

REVOLUTIONISING THE MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS THE SITUATION IN SLOVENIA

In Slovenia, there is a positive environment for the implementation and utilization of NGS technology. On the other hand, there is a lack of availability of a sufficiently trained workforce or personnel and a lack of availability of educational programs for proper NGS training.

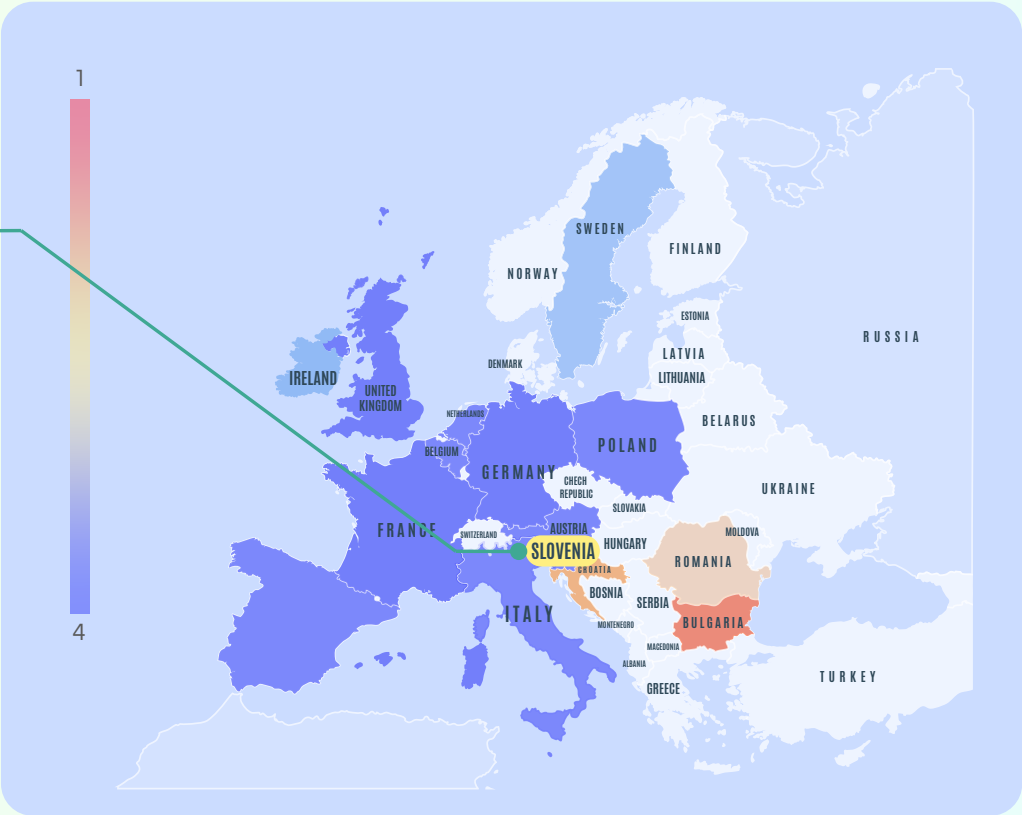
CORE PILLARS	Well Implemented	Implemented	Not Implemented	Clear Information Not Available
Infrastructure and tools	☒	☐	☐	☐
Molecular tumour boards and expertise	☐	☒	☐	☐
Reimbursement for NGS and liquid biopsy	☐	☐	☐	☒
Education/training/awareness	☐	☐	☒	☐
Governance	☐	☒	☐	☐
Healthcare workforce	☐	☐	☒	☐
Data sharing and linking	☐	☐	☒	☐

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TOOLS

SLOVENIA	Available	Not Available
NGS centre	●	○
Equipments	●	○
Funding	●	○
Routine utilization	●	○

In Slovenia, NGS testing is available, supported by adequate infrastructure, funded appropriately, and routinely used which indicates a positive environment for the implementation and utilization of NGS technology in various aspects of healthcare and research within the country.

COUNTRIES' CORRELATION	INDEPENDENT VARIABLE
Dependent Variable	Funding
NGS Centre	High Positive Correlation
Equipment	High Positive Correlation
Routine Utilization	Medium Positive Correlation
1-0,8 - Very High Positive 0,79-0,6 - High Positive Correlation 0,59-0,4 - Medium Positive Correlation	
0,39-0,2 - Low Positive Correlation 0,19-0 - Very Low Positive Correlation	



MOLECULAR TUMOUR BOARDS AND EXPERTISE

In Slovenia, there is the availability of Molecular Tumor Board (MTB) panels, indicating the presence of expert multidisciplinary teams for consultation on tumor-related matters. The MTB panels hold weekly meetings, suggesting a high frequency of collaboration and discussion among experts. Moreover, a significant number of patients are tested and discussed in the MTB meetings, with a moderate level of testing/discussion. This indicates an active and engaged approach to patient case discussions and decision-making in the context of tumor-related issues in Slovenia.

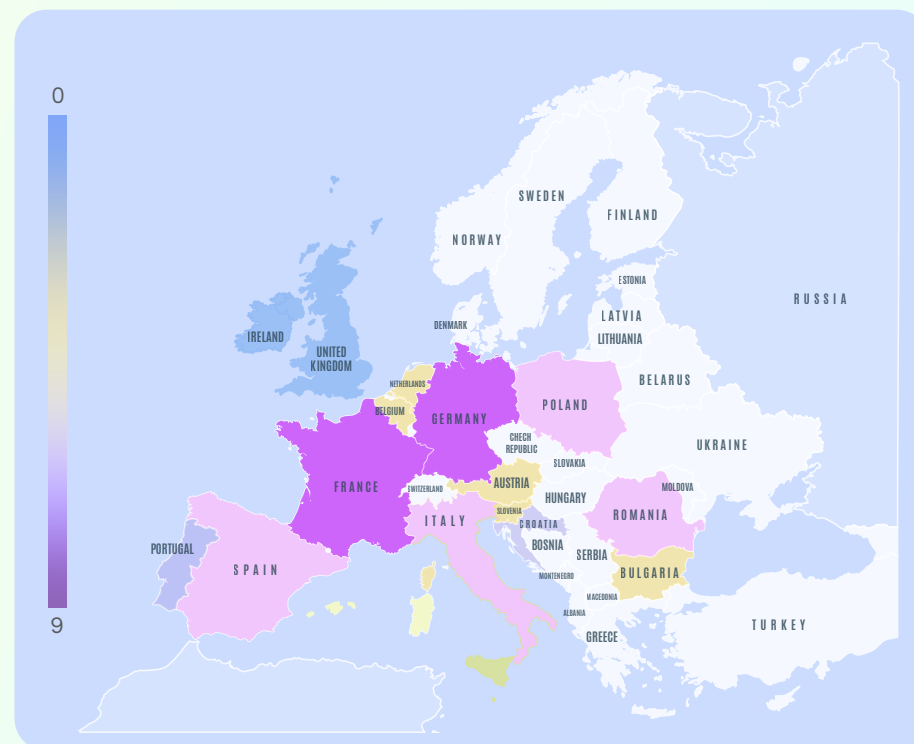
COUNTRIES' CORRELATION	INDEPENDENT VARIABLE
Dependent Variable	MTB Panel
Consultation Frequency	Very High Positive Correlation
Testing/ Discussion	High Positive Correlation

1-0,8 - Very High Positive
0,79-0,6 - High Positive Correlation
0,59-0,4 - Medium Positive

0,39-0,2 - Low Positive Correlation
0,19-0 - Very Low Positive Correlation

	MTB Panel	Consultation frequency	Testing/ Discussion
Belgium	●	●	●
Croatia	●	●	○
Spain	●	●	○
Italy	●	●	●
France	●	●	●
Germany	●	●	●
United Kindgom	○	○	○
Ireland	○	○	○
SLOVENIA	●	●	●
Poland	○	●	●
Sweden	○	●	○

● Available ● Very High ● Low
 ○ Not Available ● High ○ Very Low
 ● Medium ○ Low



REIMBURSEMENT FOR NGS AND LIQUID BIOPSY IN SLOVENIA

In Slovenia, there is reimbursement available for Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) testing as well as reimbursement for Liquid Biopsy. This suggests that these diagnostic methods are recognized and covered by the healthcare system. However, there is insufficient funding for the reimbursement process, indicating a potential challenge in adequately supporting the financial aspects of these testing methods in Slovenia.

CENTRES' CORRELATION	INDEPENDENT VARIABLE
Dependent Variable	Funding
Reimbursement for NGS	Medium Positive Correlation
Reimbursement for Liquid Biopsy	Low Positive Correlation

1-0,8 - Very High

0,79-0,6 - High Positive

0,59-0,4 - Medium Positive

0,39-0,2 - Low Positive

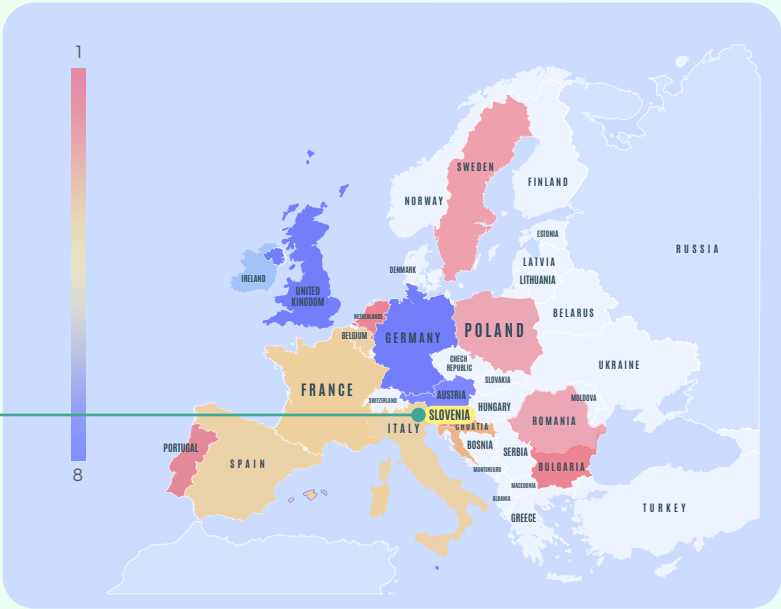
0,19-0 - Very Low Positive



EDUCATION/TRAINING/AWARENESS

In Slovenia, there is a lack of availability of a sufficiently trained workforce or personnel, indicating a potential shortage of skilled individuals in the field. The awareness and understanding regarding NGS testing and application, suggesting room for improvement in knowledge and awareness. Furthermore, there is a lack of availability of educational programs or workshops to increase awareness and educational programs for proper training, indicating a potential need for more educational initiatives in Slovenia to enhance expertise and understanding in the field of NGS.

COUNTRIES' CORRELATION	INDEPENDENT VARIABLE
Dependent Variable	Educational Programmes
Trained Personnel	Low Positive Correlation
Awareness/ Understanding	Medium Positive Correlation
Educational programme/ workshops to increase awareness	Medium Positive Correlation



GOVERNANCE

In Slovenia, labs and institutions do not have ISO accreditation or certification, indicating a potential gap in meeting international quality standards. However, clinical guidelines are regularly updated, suggesting a commitment to staying up-to-date with the latest medical practices. While internal guidelines are not used, external guidelines are utilized to ensure adherence to established standards. Additionally, external quality assessment is employed, demonstrating a focus on maintaining quality and accuracy in testing processes in Slovenia.

COUNTRIES' CORRELATION	INDEPENDENT VARIABLE	COUNTRIES' CORRELATION	INDEPENDENT VARIABLE
DEPENDENT VARIABLE	ISO Accreditation/ Certification	DEPENDENT VARIABLE	Clinical Guidelines
Internal Guidelines	Very Low Positive Correlation	Internal Guidelines	Very Low Positive Correlation
External	Low Positive Correlation	External	Very Low Negative Correlation
External Quality Assessment	Low Negative Correlation	External Quality Assessment	Low Negative Correlation

1-0,8 - Very High Positive 0,79-0,6 - High Positive Correlation 0,59-0,4 - Medium Positive Correlation
0,39-0,2 - Low Positive Correlation 0,19-0 - Very Low Positive Correlation

	ISO Accreditation/ Certification	Clinical Guidelines	Internal Guidelines	External Guidelines	External Quality Assessment
Belgium	●	●	●	●	●
Croatia	●	●	●	●	●
Spain	●	●	●	●	●
Italy	●	●	●	●	●
France	●	●	●	●	●
Germany	●	●	●	●	●
United Kindgom	●	●	●	●	●
Ireland	●	●	●	●	●
SLOVENIA	●	●	●	●	●
Poland	●	●	●	●	●
Sweden	●	●	●	●	●

HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE

The data suggests that there may be a lack of availability of a sufficient healthcare workforce or personnel in Slovenia. This implies that the country is facing challenges in terms of an inadequate number of healthcare professionals to meet the demands and needs of the healthcare system. The shortage of personnel can potentially impact the delivery of healthcare services, including cancer diagnosis, treatment, and management, and may require attention and strategies to address the workforce shortage and ensure adequate healthcare coverage for the population.

SUFFICIENT HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE

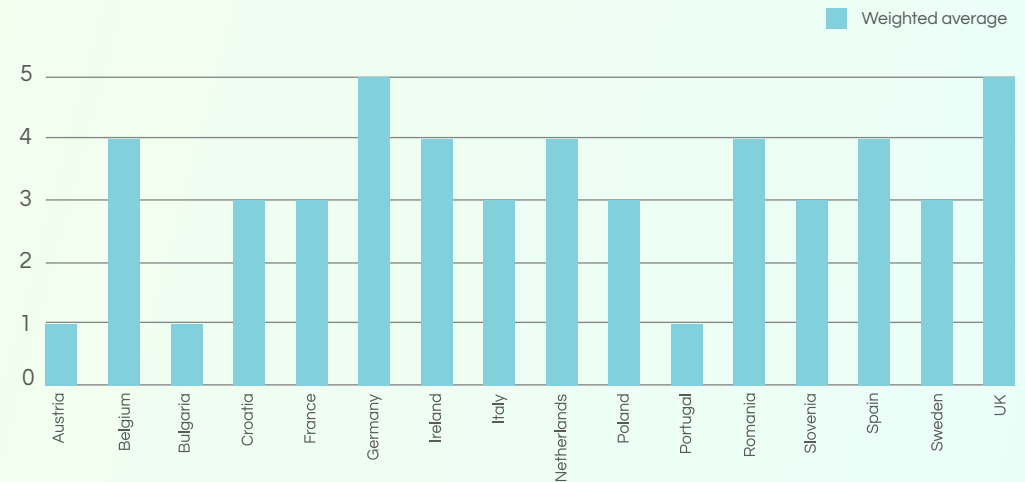
Available

Not Available

Belgium	Not Available
Croatia	Not Available
Spain	Not Available
Italy	Not Available
France	Available
Germany	Available
United Kindgom	Not Available
Ireland	Not Available
Netherlands	Not Available
SLOVENIA	Not Available
Poland	Not Available
Sweden	Not Available

DATA SHARING AND LINKING

In Slovenia, there is a lack of cross-border/cross-disciplinary collaborations, indicating limited partnerships and cooperation across different sectors and borders. Routine sharing of data is also not prevalent, suggesting potential challenges in data exchange and collaboration. However, there is an availability of security guidelines, both external and internal, indicating efforts to ensure data security and protection. Data linking to Electronic Health Records and the presence of a controlling body for data sharing suggest efforts toward efficient data management and coordination within Slovenia.



CENTRES' CORRELATION

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

DEPENDENT VARIABLE

Security Guidelines

Data Sharing

Very Low Positive Correlation

Data Linking

Low Negative Correlation

Controlling Body

Low Positive Correlation

1-0,8 - Very High Positive
0,79-0,6 - High Positive Correlation
0,59-0,4 - Medium Positive Correlation

0,39-0,2 - Low Positive Correlation
0,19-0 - Very Low Positive Correlation



DENIS HORGAN



Email:
denishorgan@euapm.eu



Brussels Address:
Avenue de l'Armee Legerlaan
10 1040 Brussels, Belgium