



SWEDEN

BRIDGING THE GAP

Sustaining Excellence and Innovation in Prostate Cancer Care in Sweden

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sweden has achieved an advanced level of maturity in prostate cancer care, characterized by widespread early detection, standardized clinical pathways, and equitable treatment access. The country benefits from universal healthcare coverage, robust screening participation, and strong integration of molecular diagnostics into patient management. While outcomes are among the best globally, challenges remain in ensuring equitable access to cutting-edge therapies across all regions and addressing the psychosocial needs of survivors.

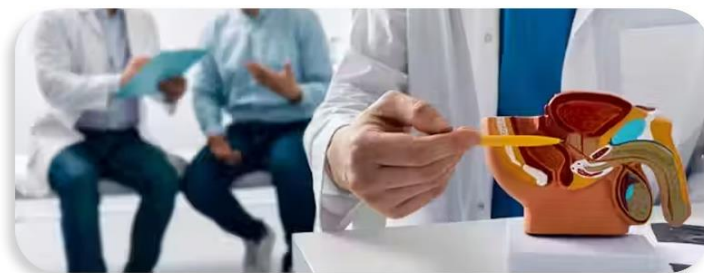
This policy brief reviews Sweden's current status and identifies targeted strategies to sustain excellence and further enhance innovation.

INTRODUCTION

Leading in Prostate Cancer Care with Opportunities for Innovation

Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Swedish men, yet Sweden's health system ensures high survival rates through early detection and evidence-based treatment.

The national cancer strategy, regional cancer centers, and comprehensive screening programs contribute to consistently strong outcomes. With a **Level 5 – Advanced** maturity rating, Sweden is well-positioned to focus on precision medicine, survivorship care, and further reduction of regional variations in access to innovative therapies.





PROSTATE CANCER IN SWEDEN

Current Landscape and Strategic Gaps

Pillar	Current Status	Strength	Policy Action
Early Detection & Diagnosis	National risk-adapted screening initiatives and high public awareness lead to early-stage diagnosis for most patients.	High participation in PSA testing and strong GP referral systems.	Continue refining risk-stratified screening to minimize overdiagnosis while maximizing early detection.
Biomarker & Molecular Testing	Advanced molecular profiling is widely available and integrated into care pathways.	National infrastructure for genomic testing supports personalized treatment.	Expand next-generation sequencing capacity to include broader biomarker panels and explore AI-driven diagnostics.
Treatment Access	Full access to surgery, radiotherapy, and systemic therapies, including the latest hormonal agents and targeted therapies, within the public system.	Universal healthcare ensures affordability and equity.	Reduce any residual regional variations in access to novel agents and ensure continuous updating of reimbursement lists.
Clinical Guidelines	National evidence-based guidelines are regularly updated and implemented uniformly.	Strong compliance through regional cancer centers.	Continue integrating real-world data into guideline updates and promote clinical trial participation.
Palliative & Survivorship Care	Comprehensive palliative and survivorship services are embedded in care pathways, with multidisciplinary teams supporting patients.	Strong integration between oncology and primary care.	Expand digital survivorship platforms to provide personalized follow-up, psychosocial support, and lifestyle coaching.



CONCLUSION & Call to Action

Sweden's advanced maturity in prostate cancer care is a model for global best practices. Early detection, equitable treatment access, and integration of personalized medicine have resulted in high survival rates and quality of life for patients. The focus now must shift to sustaining innovation, closing residual regional disparities, and strengthening survivorship support.



CONCLUSION

With a **Level 5 – Advanced** maturity, Sweden stands among the global leaders in prostate cancer care. The country's success is rooted in its universal healthcare coverage, proactive screening, and consistent application of evidence-based practices. To maintain this leadership, Sweden must continue to innovate—expanding precision medicine capabilities, enhancing survivorship care, and ensuring uniform access to the latest advances. By doing so, Sweden will not only sustain its high outcomes but also serve as a benchmark for other nations seeking to elevate their prostate cancer care systems.