

# **Pain Biomarker Development: Clinical Validation to Inform Decisions**

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# Disclosures

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**Intellectual Property Rights:** BioNTech, Elucida Oncology, MaBVAX, Y-mAbs Therapeutics,

**Advisory Board:** WCG Oncology, Phosplatin (U)

**I will discuss the investigational drug use in my presentation of:**

None

# Biomarker Development Program (BDP)

1. To establish an **organizational model to accelerate development, approval and coverage** of simple, accurate, and reliable symptom, blood and imaging based tests for cancer diagnosis and precision treatment.
2. To utilize the **BDP-specific infrastructure** to **validate the performance** of new assays and devices – **a courtship / marriage – once you start you can't turn back.**
3. To ensure that the **devices** and **assays** needed are **“fit for purpose”** of **specific contexts of use** so that clinical validation can begin.
4. To **focus** the effort of laboratory and clinician scientists, drug and assay developers, computational biologists, statisticians and regulators **on enhancing medical decision making** to **improve patient outcomes.**



# **Translational Science: The Clinic is the Laboratory Where Unmet Diagnostic and Therapeutic Needs Are Identified and Studies Are Designed to Address Them**

We are **Physician's first**, applying a **patient centric approach** in all that we do, be it in a routine clinical practice or research setting.

**Diagnostic:** Understanding an individual's disease and it's symptoms.

**Therapeutic:** Selecting and/or developing treatments from which a patient or patients are likely to benefit.

# Objectives

1. To understand the focus of biomarker development on decision making.
2. To understand the **parallels** between the development of a **PAIN biomarker** for a context of use to those used for drugs.
3. To create a clinical validation effort to **generate the evidence** to support use of PAIN related biomarkers as **contexts (decisions)** defined in the **FDA Biomarkers, Endpoints and Other Tools (BEST)** Resource.

# Central to the Mission is to Approach **Biomarker** Development Analogous to the Development of a **Drug**

	<b>Drug</b>	<b>Biomarker</b> C
<b>Unmet Need</b>	<b>Indication</b> Patient population	Context of use Patient population
<b>Trial Design and Conduct</b>	<b>Formulation:</b> Dose and Schedule	Validated device, assay, <b>Symptom measurement:</b> Assessment schedule
<b>Evidence Generation</b>	Outcome measures <b>*Clinical benefit</b>	Outcome associations <b>**Clinical utility</b>

\*Improving how a patient feels, functions or how long he/she survives.

\*\*Showing that use of the biomarker result to inform a decision improves patient outcomes relative to non-use of the test result.

Evidence Generation for Unmet Needs in Therapy (Drugs for an **Indication**) Parallels that for More Informed Diagnostic/Therapeutic Decisions (Biomarkers for **Contexts of Use**)

# Biomarker Development Parallels Drug Development

## Most Critical, is Can You Trust the Biomarker?

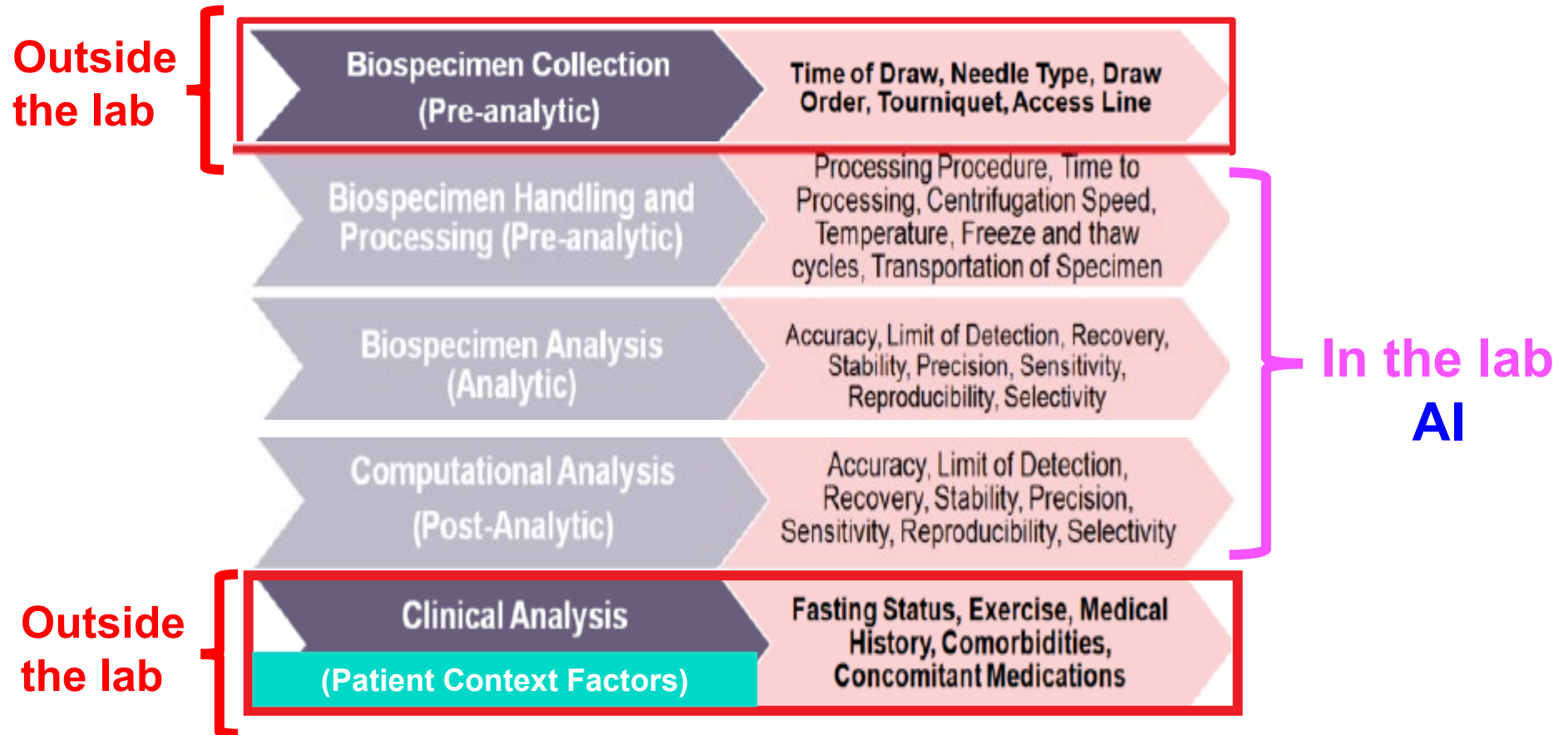
In our opinion the **most critical step** before implementing **novel biomarkers** in routine patient care **is the validation of the reported data** being used.

Quality management and reproducibility must be determined prior to clinical use.

*Context of use (indication): The management decisions - diagnostic and/or therapeutic - influenced by the biomarker result.*

**Method (Analytical) validation:** The process of **assessing the parameters and their measurement performance characteristics**, and determining the range of conditions under which they will reproduce and accurate data.

# Analytical Validation Also Includes **Specimen Acquisition** and **Patient Factors** That Can Influence the Reported Result Independent of the Laboratory Where it is Measured





# The Conclusion of a Recent Review of Clinical Applications of Liquid Biopsies Noted ...

In our opinion the **most critical step** before implementing novel liquid biomarkers in routine patient care **is the validation of the assay.**

Quality **management and reproducibility** must be determined prior to clinical use – particularly as the technology and technological capabilities are rapidly increasing..

**Information everybody wants but nobody wants to pay for.**

# **Pain is a Challenging Multifaceted Symptom Reported By Most Cancer Patients – Examples – There Are Many**

1. Pain intensity – Pain
2. Analgesic drug use.
3. Pain management index – (WHO analgesic ladder) – a combined pain and analgesic score.
4. The inflammatory component.

Salama et al. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*. 68:E462, 2024.

Vyong et al: *Support Care Cancer* 24:887-892.

# Post: FDA BEST Modified to PAIN Requires the Ability to Serially Profile An Individual Patient's Disease To Determine When an Intervention is Needed and if so, What

## BEST (Biomarkers, Endpoints, and other Tools) Resource

### Pre-intervention:

Susceptibility	Risk biomarkers (Includes Germ line) - falls, functional deterioration
Diagnosis:	Early detection, etiology (what's the cause)
Prognosis:	Probability of events – recurrence, progression, survival.
Prediction:	Sensitivity – what given intervention will work. Resistance – <b>de novo</b> - what not to give that won't,

## INTERVENTION + STATISTICAL DESIGN

### Post intervention:

Safety:	Adverse events
Pharmacodynamic	Proof of mechanism – anti-inflammatory.
Response	Treatment efficacy
Monitoring:	<b>Intervals and measurements.</b>
Progression	<b>Worsening symptoms, functionality, depression</b>

**Reasonably likely surrogate endpoint :**

– an indication of clinical benefit with **regulatory implications**

# Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Cancer Pain and Pain Management: A Systematic Review

1. Search of Ovid MEDLINE, EMBASE and Web of Science databases using terms:

Cancer, Pain, Pain Management, Analgesics, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Neural Networks published up to September 2024.

2. 44 studies were included.

3. Advances the development of tools for:

Classification

Risk stratification

Management decisions.