#### From Biomarker to Diagnostic Tests

How good is a biomarker

Alex Sanchez-Pla<sup>1</sup> and Santiago Perez-Hoyos<sup>2,1</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Vall d'Hebron Research Institute and

<sup>1</sup>Universitat de Barcelona 2025-02-23

#### Outline

- 1) What are Biomarkers
- 2) The biomarker development process ...
- 3) Can we trust our biomarkers?
- 4) Biomarkers and Diagnostic Tests
- 5) Building and Validating Biomarkers
- 6) Resources

#### What are Biomarkers

### Biomarkers are everywhere

Jan '20

22

Millora en la identificació de biomarcadors mitjançant l'estandardització de l'ús de mostres de teixit humà



### Biomarkers are everywhere

Jan '20

29

La càrrega microbiana és un marcador de resposta al trasplantament de microbiota fecal en pacients amb malaltia de Crohn



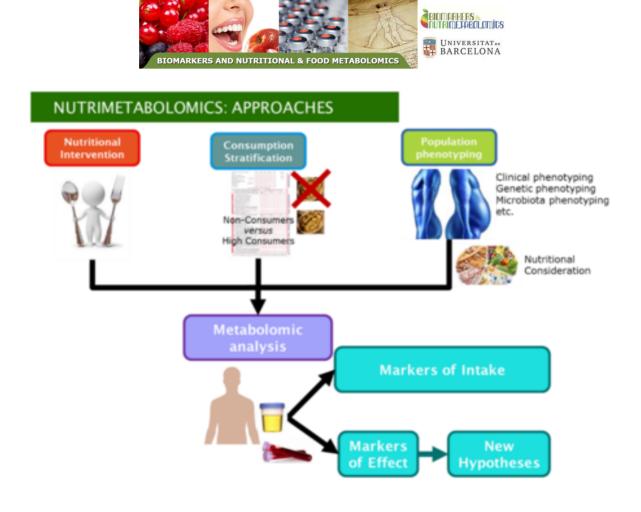
### Biomarkers are everywhere



Researchers identify a new tumor biomarker in endometrial, lung, and colorectal cancer



# Not only in diseases



#### So, what is a Biomarker?

A characteristic, that is *objectively* measured and evaluated as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or pharmacologic responses to a therapeutic intervention.

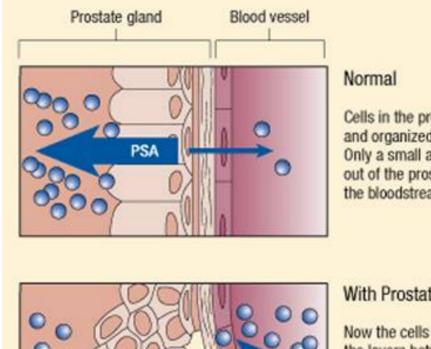
Biomarkers Definition Working Group, NIH Clin Pharmacol Ther 2001;69:89-

Any substance, structure, or process that can be measured in the body or its products and influence or predict the incidence of outcome or disease

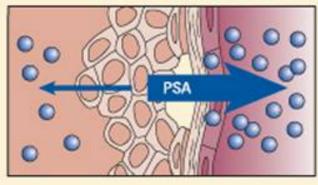
What are Biomarkers?

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3078627/

#### PSA: A prostate cancer biomarker



Cells in the prostate are healthy and organized in a tight pattern. Only a small amount of PSA leaks out of the prostate and gets into the bloodstream



#### With Prostate Cancer

Now the cells are disorganized and the layers between the prostate and blood vessel become disrupted. More PSA can leak into the blood vessel as a result

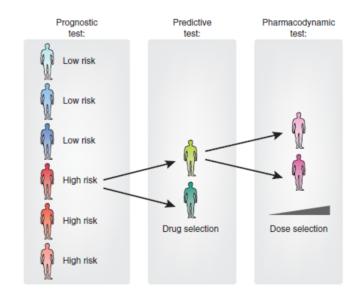
#### Types of biomarkers

**Diagnostic biomarkers** (not in the example): used to *diagnose or* subclassify a disease state.

**Prognostic** biomarkers: help identifying individuals at high risk of recurrence.

**Predictive biomarkers** help identifying those drugs to which patients are most responsive (or unresponsive).

**Pharmacodynamic biomarkers** can help identifying which drug dose to use for an individual.



### Some biomarkers of distinct types

#### DIAGNOSTIC

- **BCR-ABL fusion leukemia (Philadelphia chromosome)**: Fusion gene present in most patients with chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) and in some with ALL or AML.
- **BRAF mutations**: Many types of cancer have been associated with distinct mutations in the BRAF gene.(BRAF mutations in cancer).

#### PROGNOSTIC

 OncotypeDx A gene expression test predicting the likelihood breast cancer recurrence.

#### PREDICTIVE

 HER2 and herceptin HER2 overexpression correlates with poor prognosis. Trastuzumab [Herceptin (H)] is a humanised IgG monoclonal antibody specific for the growth factor receptor HER2.

### Some biomarkers in clinic

Biomarker	Molecular Compartment	Purpose	
Markers With Accepted Clinical Utility			
EGFR mutation	Tumor DNA	Predictive	
NSC Lung			
ALK gene fusion	Tumor DNA	Predictive (crizotinib)	

Biomarker	Molecular Compartment	Purpose
Markers With Accepted Clinical Utility		
ER-α/PgR (ESR1/PR)	Tumor protein	Diagnostic prognostic (weak)
	Breast	predictive
HER2(ERBB2)	Tumor protein	Diagnostic (classification) prognostic (favorable) predictive for anti- HER2(ERBB2) therapy
Oncotype Dx	Tumor RNA	Prognostic predictive

Biomarker	Molecular Compartment	Purpose			
Markers With Acc	Markers With Accepted Clinical Utility				
KRAS mutations [except c.38G>A (p.G13D)]*	Colon	Predictive (negative for anti-EGFR therapy); negatively prognostic in several first-line randomized studies			
MSI and/or MMR protein loss	Tumor DNA for MSI testing with PCR; tumor IHC for MMR proteins	Screening (Lynch syndrome)  Prognostic (recurrence, overall survival)  Predictive (lack of benefit, possibly worse outcome with adjuvant single-agent fluoropyrimidine therapy)			
CEACAM5 (CEA)	Patient serum	Surveillance			
BRAF c.1799T>A (p.V600E) mutation	Tumor DNA	Prognostic (strong negative prognostic marker)			
		Predictive (negative for anti-EGFR therapy)			

Biomarker	Molecular Compartment	Purpose		
Markers With Accepted Clinical Utility				
PSA(KLK3)	Serum protein	Diagnostic		
Prostate				

Biomarker	Molecular Compartment	Purpose
Markers With Accepted Clinical Utility		
1p/19q codeletion (unbalanced translocation)	Tumor DNA	Diagnostic (oligodendroglioma)
IDH mutation (IDH1) c. 395 G>A p.R132H (IDH2)	Tumor DNA, tumor protein	Positive is favorably prognostic; also a diagnostic marker
MGMT methylation	Tumor DNA	Prognostic, predictive (benefit for chemotherapy), pharmacodynamic (pseudorecurrence)

.....

## Biomarkers in drug development

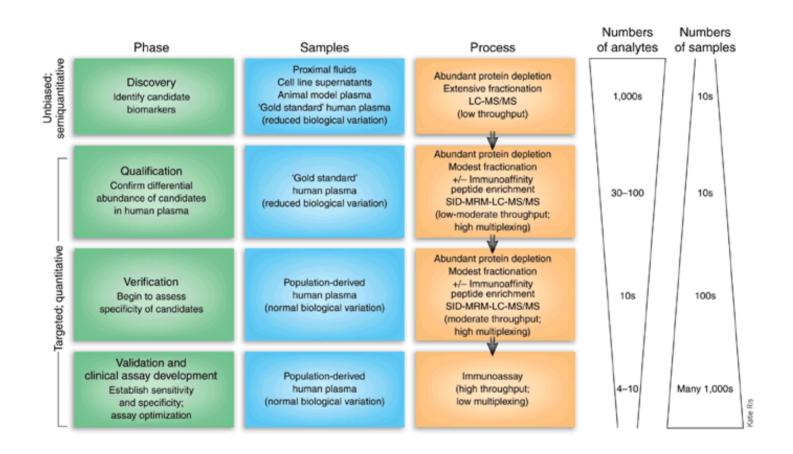
#### Biomarkers can assist drug development while helping to answer relevant questions such as:

- How does a drug work in the body
- Is the drug safe or effective?
- What dose of the drug is effective?
- Related with the Response to a Treatment
  - Is there a response?
  - Is it big enough/different enough from others?

Treatment trial - FDA regulatory approval process

# The biomarker development process

#### Biomarker development phases



Rifai, N., M.A. Gillette, and S.A. Carr, Protein biomarker discovery and validation: the long and uncertain path to clinical utility. Nat Biotechnol, 2006. 24 (8): p. 971-83.

### Biomarker development

#### Genomics

• Relevant disease genes, expression profiles, signaling pathways

#### **Proteomics**

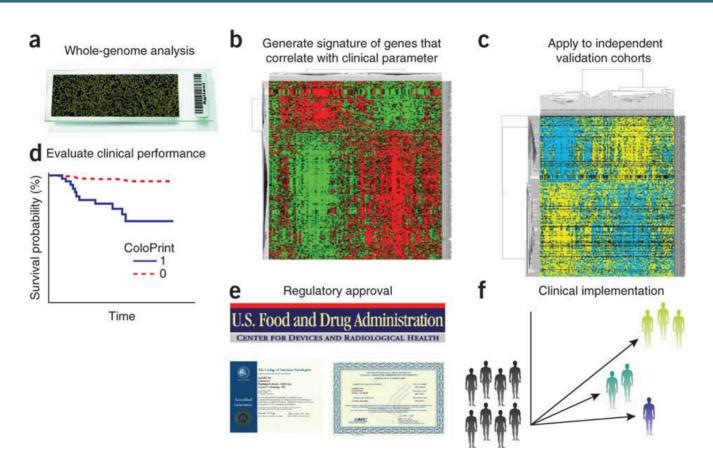
Protein expression and post translational modifications

#### **Metabolomics**

• Small molecule metabolites specific to disease

#### **Imaging**

Imaging changes reflect disease state

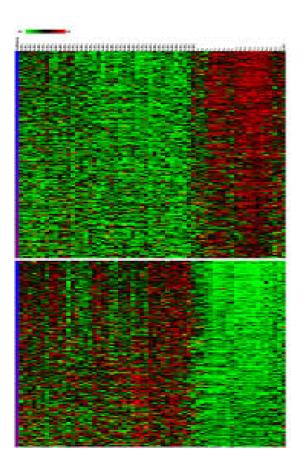


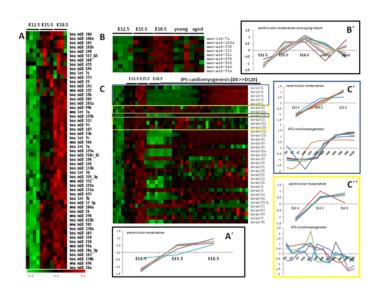
Taming the dragon: genomic biomarkers to individualize the treatment of cancer. Nature Medicine. 304–312. (2011)

(a) Unbiased discovery of a gene expression profile starts with the large scale analysis of gene expression on a series of tumor samples of known clinical outcome.



(b) Using bioinformatics, the set of genes is identified that correlates best with the relevant clinical parameter.

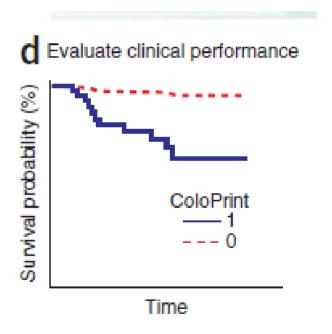




(c) The 'gene signature' derived must be validated on a large cohort of additional clinical samples of known outcome,

Apply to independent validation cohorts

(d) The clinical performance is evaluated in comparison with the generally accepted clinical parameters.



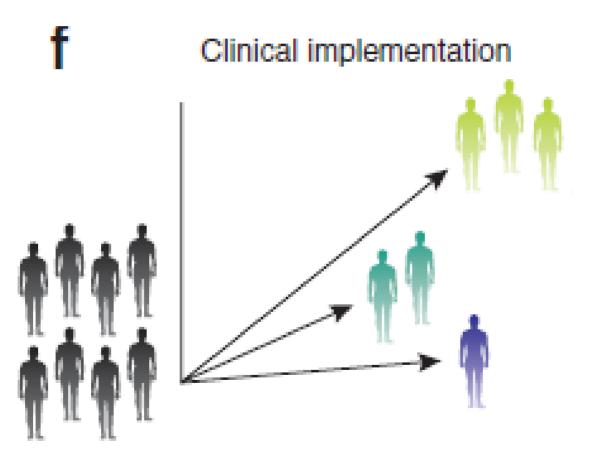
(e) Regulatory approval is the last step for completing the translation from bench to bedside.







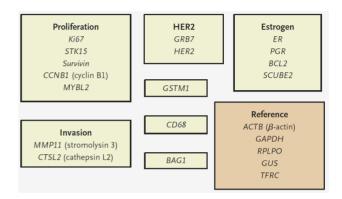
(f) Only after this process is completed can these tests be used to stratify patients by molecular signatures.



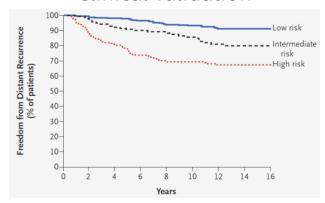
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#### Oncotype DX: A success story

- Breast cancer patients treated with hormone therapy alone recur only in 15% within 10 years, 85% may not need additional chemotherapy.
- Oncotype DX predicts risk of recurrence, useful to identify patients who would not need adjuvant chemotherapy.
- A recurrence score was derived from the analysis of 21 genes allowing to classify patients in "low", "intermediate" and "high" risk.



#### Clinical validation



Age at surgery	0.08	0.71 (0.48–1.05)
Clinical tumor size	0.23	1.26 (0.86–1.86)
Recurrence score	< 0.001	3.21 (2.23-4.61)

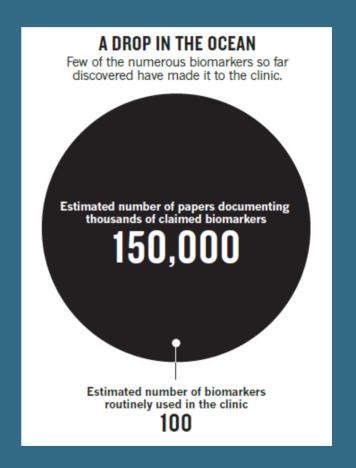
#### Exercise

- Many papers claim to have discovered "a new biomarker for..."
  - Many of these biomarkers are published in a scientific journal,
  - But they never reach the clinic.
- Look for examples of successful (or unsuccessful) biomarkers and make a quick slide where you explain:
  - Name of the biomarker
  - What is it intended to do?
  - What type of biomarker is it
  - Source of information
  - Is it known to have been applied to clinics
  - Name of the people who have prepared the slides

Use this link to add your slide to the presentation

#### Can we trust our biomarkers?





#### An array of problems?

DNA microarrays have been used extensively in the 1st decade of XXIst to derive all type of biomarkers.

Soon, claims against microarrays were raised.

- Lack of reproducibility between studies.
- Few coincidences between gene lists.
- Predictions on new test data did not reproduce those in training data.
- The step to the clinic always waiting.



#### THE LANCET



Despite the huge amount of published microarray data in cancer, little is being converted into clinical practice. Validating initial data is proving to be a key challenge, reports SIMON FRANTZ.

#### "It was not that bad..."

 More studies showed, however, that most problems could be appropriately circumvented applying well the right methodology.



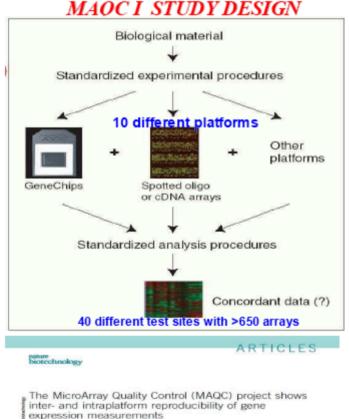
#### Critical Review of Published Microarray Studies for Cancer Outcome and Guidelines on Statistical Analysis and Reporting

Alain Dupuy, Richard M. Simon

## How to do things better ...

• Large quality control studies (MAQC) were promoted to investigate reliability and applicability of the technique.

Sept. 2006



MAQC Consertium<sup>4</sup>

MAQC II STUDY DESIGN 1907-108 Face to tace 7, Velidation 9-10, Meta-data 9/08 - 10/08 4 Six training 1. Exploratory 3. Review & approval data sets (blind test) distribution data analysis of DAP by REWG (13 andpoints data sets avediction (36 DATs) 1/08 2/08 3/08 10/08 11/08 12/08 1/09 9/1/2007 10/07 - 12/07 308-608 806-908 10/08 - 2/09 2. Data analysis 5. Classifiers are frozen 6. MAGC-IFE 8. Prediction 12. Meta-data analysis protocol (DAP) (mark one for validation) cardidate models modbe & visualization 10. Table of model information 4. Data sets Exploration 5. Classifier 12. Mata-duta analysis ARTICLES nature biotechnology

The MicroArray Quality Control (MAQC)-II study of common practices for the development and validation of microarray-based predictive models

MAQC Communitum

August 2010

# Some consensus (Allison 2006)

Altogether a consensus exists mostly between data scientists on how to do things to avoid the array of problems

- Design the experiment with your objectives in mind.
- Biological replication is essential.
- There is strength in numbers : power & sample size
- Pooling biological samples can be useful.
- When selecting differentially expressed genes
  - Using FC alone as a differential expression test is not valid
  - Using p- value alone may fail if there is no biological significance.
  - Important to combine FC and p-values
  - Multiple testing has to be adequately accounted for
- When predictive models are built, know and control sources of bias, especially through validation and cross-validation.

Allison DB et al. (2005) Microarray data analysis: from disarray to consolidation and consensus Nat Rev gene. 7: 55 – 65 doi:10.1038/nri1749

# In Summary (1)

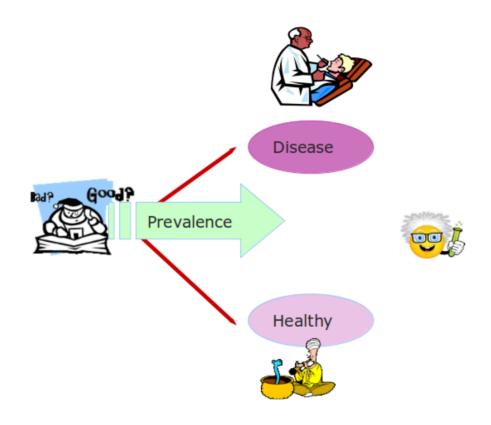
- Biomarkers can be properly defined with different nuances depending on their goal .
- It is possible to derive biomarkers following an adequate biomarker development process .
- Biggest threat for biomarkers is lack of reproducibility.
- Adhering to correct statistical & methodological principles increases the chances that biomarkers can last longer

# From biomarkers to diagnostic tests

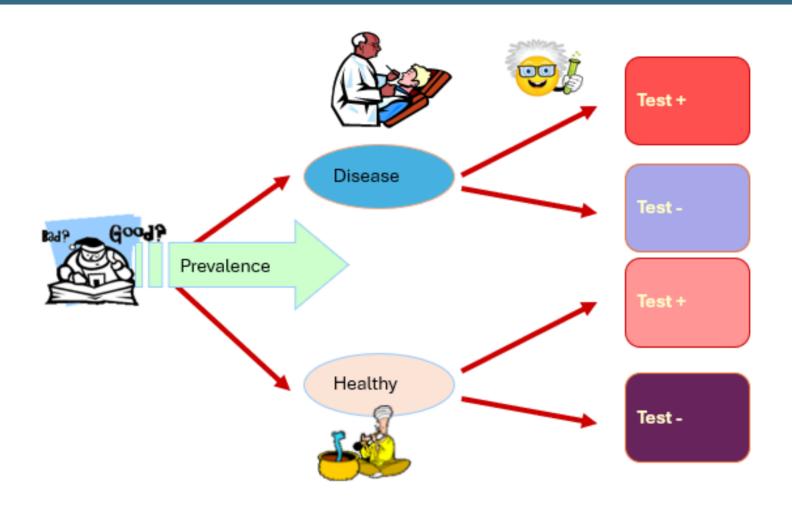
#### From biomarkers to diagnostic tests

- Biomarkers are often used to build tests to diagnose a disease:
- E.g. A threshold on PSA can be used to suggest a Prostate Cancer
  - If [PSA] <= 4, healthy</li>
  - If 4 < [PSA] <= 10 dubious
  - If [PSA] > 10 Prostate Cancer
- But diagnostic tests, as all tests, are faced with the dicotomy
   Reality/Diagnosis which, as in the case of hypothesis tests, yields the possibility of having false positives and false negatives.
- Next we show how this can be quantified in dichotomous diagnostic tests and which measures can be used to decide how reliable a (biomarker-based) diagnostic test is.

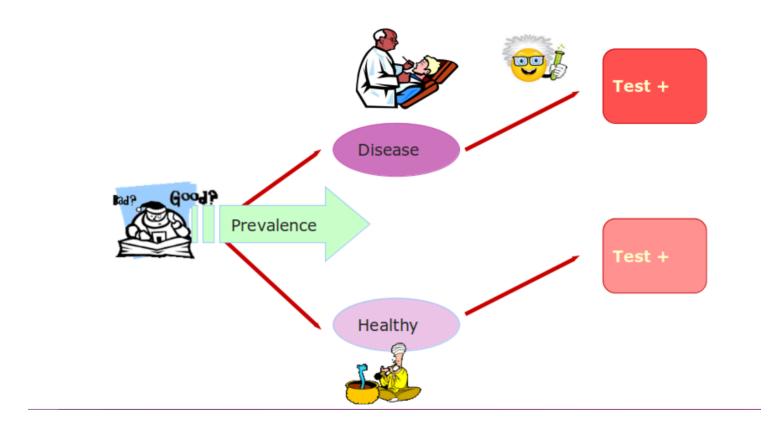
# Diagnostic Measures



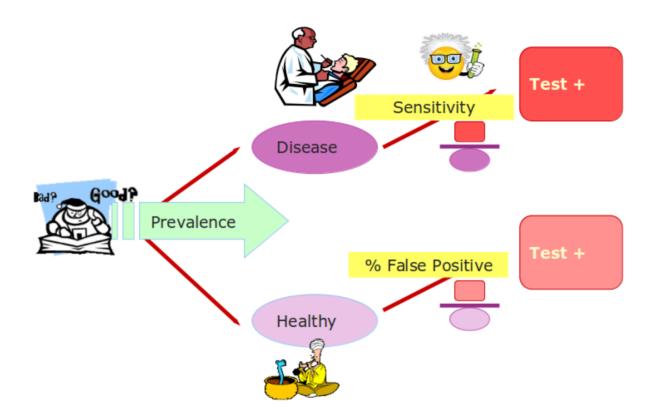
### Diagnostic Measures: 4 scenarios



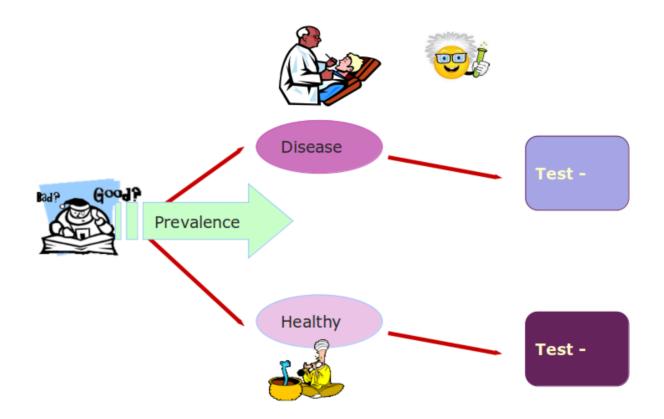
# Diagnostic Measures



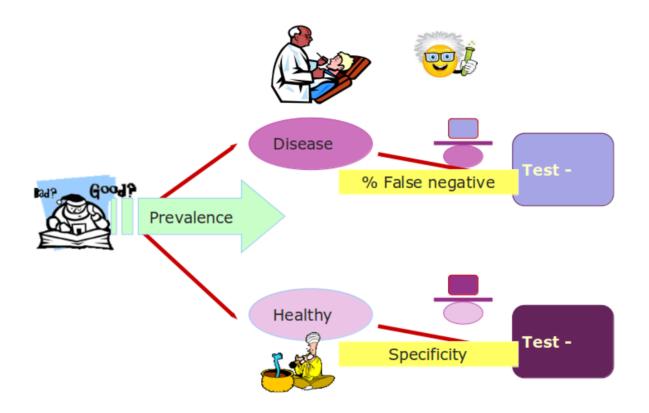
# Sensitivity



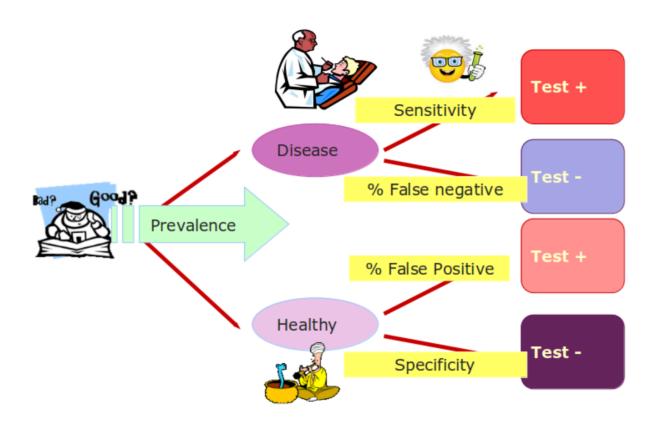
# Diagnostic Measures



# Specificity



# Diagnostic Measures



# Evaluating binary tests

		Predicted condition	
	Total population = P + N	Predicted positive	Predicted negative
Actual condition	Positive (P)	<b>True positive</b> (TP), hit <sup>[b]</sup>	False negative (FN), miss, underestimation
	Negative (N) <sup>[d]</sup>	False positive (FP), false alarm, overestimation	True negative (TN), correct rejection <sup>[e]</sup>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evaluation\_of\_binary\_classifiers

## Example: Prostate cancer diagnosis

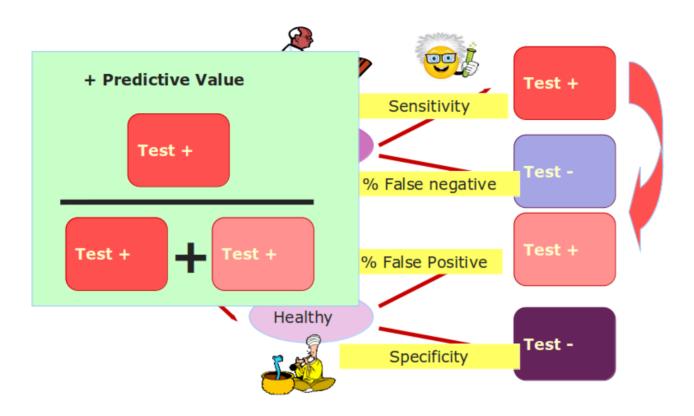
- In a study there have been collected **2641** samples of patients suspected to have prostate cancer.
- Patients have undergone two tests
  - Rectal examination
  - Prostate biopsy
- Ideally if they yield identical results biopsies -which are expensive and not risk-free- would be unnecessary.

## Example: Tests are not equivalent

		Biopsy result		
		Disease Healthy TOTAL		
Rectal	Disease	634	269	903
examination	Healthy	487	1251	1738
*	TOTAL	1121	1520	2641

- **Sensitivity** = 634 / (634+487) = 0.5656 = 56.6% → 43.4% with cancer had a normal rectal examination
- **Specificity** = 1251 / (269+1251) = 0.8230 = 82.3% → 17.7% of the patients without disease were incorrectly diagnosed

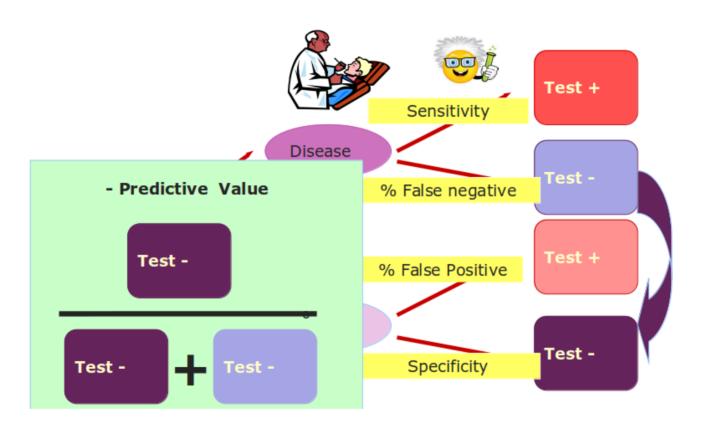
# Positive predictive value (PPV)



If the test is **positive**:

What is the probability that the patient is **really affected**?"

# Negative predictive value (NPV)



If the test is **negative**:

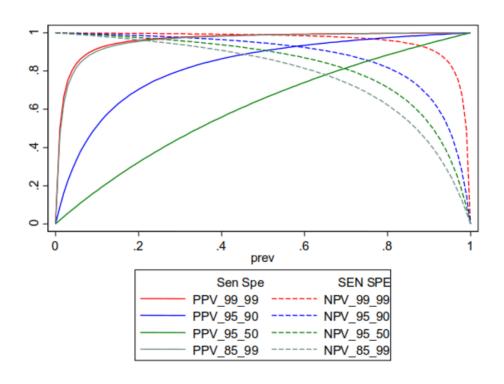
What is the probability that the patient is really **not affected**?"

### Example: PPV and NPV

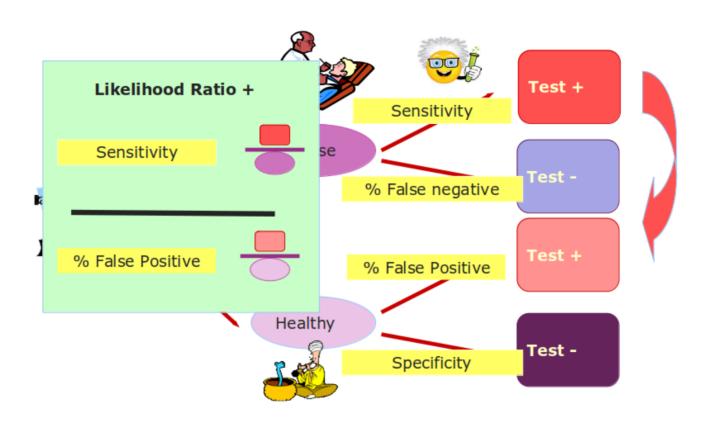
		Biopsy result		
		Disease Healthy TOTAL		
Rectal	Disease	634	269	903
examination	Healthy	487	1251	1738
*	TOTAL	1121	1520	2641

- Positive Predictive Value = 634 / (634+269) = 0.702 = 70.2% → A
   person who tested positive has a 70.2% of probability of having cancer
- Negative predictive value = 1251 / (487+1251) = 0.719 = 71.9% → A
   person who tested negative has a 71.9% of probability of not having
   cancer

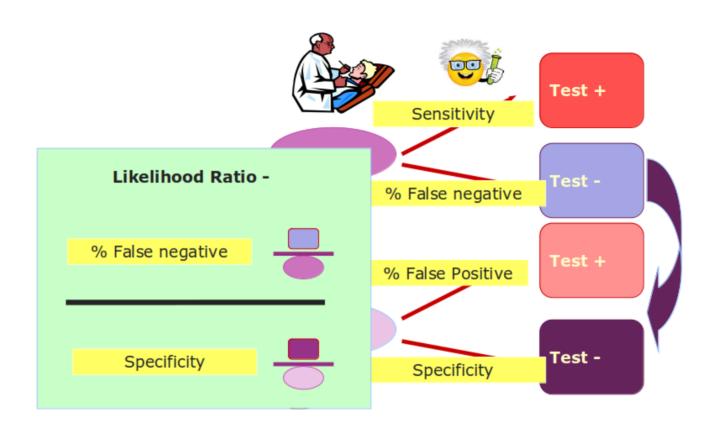
## PPV and NPV depend on prevalence



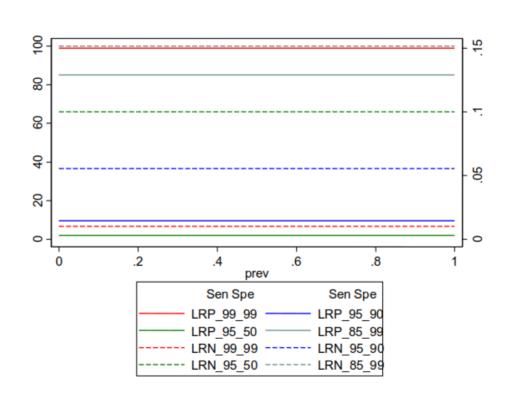
## Positive Likelihood Ratio (+LR)



# Negative Likelihood Ratio (-LR)



# +LR/-LR independent of prevalence



## Interpreting likelihood ratios

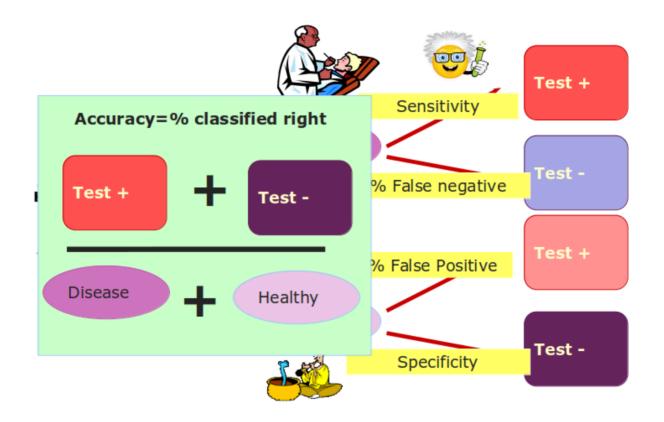
- Ideally a positive likelihood of ratio of 1 means that disease and health are equally likely.
- From here,
  - the higher the +LR more likely is the disease.
  - the smaller the +LR less likely is the disease.
- Usual thresholds
  - 5-10 disease is highly likely
  - 0.2-10 likelihood of disease not changed
  - 0.1-0.2 disease is less likely

# Example: +LR and -LR

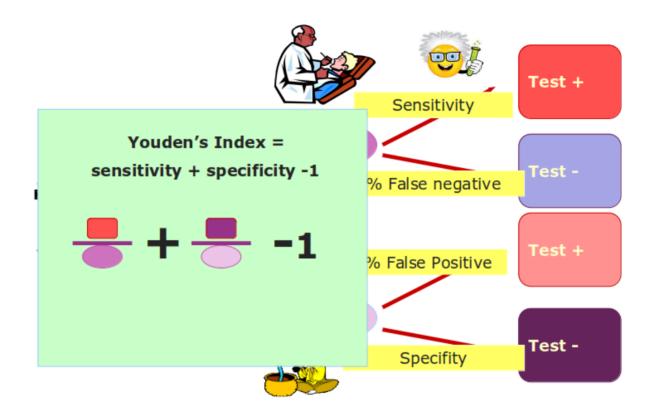
		Biopsy result		
		Disease Healthy TOTAL		
Rectal	Disease	634	269	903
examination	Healthy	487	1251	1738
*	TOTAL	1121	1520	2641

- **Positive Likelihood Ratio** = Sens/%FP = 0.5656 / (1-0.8230) = 3.1954
- **Negative Likelihood Ratio** = Spec/ %FN = (1-0.8230) / 0.5656 = 0.312942

### Accuracy

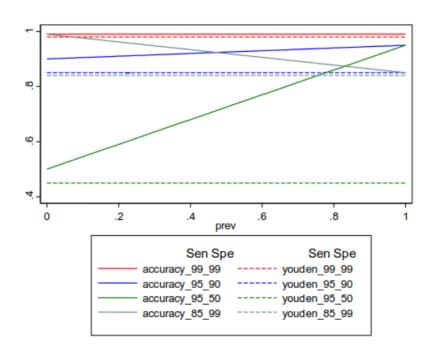


### Youden's Index



### Accuracy vs Youden's Index

Accuracy depends on prevalence but, Youden's Index do NOT depend on prevalence.



## Computing diagnostic measures

with R

```
library(dplyr); library(ggplot2); library(epiR)
##
## Adjuntando el paquete: 'dplyr'
## The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':
##
       filter, lag
###
## The following objects are masked from 'package:base':
##
       intersect, setdiff, setequal, union
###
## Cargando paquete requerido: survival
## Package epiR 2.0.80 is loaded
## Type help(epi.about) for summary information
## Type browseVignettes(package = 'epiR') to learn how to use epiR for applied
```

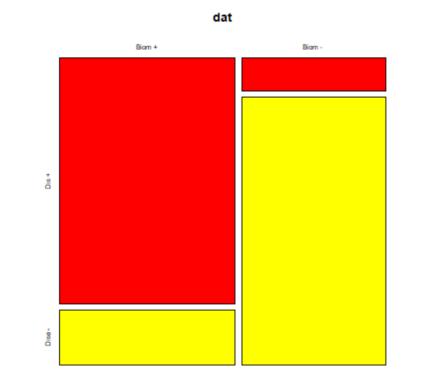
# Computing diagnostic measures

## with R

knitr::kable(dat)

	Dis +	Dise -
Biom +	90	20
Biom -	10	80



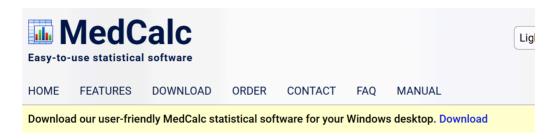


### Diagnostic measures with R

```
rval ← epi.tests(dat)
print(rval)
           Outcome +
                      Outcome -
                                    Total
## Test +
         90
                            20
                                      110
## Test -
         10 80
                                     90
          100
## Total
                     100
                                      200
###
## Point estimates and 95% CIs:
## Apparent prevalence * 0.55 (0.48, 0.62)
## True prevalence *
                                   0.50 (0.43, 0.57)
## Sensitivity *
                                     0.90 (0.82, 0.95)
## Specificity *
                                     0.80 (0.71, 0.87)
## Positive predictive value *
                                    0.82 (0.73, 0.89)
## Negative predictive value *
                                   0.89 (0.81, 0.95)
## Positive likelihood ratio
                                    4.50 (3.02, 6.70)
                                   0.12 (0.07, 0.23)
## Negative likelihood ratio
## False T+ proportion for true D- *
                                0.20 (0.13, 0.29)
## False T- proportion for true D+ * 0.10 (0.05, 0.18)
## False T+ proportion for T+ *
                                  0.18 (0.11, 0.27)
## False T- proportion for T- * 0.11 (0.05, 0.19)
## Correctly classified proportion * 0.85 (0.79, 0.90)
## * Exact CIs
```

### Medcalc free statistical calculator

#### https://www.medcalc.org/calc/



#### Free statistical calculators

Statistical tests Sample size calculation

#### Means & Standard deviations

- Test for one mean
- · Comparison of means
- · Comparison of standard deviations

#### **Proportions**

- Test for one proportion
- Comparison of proportions
- . McNemar test on paired proportions
- · Fisher's exact test for 2x2 table

#### **Chi-squared test**

- One-way Chi-squared test
- Two-way Chi-squared test

#### **Rates**

- Confidence interval for a rate
- · Comparison of two rates

#### Test evaluation

- . Comparison of Coefficients of Variation
- Inter-rater agreement (Kappa)

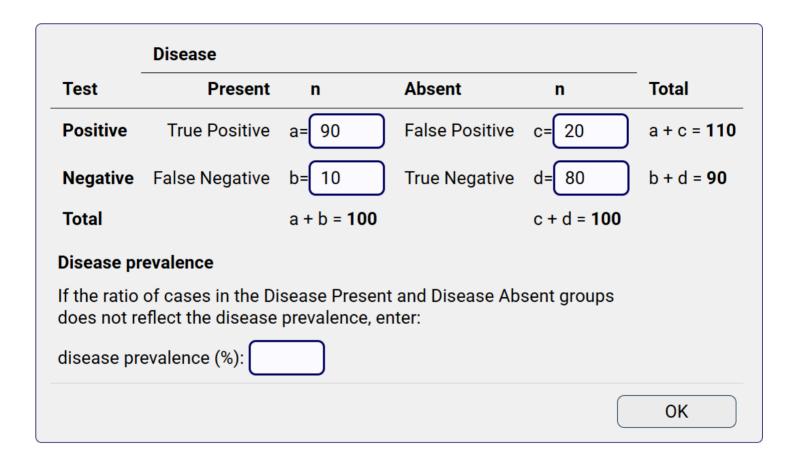
#### Relative risk & Odds ratio

- · Relative risk
- · Odds ratio

#### **Diagnostic test**

- Diagnostic test evaluation
- Likelihood ratios (2xk table)
- Comparison of ALIC of independent BOC ourses

# Diagnostic measures with Medcalc



# Diagnostic measures with Medcalc

Statistic	Value	95% CI
Sensitivity	90.00%	82.38% to 95.10%
Specificity	80.00%	70.82% to 87.33%
Positive Likelihood Ratio	4.50	3.02 to 6.70
Negative Likelihood Ratio	0.12	0.07 to 0.23
Disease prevalence (*)	50.00%	42.87% to 57.13%
Positive Predictive Value (*)	81.82%	75.15% to 87.01%
Negative Predictive Value (*)	88.89%	81.51% to 93.56%
Accuracy (*)	85.00%	79.28% to 89.65%

• How do previous results change if values in the table are modified as:

```
\label{eq:dat} \begin{split} \text{dat} \leftarrow & \text{as.table}(\text{matrix}(\text{c}(90, 200, 10, 800), \text{nrow=2, byrow=TRUE})) \\ & \text{colnames}(\text{dat}) \leftarrow & \text{c}(\text{"Dis+","Dis-"}) \\ & \text{rownames}(\text{dat}) \leftarrow & \text{c}(\text{"Biom+","Biom-"}) \\ & \text{knitr::kable}(\text{dat}) \end{split}
```

	Dis+	Dis-
Biom+	90	200
Biom-	10	800

- In J Trop Pediatr in January 2006, a rapid serological test was presented for the diagnosis of Helicobacter pylori infection.
- The test was applied to 81 children. Usual microbiological tests ("Gold Standard") to find out if they were really infected were additionally performed.
- The results are provided below

	Disease	Healthy
Positive	24	1
Negative	3	53

• Evaluate the properties of the test. Would you recomend its use?

- The "palmar pallor sign" has been related to the presence of anemia.
- It was evaluated in a jungle region of Colombia to see if it could be useful as a rapid test for diagnosing anemia.
- A blood count was taken in 167 children and it was found out that 48 had anemia and 119 did not.
- The palmar pallor sign was positive in 16 anemics and negative in 95 non-anemic was negative.
- Evaluate the properties of the test. Would you recomend its use?

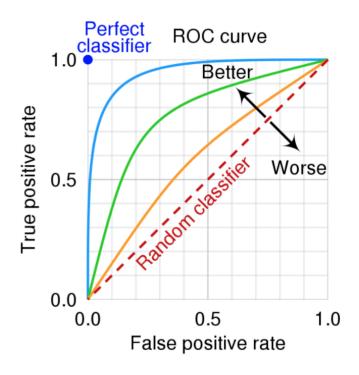


### Quantitative biomarkers

- Many tests provide dichotomous values such as TRUE/FALSE, Presence/Absence, etc.
  - The analysis of their diagnostic properties is straightforward.
- How can we use continuous biomarkers, such as the expression of a gene, which is known to be related with the diagnostic,
  - A reasonable option is to analyze different cutting points that would provide a dichotomous classification
  - And select cutpoint that best separates the two groups.
- This is done using Receiver Operation Characteristic functions also known as "ROC" curves.

### ROC curves

- A graphical plot that shows the diagnostic ability of a binary classifier as its discrimination threshold is varied.
- It is created by plotting the true positive rate (TPR) against the false positive rate (FPR) at various threshold settings.
  - TPR = Sensitivity
  - FPR = 1-Specificity



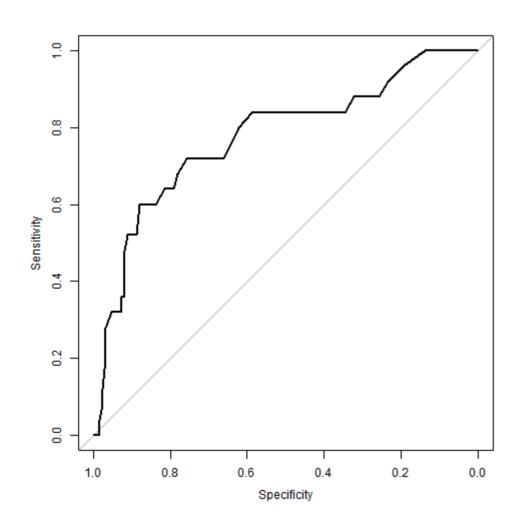
The Area Under the Curve (AUC) is a rough measure of the performance of the classifier

### ROC curves in R

```
diab ← haven::read sav("diabetes.sav")
roc curve ← pROC::roc(factor(diab$MORT), diab$EDAT,auc=TRUE)
## Setting levels: control = 0, case = 1
## Setting direction: controls < cases
print(roc_curve)
##
## Call:
## roc.default(response = factor(diab$MORT), predictor = diab$EDAT,
                                                                     auc =
##
## Data: diab$EDAT in 124 controls (factor(diab$MORT) 0) < 25 cases (factor(diab$MORT)
## Area under the curve: 0.775
```

# ROC curves in R

plot(roc\_curve)



## Building the biomarker from ROC

- The ROC curve shows how the relation between sensitivity and specificity changes for distinct cutoffs (each of the marker values).
- In order to decide the "best" cutoff a balance between sensitivity and specificity has to be agreed.
- There are distinct possibilities depending on the case:
  - Set one of the measures (usually sensitivity) to the desired value and take as cutoff the marker's value that provides this.
  - Look for that marker's value that maximize the combination SENS
     & SPEC, for example that maximize YOUDEN's index.

### Youden's index in R

```
best_coords \leftarrow pROC::coords(roc_curve, "best", best.method = "youden'
best_coords \leftarrow unlist(best_coords)

best_cutoff_df \leftarrow data.frame(
    Metric = c("Optimal Cutoff", "Sensitivity", "Specificity", "Youden'
    Value = c(best_coords["threshold"], best_coords["sensitivity"], best)

# Mostrar el data frame
print(best_cutoff_df)
```

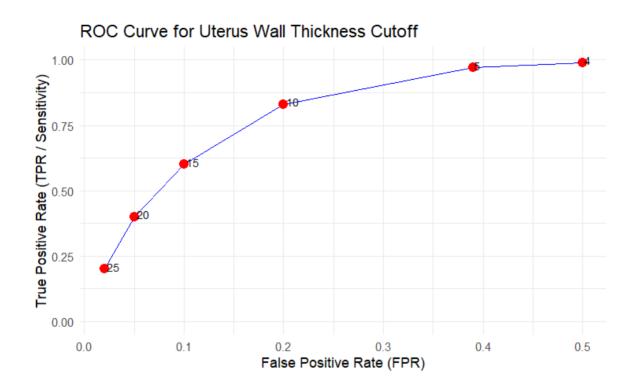
### Example

- Ultrasounds can be used to detect thinning of the uterus Wall as an indicative of a posible tumor.
- "Abnormal Wall Thickness" can be declared at distinct thickness, which, for a given sample (not shown) yields distinct sensitivity and specificity values.
- Build a ROC curve for these and find out the best cutoffs for this problem.

Cutoff for abnormal wall thickness	Sentivity (%)	Specificity (%)	1- Specificity(%)
>4 mm	99	50	50
>5 mm	97	61	39
>10 mm	83	80	20
>15 mm	60	90	10
>20 mm	40	95	5
>25 mm	20	98	2

Objetive: To maximize the number of TP (correct diagnosis of cancer) with an aceptable number of FP (biopsies made when there was no cancer)

# Example (continued)



- To maximize TP take a cutoff with high sensitivity (cutoff: "> 5mm" ).
- To maximize both SENS and SPEC take cutoff: "> 10 mm" where Youden's index (SENS + SPEC -1) is maximized

- In the "Osteoporosis" dataset build two ROC curves based on the two continuous variables "imc" and "bua"
- Which classifier is better?
- How would you compare the two classifiers?

# **Building and Validating Biomarkers**

# Building and Validating Biomarkers

- This part has been omitted from these slides.
- On overview of how to build and validate classifiers is provided in the Statistical Pill:

Busqueu la fama, i aquí és on aneu a començar a pagar: Estratègies per a la construcció de models i biomarcadors

### References and Resources

### References and resources

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- Dupuy A, Simon RM. Critical review of published microarray studies for cancer outcome and guidelines on statistical analysis and reporting. J Natl Cancer Inst . 2007;99(2):147-157. doi:10.1093/jnci/djk018
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