# Health Care Disparities in Lung Cancer Genomic Profiling: Has Precision Oncology Widened the Gap?

Estelamari Rodriguez, MD, MPH Clinical Research Lead, Thoracic SDG Assistant Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center University of Miami





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### Accelerated Biomarker Discovery: Driving Targeted Therapy Advancements and Biomarker Testing Demand



1. Hadju SJ. Ann Clin Lab Sci. 2006;36(2):222-223; 2. Bence Jones H. On a new substance occurring in the urine of a patient with "mollities ossium." Philos Trans 1848; 138:55–62; 3. Polti K, et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2015;21(10):2213-2220.

#### Increased complexity of genomic alterations is expanding treatment options



Li. JCO. 2013;31:1039. Tsao. J Thorac Oncol. 2016;11:613. Slide credit: clinicaloptions.com

EGFR 20ins: Amivantamab Mobocertinib

EGFR Other 4% **MET 3%** > 1 Mutation 3% HER2 2% **ROS1 2% BRAF 2% RET 2% NTRK1** 1% **PIK3CA** 1% *MEK1* < 1%

METex14:

nib

Capmatinib/Tepoti

#### ROS1:

Crizotinib Entrectinib

**BRAF V600E:** Dabrafenib/Trametinib Encorafenib/Binimetinib

**RET** fusion: Selpercatinib

Pralsetinib

**NTRK** fusion:

Entrectinib Larotrectinib



# The Gentrification of Lung Cancer Treatment

#### When I completed fellowship

- Chemo+/-**Bevacizumab**
- Erlotinib
- Hospice

**Platinum-based Chemotherapy** ECOG 1594, **ECOG 4599** 

# Erlotinib **BR.21**

#### Brickell Avenue, Miami \$60/sqft → \$666/sqft

### With more Complexity in Testing & Treatment, There is more Room for Disparities

#### Today



- Chemo-Immuno
- Immunotx
- Targeted **Therapies:**
- ✓ EGFR ✓ ALK ✓ ROS ✓ BRAF V600E ✓ Met Ex 14 Skip ✓ RET ✓ KRASG12C ✓ ERBB2 ✓ NTRK

## Increasing Biomarker Testing Volumes in Lung Cancer





# **Biomarker Testing Rates: MYLUNG**

(Molecularly Informed Lung Cancer Treatment in a Community Cancer Network)

| Test types            | Overall<br>N=3474 | Nonsquamous<br>N=2820 |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| EGFR                  | 70%               | 76%                   |
| ALK                   | 70%               | 76%                   |
| ROS1                  | 68%               | 73%                   |
| BRAF                  | 55%               | 59%                   |
| PD-L1                 | 83%               | 83%                   |
| Any biomarker         | 90%               | 91%                   |
| All 5 biomarker tests | 46%               | 49%                   |
| NGS                   | 37%               | 39%                   |

Retrospective single-institution study of pts w/ newly diagnosed stage IV non-Sq NSCLC (N=335)<sup>2</sup>

- **Disparities in comprehensive biomarker testing**
- 18%-39% of patients began treatment before receiving molecular profiling results



Patients with comprehensive genotyping have improved OS compared to patients with incomplete or no testing.

1. Robert NJ, et al. ASCO 2021. Abstract 9004. 2. Aggarwal C, et al. ASCO 2022. Abstract 9022.

#### **Testing Disparities: Community vs Academic Centers**





# Disparities in Access to Molecular Testing is Multifactorial

#### **RESEARCH ARTICLE**





Underutilization and disparities in access to EGFR testing among Medicare patients with lung cancer from 2010 – 2013

Julie A. Lynch<sup>1,7\*</sup>, Brygida Berse<sup>2,3</sup>, Merry Rabb<sup>4</sup>, Paul Mosquin<sup>4</sup>, Rob Chew<sup>4</sup>, Suzanne L. West<sup>4</sup>, Nicole Coomer<sup>4</sup>, Daniel Becker<sup>5,6</sup> and John Kautter<sup>2</sup>

- Medicare claims data 2010-2013
- Geographic area most strongest predictor
- Race predictor (Blacks less likely, Asians more likely)
- Distance from a NCI Cancer Center
- Zip cide and built environment





#### Racial disparities in biomarker testing and clinical trial enrollment

- Real World Practice Cohort (Flatiron)
  - N=14,768 Stage IV NSCLC
  - Diagnosed 1/2017-10/2020
  - Treated within 120 days of diagnosis
  - Black patients less likely to get NGS biomarker testing (39% vs 50% NHWs)
- Participation in clinical trials higher in pts getting NGS

Bruno et al. Presented at ASCO 2021. Abstract 9003.





# **Biomarker Testing**

| All patients with NSCLC                |                           |                  |                     |                               |  |
|--|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|  | NSCLC overall<br>N=14,768 | White<br>N=9,793 | Black/AA<br>N=1,288 | P-value, White vs<br>Black/AA |  |
| Ever tested                            | 11,297 (76.5%)            | 7477 (76.4%)     | 948 (73.6%)         | 0.03                          |  |
| Tested prior to first line therapy     |                           | 6,064 (61.9%)    | 784 (60.9%)         | 0.47                          |  |
| Ever NGS tested                        | 7,185 (48.7%)             | 4,904 (50.1%)    | 513 (39.8%)         | <0.0001                       |  |
| NGS tested prior to first line therapy |                           | 3,081 (31.5%)    | 332 (25.8%)         | <0.0001                       |  |
| Patients with non-squamous NSCLC       |                           |                  |                     |                               |  |
|  | Non-squamous<br>N=10,333  | White<br>N=6,705 | Black/AA<br>N=922   | P-value, White vs<br>Black/AA |  |
| Ever tested                            | 8,786 (85.0%)             | 5,699 (85.0%)    | 764 (82.9%)         | 0.09                          |  |
| Tested prior to first line therapy     |                           | 4,881 (72.8%)    | 662 (71.8%)         | 0.52                          |  |
| Ever NGS tested                        | 5,494 (53.2%)             | 3,668 (54.7%)    | 404 (43.8%)         | <0.0001                       |  |
| NGS tested prior to first line therapy |                           | 2,452 (36.6%)    | 274 (29.7%)         | <0.0001                       |  |

AA = African American; NGS = next-generation sequencing



# **Clinical Trial Participation, Logistic Regression**

Among Patients who were Black/African American (AA) and White - overall NSCLC

| Variable   | Odds ratio (95% CI) | P-value |
|--|---------------------|---------|
| Biomarker testing before start of first-line therapy (yes vs no) | 2.29 (1.64-3.20)    | <0.0001 |
| Ever NGS (yes vs no)   | 2.41 (1.56-3.70)    | <0.0001 |
| Race (Black/AA vs White)   | 0.45 (0.26-0.79)    | 0.005   |

Among all covariates evaluated, the additional factors associated with clinical trial participation among Black and White patients included: age at diagnosis, histology, stage III vs IV, and practice volume



### **Osimertinib or Alectinib Use by State Medicaid Programs**, **Compared With Expected Levels of Use, 2020-2021**



| ge treated |  |
|------------|--|
| l range    |  |
| feasible   |  |
|            |  |

- Est 66% of patients with EGFRand ALK-altered metastatic disease received indicated targeted therapies across all states
- Rates of targeted therapy use ranged from 18% (Arkansas) to **113%** (Massachusetts)
- 91% of states had lower rates of targeted therapy use than expected



#### Real World Data Analysis of Patients Lost at Each Step of the Precision Oncology Pathway



Sadik, H, et al. JCO Precision Oncol. 2022;6:e2200246.

#### **Clinical Practice Gaps with Biomarker Testing in Advanced NSCLC**



Sadik, H, et al. JCO Precision Oncol. 2022;6:e2200246.

### **IASLC: Barriers to Biomarker Testing**

#### Timing

- Turnaround time requesting and treating respondents
  - <u>≥10 days 29%</u> (highest % in North America)
- Turnaround time performing and interpreting assay respondents
  - 0 to 5 days **29%**
  - 6 to 10 days –
    53%
  - 11 to 15 days –
    16%
  - >15 days **2%**

#### Awareness

- ~33% unaware of most recent testing guidelines
- 75% hold multidisciplinary tumor boards to discuss cases

#### Access

- Molecular testing:
- In-house laboratories – 30%
- Completely outsource **43%**
- Partially in-house and partially outsource – 28%

Hess, LM, et al. JTO Clinical and Research Reports. 2022;3(6):100336.

#### Quality

- Insufficient tumor cells 83%
- Inadequate tissue quality – 55%
- Lack of sensitivity of assay or assay use failure – 18%
- Inadequate technical laboratory expertise – 10%

#### Cost

- Direct patient pay -44 – 63%
- Public/government support – 40 – 61%
- Pharmaceutical company sponsorship 29%
- Private insurance 16 -27%

# How to Address Disparities in Testing

- 1. Advocate for Legislation for Universal coverage of guideline-recommended biomarker tests
- Ensuring coverage of biomarker testing for all patients

   including those insured through Medicaid
- 3. Uniform Payer Coverage Policies of Tumor Biomarker Testing
- 4. Guidelines for Uniform Testing & Reporting of Results
- 5. Talk to your Institution about Reflex Testing- Simplify the Process



#### Health Equity in Biomarker Testing and Targeted Therapy

Targeted therapy can improve survival and quality of life by connecting patients to the most beneficial treatment for their disease.

Advancements in cancer treatment are saving more lives – leading to declines in cancer deaths in recent years.<sup>1</sup> This important progress is driven by developments in *targeted therapy* which identifies and attacks certain types of cancer cells with specific *biomarkers* – molecules like proteins or genetic alterations such as mutations, rearrangements, or fusions.



Dr. Estela Rodriguez & @Latinamd · Oct 26, 2022 ···· Started the week with an excellent lecture by @RamalingamMD on Challenges of #biomakertesting as part of @AmericanCancer #ECHO series where "Everybody Teaches, Everybody learns" Delighted to represent @sylvestercancer and partner with @JhanelleGray as faciltative sites for FL CHALLENGES TO BIOMARKER TESTING • Rapidly changing landscape • Awareness • Tissue availability • Ability to obtain biopsy in a timely manner • Turnaround time • Cost/Insurance coverage

Dr. Bruce Johnson and Rami Manochakian, MD 💷 💳 #CancerEducation



# Thank You

@latinamd estelarodriguez@miami.edu

