

# **Partnering for the Cure: An Innovative Role For Academia in Oncology Drug and Diagnostic Development**

**Howard I. Scher, MD**

**D. Wayne Calloway Chair in Urologic Oncology  
Chief, Genitourinary Oncology Service  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center**

May 24, 2012



# **An Innovative Role for Academia in Oncology Drug and Diagnostic Development**

**Howard I. Scher, M.D.**

**I have the following financial relationships to disclose:**

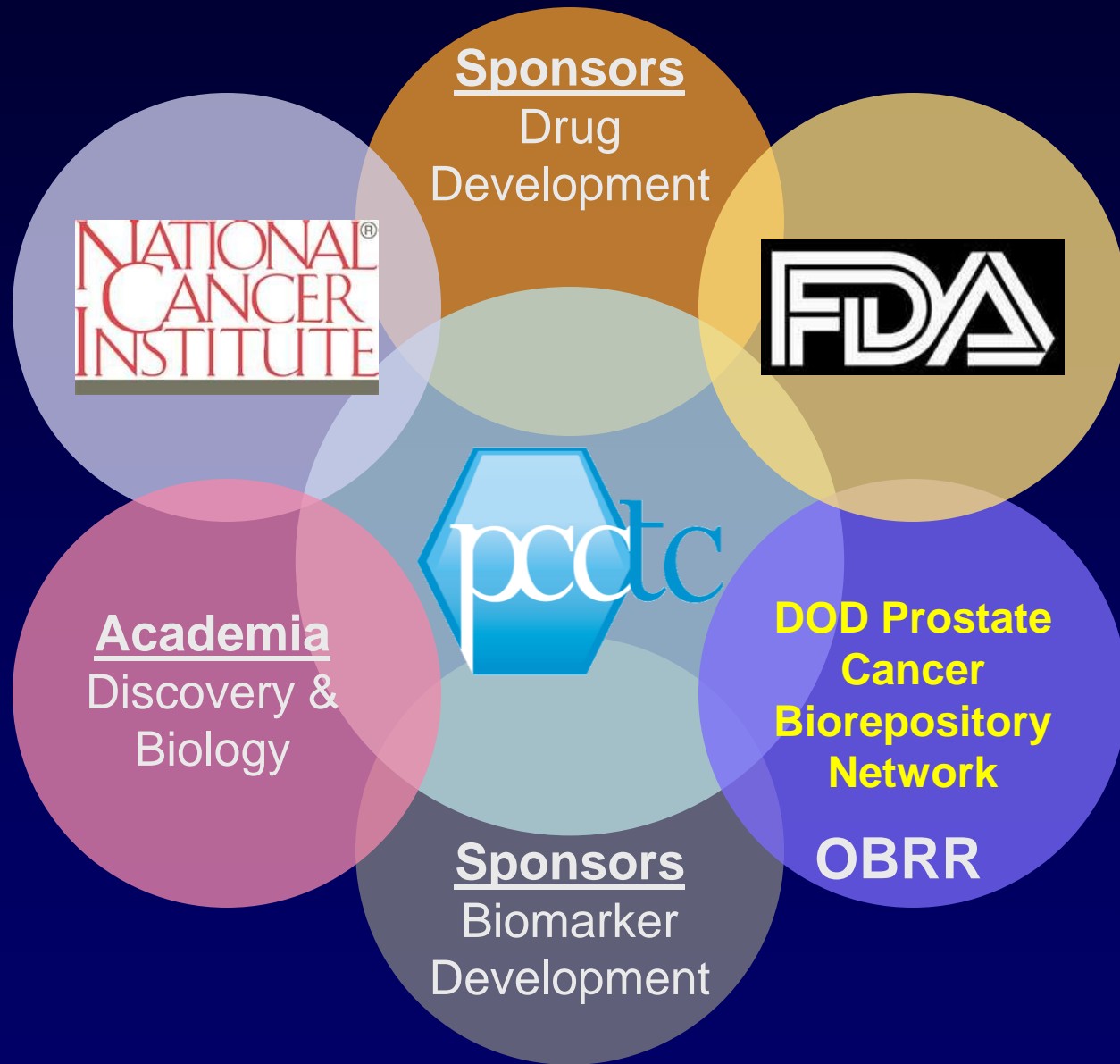
Consultant:	Medivation (U), Veridex (U) Foundation Medicine (U). Janssen Pharmaceuticals
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Grant/Research support:	Medivation (U), Veridex Janssen Pharmaceuticals
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**I will discuss the following off label use and/or investigational  
use in my presentation:**

**MDV3100, Abiraterone, TAK-700, Alpharadin**

# We Are Collaborating With Critical Stakeholders in Drug and Biomarker Development to Generate Evidence



# Partnering for the Cure

1. **PCCTC: A platform for academic collaborations.**
2. Co-development with Sponsors and Regulators: a tale of two drugs.
3. The availability of analytically valid assays is rate limiting,
4. Implementation of a Precision Medicine Paradigm.

**PCCTC:**  
**The Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium:**

Funding for the infrastructure to support collaboration.

Coordinating Center: MSKCC

**Department of Defense and Prostate Cancer Foundation**

# The PCCTC mission is to design, implement, and complete hypothesis-driven phase I and phase II trials of novel agents and combinations that could prolong the lives of patients with prostate cancer.

Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Chicago Prostate Cancer Association\*

Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center

Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center

Johns Hopkins Prostate Cancer Program

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Oregon Health and Science University\*\*

Univ. of California San Francisco

University of Michigan Cancer Center

University of Texas, MD Anderson CC

University of Washington / Fred Hutchinson\*\*

University of Wisconsin Carbone CC

Wayne State University / Karmanos

Robert DiPaola

Walter Stadler

Mary-Ellen Taplin

Daniel George

Michael Carducci

Susan Slovin

Tomasz M. Beer

Charles Ryan

Maha Hussain

Paul Corn

Tia Higano

George Wilding

Elisabeth Heath



**Program Director: Mr. Jacob Vinson**

**Member institutions have scientific programs (e.g. SPORes / PO1s / UO1s) to support biomarker discovery and a translational clinical research enterprise.**

# PCCTC Guiding Principles

1. **Centrally managed, harmonized and comprehensive** clinical trial processes will accelerate drug development and improve outcomes.

**We are Doctor's first!**

2. Achieved by **streamlining any** process that can impede trial activation, conduct, completion and analysis.
3. Aligned to member prescribed **scientific priorities**, teams of experts design **trials in a sequence**, each with “Go-No Go” metrics.
4. Embedded in the PCCTC, is an extensive effort to **discover, and validate biomarkers - analytically and clinically.**

# PCCTC Members Led the Development of Standards for Trial Conduct That Synchronized Clinical Research With Clinical Practice

VOLUME 26 • NUMBER 7 • MARCH 1 2008

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

SPECIAL ARTICLE

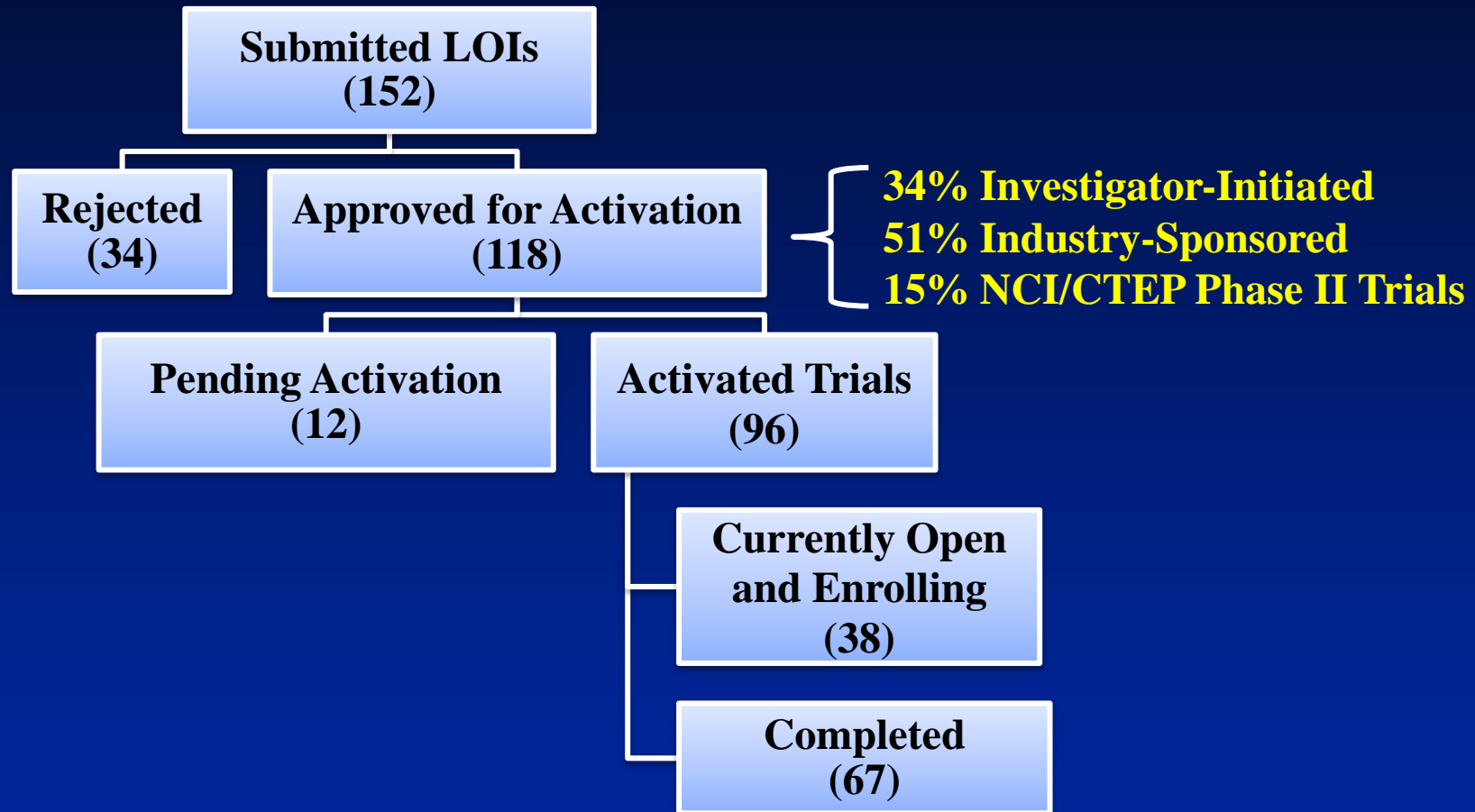
## Design and End Points of Clinical Trials for Patients With Progressive Prostate Cancer and Castrate Levels of Testosterone: Recommendations of the Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Working Group

*Howard I. Scher, Susan Halabi, Ian Tannock, Michael Morris, Cora N. Sternberg, Michael A. Carducci, Mario A. Eisenberger, Celestia Higano, Glenn J. Buble, Robert Dreicer, Daniel Petrylak, Philip Kantoff, Ethan Basch, William Kevin Kelly, William D. Figg, Eric J. Small, Tomasz M. Beer, George Wilding, Alison Martin, and Maha Hussain*

Meaningful endpoints to study biomarker associations and to design the series of prospective trials for a *context of use*.

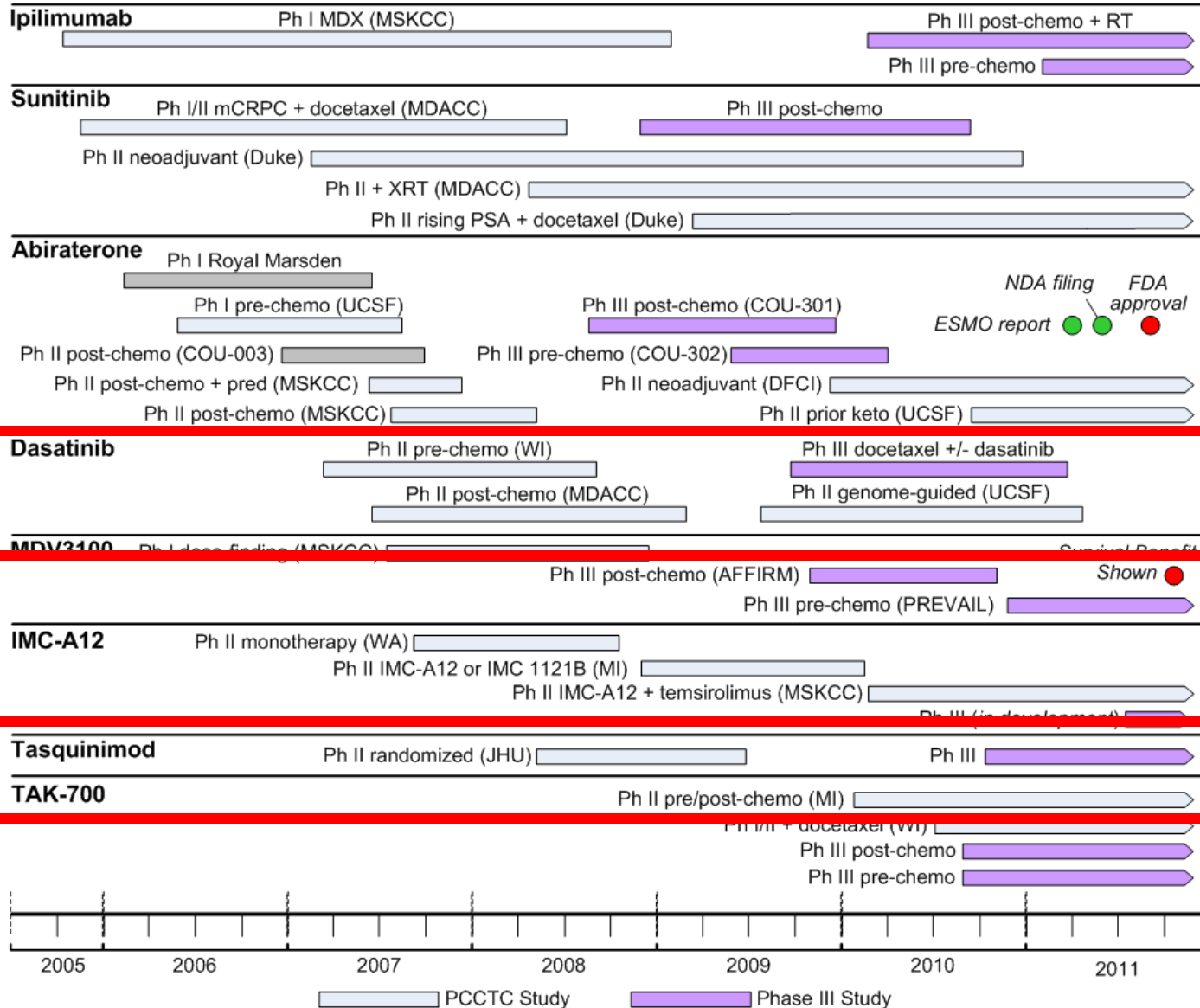


# PCCTC Trial Activity: 2005-1Q 2012



**Over 3265 men enrolled in trials of novel therapeutics.**  
**Eight therapeutic candidates advanced to phase III study.**

# Collaborative Co-Development of PCCTC Members and Sponsors Enabled 8 Drugs To Reach Phase III Testing



OHSU,  
MSKCC

MDACC &  
Duke

UCSF &  
MSKCC, U  
WASH, DFCI

WIS, MDACC  
& UCSF

MSKCC

WASH &  
MICH

JHU, DUKE

MICH  
& WISC

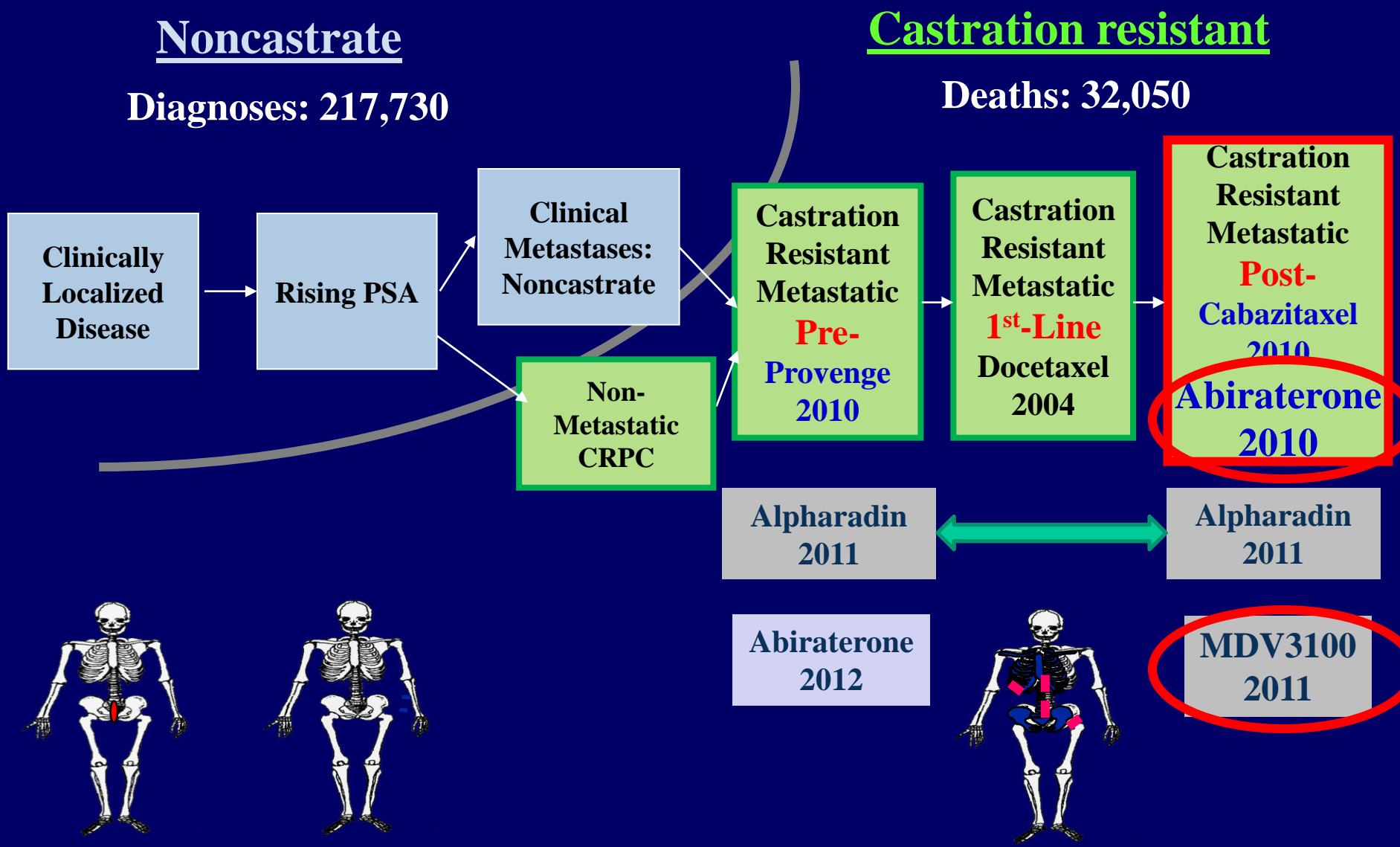
# **Accomplishments of a Early Phase Clinical Research Collaborative: (2006-2012)**

1. Many trials (118), many drugs (73) and many patients (>3265).
2. Field changing science leading to new drug approvals.
3. Evolved a research framework (co-development, operational logistics, endpoints and outcomes).
4. **Moved beyond our original charter to globally change the clinical research enterprise:**  
  
(e.g., biomarker – validation and qualification)

# Partnering for the Cure

1. PCCTC: A platform for academic collaborations.
2. **Co-development with Sponsors and Regulators: a tale of two drugs giving biomarker access to large patient cohorts.**
3. The availability of analytically valid assays is rate limiting,
4. Implementation of a Precision Medicine Paradigm.

# Prostate Cancer Therapeutics *Circa 2012*: A Changed Landscape As Six Phase 3 Trials Show a Survival Benefit

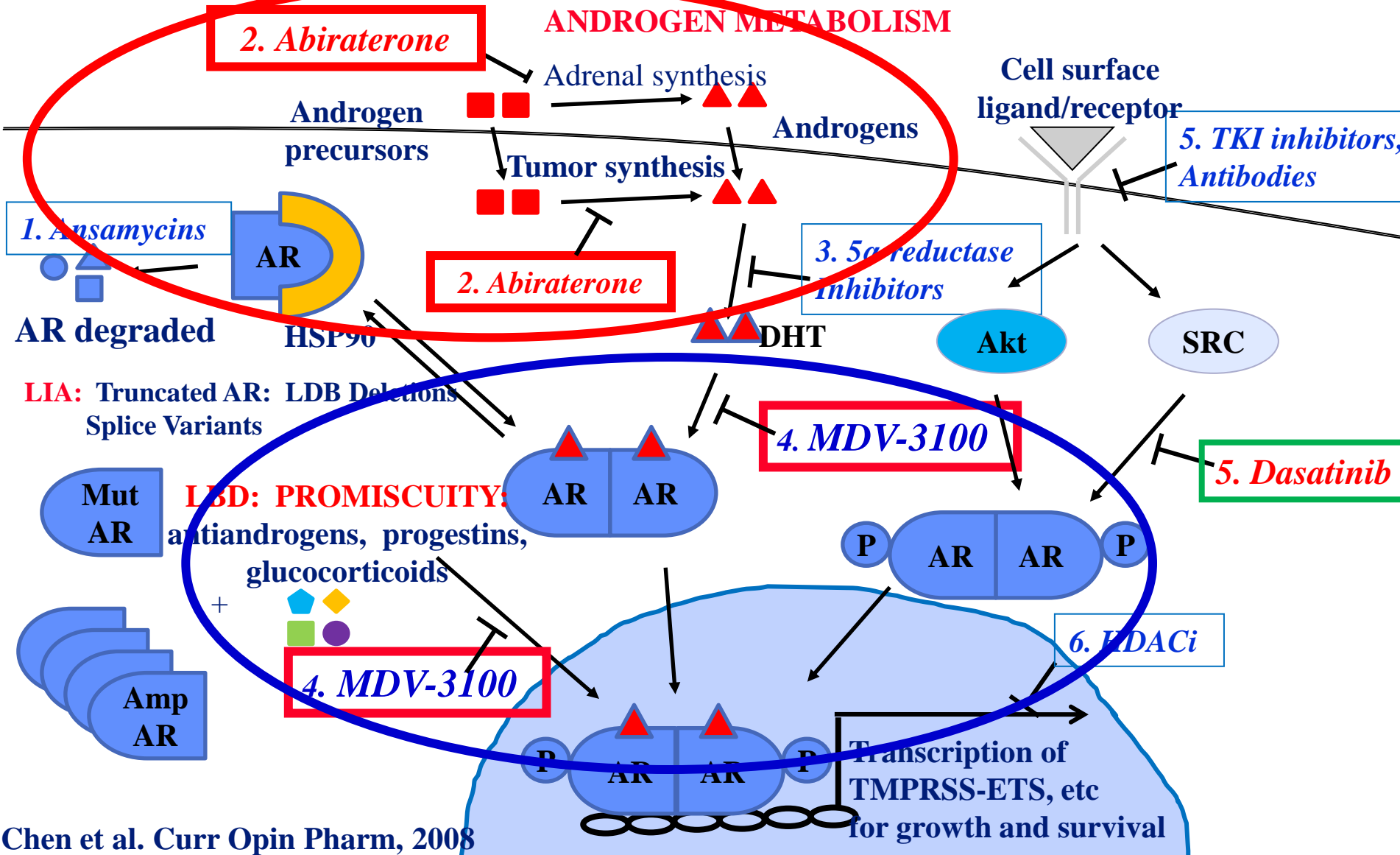


Modified from Scher and Heller. *Urology*. 2000.

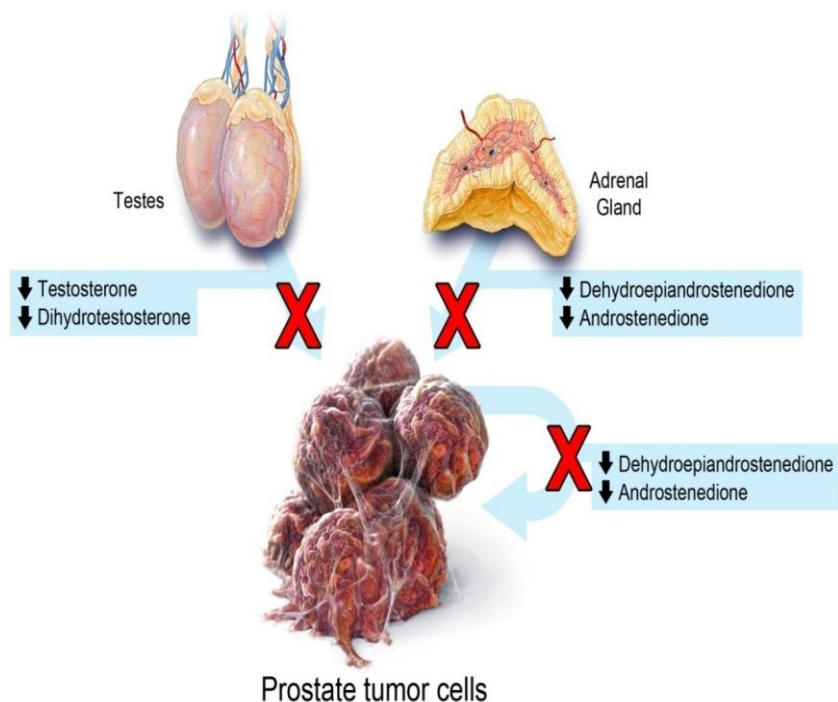
# More Options Benefit Patients, but ...

1. Make it more difficult to show a survival benefit for future drugs
  - Crossover to an effective treatment can confound a survival effect
  - Larger, longer studies and more costly studies will be required
2. Urgently needed are *qualified surrogate biomarkers* for survival that can be used for accelerated drug approvals.
3. Needed as well are *qualified predictive biomarkers* of sensitivity, to better match drugs to an individual patient's tumor.
4. The era of the “all comers” trial will soon be ending.

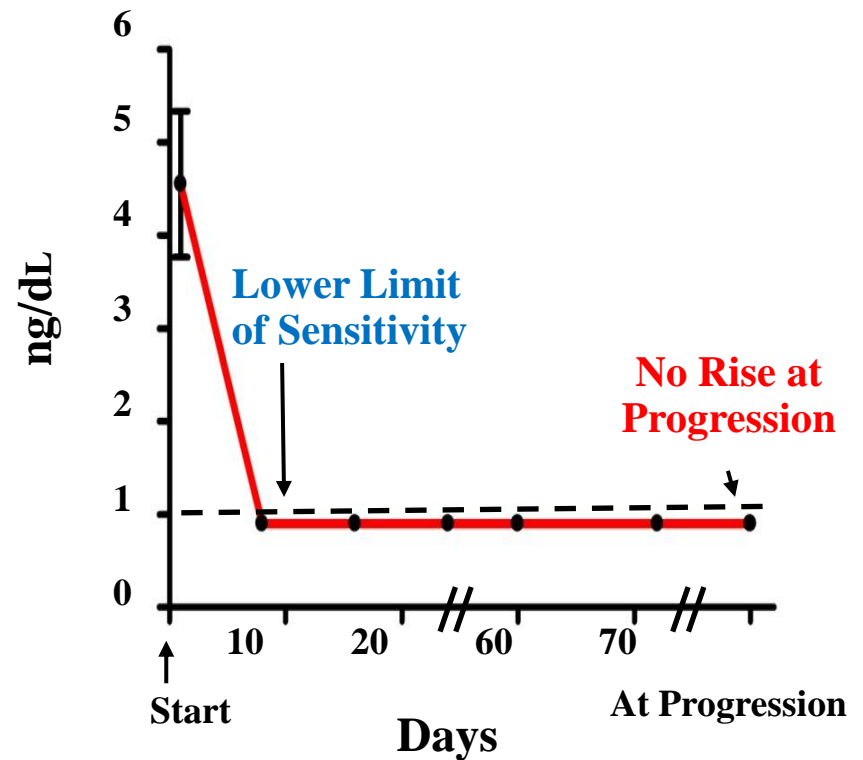
# Restored AR Function in CRPC: *Targeting* Increased Androgen Biosynthesis with **Abiraterone Acetate** and Androgen Receptor Overexpression with **MDV3100**



# Prostate Cancers Acquire the Ability to Produce Androgens, Abiraterone Lowers Androgen Levels in in the Testis, Adrenal Glands and the Tumor



Testosterone (by LC-MS/MS)

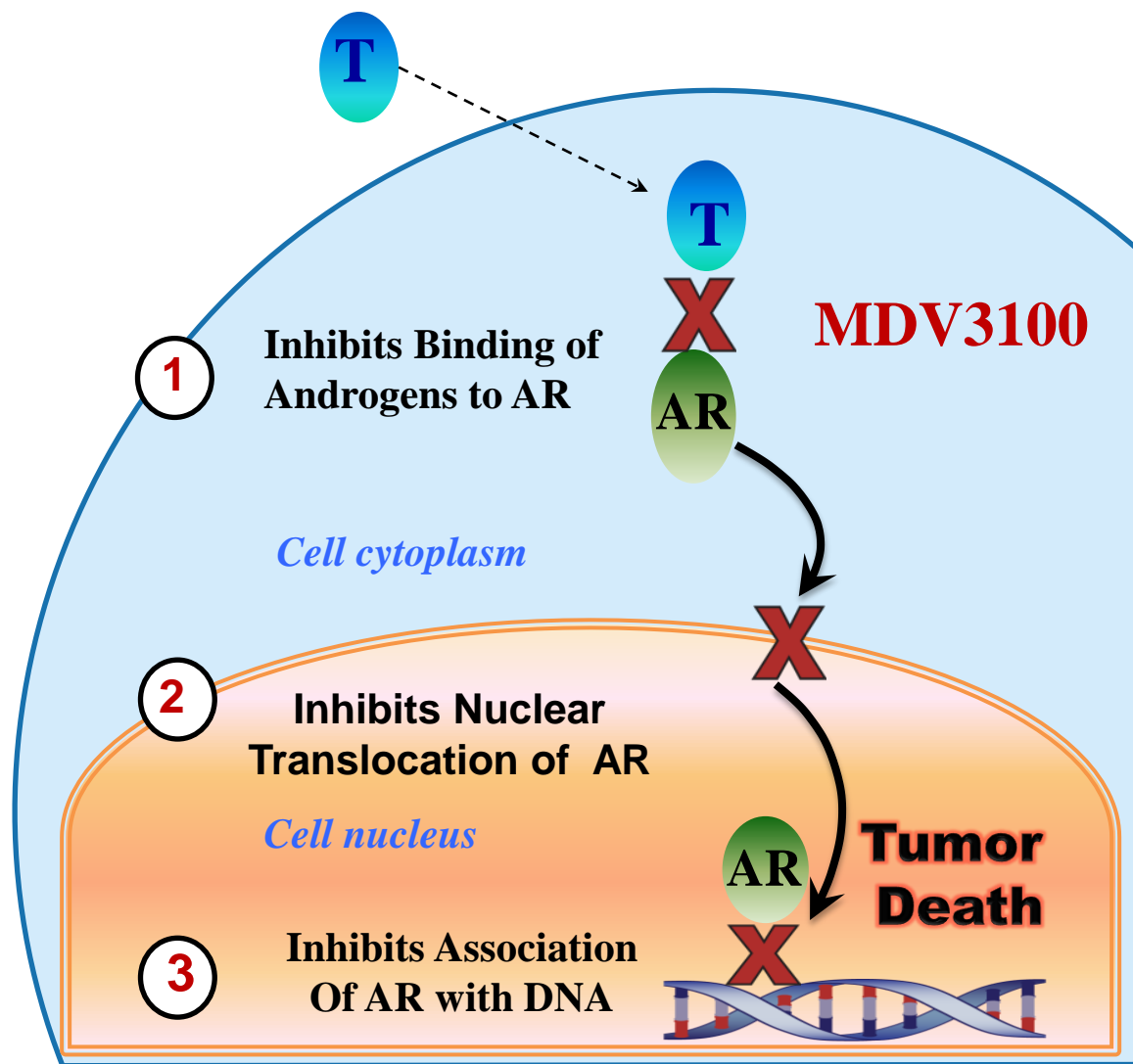




# The Androgen Receptor Signaling Inhibitor MDV3100 Is Unique From the Currently Available Anti-Androgens

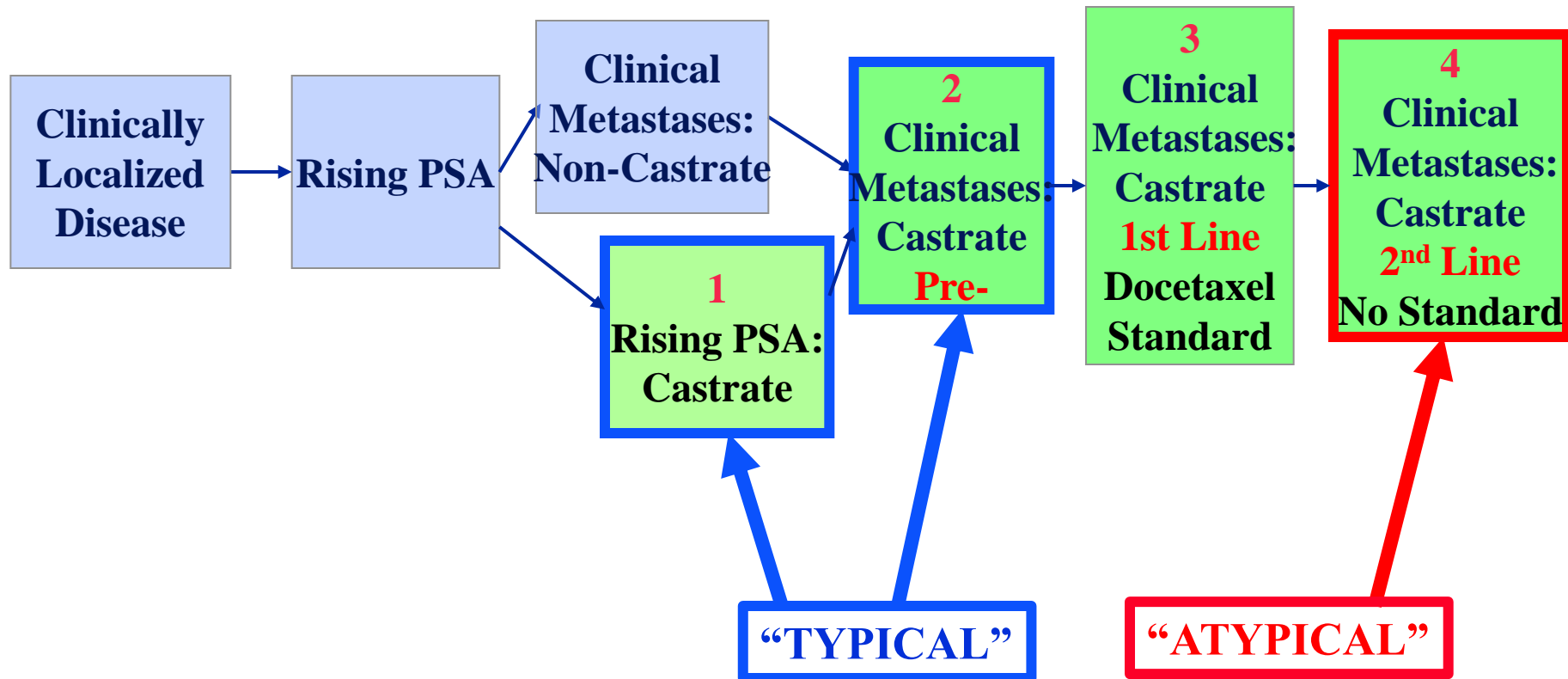
NDA filed May 21, 2012

Scher et al., GU ASCO, 2012



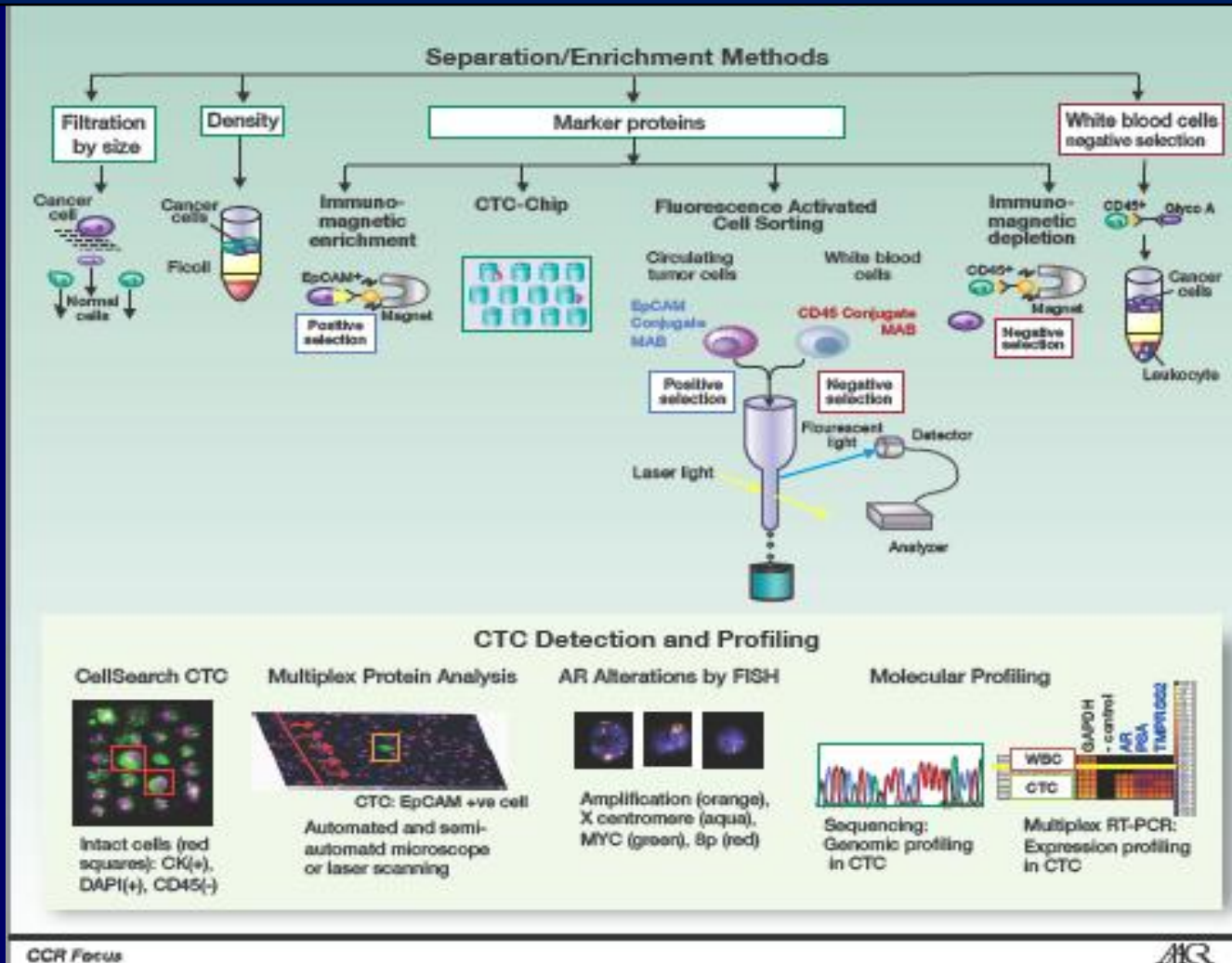
Tran et al. Science 224:787, 2009.

**Both *Abiraterone Acetate* and MDV3100 Were Studied  
In *Pre-* and *Post-* Chemotherapy Treated CRPC:  
Prospective Biomarker Testing in a Defined Setting**



**With a shared investment (Drug and Biomarker Sponsor, Grants, Foundations, Academia) Circulating Tumor Cell number (CellSearch) was included as an endpoint.**

# We Hypothesize that Circulating Tumor Cell Biomarkers Could Fulfill These Unmet Needs but Before a Platform is Used in a Trial, It Undergoes Our Own Analytical Testing



# All Technologies Undergo Validation On Site or with Patient Samples: Fleisher's Principles

## Assay:

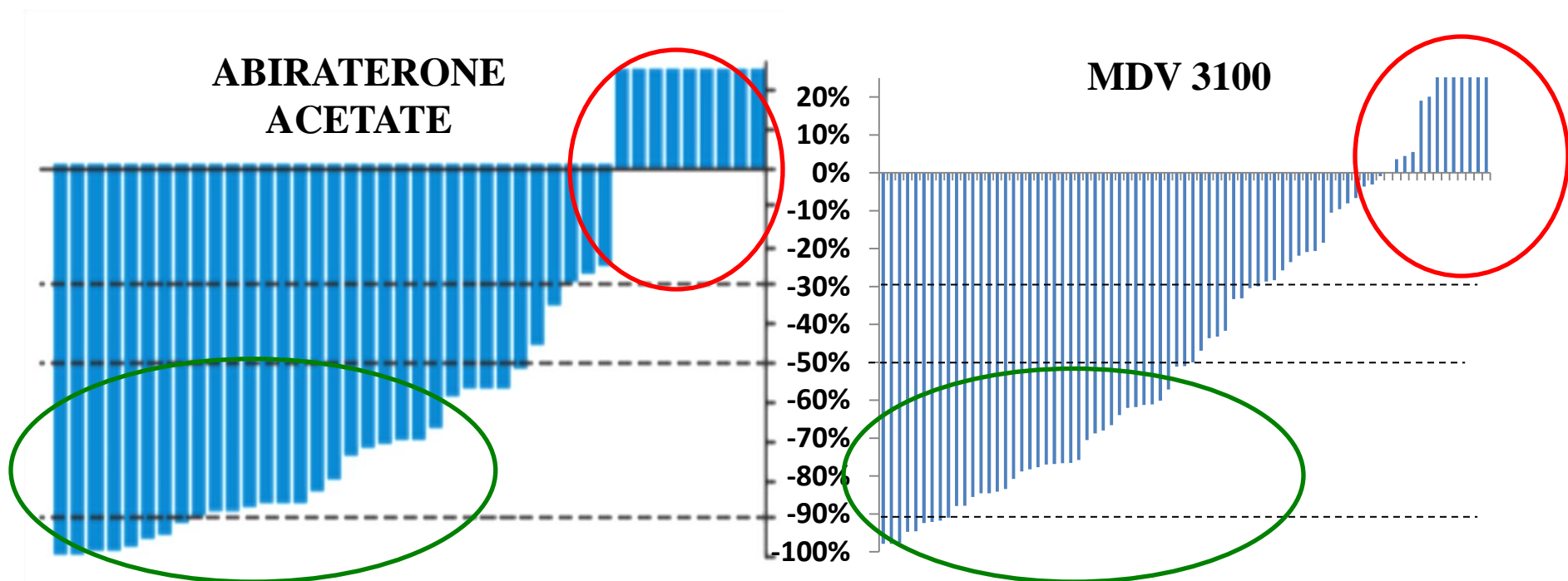
1. To establish the minimum performance characteristics for an **assay/test** to **justify/warrant** clinical testing.
2. To achieve **analytical validity** across laboratories/centers.

**Most “new” technologies simply fail.**

## Clinical Evaluation:

3. To develop **performance metrics in the clinic** to justify further testing.
4. To design trials in a sequence to qualify a “biomarker” for a specific “context of use” (label) that will **affect/impact/guide medical decision** making.

# Abiraterone Acetate and MDV3100 Produced Similar Patterns of Decline in PSA and Similar CTC Conversion Rates



	No. Patients	≥ 50% PSA Decline	Baseline CTC ≥ 5	CTC Conversion ≥ 5 to < 5
Abiraterone <sup>1</sup>	47	51% (24)	27	41% (11)
Abiraterone <sup>2</sup>	58	43% (25)	29	34% (10)
MDV3100 <sup>3</sup>	68	34 (50%)	35	37% (13)

<sup>1</sup>Reid et al., JCO 27: 1489, 2010; <sup>2</sup>Danila et al. JCO 27:1496, 2010; <sup>3</sup>Scher et al., Lancet 75:1437, 2010.

# **Specimens have been Stored for Future Retrospective-Pro prospective Analyses**

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*Special Report*

**Clinical  
Cancer  
Research**

## **Adaptive Clinical Trial Designs for Simultaneous Testing of Matched Diagnostics and Therapeutics**

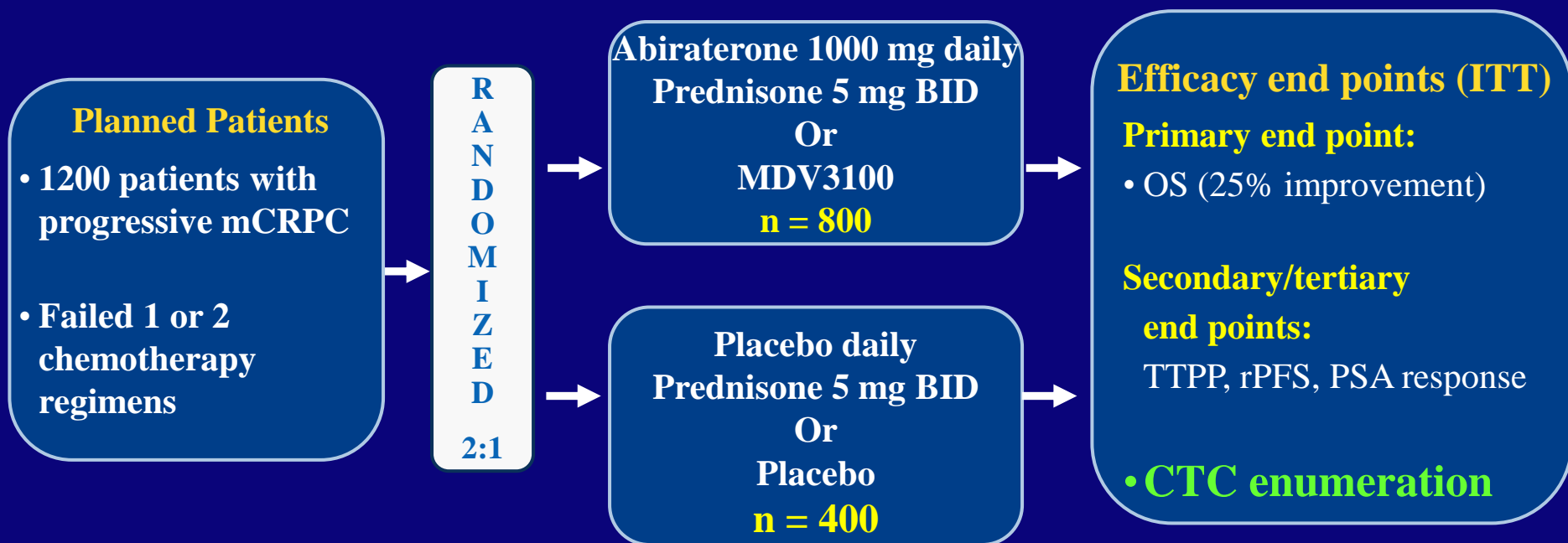
Howard I. Scher<sup>1</sup>, Shelley Fuld Nasso<sup>2</sup>, Eric H. Rubin<sup>3</sup>, and Richard Simon<sup>4</sup>

**Clinical Cancer Res 17: 6634, 2011**

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**FOCR and Brookings Institute, October, 2010**

# Based on the Phase II Results, Two Phase 3 Registration Trials of Similar Design Were Conducted (COU-AA-301 and AFFIRM) with Biomarker Questions Embedded



This design was discussed with CDRH of the FDA: November 7, 2007; August 27, 2009

# **As the Second Phase 3 Trial Was Designed A Briefing Documented Was Requested and Submitted to FDA To Generate the Evidence to Support Accelerated Approvals**

## **A Voluntary Data Submission to Support the Qualification of Circulating Tumor Cells (CTCs) as an Efficacy-response Biomarker in Castration Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC)**

**Submitted by:**

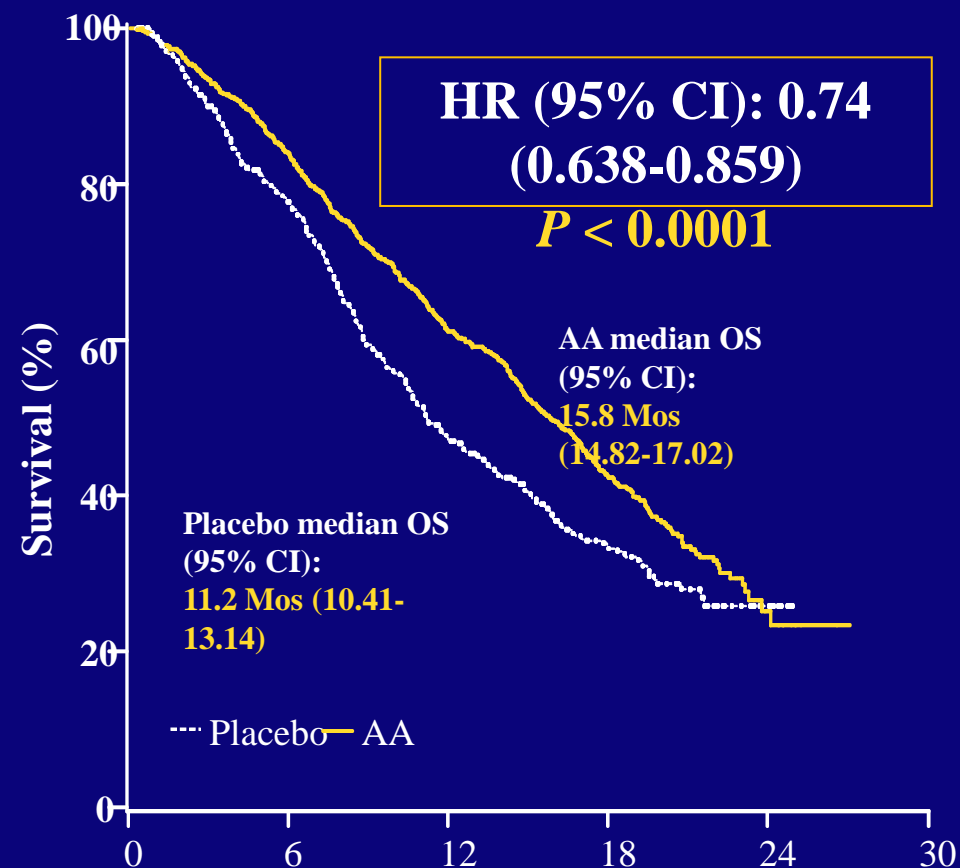
Dr. Howard Scher (Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center)  
OrthoBiotech Oncology Research and Development (A Unit of Cougar Biotechnology)  
Medivation, Inc.  
Centocor OrthoBiotech Pharmaceuticals  
and  
Veridex, LLC

**Submitted December 22, 2009**

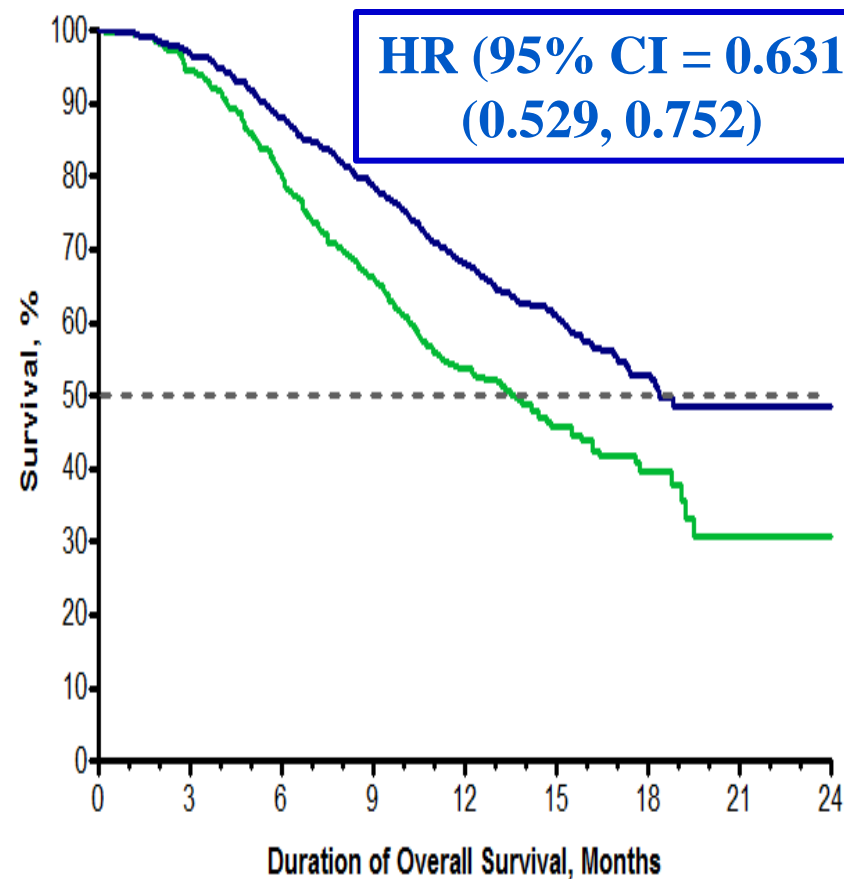
**Face-to-Face Meeting May 7, 2010**



# Abiraterone Acetates Prolongs Survival Relative to Placebo in Post-Chemotherapy Treated CRPC



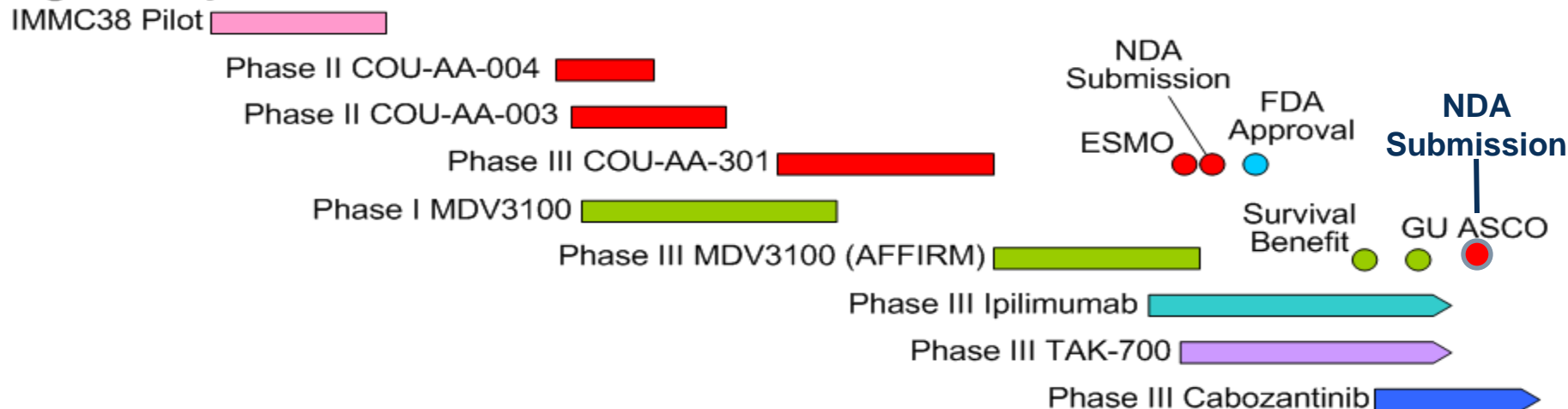
	Time to Death (Months)				
AA	797	657	473	273	15
Placebo	398	306	183	100	6



	Patients at Risk								
MDV3100	800	775	701	627	400	211	72	7	0
Placebo	399	376	317	263	167	81	33	3	0

# The Early and Ongoing Engagement of the CDRH at FDA Enabled A Collaboration toward Qualification of an Efficacy Response Surrogate For Survival

## Drug Development



## FDA Clearance

● Breast      Colorectal ● Prostate

## Surrogacy Qualification



2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

● BQRT

● CDER

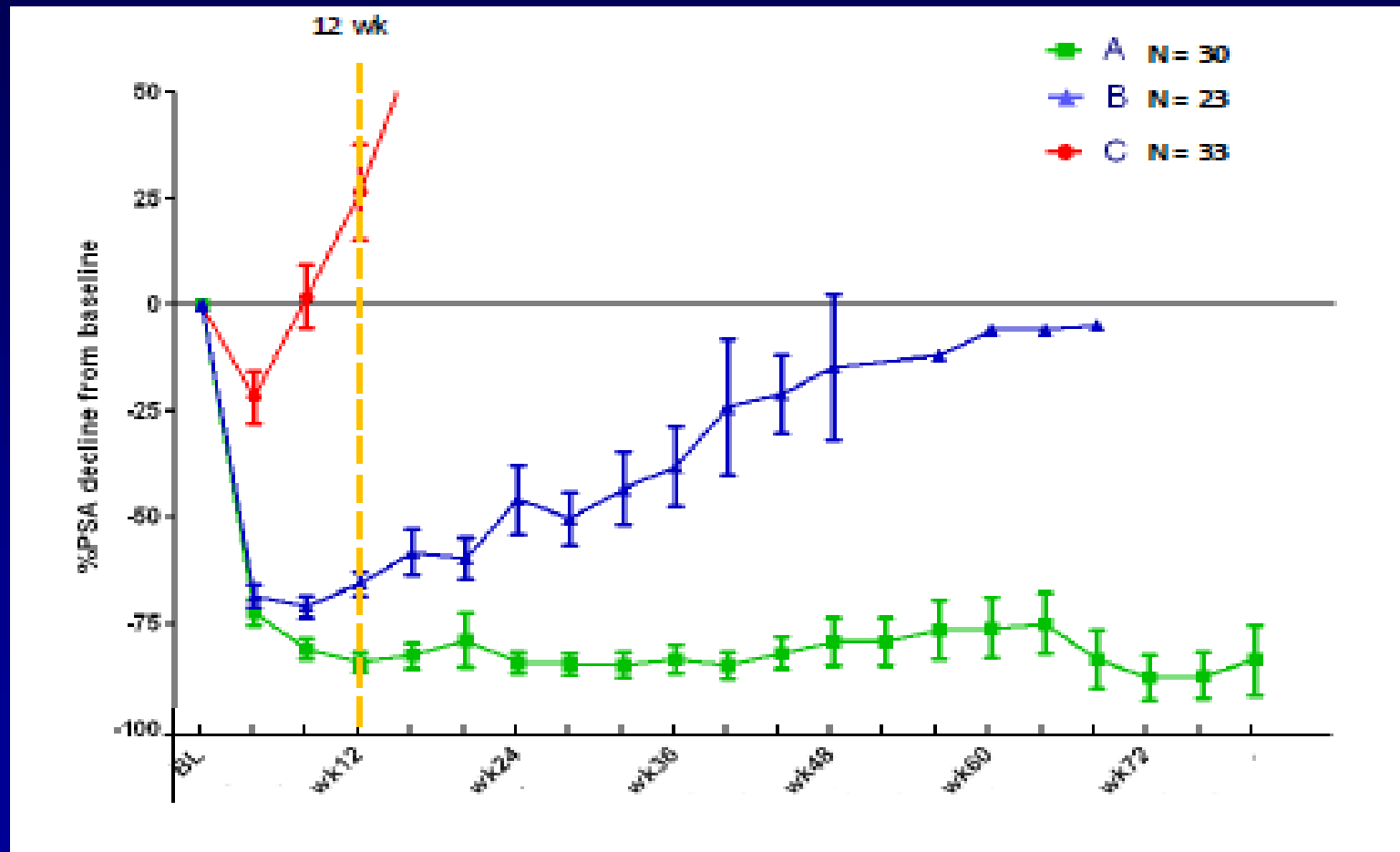
● CDRH

● FDA

# Partnering for the Cure

1. PCCTC: A platform for academic collaborations.
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3. **The availability of analytically valid assays is rate limiting,**
4. **I**mplementation of a Precision Medicine Paradigm.

# The Patterns of Post-Therapy PSA Change With Abiraterone and MDV3100: Some Tumors are Resistant *de novo* and Others *Acquire* Resistance



Which materials should be used for assay development?

Several biomarkers have been postulated, but none have been definitively established as predictive.

Specimens have been stored for future analysis.

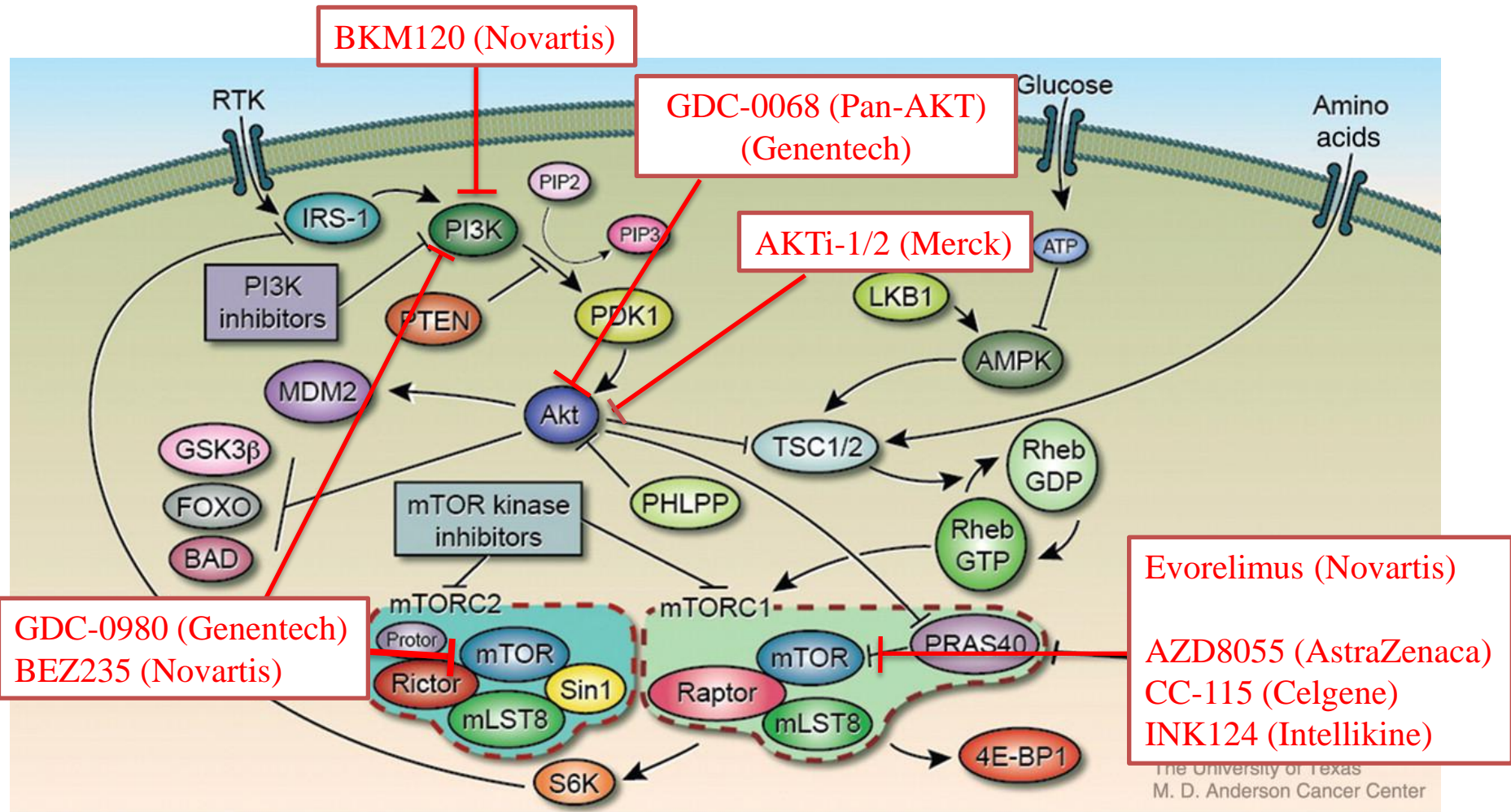
As an Investigator, what do you do?

**Develop assays for putative markers and study associations with clinical outcomes using those that are “close” to analytical validation.**

# Rationale for Developing Assays for Biomarkers for which Preclinical Data Support Prediction

1. We have identified pathways and targets:  
e.g. AR and PI3K signaling axes.
2. The drugs are already in development.
3. The availability of analytically valid assay is rate limiting.
4. Assay development takes time and resources.

# A partial list of agents targeting the PI3K signaling axis in clinical development



# **We Know the Guidance for Integral Predictive Assays and Are Collaborating With Critical Stakeholders of the Biomarker Qualification Pathway**

**Lisa McShane**



**Elizabeth  
Mansfield**



**FNIH**

**DOD Prostate  
Cancer  
Biorepository  
Network**

**OBRR**

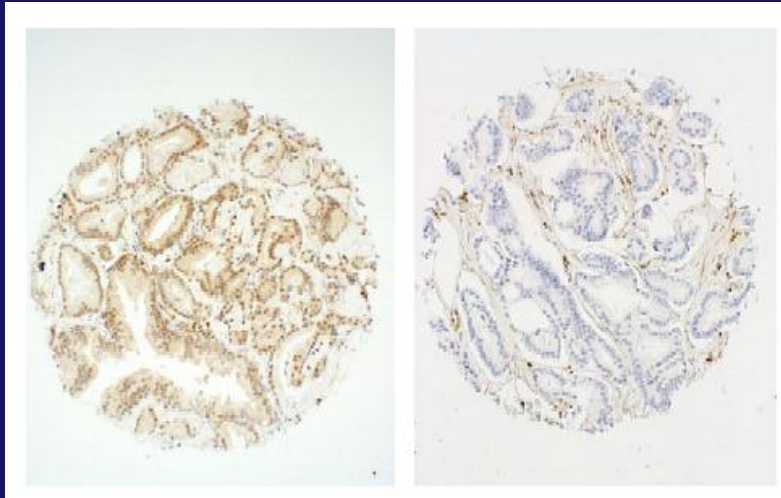
**Brenda Petty**

**Carolyn  
Compton**



# To Test This Hypothesis Clinically Requires Validated Assays: A Proposed Clinical Trial Includes an Analytically Valid IHC Assay for PTEN: “Null” or “Any”

PTEN expression in tumors from two different patients on a tissue microarray



Present in tumor  
and stroma

“Null” in tumor  
Present in stroma

**MSKCC, JHU, DFCI SPORE**

**DeMarzo (JHU) Loda (DFCI) and Reuter (MSKCC)**

1. Validation in cell lines.
2. IHC in primary and metastatic tissue:  
“Null” or any; H-score
3. qPCR.
4. **CNA (Exploratory)**
5. Output signatures.

# What Tumor Material and What Assay Will be Most Informative for Predictive Biomarkers?

Primary tumor, metastatic site biopsy, CTC, Cell Free .....

1. AR, MYC, PTEN and TMPRSS2/ERG status.
2. Genetic analysis (FISH).
3. Protein (IHC)
4. Copy number alterations (CNA) .
5. Transcriptome (qRT-PCR or Microarray profiling).
6. Mutational analysis of key components of the PI3K pathway.
7. PD-given preclinical evidence of reciprocal feedback.

Others .....

**There is no validated assay for the androgen receptor!**

# Partnering for the Cure

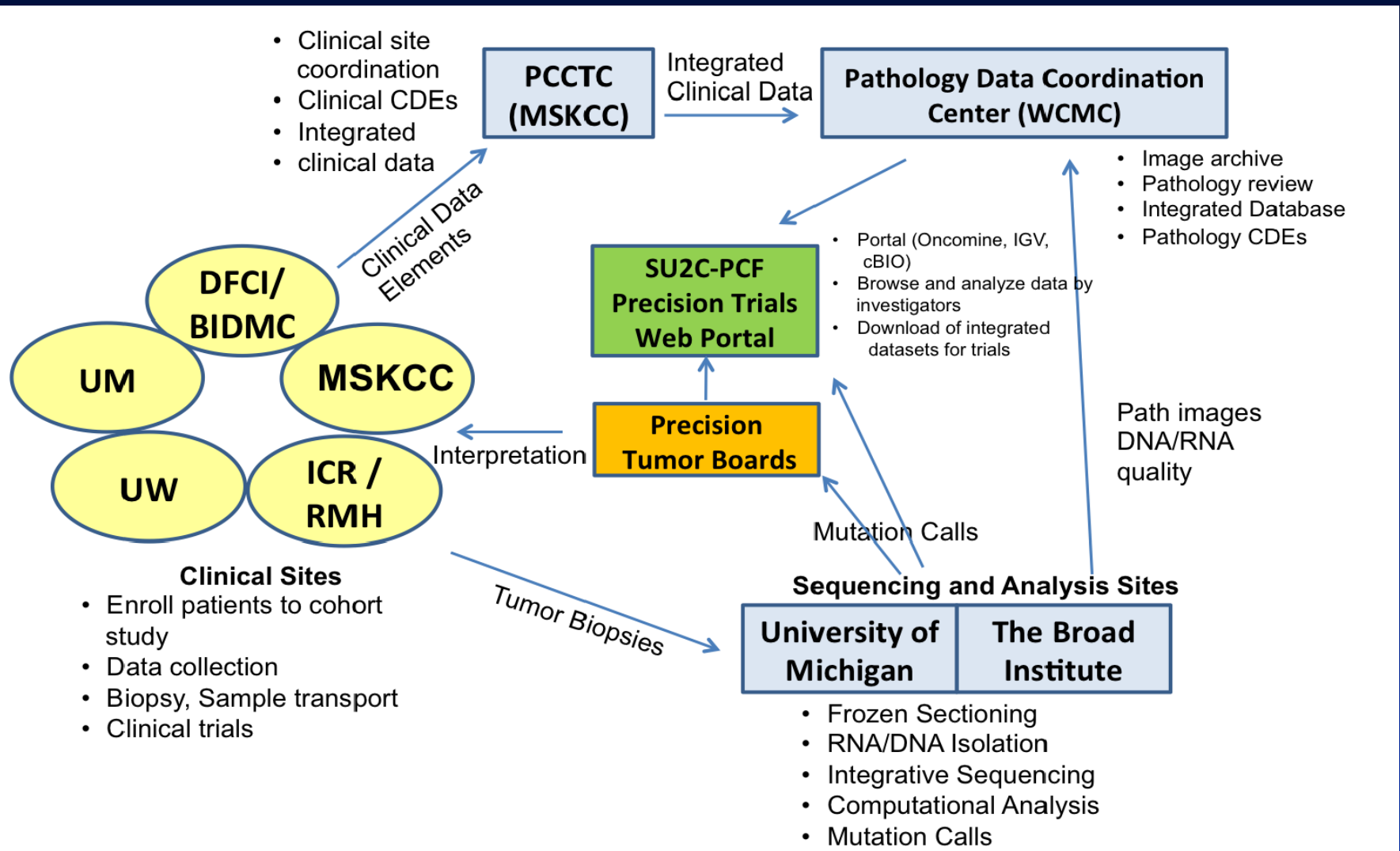
1. PCCTC: A platform for academic collaborations.
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4. **Implementation of a Precision Medicine Paradigm.**

# SU2C-PCF Prostate Dream Team: Precision Therapy of Advanced Prostate Cancer Arul Chinnaiyan and Charles Sawyers (Co-PI)

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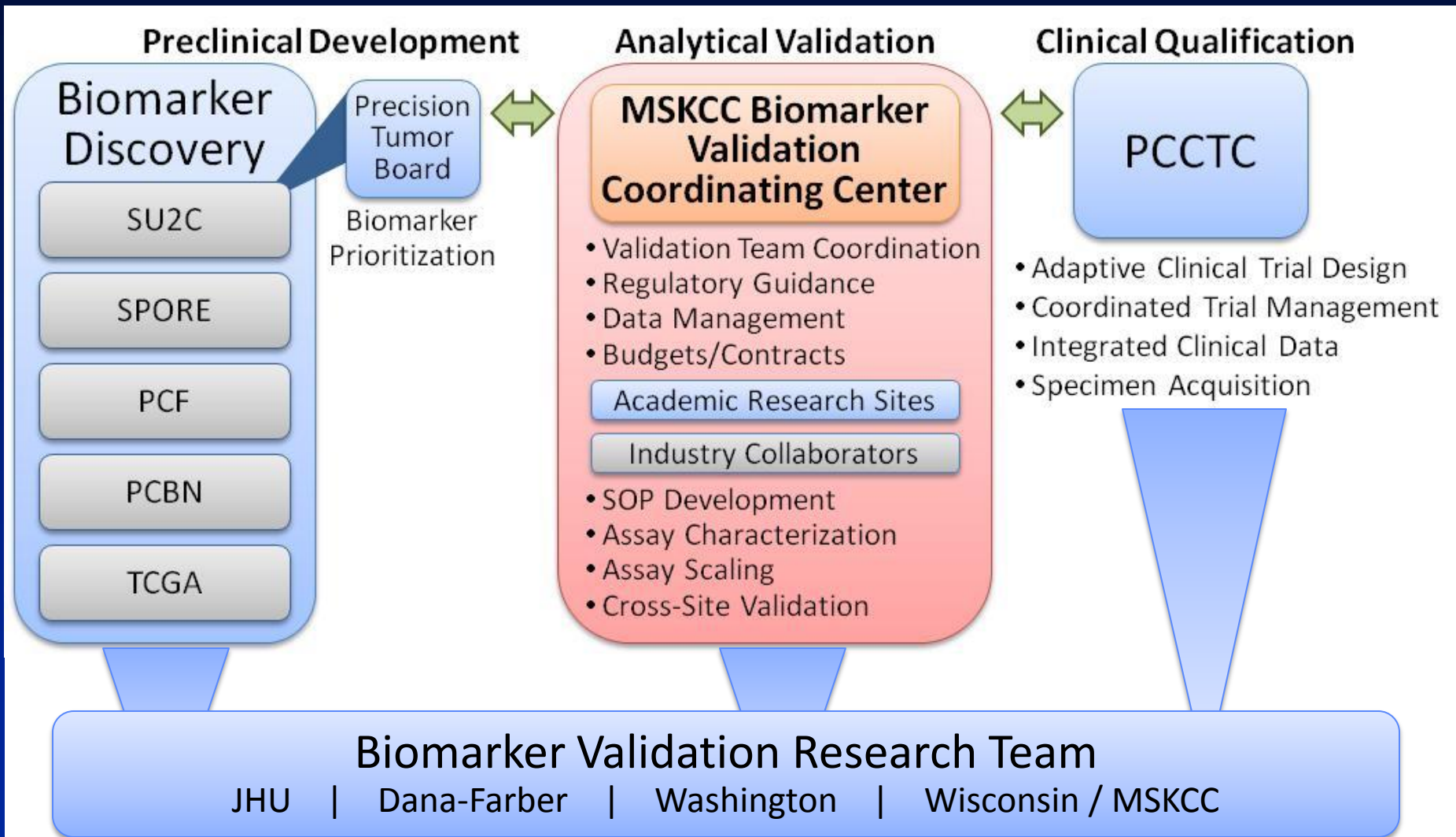
- Establish a “Rosetta Stone” resource of mutation profiles of advanced prostate cancer for researchers and patients
- Establish advanced prostate cancer as a model tumor type for the precision medicine paradigm and facilitate the use of clinical sequencing for cancer management
- Establish the use of *Precision Tumor Boards* to help guide the management of advanced prostate cancer
- Identify resistance mechanisms and sensitivity biomarkers for new prostate cancer therapies
- Identify rare “actionable” mutations in advanced prostate cancer and provide rational clinical trial options to patients

# Stand Up 2 Cancer (SU2C) – Prostate Cancer Foundation Precision Clinical Trials



Arul Chinnaiyan and Charles Sawyers, Co-P.I.'s

# To Practice of Precision Medicine Requires Analytically Valid Assays When the Trials Are Ready to Begin



# Toward the Practice of Precision Medicine: A Biomarker Validation Coordinating Center

**Objective:** To form a centralized infrastructure to coordinate biomarker development, specifically validation.

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1. Select and prioritize biomarkers in conjunction with the SU2C Precision Tumor Board
2. Coordinate validation teams to analytically validate assays
3. Partner with industry collaborators
4. Execute clinical trials with integral biomarker assays embedded

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# We Are Collaborating With Critical Stakeholders of the Biomarker Qualification Pathway: Our Group Welcomes Payors to the Mix

**Lisa McShane**



Sponsors  
Drug  
Development

**Elizabeth  
Mansfield**



Academia  
Discovery &  
Biology

**DOD Prostate  
Cancer  
Biorepository  
Network**

**Carolyn  
Compton**



Sponsors  
Biomarker  
Development

**OBRR**

# Acknowledgements

**Daniel Danila**

**Dana Rathkopf**

**Michael Morris**

**Susan Slovin**

**Ethan Basch**

**Martin Fleisher**

**Hans Lilja**

**Aseem Anand**

**Jan Hendrix**

**Steve Larson**

**Steve Solomon**

**Heddi Hricak**

**Joe Fox**

**Charles Sawyers**

**Brett Carver**

**Yu Chen**

**Haley Hieronymous**

**Vivek Arora**

**Adriana Heguy**

**Agnes Viale**

**Katia Manova**

**Anu Gopalan**

**Victor Reuter**

**Ying-Bai Chen**

**Chris Sander**

**Nikki Schultz**

**Nick Socci**

**Neal Rosen**

**David Solit**

**Glenn Heller**

**Royal Marsden:**

**Johann deBono**

**Gerhard Attard**

**UCSF:** Charles Ryan

**OHSU:** Tom Beer

**U Washington:** Tia  
Higano

**MDACC:** Chris  
Logothetis

**DFCI:** Mary-Ellen Taplin

**BIDMC:** Glenn Bubley

**U Mich:** Maha Hussain

**OrthoBiotechnology:**

**Arturo Molina**

**Thian Keough**

**Veridex**

**Robert McCormack**

**Medivation:**

**Lynn Seely**

**Mohammed Hirmand**

**NCI:**

**Lisa McShane**

**Carolyn Compton**

**Gary Kelloff**

**FDA:**

**Liz Mansfield**

**Mark Walter**

**Robert Becker**

**NIH SPORE, DOD PCCTC, Prostate Cancer Foundation**