



Colorectal Cancer Factsheet: Insights & Key Developments

Key Insights on Colorectal 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. Colorectal Cancer Screening

Colorectal 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 colorectal cancer care, including specialized infrastructure, treatment accessibility, research funding, early detection, and palliative care.

- Incidence share: Among the top 3 cancers in Russian men.
- Incidence rate: Around 36 per 100,000 men per year.
- Total new cases (2022): Approximately 27,500 men.
- Daily diagnoses (2022): About 75 men per day.
- Deaths (2022): Around 19,000 men.
- 5-year survival rate: Estimated 40-45%, affected by late-stage presentation.
- Most affected age group: Primarily 60 years and above.
- Screening participation: Opportunistic screening; no universal program.



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Strengths

- Russia has several top-tier oncology centers like the Blokhin Cancer Center and Petrov Oncology Institute, offering full-spectrum CRC diagnostics and treatment.
- Modern diagnostic tools including colonoscopy, CT, MRI, and pathology services are concentrated in major cities.

Opportunity

- Investments under the National Oncology Program are improving digital health infrastructure and cancer center modernization.
- Telemedicine and AI-based radiology could bridge rural gaps.

Weakness

- Access in rural regions remains limited, with outdated infrastructure and poor availability of screening tools.
- Long wait times in public facilities for advanced diagnostics like PET-CT.

- Economic sanctions and supply chain disruptions are slowing down equipment procurement and upgrades.
- Urban-rural healthcare disparities persist across oblasts.



- 4. Strong infrastructure in major hospitals and cancer centers, some regional disparities.
- 3. Moderate infrastructure, primarily in private settings or research institutions.
- 2. Limited infrastructure, available only in select centers or for high-cost private testing.
- 1. Minimal or no infrastructure, testing mostly unavailable or sent abroad.

| Country | Specialized Centers | Genetic & Molecular Testing Infrastructure |
|----------------|------------------------|---|
| South Africa | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| Kenya | | |
| Nigeria | | |
| Egypt | | 0 |
| Morocco | | |
| Algeria | | |
| Ethiopia | | |
| India | | 0 |
| Japan | | 0 |
| South Korea | | |
| China | | 0 |
| Thailand | <u> </u> | 0 |
| Singapore | | |
| United Kingdom | | 0 |
| Germany | | 0 |
| France | | |
| Netherlands | | 0 |
| Sweden | | |
| Italy | | |
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| Poland | | <u> </u> |
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| Colombia | | 0 |
| United States | | |
| Canada | | 0 |
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| New Zealand | | 0 |
| Greece | 0 | 0 |
| Rwanda | | |
| Uganda | | |
| Serbia | 0 | 0 |
| Saudi Arabia | 0 | 0 |
| UAE | 0 | 0 |
| Syria | 0 | 0 |
| Indonesia | 0 | |
| Vietnam | 0 | 0 |
| Philippines | 0 | |
| Russia | 0 | 0 |
| Malaysia | | |
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Treatment Access, Research Funding and Awareness Campaigns

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Strengths

- Access to surgery, chemotherapy, and targeted therapy is available in regional cancer centers.
- Russia participates in regional clinical trials and some domestic drug development for CRC.

Opportunity

- Increase participation in international research collaborations, especially for precision medicine.
- More aggressive public health campaigns in urban and industrial zones with high CRC burden.

Weakness

- Use of targeted and immunotherapies remains limited due to cost and access barriers.
- Public awareness of CRC remains low; screening is often reactive rather than preventive.

- Ongoing political isolation limits international clinical trial participation and drug pipeline access.
- Fragmented funding between federal and regional authorities leads to uneven treatment standards.

- 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.

| 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 |

| Country | Treatment Access | Research Funding | Awareness Campaigns |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| South Africa | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kenya | | | |
| Nigeria | | | |
| Egypt | 0 | 0 | |
| Morocco | | | |
| Algeria | | | |
| Ethiopia | | | |
| India | 0 | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| Japan | | | |
| South Korea | 0 | | |
| China | 0 | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| Thailand | 0 | <u> </u> | |
| Singapore | 0 | | |
| United Kingdom | 0 | | |
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| France | 0 | | <u> </u> |
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| United States | | | |
| Canada | | | |
| Australia | 0 | | 0 |
| New Zealand | <u> </u> | \bigcirc | <u> </u> |
| Greece | <u> </u> | \bigcirc | <u> </u> |
| Rwanda | | | |
| Uganda | | | |
| Serbia | 0 | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| Saudi Arabia | 0 | | <u> </u> |
| UAE | | \bigcirc | 0 |
| Syria | | | |
| Indonesia | | | 0 |
| Vietnam | | | 0 |
| Philippines | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | 0 |
| Russia | 0 | <u> </u> | 0 |
| Malaysia | | \bigcirc | |



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Survival Rates, Early **Detection** and Palliative Care

Strengths

• CRC survival rates in Russia have improved to around 50-55% for 5-year survival, with early-stage detection faring better.

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• Urban centers provide strong palliative care options through multidisciplinary

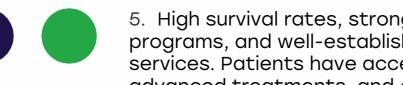
Opportunity programs.

- Expand GP-based early detection referral systems and training.
- Strengthen regional hospice care and integrate it with home-based nursing support.

- 60%) of patients are still diagnosed at late stages.
- Rural areas lack structured palliative services and symptom management protocols.

Threats

- · Cultural stigmas and low health literacy delay symptom reporting.
- Economic instability may cut resources for palliative infrastructure.



4. Good survival rates, effective early detection efforts, and accessible but regionally limited palliative care. Some disparities may exist in rural

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.

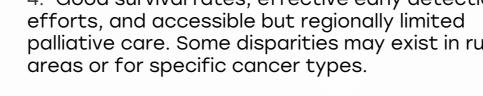
2. Low survival rates, early detection efforts are inconsistent or underfunded, and palliative care is minimal or only available in select hospitals. Cancer patients face significant access barriers.

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.

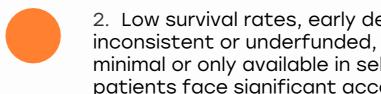
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| Weakness | | | | | |
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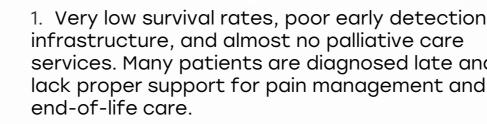
| | 5. High survival rates, strong early detection programs, and well-established palliative care services. Patients have access to timely diagnosis, advanced treatments, and comprehensive end-of- |
|--|--|
| | life care. |











| Country | Survival Rates | Early Detection | Palliative Care |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| South Africa | | | |
| Kenya | | | |
| Nigeria | | | |
| Egypt | | | |
| Morocco | 0 | | 0 |
| Algeria | 0 | | 0 |
| Ethiopia | | | |
| India | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Japan | | 0 | |
| South Korea | | 0 | |
| China | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Thailand | | | |
| Singapore | | | |
| United Kingdom | | | |
| Germany | | | |
| France | | | |
| Netherlands | | | |
| Sweden | | | |
| Italy | | | |
| Spain | | | |
| Poland | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | |
| Mexico | | | |
| Brazil | \bigcirc | 0 | <u> </u> |
| Argentina | \bigcirc | 0 | <u> </u> |
| Chile | <u> </u> | 0 | <u> </u> |
| Colombia | | | |
| United States | | | |
| Canada | | | |
| Australia | | | |
| New Zealand | | | |
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| Rwanda | | | |
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| Serbia | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | |
| Saudi Arabia | <u> </u> | | \bigcirc |
| UAE | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | |
| Syria | | | |
| Indonesia | <u> </u> | 0 | |
| Vietnam | <u> </u> | | |
| Philippines | <u> </u> | 0 | |
| Russia | <u> </u> | 0 | <u> </u> |
| Malaysia | \bigcirc | | \bigcirc |
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Utilization of Biomarkers

Strengths

- Biomarker testing for KRAS, NRAS, and BRAF V600E mutations is becoming routine in urban tertiary centers.
- MSI/dMMR testing is used for identifying patients for immunotherapy and potential Lynch syndrome cases.

Opportunity

- Improve central lab networks to provide remote sample testing services nationwide.
- Expand reimbursement for biomarker panels and next-gen sequencing (NGS) where indicated.

Weakness

- Biomarker access is mostly limited to advanced oncology centers in Moscow and St. Petersburg.
- PIK3CA mutation testing is not yet standardized and often confined to research settings.

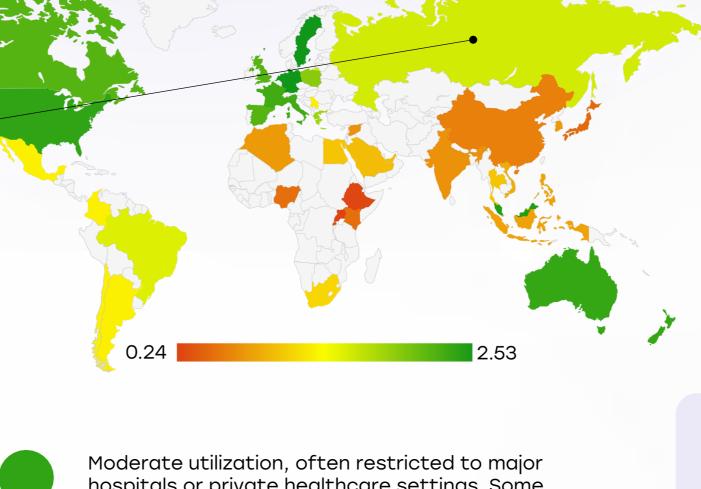
Threats

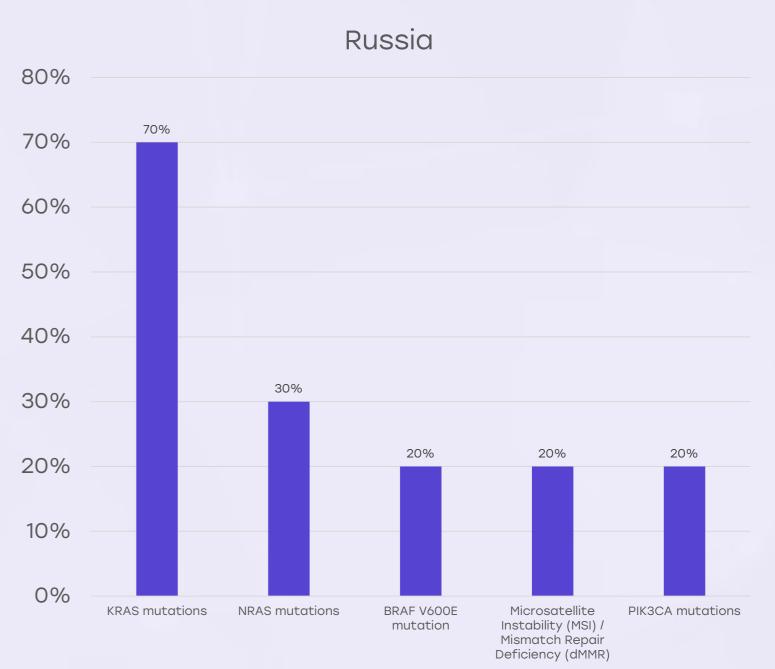
- Supply chain disruptions and import bans affect access to testing kits and reagents.
- Variation in testing quality and accreditation across regions.

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.









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Strengths

- Russia's Federal Clinical Recommendations for CRC align with global standards and include biomarkerguided treatment.
- Multidisciplinary tumor boards are standard in specialized centers.

Opportunity

- Establish continuous medical education (CME) portals to disseminate guideline updates.
- Create centralized digital tools to support evidence-based decision-makin

Weakness

- Implementation gaps in secondary or peripheral hospitals due to workforce training deficits.
- Slow integration of new research findings into guideline revisions

- Regional autonomy in healthcare leads to inconsistent adoption of national standards.
- Political tensions may limit collaboration with international oncology societies.



| | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low |
|--|--------------|------|--------|-----|-------------|
| Clinical Guideline Implementation | * | 0 | × | * | * |
| Feasibility of Integration | * | 0 | × | × | * |
| Adoption of International Guidelines | * | 0 | * | * | * |
| Engagement with Updates | * | * | 0 | * | * |
| ESMO Guidelines Implementation | * | 0 | × | * | * |



Reimbursement

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Strengths

- The Compulsory Medical Insurance Fund (CMIF) reimburses most standard CRC treatments including surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation.
- Some biomarker-driven treatments, like anti-EGFR therapies, are covered for eligible patients.

Opportunity

- Reimbursement reform to include value-based and precision oncology therapies.
- Broader coverage for genetic testing in public programs.

Weakness

- High-cost biologics and immunotherapies are not widely reimbursed and often require special approval.
- Regional disparities exist in drug availability and reimbursement timelines.

- Economic instability may force rollback of reimbursement lists or rationing of innovative therapies.
- Delays in updating national formularies.



- 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 | 0 | |
| Poland | 0 | |
| Japan | | |
| South Korea | | |
| China | | |
| India | 0 | 0 |
| Singapore | 0 | |
| Thailand | | |
| South Africa | 0 | 0 |
| Kenya | 0 | 0 |
| Nigeria | 0 | 0 |
| Egypt | 0 | 0 |
| Morocco | 0 | 0 |
| Algeria | | |
| Ethiopia | 0 | 0 |
| Mexico | | |
| Brazil | 0 | |
| Argentina | 0 | |
| Chile | 0 | |
| Colombia | 0 | |
| New Zealand | 0 | |
| Greece | 0 | |
| Rwanda | 0 | 0 |
| Uganda | 0 | 0 |
| Serbia | | |
| Saudi Arabia | 0 | |
| UAE | | |
| Syria | 0 | 0 |
| Indonesia | | |
| Vietnam | | |
| Philippines | 0 | |
| Russia | | |
| Malaysia | | |





Strengths

- A national CRC screening program exists with FOBT and colonoscopy protocols, especially in high-risk populations aged 50-75.
- Pilot programs in regions like Moscow and Tatarstan have shown improved early detection rates.

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• Infrastructure for population-based colonoscopy screening is inadequate outside metro regions.

Weakness

(<25%), especially

among men.

• Overall participation in

screening remains low

Opportunity

- Integrate CRC screening into annual health check-ups and incentivize primary care providers.
- Digital outreach (SMS, portal-based) can boost attendance in urban populations.

- Public fear and distrust in colonoscopy deter uptake.
- Capacity challenges due to long waiting times and overburdened diagnostic facilities.

| Country | Colorectal 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 | Colorectal 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 |