



NATIONAL  
LUNG CANCER  
ROUNDTABLE



**Addressing Lung Cancer  
Biomarker Testing  
Through Project ECHO:  
2022-2023 Expansion**

***Session Five: Navigating  
Insurance Complexities***

# Welcome to Session Five:

## ACS/NLCRT Lung Cancer Biomarker Testing Project ECHO



Each ECHO session will be recorded and will be posted on [echo.cancer.org](https://echo.cancer.org)



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# Today's Agenda

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**01**      **Agenda Preview & Introductions (10 min)**

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**02**      **Didactic Presentation: “Navigating Insurance Complexities”  
(15 min)**

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**03**      **Didactic Q/A (5 min)**

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**04**      **Open discussion – sharing challenges/promising practices  
regarding Insurance Complexities. (15 min)**

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**05**      **Post-Session Poll & Wrap Up (5 min)**

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**This ACS/NLCRT Lung Cancer Biomarker Testing ECHO series is made possible by funding provided by:**

**AMGEN**

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 **Takeda**

**ONCOLOGY**

**Additional thanks to Foundation Medicine**

# MEET OUR VIRGINIA HUB FACULTY



**Rick Hall, MD**  
University of Virginia



**Edward Stelow, MD**  
University of Virginia



**Renato Martins, MD**  
Virginia Commonwealth University

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## MEET OUR VIRGINIA AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY STAFF



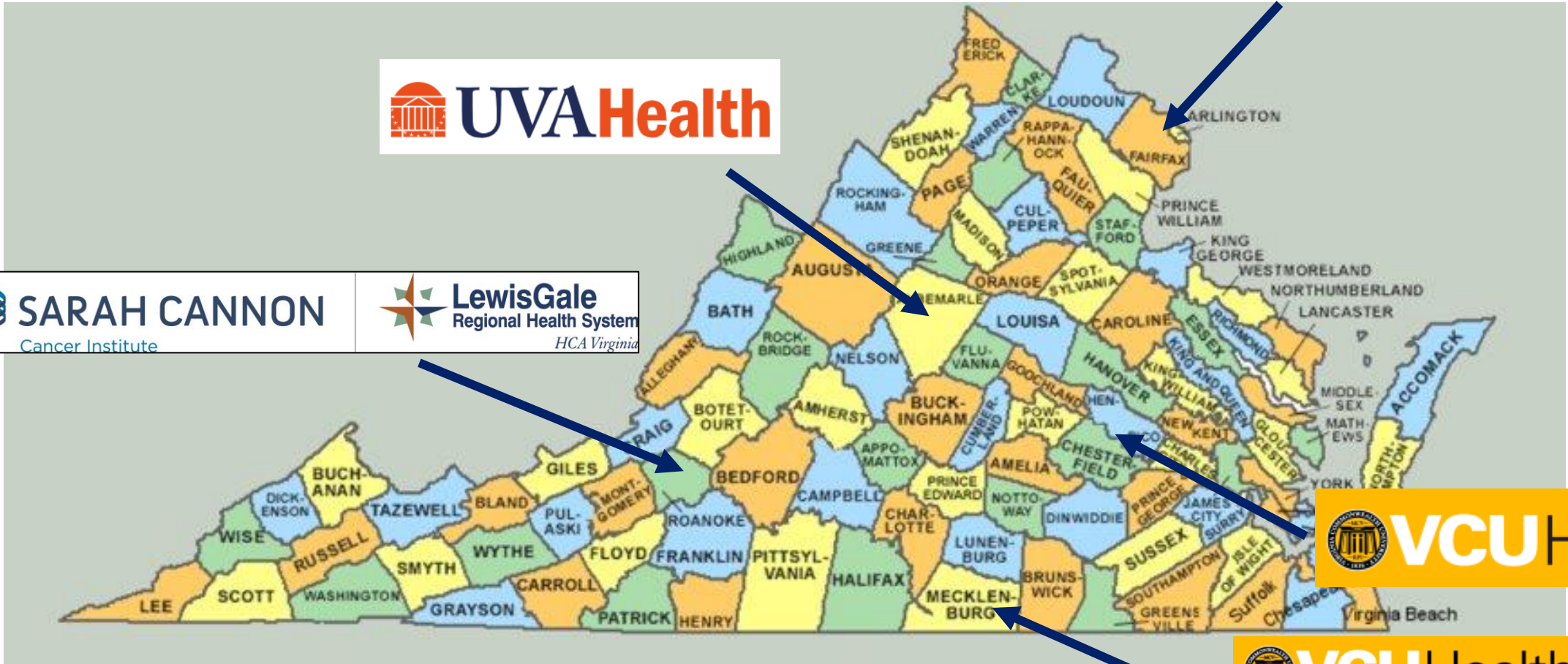
**Riguey King**  
Vice President, Community Impact  
American Cancer Society  
*Virginia ECHO Coordinator*



**Annika Dean**  
American Cancer Society  
*Virginia ECHO Coordinator*



# MEET OUR VA CANCER CENTER SPOKE SITES



# ***“Navigating Insurance Complexities”***



**Cori Chandler**  
**Sr. State & Local Campaigns Manager**  
**American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network**



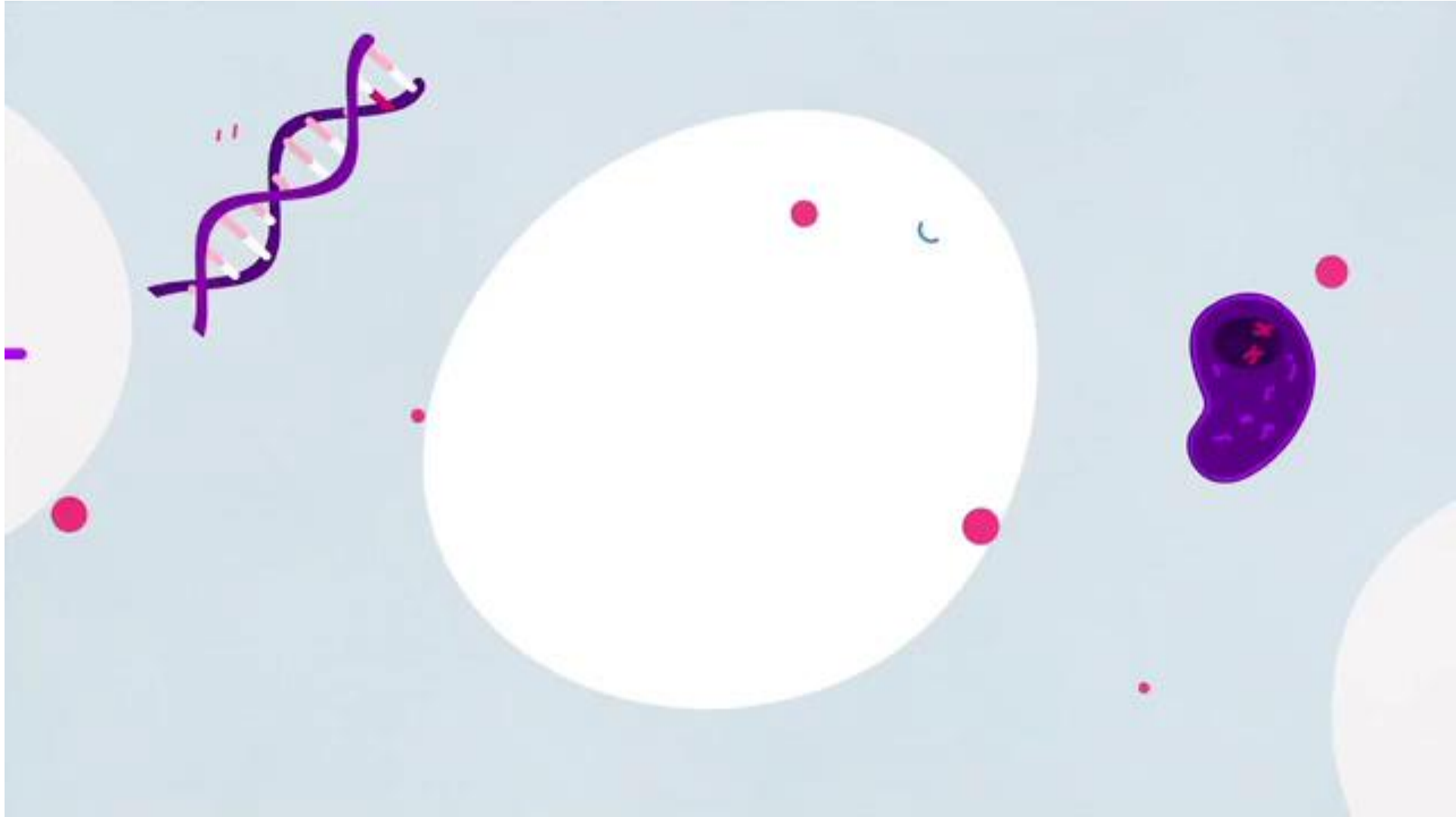


# **Biomarker Testing and Precision Medicine**

**Cori Chandler, MPA**

**Senior Manager, State & Local Campaigns – Access to Care  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network**

# Biomarkers and Precision Medicine



# Screening vs. Genetic testing vs. Biomarker testing

## Screening tests – like MCEd, mammograms, PSA testing

Looking for signs of cancer in general population

## Genetic testing

Testing for inherited risk to determine risk for developing certain cancers or passing risk onto children

## Biomarker testing

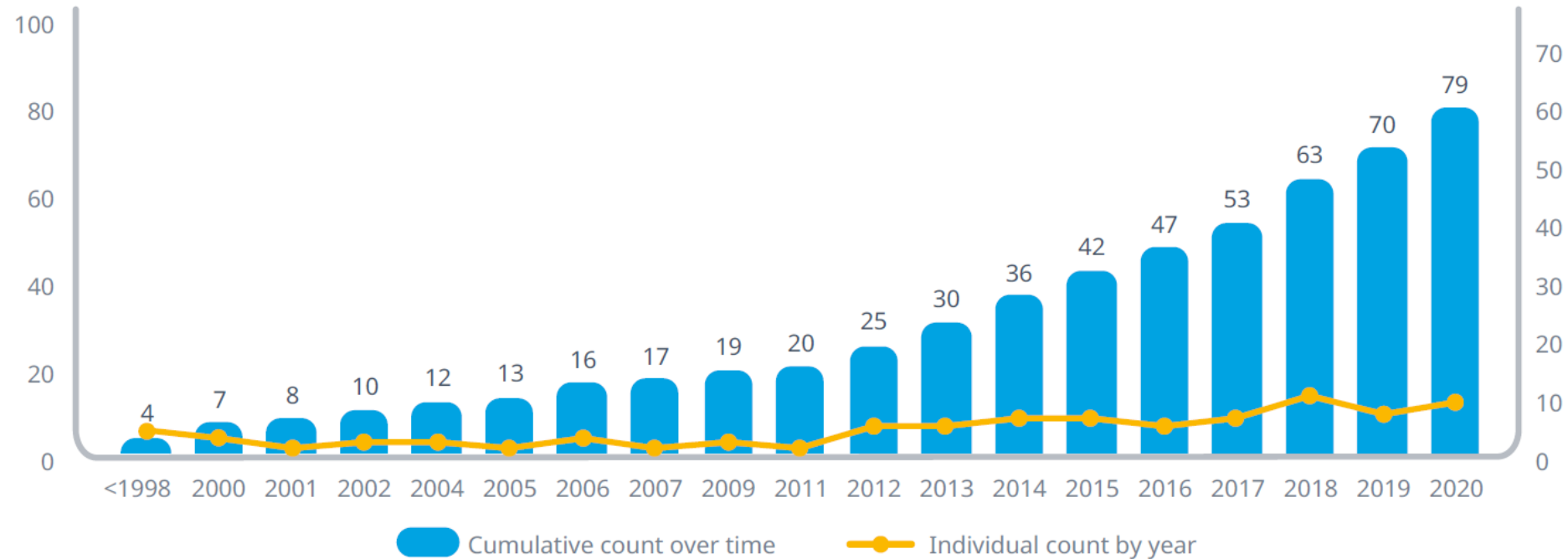
Used in people who already have cancer to determine best treatment options, how aggressive the disease is, monitor for recurrence



# Trends in biomarker testing

Nearly 80 oncology medicines are used after a predictive biomarker test up from 20 in 2011

Exhibit 38: Number of U.S. Oncology Medicines with Required or Recommended Predictive Biomarker Testing

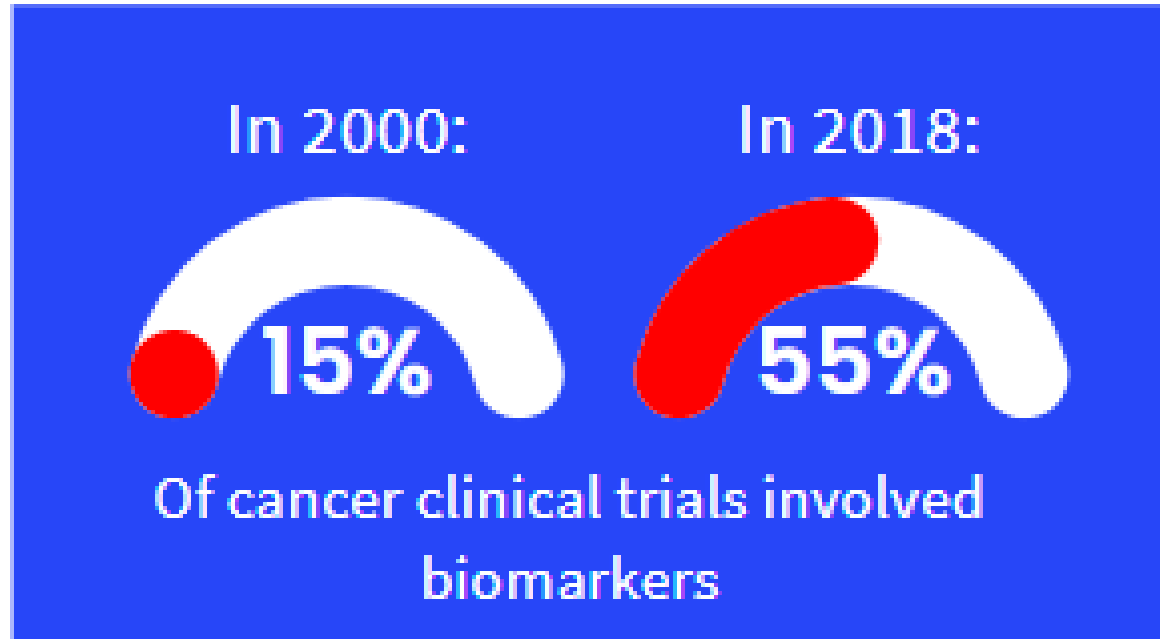


Source: IQVIA Institute, May 2021



# Biomarker testing and clinical trials

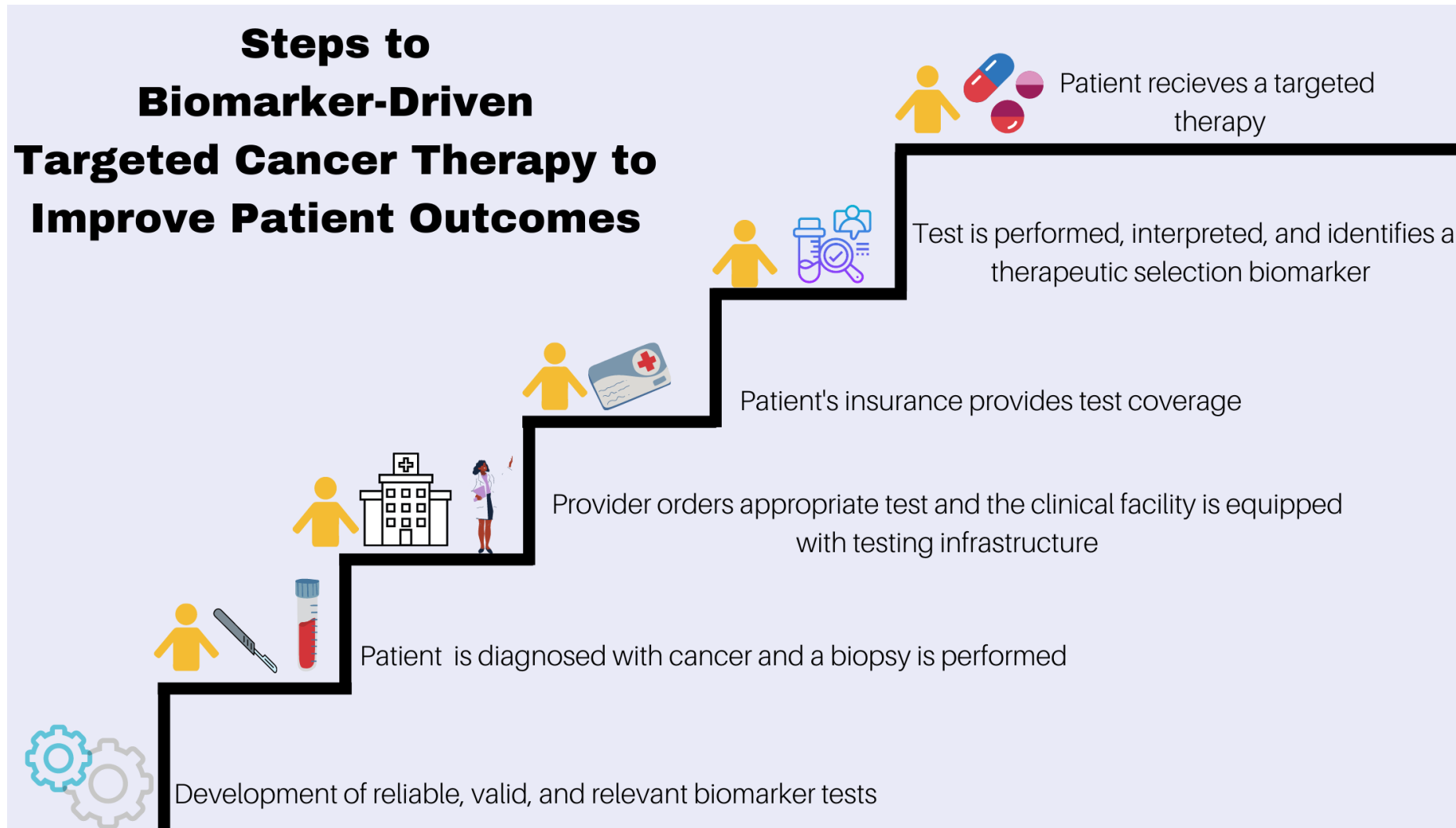
**Cancer clinical trials are increasingly driven by biomarkers and the development of targeted therapies**



**Increasing access to biomarker testing key to supporting access to clinical trials**

[1] The Evolution of Biomarker Use in Clinical Trials for Cancer Treatment Key Findings and Implications. Personalized Medicine Coalition 2019.

# Barriers to Biomarker Testing



# Barriers to Cancer Biomarker Testing

## Coverage of tests differs greatly across payers

- Coverage policies generally more common for single-gene tests vs. multi-gene panel tests

## Plans aren't necessarily following the evidence

- A recent paper in *Personalized Medicine* highlights gaps between insurance coverage and clinical practice guidelines.
  - Although 91% of plans evaluated reference NCCN treatment guidelines in their biomarker testing policies, **71% are “more restrictive” than these guidelines for biomarker testing in breast, non-small cell lung cancer, melanoma and/or prostate cancer patients.**

Wong, W., et al. (2022) *Alignment of health plan coverage policies for somatic multigene panel testing with clinical guidelines in select solid tumors.*

# What does this look like for a patient?



I never had to question how I was going to pay for my cancer treatment, mostly because I was 18, but also because my parents could afford it.



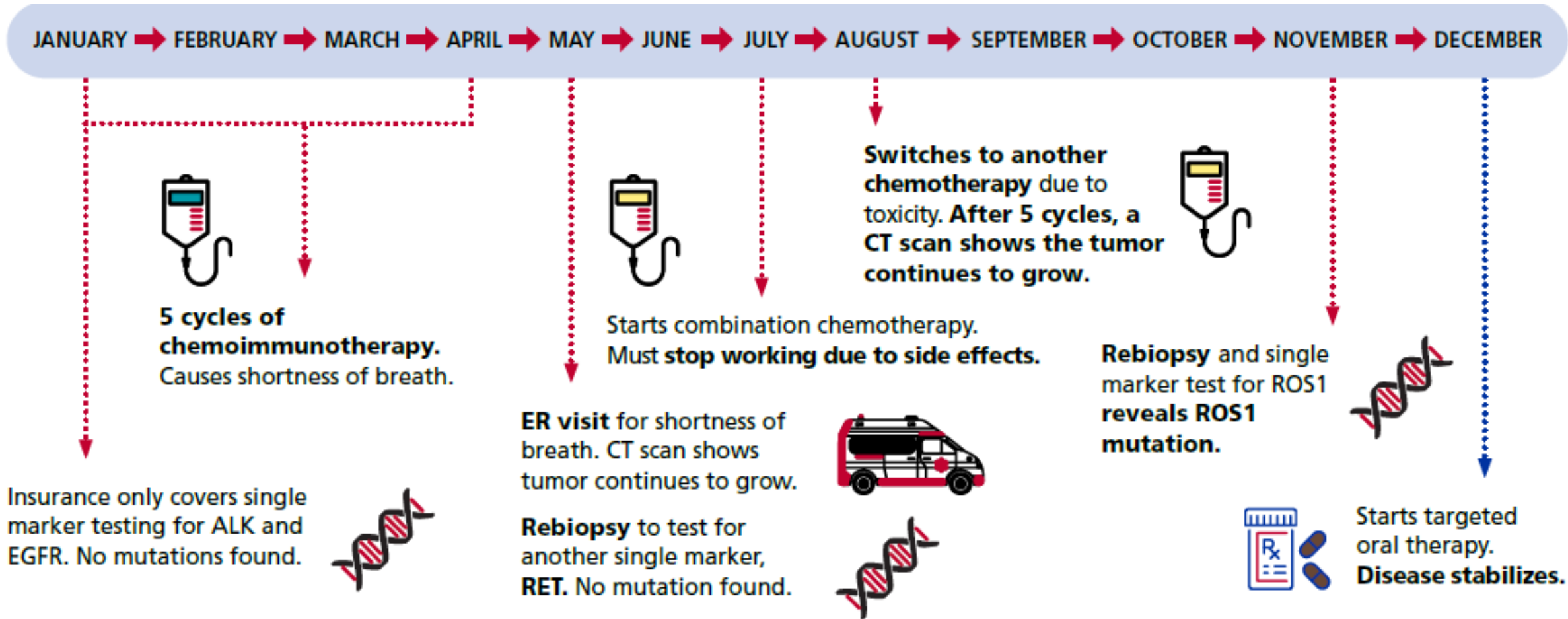
# What does this look like for a patient?

Kathy is a 54-year-old white woman with no history of tobacco use. After visiting her primary care physician for persistent cough and shortness of breath, she was ultimately referred to an oncologist. Her oncologist ordered a diagnostic CT scan which revealed a large mass in the left lung with lymph node involvement. A biopsy confirmed stage IV non-small cell lung cancer, and her PET/CT scan was consistent with extensive bone metastases.



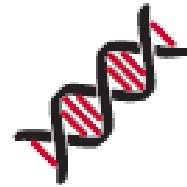
**Kathy, 54  
Lung Cancer Patient**

# Without Comprehensive Biomarker Testing



# With Comprehensive Biomarker Testing

Comprehensive biomarker testing reveals a **ROS1** mutation.  
Starts targeted oral therapy. **Disease stabilizes.**



JANUARY → FEBRUARY → MARCH → APRIL → MAY → JUNE → JULY → AUGUST → SEPTEMBER → OCTOBER → NOVEMBER → DECEMBER



# Legislation to Address Coverage Gaps

## **Requires state-regulated insurance plans including Medicaid to cover comprehensive biomarker testing when supported by medical and scientific evidence**

*Biomarker testing must be covered for the purposes of diagnosis, treatment, appropriate management, or ongoing monitoring of an enrollee's disease or condition when the test is supported by medical and scientific evidence, including, but not limited to:*

1. Labeled indications for an FDA-approved or -cleared test
2. Indicated tests for an FDA-approved drug;
3. Warnings and precautions on FDA-approved drug labels
4. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Coverage Determinations and Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) Local Coverage Determinations; or
5. Nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines and consensus statements.

## **Disease and stage agnostic**



# Why Disease Agnostic?

## **Biomarker testing applications extend beyond oncology**

- Biomarker testing is increasingly important for the treatment of diseases including:
  - Arthritis and other autoimmune conditions
  - Rare diseases

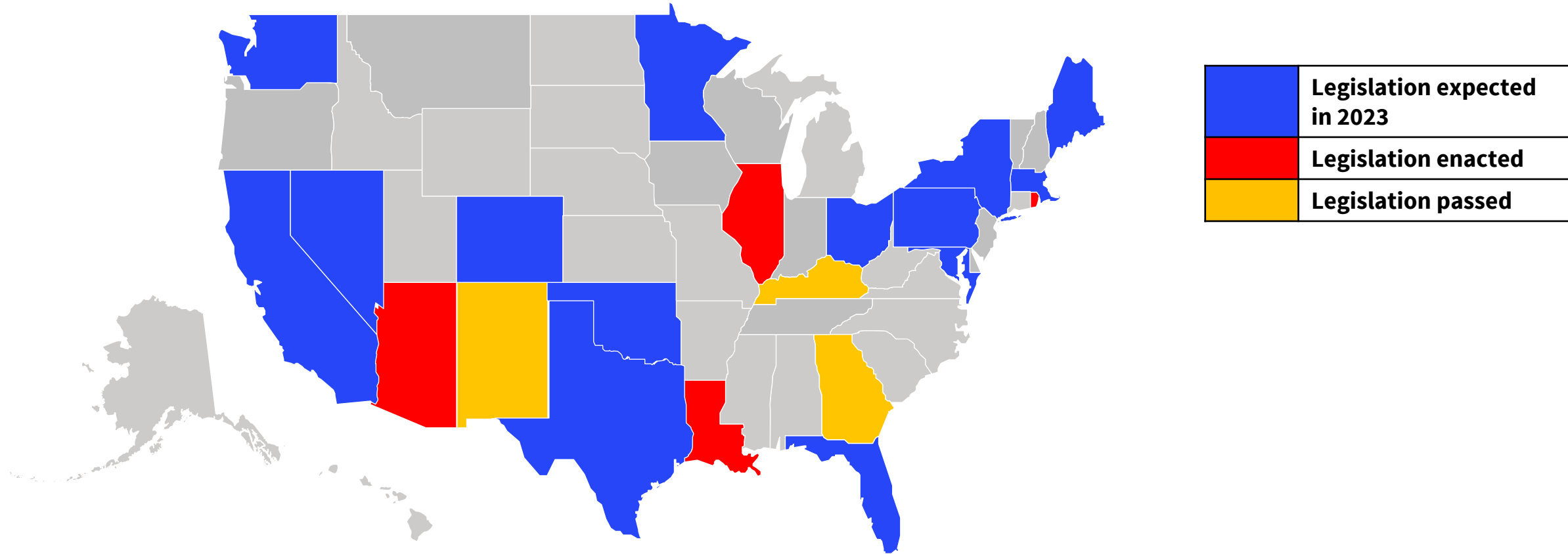
Research is happening in many other areas including Alzheimer's, other neurological conditions, and cardiology.

## **Cancer patients and survivors have high rates of comorbidities**

- Substantial progress has been made in the fight against cancer in recent decades, resulting in a 33% reduction in the cancer death rate since its peak in 1991.
- As patients are living longer, and some cancers become more of a chronic condition, cancer patients are often living with one or more comorbidities.
  - Most common comorbidities include diabetes, cardiac conditions (COPD, congestive heart failure, cerebrovascular disease, peripheral vascular disease), renal failure, and rheumatological conditions.
  - A recent study found that nearly two-thirds of patients diagnosed with colorectal cancer, lung cancer, or Hodgkin's lymphoma had at least one comorbidity at the time of their diagnosis, and about half of patients had multiple comorbidities.



# Legislation to Expand Access to Biomarker Testing



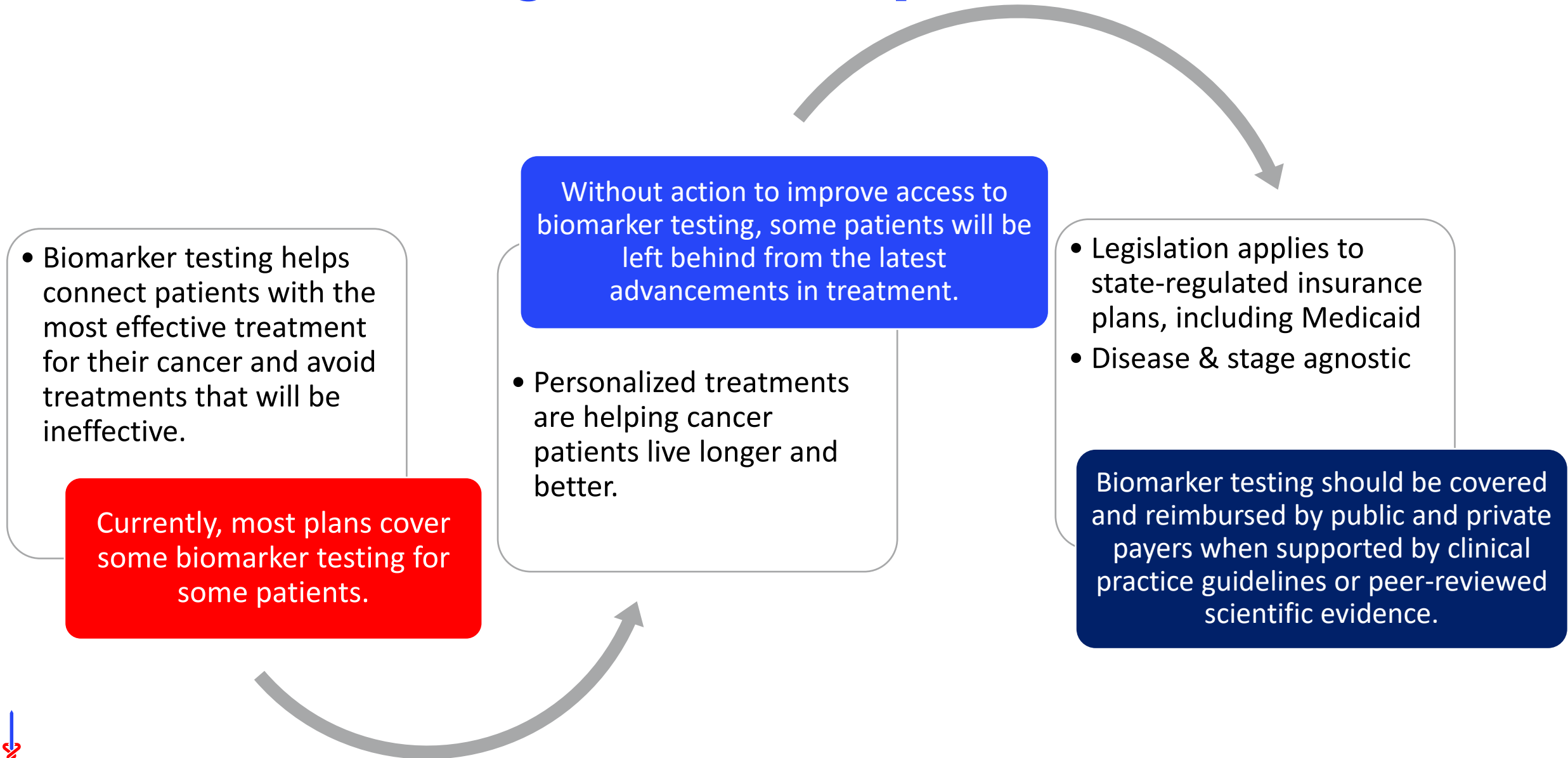
Legislation enacted: AZ, IL, LA, RI

Legislation passed (2023 session): GA, KY, NM

Legislation expected in 2023: AR, CA\*, CO, FL, MA, MD, ME, MN, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, TX, WA



# How will state legislation help?



# Broad Patient & Provider Support for Biomarker Testing





# Questions?

For more information contact Cori  
Chandler at [cori.chandler@cancer.org](mailto:cori.chandler@cancer.org)  
or visit  
[www.fightcancer.org/biomarkers](http://www.fightcancer.org/biomarkers)

# Didactic Q & A



## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

**Challenges and/or promising  
practices when navigating  
insurance complexities**



# **Wrap-Up & Post-Session Poll Questions**

# A Few Reminders:



**Next ECHO Session: April 18, 2023 | 4:00 – 5:00 PM (EST)**



**Didactic Presentation will be announced via email**



**Materials and Resources will be made available soon.  
All resources will be available on the [ACS ECHO Website](#)**



**Spokes:** We need volunteers for Case Presentations. Let us know, if you're interested.  
**Faculty:** All future case presentations will be shared with you at least 24-hours in advance



**Additional Feedback on Today's Session? Tell us in the Post Session Feedback Forum**  
(URL in chat box) <https://forms.office.com/r/TNR4UT0uc1>



**Questions: Contact [annika.dean@cancer.org](mailto:annika.dean@cancer.org)**



**THANK YOU!**



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