

Building the Diagnostic Center at UTMB for All of Healthcare

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Disclosures

**Director of John Sealy Diagnostic Center at
UTMB**

Scientific Advisory Board For Werfen

**Founding member of Expert Diagnostic
Colleague**

Outline of the Presentation

The state of affairs in Diagnostic Medicine in the US

The recognition of the problem and the assessment of its severity

The challenges in fixing the problem

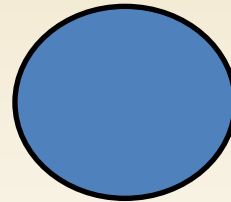
Attempts to provide a solution

Current activities to create a solution for millions of patients experiencing diagnostic mistakes

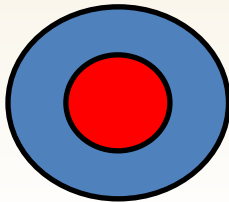
The State of Affairs in Diagnostic Medicine in the US

How Much Information is There to Know?

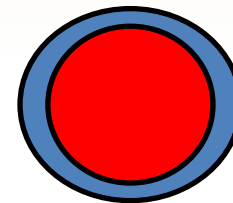
1950



**Amount of
knowledge available
about disease**

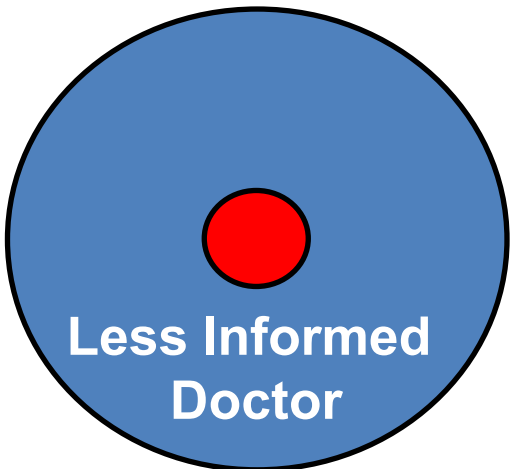
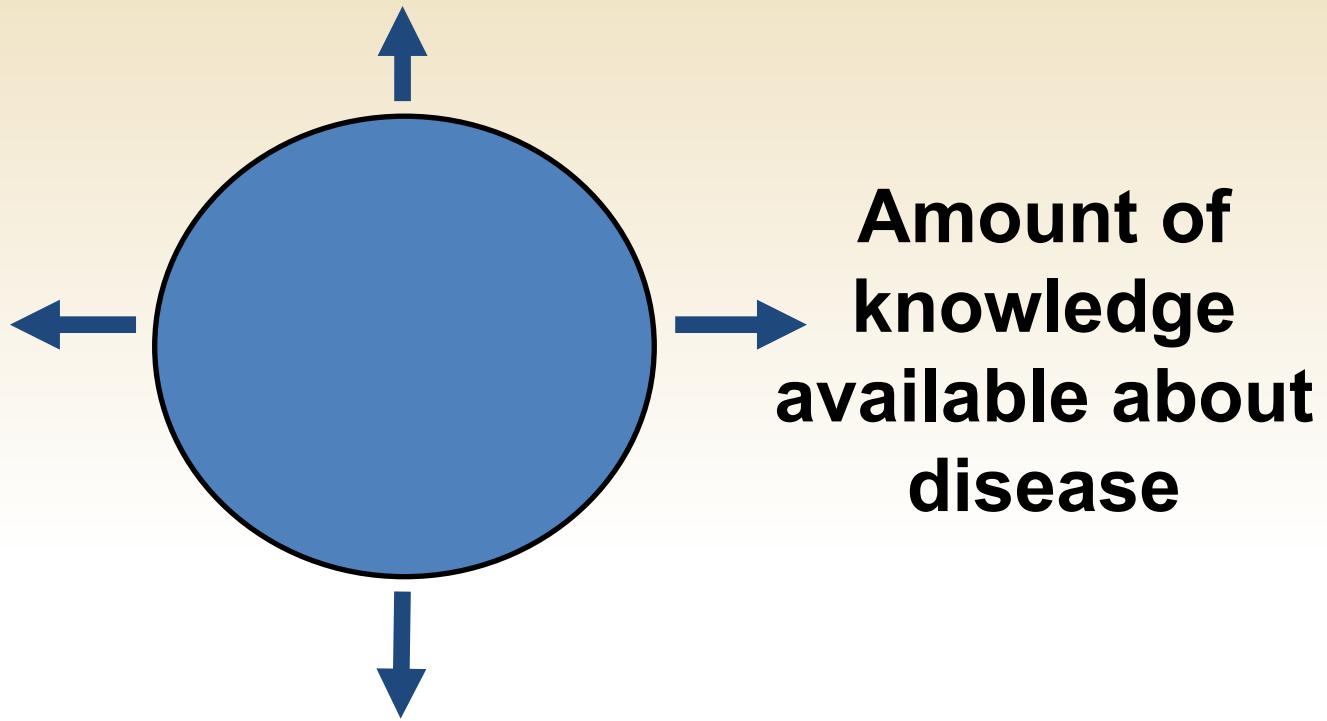


**Doctor does not
know much
about diagnosis**

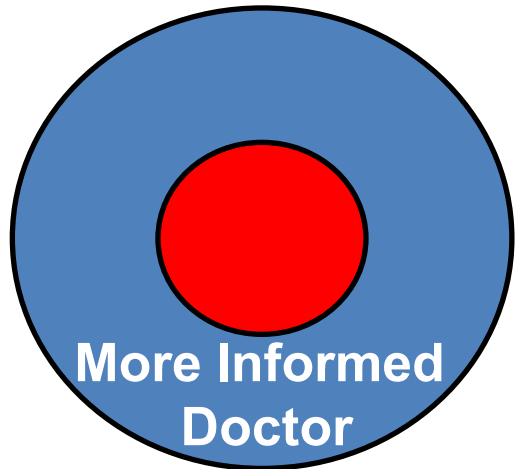


**Doctor knows much
about diagnosis**

Today

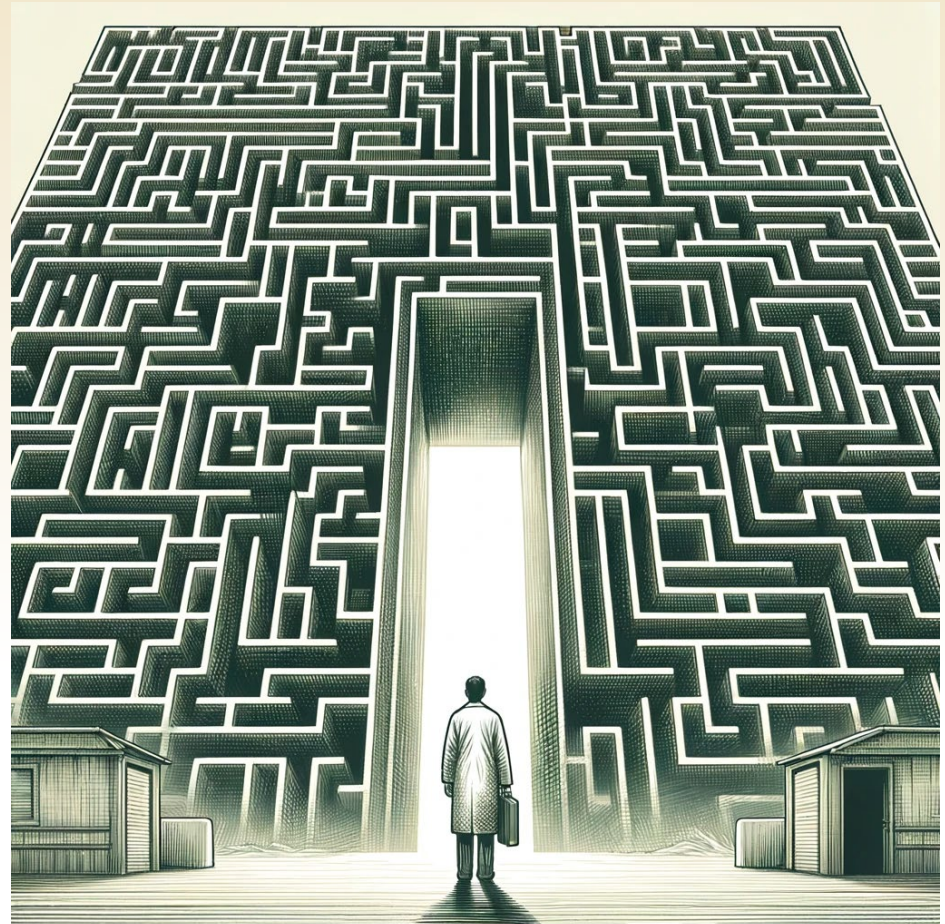


Too much for even one very good doctor to know



How Can a Clinician Know Enough?

- They are ordering the right non-routine tests?
- They are making the most up-to-date interpretation of the test results for the patient in their current state?

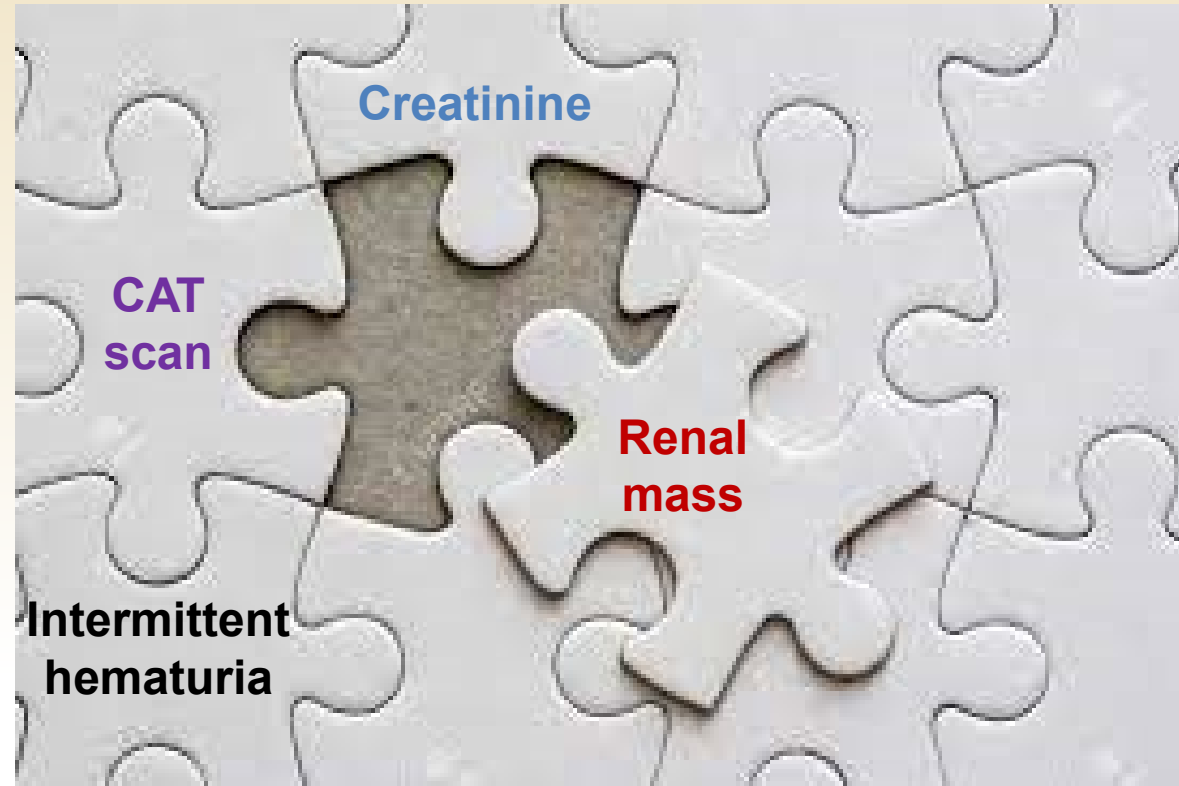


The Diagnostic Center Allows for Easy Access to Experts in All Diagnostic Fields

- **Up-to-date interpretation**
- **Patient-specific**
- **Automated for fast delivery**
- **Actionable next step recommendations**



Integrative Diagnostics Must Be Implemented - There are Major Barriers to This Challenge



- History and physical exam
- Clinical pathology with genetics
- Anatomic pathology
- Radiology

Evaluation for Thrombotic Risk to Identify All Contributors to a Thrombotic Event

Radiology, Clinical Pathology, and Anatomic Pathology Experts All Contribute

Urine is positive for hemoglobin

Creatinine elevated and eGFR is low

Imaging of kidney consistent with mass

Biopsy of mass indicates renal cell carcinoma

Second hit for current thrombosis is malignancy

Nephrectomy can remove thrombotic risk factor

Prophylactic dosing of anticoagulant after nephrectomy

The recognition of diagnostic error and the assessment of its severity

2014-2015

**The largest contributor to
preventable death from medical
error is**

Diagnostic Error


**as reported by a committee sponsored
by the National Academy of Medicine**

**Just to show you how little everyone
knows about this.....**

**Why is there no urgency when it is
documented by the National
Academy of Medicine that there are
more than 60,000 preventable
deaths in the US annually,**

**Far more than all the mass shootings
combined?**

Burden of serious harms from diagnostic error in the USA

David E Newman-Toker ,^{1,2} Najlla Nassery,³ Adam C Schaffer,^{4,5} Chihwen Winnie Yu-Moe,⁵ Gwendolyn D Clemens,⁶ Zheyu Wang,^{6,7} Yuxin Zhu,^{1,6} Ali S. Saber Tehrani,¹ Mehdi Fanai,¹ Ahmed Hassoon,^{1,2} Dana Siegal^{8,9}

“Across clinical settings (ambulatory clinics, emergency department and inpatient), we estimate that nearly **800 000** Americans die or are permanently disabled by diagnostic error each year, making it the single largest source of serious harms from medical mistakes.”

BMJ Quality & Safety 2023; 33 82-85
Published Online First: 04 Oct 2023.
doi: [10.1136/bmjqs-2023-016496](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjqs-2023-016496)

**The Concept of Consultation on
Clinical Lab Test Selection and
Expert-Driven Result Interpretation
has always been viewed as needed-
But
Implementation of an effective
mechanism to do it has been
evasive**

**The challenges within pathology
associated with fixing the
problem include:**

Fear of Obsolescence

Fear of Income Loss

**Fear of Acquisition of Significant
New Clinical Responsibilities**

The Fear that Artificial Intelligence will Reduce Pathologist Income

Developing Quickly in Radiology
and Anatomic Pathology

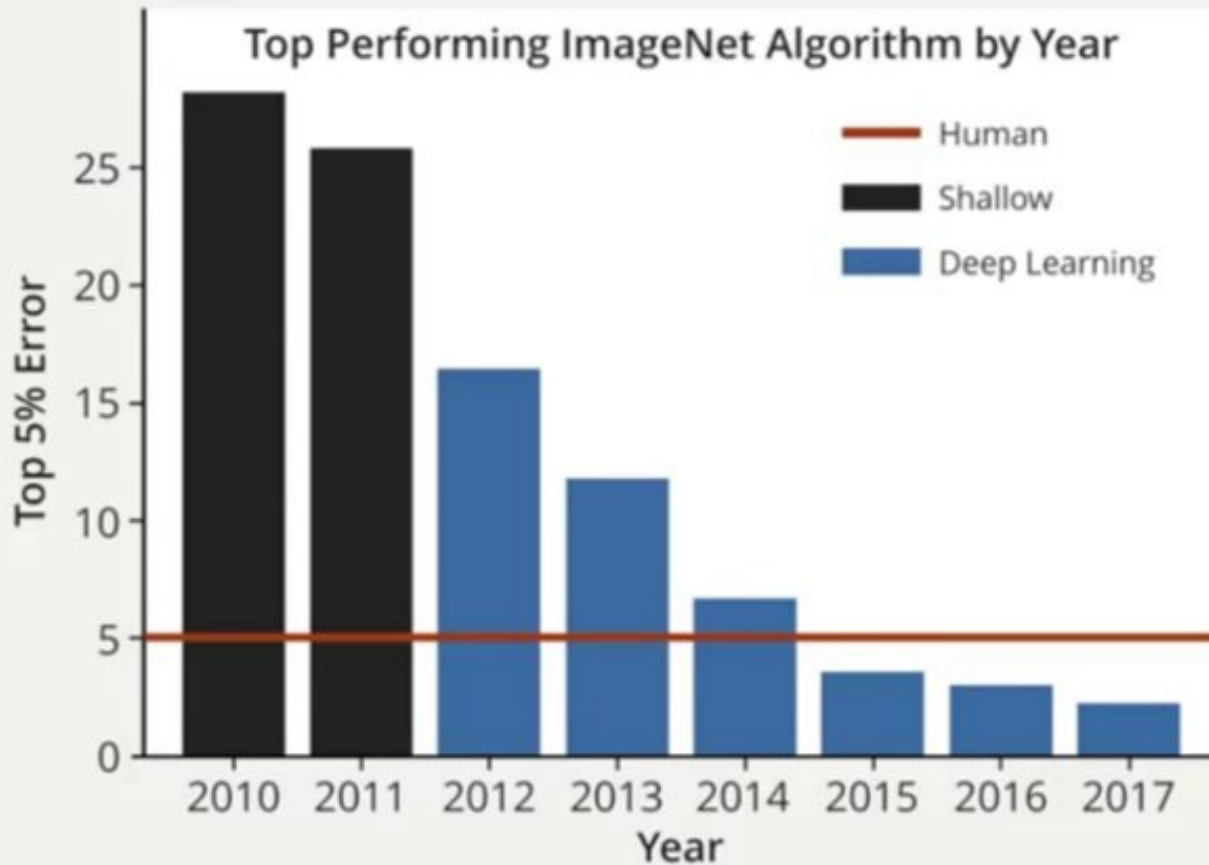


ARTICLES

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-018-0177-5>

Classification and mutation prediction from
non-small cell lung cancer histopathology
images using deep learning

Diagnostic Algorithms Can Detect Lung Cancer and Classify the Lesions



Deep learning improved the performance of the reading instrument to match and then outperform the pathologist

An empty cockpit? An instrument deciding if your biopsy is malignant?



Even if there is a computer system to fly an airplane, it will never be without a pilot

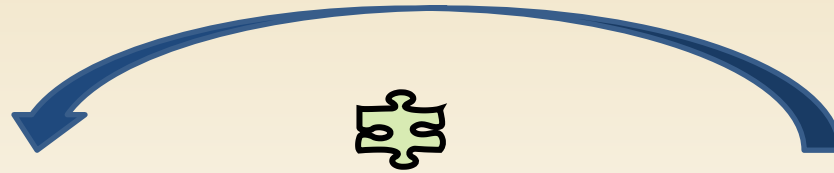
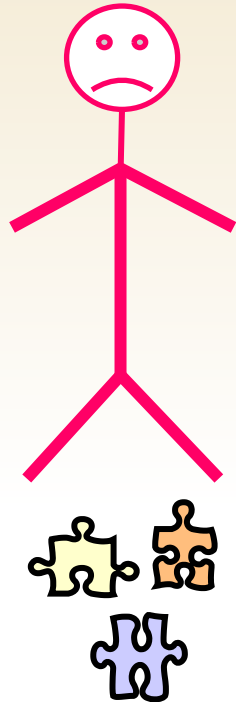
The same is true for a pathologist and a biopsy

THE CONSEQUENCES OF A MISTAKE ARE TOO ENORMOUS

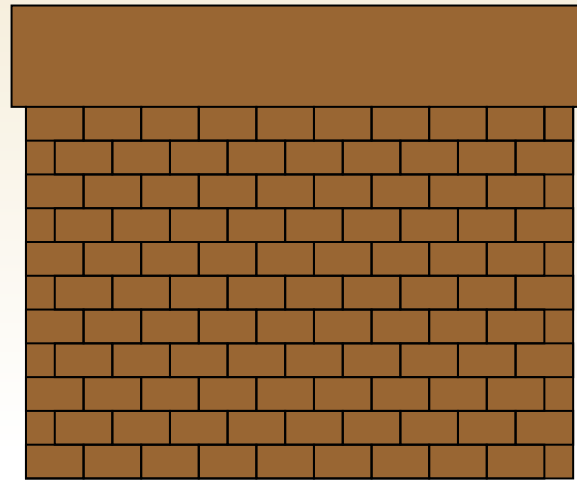
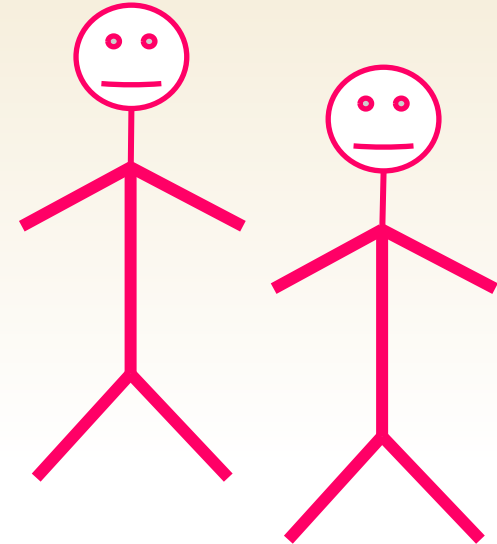
**Expert teams to advise
doctors on appropriate test
selection and correct result
interpretation may reduce
the value of the local
pathologist**

Passive Laboratory-Virtually every clinical lab in the United States

Ordering Doctors



Diagnostic Doctors



Isolated Diagnostic Bits of Data -

Assembly by Ordering Physician

Minimally Trained in Test Selection and Interpretation

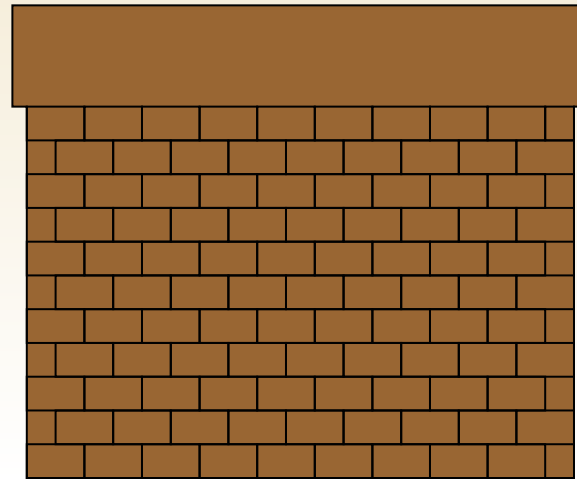
Not choosing pathology – An essay-based survey of first-year clinical residents

The 11 most common reasons why graduates did not choose pathology as a specialty were identified.

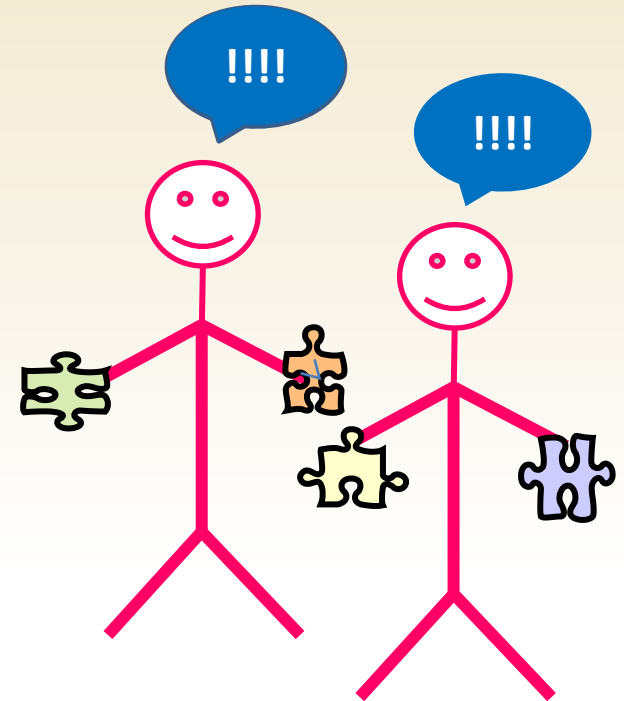
The top reason was a perception that pathology lacks practical application to patient care or offers “no real help” (48.2%).

Until recently there was minimal payment for picking up the pieces and establishing a diagnosis

**Ordering
Doctors**



**Conferring
Diagnostic Doctors**

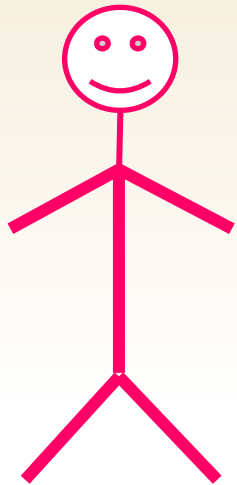


**Caring for More
Patients While
Diagnostic
Puzzle is Being
Assembled**

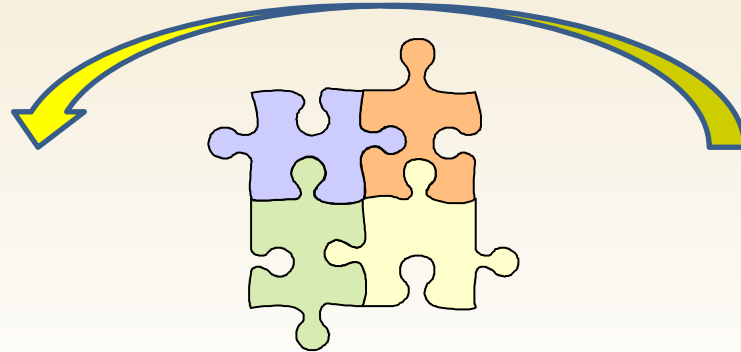
**Isolated Diagnostic Bits of Data
Being Merged with Clinical Data
about the Patient by the
Diagnostic Doctors**

There was certainly no payment for having a collegial discussion and educating the patient facing physician

**Ordering
Doctors**

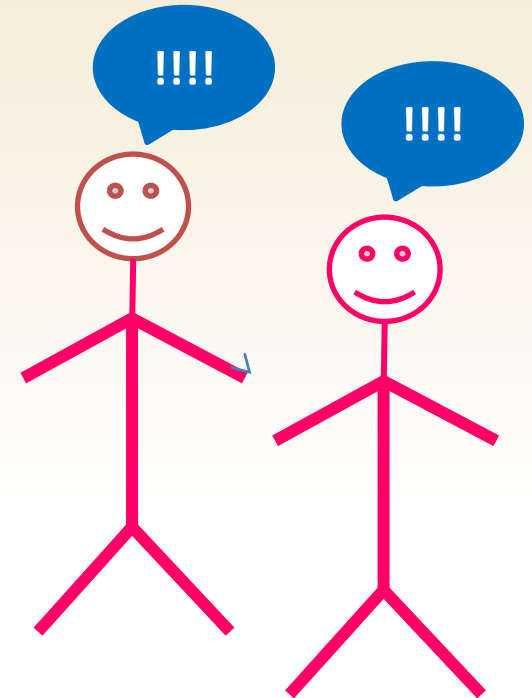


Solved Diagnostic Puzzle



*There Is No Wall
between the Ordering Doctors
and the Diagnostic Doctors*

**Conferring
Diagnostic Doctors**



**Receives Accurate
Diagnosis Quickly
as a Completed Puzzle**

Original Idea : DMTs in all major institutions

Response : Too much diagnostic medicine to learn with too little financial return

- **Diagnostic Center is the source for all diagnostic evaluations**
- **The Diagnostic Center is paid for its consultation**
- **If a local pathologist is part of the consultation, diagnostic codes should be able to be used for that activity**

JOHN SEALY DIAGNOSTIC CENTER



Diagnostic Center Team



The focus of the Diagnostic Center is almost exclusively on

Establishing a Diagnosis

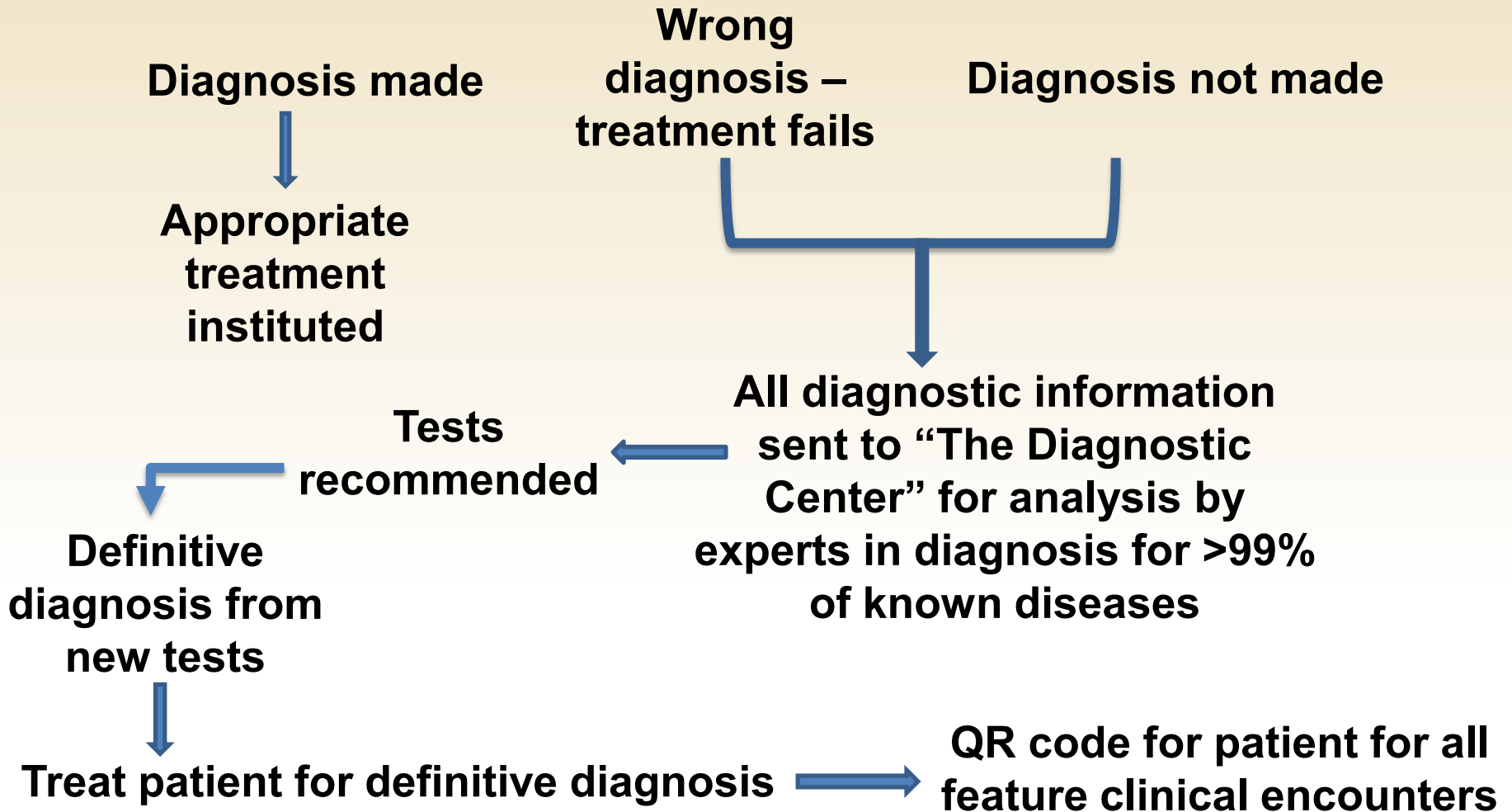
with treatment left to the patient facing provider

**There is no plan to compete
for laboratory test performance or the
patient**

**Niche laboratory test performance will
be offered as an option**

**This is a unique service in the practice
of medicine**

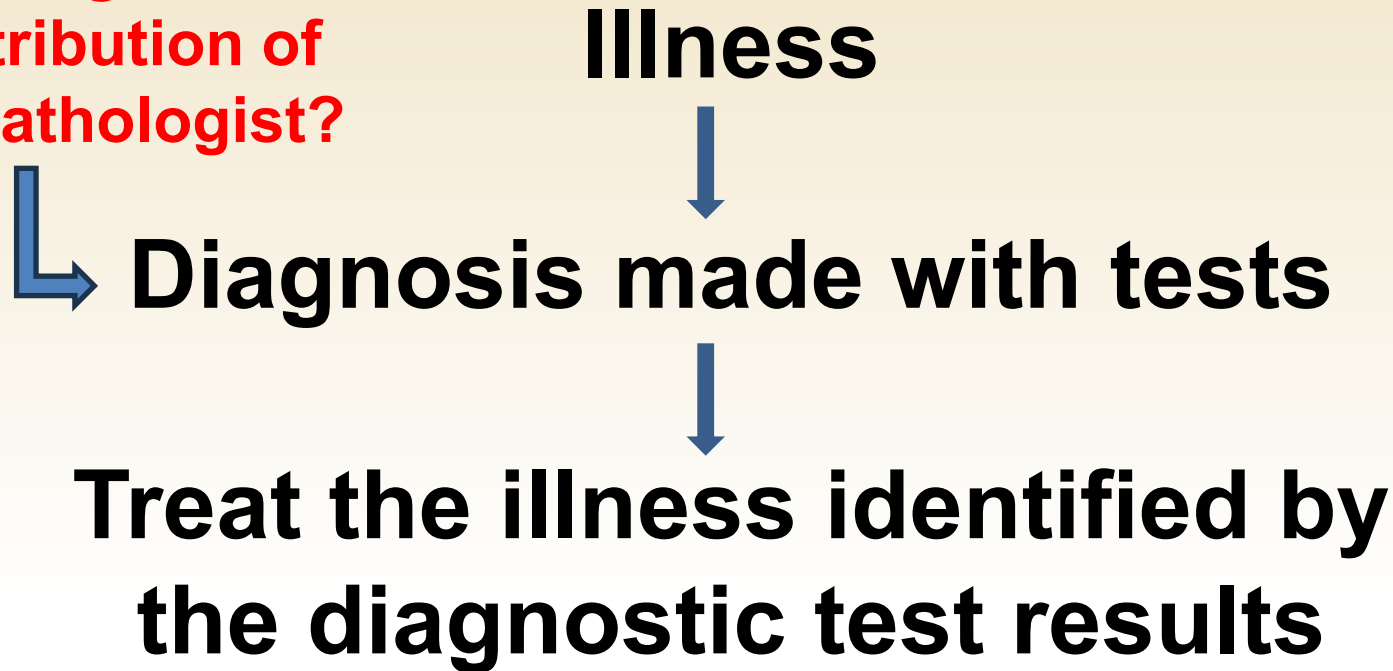
How the Diagnostic Center Works



Attempts to provide a solution

The Diagnosis Identifies the Condition and Permits Effective Treatment

How large is the contribution of the pathologist?



**Doing more tests on a
small volume of blood
does not solve the
problem of diagnostic
error**

Elizabeth Holmes Theranos CEO



Is performance of battery of diagnostic tests from a fingerstick clinically valuable?

How can someone with only a modicum of engineering experience as a student without the collaboration of clinical chemists or pathologists create a testing device to do >100 tests on a drop of blood

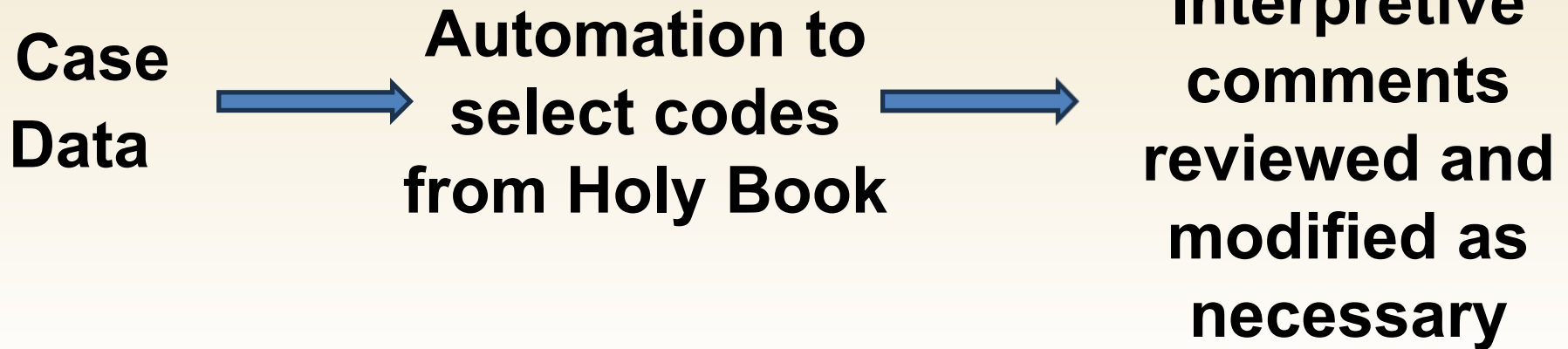
and then convince individuals to invest \$9.2 billion in the company

The Missing Clinical Service in US Medicine Today :

Leadership in the Diagnostic Evaluation of Patients

Current Activities to Create a Solution for Millions of Patients Experiencing Diagnostic Mistakes

For Each DMT to Completer >100 Cases per Day



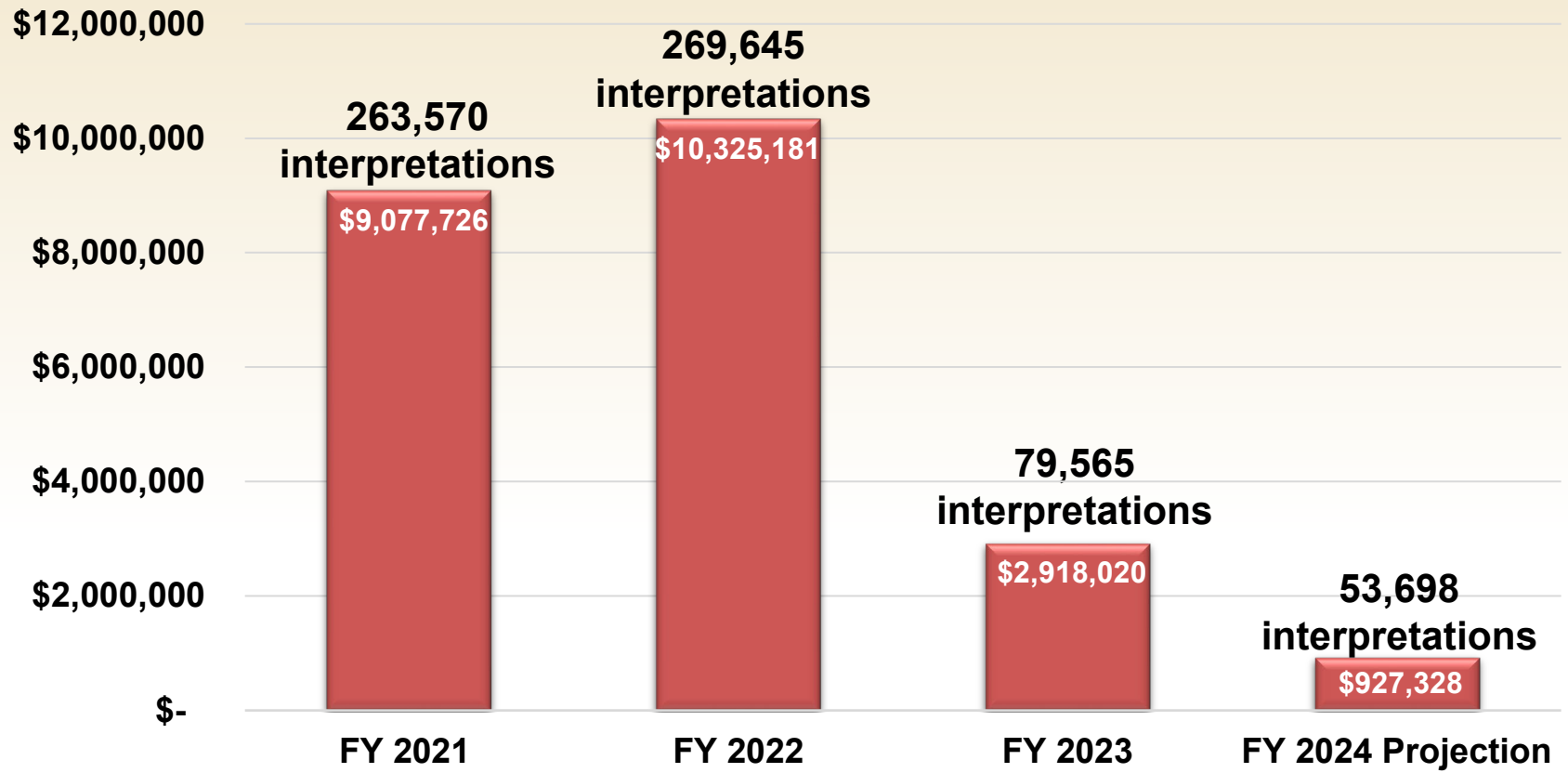
Report sent and case billed

Requirements for All DMTs

- **Holy Books of hundreds of interpretive comments**
- **“Literature Scraping” on a Regular Basis**
- **Automation from laboratory data to comment selection**

COVID Professional Interpretation Revenue

Total professional revenue of \$22.3M between October 2020 – August 2023 from 612,780 interpretations



This experience taught us:

How to build a Holy Book, and keep it up to date with current findings

How to sign out >1000 cases per day

How to bill for the interpretations

How to automate data extraction from Epic and have the system select an appropriate interpretive comment for acceptance or modification by the pathologist

After 31 meetings with the founding group:

A complete holy book on any topic can be produced in a single day

The automation step which extracts data from the medical record can be done in seconds for any topic – and be linked to references

Scraping the literature now is done with artificial intelligence first reading the published articles and directing findings to the pathologist

Maintaining Current Content within Holy Book

“Scraping” the literature

To obtain the latest findings and incorporate them into the existing ones

Home Insert Draw Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Automate Table

Calibri (Body) 12 A⁺ A⁻

General

Conditional Formatting Format as Table Cell Styles

Insert Delete Format

AutoSum Fill Clear Sort & Filter Find & Select Sensitivity Analyze Data

A200 fx 10.1001/jamadermatol.2020.0352

DOI	PMID	arXiv ID	Title	Abstract
178 10.1684/ejd.2020.3880	33021473		Clinical and molecular epidemiology of erythropoietic protoporphyria in Italy	BACKGROUND Erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP) is a rare inherited disease associated with heme metabolism, characte
179 10.21037/tgh-2019-rid-05			The acute hepatic porphyrias.	The acute hepatic porphyrias (AHP) are a group of four inherited diseases of heme biosynthesis. They present with similar
180 10.1101/2020.02.14.949297			Delivery of oligonucleotides to bone marrow to modulate ferrochelatase splicing in a mouse model of Erythropoietic Protoporphyria	Erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP) is a rare genetic disease in which patients experience acute phototoxic reactions after
181 10.1038/s41436-019-0584-0	31273344		Targeted resequencing of FECH locus reveals that a novel deep intronic pathogenic variant and eQTLs may cause erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP) th	Existing data do not explain the reason why some individuals homozygous for the hypomorphic FECH allele develop erythr
182			The Involvement of Anti-Oxidative Response and Mitochondrial Dynamics in the Pathogenesis of Friedreich, Åds Ataxia: Relevance to the Development of Future Therapeutics	
183 10.1101/2020.06.14.150904			Human library of cardiac promoters and enhancers	Genome regulatory elements play a critical role during cardiac development and maintenance of normal physiological h
184 10.5582/irdr.2020.03082	33139978		Recent advances in the epidemiology and genetics of acute intermittent porphyria.	Acute intermittent porphyria (AIP) is a dominant inherited disorder with a low penetrance that is caused by mutations in h
185 10.1080/23808993.2021.1838275			Givosiran, a novel treatment for acute hepatic porphyrias	Acute hepatic porphyrias (AHPs) are a group of rare genetic disorders that affect the enzymes of the heme biosynthetic pa
186 10.1038/s41467-020-16586-x	32499479		Human aminolevulinic synthase structure reveals a eukaryotic-specific autoinhibitory loop regulating substrate binding and product release.	5,Ås-aminolevulinic synthase (ALAS) catalyzes the first step in heme biosynthesis, generating 5,Ås-aminolevulinic from
187 10.1007/s11910-020-01078-8	33026560		Porphyric Neuropathy: Pathophysiology, Diagnosis, and Updated Management.	PURPOSE OF REVIEW To review the peripheral neurological complications of the acute hepatic porphyrias, as well as the
188 10.1002/hep4.1503			Drug-Induced Liver Injury in GI Practice.	Although drug-induced liver injury (DILI) is a rare clinical event, it carries significant morbidity and mortality, leaving it as a
189 10.1016/b978-0-12-819132-3.00018-x			Natural and pharmacological chaperones against accelerated protein degradation: uroporphyrinogen III synthase and congenital erythropoietic porphyri	Abstract Congenital erythropoietic porphyria (CEP) is a rare autosomal recessive disease derived from a deficient activity
190 10.1111/bph.15040	32133631		Disease pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic modelling in acute intermittent porphyria to support the development of mRNA-based therapies.	BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE: Acute intermittent porphyria (AIP) results from holoinsufficiency of the porphobilinogen d
191 10.3324/haematol.2019.232124	31949017		Iron metabolism and iron disorders revisited in the hepcidin era	Iron is biologically essential, but also potentially toxic; as such it is tightly controlled at cell and systemic levels to prevent
192 10.1136/jclinpath-2020-206647	32605921		Novel frameshift variant (c.409dupG) in SLC25A38 is a common cause of congenital sideroblastic anaemia in the Indian subcontinent.	Aims Congenital sideroblastic anaemias (CSAs) are a group of rare disorders with the presence of ring sideroblasts in th
193 10.1111/phpp.12501	31374130		Acquired erythropoietic protoporphyria: A systematic review of the literature	BACKGROUND: Erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP) is a semi-dominantly inherited porphyria presenting with photosensiti
194 10.1111/liv.14271	31578817		Diagnostic and prognostic assessment of suspected drug-induced liver injury in clinical practice	Idiosyncratic drug-induced liver injury (DILI) is a challenging liver disorder because it can present with a range of phenotyp
195 10.1016/b978-0-444-64293-6.00002-6			In silico prediction of drug-induced liver injury: Quo vadis?	Abstract Drug-induced liver injury (DILI) with high incidence and prevalence rates is a potentially severe adverse drug rea
196 10.1007/s40291-019-00438-6	31792921		Leading RNA Interference Therapeutics Part 2: Silencing Delta-Aminolevulinic Acid Synthase 1, with a Focus on Givosiran	In November 2019 givosiran became the second small interfering RNA (siRNA)-based drug to receive US Food and Drug A
197 10.1080/13696998.2020.1835306	33043761		Cost savings with hemin versus givosiran for the treatment of patients with acute intermittent porphyria (AIP)	BACKGROUND & AIMS Since 1983, hemin has been FDA-approved for acute intermittent porphyria (AIP) attacks. In 2019,
198 10.4168/aafr.2020.12.3.430	32141257		Evaluation of Drug-Induced Liver Injury Developed During Hospitalization Using Electronic Health Record (EHR)-Based Algorithm	PURPOSE: The incidence of drug-induced liver injury (DILI) has been increasing; however, few algorithms are available to i
199 10.1016/j.yjme.2019.11.010	31810863		A Pharmacological Chaperone Therapy for Acute Intermittent Porphyria.	Mutations in hydroxymethylbilane synthase (HMBS) cause acute intermittent porphyria (AIP), an autosomal dominant disor
200 10.1001/jamadermatol.2020.0352	32186677		Association of Afamelanotide With Improved Outcomes in Patients With Erythropoietic Protoporphyria in Clinical Practice.	Importance The effectiveness of afamelanotide treatment in patients with erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP) in clinical
201 10.1007/978-3-319-90761-1_53-1			Drug-Induced Liver Injury in Older Adults	The estimated incidence of idiosyncratic drug-induced liver injury (DILI) in the general population is 13.9 to 19.1 per 100,0
202 10.1016/j.cld.2019.09.006	31753253		Drug-Induced Liver Injury in the Setting of Chronic Liver Disease.	Drug-induced liver injury (DILI) is an uncommon but significant cause of liver injury and need for liver transplant. DILI in th
203 10.1016/j.cld.2019.08.002	31753242		Epidemiology, Predisposing Factors, and Outcomes of Drug-Induced Liver Injury.	Idiosyncratic drug-induced liver injury (DILI) is an underreported and underestimated adverse drug reaction. A recent popu
204 10.1016/j.yjme.2020.02.003	32067921		Penetrance and predictive value of genetic screening in acute porphyria.	Abstract Objective Penetrance, predictive value and female patients' perspectives on genetic testing were evaluated am
205 10.1016/s2468-1253(20)30006-6	32818465		Drug-induced liver injury in older people.	Summary Drug-induced liver injury (DILI) is a rare, unpredictable, and potentially serious adverse reaction. It is induced b
206 10.1056/nejmoa1807838	30726693		Phase 1 Trial of an RNA Interference Therapy for Acute Intermittent Porphyria	Abstract Background Induction of delta aminolevulinic acid synthase 1 (ALAS1) gene expression and accumulation of neur
207 10.1002/hep.30936	31512765		EXPLORE: A Prospective, Multinational, Natural History Study of Patients with Acute Hepatic Porphyria with Recurrent Attacks	textabstractBackground and Aims: Acute hepatic porphyria comprises a group of rare genetic diseases caused by mutator
208 10.1016/j.yjme.2018.11.012	30594473		Recent advances on porphyria genetics: inheritance, penetrance & molecular heterogeneity, including new modifying/causative genes.	Abstract The inborn errors of heme biosynthesis, the Porphyrias, include eight major disorders resulting from loss-of-fun
209 10.1111/dth.13014	31269308		A first report of porphyria cutanea tarda successfully treated with glycyrrhizin.	Porphyria cutanea tarda (PCT) is a condition that affects liver and skin by reduction of hepatic uroporphyrinogen decarboxy
210 10.3324/haematol.2018.214320	30765471		Dimeric ferrochelatase bridges ABCB7 and ABCB10 homodimers in an architecturally defined molecular complex required for heme biosynthesis	Loss-of-function mutations in the ATP-binding cassette (ABC) transporter of the inner mitochondrial membrane, ABCB7, c
211 10.1016/j.yjme.2018.12.008			Congenital erythropoietic porphyria: Recent advances.	Abstract Congenital erythropoietic porphyria (CEP) is a rare autosomal recessive disorder characterized by photosensitivel
212 10.1016/j.yjme.2018.10.005	30391163		Strong correlation of ferrochelatase enzymatic activity with Mitoferrin-1 mRNA in lymphoblasts of patients with protoporphyria.	Abstract Accumulation of protoporphyrin IX (PPIX) and Zn-PPIX, are the clinical hallmarks of protoporphyria. Phenotypic e
213 10.1016/j.yjme.2019.01.020	30733921		Erythropoietic Protoporphyria and X-Linked Protoporphyria: pathophysiology, genetics, clinical manifestations, and management	Abstract Erythropoietic Protoporphyria (EPP) and X-linked Protoporphyria (XLP) are rare, genetic photodermatoses result
214 10.1016/j.yjme.2019.04.013	30176252		Delta-aminolevulinic acid synthase 2 expression in combination with iron as modifiers of disease severity in erythropoietic protoporphyria.	Abstract Deficiency in ferrochelatase (FECH), the last enzyme in the heme biosynthetic pathway, leads to an accumulat
215 10.1016/j.yjme.2018.08.015	30454868		Congenital erythropoietic porphyria and erythropoietic protoporphyria: Identification of 7 uroporphyrinogen III synthase and 20 ferrochelatase novel mu	Abstract The erythropoietic porphyrias are inborn errors of heme biosynthesis with prominent cutaneous manifestations.
216 10.1093/nar/gky955	30357393		GENCODE reference annotation for the human and mouse genomes.	The accurate identification and description of the genes in the human and mouse genomes is a fundamental requirement
217 10.1182/blood-2018-08-815951	30401706		The molecular genetics of sideroblastic anemia	The sideroblastic anemias (SAs) are a group of inherited and acquired bone marrow disorders defined by pathological iron
218 10.1093/nar/gky1120	30445434		The nhgri-ebi-gencode catalog of published genome-wide association studies, targeted arrays and summary statistics 2019.	The GWAS Catalog delivers a high-quality curated collection of all published genome-wide association studies enabling in
219 10.3390/genes10010043			Genomic Enhancers in Brain Health and Disease	Enhancers are non-coding DNA elements that function in cis to regulate transcription from nearby genes. Through direct i
220 10.1016/j.yjme.2019.01.004	30683557		Porphyria cutanea tarda: Recent update.	Abstract Porphyria cutanea tarda (PCT) is the most common human porphyria, due to hepatic deficiency of uroporphyrin
221 10.1016/j.yjme.2018.12.012	30660387		GLRX5 mutations impair heme biosynthetic enzymes ALA synthase 2 and ferrochelatase in Human congenital sideroblastic anemia	Abstract Non-syndromic microcytic congenital sideroblastic anemia (cSA) is predominantly caused by defective genes en
222 10.1016/j.yjme.2019.01.002	30733921		Benefits of prophylactic heme therapy in severe acute intermittent porphyria.	Abstract Acute intermittent porphyria (AIP), an autosomal dominant inborn error of metabolism, is the most common ar
223 10.3390/ph12010017	30678075		L-Ferritin: One Gene, Five Diseases; from Hereditary Hyperferritinemia to Hypoferritinemia-Report of New Cases.	Abstract Ferritin is a multimeric protein composed of light (L-ferritin) and heavy (H-ferritin) subunits that binds and stores iron insi
224 10.1016/j.yjme.2019.01.015			Regulation and tissue-specific expression of ÅY-aminolevulinic acid synthases in non-syndromic sideroblastic anaemias and porphyrias	Abstract Recently, new genes and molecular mechanisms have been identified in patients with porphyrias and siderobla
225 10.1016/j.ajhg.2018.12.021	30712775		Erythroid-Progenitor-Targeted Gene Therapy Using Bifunctional TFR1 Ligand-Peptides in Human Erythropoietic Protoporphyria.	Erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP) is a hereditary disease characterized by a deficiency in ferrochelatase (FECH) activity.
226 10.1186/s12859-019-2706-8			Swift4get: a simple visualization tool for genomic tracks from sequencing experiments.	BackgroundHigh-throughput sequencing often provides a foundation for experimental analyses in the life sciences. For mi
227 10.1093/brain/awz072	30915432		Absence of iron-responsive element-binding protein 2 causes a novel neurodegenerative syndrome.	Disruption of cellular iron homeostasis can contribute to neurodegeneration. In mammals, two iron-regulatory proteins (Irf
228 10.1007/s10544-019-00191-7	30923009		The indispensable role of mammalian iron sulfur proteins in function and regulation of multiple diverse metabolic pathways	In recent years, iron sulfur (Fe-S) proteins have been identified as key players in mammalian metabolism, ranging from

Selected Expert Teams and Benefits to Patient Outcome and Financial Return

To Be Implemented in the Diagnostic Center

Diagnostic Evaluations For People with No Apparent Illness

Pharmacogenetics

Exome Analysis

Cancer Screening

Clinical Benefit from the Pharmacogenomics DMT

The benefit of taking the most effective drug is obvious, but it requires an initial investment in a lab test to do so

Making an initial investment in people or equipment involves trust in the person recommending the purchase

Genes Relevant to Pharmacogenomics

- **CYP1A2**
Rapid metabolizer
- **CYP2B6**
Intermediate metabolizer
- **CYP2C9**
Intermediate metabolizer
- **CYP2C19**
Normal metabolizer
- **CYP2C Cluster**
Normal
- **CYP2D6**
Normal metabolizer
- **CYP3A4**
Normal metabolizer
- **CYP3A5**
Poor metabolizer
- **CYP4F2**
Normal activity
- **COMT**
Intermediate activity
- **DPYD**
Normal metabolizer
- **DRD2**
Normal receptor expression
- **F2**
Normal risk
- **F5**
Normal risk

- **GRIK4**
Normal receptor function
- **HLA-A**
Normal risk
- **HLA-B**
Normal risk
- **HTR2A**
Intron 2 genotype GG
- **HTR2C**
Increased risk
- **IFNL4**
Variant present
- **NUDT15**
Normal metabolizer
- **OPRM1**
Asn/Asn isoform
- **SLC6A4**
Reduced expression
- **SLCO1B1**
Normal function
- **TPMT**
Normal metabolizer
- **UGT1A1**
Intermediate metabolizer (Heterozygous *28)
- **VKORC1**
Normal activity

**Yellow =
Altered
Metabolism**

**Green =
Normal
Metabolism**

Focused Report

Medications	Genes with Variants	Metabolizer Status	Recommendations for Prescriber
Atorvastatin (Lipitor)	<i>SLCO1B1</i>	Decreased Function	<p>Prescribe ≤ 40 mg as a starting dose and adjust doses of atorvastatin based on disease-specific guidelines.</p> <p>Prescriber should be aware of possible increased risk of myopathy especially for 40 mg dose. If dose > 40 mg is needed for desired efficacy, consider combination therapy (i.e., atorvastatin plus non-statin guideline directed medical therapy).</p>

Exome Analysis for Single Gene Disorder and Cancer Genetics

- Available upon validation of PacBio
- Can send out testing for special cases at this time

Exome Analysis for Single Gene Disorder and Cancer Genetics

- **If exome analysis shows a high risk for pancreatic cancer, regular abdominal imaging studies to detect an early, surgically curable pancreatic cancer**

CAN BE LIFESAVING

Algorithms to Screen for Different Types of Cancer

- An algorithm for testing starts with a test that is neither invasive nor expensive
- If the screening test is positive, the challenge is to find a second level test that is only modestly invasive or expensive

Algorithms to Screen for Different Types of Cancer

- It is understood that the final confirmatory test for cancer is likely to be invasive, expensive, or both
- The goal is to not take individuals who are suspected of having cancer and move them through an evaluation with invasive or expensive tests which may be harmful and not identify cancer

Urine Sample



**If Negative,
no further
evaluation**

**If Positive, still low
likelihood (< 1%)
for cancer, but
further testing
required**

**Imaging study of
bladder is expensive**

**Cystoscopy is
invasive**

**Test for
Blood in
Urine**

**Identify Less
Invasive and
Expensive Options**

App Sample Concept Similar to COVID-19 Results Notification



High Intensity and Low Intensity Screening Will be Available

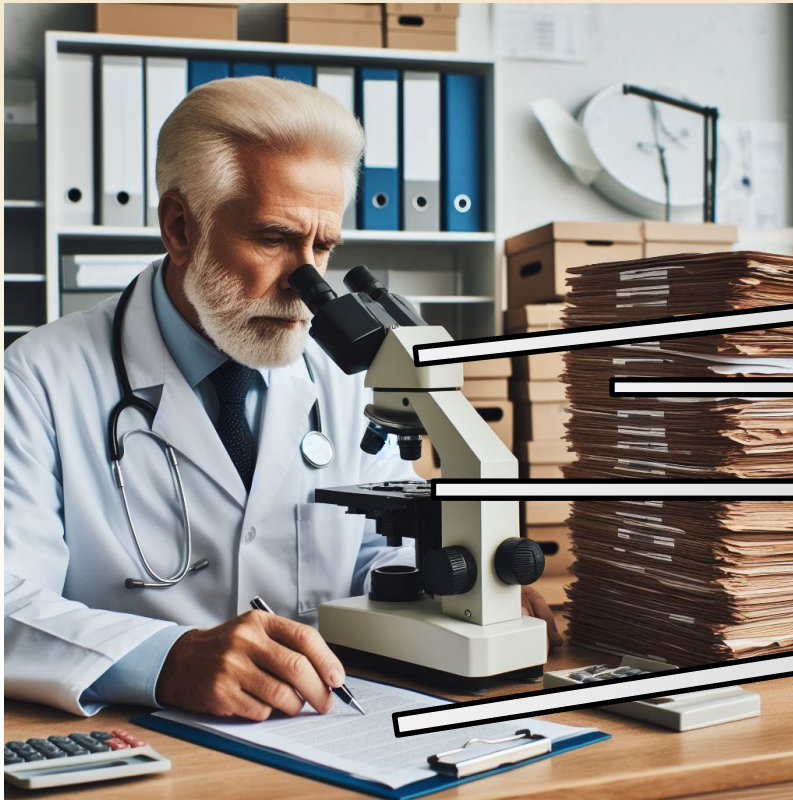
	Age						
	40	42	44	46	48	50	52
Adrenal Gland Cortex Tumors	X					X	
Adrenal Medulla Tumor (pheochromocytoma)		X					X
Bladder Cancer	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

For the Patient with Cancer

**A Comprehensive High
Sensitivity Cancer
Diagnosis DMT**

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND ADOPTION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN ANATOMIC PATHOLOGY AT UTMB

Traditional Anatomic Pathology



Compound Microscope **virtually unchanged since 1830**

Paper medical record. Easy to lose. Hard to search

Glass slide. Easy to break. Hard to transport.

Pathologist Report. Subjective. Error prone.

Digital Transformation of Anatomic Pathology



Most other Pathology departments in 2024

**UTMB Pathology from 2021 onwards
One of the first all-digital departments in the USA**

Pathologists Working with AI Algorithm get the Best Results

Metric	Pathologist	AI Algorithm	Pathologist with AI
Sensitivity	93%	93%	100%
Specificity	95%	99%	100%
Positive Predictive Value	89%	99%	100%
Negative Predictive Value	97%	97%	100%

**Pathologists make mistakes, AI makes mistakes.
Together they get it right.**

Breast Cancer Genetics: Needed for Prognosis and Selection of Best Therapy

High penetrance genes

- *BRCA1*
- *BRCA2*
- *p53*
- *PTEN*
- *STK11*
- *CDH1*

Medium penetrance genes

- *CHK2*
- *ATM*
- *RAD51C*
- *BRIP1*
- *PALB2*

Done by PacBio Revio

PacBio Revio Instrument

Will be used for:

- **Pharmacogenomic Sequencing**
- **Whole Exome and Whole Genome Sequencing**
- **Single-Cell Genomics**
- **Gene Editing Research**



Diagnostic Evaluations For People with Clinically Apparent Illness

Cardiometabolic DMT

Classical Hematology

Cancer Screening

Diagnostic Evaluations For People with Clinically Apparent Illness

Autoimmunity

Opioid toxicology

Long Covid and Covid Immunity

Fatty liver of obesity

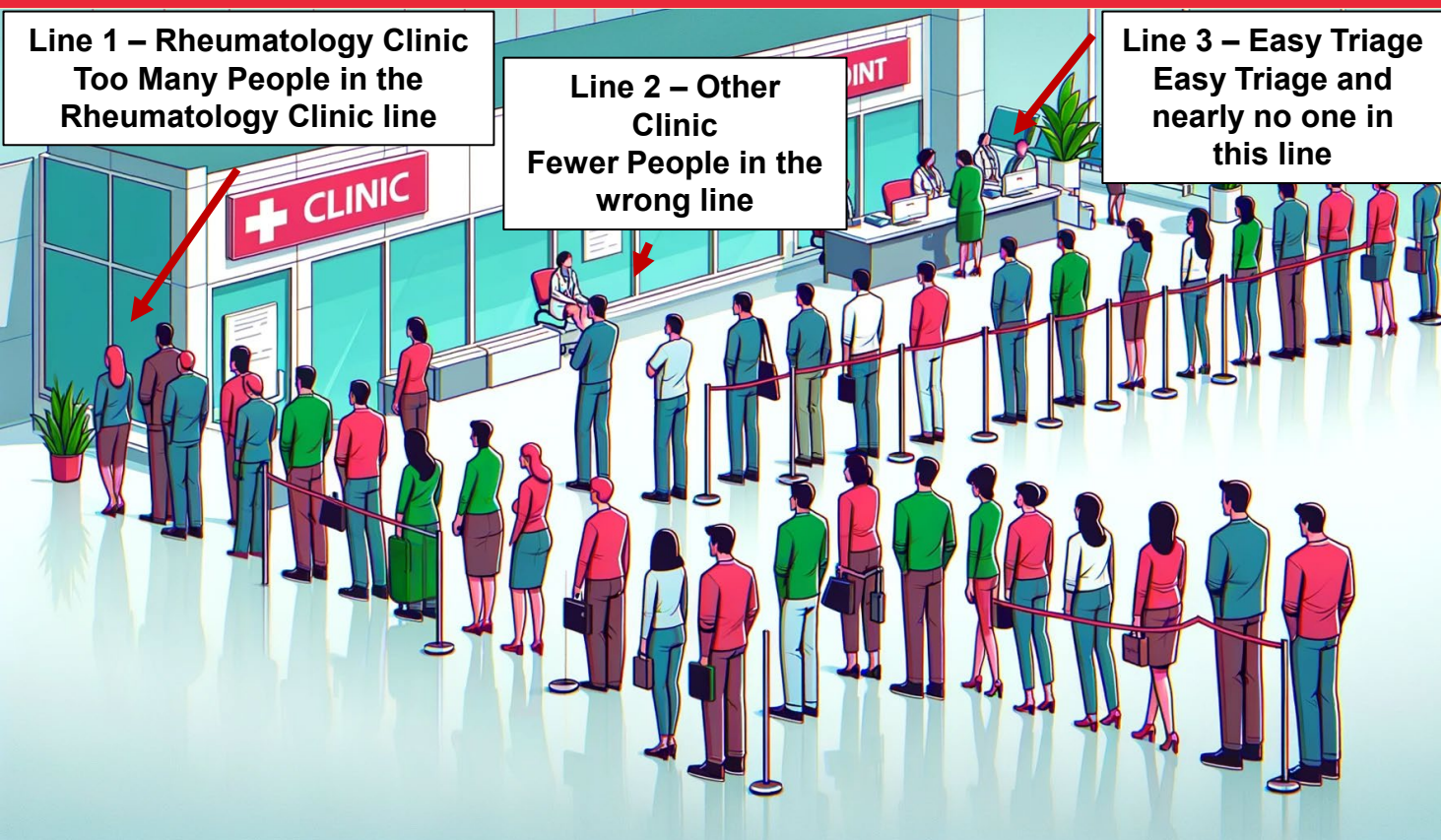
Unexpected benefits of the test recommendations and result interpretations provided by pathologists in the Diagnostic Center

Reduction of Physician “Pajama Time” : Interpretation of Routine Tests with Abnormal Results

- **CBC shows MCV with 1 percentage point high**
- **Chemistry panel shows ALT and AST with minor elevation**

***Patient wants an email or phone call
with her physician about both***

Improve Patient Access By Seeing the Right Ones



Clothes Key:
Red Clothes –
High Suspicion for
Rheumatologic
Disease

Blue and White
Clothes –
Intermediate
Suspicion for
Rheumatologic
Disease BUT most
likely positive for
SOME Disease

Green Clothes –
Low suspicion of
Disease

Survey of Rheumatology

- **By our estimation**

- 33.7% of patients could be Delayed or Triage'd completely (Green Clothes)
- 17.8% of patients would have additional tests performed prior to visit making it easier for Rheumatology (White/Blue Clothes)
- Leaving 48.5% of patients with high suspicion of disease clear to be seen in the Clinic (Red Clothes)



There are at least 50 DMTs in line

They can be organized by

Disease group: Coagulation

Presenting sign/symptom: Bleeding

Abnormal laboratory test result:

Prolonged PTT

A “Trigger” sign or symptom or lab test result will ideally create an option for a Diagnostic Center consult

Potential Clients for the Diagnostic Center

- **Health Care Enterprises**
- **Academic Medical Centers**
- **Community Hospitals**

Potential Clients for the Diagnostic Center

- Sick patients
- Healthy patients for Pharmacogenomics and Exome Analysis
 - International clients – physicians/patients
 - Concierge/VIP patients

When Can Individual DMTs within the Diagnostic Center Be Fully Operational?

Only when the potential demand for hundreds of cases per day can be met for every diagnostic area

Waiting for the New Iphone: Are There Enough?



Why Did it Take 30 Years?

Original idea : **1984**

First implementation for coagulation only : **1995**

First major national presentations of concept and service :
1997-98

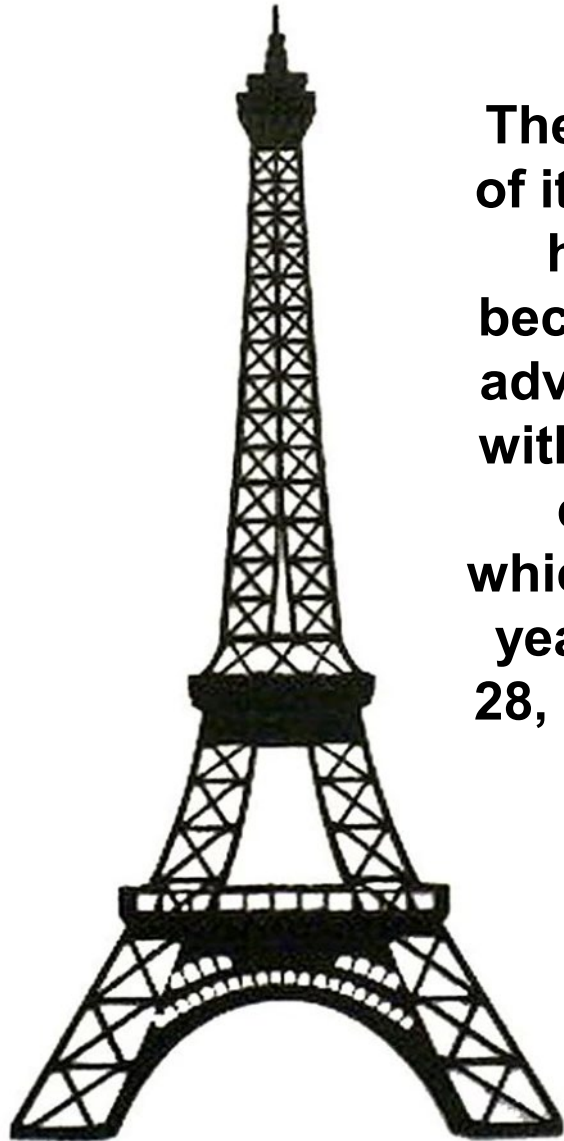
Creation of Diagnostic Management Team name : **2010**

Three National meetings on the DMT : **2017-2019**

Implementation of 5 new DMTs, including one for alleged
child abuse cases : **2014-2024**

**And then the pandemic occurred, and a clinical
need and a new opportunity appeared that
launched the DMT with much greater capacity**

“Recent” Technical Advances in Construction of the Eiffel Tower Were Absolutely Required for its Construction



The tallest structure of its time could only have been built because of technical advances developed within 20 years of its construction – which was just over 2 years from January 28, 1887 to March 15, 1889

With less advanced processes, it might have been limited to a height of a few stories and required much more than 2 years to build.



The “Recent” Technical Advances in Construction of the Eiffel Tower Which Were Absolutely Required for its Construction

- Iron manufacturing techniques enabled the production of high-quality wrought iron
- Newly advanced calculations in structural engineering permitted optimized lattice structure with necessary strength and flexibility
- Pneumatic riveting available to assemble the towers thousands of elements
- And at least 10 more...

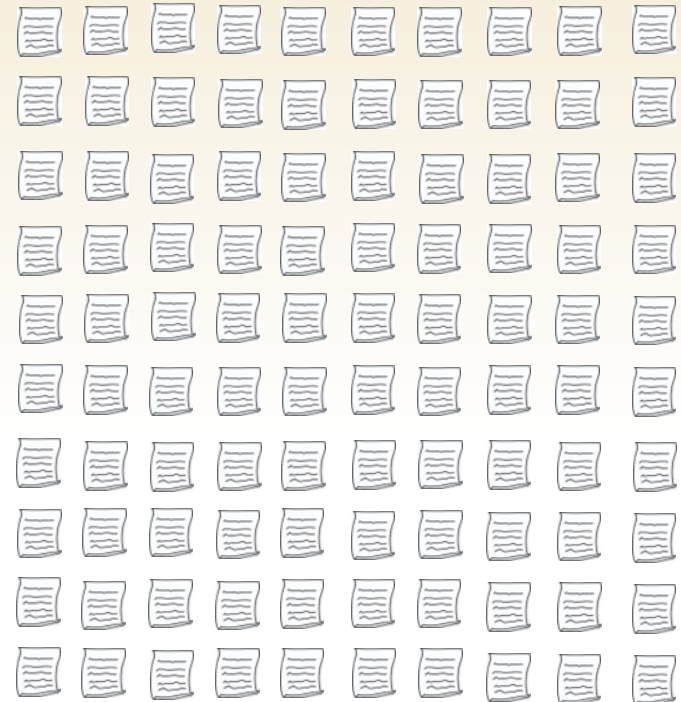


Nearly 30 Years Passed Before the Technical Capabilities Arose to Permit Widespread Interpretation of All Diagnostic Results by Experts in ONE site

- Vectorization to allow searching of Epic and match it with one of many written comments
- Artificial intelligence using generative language models to assemble correct content of interpretive comments
- Vector Based Searching to create continuous review of all published literature related to a set of narrative interpretations

500 interpretations/day prepared with new technology in the same amount of time

10 laboratory interpretations/day prepared manually



Limitations of the Manual Approach

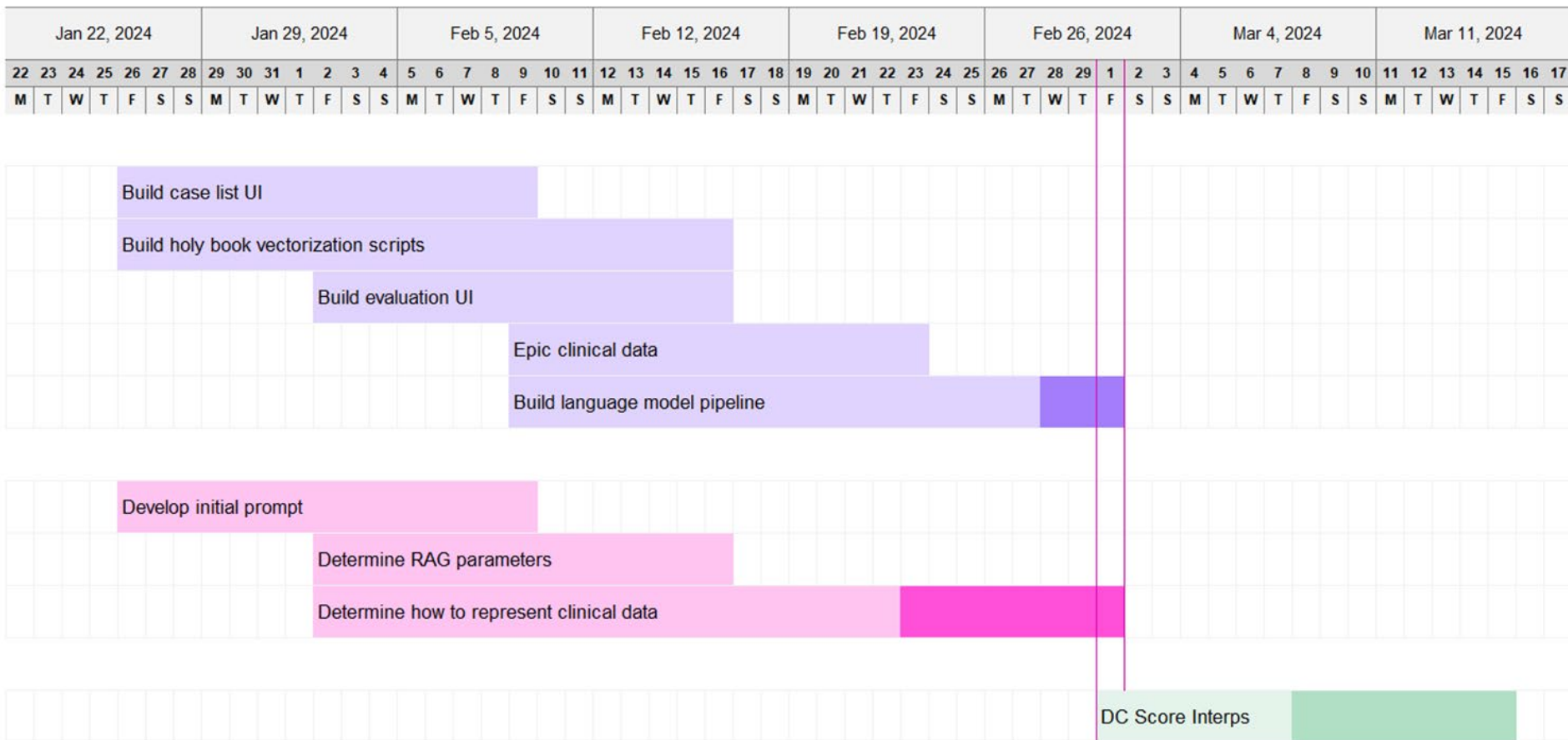
- **Case volume too low to support a full salary**
- **Content knowledge required of expert is substantial**
- **No expectation of consultative clinical activity – only technical activity**



Grant from Sealy & Smith Foundation

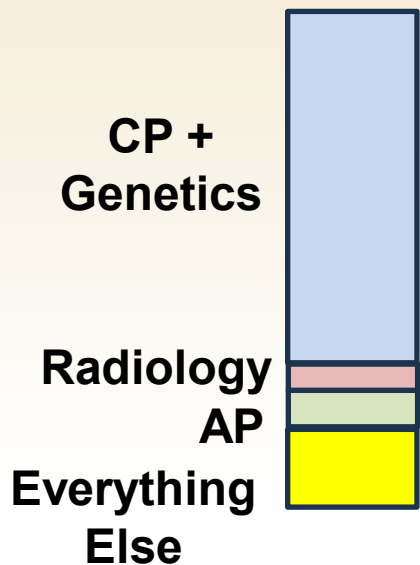
- **9 million dollars over 3 years**
- **Hiring pathologists and non-pathologists in other roles**
- **If revenue generation occurs, more pathologists and staff can be hired**

SmartSheets – Toxicology example

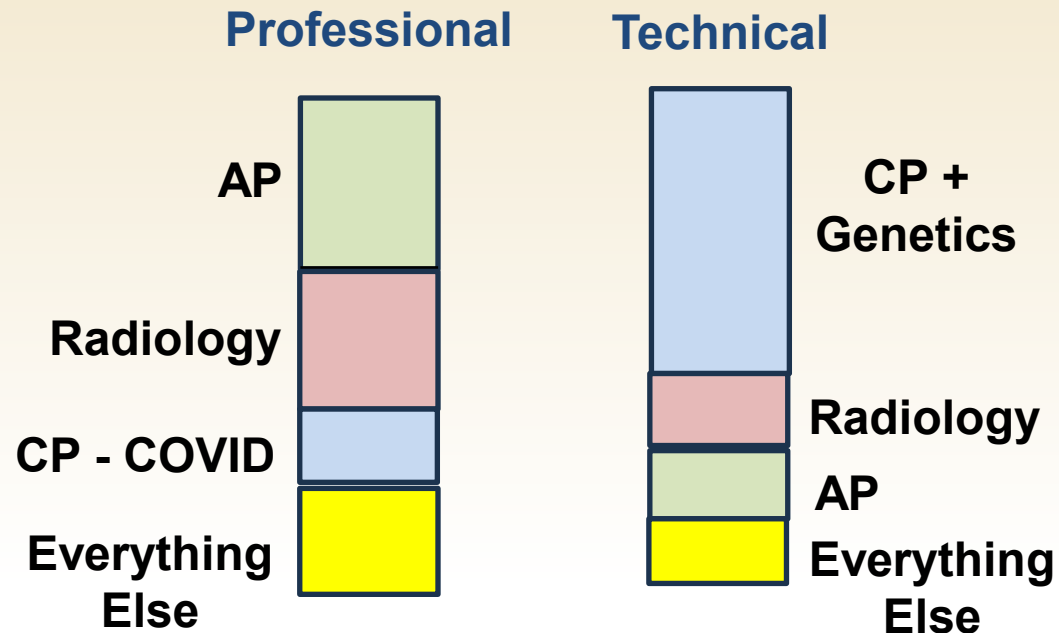


Approximations for UTMB

Number of Different Diagnostic Tests



Revenue from Diagnostic Testing



Strategic Effort to Build a Clinical Service Providing Integrated Diagnostics: *Pathology Department*



**Michael Laposata,
M.D., Ph.D.**

**Professor and
Chairman, Department
of Pathology**

**Director, John Sealy
Diagnostic Center**

Peter McCaffrey, M.D.

**Director of Artificial Intelligence for
UTMB**

**Director, Division of Bioinformatics &
Artificial Intelligence**

**Co-Director, Center for Single Cell
Genomics**

**Medical Director, Laboratory
Information Systems**

**Assistant Professor, Department of
Pathology**

**Assistant Professor, Department of
Radiology**



Christopher Zahner, M.D.

**Director, Division of Clinical
Pathology**

**Medical Director, Clear Lake,
League City, & Angleton Danbury
Campus Hospitals**

**Medical Director, Coagulation, &
Point of Care Testing**

**Assistant Professor, Department of
Pathology**





**Harsh Thaker, M.D.
Ph.D.**

**Vice Chair,
Anatomic Pathology**

**Professor,
Department of
Pathology**

Juan David Garcia, MBA MLS



**Clinical Enterprise
Director, Laboratory
Services**

**Director of Operations,
John Sealy Diagnostic
Center**



**Bradley Grant, MD,
JD**

**Pharmacogenomics
& Molecular
Genetics Specialist,
John Sealy
Diagnostic Center**



**Heather Stevenson-
Lerner, M.D., Ph.D.**

**Director of
Transplantation
Pathology**

**Professor,
Department of
Pathology**



Norma Hernandez, MBA

**Administrator, UTMB
Academic Enterprise**

**Director of Finance,
John Sealy Diagnostic
Center**



**Amin Mohammad,
Ph.D.**

**Clinical Consultant for
the John Sealy
Diagnostic Center
from Baylor Scott &
White**

Professor, Pathology



Melanie Connolly, MS

**Medical Illustrator &
Animator,
Department of
Surgery**

**Director of
Marketing, John
Sealy Diagnostic
Center**



**Christopher Welch,
MBA, CBCS**

**Sr. Finance Manager,
John Sealy
Diagnostic Center**



Carly Goetschius

**Program Manager,
John Sealy
Diagnostic Center**



**Stephanie
Kubachka, MHA,
MBA,
MLS(ASCP)CM**

**Manager,
Laboratory Services**

**Project Manager,
John Sealy
Diagnostic Center**



Gladson John

**Software Systems
Specialist II, John
Sealy Diagnostic
Center**



Victor Luciano

**Network Support
Specialist, Pathology
Administration**

Links to Promotional Videos

[General Overview - John Sealy Diagnostic Center.mov](#)
- Dr. Michael Laposata

[Intergrating AI.mov](#) – Dr. Peter McCaffrey

[DMT Improves Diagnosis Time.mp4](#) – Dr. Chris Zahner

[Dr. Grant Personalized Medicine - Pharmacogenomics.mp4](#) –
Dr. Brad Grant

[Digital Transformation and Adoption of Artificial Intelligence in Anatomic Pathology at UTMB.pptx](#) – Dr. Harsh Thaker