

# With the Increasing Importance of Biomarker Testing and Precision Medicine, How Do Pulmonologists View Their Role in Lung Cancer?

## STUDY DESIGN

**Electronic survey** of 31 items focused on **attitudes and practices regarding diagnostic steps for non-small cell lung cancer** randomly distributed to **practicing pulmonologists** in the American College of Chest Physicians database

## RESULTS

**401 pulmonologists responded:**

- 92% general
- 62% ordered biomarker testing



**Biomarker testing orders** ↑ with:

- Longer practice tenure
- Higher case volumes
- Participation in multidisciplinary tumor board

**Most common reasons** for not ordering:

- Oncology responsibility (84%)
- Not within practice scope (46%)
- Lack of necessary knowledge (51%)



**Pulmonology** identified to have **the leading responsibility** for:

- **Initial diagnostic biopsy (83%)**
- Less often for staging (45%)
- Leading discussions about biomarkers with patients (28%)
- Ordering biomarkers (22%)

**Pulmonologists vary in their practices for ordering biomarkers, and some may lack the necessary resources. Multidisciplinary collaboration and infrastructure are needed to efficiently accomplish biomarker testing in a timely fashion.**