



# **Evolving paradigm for companion diagnostics and other diagnostic tests at FDA**

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# DISCLAIMER

- Thoughts presented here are preliminary and do not represent finalized FDA policy.



# THE EVOLUTION OF IVDs

## CLASSIC

Blood chemistry  
ELISAs

Medical Device  
Amendments  
(1976)



## DAWN OF THE MODERN ERA

HER2  
Single PCR assays  
FISH

Concept of  
companion  
diagnostics



## LIFE IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

Microarrays  
IVDMIA  
Multiplex tests  
Array CGH

Guidance on  
CDx, IVDMIA,  
etc.



## TO THE FUTURE AND BEYOND...

NGS  
Proteomics  
Epigenetics  
Microbiome

?



## *In Vitro* Diagnostics (IVDs)

- In vitro diagnostic devices include “...those reagents, instruments, and systems intended for use in the **diagnosis of disease** or other conditions, including a **determination of the state of health**, in order to **cure, mitigate, treat, or prevent disease** or its sequelae. Such products are intended for use in the collection, preparation, and examination of specimens taken from the human body. **These products are devices** as defined in section 201(h) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act ” (21 CFR § 809.3)
- Intended use: How will the device will be used in the therapeutic product trial? Encompasses:
  - Analyte to be detected
  - Type of result (quantitative, semi-quantitative, qualitative)
  - Specimen type(s)
  - Disease to be screened, monitored, treated, or diagnosed
  - Target subject population
  - etc.

## Scientific Review : IVD Performance

- **Analytical** Performance Characteristics  
Reliability and accuracy of analyte measurements
- **Clinical** Performance Characteristics  
Clinical sensitivity and specificity  
Positive and negative predictive values
- **Labeling**  
Intended use, device design, directions for use,  
warnings/limitations, result interpretation, performance
- NOTE: FDA does not review for clinical utility. However, IVDs that are not sufficient analytically or clinically valid won't have clinical utility.

## Clinical validity and FDA submissions

- Clinical studies
  - For many IVDs, these are usually retrospective studies using banked samples
  - For companion diagnostics, a “locked-down” IVD is used in a drug trial
  - Bridging studies are often necessary
- “Big data” approach
  - Databases
  - Literature
  - Case studies



## Companion Diagnostics

- Draft guidance 2011
- Final guidance 2014
- Historically, one analyte-one test-one drug
- [www.fda.gov/companiondiagnostics](http://www.fda.gov/companiondiagnostics)

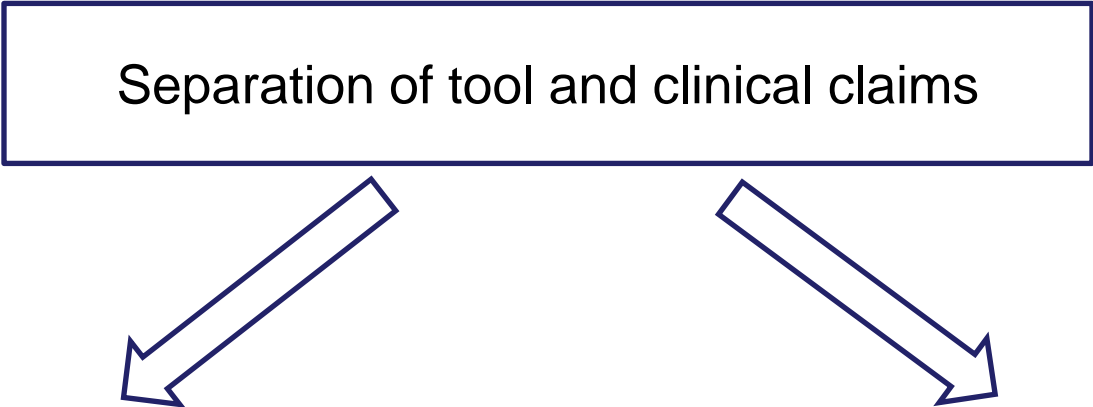
## Unique Challenges of Next Generation Sequencing

- High information content
  - Over 3 billion bases in the human genome
  - Every individual may have millions of variants
  - Many of the variants will be rare within the general population
- Often no pre-defined intended use
  - NGS can be used to diagnose a large number of diseases
  - Incidental findings
- NGS tests are frequently modified (run parameters, software, etc.)
  - Innovation
  - Accommodate specific testing needs
- NGS tests use a variety of “mix-and-match” components for specific uses
  - Not every test result will be generated in the same way
- Often difficult to establish connection between variants and specific disease or condition because of rarity and multiple variants, so traditional clinical trials may not be feasible.



# Lessons from the Illumina Clearances

Separation of tool and clinical claims



## **Tool: MiSeqDx instrument**

Use: Sequences DNA

Analytical validation

- Cell-line samples (“normals”)
- Performance demonstrated on a representative set of variants

Clinical validation not needed

## **Clinical: CF 139 variant and whole gene tests**

Use: Sequences 139 variants or whole CFTR gene

Analytical validation

- Specific validation of 139 variants, plus validation of CFTR normal sequence

Clinical validation

- Use of the CFTR2 database (JHU) for evidence

## Use of the CFTR2 database

- Illumina MiSeqDx Cystic Fibrosis 139-variant assay
- Used to demonstrate clinical validity of CFTR variants
- Features of the CFTR2 database
  - Curated
  - Contains preclinical and clinical data
  - Functional assays for CFTR function available
  - Cooperation of patient community
  - Required versioning



# CFTR2 Database (<http://www.cftr2.org/>)

Datatype	Information Captured
<b>Mutation name/Associated Nomenclature</b>	Provides a standardized mutation name and mutation by amino acid and nucleotide number (relative to the CFTR gene)
<b>Associated Clinical Characteristics/Validation</b>	Provides the following relevant clinical characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Average sweat chloride value at time of diagnosis</li><li>• Range of FEV1 percent predicted value based on age group</li><li>• Percentage of patients with positive Pseudomonas aeruginosa culture</li><li>• Percentage of pancreatic insufficient individuals</li></ul>
<b>Functional testing/Validation of Mutation</b>	Notes the results in vitro laboratory tests performed for applicable mutations. Specifically, assesses protein processing and maturation, CFTR dependent chloride current, and gene splicing.
<b>Literature Review</b>	Notes research previously completed on this particular mutation.
<b>Annotation History</b>	Provides a history of changes and timestamps of any revisions to the annotation.



## Concept of a “Regulatory Grade” Database

- What constitutes a high quality database?
- Need to consider
  - Annotation (patient, diagnostic, etc.)
  - Versioning
  - Source of testing results
  - Procedures and practices
  - Sustainability



**Patient Care**

**Targeted therapies**

**Research/Clinical trials**

**High quality data**

**Valid IVDs**



## Local Testing and Quality of Data

- Test results from local testing are often used in clinical trials for accrual, subgroup analysis, etc.
- Local tests for the same thing may be performed using tests with different technologies and/or performance.
- When results aren't comparable, patient population is more heterogeneous, and analysis of CT results may be affected.
- Local testing reflects practice of medicine



## Possible Solutions

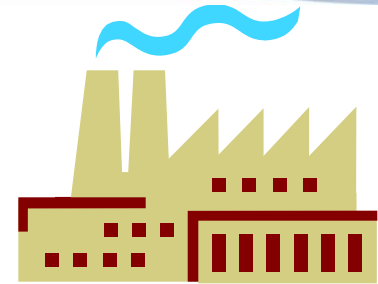
- Confirmation of local results with central testing
  - Selection bias
- Purely central testing may address selection bias, but does not always reflect practice of medicine
- May have same problem in genetic databases, where central testing is not possible
- Need to capture test information in EHRs and other systems

# What the future holds

- Liquid biopsies
- Cancer panels
  - Combination of CDx and novel markers
- Whole exome/Whole genome sequencing
- Other omics
- Consideration of new regulatory approaches (e.g., centralized databases)



Today's LDTs are marketed under enforcement discretion by FDA.



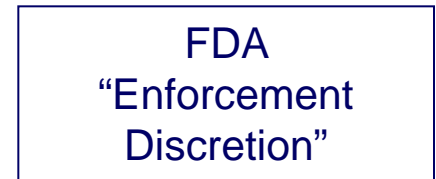
"test kit" manufacturer



Performed in CLIA-certified lab



CLIA-certified lab



Performed within same lab that developed test





## FDA's Current Proposal for LDTs

[www.fda.gov/LDTs](http://www.fda.gov/LDTs)

1. Collect basic information on all LDTs through new notification process (i.e., no-fee alternative to R&L)
2. Use public process (i.e., advisory committees) to obtain input on risk and priority for regulation
3. Phase-in regulatory framework over ~9 years based on risk
4. Continue some enforcement discretion for specific categories determined by FDA to be in the best interest of public health



# **Interacting with FDA...**



# ...For Applicants

## **PRESUBMISSION**

- You can meet with the FDA for nonbinding discussions and advice:
  - *before* conducting studies, including clinical trials
  - *before* submitting a marketing application
- This is an opportunity to address new scientific and regulatory issues.
- Particularly important when developing new technologies.
- Guidance on the pre-submission process  
<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/GuidanceDocuments/UCM311176.pdf>

## **DURING REVIEW OF A SUBMISSION**

- Acceptance Review Communication
- Substantive Interaction
- Interactive Review



# Resources

- Guidance
- Device Advice
  - <http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/default.htm>
- CDRH Learn (including information about sponsor responsibilities, investigator responsibilities, IRBs, and the Bioresearch Monitoring Program)
  - <http://www.fda.gov/Training/CDRHLearn/default.htm>

## ...On LDT Policy

- Webinar
- Solicitation of Public Input via FR Notice announcing:
  - 120 day public comment period
  - Public Workshop

**Goal: to work with all stakeholders to determine a framework for regulation that is in the best interest of public health**

- Analysis of public input and edits to guidances
- Stakeholder calls



## ...and other issues

- FDA outreach
  - Presentations and presence at meetings
  - Webinars
  - Guidance, etc.
- FDA participation in internal and external working groups
- Workshops
- Other opportunities



**Thank you!**

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