



Transforming  
Policy

# Policy Scorecard for Morocco

In partnership with Policy Wisdom



Colorectal Cancer

# Morocco





## Morocco

Total Scoring

19/48


Percentage

42%


Overall country progress


Moderate !


ADVANCES IN POLICY MAKING FOR COLORECTAL CANCER


0 = No 

1 = Partially 

2 = Yes 

0-25% Modest 

26-50% Moderate 


51-75% Significant 


76-100% Outstanding 


### 1. CRC is prioritized, and national programs/plans/policies are in place

2/6

! 33%

MoH acknowledges the priority of CRC in the national cancer program/plan/strategy/policy and/or the need to establish a national CRC policy.  0


Evaluation mechanisms are established to monitor the implementation of the plan/program/strategy/policy.  1


National cancer registry is in place with data on burden of disease on CRC.  1

### 2. Health care budget allocated

3/4

✓ 75%


Sustainable sources of funding address all programs and activities included in the national program/plan/strategy/policy for CRC.  2


Sustainable sources of funding for coverage of innovative medicines and treatments included in the clinical practice guidelines are earmarked.  1


### 3. Clinical practice guidelines are developed and updated


7/10


✓ 70%

A commission/working group is established by the appropriate governing bodies/agencies to develop CRC clinical practice guidelines.  2

A transparent process is established to study the evidence and listen to stakeholders in the process of developing/updating CRC clinical guidelines.  2

Clinical practice guidelines are comprehensive and include state-of-art diagnostic testing, and innovative treatment.  1


CRC guidelines are updated on a regular and planned basis.  2


Clinical guidelines become mandatory for the delivery of care.  0


### 4. Innovative technologies and medicines are promptly reimbursed


2/10


x 20%

Screening and diagnostic tests are fully reimbursed according to CRC clinical practice guidelines.  1

HTA framework is suitable to support an equitable assessment for CRC treatments and complies with a timely multicriteria approach.  0

Treatments are fully reimbursed according to CRC clinical practice guidelines (or national formulary) without OOP cost for patient.  1

Innovative contracting models are implemented for innovative medicines for CRC.  0


There is no patient cost-sharing for access to healthcare services for CRC.  0


### 5. Timely and equitable access to comprehensive diagnosis is guaranteed


3/10


! 30%

MoH actively executes CRC awareness programs.  0

MoH establishes and guarantees execution of population-wide screening program in alignment with the indications provided by the applicable Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs).  0

Legislative framework guarantees timely and equitable access to diagnosis after a positive screening result.  0


MoH discusses the need to guarantee implementation of biomarker testing into diagnostic clinical practice and focuses on current challenges like availability of trained specialists and continuous learning.  2


MoH has set up processes/indicators to monitor and evaluate effectiveness of diagnostic services provided.  1


### 6. Timely and equitable access to treatment is guaranteed


2/8

x 25%

Legislative framework exists to guarantee timely initiation of treatment.  0

Legislative framework ensures continuity of treatment once started.  0

MoH ensures appropriate healthcare workforce, infrastructure and resources to manage CRC across the country.  1

MoH has set up processes/indicators to monitor and evaluate quality/effectiveness of access to treatment.  1



- Morocco's national cancer prevention and control plan is current, but the *National Plan for the Prevention and Control of Cancer 2020-2029* **does not mention or prioritize CRC**.
- The national plan prioritizes monitoring and evaluation of key actions and objectives, implying that **M&E frameworks are not yet fully implemented** at a national level.
- **Current, country-wide data on CRC incidence in Morocco is lacking**. The two population-based registries in Casablanca and Rabat provide limited regional coverage which is then extrapolated to provide national information such as cancer type (including CRC), histology, age, gender, and stage. To date, the registries do not supply survival data. The most recent report from the Casablanca registry identified provides covers the period 2013-2017, indicating a substantial lag in publishing cancer incidence data.
- Although the national plan does not include specific actions for CRC, the plan does include detailed forecast budgeting for each measure. There is **limited funding earmarked for innovative treatments** allocated to various university departments and to develop national reference centers for certain cancer specialties, such as specialized radiotherapy.
- CRC is included in Morocco's *Guide to Therapeutic Protocols in Oncology*, with a 6<sup>th</sup> edition published in April 2024. While these **guidelines are regularly updated using an evidence-based and participatory process**, it is not clear if they are mandatory for the provision of care.
- There are **no awareness or screening programs for CRC** currently in place in Morocco.
- In 2022, the public system accounted for only 40% of health care spending while the private sector accounted for 60%. This indicates that **access to diagnostics and treatments for cancer including CRC is reliant on out-of-pocket expenditure**, leading to inequities in cancer care.
- As of January 2024, Morocco has 39 innovative anticancer medicines with market authorization but 22 of these are not reimbursed. There are three innovative treatment options for CRC (Bevacizumab, Aflibercept and Ramucirumab) of which one - Ramucirumab - is not reimbursed.
- While Morocco has made significant progress in building a national oncology network, improving diagnostic and treatment services, and addressing the shortage of healthcare professionals under Framework Law 06.22, there is **no evidence of a legal framework that guarantees the timely access to diagnosis or initiation of cancer treatment**.