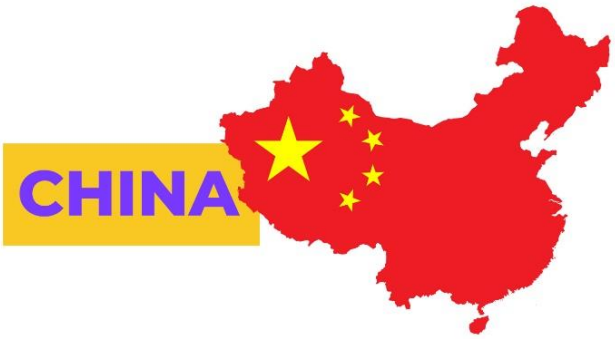

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BRIDGING THE GAP

Advancing Comprehensive **Prostate Cancer Care** in China

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

China has made significant progress in building a structured and accessible prostate cancer care framework, with improvements in early detection initiatives, diagnostic capabilities, and treatment availability. National guidelines exist, and advanced therapies are available in many urban centers. However, disparities remain between urban and rural areas, and affordability challenges persist for some advanced treatments.

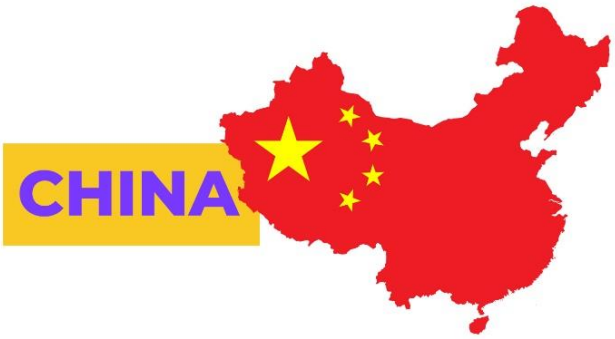
This policy brief reviews China's current prostate cancer landscape and outlines targeted reforms to advance from **Level 3 – Advanced** toward a fully integrated, equitable care model.

INTRODUCTION

Consolidating Gains While Addressing Inequities

Prostate cancer is among the most common cancers in Chinese men, and early detection rates have improved due to increased public awareness and health check-up programs in urban areas. National treatment guidelines are in place, and biomarker testing, surgery, radiotherapy, and systemic therapies are widely available in major hospitals. Despite this progress, access gaps persist for rural populations, and treatment affordability remains a concern, particularly for targeted therapies and novel agents. A focus on expanding equitable access and sustaining innovation will be key to achieving a more mature and universally accessible system.

China Ranks at Level 3 – Advanced Prostate Cancer Maturity Framework



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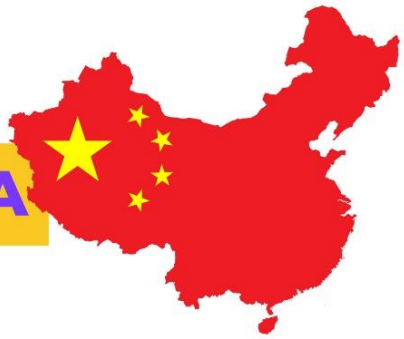
PROSTATE CANCER IN CHINA

Current Landscape and Strategic Gaps

Pillar	Current Status	Strength	Policy Action
Early Detection & Diagnosis	PSA testing and prostate cancer screening are available in major cities, often through annual check-up packages; limited structured programs in rural areas.	Strong urban diagnostic infrastructure and growing awareness.	Expand organized screening to high-risk groups nationwide, including rural outreach and telemedicine support.
Biomarker & Molecular Testing	Widely available in tertiary hospitals, including AR-V7, BRCA, and other relevant biomarkers; not universally reimbursed.	High technological capacity in urban medical centers.	Ensure nationwide reimbursement for biomarker testing and build capacity in secondary and rural hospitals.
Treatment Access	Surgery, radiotherapy, and systemic therapies (including hormonal therapy, chemotherapy, targeted therapy, and immunotherapy) available in major cities; rural access is limited.	Comprehensive oncology services in tier 1 and tier 2 cities.	Expand advanced treatment facilities to underserved areas and improve referral pathways.
Clinical Guidelines	National prostate cancer treatment guidelines exist and are updated regularly; adoption varies by facility level.	Strong alignment with international standards.	Improve enforcement and monitoring of guideline use across all healthcare levels.
Palliative & Survivorship Care	Available in many urban hospitals, but coverage remains patchy; survivorship support is not yet systematized nationwide.	Increasing integration of palliative services into oncology departments.	Develop national survivorship programs and expand community-based palliative care, especially in rural provinces.



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CONCLUSION & Call to Action

China's **Level 3 – Advanced** maturity reflects a well-developed but unevenly distributed prostate cancer care system. The country has strong clinical guidelines, advanced diagnostic and treatment capabilities, and growing public awareness, yet must address rural-urban disparities and financial barriers to cutting-edge therapies.

KEY POLICY PRIORITIES

1. **Expand Rural Access:** Build regional cancer centers and tele-oncology networks to serve underserved areas.
2. **Universalize Screening Access:** Implement risk-based national screening with equitable coverage.
3. **Ensure Affordability of Advanced Therapies:** Expand public insurance coverage for targeted and novel therapies.
4. **Standardize Care Across All Levels:** Strengthen monitoring and adherence to national guidelines.
5. **Enhance Survivorship & Palliative Programs:** Create structured nationwide support systems for long-term patients

CONCLUSION

China's prostate cancer care system is **well-established** but must continue evolving toward equitable access and innovation. By bridging the gap between urban excellence and rural limitations, strengthening financial protection, and standardizing high-quality care nationwide, China can advance toward a **Level 4 – Comprehensive** maturity. A coordinated focus on prevention, early detection, equitable treatment, and survivorship will ensure that all Chinese men benefit from the nation's rapid progress in cancer care.