# INCORPORATING INTEGRATED DIAGNOSTICS INTO PRECISION ONCOLOGY CARE

# **SESSION 7 PANEL DISCUSSION**

**Opportunities to Advance Integrated Diagnostics in Cancer Care** 

#### SESSION MODERATOR

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#### **PANELISTS:**

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VISION AND STATE OF THE SCIENCE FOR INTEGRATED DIAGNOSTICS IN CANCER CARE

- Diagnostics is moving toward **Data Science** and there is a need for **Data Integration**
- Definition/Clarity for Integrated Diagnostics
  - Integrated Diagnostics is not CDS
  - Dashboards are not Integrated with Diagnostics
  - Remain flexible in the scope of Integrated with Diagnostics
  - Fundamental Patient-driven goals for Integrated Diagnostics
- Return on Investment
  - Difficult to demonstrate P&L in short term
  - Long-term multifaceted benefits difficult to demonstrate (e.g. PACS)
  - Incentives

VISION AND STATE OF THE SCIENCE FOR INTEGRATED DIAGNOSTICS IN CANCER CARE

### POLICY OPPORTUNITIES TO ADVANCE PROGRESS

#### **Opportunities**

- 1. Need for:
  - Interoperability of the systems
  - Standards
  - Synoptic reports/Certainty lexicon (radiology, pathology, surgery, clinical notes diagnosis, staging, follow-up)
  - **Annotations/segmentation** moving away from the manual to augmenting with the ultimate goal: **Automate**
  - Data Equity
- 2. Culture: Partnership and Data Sharing
- 3. **Reimburse diagnoses** and the not procedures
- 4. Precision diagnostics scaled the population level for the impact an individual level
- 5. Governance

**Patient-Centered Approach!** 

EXAMPLES OF EFFORTS TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT, AND USE INTEGRATED DIAGNOSTICS

- Issue 1: Need for integrated activity to eliminate silos—a common theme between academia and industry
  - Results communication and management
  - Billing systems that reward patient benefit
  - Incentive alignment for all stakeholders including payors
  - Cost effectiveness models
- Issue 2: Training a new generation of integrated practitioners
- Issue 3: What can be learned from ongoing integrated systems like VA and University of California Health—example of UC Health and COVID-19 efforts

EXAMPLES OF EFFORTS TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT, AND USE INTEGRATED DIAGNOSTICS

- Opportunity 1: Structured reporting to facilitate horizontally integrated curated multimodal inputs
- Opportunity 2: Diagnostic decision support systems
- Opportunity 3: Patient centricity
- **Opportunity 4:** Self supervised learning from artificial intelligence
- Opportunity 5: Ticket closure and feedback loops
- **Opportunity 6:** Engineering technologies to measure biomarkers in real-time
- **Opportunity 7:** Reinventing training for a new type of specialist in integrated diagnostics

# SESSION 3 IMPROVING EVIDENCE GENERATION FOR INTEGRATED DIAGNOSTICS

- EMRs can be used to evaluate integrated diagnostics
  - Pragmatic study designs with data collected as part of routine clinical documentation.
  - Prospective clinical trials management with minimum intentional data collection beyond standard of care documentation and embedded into providers workflows.
- **Novel AI driven diagnostics** require significant investment in **evidence generation** for analytic validity, clinical validity and clinical utility.
- The **culture of data sharing** for discovery remains strong.

# SESSION 3 IMPROVING EVIDENCE GENERATION FOR INTEGRATED DIAGNOSTICS

- HIPAA and consent:
  - Data donors and data repositories continue to struggle to interpret regulations related to **consent** requirements for sharing de-identified somatic genomic data for research.
  - Policy level clarity is needed to decrease barriers to data donation and secondary use.
- Structured documentation:
  - Regulations, policies, and guidelines that recommend **minimum structured documentation standards** for diagnostic reporting do influence documentation practices that can enable evidence generation for integrated diagnostics.
- Need **common terminology for diagnostic procedures** to ensure interoperability across systems to enable discovery and clinical decision support for integrated diagnostics.
- Continue to engage EMR vendors to advance and disseminate use cases for integrated diagnostics workflows and evaluation.

# SESSION 4 OVERSIGHT AND COVERAGE OF INTEGRATED DIAGNOSTICS

#### KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY SESSION SPEAKERS

#### • Issue 1:

• AI/ML algorithms need to be tested against diverse and inclusive populations from the beginning.

#### • **Issue 2:**

• Integrative Diagnostic Management Teams benefit from focusing on specific therapeutic areas. One should not try to boil the ocean at the beginning of the process.

#### • **Issue 3**:

• AI/Integrative Diagnostics are being evaluated according to traditional approaches by the FDA.

#### • Issue 4:

• Payers are loath to cover Integrative Diagnostics as a standalone part of medical care and believe the issue will be solved once bundled payments for oncology care are implemented.

# SESSION 4 OVERSIGHT AND COVERAGE OF INTEGRATED DIAGNOSTICS

#### POLICY OPPORTUNITIES TO ADVANCE PROGRESS

### Opportunity 1:

• Promote diversity and inclusion in the accrual to clinical trials that test Integrative Diagnostics.

### Opportunity 2:

• Have NIH/NCI pilot a mechanism to fund the development of Diagnostic Management Teams focused in specific areas.

# Opportunity 3:

• Meet with FDA Leadership to propose the development of a regulatory pathway for AI/ML/Integrative Diagnostic software and devices.

# Opportunity 4:

Medicare for All

- **Issue #1:** Investment in data engineering is important to provide scale, automation and standards
- **Issue #2:** The following key issues must be addressed when implementing integrated diagnostics: Trust, Understanding, Accountability, Timing, Options, Prioritization, Adjudication / Annotation, and Actionability
- **Issue** #3: EHR integration Need to consider the following elements: data visualization, machine learning for workflow and diagnostics, and multi-level modeling
- **Issue #4:** Talent is a bottleneck to recruiting data scientists to work on the challenges we face
- **Issue #5**: Need to follow risk communication principles, such as use numbers not words, simple data visualization of risk, keep consistent denominators, use absolute not relative risks, etc.

- **Opportunity #1:** After initial validation of an algorithm, ongoing implementation and testing requires a focus on the principles of High-Reliability Organizations to ensure reliability and reduce unwanted variation.
- **Opportunity #2**: For sustainability and scale-ability, open source protocols for algorithms and interinstitutional sharing and testing are critical
- **Opportunity** #3: For integrative diagnostics (ID), we need a code of conduct with criteria that govern implementation
- **Opportunity #4:** Redesign EHR user interfaces to integrate diagnosis and treatment into holistic modules that guide decisions rather than forcing clinicians to hunt for different diagnostic components across the EHR
- **Opportunity #5**: Use decision aides and communication tools to improve the patient/clinician decision making processes around integrated diagnostics
- **Opportunity #6:** Innovative clinical trial designs, such as hybrid implementation-effectiveness designs, can help facilitate the simultaneous testing of novel ID methods/tools, processes and implementation strategies.

- Opportunity 1:
  - Equity needs to be a part of all we do!
  - AI can worsen health disparities (although they are already there)
  - Predictions come from complex algorithms and data. This is beyond human abilities
  - Need to have validation across institutions and populations
  - Data splits are often not done with the care they need to address biases
  - Explainable AI is a challenge when we do not understand how to explain these tasks (how does a microwave work? When are alerted when there is a problem)

- Opportunity 2:
  - 85% of people get their cancer care in the community (Distributed across the US)
  - Care is provided in academia, community practice, small/private, government (service and staff are different): Moving research to the continuum of care
  - Movement from academia to community is a slow process (50 Year War)
  - Who will do this? Which labs, staff and resources?
  - Translation from research to practice is very slow (17 years)
  - Need to increase caregiver capacity, patient experience and clinical efficiency and effectiveness - Leverage technology to provide effective integration and communication.

- Opportunity 3:
  - New technologies automatically create disparities (Some get it, some do not)
  - The US spends more than other countries, but our disparities are worse (mortality)
  - Diversity covers many different sociopolitical vectors (e.g., gender, race, geographic, culture, etc)
  - Racial minorities and the poor more likely to have poorer outcomes (e.g., the machines are lower quality)
  - Many people receive unnecessary care because they are treated in resource poor settings.
  - There are differences in implementation & dissemination are key!
  - Need more diverse genomic data to reduce ineffective treatments and to create better treatments
  - Some common interventions need to be retired
  - Make sure to study markers across more than race

- Policy #1
  - Integrated diagnostics require interdisciplinary teams
  - Make sure that biases and fairness are addressed in development of AI and diagnostics
  - More diverse data helps reduce biases across populations
  - Algorithmic fairness can be forced
  - Data splits are important often should be a focus of research
  - Develop diagnostics to alert us when we cannot trust outcomes (uncertainty quantification)
  - Include the different types of care providers when developing new tools
  - Build in dissemination and implementation research as a part of research on tool development
  - Build infrastructure to share knowledge and resources across settings.
  - Build a national network (hub and spoke). The network model needs support to encompass the full range of care (expand networks around NCI Cancer & Academic Med Centers)
  - Factor in disparities when adopting new technology: distribute to resource-poor settings to enhance quality of care and reduce unnecessary care
  - More diverse genomic studies are required, markers should go beyond race

- Policy #2
  - Data deserts Need datasets that are less biased, including those we would not usually think about (out of distribution allows us to find things we do not know)
  - Do not expect health care to solve disparities on its own. Some issues go beyond health care. Social needs undermine what we can do in healthcare.
  - Need to continue to effectively distribute evidenced-based practice
  - Put sufficient resources in AI systems that work across populations.
  - Create tomorrow's workforce to reduce data deserts and enhance quality across systems.
  - Ensure we have the appropriate technologies to reduce disparities (not a two-tiered system)
  - · Advance the speed of research so we are not building the plane as we fly it!
  - Do we need integrated diagnostics for prevention and screening? Risk assessment should increase efficiency and effectiveness. Create more complex, integrate models for risk