Awareness & Obscurity: Demystifying Genomic Profiling in Real World Practice for the Members of Turkish Society of Medical Oncology (TSMO)

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Background and Aims: Our study aims to determine for the first time the real-world impact of routine incorporation of molecular tests among the Turkish Oncology community across all types of cancer in the context of identification of gaps.

Materials and Methods: This research was done in Turkey among medical oncologists from different backgrounds. The surveys attendance was entirely voluntary. A questionnaire with twelve items (multiple choice +/- closed-ended) about to assess the effect of molecular tests in real clinical situations was utilized in this study.

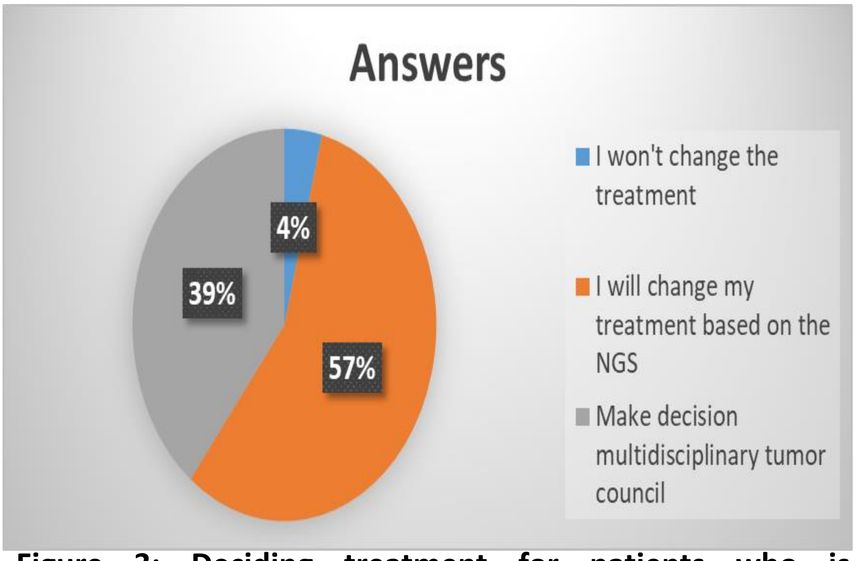

Figure 3: Deciding treatment for patients who is categorized as ESCAT 3-4 or OncoKB 3-4

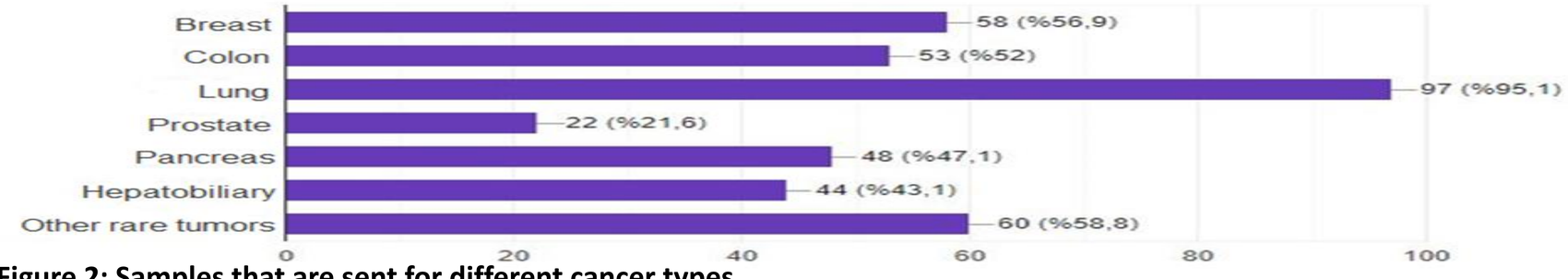

Figure 2: Samples that are sent for different cancer types

Results: In the survey study, 102 oncologists participated who have various levels of experience (Figure 1). Most of the respondents (97%) reported successful implementation of molecular testing. About 10% of the participating oncologists said they preferred genetic tests while cancer was in the early stages, compared to the majority who preferred genetic tests when it was in terminal stage. For performing molecular tests, a separate place is often used. About 47% of the oncologists were using on a targeted panel specific to the type of malignancy.

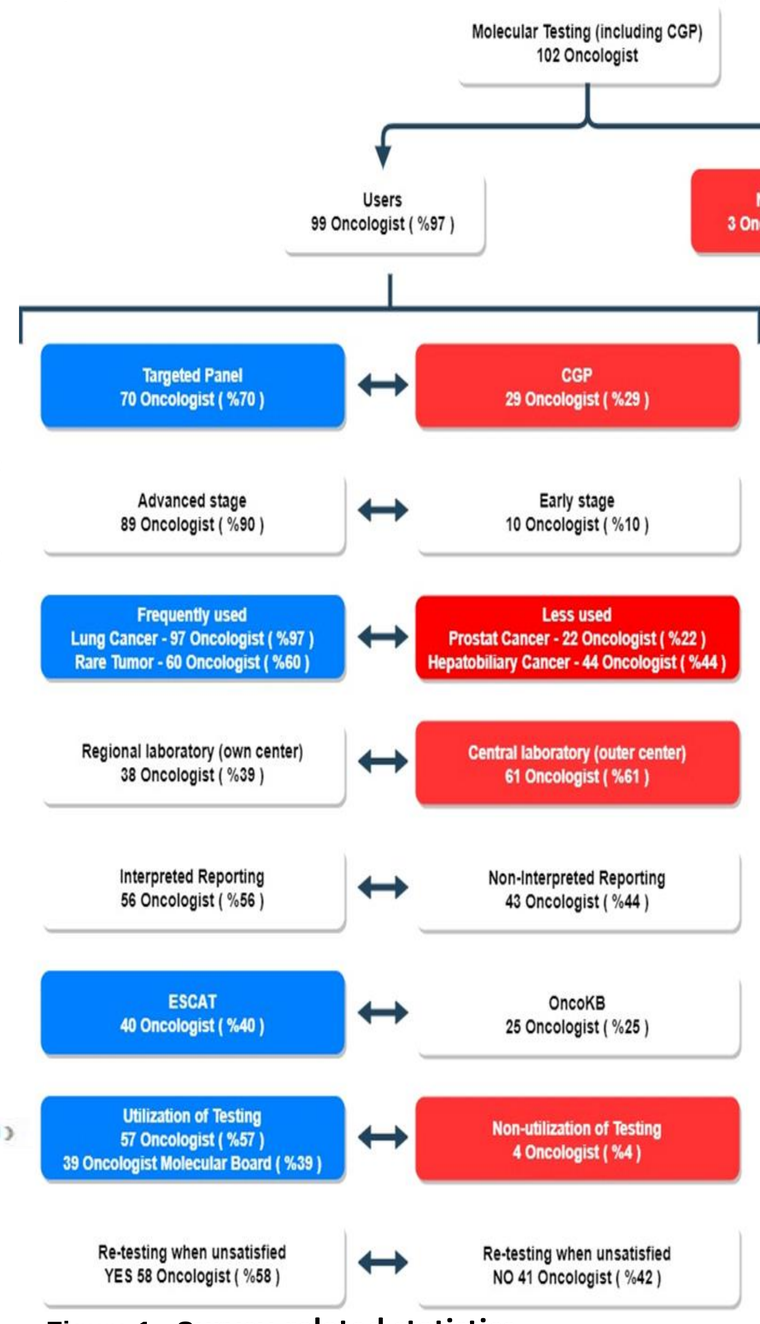

Figure 1: Survey-related statistics

Conclusions: We believe standardizing the process, educating oncologists and enabling the access of genomic profiling will help doctors save more lives, which is the end goal of several database like ESCAT. It is required extensive databases that are constantly used, as well as ongoing training for both physicians and patients. Several informational issues must be resolved for genetically individualized medicine to become common. To provide reliable and quick analysis of ever-more complicated molecular data obtained from highly complicated investigations, a reliable precision oncology methodology must be used concurrently with laboratory technology.

Key Words : Genomic Profiling, ESCAT, Precision medicine

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