

# The Power of Study Design

6<sup>th</sup> Semi-Annual Clinical Affairs & Regulatory  
Approvals For Diagnostics  
May 4-5, 2015 – San Diego, California

Lyssa Friedman

# Key Points

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Study design:

Things to consider

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FDA regulation of LDTs:

Keep doing what you're doing well

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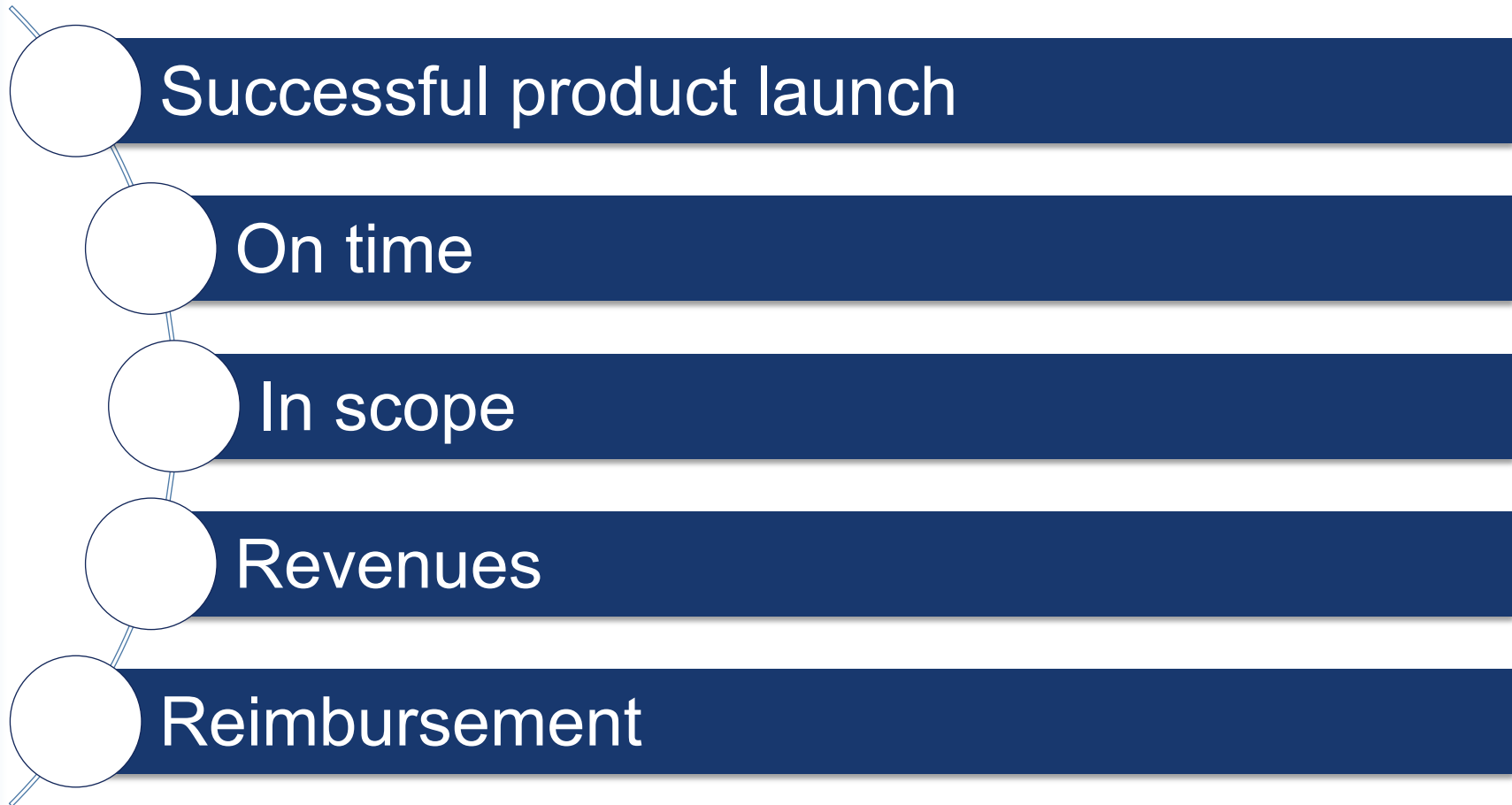
Publication → success

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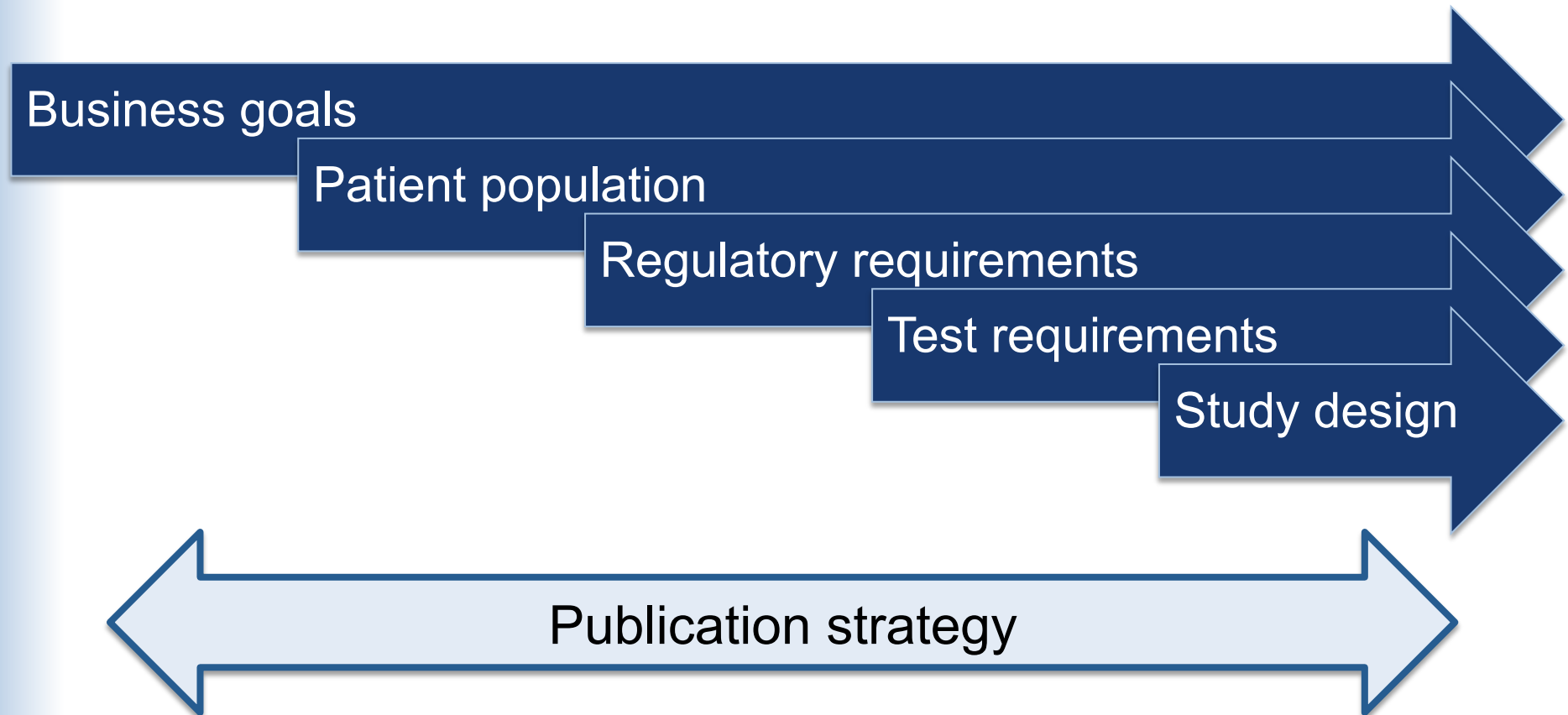
Case Study

Successes and lessons learned

# Study goals = company goals



# Start with the goal and work backward



# Business goals



- Business strategy
- Unmet clinical need
- Target customer(s)
- Market and market size
- Messaging strategy
- Geography
  - States (CLIA)
  - US/global
- Reimbursement plan
- Revenue goals



# Patient population

- Disease/health condition
- Unmet clinical need
- Gold standard
- Current landscape
  - Diagnostic tools
  - Best practices
  - Clinical guidelines

## Regulatory requirements

- Risk classification
- LDT regulated by CLIA
- IVD
  - 510(k)
  - PMA
  - de novo
  - HDE
- Companion diagnostic
- Kit manufacturing



## Test requirements

- Performance characteristics
  - Sensitivity
  - Specificity
  - Negative predictive value
  - Positive predictive value
- Test results
  - Continuous score
  - Discrete result
- Clinical significance



Study design



Health  
Economics

Analytic  
Validation

Clinical  
Validation  
Diagnostic  
Clinical  
Performance

Clinical  
Outcomes  
Clinical  
Utility

Publication strategy





# THINGS TO CONSIDER

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10



Study  
design

## Health Economics

- Payer modeling
- Verify unmet need
- Verify market



Why commercialize? What business benefit?

# Health Economics:

## *Consider the payer*

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Market

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Payer landscape

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Target price

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Revenue targets

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Product positioning

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COGS



Study  
design

## Analytic Validation

- Verify assay robustness
- Commercial readiness
- CLIA registration



Will the assay work? Is it submission-ready?

# Analytic Validation

## *Consider the customer*

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Variability in handling at point of collection

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Interruptions in current practice flow

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Requisition form design

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Patient report design

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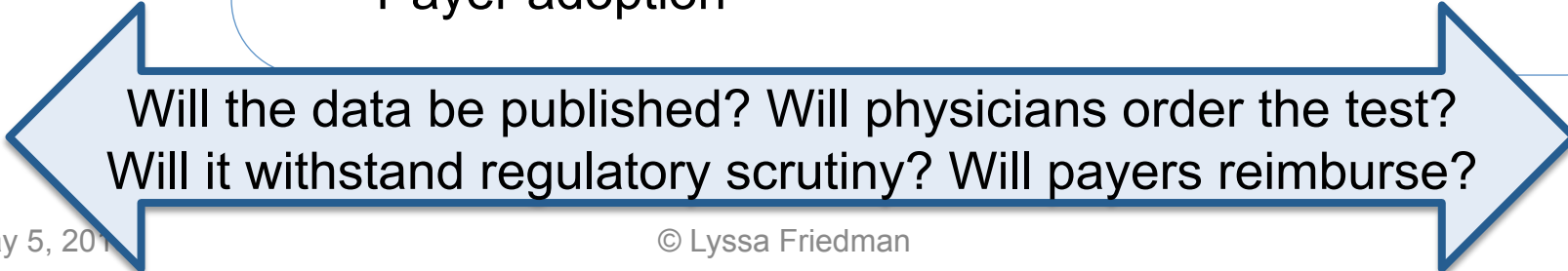


Study  
design

Clinical Validation

Diagnostic Clinical Performance

- Establish test performance
- Gold standard
- Intended use
- Support
  - FDA submission
  - CLIA registration (some states)
  - Publication plan
  - Physician adoption
  - Guideline acceptance
  - Payer adoption



Will the data be published? Will physicians order the test?  
Will it withstand regulatory scrutiny? Will payers reimburse?

# Clinical Validation/Diagnostic Performance

## ***Consider the business and regulatory needs***

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Engage agency prior to initiating study

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Clarify intended use

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Identify a reference (gold) standard  
Consistent with practice  
Recognized by community/literature

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Enroll subjects that represent target patients

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Select sites that support intended use

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Pre-specify  
Sample collection/handling procedures  
Analysis methods  
Use of archived samples (if needed)

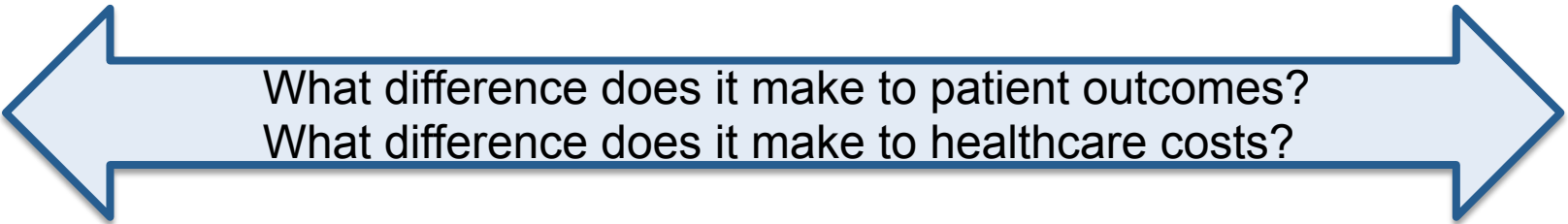




Study  
design

Clinical Outcomes  
Clinical Utility

- Patient outcome based on test use and results
- Randomized control trial
- Changes in physician behavior



What difference does it make to patient outcomes?  
What difference does it make to healthcare costs?

Clinical Outcomes/Clinical Utility

*Consider the payer*

*Consider the patient*

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Effect on patient outcomes

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Ethics of randomized controlled trial  
when marketed test available

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Effect on healthcare costs

Study design



Physician adoption

Guideline acceptance

Positive coverage decisions

Customer engagement

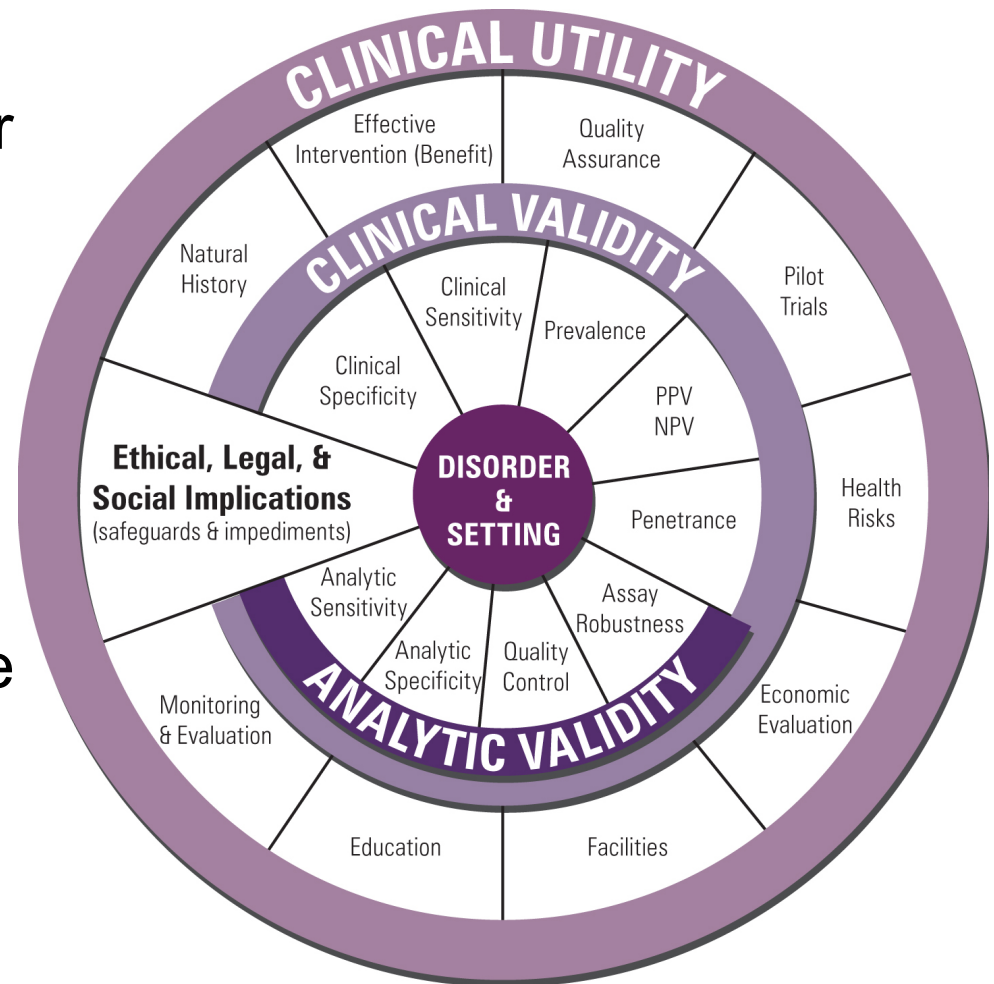
Revenues

Publication strategy



# ← Publication strategy →

- ACCE Evaluation Process for Genetic Testing
  - Alytic validity
  - Clinical validity
  - Clinical utility
  - Ethical/legal/social
- Publications in these areas build the reimbursement case



Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Office of Public Health Genomics  
 Evaluation of Genomic Applications in Practice and Prevention (EGAPP™) Initiative

# FDA REGULATION OF LDTS

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21

# FDA regulation of LDTs

	IVD	LDT
Analytic validation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLIA (if LDT)</li> <li>• FDA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLIA</li> </ul>
Clinical validation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician adoption</li> <li>• Reimbursement</li> <li>• FDA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician adoption</li> <li>• Reimbursement</li> </ul>
Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality systems</li> <li>• SOPs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLIA</li> </ul>
Intended use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician adoption</li> <li>• Economic modeling</li> <li>• Clinical utility studies</li> <li>• FDA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician adoption</li> <li>• Economic modeling</li> <li>• Clinical utility studies</li> </ul>

Hybrid alternative

# Diagnostic Test Working Group

## An alternative to the FDA framework

- Would apply to all in vitro diagnostic tests
- Allocates IVD oversight responsibility across FDA, CMS and states
  - FDA: IVD development
  - CMS: lab operations
  - States: medical applications
- Sets criteria based on risk classification (high, moderate, low)
  - Can move from high to low when test and/or analyte becomes well characterized
  - Different premarket requirements based on risk
- Sets a new standard for IVDs: reasonable assurance of analytic validity and clinical validity for intended use
  - Includes published literature, guidelines in lieu of clinical trials for clinical validity
- Post-market quality system and recall reporting generally same as current FDA device requirements
- Proposed 3-4 year transition period for currently marketed LDTs and those entering market after proposal goes into effect
- Participating companies may include Becton Dickinson, Roche, Mayo Clinic, LabCorp, ARUP labs

# Keep doing what you're doing well

- Well-designed studies
- Clean samples and clinical annotation
- Clearly defined gold standard
- SOPs and pre-specified protocols
- Culture of design review





# SITE SELECTION

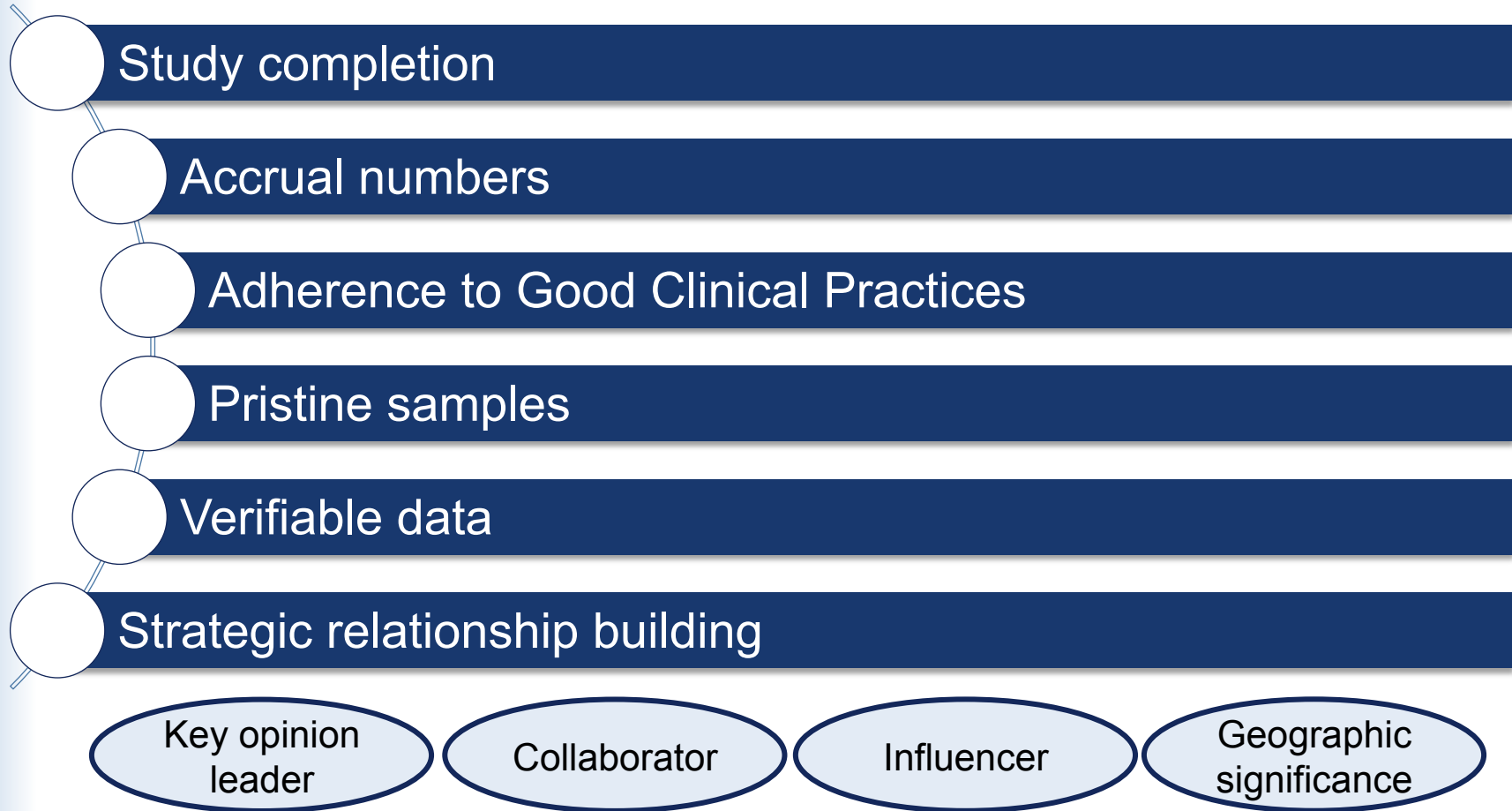
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25

# Site Selection

## What are the goals?



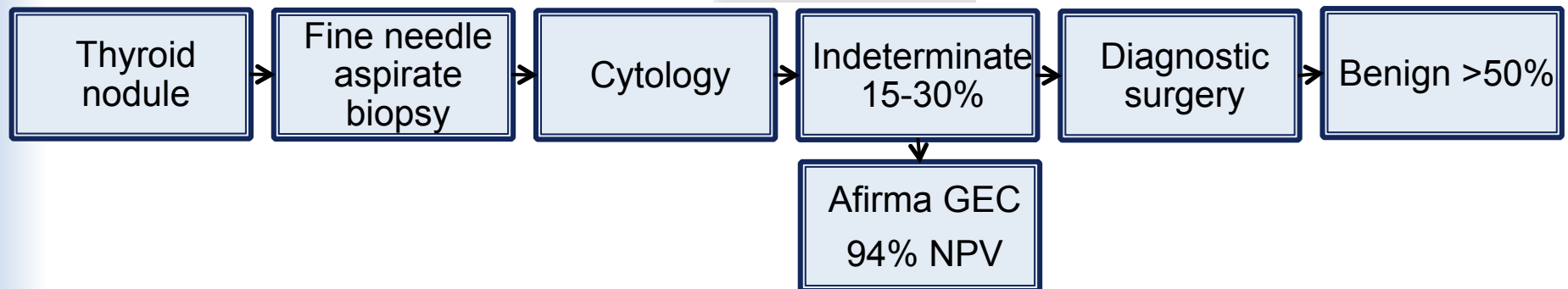
# CASE STUDY AND LESSONS LEARNED

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27

# Case Study



- 142 genes, microarray
- Gold standard: histopathology (central panel)
- Optimized for sensitivity/NPV – safe to avoid surgery
- Company launched 2008 (IVDMIA) – design control implemented
- Product launched as LDT 2011
- Key publications
  - 2010: first clinical validation
  - 2011: economic model/cost effectiveness (replacement for surgery)
  - 2012: second clinical validation, clinical utility (change in recommendation for surgery)
  - 2013: second clinical utility, limits of gold standard

# Case Study: Success/Challenges

## Things that worked

- Funded on business plan – agnostic regarding clinical platform
- All-hands focus on rapid first product to market
- Aggressive publication plan – never missed an abstract deadline!
- Small niche market – close relationship with major KOLs and influencers, who were clinical sites, early customers, authors/speakers
- “Boutique” approach to managing clinical sites, even if challenging
- Two clinical validation studies using one amended clinical sample collection protocol
- IVDMIA era – design control

## Lessons learned

- “Tarnished” gold standard required publication, customer education
- NPV as key message – refuted based on practice variations in malignancy prevalence significantly

# What does success look like?

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Design a business plan that drives R&D and product development

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Build early relationships with KOLs and influencers

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Strategize cross-functionally from the beginning

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Stick to a long-term strategic publication plan

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Commit to a quality system (LDTs)

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Create a culture of design review with external reviewers (LDTs)

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Adhere to a milestone-based plan aligned with corporate goals

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Maintain relationships with strategic sites – even if challenging

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Never miss an abstract submission deadline

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Partner with marketing/sales group to transition sites to early customers

# What are lessons learned?

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Be willing to change thinking quickly and flexibly

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Challenge market research assumptions when clinical operations offers counter-intel

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Don't underestimate the competition and the naysayers

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Stress test the product messaging with regard to test performance