparities in testing availability due to cost and infrastructure constraints.

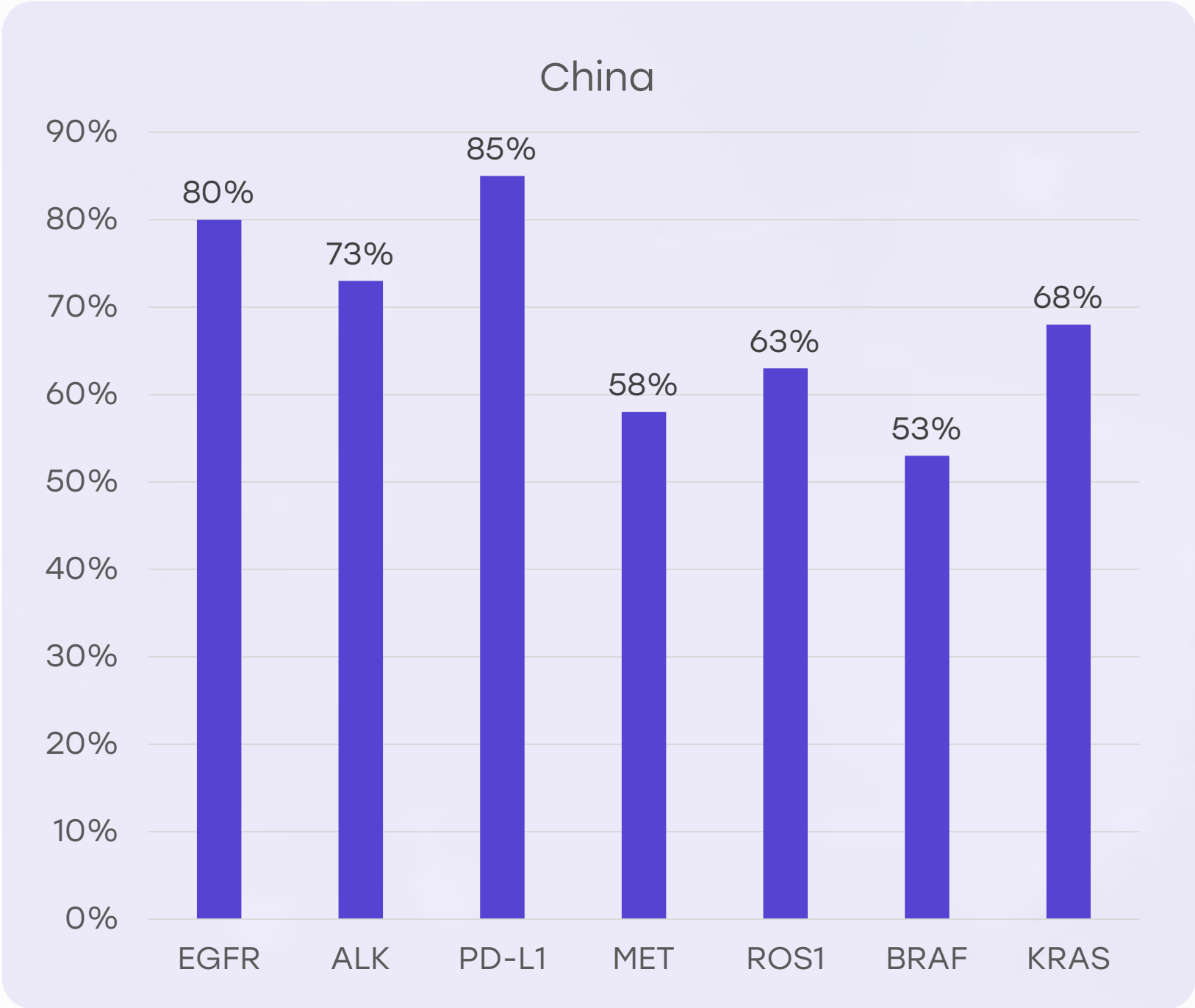
Opportunity

- Limited access to comprehensive biomarker testing for MET, ROS1, BRAF, and KRAS outside major cities.
- Regional disparities in testing availability due to cost and infrastructure constraints.


Threats

- Uneven access to molecular testing across urban and rural areas may hinder nationwide adoption of precision oncology.

1. Biomarker testing is rarely performed, often due to lack of infrastructure, awareness, or financial barriers. Patients typically do not receive targeted therapies based on biomarker status.
2. Biomarker testing is available but underutilized, with significant barriers such as high costs, lack of awareness, or limited infrastructure. Many patients may not receive recommended biomarker assessments.
3. Moderate utilization, often restricted to major hospitals or private healthcare settings. Some patients may not receive biomarker testing due to cost or limited availability in public healthcare systems.
4. Biomarker testing is commonly used, but access may be limited in certain regions or patient groups. Some disparities exist in coverage or affordability, but it is still a crucial part of cancer diagnostics
5. Biomarker testing is widely available and routinely performed as part of standard clinical practice. Strong integration into treatment decisions, with national coverage and reimbursement ensuring accessibility.



China



Clinical Guidelines

Strengths

- Top-tier hospitals and academic institutions are aligning with international clinical guidelines, including those from CSCO, ESMO, and NCCN.
- Guidelines in major centers are increasingly harmonized with global standards.

Weakness

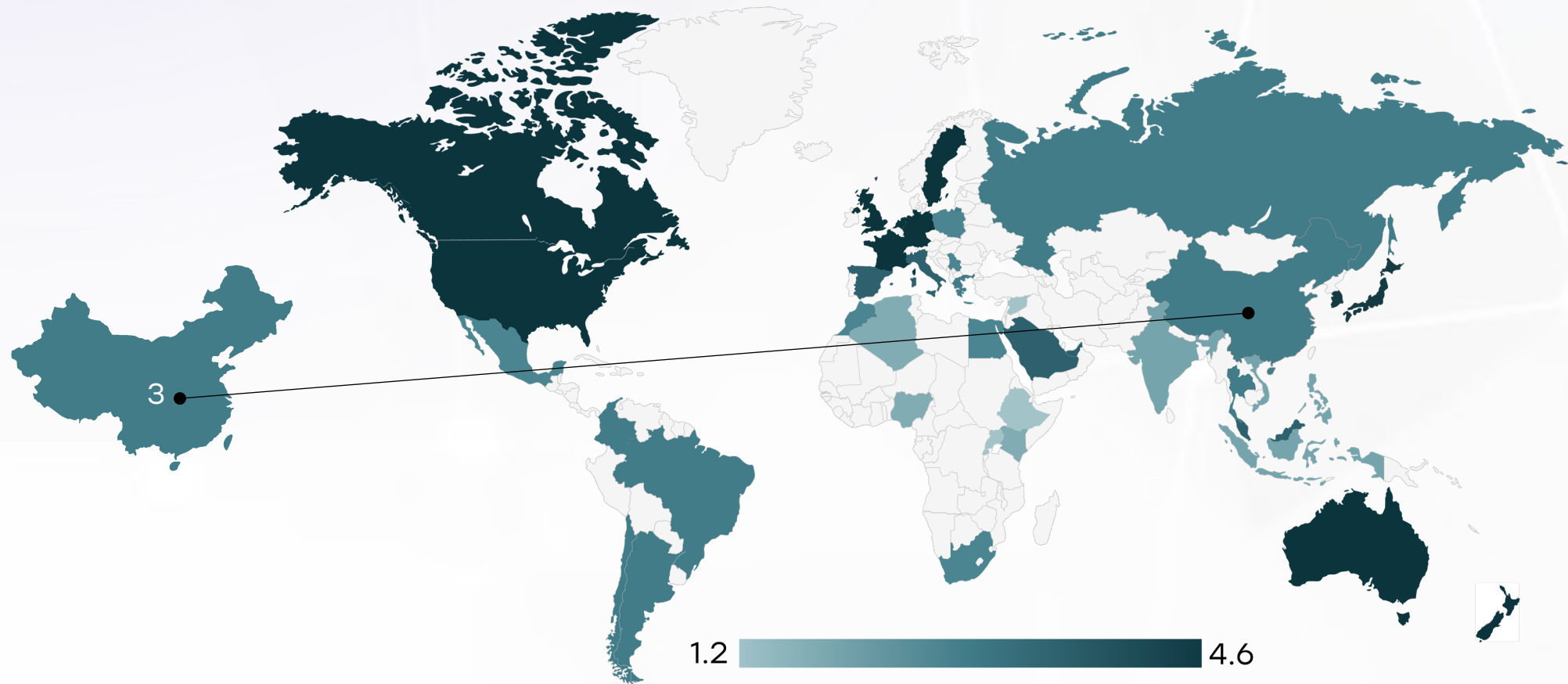
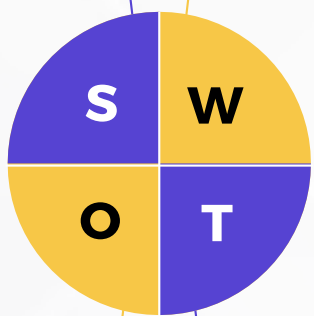
- Regional disparities in guideline implementation, with inconsistent adoption in rural and under-resourced areas.
- Delays in integrating the latest global evidence into national practice due to regulatory and translation processes.

Opportunity

- Bridging regional gaps through targeted training and resources could improve nationwide guideline adherence.
- Enhancing the real-time uptake of global guideline updates could standardize care.

Threats

- Delays and inconsistent implementation in less-resourced areas may limit the full impact of guideline-driven improvements across China.

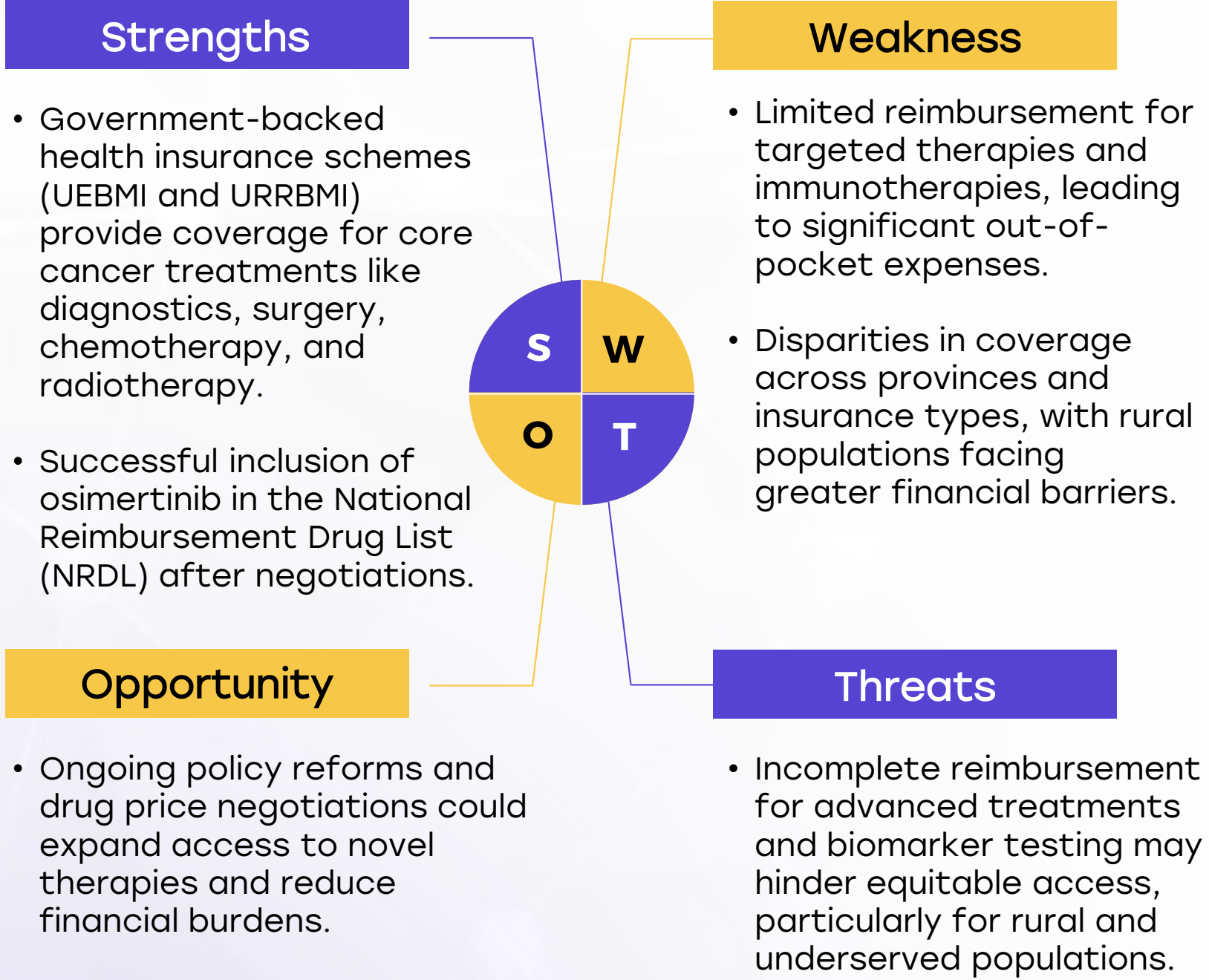





	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low
Clinical Guideline Implementation	✗	○	✗	✗	✗
Feasibility of Integration	✗	✗	○	✗	✗
Adoption of International Guidelines	✗	✗	○	✗	✗
Engagement with Updates	✗	✗	✗	○	✗
ESMO Guidelines Implementation	✗	✗	○	✗	✗





















































































China



Reimbursement



-  A structured reimbursement system exists, ensuring biomarker testing is covered through national healthcare systems, insurance, or public-private partnerships. Patients face no direct financial burden.
-  A reimbursement framework is in place, but patients may still have out-of-pocket expenses such as co-pays, limited coverage, or financial caps on testing.
-  No formal reimbursement system exists, meaning patients must fully cover the cost of biomarker testing out-of-pocket.

Country	Reimbursement Framework	No-cost Access
United States		
United Kingdom		
Canada		
Australia		
Germany		
France		
Netherlands		
Sweden		
Italy		
Spain		
Poland		
Japan		
South Korea		
China		
India		
Singapore		
Thailand		
South Africa		
Kenya		
Nigeria		
Egypt		
Morocco		
Algeria		
Ethiopia		
Mexico		
Brazil		
Argentina		
Chile		
Colombia		
New Zealand		
Greece		
Rwanda		
Uganda		
Serbia		
Saudi Arabia		
UAE		
Syria		
Indonesia		
Vietnam		
Philippines		
Russia		
Malaysia		

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Lung Cancer Screening

Strengths

- Pilot initiatives like the Cancer Screening Program in Urban China (CanSPUC) provide LDCT screening for high-risk populations in select provinces.
- Targeted screening for individuals aged 40–74 with significant smoking history or exposure to risk factors like air pollution.

Weakness

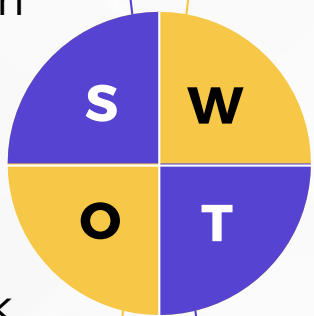
- Limited screening uptake, with participation below 30% among eligible individuals due to healthcare access disparities and lack of public awareness.
- Uneven infrastructure and regional disparities between urban and rural areas.

Opportunity

- Expanding pilot programs and integrating LDCT into national health policy could improve early detection rates.

Threats

- Continued low participation in screening programs, especially in rural regions, may hinder progress in early lung cancer detection and improve survival outcomes.



Country	Lung Cancer Screening
United States	Annual LDCT (50-80 years, high-risk smokers)
United Kingdom	LDCT for high-risk individuals (55-74 years)
Canada	LDCT for high-risk individuals (55-74 years)
Australia	No national program, high-risk groups advised LDCT
Germany	No national program, under evaluation
France	No national LDCT screening
Netherlands	Participating in European screening studies
Sweden	No national LDCT screening
Italy	Regional pilot LDCT screening
Spain	No national LDCT program
Poland	No national program
Japan	No national LDCT program
South Korea	LDCT for high-risk individuals (50-74 years)
China	No national LDCT program
India	No national LDCT program
Singapore	No national LDCT program
Saudi Arabia	No national LDCT program; some hospital-based opportunistic screening
UAE	No national LDCT program; early-stage pilot studies ongoing in select hospitals
Syria	No national LDCT program; screening not prioritized due to conflict
Malaysia	No program; high-risk CT pilots

Country	Lung Cancer Screening
Thailand	No national LDCT program
South Africa	No national LDCT program
Kenya	No national LDCT program
Nigeria	No national LDCT program
Egypt	No national LDCT program
Morocco	No national LDCT program
Algeria	No national LDCT program
Ethiopia	No national LDCT program
Mexico	No national LDCT program
Brazil	No national LDCT program
Argentina	No national LDCT program
Chile	No national LDCT program
Colombia	No national LDCT program
New Zealand	No national LDCT program
Greece	No national LDCT program
Rwanda	No national LDCT program
Uganda	No national LDCT program
Serbia	No national LDCT program
Indonesia	No national LDCT program; opportunistic screening in private sector
Vietnam	No national LDCT program; early pilot screening studies in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh
Philippines	No national LDCT program; feasibility and awareness programs under discussion
Russia	No formal national LDCT program; regional pilot screening programs in large cities