

# Consistent Common Cancer Testing Terms

Join a movement to promote consistent use of common terms for biomarker and germline genetic testing and improve communication between patients and providers about testing needs.

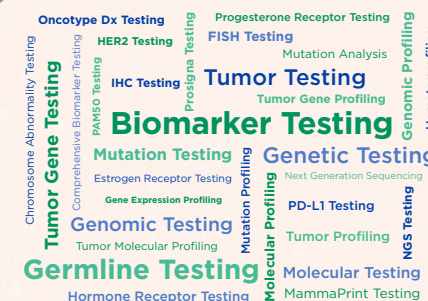
[www.CommonCancerTestingTerms.org](http://www.CommonCancerTestingTerms.org)

40+

More than 40 patient advocacy groups, professional societies, pharma, biotech, diagnostic companies, and laboratories agree to use **consistent descriptor testing terms** in patient education and communication.

## Recent data highlight suboptimal testing rates.

- 40% of colorectal cancer patients are not being tested for biomarkers<sup>1</sup>
- Only 7% of eligible non-small cell lung cancer patients treated in community oncology practices were tested for all 7 biomarkers recommended in clinical guidelines<sup>2</sup>
- Germline genetic testing rates for inherited mutations and cancer risk are below 50%<sup>3</sup>



At least 33 terms related to biomarker, genetic, and genomic testing are used in cancer patient education contributing to patient confusion & lack of engagement in discussing testing with providers.

## Inconsistent cancer testing terms create confusion about:

- What kind of testing should I ask for?
- What kind of testing did I have?
- Did I have the right testing for my specific cancer?
- What do the test results mean for my care?



## Adopting consistent, common terms for patient communication will minimize patient confusion about testing.

- “Biomarker testing” refers to testing for somatic (acquired) mutations and other biomarkers
- “Genetic testing for an inherited mutation” and “Genetic testing for inherited cancer risk” describes testing for inherited mutations

## RECOMMENDED TERMS

BIOMARKER TESTING

GENETIC TESTING FOR AN INHERITED MUTATION

GENETIC TESTING FOR INHERITED CANCER RISK



With consistent use of common terms, the medical community and patients achieve common understanding about the value of testing to make care decisions.

1 Gutierrez ME, Price KS, Lanman RB, et al. Genomic Profiling for KRAS, NRAS, BRAF, Microsatellite Instability (MSI) and Mismatch Repair Deficiency (dMMR) among Patients with Metastatic Colon Cancer. JCO Precision Oncol. December 2019.

2 Gierman HJ, Goldfarb S, Labrador M, et al. Genomic testing and treatment landscape in patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer (aNSCLC) using real-world data from community oncology practices. J Clin Oncol. 2019;37(suppl; abstr 1585).

3 Allison W, Kurian, Kevin C, Ward, Nadia Howlader, et al. Genetic Testing and Results in a Population-Based Cohort of Breast Cancer Patients and Ovarian Cancer Patients. Journal of Clinical Oncology. May 20, 2019.