

AACU Strongly Supports Biomarker Testing

Founded in 1968 by urologists concerned by the government's increasing role in the practice of medicine, the AACU is a professional organization representing the interests of more than 3,700+ member urologists, and urologic societies engaged as advocacy affiliates across the United States. We are dedicated to developing and advancing health policy education as it affects urologic practice in order to preserve and promote the professional autonomy of our members and support the highest quality of care for patients.

AACU strongly supports the expansion of legislation and regulation on increased biomarker testing. According to the National Cancer Institute:

Biomarker testing is a way to look for genes, proteins, and other substances (called biomarkers or tumor markers) that can provide information about cancer. Each person's cancer has a unique pattern of biomarkers. Some biomarkers affect how certain cancer treatments work. Biomarker testing may help you and your doctor choose a cancer treatment for you.¹

Biomarker testing is a great proactive tool that can help urologists look for biomarkers in the blood, urine or prostate, in order to determine which type of treatment protocol would be appropriate for patients.

As we move more into precision medicine and look for other ways to improve outcomes and lower costs, biomarker testing will be a key tool to use to target protocols and most importantly save patients' lives.

Additionally, increased access to biomarker testing will help ensure health equity as people of color along with rural and lower income communities are currently being left behind from the latest advancements in cutting edge healthcare.

Therefore, AACU will look to work with industry stakeholders to move this important policy initiative forward.

¹ National Cancer Institute, *Biomarker Testing for Cancer Treatment* <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/types/biomarker-testing-cancer-treatment#:~:text=Each%20person%27s%20cancer%20has%20a,cancer%20during%20and%20after%20treatment.>