

BRIDGING THE GAP

Sustaining Excellence and Innovation in Prostate Cancer Care in Singapore

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Singapore has one of the most advanced and integrated prostate cancer care systems in Asia, underpinned by strong prevention initiatives, robust screening participation, cutting-edge diagnostics, and universal access to advanced treatment modalities. With high survival rates and well-established clinical guidelines, the focus has shifted from building capacity to sustaining excellence, ensuring equity across demographic groups, and fostering innovation in personalized care.

This policy brief examines Singapore's current prostate cancer care landscape at **Level 5 – Advanced** maturity and highlights strategic actions to maintain leadership in outcomes while addressing remaining disparities.

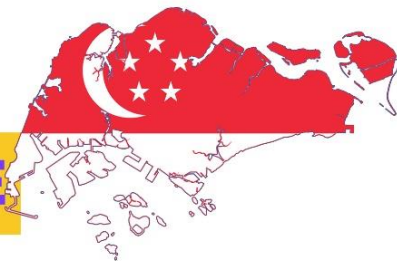
INTRODUCTION

Leveraging a High-Performance Health System

Prostate cancer is among the most common cancers in Singaporean men, but the country's health system has achieved survival rates well above regional averages through structured screening programs, strong public health messaging, and world-class medical infrastructure. The National Cancer Centre Singapore, public hospitals, and private providers collaborate in delivering patient-centered care, supported by extensive insurance coverage through MediShield Life and supplementary plans.

With maturity at Level 5, Singapore's challenge is not foundational capacity, but ensuring continued innovation and equitable access for all subpopulations, including lower-income and older patients.

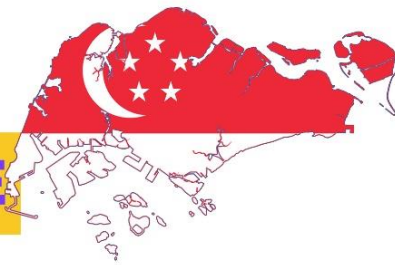




PROSTATE CANCER IN SINGAPORE

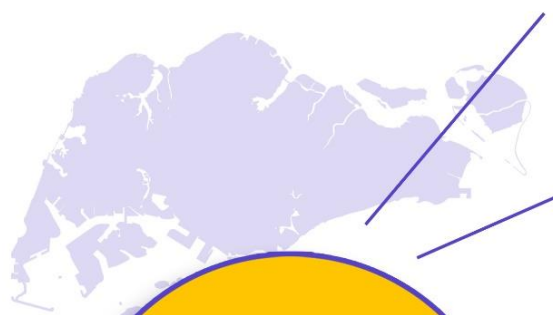
Current Landscape and Strategic Gaps

Pillar	Current Status	Strength	Policy Action
Early Detection & Diagnosis	Organized PSA-based screening for high-risk men, widely accessible in both public and private sectors; high participation rates.	Strong public awareness campaigns and robust primary care referral pathways.	Maintain high participation while exploring precision-based screening to reduce overdiagnosis.
Biomarker & Molecular Testing	Widely available in both public and private sectors, with insurance coverage for key tests.	Integration of advanced genomic profiling in clinical workflows.	Expand genomic databases for local populations to further personalize care.
Treatment Access	Full range of surgical, radiotherapy, hormonal, and targeted therapies available; rapid adoption of new treatments.	Highly skilled multidisciplinary oncology teams and comprehensive cancer centers.	Maintain technology adoption speed while ensuring cost containment for high-cost therapies.
Clinical Guidelines	National prostate cancer treatment guidelines in place, regularly updated in line with global best practices.	Strong clinician compliance and integrated electronic medical records.	Continue periodic updates and integrate emerging evidence on novel therapies and biomarkers.
Palliative & Survivorship Care	Comprehensive survivorship programs and palliative services integrated into the cancer care pathway.	Community-based and hospital-based palliative services with high coverage.	Expand personalized survivorship care plans and telehealth palliative support.



CONCLUSION & Call to Action

Singapore's **Level 5 – Advanced** maturity system offers a model of excellence in prostate cancer care. However, sustaining this leadership will require a focus on reducing disparities, containing costs, and investing in innovation that can keep pace with evolving science.



KEY POLICY PRIORITIES

1 Enhance Precision Screening: Integrate risk-based genetic and biomarker data into national screening programs to further improve targeting.

2 Advance Genomic Integration: Build larger, ethnically diverse genomic datasets to guide treatment personalization for Singapore's population.

3 Sustain Affordability: Strengthen subsidy frameworks for high-cost therapies to ensure equity across income groups.

4 Drive Research and Innovation: Expand funding for clinical trials and technology pilots in imaging, robotics, and precision oncology.

5 Deepen Survivorship Support: Broaden individualized survivorship care plans and integrate mental health services into long-term follow-up.

CONCLUSION

Singapore's position as a **global leader** in prostate cancer care reflects decades of strategic investment in health infrastructure, public engagement, and evidence-based practice. High screening coverage, rapid adoption of advanced therapies, and integrated care pathways have delivered excellent survival outcomes. The next phase is about **sustaining innovation, ensuring universal equity, and maintaining cost-effective access**—ensuring that every man in Singapore benefits equally from the nation's healthcare excellence. By doing so, Singapore can remain at the forefront of prostate cancer care not only in Asia but globally.