

# BRIDGING THE GAP

## Strengthening Prostate Cancer Care in Morocco

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Morocco** is making incremental progress in prostate cancer care, particularly in awareness initiatives and limited treatment access in urban areas. However, significant challenges remain in early detection, equitable infrastructure distribution, and availability of advanced therapies. Concentrated care facilities, regional disparities, and the absence of a comprehensive national screening program hinder optimal outcomes.

This policy brief examines the current state of prostate cancer care in Morocco and outlines strategic reforms to advance its **Level 2 – Developing** maturity toward a more robust, equitable system.

### INTRODUCTION

#### Building on Awareness Gains While Addressing Systemic Gaps

Prostate cancer is among the most common cancers in Moroccan men. While awareness about men's health is gradually improving — supported by national health campaigns and advocacy from organizations such as the Lalla Salma Foundation — early detection remains limited, and treatment access is uneven across regions. Specialized care and advanced treatment options are concentrated in major cities like Casablanca and Rabat, leaving rural populations underserved.

Morocco's current **Level 2 – Developing** maturity level presents an opportunity to accelerate progress through targeted policy action, improved infrastructure, and national coordination.



**Morocco Ranks at Level 2 – Developing Prostate Cancer Maturity Framework**

# PROSTATE CANCER IN MOROCCO

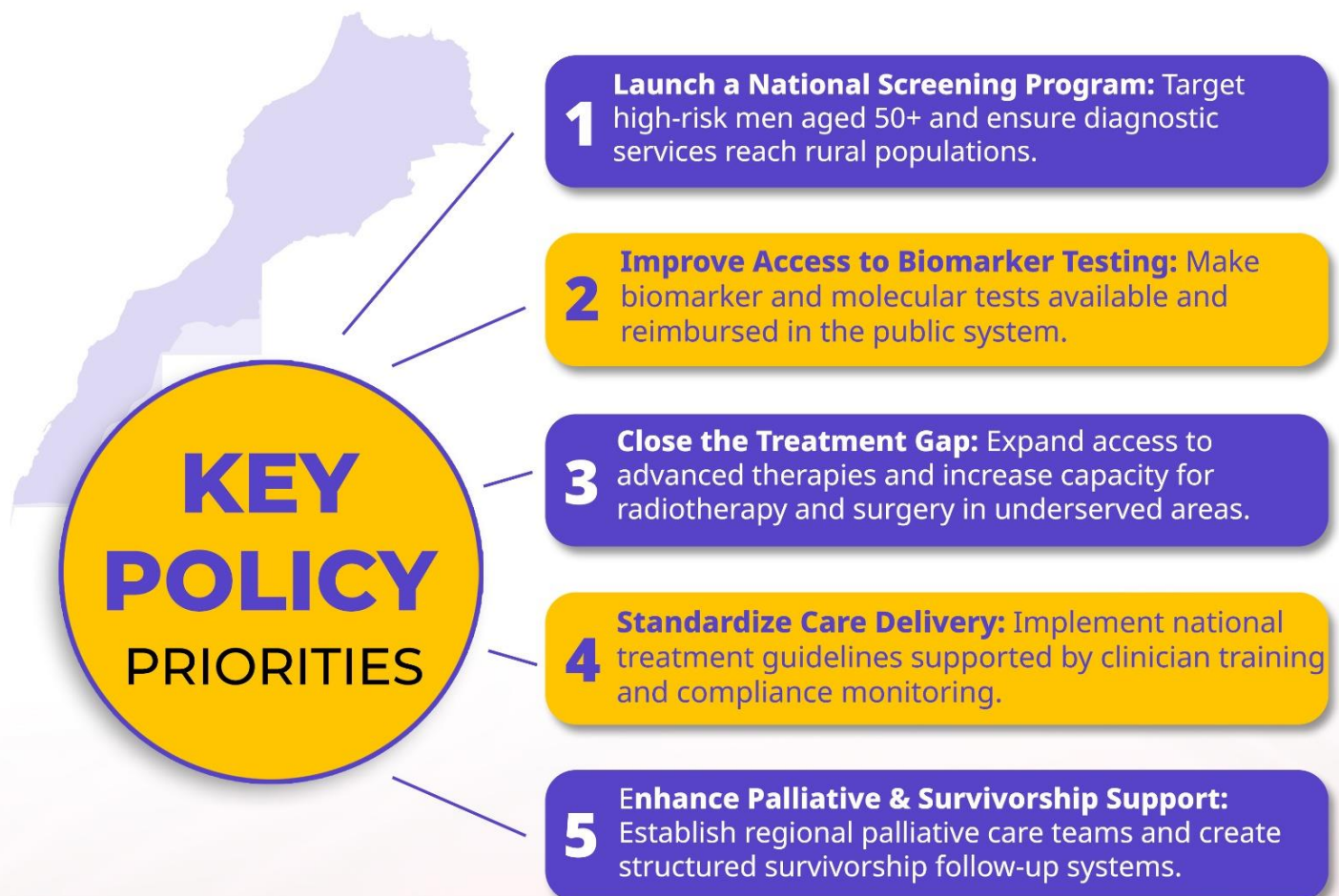
## Current Landscape and Strategic Gaps

Pillar	Current Status	Strength	Policy Action
Early Detection & Diagnosis	No organized national screening; opportunistic PSA testing is available, mainly in urban tertiary centers. Most cases are diagnosed late.	Growing public health awareness through national campaigns and advocacy groups.	Implement a structured national screening framework for high-risk groups and expand diagnostic services to regional and rural hospitals.
Biomarker & Molecular Testing	Limited access to advanced biomarkers in public facilities; some availability in private urban centers.	Centers of excellence in Casablanca and Rabat have the capacity to expand services.	Integrate biomarker testing into public hospital services and incentivize private-public partnerships to scale availability.
Treatment Access	Radiotherapy and surgery services are available in major cities, but advanced hormonal therapies and novel agents have limited public access.	Public insurance schemes offer partial cost coverage for eligible patients.	Expand national procurement of hormonal and novel therapies; increase radiotherapy capacity in underserved regions.
Clinical Guidelines	No formalized national prostate cancer treatment guidelines; reliance on international standards in leading hospitals.	Oncology specialists in major cities adhere to recognized protocols.	Develop and implement standardized national guidelines, ensuring clinician training nationwide.
Palliative & Survivorship Care	Palliative services exist but are uneven, with better access in urban centers. Survivorship care is underdeveloped.	The Lalla Salma Foundation supports palliative initiatives in certain regions.	Expand palliative care networks, ensure equitable morphine availability, and develop survivorship support programs.



## CONCLUSION & Call to Action

Morocco has made progress in building awareness and providing treatment for prostate cancer in urban hubs, but systemic challenges persist in ensuring equitable access and early detection. A cohesive national strategy is needed to integrate screening, diagnostics, treatment, and survivorship into a coordinated framework.



## CONCLUSION

With its **Level 2 – Developing** maturity, Morocco is positioned to shift from fragmented services toward a more inclusive and standardized prostate cancer care system. Building on awareness initiatives, leveraging strong oncology centers in major cities, and extending services to underserved areas will be key to improving patient outcomes. By adopting a unified national strategy supported by adequate financing and inter-sectoral collaboration, Morocco can accelerate its journey toward equitable and effective prostate cancer care for all men, regardless of geography or income.