

REGULATORY PATHWAYS AND SCIENCE RELATED TO DIGITAL AND COMPUTATIONAL PATHOLOGY

Brandon D. Gallas

Division of Imaging, Diagnostics, Software Reliability

Office of Science and Engineering Laboratories
Center for Devices and Radiological Health
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

From Mammograms to Microwaves

<https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/fda-organization/center-devices-and-radiological-health>



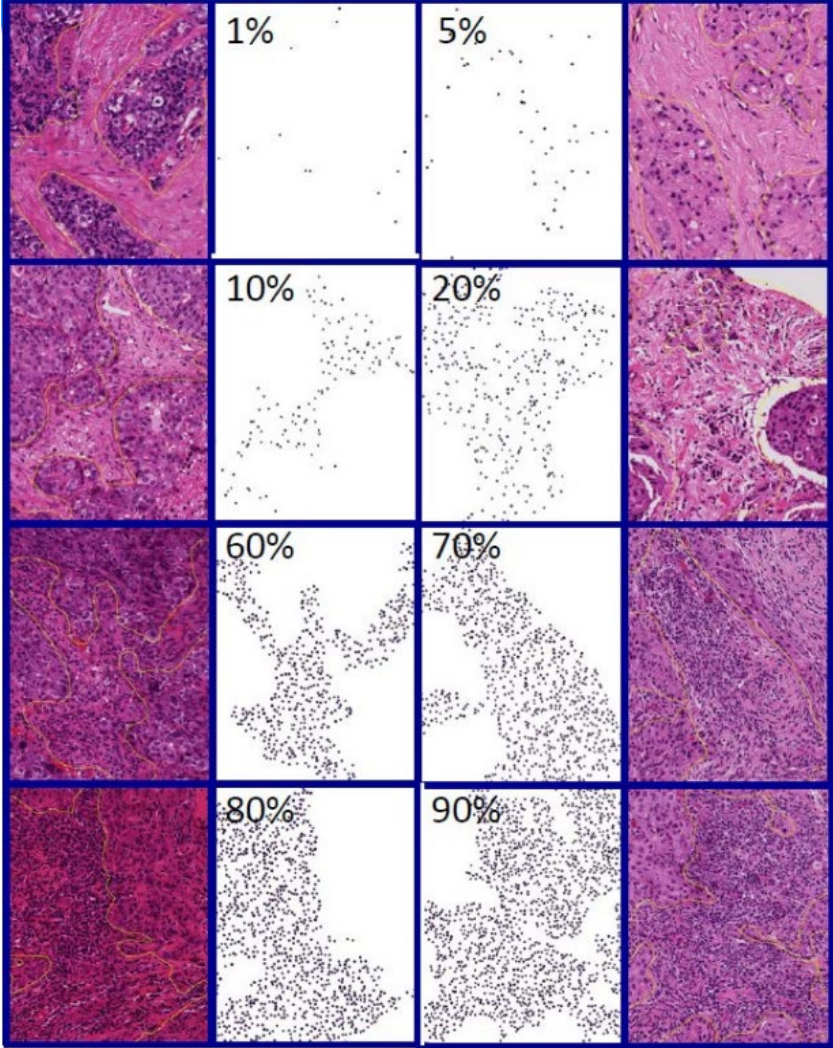
Outline

- Who I am and where I work
- HTT: High Throughput Truthing Project

*CLEARR-AI:
Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for
Reproducible Reporting of Artificial Intelligence*

- Related Activities

Quantitative Biomarker
TILs: Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes



Disclaimer

The mention of commercial products, their sources, or their use in connection with material reported herein is **not** to be construed as either an actual or implied **endorsement** of such products by the Department of Health and Human Services. This is a contribution of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and is not subject to copyright.

Acknowledgment

Research assistants supporting this work have been funded by appointments to the Research Participation Program at the Center for Devices and Radiological Health administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education through an interagency agreement between the US Department of Energy and the US Food and Drug Administration.



FDA headquarter campus in Silver Spring, Maryland

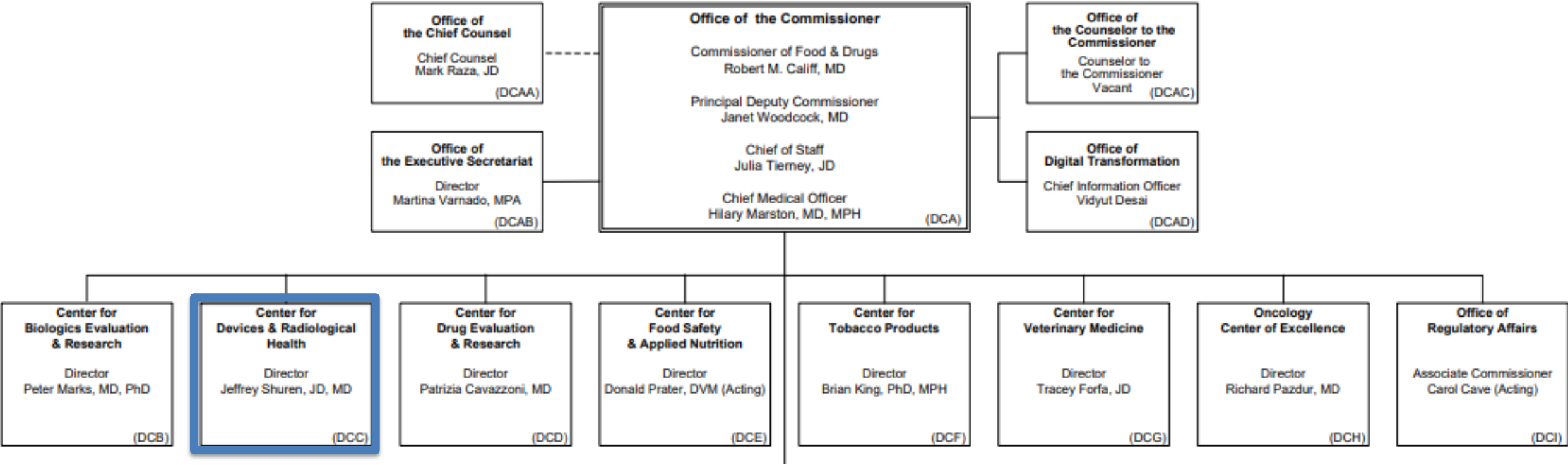


Introduction to **FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR**



September 2023

Department of Health and Human Services Food and Drug Administration



CDRH
- OSEL
- DIDSR

Introduction to FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR

~1900

EMPLOYEES

18k

Medical Device
Manufacturers

183k

Medical Devices
On the U.S. Market

22k/year

Premarket
Submissions
including supplements
and amendments

570k

Proprietary
Brands

1.4MILLION/year

Reports on
medical device
adverse events and
malfunctions

25k

Medical Device
Facilities Worldwide

FDA's Office of Science and Engineering Laboratories (OSEL)





Introduction to FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR

Who We Are

CDRH is a team of over 1,900 dedicated, highly skilled, and internationally respected public health employees

Subject Matter Experts

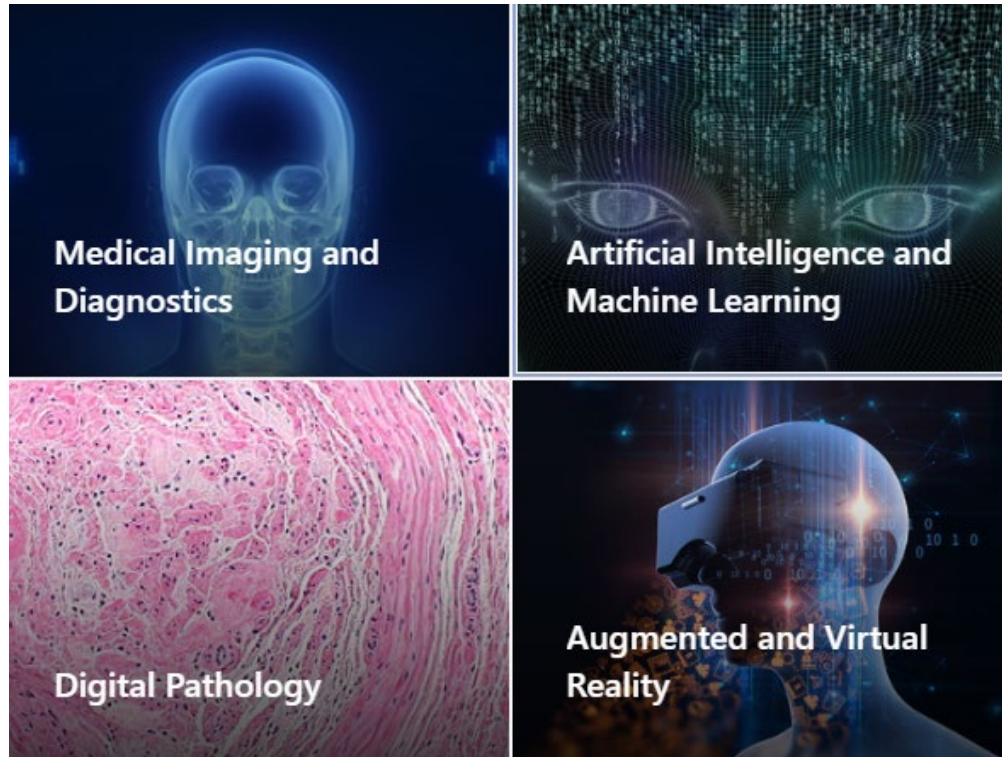
- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physicians• Biologists• Chemists• Physicists• Engineers• Statisticians• Epidemiologists | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Microbiologists• Nurses• Pharmacologists• Veterinarians• Toxicologists• Specialists in Public Health Education and Communication |
|---|---|

What We Do

- Provide subject matter expertise to the review of medical device submissions
- Conduct research and create tools to support the review of medical device submissions

Introduction to FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR

- The **Division of Imaging, Diagnostics and Software Reliability (DIDSR)** is the part of OSEL dedicated to imaging research.



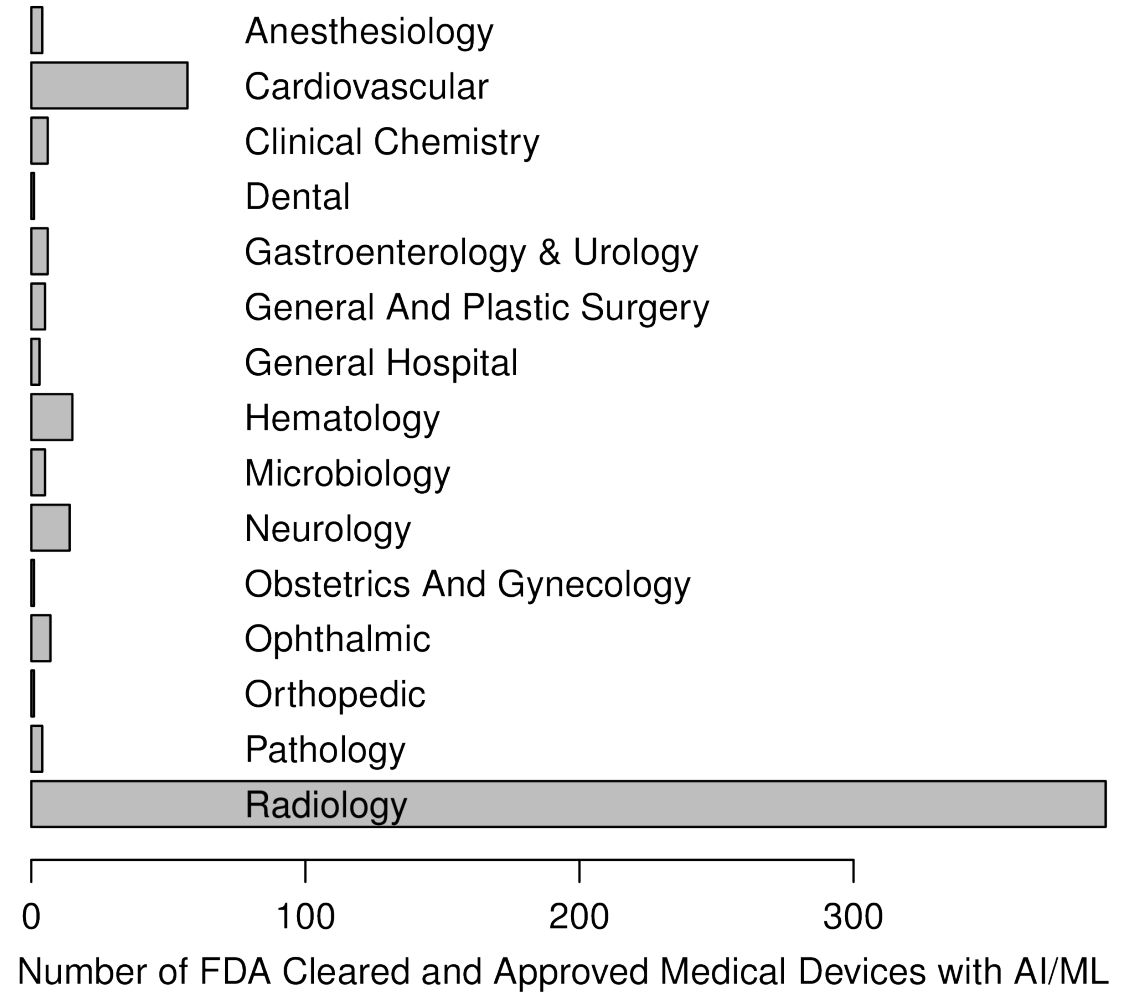
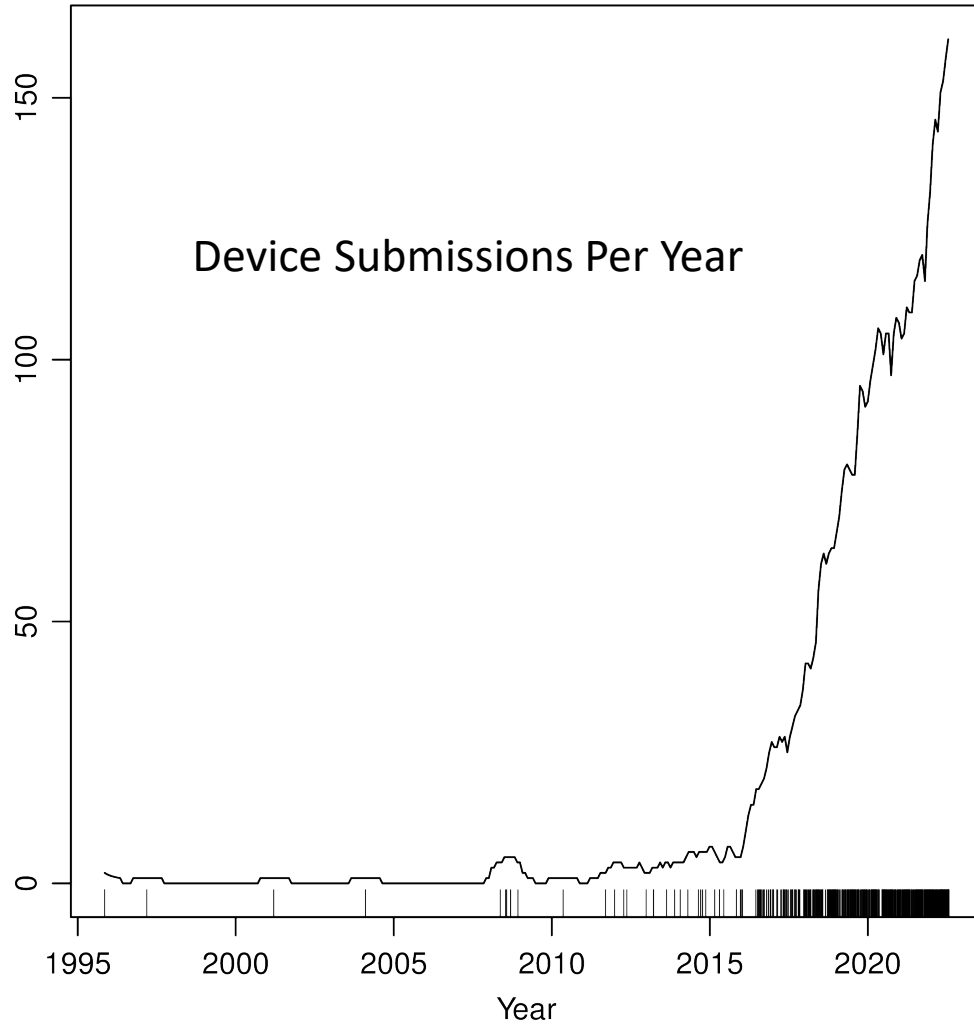
~45
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
~40 Fellows/Students

145/year
Peer reviewed articles, code and presentations

550/year
Premarket
Regulatory consults

1400 m²
DIDSR Lab and facilities

The Rise of AI/ML



<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/software-medical-device-samd/artificial-intelligence-and-machine-learning-aiml-enabled-medical-devices>

The Emergence of Digital and Computational Pathology

- Product Codes
 - **PSY**: Whole Slide Imaging System
 - **QKQ**: Digital Pathology Image Viewing And Management Software
 - **PZZ**: Digital Pathology Display
- 510(k) database
 - Search product codes, see devices

<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfpmn/pmnmn.cfm>

510(k) Premarket Notification

FDA Home Medical Devices Databases

A 510(K) is a premarket submission made to FDA to demonstrate that the device to be marketed is as safe and effective, that is, substantially equivalent, to a legally marketed device (section 513(i)(1)(A) FD&C Act) that is not subject to premarket approval.
[Learn more...](#)

Search Database Help Download Files

510K Number Type **Product Code**

Center

Applicant Name

Device Name

Panel

Decision

Decision Date to

Sort by

Combination Products

Cleared/Approved In Vitro Products

Redacted FOIA 510(k)

Third Party Reviewed

Clinical Trials

[Quick Search](#) [Clear Form](#)

The Emergence of Digital and Computational Pathology



- New cleared devices
 - Standalone displays
 - Standalone viewers
 - Standalone scanners

... are creating interoperability

- Two most recent devices use images conformant to the DICOM standard
 - Scanner: Aperio GT 450 Dx
 - Viewer: Sectra Digital Pathology Module

<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfpmn/pmnm.cfm>

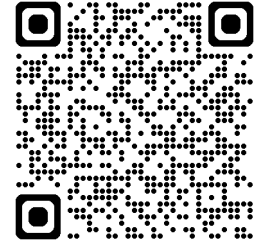
The screenshot shows the FDA's 510(k) Premarket Notification database search results. The page header includes the FDA logo and navigation tabs for Home, Food, Drugs, Medical Devices, Radiation-Emitting Products, Vaccines, Blood & Biologics, Animal & Veterinary, Cosmetics, and Tobacco. The search results are for '510(k) Premarket Notification' and show 1 to 12 of 12 results. The results table lists various digital pathology devices and their manufacturers.

| Device Name | Applicant | 510(k) Number | Decision Date |
|---|--|-------------------------|---------------|
| Sectra Digital Pathology Module (Version 3.3) | Sectra AB | K232208 | 04/16/2024 |
| Aperio Gt 450 Dx | Leica Biosystems Imaging, Inc. | K232202 | 04/16/2024 |
| Concentriq Dx | Proscia, Inc. | K230839 | 02/08/2024 |
| Nanozoomer S360md Slide Scanner System | Hamamatsu Photonics K.K. | K233027 | 12/22/2023 |
| Nanozoomer S360md Slide Scanner System | Hamamatsu Photonics K.K. | K213883 | 09/27/2022 |
| Dynamyx Digital Pathology Software | Inspirata, Inc. | K210811 | 03/01/2022 |
| Philips Intellisite Pathology Solution | Philips Medical Systems Nederland B.V. | K203845 | 09/17/2021 |
| Mdpc-8127 | Barco NV | K203364 | 04/15/2021 |
| Fullfocus | Paige AI, Inc | K201005 | 07/15/2020 |
| Philips Intellisite Pathology Solution | Philips Electronics Nederland B.V. | K192259 | 09/20/2019 |
| Aperio A12 Dx System | Leica Biosystems Imaging, Inc. | K190332 | 05/20/2019 |
| Philips Intellisite Pathology Solution | Philips Medical Systems Nederland B.V. | K172174 | 10/04/2017 |

The Emergence of Digital and Computational Pathology

- Decision Summary
 - IFU: Indications for Use
 - Describes the device
 - Intended population
 - Evidence supporting decision, including device performance

<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfpmn/pmnmn.cfm>



510(k) Premarket Notification

[FDA Home](#) [Medical Devices](#) [Databases](#)



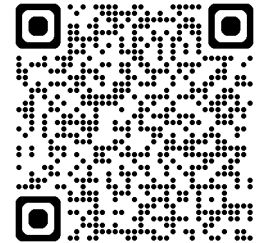
[510\(k\)](#) | [DeNovo](#) | [Registration & Listing](#) | [Adverse Events](#) | [Recalls](#) | [PMA](#) | [HDE](#) | [Classification](#) | [Standards](#)
[CFR Title 21](#) | [Radiation-Emitting Products](#) | [X-Ray Assembler](#) | [Medsun Reports](#) | [CLIA](#) | [TPLC](#)

| New Search | | Back To Search Results |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Device Classification Name | whole slide imaging system | |
| 510(k) Number | K232208 | |
| Device Name | Sectra Digital Pathology Module (Version 3.3) | |
| Applicant | Sectra AB Teknikringen 20 Linköping, SE 58330 | |
| Applicant Contact Correspondent | Edoardo Mastrovito Medical Device Regulatory Services 14 Mercer Road Savannah, GA 31411 | |
| Correspondent Contact | Peter Altman | |
| Regulation Number | 864.3700 | |
| Classification Product Code | PSY | |
| Subsequent Product Code | OKQ | |
| Date Received | 07/26/2023 | |
| Decision Date | 04/16/2024 | |
| Decision | Substantially Equivalent (SESE) | |
| Regulation Medical Specialty | Pathology | |
| 510K Review Panel | Pathology | |
| FDA Review | Decision Summary | |
| Type | Traditional | |
| Reviewed by Third Party | No | |
| Combination Product | No | |

The Emergence of Digital and Computational Pathology

- 510(k) devices point to predicates
 - “Substantially equivalent”
 - Class II
- De Novo devices are first-of-a-kind devices
 - Predicates for future devices
 - Define “special controls”
 - = regulatory requirements for class II devices
 - **QPN**: Software Algorithm Device To Assist Users In Digital Pathology
 - **QYV**: Digital Cervical Cytology Slide Imaging System With Artificial Intelligence Algorithm

<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfpmn/denovo.cfm>



U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION

Home | Food | Drugs | Medical Devices | Radiation-Emitting Products | Vaccines, Blood & Biologics

Device Classification Under Section 513(f)(2)(De Novo)

FDA Home | Medical Devices | Databases

1 result found
productcode: psy Decision Date To: 05/01/2024

results per page 10

PSY

| Device Name | Requester | De Novo Number | 510(k) Number | Decision Date |
|--|--|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Philips IntelliSite Pathology Solution | Philips Medical Systems Nederland B.V. | DEN160056 | | 04/12/2017 |

1 result found
Requester Name: Paige Decision Date To: 05/01/2024

results per page 10

QPN

| Device Name | Requester | De Novo Number | 510(k) Number | Decision Date |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Paige Prostate | Paige.AI | DEN200080 | | 09/21/2021 |

1 result found
productcode: qyv Decision Date To: 05/01/2024

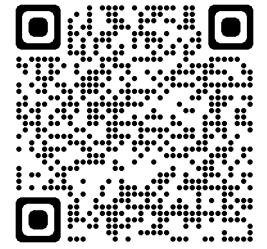
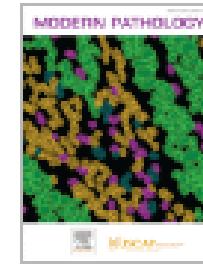
results per page 10

QYV

| Device Name | Requester | De Novo Number | 510(k) Number | Decision Date |
|---|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Genius™ Digital Diagnostics System With | Hologic Inc. | DEN210035 | | 01/31/2024 |





Modern Pathology
Volume 37, Issue 4, April 2024, 100439



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

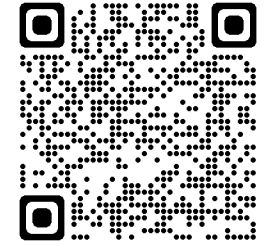
Research Article

Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models

Katherine Elfer^{a,b}  , Emma Gardecki^a, Victor Garcia^a, Amy Ly^c, Evangelos Hytopoulos^d,
Si Wen^a, Matthew G. Hanna^e, Dieter J.E. Peeters^{f,g}, Joel Saltz^h, Anna Ehingerⁱ,
Sarah N. Dudgeon^j, Xiaoxian Li^k, Kim R.M. Blenman^{l,m}, Weijie Chen^a, Ursula Greenⁿ,
Ryan Birmingham^{a,n}, Tony Panⁿ, Jochen K. Lennerz^o, Roberto Salgado^{p,q}, Brandon D. Gallas^a

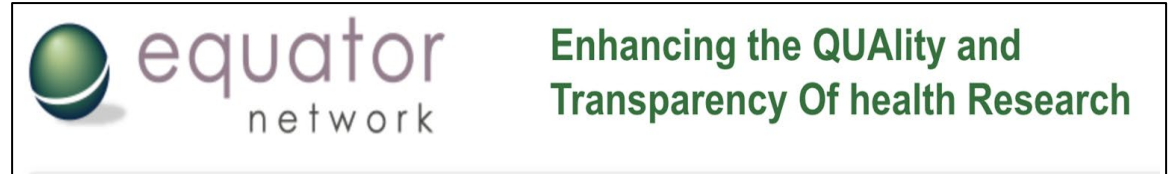
“Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models”

K. Elfer et al. (2024), *Modern Pathology*, Vol. 37, Issue 4, p. 100439



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

- Datasets are plentiful, but reporting is inconsistent
- Reporting standards are being adapted for AI use in studies
- Inspired by Wahab et al.
- Checklist



THE JOURNAL OF PATHOLOGY
Clinical Research
Open Access

A Journal of
The Pathological Society
Understanding Disease – Guiding Therapy

Original Article | Open Access |

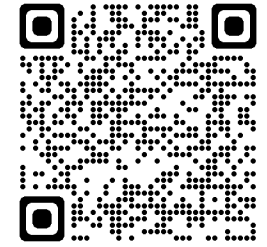
Semantic annotation for computational pathology: multidisciplinary experience and best practice recommendations

Noorul Wahab , Islam M Miligy, Katherine Dodd, Harvir Sahota, Michael Toss, Wenqi Lu, Mostafa Jahanifar, Mohsin Bilal, Simon Graham, Young Park, Giorgos Hadjigeorgiou, Abhir Bhalerao, Ayat G Lashen, Asmaa Y Ibrahim, Ayaka Katayama, Henry O Ebili, Matthew Parkin, Tom Sorell, Shan E Ahmed Raza, Emily Hero, Hesham Eldaly, Yee Wah Tsang, Kishore Gopalakrishnan, David Snead, Emad Rakha, Nasir Rajpoot, Fayyaz Minhas ... [See fewer authors](#) ^

First published: 10 January 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/cjp2.256> | Citations: 9

“Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models”

K. Elfer et al. (2024), *Modern Pathology*, Vol. 37, Issue 4, p. 100439

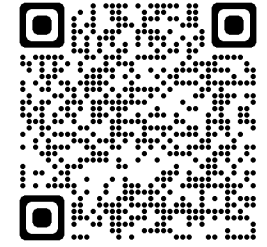


<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

| Study Component | Explanation |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Objectives | Project objectives, dataset use case (training, testing models), degree of annotation, and patient population. |
| 2. Data Dictionary | Training materials and reference documents(s) describing image features, anatomic/biological context, and details on annotations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Types of annotation, constructs |
| 3. Study Design | Specify the study design <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of annotators, number of cases, number of annotators per case.• Randomization methods. Adjudication and consensus methods. |
| 4. Annotation Methods | Determine how annotators will encounter the data and what tools will be used to access and view the images. |
| 5. Image Curation | Specify annotator, patient, and image sampling methods for the entire study and individual sub-groups of a study. |
| 6. Annotators | Define annotators: number of total annotators, number of annotators per case, qualifications (training and requirements), and how they were recruited. |
| 7. Quality Review | During and after the annotation study, identify, review and discuss adherence to the above components of the template, report the collected data, and report any deviations. Specify whether this was a single study or part of a larger study. |

“Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models”

K. Elfer et al. (2024), Modern Pathology, Vol. 37, Issue 4, p. 100439



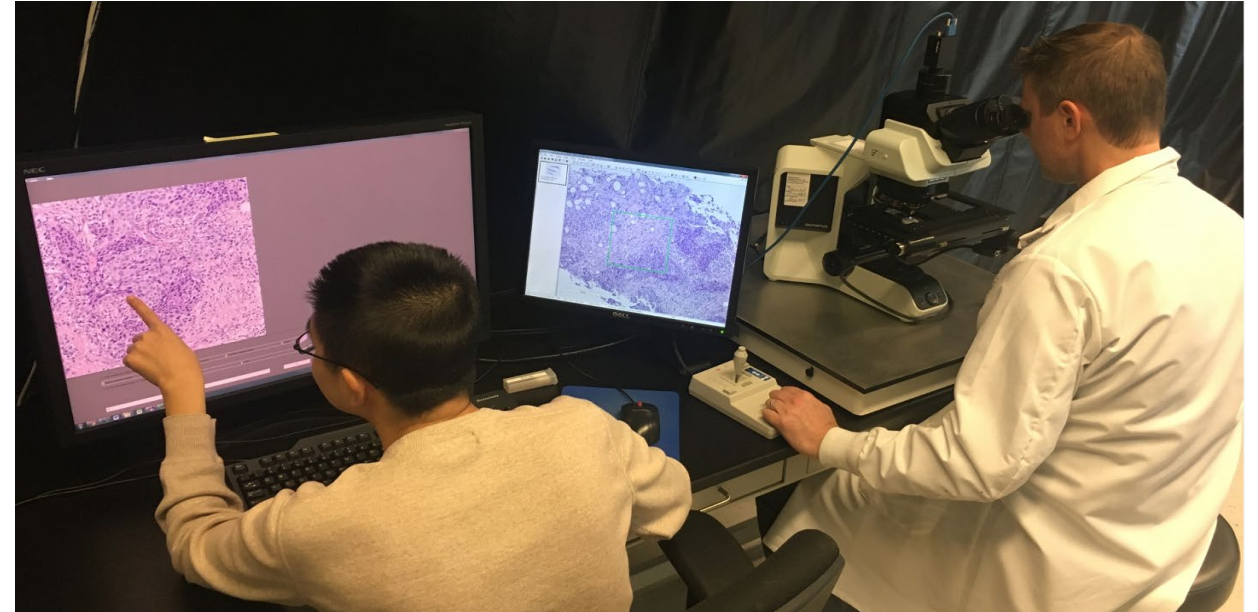
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

| Study Component | Explanation |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Objectives | Project objectives, dataset use case (training, testing models), degree of annotation, and patient population. |
| 2. Data Dictionary | |
| 3. Study Design | |
| 4. Annotation Methods | |
| 5. Image Curation | |
| 6. Annotators | |
| 7. Quality Review | |

High Throughput Truthing (HTT) Project

- **What:** a multi-stakeholder, multi-disciplinary project led by scientists at the FDA/CDRH/Division of Imaging, Diagnostics, and Software Reliability.
-
- **Goal:** Create a pathology dataset that is fit for a regulatory purpose which will serve as a proof-of-concept example for the AI & medical imaging communities.

- Clinical context:
 - Breast cancer
 - Quantitative Pathology Biomarker: Stromal Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes (sTILs)
- Clinical relevance of sTILs:
 - Prognostic for survival
 - Expected to inform patient management
 - Expected to reduce use of toxic chemotherapies
- Biomarker Evaluation by an Algorithm
 - Reduce burden on pathologist
 - Reproducible
 - Quantitative



- Tools for AI-enabled Software Devices
 - Reference standard data set from pathologists
 - Data-collection methods and platforms
 - Methods to validate a quantitative algorithm



Patient Population

- Inclusion Criteria
 - Core biopsies of triple negative breast cancer (TNBC: ER/PR/HER2 negative)
 - Slides that have been stained with H&E within the last 7 years

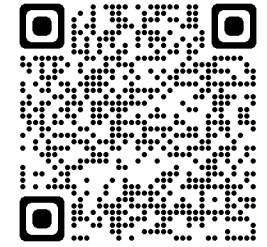
- Exclusion Criteria
 - Tissue collected after administration of any therapy (e.g., neoadjuvant, chemotherapy, radiation therapy).

Metadata

| Patient Features | Specimen Features | WSI Features |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Age | Specimen Collection Site | Image resolution |
| Sex | Slide Preparation Site | Scanner make |
| Race | Slide Scanning Site | Scanner model |
| Ethnicity | | Numerical aperture |
| Breast Cancer Stage | | Objective magnification |

“Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models”

K. Elfer et al. (2024), Modern Pathology, Vol. 37, Issue 4, p. 100439



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

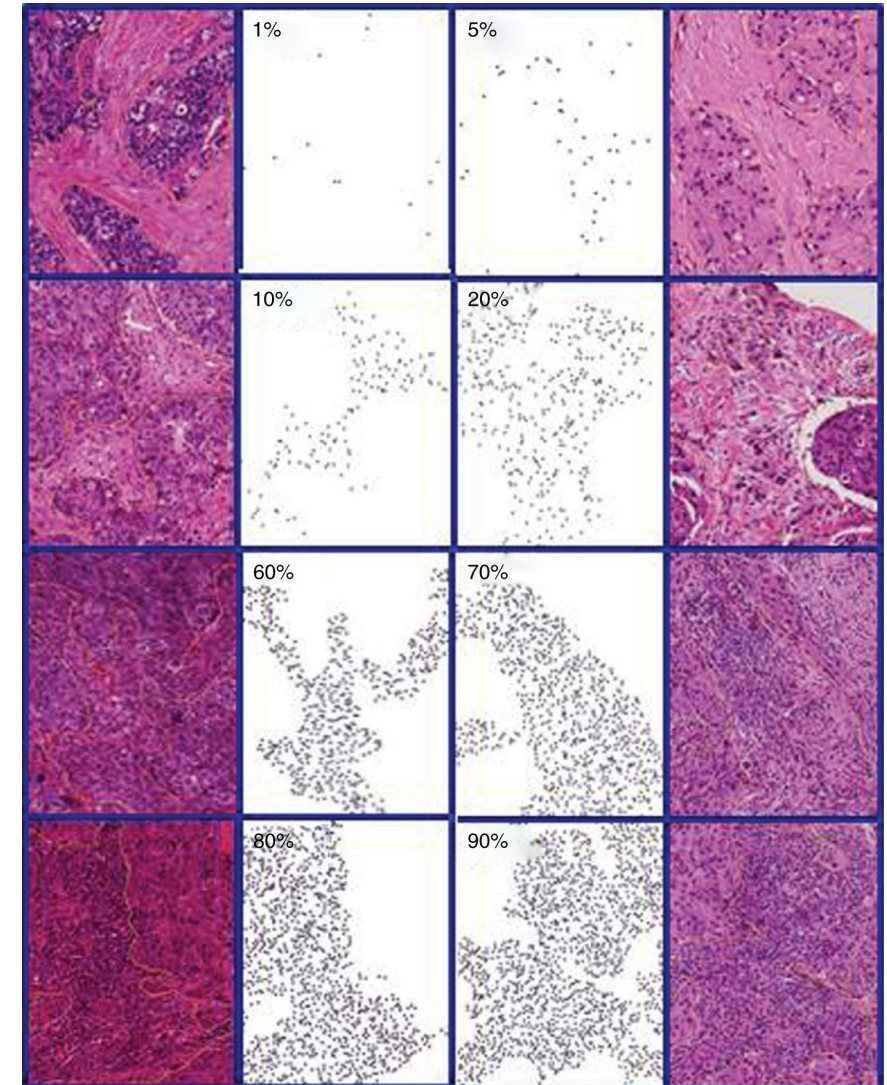
| Study Component | Explanation |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Objectives | Project objectives, dataset use case (training, testing models), degree of annotation, and patient population. |
| 2. Data Dictionary | Training materials and reference documents(s) describing image features, anatomic/biological context, and details on annotations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Types of annotation, constructs |
| 3. Study Design | |
| 4. Annotation Methods | |
| 5. Image Curation | |
| 6. Annotators | |
| 7. Quality Review | |

- **Percent Tumor Associated Stroma**

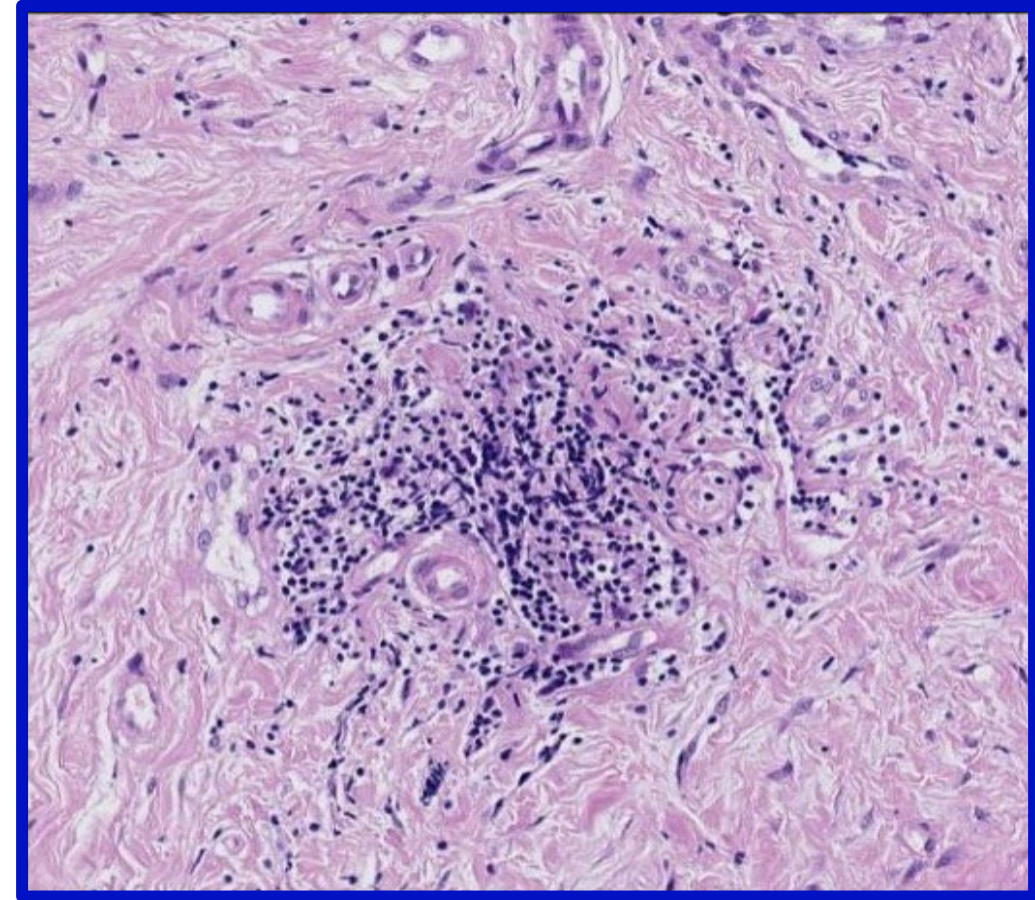
$$= \left(\frac{\text{Area of Tumor-Associated Stroma}}{\text{Area of Entire ROI}} \right) \times 100\%.$$

- **sTILs Density**

$$= \left(\frac{\text{Area of Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes}}{\text{Area of Tumor-Associated Stroma}} \right) \times 100\%.$$



- ROI type qualitative variable
 - “Evaluable for sTILs”
 - “Not Evaluable for sTILs”
- Pitfalls – challenges in sTILs assessment
 - Exclusions
 - Mimics
 - Challenging context



sTILs in Breast Cancer



CME Course

Objectives

- Describe the **significance** of stromal tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes in triple negative breast cancer.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the **approach** to determining the density of stromal tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes.

Faculty

Victor Garcia, MD
Amy Ly, MD

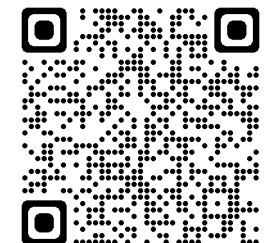
Matthew Hanna, MD
Dieter Peeters, MD, PhD
Roberto Salgado, MD, PhD
Xiaoxian Li, MD, PhD

Kim Blenman, PhD, MS
Katherine Elfer, PhD, MPH
Bruce Werness, MD
Anna Ehinger, MD
Brandon Gallas, PhD

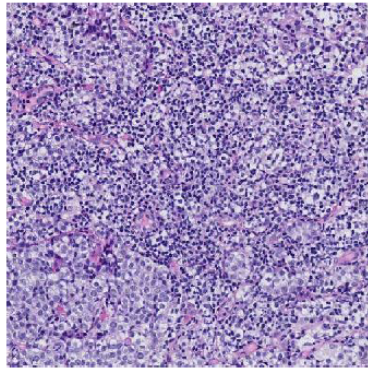
The screenshot shows the CE Portal interface for the course "Assessment of Stromal Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes". The header includes the FDA logo and "U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION" on the left, and "CE Consultation and Accreditation Team" and "Division of Learning and Organizational Development" on the right. A navigation menu contains links for Home, About Us, Calendar, Online Learning, Planning Tools, Policies, FAQ, and Contact Us. The user is logged in as Brandon Gallas. The course details include: Starts On: Wed, 3/1/23: 12:00 AM EST; Ends On: Sun, 3/1/26: 12:00 AM EST; Type: Enduring Material; Credits: 3; Description: Tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes have been established as a prognostic biomarker in early-stage triple negative breast cancer. The assessment of the density of stromal tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes at the time of diagnosis may improve the accuracy of prognosis determination and inform therapeutic decision-making. A table shows the course progress: Educational Content (Status: ✓), Take Posttest (Attempts: 0/50 - Result: n/a), and Evaluation (Status: ✗).

<https://ceportal.fda.gov/>

192 participants



Reference Document



caseID: HTT-TILS-001-04B.ndpi_x24343.2190_y11775.2190

Expert Panel Annotations

| ROI Type | Percent Tumor-Associated Stroma | sTILs Density |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Evaluable | 30 | 90 |
| Evaluable | 60 | 95 |
| Evaluable | 50 | 92 |
| Evaluable | 50 | 75 |
| Evaluable | 60 | 90 |
| Evaluable | 60 | 90 |

Mean Percent Tumor-Associated Stroma: 51.7

Mean sTILs Density: 88.7

Comments: A challenging case. The high density of lymphocytes results in difficulty determining whether the lymphocytes are located in stroma, or whether they infiltrate tumor cell nests. The presence of small blood vessels and small gaps between lymphocytes suggest the lymphocytes reside within stroma. Occasional tumor cells with small nuclei (possibly degenerating) may be confused for lymphocytes.

Pitfalls: In regions where the sTILs density is very high, the underlying stroma may be obscured. Non-lymphocytes with small nuclei may be confused for lymphocytes.

2

Thick-walled vessels are not considered stroma

Area of tumoral stroma occupied by mononuclear inflammation x 100

Entire area of tumoral stroma

Thick-walled vessels are not considered stroma

How much tumor-associated stroma is present?

| ROI Type | Percent Tumor-Associated Stroma | sTILs Density |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Evaluable | 75 | 30 |
| Evaluable | 35 | 60 |
| Evaluable | 86 | 15 |
| Evaluable | 75 | 30 |
| Evaluable | 70 | 25 |
| Evaluable | 70 | 20 |

Mean Percent Tumor-Associated Stroma: 68.5

Mean sTILs Density: 30

Example Pitfalls

Adipose tissue is not considered stroma

How much tumor associated stroma is present?

| ROI Type | Percent Tumor-Associated Stroma | sTILs Density |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Evaluable | 10 | 0 |
| Evaluable | 5 | 1 |
| Evaluable | 14 | 4 |
| Evaluable | 20 | 0 |
| Evaluable | 40 | 0 |
| Evaluable | 50 | 2 |

Mean Percent Tumor-Associated Stroma: 23.2

Mean sTILs Density: 1.2

2. Data Dictionary

**Interactive Training
With Feedback**

ROI Type:

Evaluable for sTILs

Not Evaluable for sTILs

50%
% Tumor-Associated Stroma

5%
sTILs Density

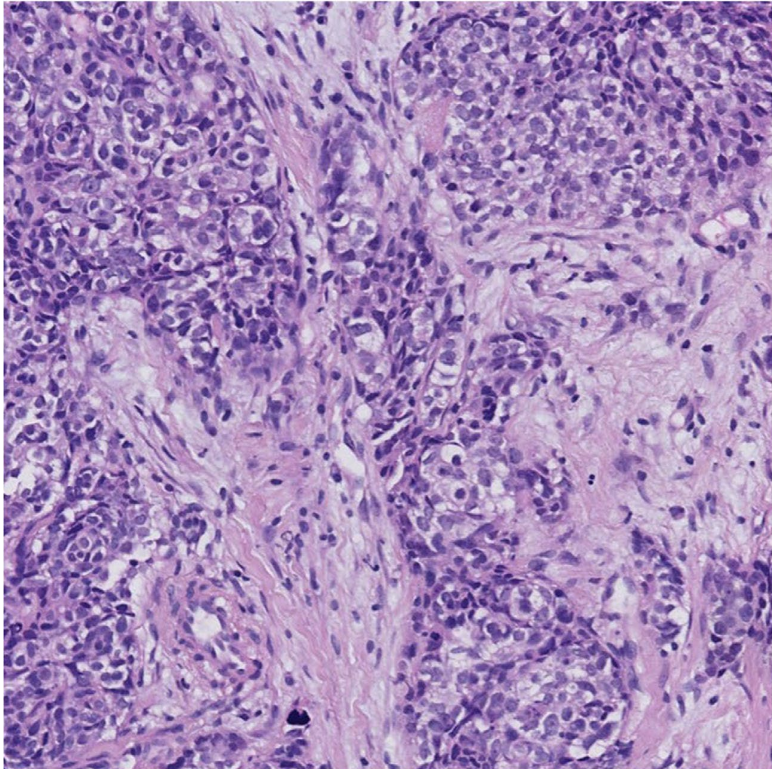
Expert Panel Annotations:

| ROI Type | % Tumor-Associated Stroma | % sTIL Density |
|-----------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Evaluable | 30 | 5 |
| Evaluable | 40 | 9 |
| Evaluable | 50 | 7 |
| Evaluable | 50 | 3 |
| Evaluable | 40 | 1 |
| Evaluable | 50 | 5 |

Mean Percent Stroma: 43.3
Mean sTILs Density: 5

Comments: It is difficult to distinguish between fibroblasts and sTILs in this case. The cells in the middle of the ROI are a bit wider than the other cells, so they probably are cancer cells that have artifact as a result of tissue processing. Though strong suspicion for a cancer cell, it could be a macrophage, which we see after treatment, and expect that an algorithm will have difficulty making this distinction on H&E stain.




Pitfalls: Non-lymphocytes may be confused for lymphocytes if there is tissue fixation artifact. Axially sectioned fibroblasts may be mistaken for lymphocytes.



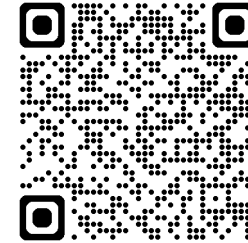
 **cancers** 


Article

Development of Training Materials for Pathologists to Provide Machine Learning Validation Data of Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes in Breast Cancer

Victor Garcia ^{1,*} , Katherine Elfer ^{1,2} , Dieter J. E. Peeters ^{3,4,5}, Anna Ehinger ⁶ , Bruce Werness ^{7,8}, Amy Ly ⁹, Xiaoxian Li ¹⁰, Matthew G. Hanna ¹¹ , Kim R. M. Blenman ^{12,13}, Roberto Salgado ^{14,15} and Brandon D. Gallas ¹ 

<https://www.mdpi.com/2072-6694/14/10/2467>








Histopathology 

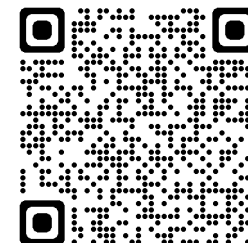
Histopathology 2024, 84, 915–923. DOI: 10.1111/his.15140

REVIEW

Training pathologists to assess stromal tumour-infiltrating lymphocytes in breast cancer synergises efforts in clinical care and scientific research

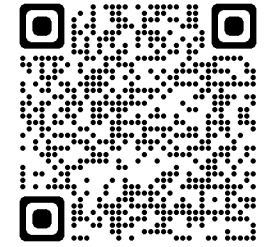
Amy Ly, ¹ , Victor Garcia, ² Kim R M Blenman, ^{3,4} Anna Ehinger, ⁵ , Katherine Elfer, ² Matthew G Hanna, ⁶ Xiaoxian Li, ⁷ Dieter J E Peeters, ^{8,9} , Ryan Birmingham, ^{2,10} Sarah Dudgeon, ¹¹ Emma Gardecki, ² Rajarsi Gupta, ¹² Jochen Lennerz, ^{13,†} Tony Pan, ¹⁰ Joel Saltz, ¹² Keith A Wharton Jr, ¹⁴ Daniel Ehinger, ^{15,16} , Balazs Acs, ^{17,18} Elisabeth M C Dequeker, ¹⁹ Roberto Salgado ^{20,21} & Brandon D Gallas ² 

<https://doi.org/10.1111/his.15140>



“Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models”

K. Elfer et al. (2024), *Modern Pathology*, Vol. 37, Issue 4, p. 100439

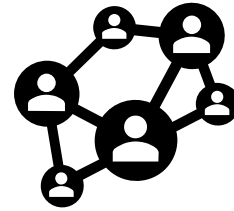


<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

| Study Component | Explanation |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Objectives | Project objectives, dataset use case (training, testing models), degree of annotation, and patient population. |
| 2. Data Dictionary | Training materials and reference documents(s) describing image features, anatomic/biological context, and details on annotations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Types of annotation, constructs |
| 3. Study Design | Specify the study design <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of annotators, number of cases, number of annotators per case.• Randomization methods. Adjudication and consensus methods. |
| 4. Annotation Methods | |
| 5. Image Curation | |
| 6. Annotators | |
| 7. Quality Review | |

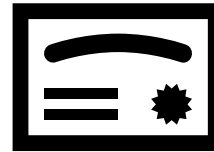
3. Study Design

Recruit Annotators



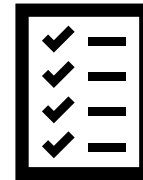
Crowdsource Pathologists

CME Course Completion



Annotators send in their CME certificate

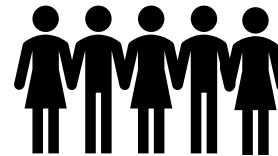
Pass Proficiency Test



Interactive training

- Test with feedback
- Proficiency test

Study Lead Assigns Batches



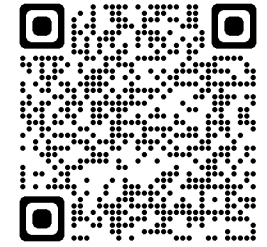
Study lead assigns 5 annotators per batch

- Work in progress: Statistical Analysis Plan
- Work in progress: Final size of dataset

1 Batch = 8 Slides = 80 ROIs

“Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models”

K. Elfer et al. (2024), *Modern Pathology*, Vol. 37, Issue 4, p. 100439



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

| Study Component | Explanation |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Objectives | Project objectives, dataset use case (training, testing models), degree of annotation, and patient population. |
| 2. Data Dictionary | Training materials and reference documents(s) describing image features, anatomic/biological context, and details on annotations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Types of annotation, constructs |
| 3. Study Design | Specify the study design <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of annotators, number of cases, number of annotators per case.• Randomization methods. Adjudication and consensus methods. |
| 4. Annotation Methods | Determine how annotators will encounter the data and what tools will be used to access and view the images. |
| 5. Image Curation | |
| 6. Annotators | |
| 7. Quality Review | |

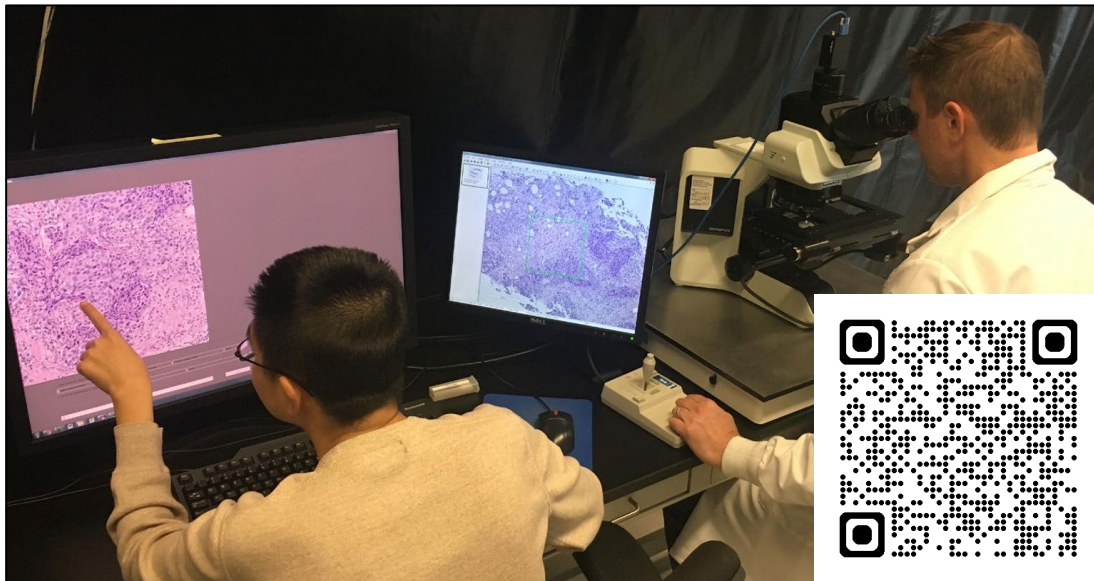
4. Annotation Methods

2 data collection platforms

Microscope: eeDAP

evaluation environment for Digital and Analogue Pathology

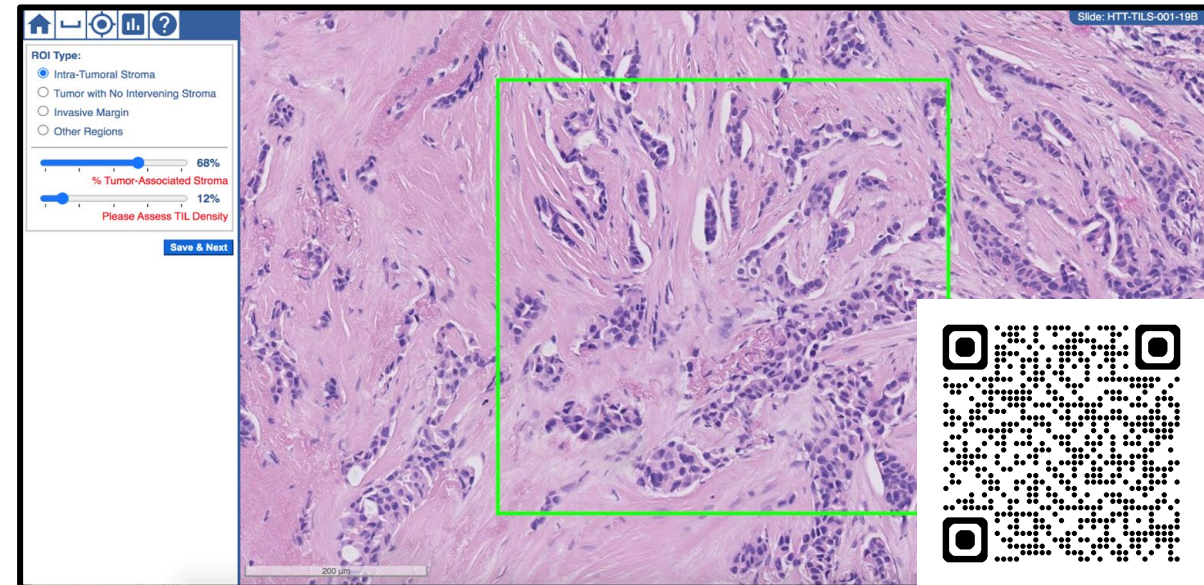
Open source: <https://github.com/DIDSR/eeDAP>

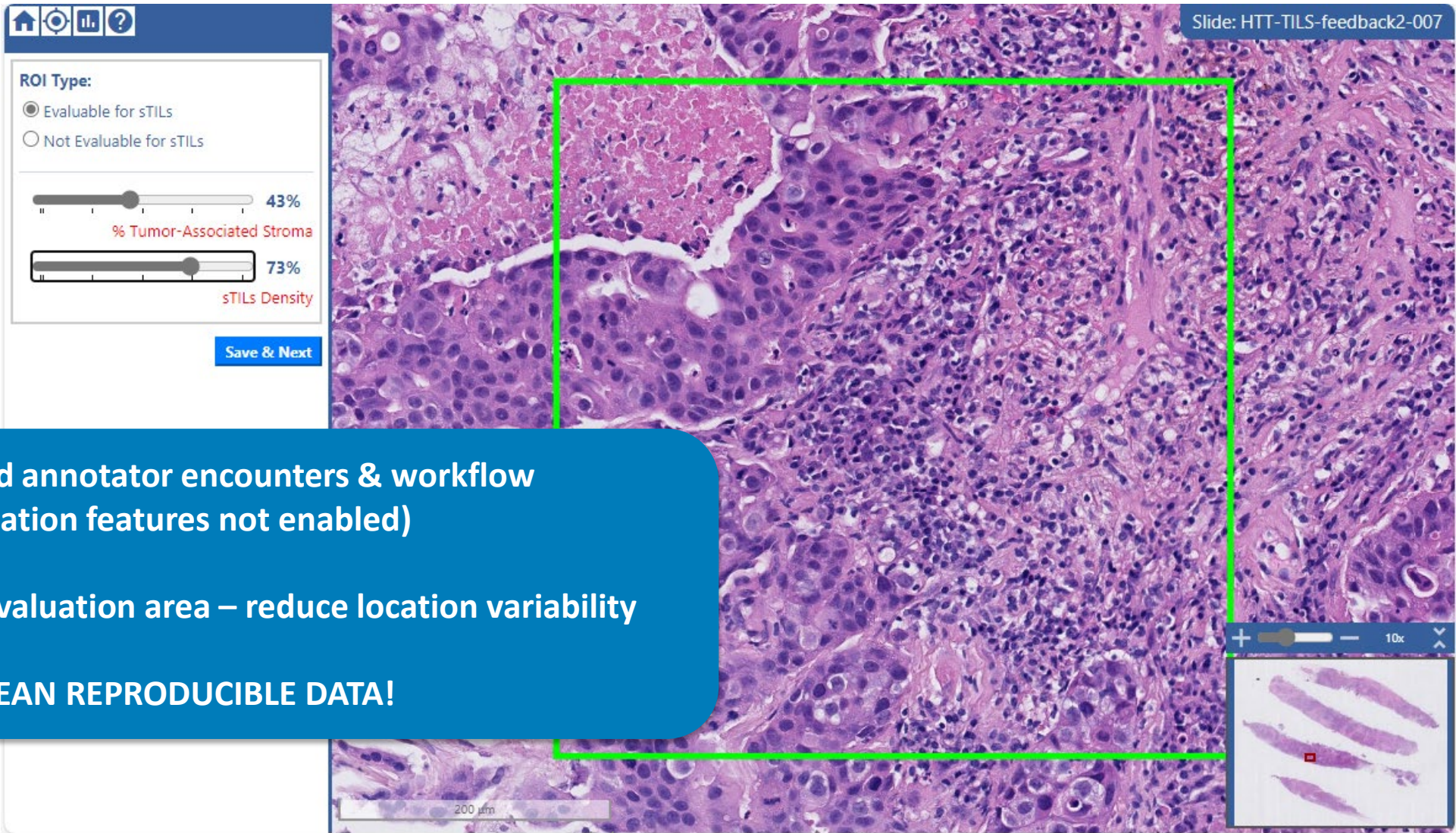


Digital: caMicroscope (caMic)

Open source: <https://github.com/camicroscope>

Look for specific “HTT” customizations of the software





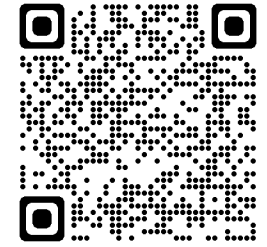
**Controlled annotator encounters & workflow
(all annotation features not enabled)**

Limited evaluation area – reduce location variability

WANT CLEAN REPRODUCIBLE DATA!

“Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models”

K. Elfer et al. (2024), *Modern Pathology*, Vol. 37, Issue 4, p. 100439



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

| Study Component | Explanation |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Objectives | Project objectives, dataset use case (training, testing models), degree of annotation, and patient population. |
| 2. Data Dictionary | Training materials and reference documents(s) describing image features, anatomic/biological context, and details on annotations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Types of annotation, constructs |
| 3. Study Design | Specify the study design <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of annotators, number of cases, number of annotators per case.• Randomization methods. Adjudication and consensus methods. |
| 4. Annotation Methods | Determine how annotators will encounter the data and what tools will be used to access and view the images. |
| 5. Image Curation | Specify annotator, patient, and image sampling methods for the entire study and individual sub-groups of a study. |
| 6. Annotators | |
| 7. Quality Review | |

Slide Sourcing Chart Review

Find patients that satisfy inclusion/exclusion.
Collect metadata. Prepare H&E slides.

**1 Patient : 1 Glass Slide
1 Whole Slide Image**

Scan slides with an FDA cleared scanner.

HTT Pathologists Select ROIs of Interest

Protocol provides instructions to target diverse morphology and sTILs density.

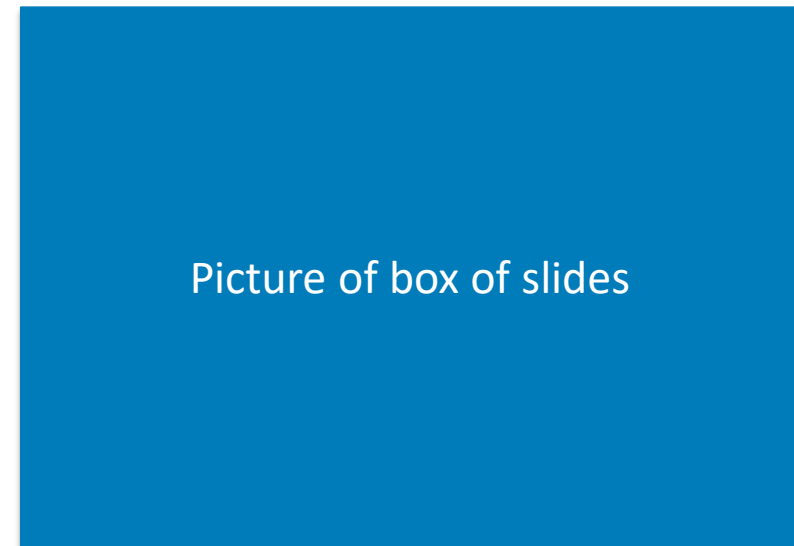
Batches of 8 Slides with 10 ROIs in Each Slide are Generated

Algorithmic method to prioritize images of underrepresented populations.

Slide Sourcing Chart Review

Find patients that satisfy inclusion/exclusion.
Collect metadata. Prepare slides.

- Emory School of Medicine
 - RCA approved
 - 90 slides contributed (on-going sourcing)
- Stony Brook Medicine
 - RCA approved
 - 64 slides contributed
- Yale School of Medicine
 - RCA approved
 - Slide sourcing to begin



**1 Patient : 1 Glass Slide
1 Whole Slide Image**

Scan slides with an FDA cleared scanner.

- Scanning site:
 - Department of Pathology at Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center (OSU)
- Scanner Information
 - Make/Model: Aperio AT2 Dx
 - Resolution: 0.25 microns per pixel
 - Numerical aperture: 0.95 mm
 - Objective magnification: 40X equivalent



<https://dmimedicalusa.com/product/aperio-at2-dx-system/>

HTT Pathologists Select ROIs of Interest

Protocol provides instructions to target diverse morphology and sTILs density.

- Identify 10 ROIs per image
- First pass assessment of TILs and pitfalls
 - Used to prioritize images

Target diverse morphology and sTILs density

- Target high sTILs density
- Distribute ROIs across entire tissue.
- Numbers to select are guides.
 - Select 3 ROIs inside tumor with stroma
 - Select 2 ROIs at invasive margin if discernable with stroma
 - Select 2 ROIs inside tumor or at margin without stroma
 - Select 2 ROIs where there is no proximal tumor
 - Select 2 ROIs for each for the 16 pitfalls listed.

Batches of 8 Slides with 10 ROIs in Each Slide are Generated

Algorithmic method to prioritize images of underrepresented populations.

- Prioritize underrepresented populations with sort method
- Distribute cases into batches



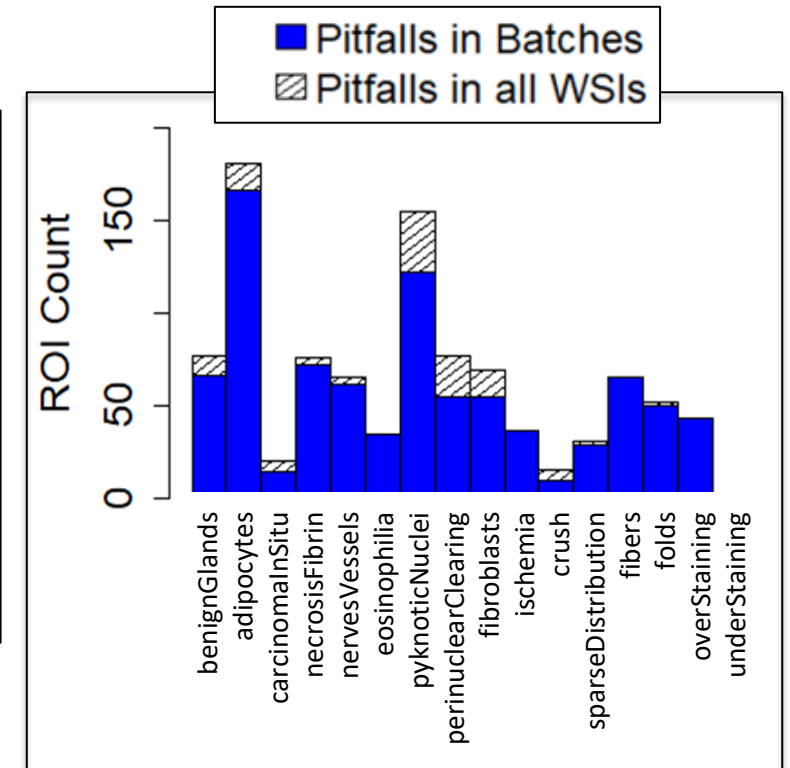
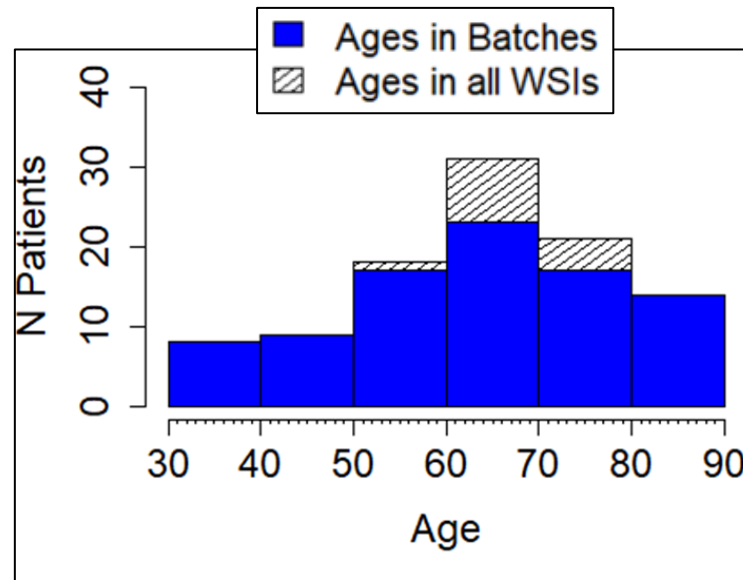
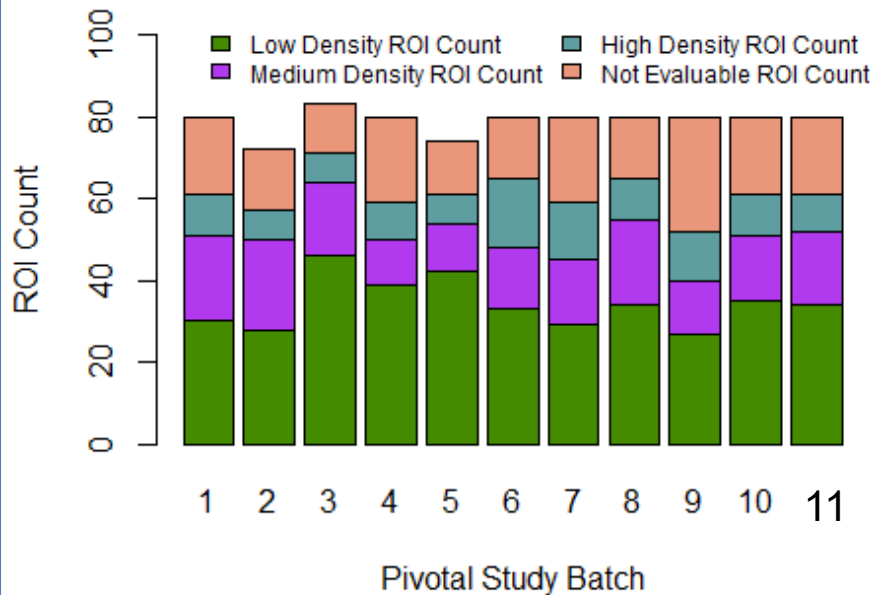
| Points | Normalized Density Count Score | Race and Ethnicity Score | BCS, Age, Sex Score | Pitfall Score |
|--------|---|--|--|---|
| 2 | $\frac{\text{High density count ROIs}}{\text{Total \# ROIs in WSIs}}$ | Race ≠ White Ethnicity = Hispanic | BCS = III, IV Age ≤ 40 41 ≤ Age ≤ 50 81 ≤ Age ≤ 90 Sex ≠ F | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rare pitfalls (≤2 cases) - Carcinoma In Situ, Ischemia - Sparse Distribution, Fibers - Over/Under Staining |
| 1 | $\frac{\text{Medium density count ROIs}}{\text{Total \# ROIs in WSIs}}$ | | BCS = I, II 51 ≤ Age ≤ 60 71 ≤ Age ≤ 80 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Semi-rare pitfalls (3-10 cases) - Benign Glands - Necrosis/Fibrin - Eosinophilia - Perinuclear Clearing - Crush Artifact |
| 0 | $\frac{\text{Low density count ROIs}}{\text{Total \# ROIs in WSIs}}$ | Race = White Ethnicity = Not Hispanic | BCS = NA 61 ≤ Age ≤ 70 Sex = F | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Common pitfalls (>10 cases) - Adipocytes - Nerves/Vessels - Pyknotic Nuclei, Fibroblasts |

5. Image Curation

Batches of 8 Slides with 10 ROIs in Each Slide are Generated

Algorithmic method to prioritize images of underrepresented populations.

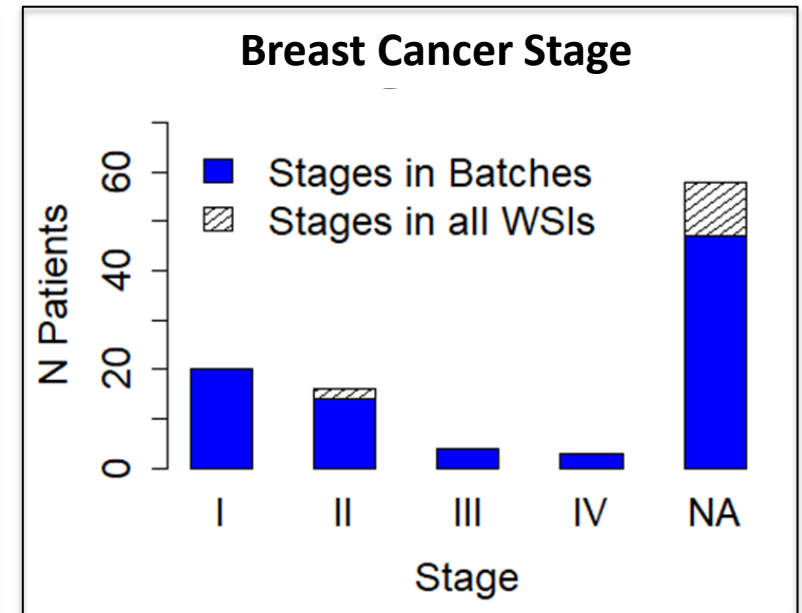
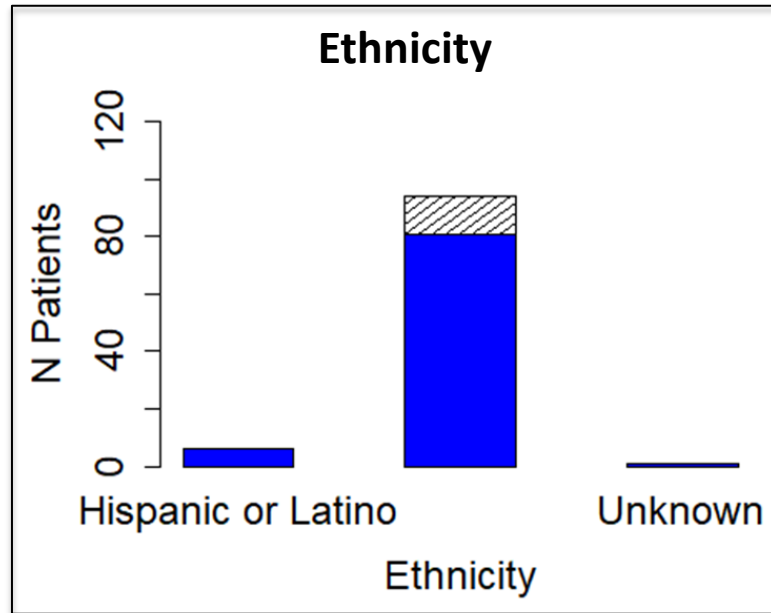
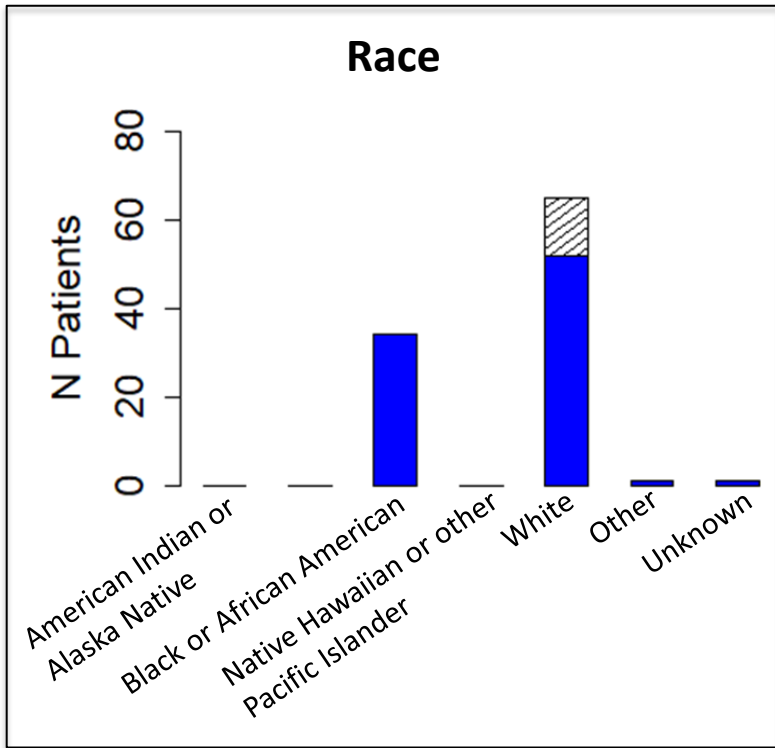
Number of ROIs per Batch



5. Image Curation

Batches of 8 Slides with 10 ROIs in Each Slide are Generated

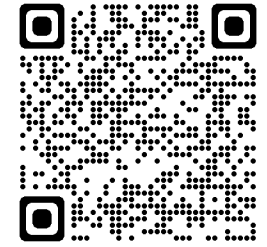
Algorithmic method to prioritize images of underrepresented populations.



Diversity in Race and Ethnicity is not great.
Breast cancer stage is unknown in approximately half the cases

“Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models”

K. Elfer et al. (2024), *Modern Pathology*, Vol. 37, Issue 4, p. 100439



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

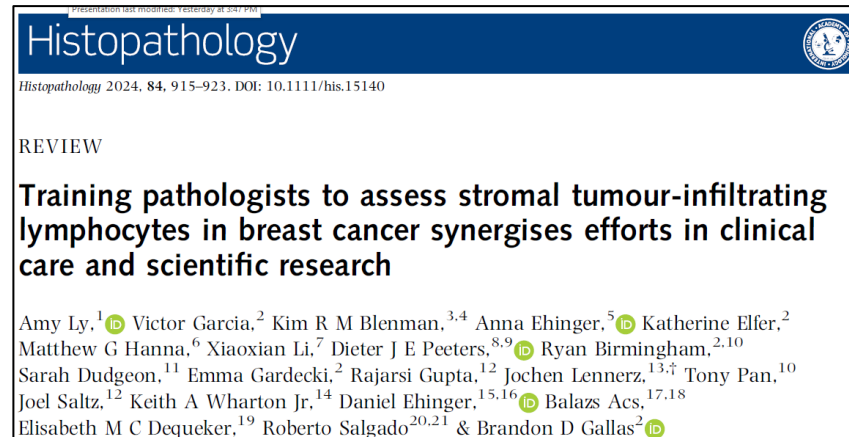
| Study Component | Explanation |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Objectives | Project objectives, dataset use case (training, testing models), degree of annotation, and patient population. |
| 2. Data Dictionary | Training materials and reference documents(s) describing image features, anatomic/biological context, and details on annotations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Types of annotation, constructs |
| 3. Study Design | Specify the study design <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of annotators, number of cases, number of annotators per case.• Randomization methods. Adjudication and consensus methods. |
| 4. Annotation Methods | Determine how annotators will encounter the data and what tools will be used to access and view the images. |
| 5. Image Curation | Specify annotator, patient, and image sampling methods for the entire study and individual sub-groups of a study. |
| 6. Annotators | Define annotators: number of total annotators, number of annotators per case, qualifications (training and requirements), and how they were recruited. |
| 7. Quality Review | |

- **WHO**

- Listservs, Social Media, Flyers, Hosting Platforms, Word-of-Mouth
- Board Certified (or international equivalent) pathologists
- Completed sTILs Assessment CME Course
- Passed proficiency test

- Pathologist-specific performance reports

- Describe agreement endpoints
- Describe pass criteria
- Feedback test includes reader and expert scores for every case

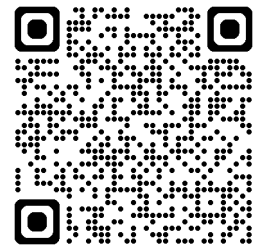


Histopathology
Histopathology 2024, 84, 915–923. DOI: 10.1111/his.15140

REVIEW

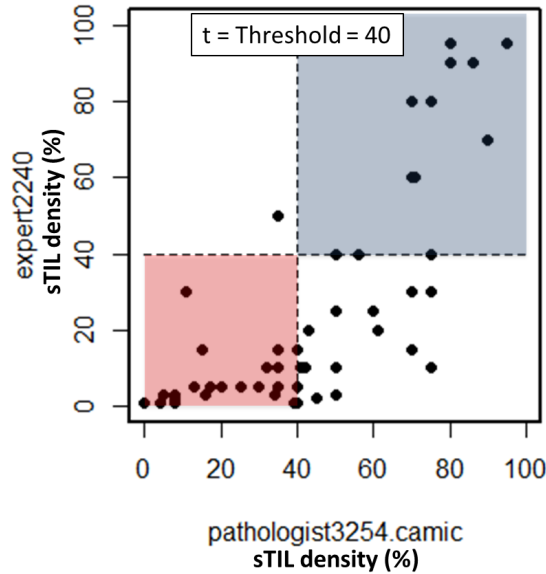
Training pathologists to assess stromal tumour-infiltrating lymphocytes in breast cancer synergises efforts in clinical care and scientific research

Amy Ly,¹ Victor Garcia,² Kim R M Blenman,^{3,4} Anna Ehinger,⁵ Katherine Elfer,² Matthew G Hanna,⁶ Xiaoxian Li,⁷ Dieter J E Peeters,^{8,9} Ryan Birmingham,^{2,10} Sarah Dudgeon,¹¹ Emma Gardecki,² Rajarsi Gupta,¹² Jochen Lennerz,^{13,†} Tony Pan,¹⁰ Joel Saltz,¹² Keith A Wharton Jr,¹⁴ Daniel Ehinger,^{15,16} Balazs Acs,^{17,18} Elisabeth M C Dequeker,¹⁹ Roberto Salgado^{20,21} & Brandon D Gallas²



<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/his.15140>

Crowd vs. Expert, nObs = 59



Crowd Reader vs. Expert 1 Agreement

- Apply threshold

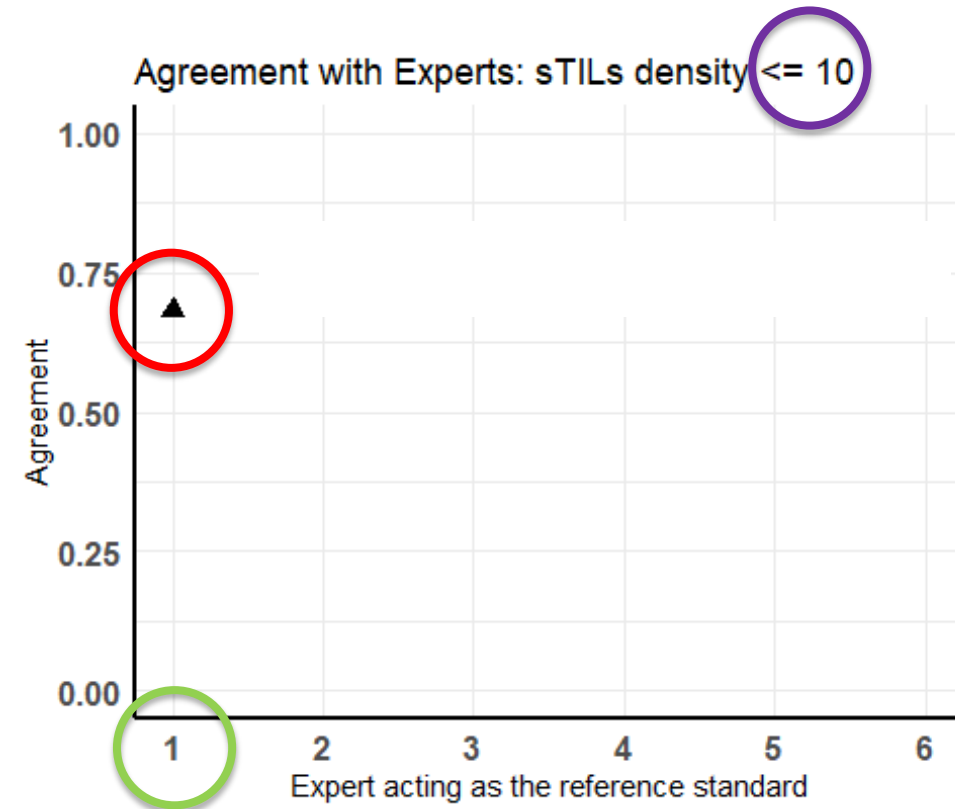
- Create 3x3 table

- Determine rates of agreement
 - GT threshold
 - LE threshold
 - Not Evaluable

| Threshold = | reader. | reader. | reader. | Fraction | Rate |
|----------------------|--------------|---------|---------|----------|-------|
| 10 | NotEvaluable | LE | GT | Agree | Agree |
| expert. GT | 0 | 3 | 11 | 11/14 | 0.786 |
| expert. LE | 3 | 15 | 4 | 15/22 | 0.682 |
| expert. NotEvaluable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA |

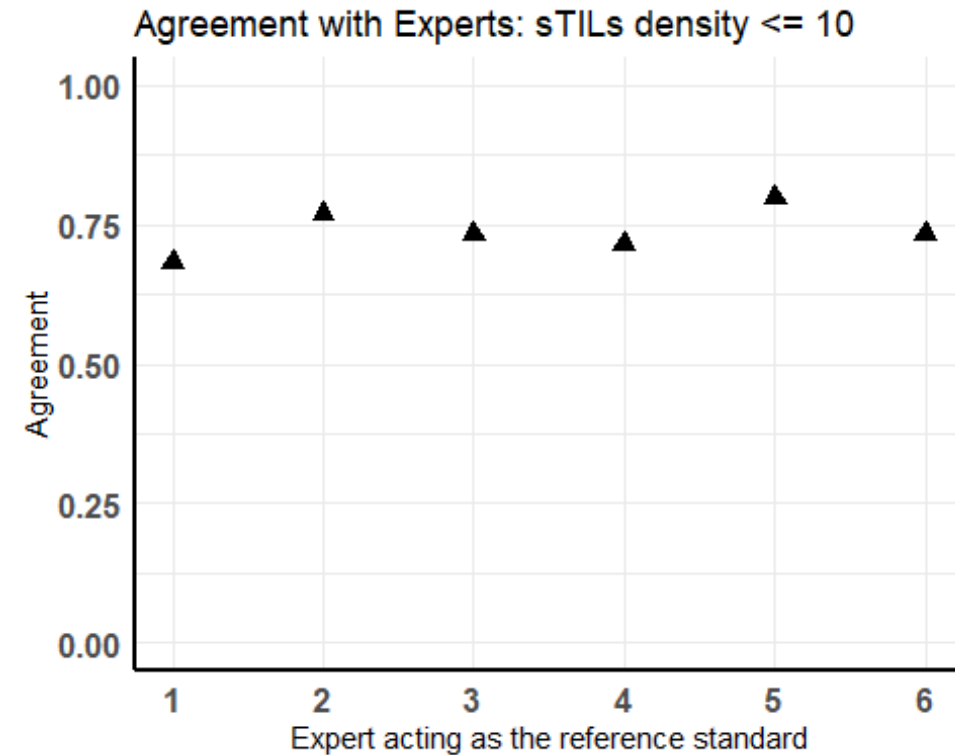
Crowd Reader vs. Expert 1 Agreement

| Threshold = 10 | reader. NotEvaluable | reader. LE | reader. GT | Fraction Agree | Rate Agree |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| expert. GT | 0 | 2 | 11 | 11/13 | 0.846 |
| expert. LE | 3 | 15 | 4 | 15/22 | 0.682 |
| expert. NotEvaluable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA |



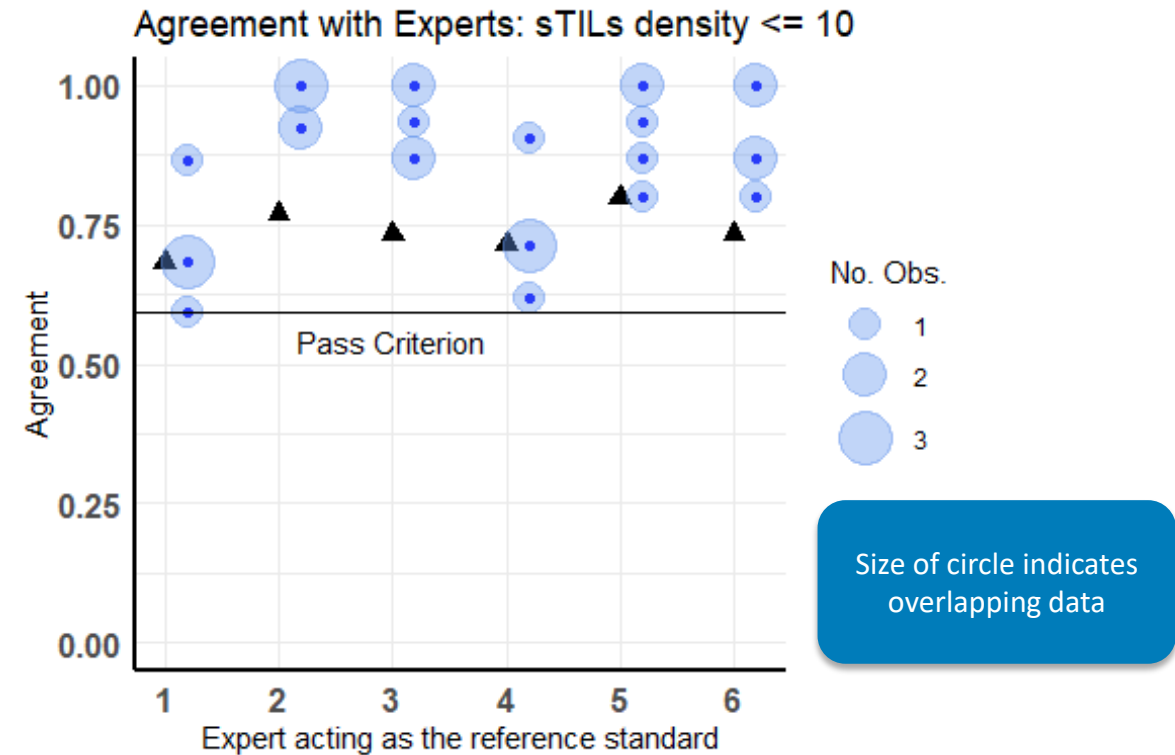


- Black Triangles
 - Reader vs. Experts Agreement
 - 6 experts

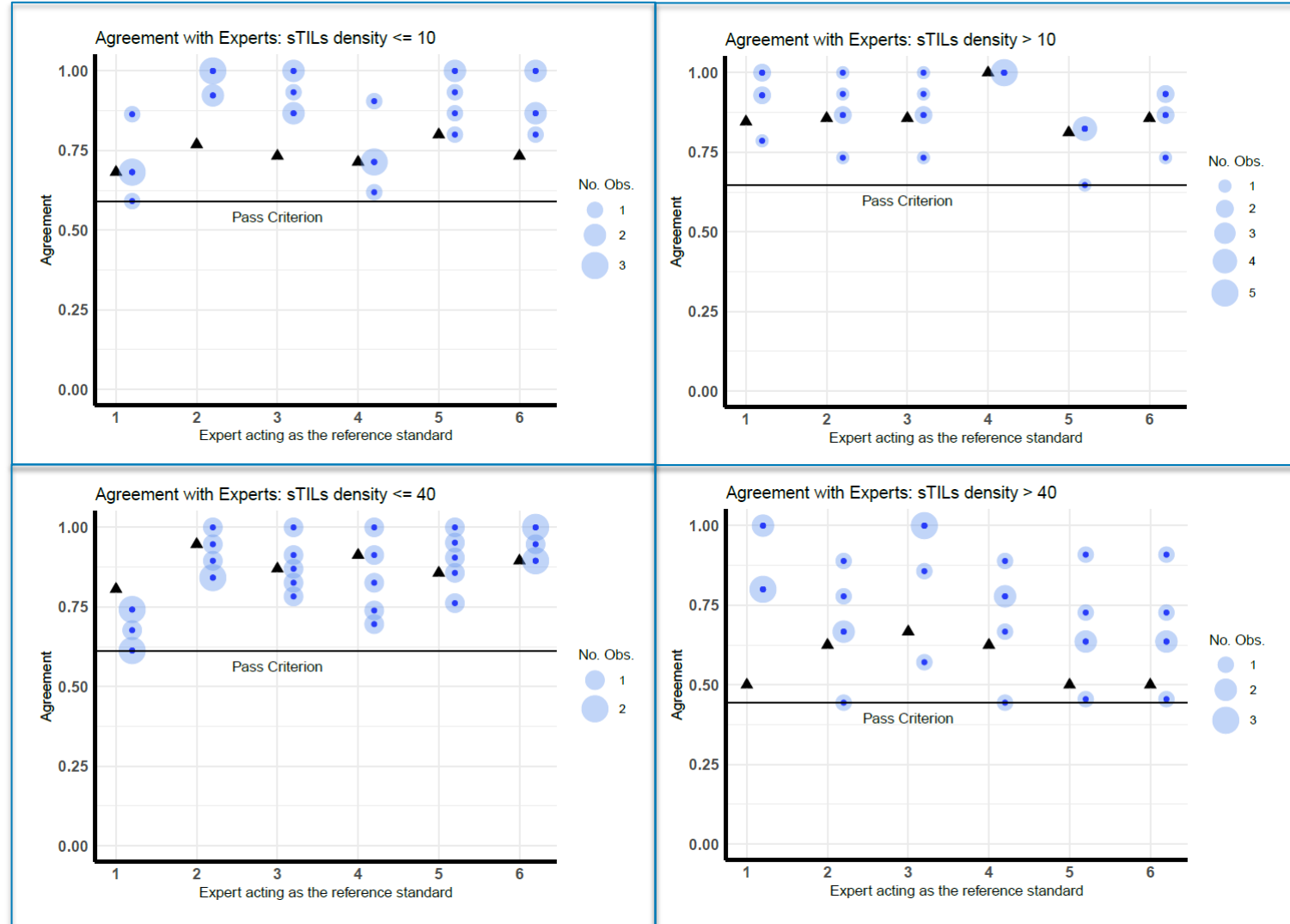


- Black Triangles
 - Reader vs. Experts Agreement
- Blue Circles:
 - Experts vs. Experts Agreement

Pass Criterion = lowest expert-expert agreement

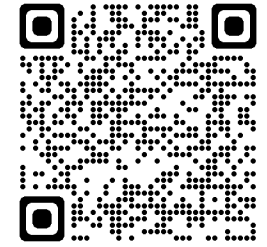


- Black Triangles
 - Reader vs. Experts Agreement
- Blue Circles:
 - Experts vs. Experts Agreement
- Four criteria
 - sTILs density ≤ 10
 - sTILs density > 10
 - sTILs density ≤ 40
 - sTILs density > 40



“Reproducible Reporting of the Collection and Evaluation of Annotations for Artificial Intelligence Models”

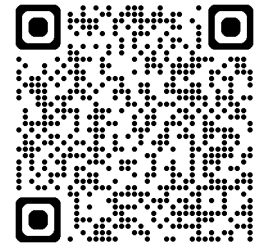
K. Elfer et al. (2024), *Modern Pathology*, Vol. 37, Issue 4, p. 100439



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.modpat.2024.100439>

| Study Component | Explanation |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Objectives | Project objectives, dataset use case (training, testing models), degree of annotation, and patient population. |
| 2. Data Dictionary | Training materials and reference documents(s) describing image features, anatomic/biological context, and details on annotations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Types of annotation, constructs |
| 3. Study Design | Specify the study design <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of annotators, number of cases, number of annotators per case.• Randomization methods. Adjudication and consensus methods. |
| 4. Annotation Methods | Determine how annotators will encounter the data and what tools will be used to access and view the images. |
| 5. Image Curation | Specify annotator, patient, and image sampling methods for the entire study and individual sub-groups of a study. |
| 6. Annotators | Define annotators: number of total annotators, number of annotators per case, qualifications (training and requirements), and how they were recruited. |
| 7. Quality Review | During and after the annotation study, identify, review and discuss adherence to the above components of the template, report the collected data, and report any deviations. Specify whether this was a single study or part of a larger study. |

- **6/2023:** Training launched
(CME & Interactive Training)
 - 223 participants have taken the CME course
- **6/2023:** Pivotal Study launched
- **8/2023:** New Website launched
- **52:** Pathologist Inquiries
- **6:** Pathologists passed training and have provided pivotal study annotations
- Time for training and annotating is a hurdle
 - Everyone is very busy
- **156** cases
 - Still sourcing
- **111** cases curated
 - First pass ROI selection
- **88** cases batched for pivotal study
- **2500** ROIs annotated



<https://doi.org/10.1002/path.6208>

Journal of Pathology








J Pathol 2023

Published online 4 October 2023 in Wiley Online Library

(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/path.6208

INVITED PERSPECTIVE

Initial interactions with the FDA on developing a validation dataset as a medical device development tool

Steven Hart¹ , Victor Garcia² , Sarah N Dudgeon³, Matthew G Hanna⁴ , Xiaoxian Li⁵, Kim RM Blenman^{6,7} , Katherine Elfer², Amy Ly⁸, Roberto Salgado^{9,10}, Joel Saltz¹¹ , Rajarsi Gupta¹¹ , Evangelos Hytopoulos¹², Denis Larsimont¹³, Jochen Lennerz¹⁴ and Brandon D Gallas^{2*} 

Regulatory Science Tools



Medical Device Development Tools



- Voluntary program for any stakeholder – high bar
- HTT dataset may reduce burden to sponsors
 - *“We used the MDDT dataset and our algorithm performance was ...”*
- HTT dataset may reduce burden to FDA
 - Qualify data and analysis methods once to support multiple sponsors

Regulatory Science Tool Catalog

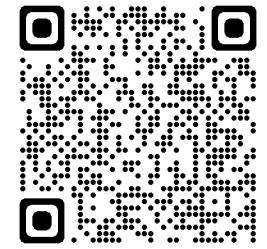


- Created by CDRH scientist to address gaps and needs

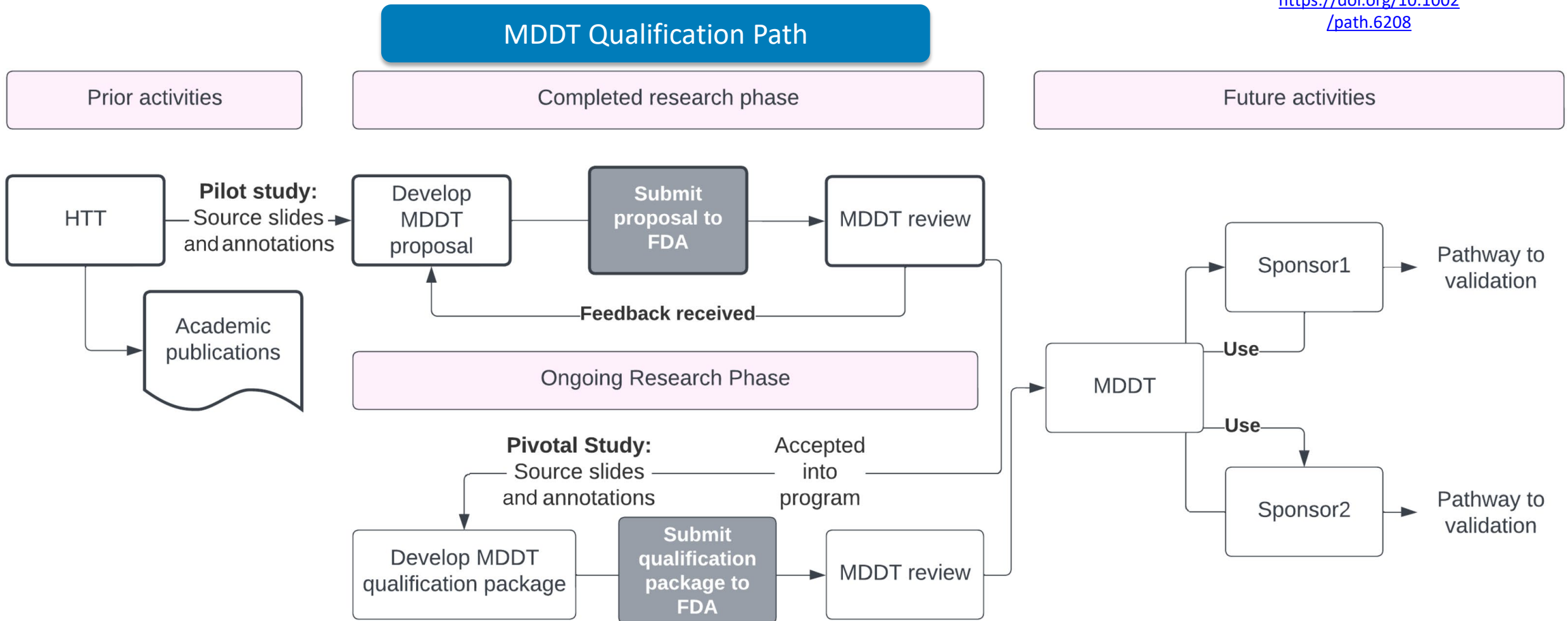


“Initial interactions with the FDA on developing a validation dataset as a medical device development tool,”

S. Hart et al. (2023), Journal of Pathology, Vol. 261, p. 378-384



<https://doi.org/10.1002/path.6208>



“Initial interactions with the FDA on developing a validation dataset as a medical device development tool,”

S. Hart et al. (2023), Journal of Pathology, Vol. 261, p. 378-384



<https://doi.org/10.1002/path.6208>

- Feedback from MDDT Reviewers
 - Identifies deficiencies in the submission
- Q: To power our study, what are the FDA’s recommendations on the number of sites, slides per site, and readers per slide?
 - The samples (cases and pathologists) should be representative of the intended populations.
 - The number of pathologists and cases should target certain precision of the truthing.
- Q: Should we expand the collected slides to include non-TNBC cases, which could facilitate data collection?
 - The Agency recommends that TNBC cases be used.
- Include a detailed description of devices used that are not FDA qualified or cleared to collect pathologist annotations.



Related Activities

Pathology Innovation Collaborative Community



Plcc – “Pie See See”

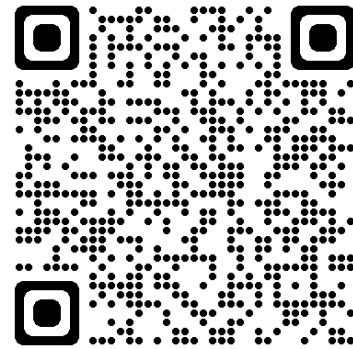
- FDA participates in Plcc
 - <https://pathologyinnovationcc.org/>

- Look for Joe!



Joe Lennerz · 1st
Chief Scientific Officer, BostonGene, Ma, USA

- Regulatory Landscape Survey



https://qualtricsxm9n4cl9pg.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4Sf41xG9Gm6XQM

The screenshot shows the website for the Pathology Innovation Collaborative Community (Plcc). At the top, it says "Plcc Alliance" with navigation links for Home, About, Working Groups, News & Events, Resources, Presentations, Projects, and Publications, and a "Join" button. The main heading is "Pathology Innovation Collaborative Community" followed by "Plcc". Below this, it reads "The Alliance for Digital Pathology" and "A collaborative community with FDA participation". It also mentions "& convened by Medical Device Innovation Consortium (MDIC)". The bottom section features a grid of logos for various partner organizations, including FDA, MDIC, MGH, DPA, Friends of Cancer Research, Leica, ASIP, NIH, and many others. A large, colorful circular graphic is on the right side of the page, and a QR code is in the bottom right corner.

Related Activity: FNIH BC-CSC:

Foundation for NIH Biomarkers Consortium Cancer Steering Committee



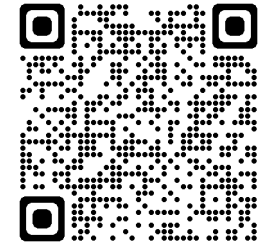
- Plcc coordinating project pitch to FNIH
 - New Plcc members welcome to the effort
- Presented vision to create a pipeline of real-world data for validating AI models
 - FNIH meeting 11/2023
 - Summary: <https://fnih.org/our-programs/biomarkers-consortium-csc-scientific-symposium/>
- Currently producing a skeleton proposal for 1-1 discussions with FNIH members

ARPA-H FDA/CDRH Medical Imaging Data Marketplace

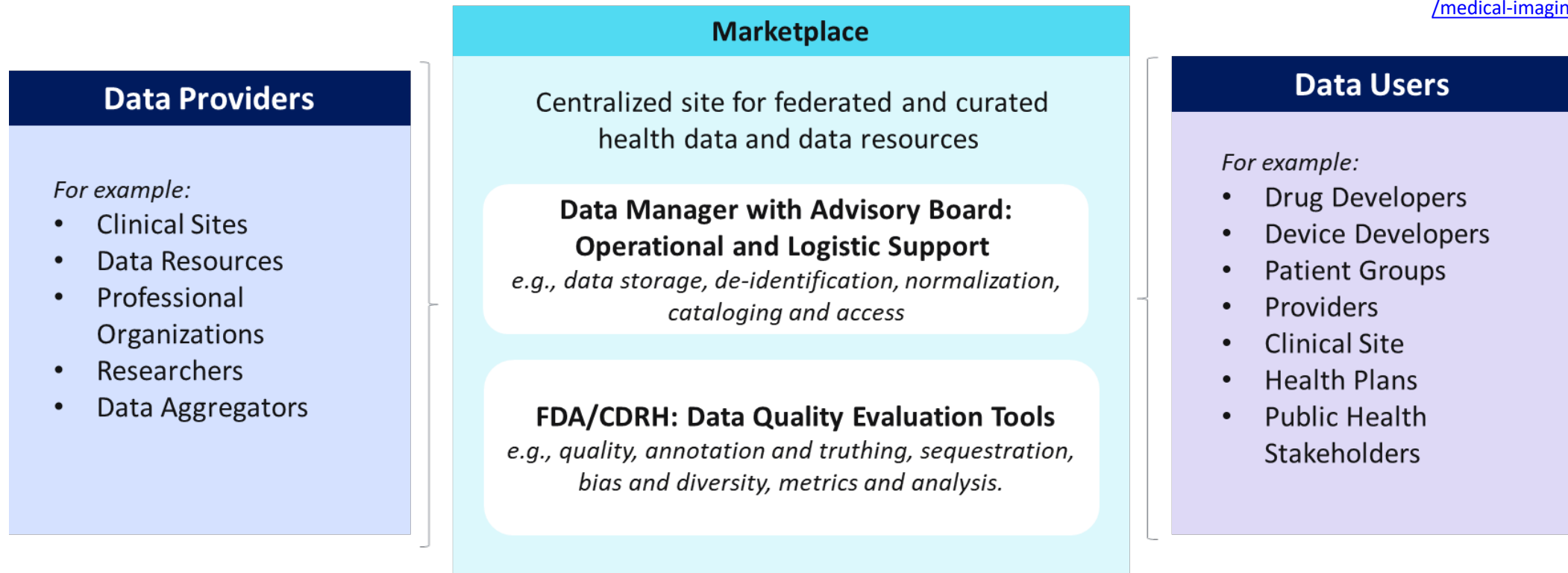


- *A self-sustaining, federated, national marketplace to catalyze transformative medical and health AI innovations*

- Feedback and Information
– midm@arpa-h.gov



<https://investorcatalysthub.org/medical-imaging/>



Summary

- Digital and computational pathology regulatory landscape
 - Databases and decision summaries
 - Useful for device users and device developers
 - Interoperability growing with new standalone submissions

- HTT project overview
 - CLEARR-AI provides reporting structure
 - Demonstration project: Deep Dive
 - Prevalence of TNBC patients is low, difficult to source
 - Pathologist qualifications to be reference standard
 - TILs is a new and challenging biomarker
 - Training is critical
 - Feedback from FDA reviewers

- HTT Deliverables
 - Protocols and methods:
 - slide sourcing, chart review, ROI selection and ROI prioritization
 - Paper submitted

 - Proficiency test performance assessment and criteria
 - Examples available and more to come

 - Data-collection tools
 - Controlled methods
 - Open source

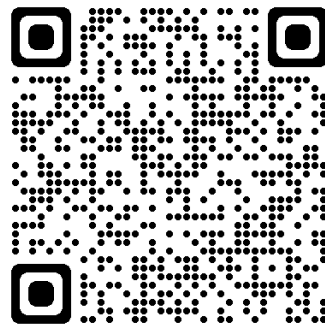
Parting Message

@Pathologists

- CME and interactive training available
- **Recruiting pathologists:** digital mode
- **Recruiting pathologists:** microscope mode
 - Yale University, School of Medicine
 - Dr. Kim Blenman
 - Paid gig (\$)



Brandon.gallas@fda.hhs.gov



<https://didsr.github.io/HTT.home/>

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the 'High Throughput Truthing Project' website. The page title is 'High Throughput Truthing Project' and the subtitle is 'FDA DIDSr validation dataset creation for ML algorithm development.' Below the title, there is a 'Key Pages' section with a list of links: 'What is the HTT project?', 'Training Materials', 'Pivotal Study', 'Publications', 'Commercial Products Disclaimer', and 'Regulatory Submission Information For Developers'. To the right of the links, there is a paragraph of text explaining the project's goal: 'The HTT project aims to create a validation dataset established by pathologist annotations for artificial intelligence algorithms analyzing digital scans of pathology slides: data (images + annotations). We are pursuing the qualification of the final validation dataset as an FDA-qualified medical device development tool MDDT to become a high-value public resource that can be used in AI/ML algorithm submissions and guide others to develop quality validation datasets.' Below this paragraph, there is another paragraph: 'This site is new. We are moving here from our original (legacy) project home on the NCI hub. Please be patient with this process. We are happy to get feedback and questions. Email the project team.'

Collaborators – Current and Past

Pathologists, Academics,
Industry, International

Volunteers

- **Mohamed Amgad, MD, PhD**
 - Northwestern University - The Feinberg School of Medicine
- **Kim Blenman, PhD**
 - Yale School of Medicine and Cancer Center, Yale School of Engineering and Applied Science
- **Weijie Chen, PhD**
 - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Sarah Dudgeon, MPH**
 - CORE Center for Computational Health Yale-New Haven Hospital
- **Kate Elfer, MPH**
 - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Anna Ehinger**
 - Lund University
- **Emma Gardecki, BS**
 - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Victor Garcia, MD**
 - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Rajarsi Gupta, MD/PhD**
 - Stony Brook Medicine Dept of Biomedical Informatics
- **Matthew Hanna, MD**
 - Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- **Steven Hart, PhD**
 - Department of Health Sciences Research, Mayo Clinic
- **Evangelos Hytopoulos, PhD**
 - iRhythm Technologies Inc
- **Denis Larsimont, MD**
 - Department of Pathology, Institut Jules Bordet
- **Xiaoxian Li, MD/PhD**
 - Emory University School of Medicine
- **Amy Ly, MD**
 - Massachusetts General Hospital
- **Anant Madabhushi, PhD**
 - Case Western Reserve University
- **Hetal Marble, PhD**
 - Immuto Scientific
- **Dieter Pieters**
 - Sint-Maarten Hospital; University of Antwerp; CellCarta
- **Roberto Salgado, PhD**
 - Division of Research, Peter Mac Callum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, Australia; Department of Pathology, GZA-ZNA Hospitals
- **Joel Saltz, MD/PhD**
 - Stony Brook Medicine Dept of Biomedical Informatics
- **Manasi Sheth, PhD**
 - FDA/CDRH/OPQE/Division of Biostatistics
- **Rajendra Singh, MD**
 - PathPresenter Corporation
- **Evan Szu, PhD**
 - Arrive Bio
- **Darick Tong, MS**
 - Arrive Bio
- **Si Wen, PhD**
 - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Bruce Werness, MD**
 - Arrive Bio