

Prostate Cancer Factsheet: Insights & Key Developments

Key Insights on Prostate 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. Prostate Cancer Screening

Prostate 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.

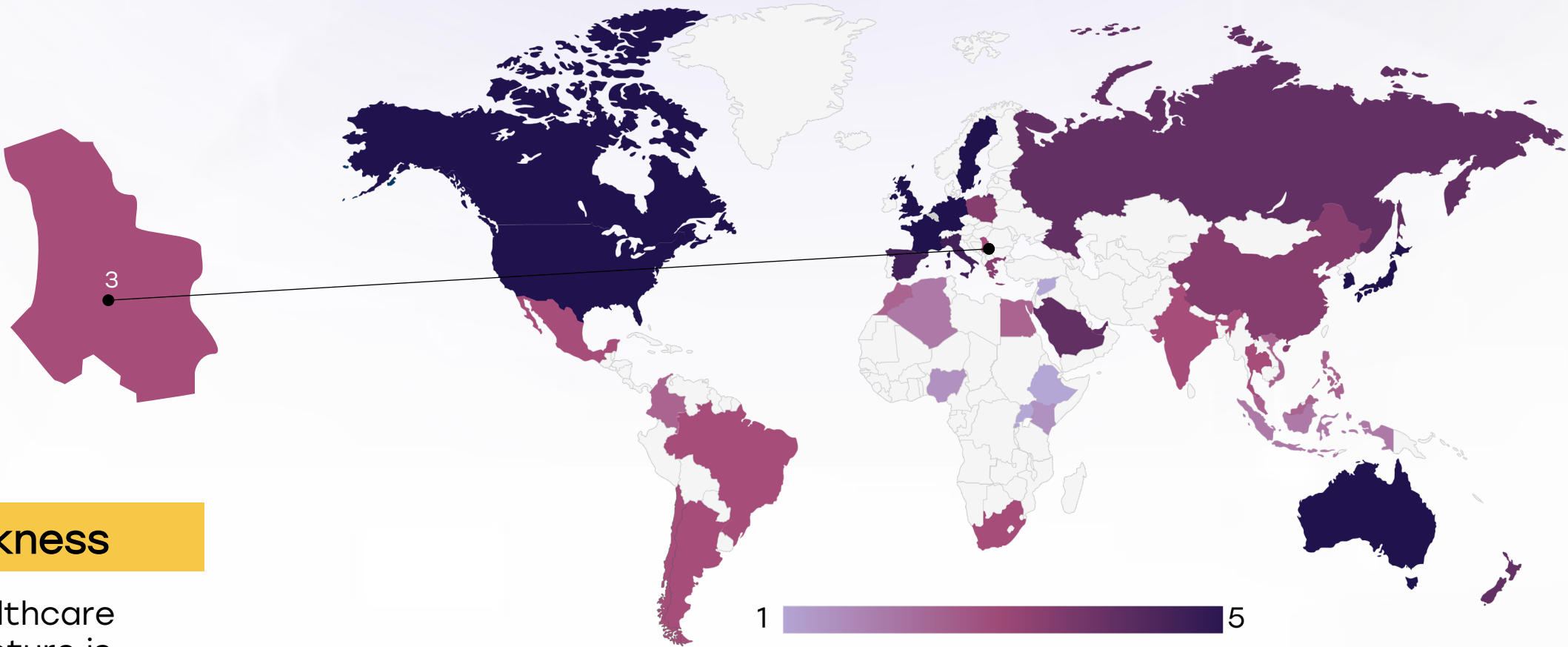
This factsheet provides a comprehensive overview of key pillars shaping Prostate cancer care, including specialized infrastructure, treatment accessibility, research funding, early detection, and palliative care.

- **Incidence share:** Among the top 3 cancers in Serbian men.
- **Incidence rate:** Approximately 65 per 100,000 men per year.
- **Total new cases (2022):** Around 4,000–4,500 men.
- **Daily diagnoses (2022):** ~11 men per day.
- **Deaths (2022):** About 1,500–1,800 men.
- **5-year survival rate:** Estimated ~ 70–75%.
- **Most affected age group:** Primarily men aged 65–75 and older.
- **Screening participation:** No formal program; PSA testing is opportunistic with low uptake.

Serbia



Infrastructure



Strengths

- Serbia has a decent network of tertiary hospitals and cancer institutes like the Institute for Oncology and Radiology of Serbia (IORS) in Belgrade.
- Public hospitals are equipped for standard prostate cancer diagnostics and surgical interventions in urban areas.

Weakness

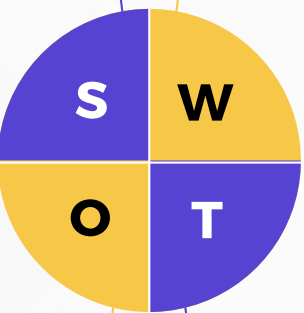
- Rural healthcare infrastructure is underdeveloped, with many regions lacking specialists or diagnostic equipment.
- Limited radiotherapy units and robotic surgery access, leading to long wait times.

Opportunity

- Investment in regional oncology centers and better referral pathways can decentralize access.
- Improve infrastructure using EU integration health support programs.

Threats

- Brain drain of healthcare professionals to Western Europe affects specialist availability.
- Aging infrastructure and outdated equipment in non-urban hospitals.

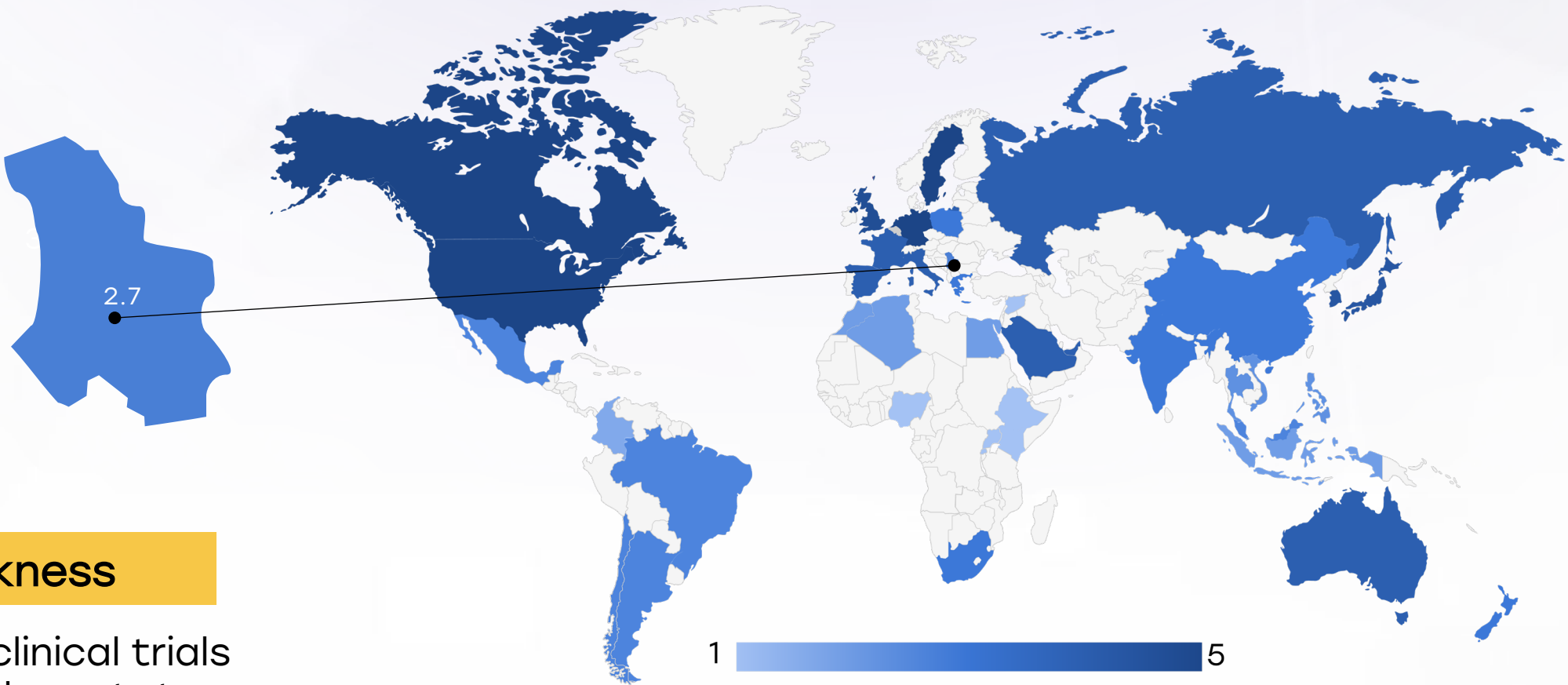


Country	Specialized Centers	Genetic & Molecular Testing Infrastructure
South Africa		
Kenya		
Nigeria		
Egypt		
Morocco		
Algeria		
Ethiopia		
India		
Japan		
South Korea		
China		
Thailand		
Singapore		
United Kingdom		
Germany		
France		
Netherlands		
Sweden		
Italy		
Spain		
Poland		
Mexico		
Brazil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

Serbia



Treatment Access, Research Funding and Awareness Campaigns



Strengths

- Serbia provides publicly funded cancer treatment through its national health insurance system.
- Increasing cooperation with EU and international oncology networks is improving standards.

Weakness

- Limited clinical trials and local prostate cancer research.
- Awareness about early signs and importance of screening is still low, especially in rural men.

Opportunity

- Conduct nationwide awareness campaigns, especially targeting men over 50.
- Promote academic and research collaborations for genomic studies in Serbian populations.

Threats

- Economic constraints can limit consistent access to novel drugs and testing.
- Competing health priorities may reduce funding allocation to prostate cancer programs.

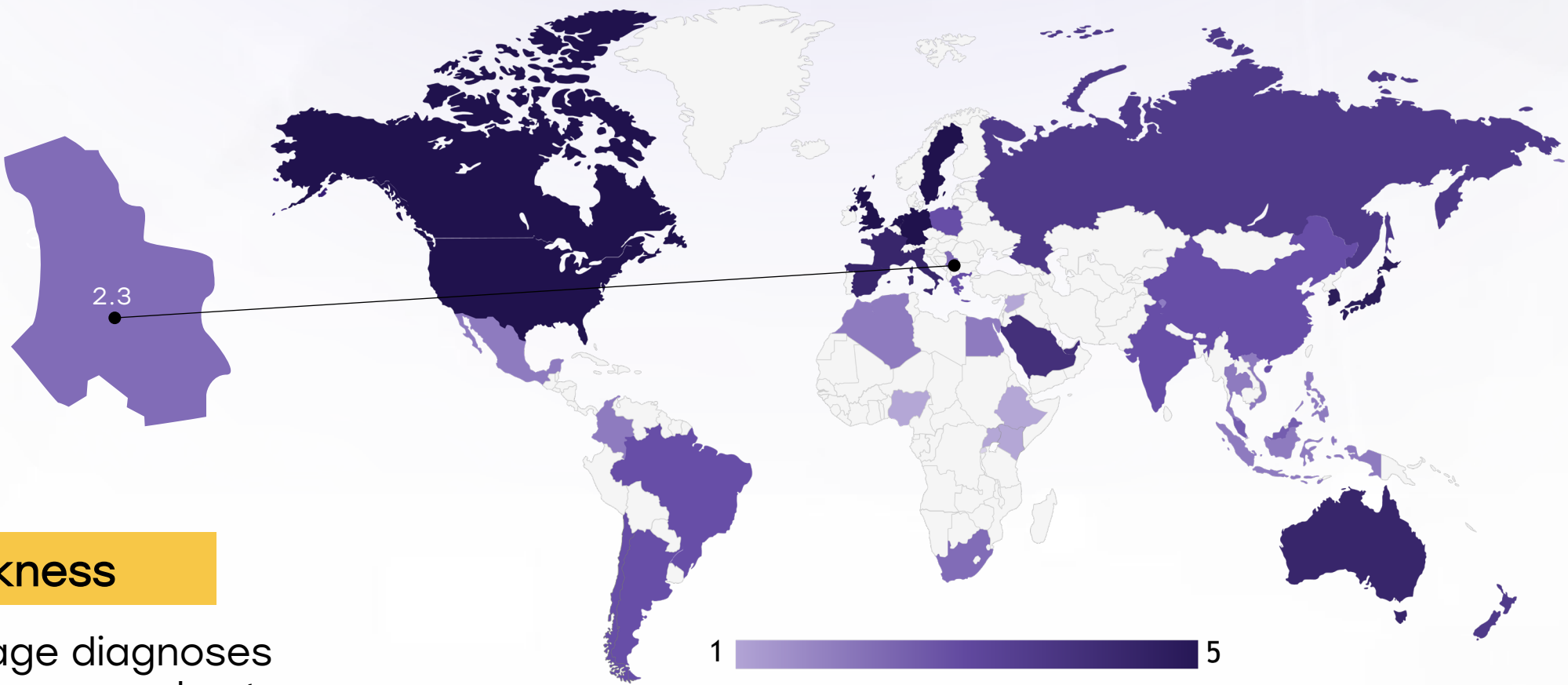
5. Strong healthcare infrastructure with comprehensive treatment access, high research funding, and nationwide awareness campaigns. Patients have access to advanced therapies, clinical trials, and widespread early detection programs.
4. Well-developed system with good treatment availability, strong research 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	●	●	●

Serbia



Survival Rates, Early Detection and Palliative Care



Strengths

- Prostate cancer in Serbia is often diagnosed at intermediate stages, giving room for curative therapy.
- Some progress made in palliative care services, especially in tertiary centers.

Weakness

- Late-stage diagnoses remain common due to lack of routine screening.
- Palliative and home-based care services are underdeveloped outside urban centers.

Opportunity

- Strengthen early detection initiatives via primary care integration.
- Develop national cancer registry updates for better survival monitoring and planning

Threats

- Under-diagnosis and limited supportive care for terminal-stage patients in non-urban areas.
- Lack of psychological and social support services for men with advanced disease.



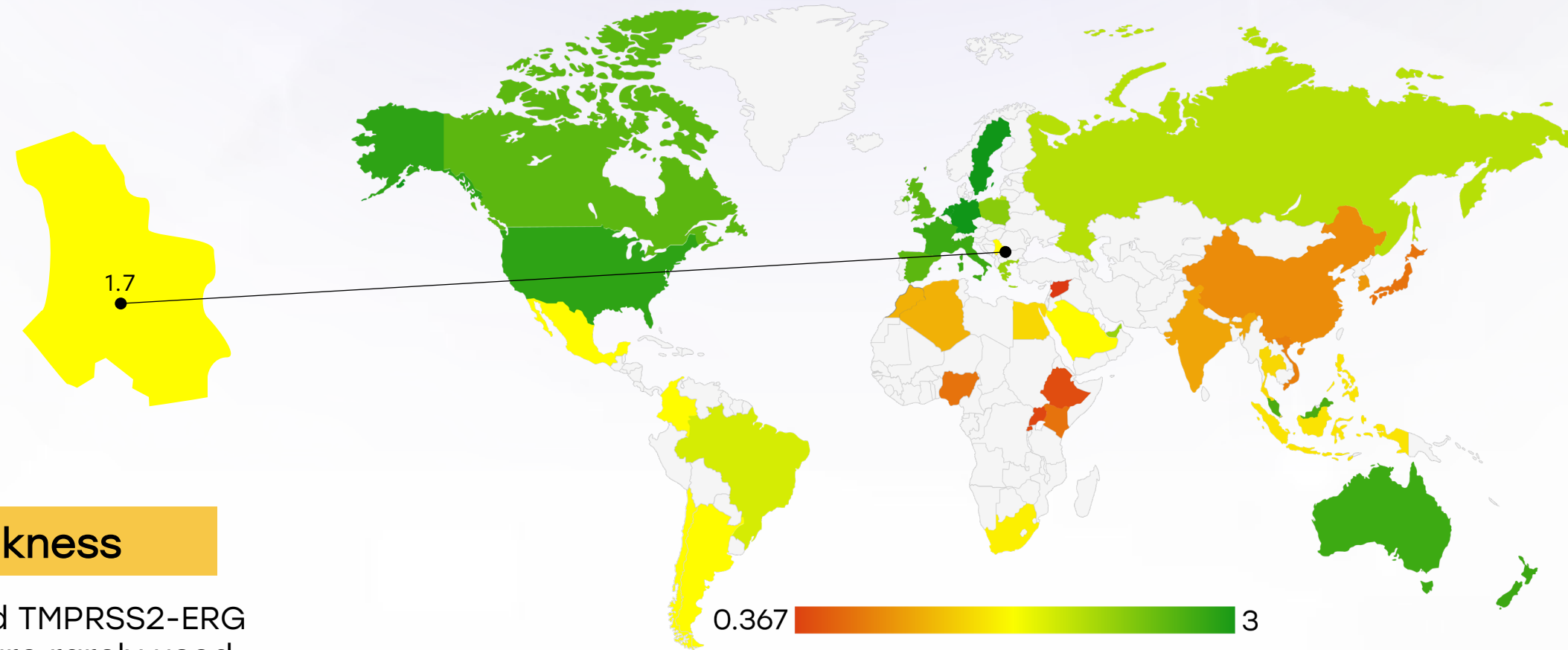
5. High survival rates, strong early detection programs, and well-established palliative care services. Patients have access to timely diagnosis, advanced treatments, and comprehensive end-of-life care.
4. Good survival rates, effective early detection efforts, and accessible but regionally limited palliative 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			
Greece			
Rwanda			
Uganda			
Serbia			
Saudi Arabia			
UAE			
Syria			
Indonesia			
Vietnam			
Philippines			
Russia			
Malaysia			

Serbia



Utilization of Biomarkers



Strengths

- PSA testing is widely available and routinely used in urban health facilities and urology departments.
- Some academic centers and hospitals offer BRCA1/2 testing, especially for patients with family history or aggressive disease.

Weakness




- PTEN and TMPRSS2-ERG testing are rarely used outside of academic research settings.
- Limited national expertise and awareness in using biomarkers beyond PSA.

Opportunity

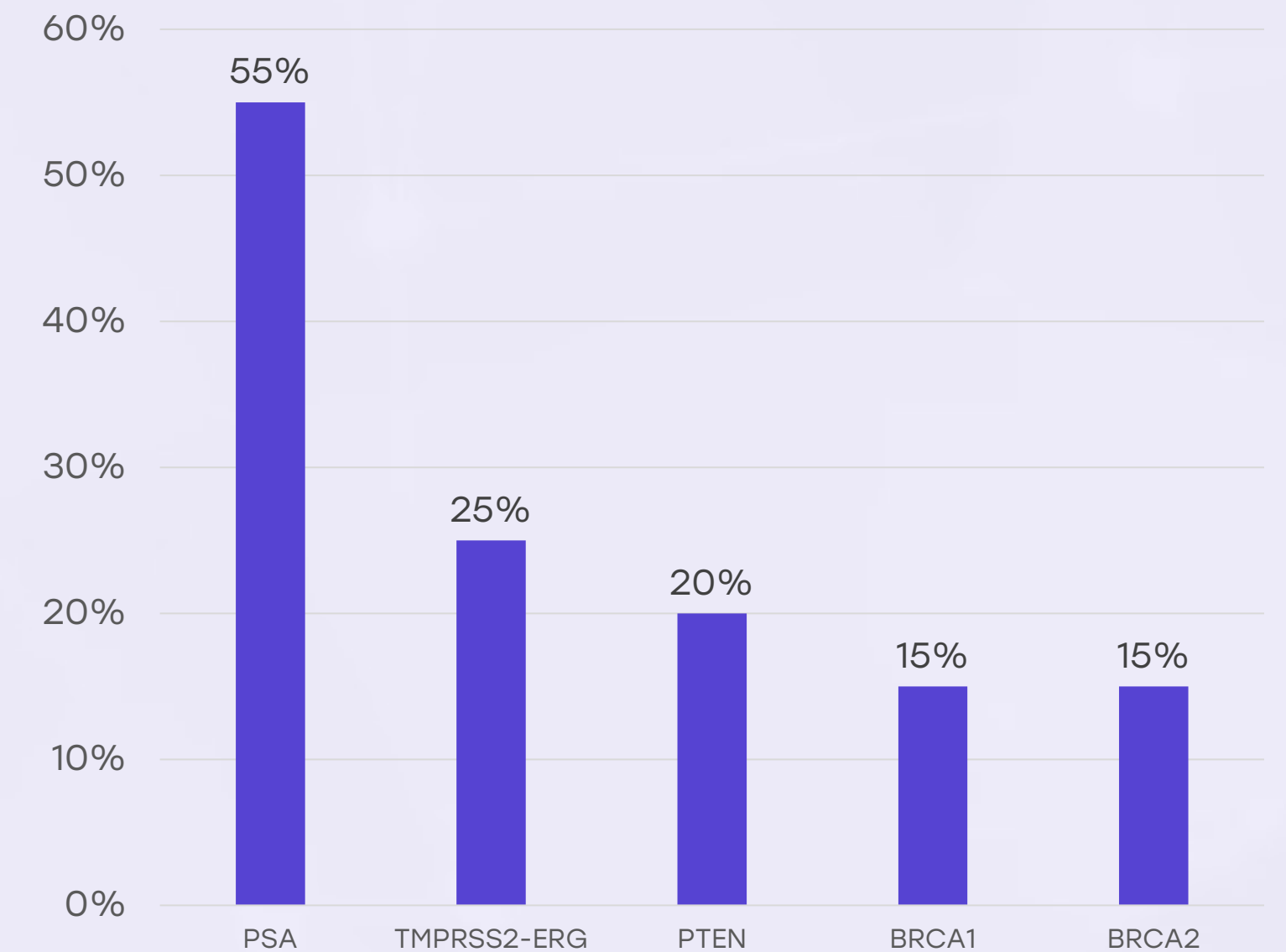
- Create guidelines for biomarker-driven diagnostics in prostate cancer.
- Develop training programs for physicians and lab technicians in interpreting molecular markers.

Threats


- Cost and lack of reimbursement for advanced biomarker testing hinder uptake.
- Technology lag in diagnostics in non-central hospitals limits equal access.

-  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.
-  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.
-  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.

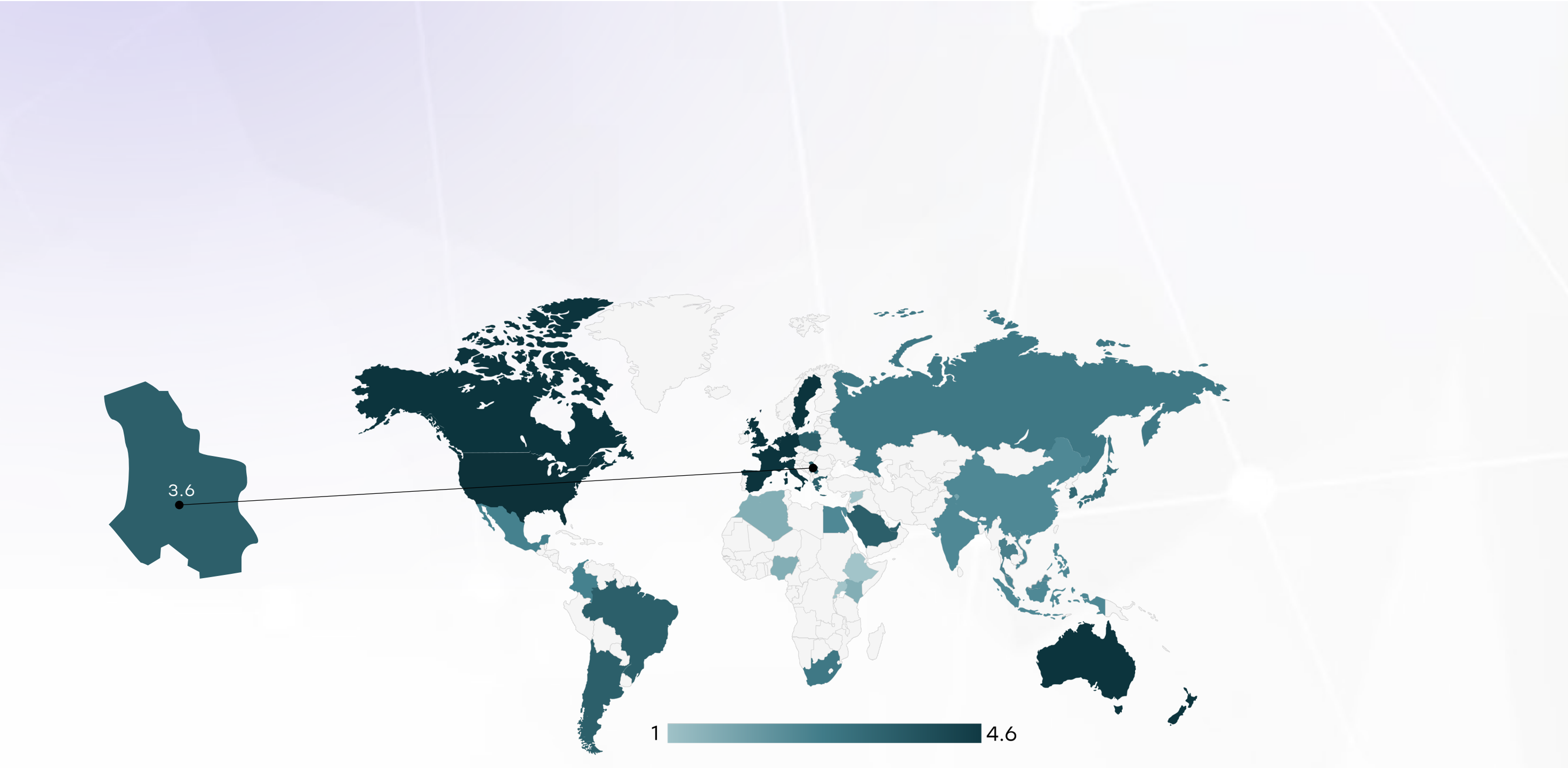
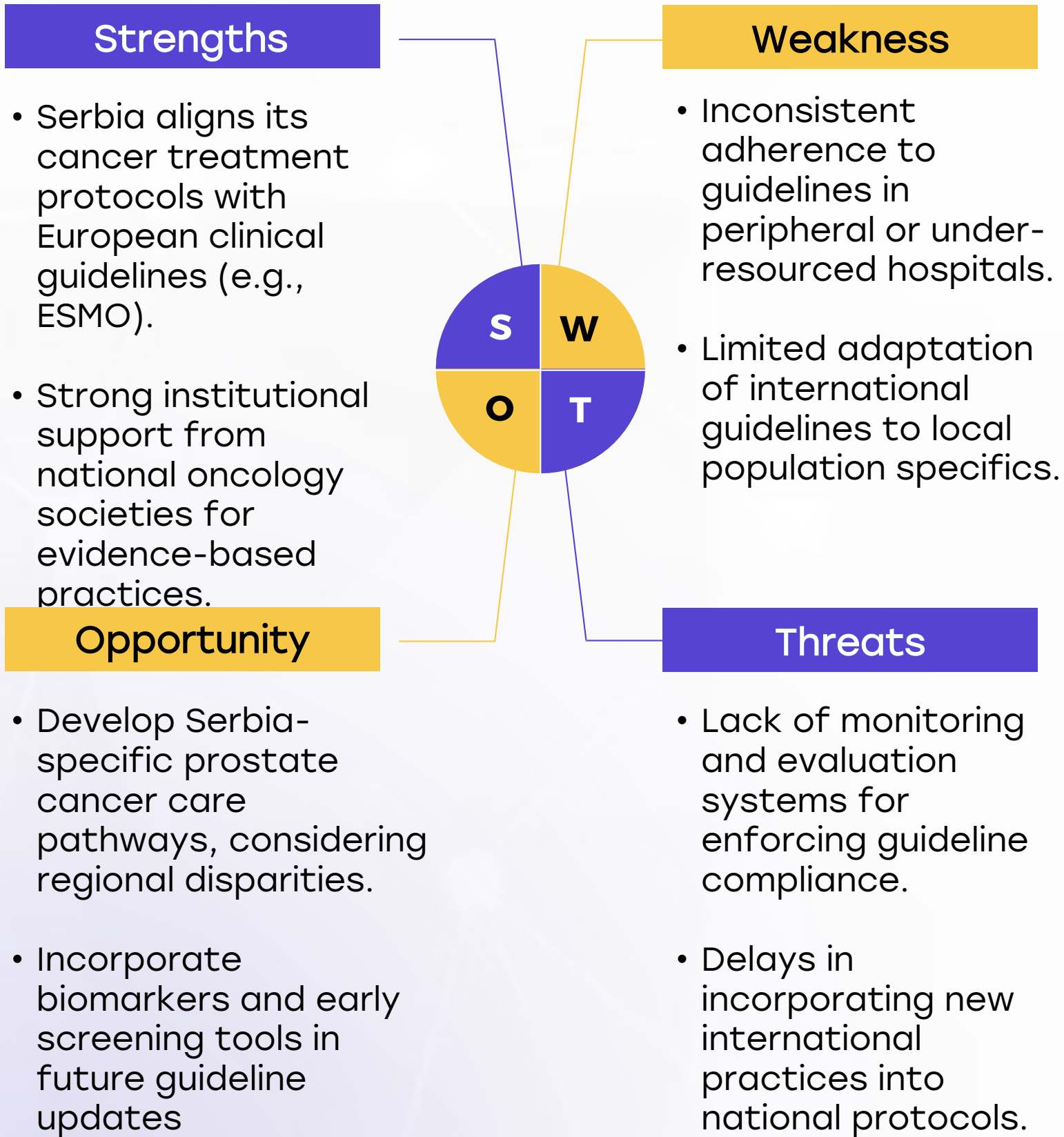
Serbia



Serbia



Clinical Guidelines

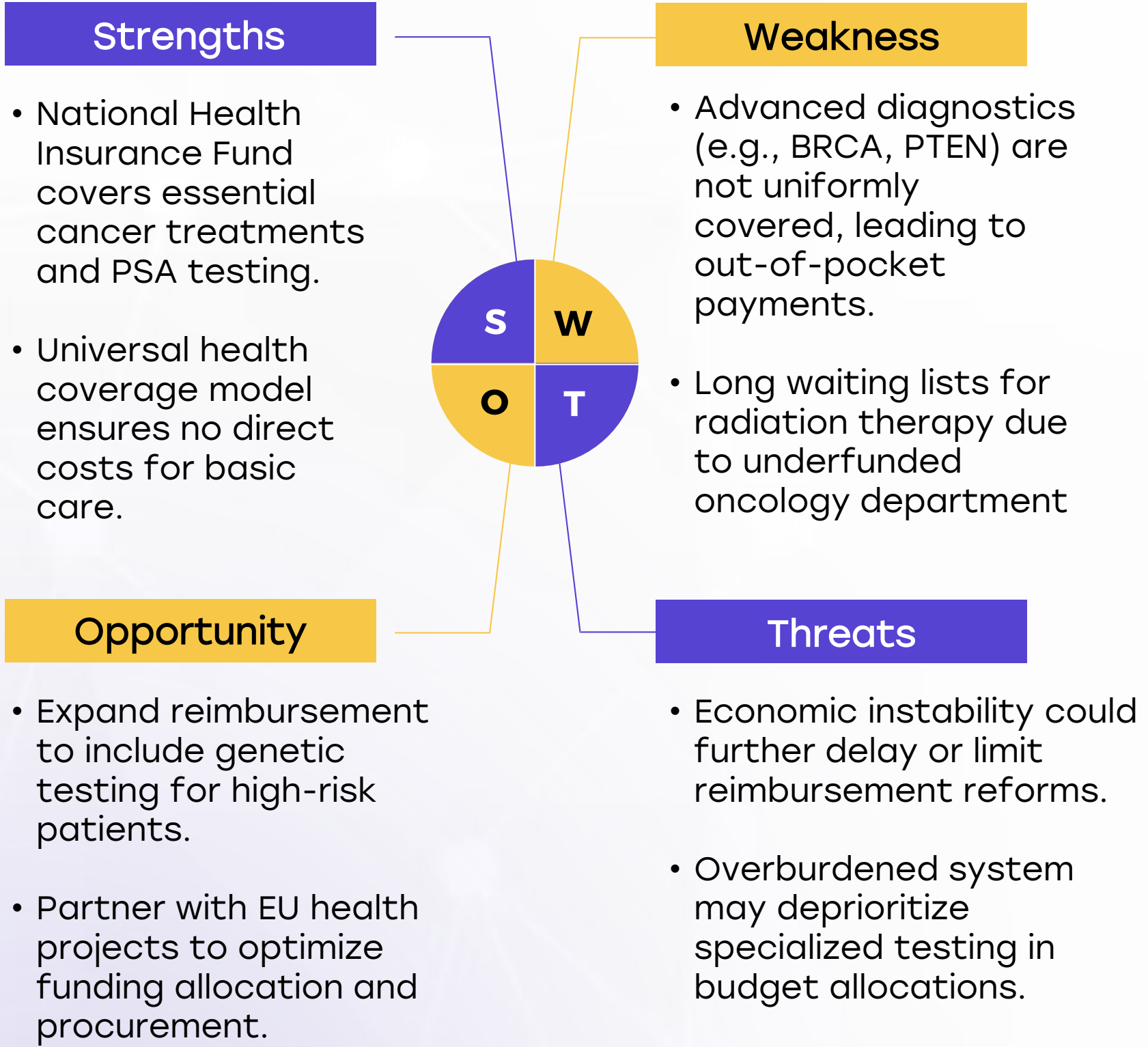





	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low
Clinical Guideline Implementation	✗	○	✗	✗	✗
Feasibility of Integration	✗	○	✗	✗	✗
Adoption of International Guidelines	✗	○	✗	✗	✗
Engagement with Updates	✗	✗	✗	○	✗
ESMO Guidelines Implementation	✗	○	✗	✗	✗





















































































Serbia



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		

Serbia



Prostate Cancer Screening



Country	Prostate 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	Prostate 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