BioSpectrum
the business of Bio & Health Sciences
ASIA EDITION

Pillar Biosciences and AstraZeneca expand liquid biopsy access partnership to China

December 9, 2025 | News

To support assay validation in local hospital laboratories



Pillar Biosciences and AstraZeneca have announced an expansion of their existing laboratory access programme for NGS-based kitted liquid biopsy tumuor profiling to include China.

This expanded collaboration aims to deliver rapid, cost-effective, and clinically actionable genomic insights through liquid biopsy testing. By increasing the local availability of plasma-based tumour profiling at leading clinical laboratories in China, the partnership seeks to accelerate diagnostic turnaround times and improve access to precision oncology solutions.

As part of the initiative, AstraZeneca, Pillar Biosciences, and Shanghai Zhengu Biological Technology Co. will collaborate to support assay validation in local hospital laboratories and facilitate the implementation of Pillar's liquid biopsy panels to enable localized tumour profiling.

China faces one of the world's highest cancer burdens, accounting for approximately 24% of new global cancer cases and 30% of cancer-related deaths, according to the World Health Organization's GLOBOCAN 2022 report.

By expanding localised liquid biopsy testing, this collaboration supports China's ongoing initiatives to enhance early cancer detection, precision diagnostics, and equitable access to targeted therapies.