

Facilitating Development and Utilization of Genome-Based Diagnostic Technologies

Tumor Biomarkers in Clinical Practice:

Problems and Solutions

Daniel F. Hayes, M.D.



Declarations of Conflicts

- ☐ **I receive research funding from Veridex**
- ☐ **I have two patents pending regarding CTC**
- ☐ **I am a funded clinical and translational investigator**
- ☐ **I chair the ASCO Tumor Marker and I am a member of NCCN Guidelines Committees**
- ☐ **I am a practicing medical oncologist/caregiver**
- ☐ **I pay taxes**
- ☐ **I pay health insurance premiums**
- ☐ **I will probably have cancer in my lifetime**

A Question of Values: Is it worth it

- **Personalized Patient Care:** focus the “right therapy on the right patient”-
 - Improved cancer outcomes
 - **Cure**
 - **Survival**
 - **Palliation**
 - Decrease exposure to toxicity of unneeded or inactive therapy
 - Decrease costs

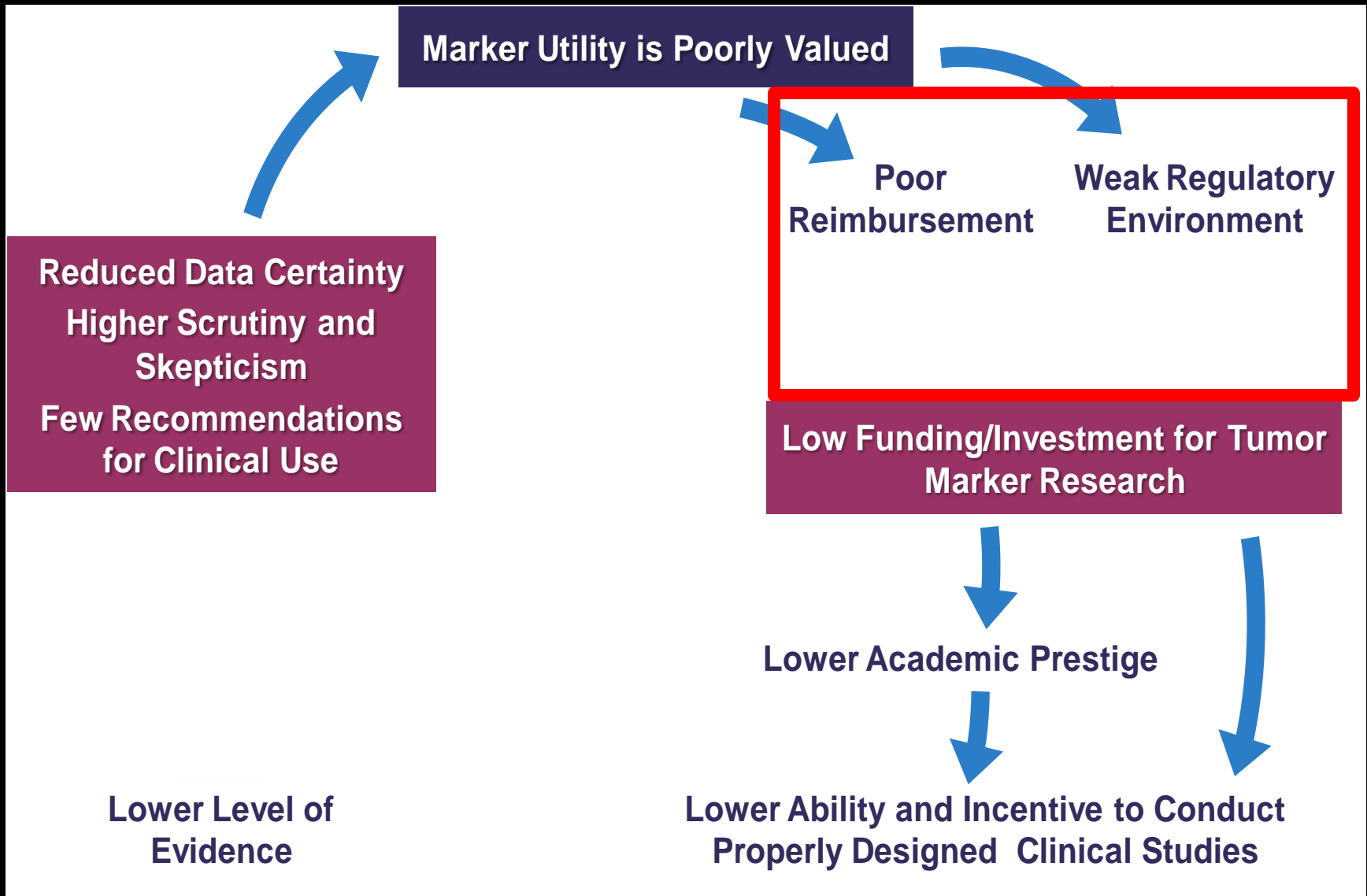
Tumor BioMarkers

- **A bad tumor biomarker is as harmful as a bad drug!**
- **Would you use a drug if:**
 - You aren't sure how it is mixed?
 - You aren't sure what the concentration is?
 - You don't have clinical data about how the drug might be useful?
 - You don't have reliable clinical research data to determine how much efficacy it might have?

What's the Problem?

- **Very few cancer biomarker tests that have clinical utility have been introduced into clinical practice over the last 30 years**
- **Cancer biomarkers that do not have proven clinical utility have been introduced into clinical care**

Undervalue of Tumor BioMarkers: A Vicious Cycle



Summary of Recommendations

- **Reform Tumor Biomarker Regulatory Approach**
 - **Combine into one FDA Oncologic Office**
 - **Eliminate Laboratory Developed Test rule**
 - **Approve Tumor Biomarker Assays based on Clinical Utility**
- **Reimburse Tumor Biomarkers Commensurate with Their Value**

Recommendations to Break the Vicious Cycle

A. Reform Regulatory Management of Tumor Biomarkers

- 1. Combine **ALL** oncologic products into single FDA Oncology Office**
 - ☐ **Drugs**
 - ☐ **Devices, including Tumor Biomarkers**
- 2. Eliminate **Laboratory Developed Test** rule**
- 3. Base FDA **approval** on:**
 - ☐ **Analytical Validity (already) &**
 - ☐ **CLINICAL UTILITY**
 - ☐ *NOT Clinical Validity/ Manufact Intended Use*

Recommendations to Break the Vicious Cycle

B. Base Reimbursement on Commensurate Value of Tumor Biomarker

- 1. Cost-effective analyses: Carefully assess value to patient and society and 3rd payers:**
 - Elimination of expensive and costly treatment for patients who:
 - *Do not need the therapy*
 - *Will not benefit*
 - *Will suffer toxicity*

Barriers to These Recommendations

A. Reform Regulatory Management of Tumor Biomarkers

1. Combine ALL oncologic products into single FDA Oncology Office

PROBLEM: Requires fundamental reorganization of FDA

- ***Currently, drugs are in Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)***
 - **Oncologic Drugs Advisory Board: Standing Board**
 - Multi-disciplinary strength, but less analytical
 - “Corporate memory”
 - **New Office of Hematology and Oncology Products (OHOP), coupled with co-development “Critical Pathway” is a step forward, but only handles “co-developed” biomarkers**
- ***Devices NOT linked to specific therapeutics are in Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH)***
 - **Enormous analytical expertise**
 - **Weaker Oncologic expertise**
 - **Ad hoc advisory boards**
 - Less oncologic expertise
 - No corporate memory

A. Reform Regulatory Management of Tumor Biomarkers

2. Eliminate Laboratory Developed Test rule

PROBLEM: LDT is a commonly used strategy to introduce tests into practice

- *Requires only CLIA review*
- *No review of analytical or clinical validity, let alone clinical utility*
- **Elimination would remove many commonly used tests**
 - Especially *in situ* tissue-based tests (IHC, IF, etc)
 - Not clear how many of these have **analytical validity**, and more importantly, **clinical utility**?
- **Corporate and Political push back**
 - **Draft Guidance is in Office of Management and Budget (OMB)**
 - 3rd party labs are opposed
 - Climate of anti-Regulation

A. Reform Regulatory Management of Tumor Biomarkers

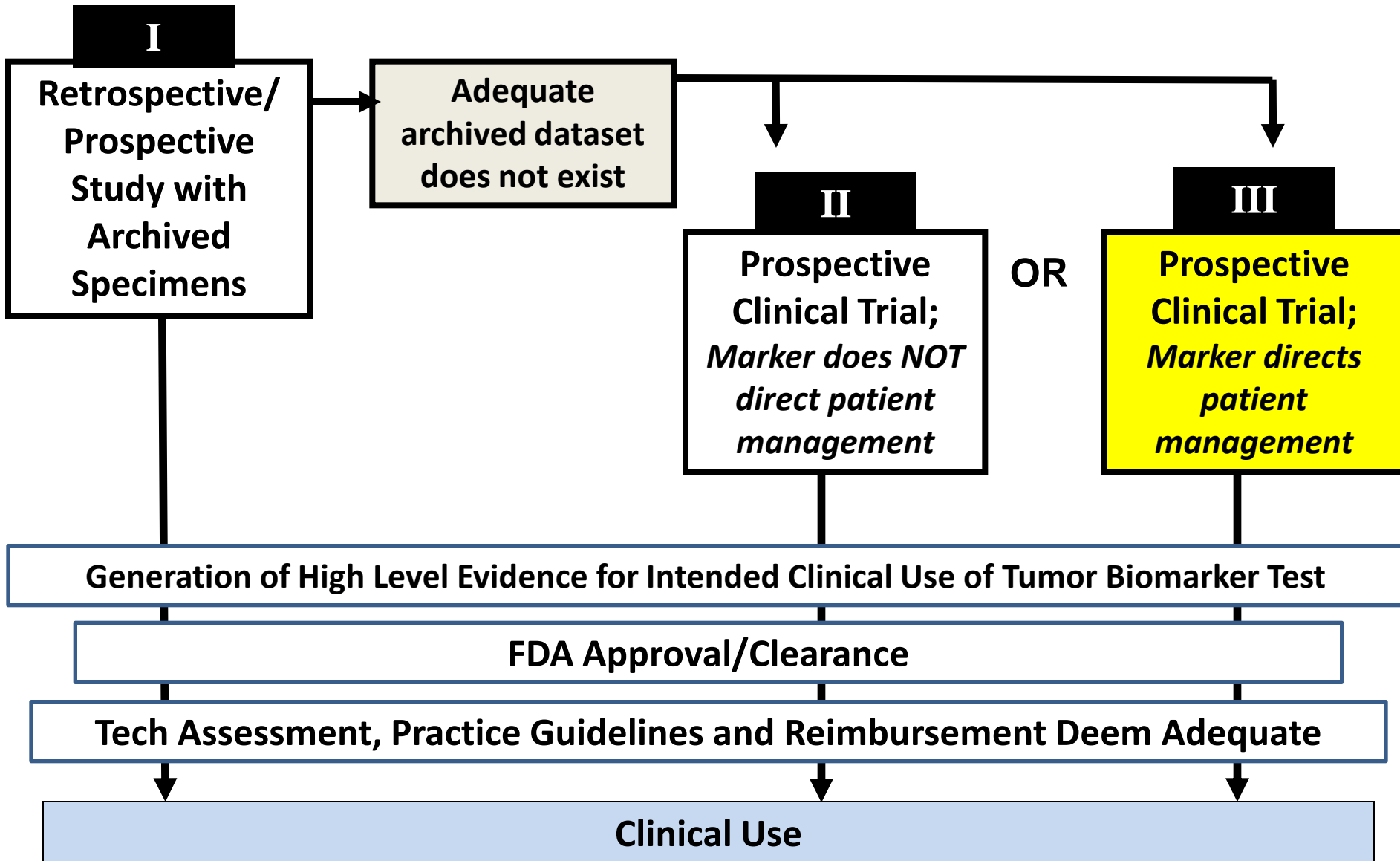
3. Base FDA approval on:

- **Analytical Validity (already) &**
- **CLINICAL UTILITY**

PROBLEM: Current FDA approval is based on Manufacturer's intended use, which usually does not = clinical utility

- **Will increase time and resources to get FDA approval**
- **Will require following one of 3 pathways to get approval**

Recommended Pathways to Generate LOE I Data for Clinical Utility



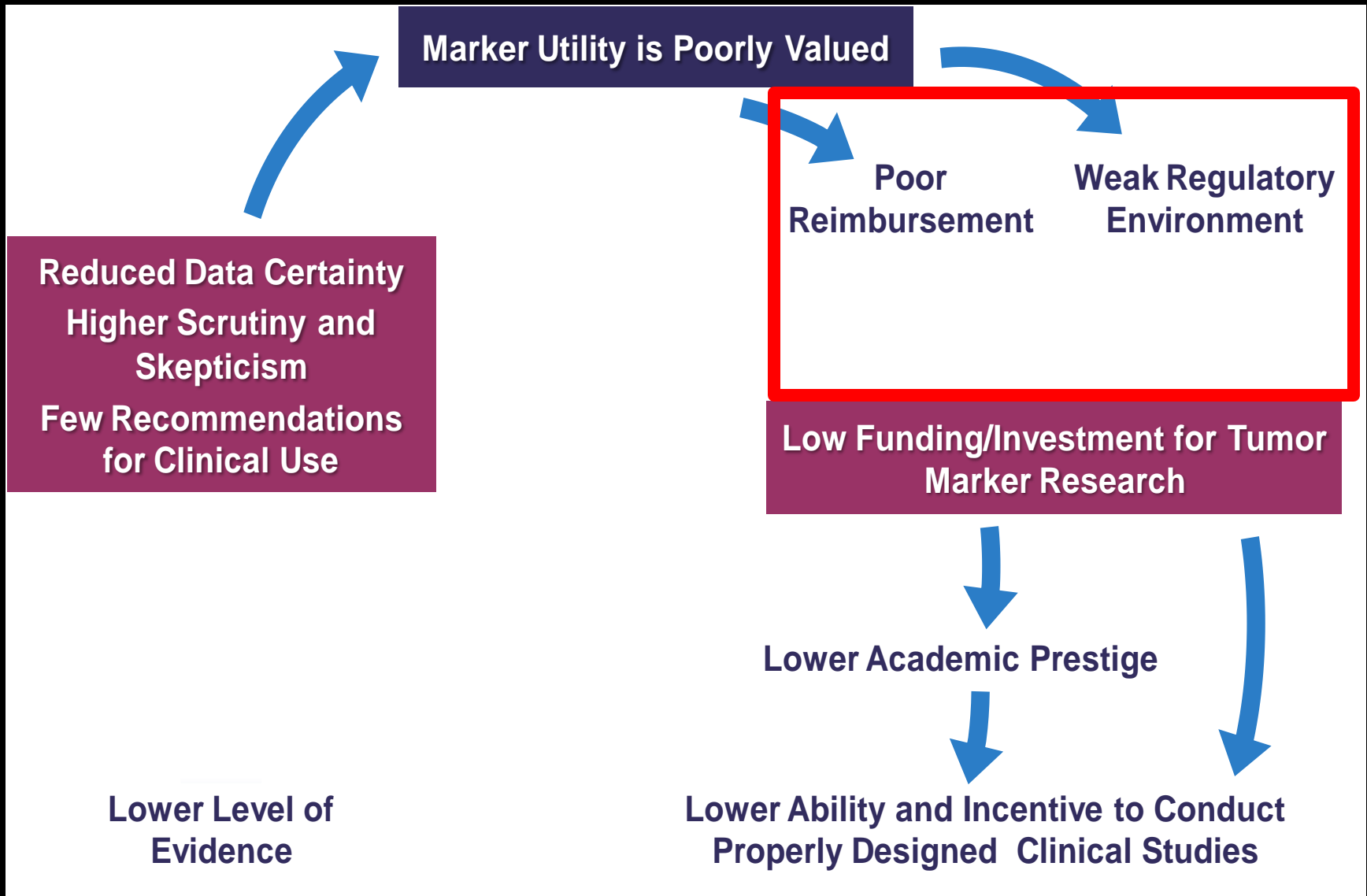
B. Base Reimbursement on Commensurate Value of Tumor Biomarker

Problem: Requires fundamental increase in value of tumor biomarkers

- **Third Party Payers** will need to agree that reimbursement for tumor biomarkers needs to be sufficient to recoup the increased costs of previous recommendations
- ***Cost Effective Analyses* and *Comparative Effectiveness Research*** will be needed to demonstrate that the costs of a tumor biomarker with demonstrated clinical utility is far outweighed by the benefits to:
 - Their covered patients
 - Society
 - The Payers themselves, by substantially reducing use of expensive but needless or ineffective cancer therapies

*How Do We Overcome These Barriers,
and Who are the Stakeholders?*

Undervalue of Tumor BioMarkers: A Vicious Cycle



Who are the Stakeholders in the Vicious Cycle?

**Regulatory Agencies
(FDA, CLIA, Foreign)**

**3rd Party Payers
(CMMS, Private)**

Pharma/Commercial

**Physicians/Other
Caregivers**

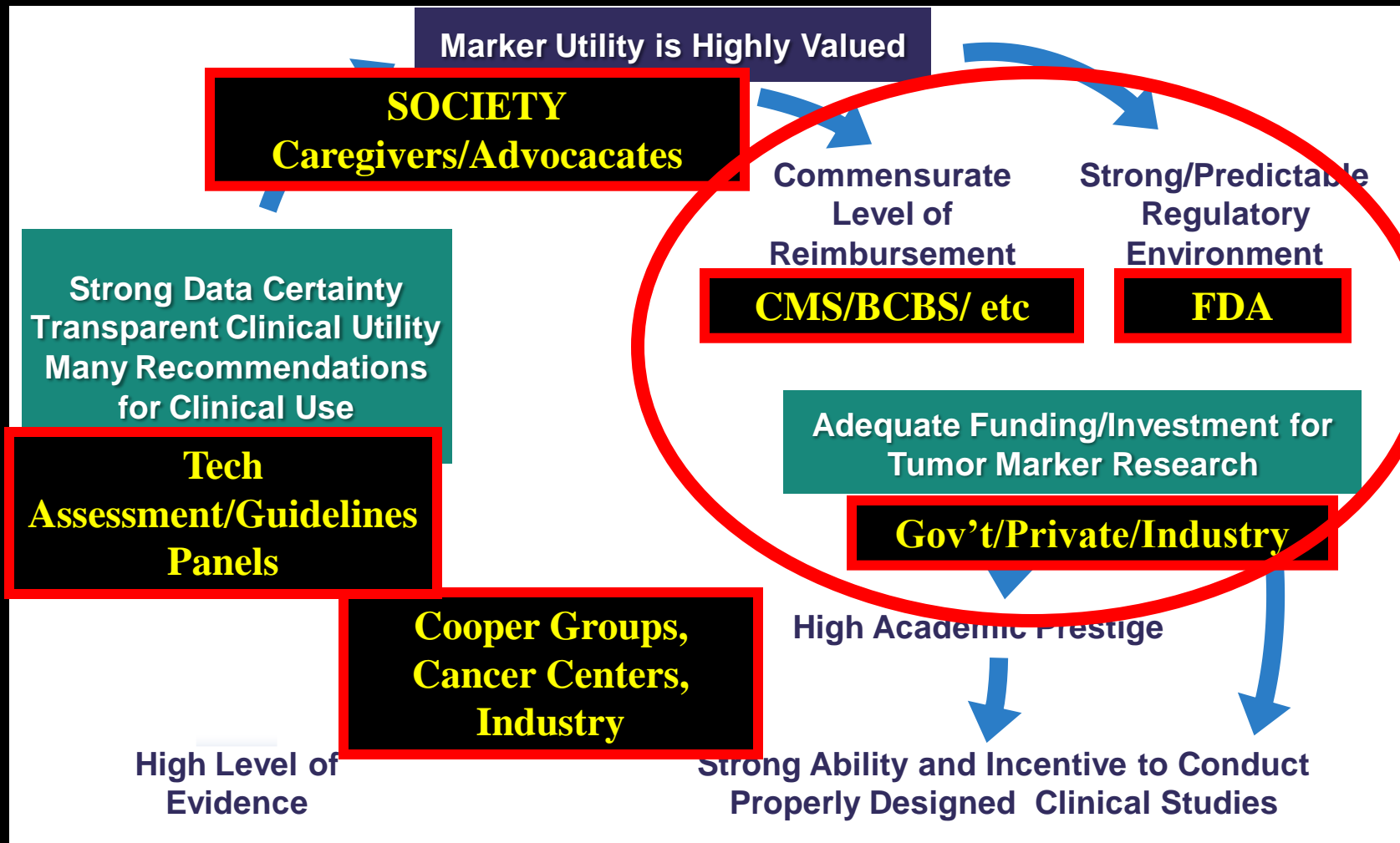
Patients/Advocates

**Clinical Guidelines/Tech
Assessment Panels
(EGAPP, AHRQ, ASCO,
NCCN)**

**Academic
Centers/Investigators**

**Research Funding Entities
(Gov't, Private)**

Highly Valued Tumor BioMarkers: A Virtuous Cycle





Definitions:

Semantics Regarding Evidence for Tumor Markers

□ Analytical Validity

- Does the assay accurately and reproducibly measure what you say?**

□ Clinical (Biologic) Validity

- Does the assay actually identify a biologic difference (“pos” vs. “neg”) that may or may not be clinically useful?**

□ Clinical Utility

- Do results of the assay lead to a clinical decision that has been shown with high level of evidence to improve outcomes?**

Teutsch S.M., et al. Genet Med. 11:3-14, 2009

Current Pathways to Introduce a Tumor Biomarker Test into Clinical Practice

**FDA Approval or Clearance
(PMA or 510 K)**



CLIA approved Laboratory	✓
Analytical Validity	✓
Manufacturer's Intended Use	✓
Clinical Utility	Not Required

Laboratory Developed Test



CLIA approved Laboratory	✓
Analytical Validity	Not
Necessarily	
Manufacturer's Intended Use	NA
Clinical Utility	Not Required

Many Guidelines Panels (ASCO, NCCN) ignore whether test has FDA Approval or NOT:

- *FDA approval does not = Clinical Utility*
- *Clinical Utility may exist for an LDT*

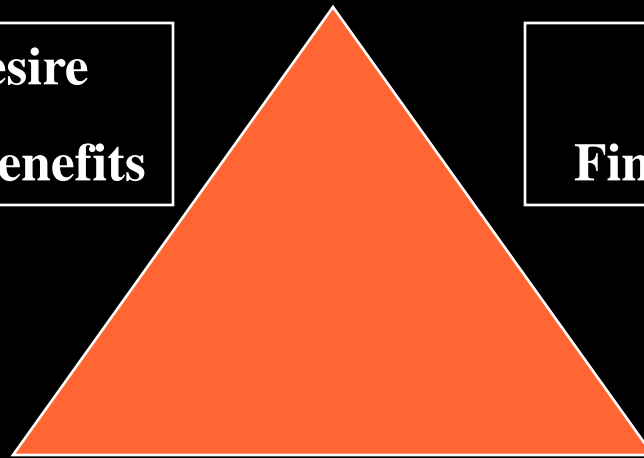
Acceptance of Tumor Markers: Balance of Carrots and Sticks

**Rapid
Clinical
Acceptance**

**Validated
Clinical
Utility**

**Patient and clinician desire
Financial and academic benefits**

**LOE I studies
Financial burden/Low Payoff**



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ASCO Tumor Marker Guidelines Panel

Recommended Markers for Breast Cancer

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| □ ER, PgR | Select Endocrine Therapy |
| □ HER2 | Select Trastuzumab/Lapitinib |
| □ UPA/PAI -1 | Avoid Chemo if ER+/Node neg |
| □ 21-gene RS | Avoid Chemo if ER+/Node neg |

Harris L., et al. J Clin Oncol. 2007

What's the Problem?

- Very few cancer biomarker tests that have clinical utility have been introduced into clinical practice over the last 30 years
- Cancer biomarkers that do not have proven clinical utility have been introduced into clinical care
 - PSA to screen for prostate cancer
 - CA125 to monitor patients with ovary cancer who are free of disease

How Can We Address the Problem?

- **Admit we have a problem**
- **Speak the same language**
- **Identify factors that perpetuate the problem**
- **Target those issues that:**
 - **Are critical parts of the problem**
 - **Can be fixed**

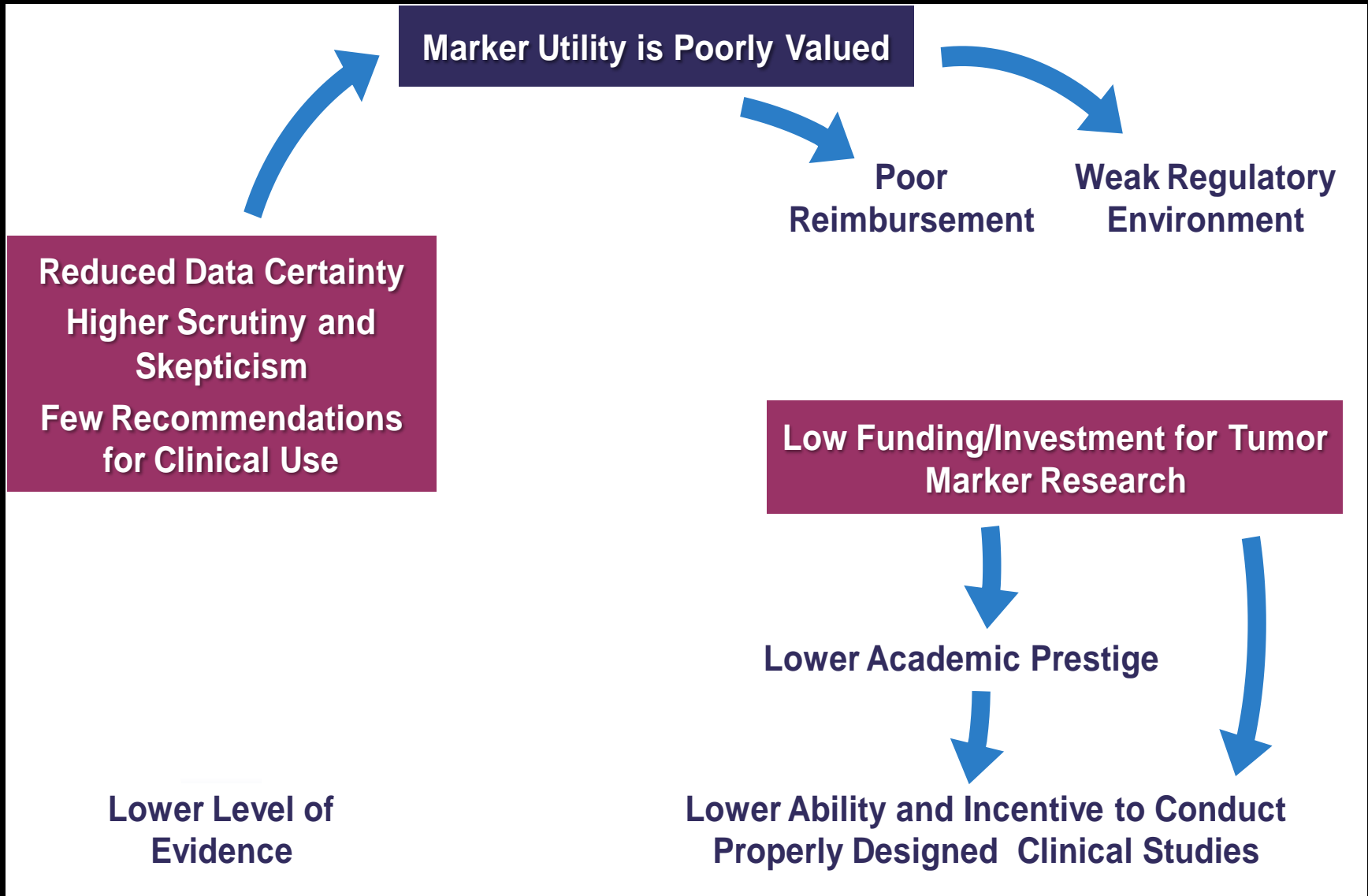
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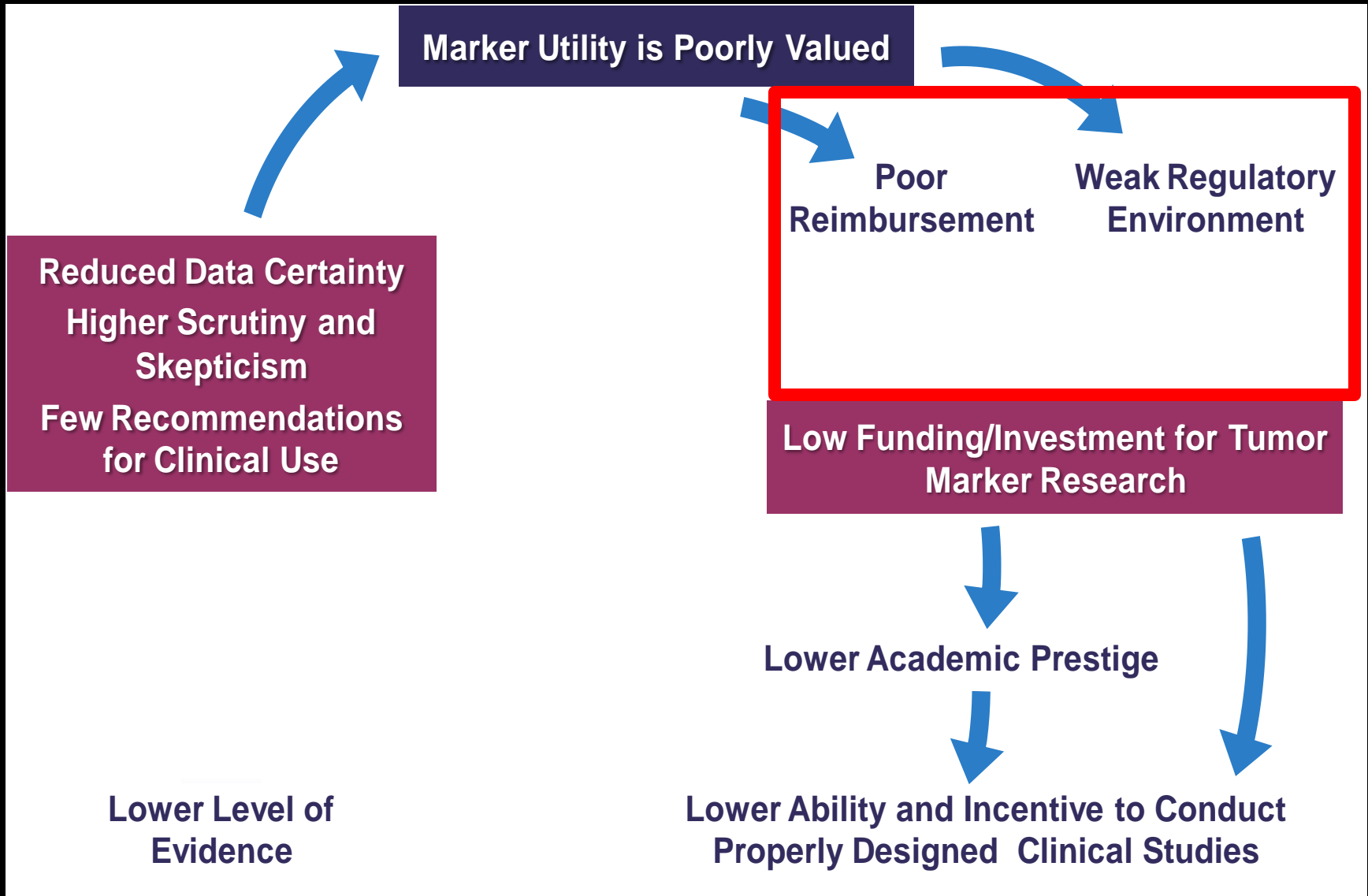
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Undervalue of Tumor Markers: A Vicious Cycle



Incorporation of Tumor Marker Into Clinical Care

- **What evidence is required from stakeholders?**
- **How should this evidence be generated?**
- **What are the barriers to generating this evidence and how can they be overcome?**

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TMUGS: Levels of Evidence

<u>Level</u>	<u>Definition</u>
I	Prospective, Marker Primary Objective, Well-powered OR Meta-analysis
II	Prospective, Marker Secondary Objective
III	Retrospective, Outcomes, Multivariate Analysis
IV	Retrospective, Outcomes, Univariate
V	Retrospective, Correlation with Other Marker, No Outcomes

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MOST TUMOR MARKER STUDIES



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When is a Diagnostic Clinically Useful?

- It is either **prognostic** or **predictive** of cancer outcomes or **predicts toxicity**
- The **magnitude** of effect is sufficiently large that clinical decisions based on the data result in outcomes that are acceptable
 - *Greater chance for benefit*
 - *Smaller toxicity risk*
- The estimate of magnitude of effect is **reliable**
 - *Assay is reproducible*
 - *Clinical trial/marker study design is appropriate*
 - *Results are validated in subsequent well-designed studies (Levels of Evidence I or II)*

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Tumor Markers: Determination of Clinical Utility

□ Strategies to “Test the Test” and Generate LOE I data:

□ *Prospective Clinical Trials: Marker is Primary Objective!*

□ *Sargent D.J., et al. J Clin Oncol. 23:2020-7, 2005*

□ *Freidlin B., et al. J Natl Cancer Inst. 102:152-60, 2010*

□ At present, very few such trials are ongoing in N.A.

□ *For example, in breast cancer, there are 3:*

<u>Trial</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Test</u>	<u>Num pts</u>	<u>Status</u>
TailorRx	Adj Breast	21-gene RS	~6500	Fully accrued
S0500	Met Breast	CellSearch	~120	Ongoing
S1007	Adj Breast	21-gene RS	~4000	In development

Tumor Markers: Determination of Clinical Utility

□ **Strategies to “Test the Test” and Generate LOE I data:**

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□ ***Is a Prospective Trial Always Necessary For Marker Utility?***

□ ***NO!** But use of archived tissue must be done with rigor*

□ ***Simon R.M., Paik S, Hayes DF. JNCI 101:1446-52, 2009***

Use of Archived Tissues To Determine Clinical Utility of Tumor Markers

<u>Category</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>
Trial Design	Prospective	Prospective using archived samples	Prospective /observational	Retrospective/observational
Clinical trial	PRCT designed to address tumor marker	Prospective trial not designed to address tumor marker, but design accommodates tumor marker utility. Accommodation of predictive marker requires PRCT	Prospective observational registry, treatment and follow up not dictated	No prospective aspect to study
Patients and patient data	Prospectively enrolled, treated, and followed in PRCT	Prospectively enrolled, treated, and followed in clinical trial and, especially if a predictive utility is considered, a PRCT addressing the treatment of interest	Prospectively enrolled in registry, but treatment and follow up standard of care	No prospective stipulation of treatment or follow up; patient data collected by retrospective chart review
Specimen collection, processing, and archival	Specimens collected, processed and assayed for specific marker in real time	Specimens collected, processed, and archived prospectively using generic SOPs. Assayed after trial completion.	Specimens collected, processed, and archived prospectively using generic SOPs. Assayed after trial completion.	Specimens collected, processed and archived with no prospective SOPs
Statistical Design and analysis	Study powered to address tumor marker question.	Study powered to address therapeutic question; underpowered to address tumor marker question. Focused analysis plan for marker question developed prior to doing assays	Study not prospectively powered at all. Retrospective study design confounded by selection of specimens for study. Focused analysis plan for marker question developed prior to doing assays	Study not prospectively powered at all. Retrospective study design confounded by selection of specimens for study. No focused analysis plan for marker question developed prior to doing assays
Validation	Result unlikely to be play of chance Although preferred, validation not required	Result more likely to be play of chance than A, but less likely than C. Requires one or more validation studies	Result very likely to be play of chance. Requires subsequent validation studies	Result very likely to be play of chance. Requires subsequent validation studies

Simon R.M., Paik S, Hayes DF. J Natl Cancer Inst. 101:1446-52, 2009

Revised LOI Scale: Use of Archived Tissues

Level of Evidence	Category from Table 1	Validation Studies Available
I	A	None required
I	B	One or more with consistent results
II	B	None or Inconsistent results
II	C	2 or more with consistent results
III	C	None or 1 with consistent results or Inconsistent results
IV-V	D	NA

Simon R.M., Paik S, Hayes DF. J Natl Cancer Inst. 101:1446-52, 2009

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