

# ANALYSIS OF A PILOT STUDY COLLECTING PATHOLOGIST ANNOTATIONS FOR VALIDATING MACHINE LEARNING ALGORITHMS

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Office of Science and Engineering Laboratories

Center for Devices and Radiological Health

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

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# Disclosures



In the past 12 months, I have not had any significant financial interest or other relationship with the manufacturers of the products or providers of the services that will be discussed in my presentation.

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# Outline

- Overview:
  - High Throughput Truthing (HTT) Project
- Study 1:
  - HTT Pilot Study
- Study 2:
  - eeDAP Registration Accuracy
- Future Work
  - HTT Pivotal Study

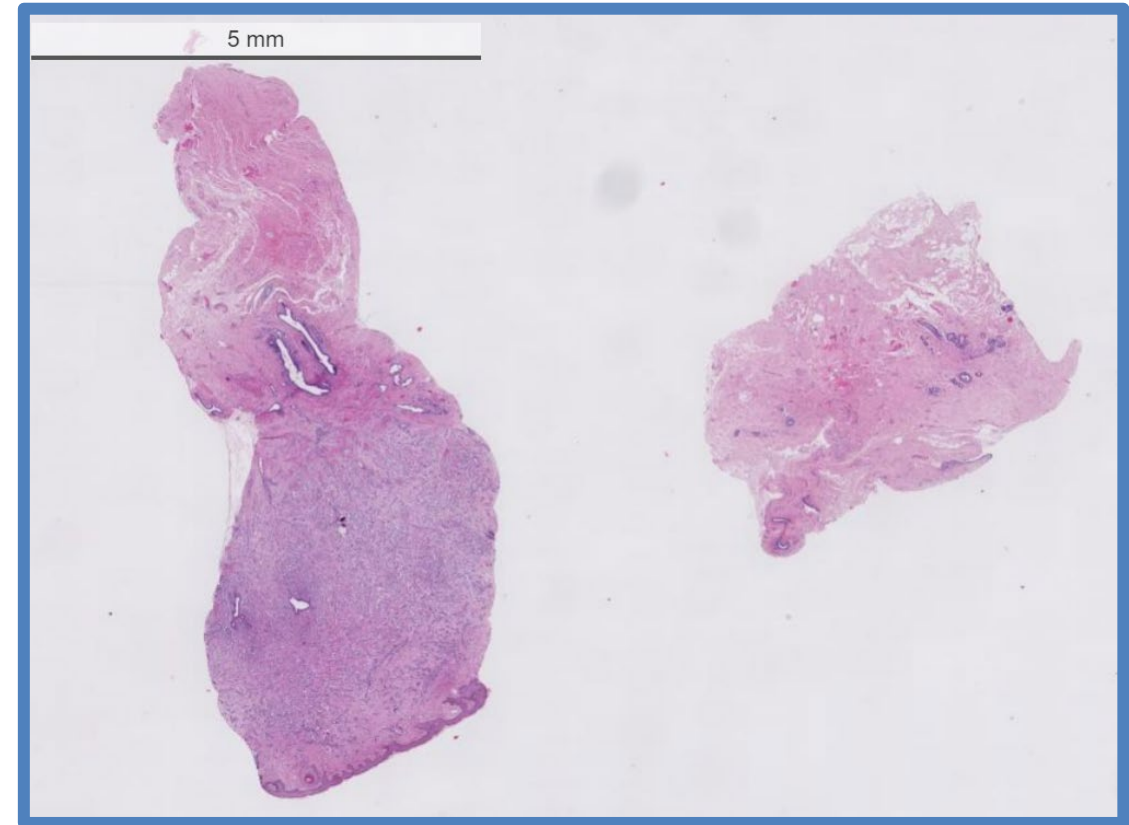
# Pain Point: Validation of Digital Pathology Technology

## Recent surge in Digital Pathology technologies:

- Whole Slide Image Scanners can create images on the order of Gpx and up to 120GB in size.
- Algorithms detect and diagnose disease

## Evaluation by Algorithm:

- Reproducible
- Reduce burden on pathologists
- Increase Speed & Accuracy



**H&E Breast Cancer Whole Slide Image (WSI)**

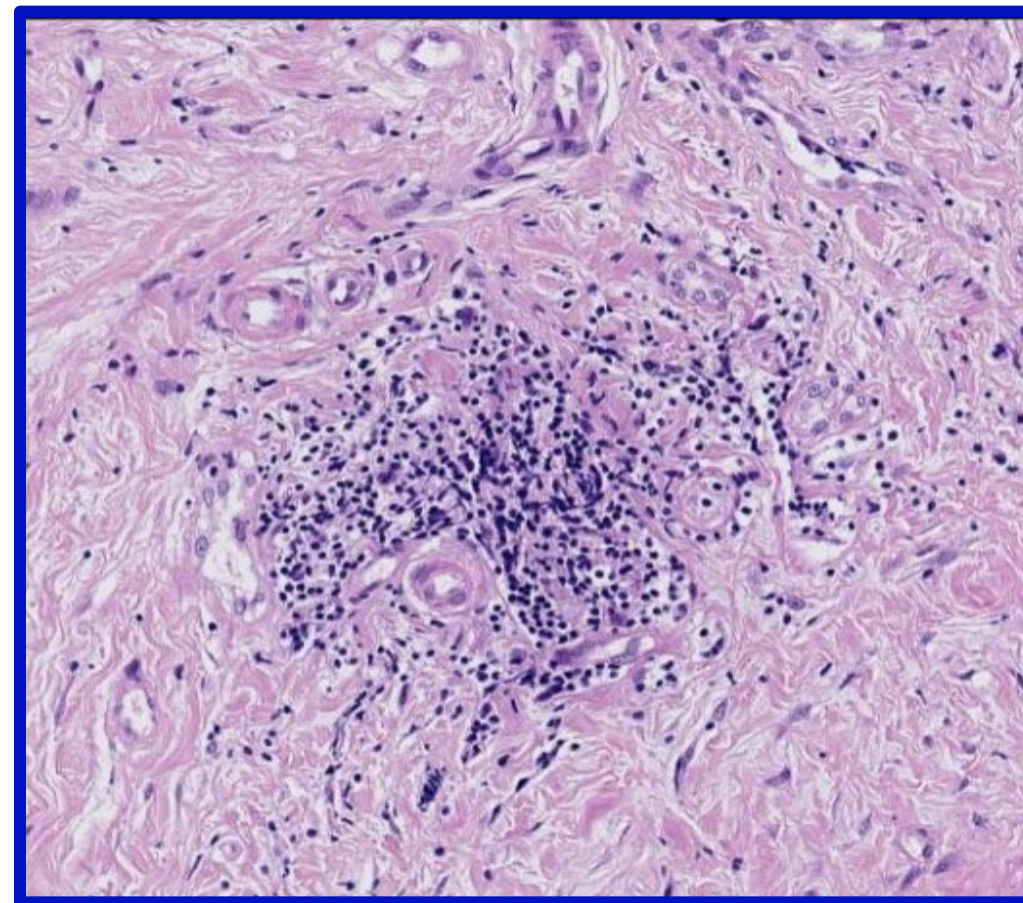
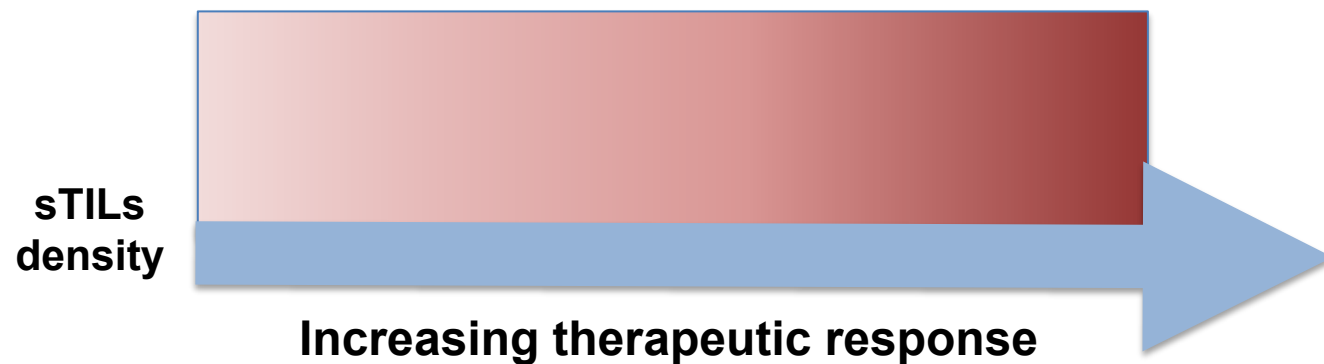
## Use Case:

# Stromal Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes (sTILs)



### Clinical application:

stromal Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TILs) density are a **quantitative**, prognostic biomarker.



**sTILs in Breast Cancer**



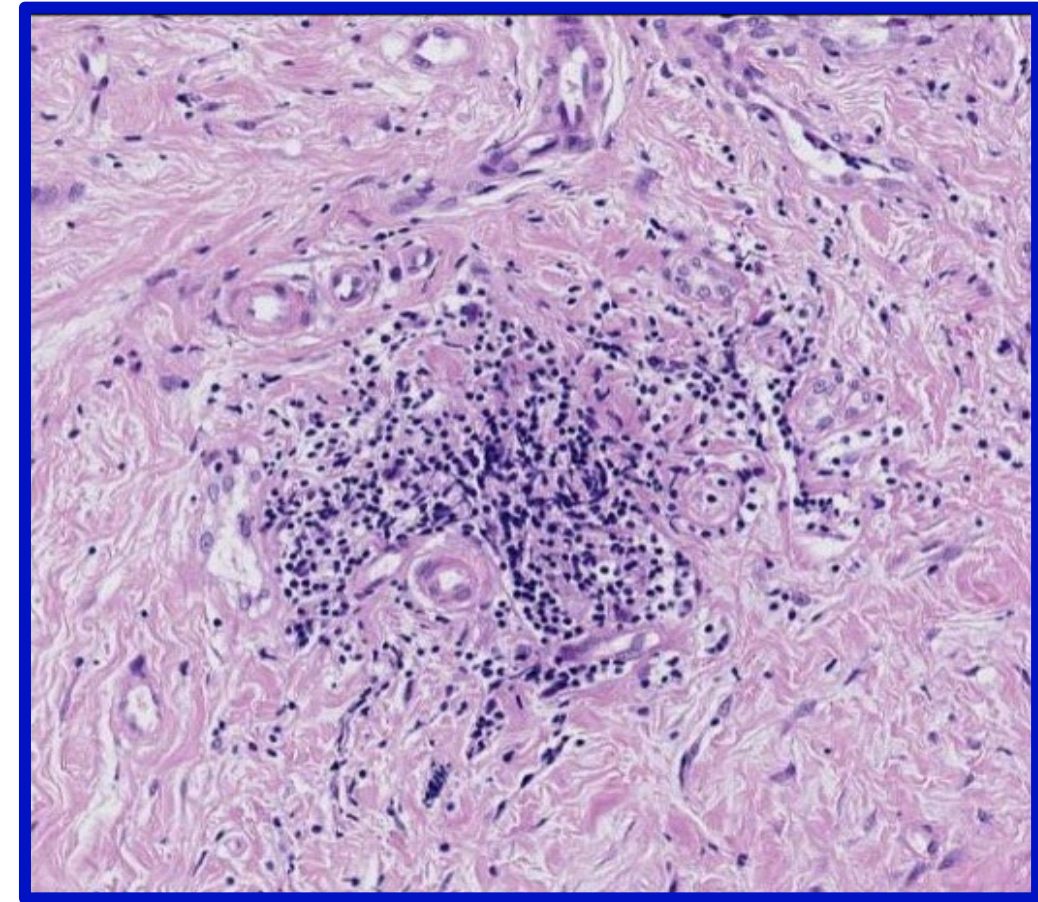
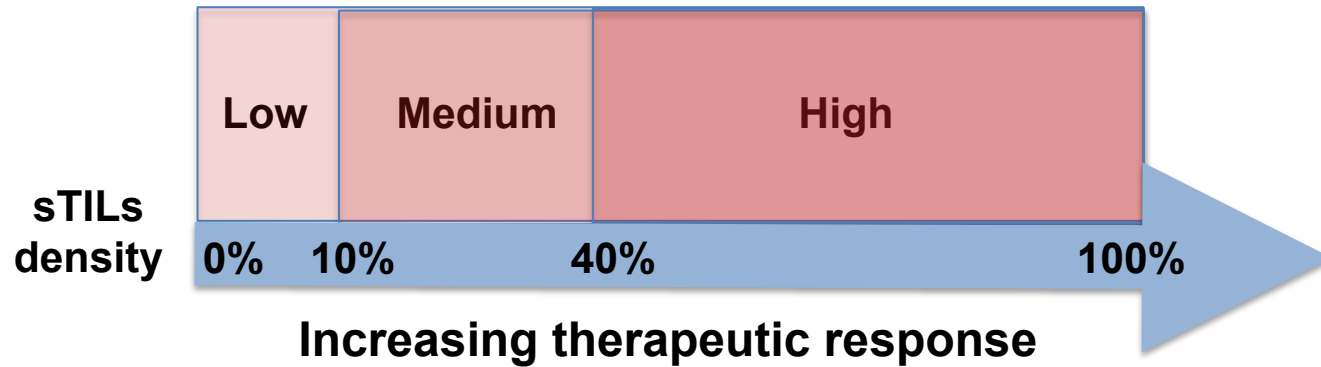
# Use Case:



## Stromal Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes (sTILs)

### Clinical application:

stromal Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TILs) density are a **quantitative**, prognostic biomarker.



sTILs in Breast Cancer

# High-Throughput Truthing (HTT) Project



- An international volunteer collaboration
- **Goal:** Create a dataset of Triple Negative Breast Cancer (TNBC) slides & images with pathologist annotations of a quantitative biomarker (sTILs)
  - To be used for the validation of AI/ML and computational pathology models
  - Pursuing qualification as a medical device development tool (MDDT)

## eeDAP Studies Group Page

A home for collaborative studies to create tools (methods, data, and code) that advance regulatory science in the area of digital pathology imaging and related artificial intelligence software as a medical device.



<https://ncihub.org/groups/eedapstudies>

[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4384613/eedap\\_studies\\_presentations\\_publications\\_and\\_studies/collections/9ABM9D8M](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4384613/eedap_studies_presentations_publications_and_studies/collections/9ABM9D8M)

# Study 1

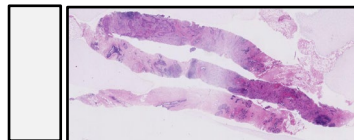
**STUDY GOAL:  
Exploratory Analysis of HTT Pilot Data**

**Publication:** K. Elfer, et. Al/ J. Med. Imag. 9(4) 047501, 2022.

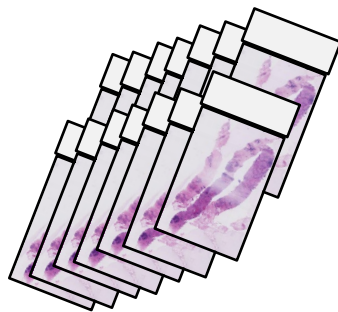


# HTT Pilot Study Materials: Feb 2020 – May 2021

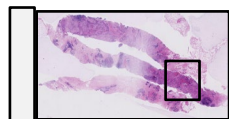
H&E Breast Cancer Slides



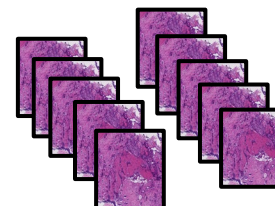
64 Slides from 64 Patients



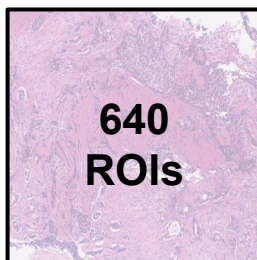
10 ROIs selected from each Slide



1 Slide = 10 ROIs



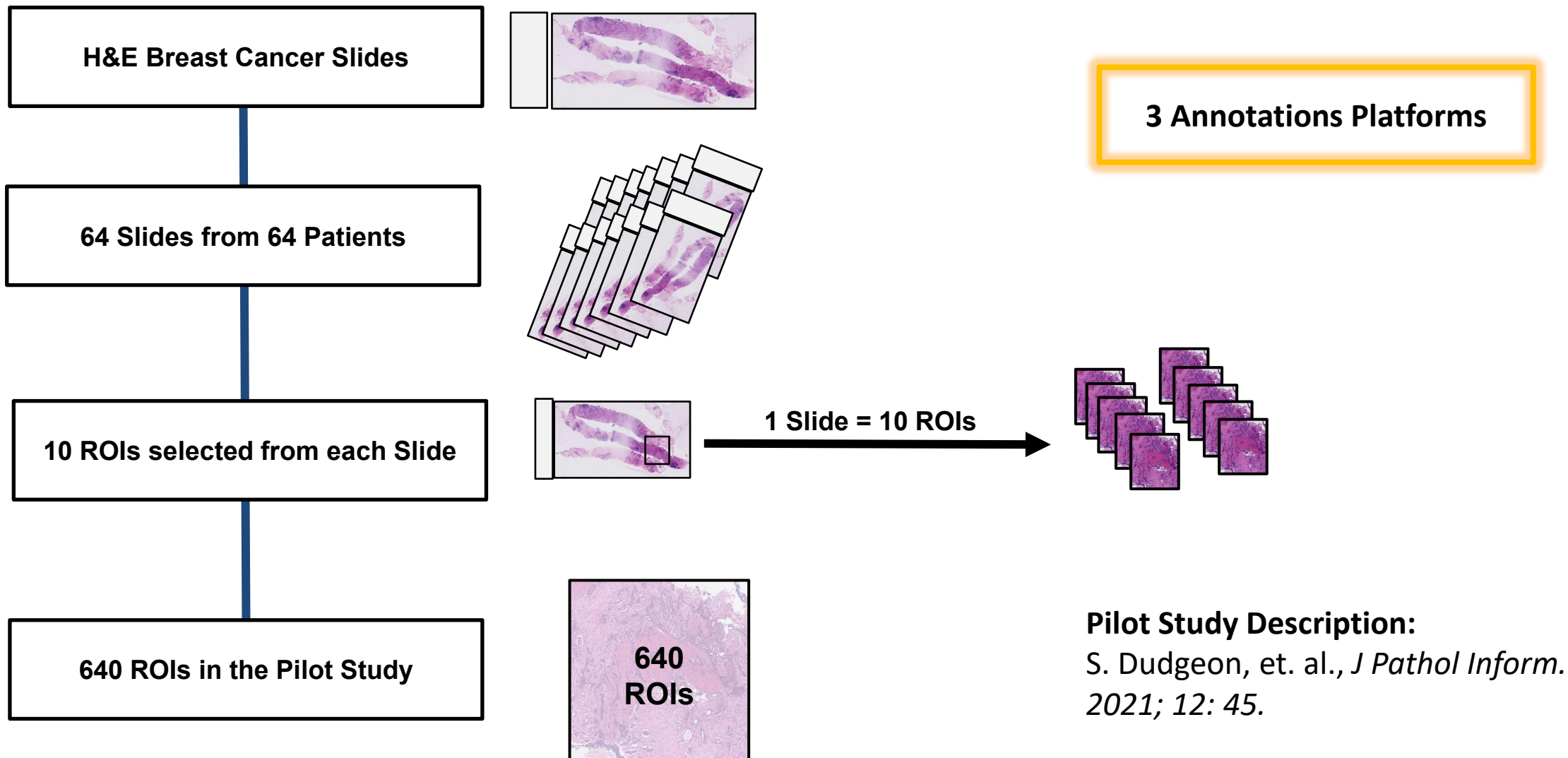
640 ROIs in the Pilot Study



## Pilot Study Description:

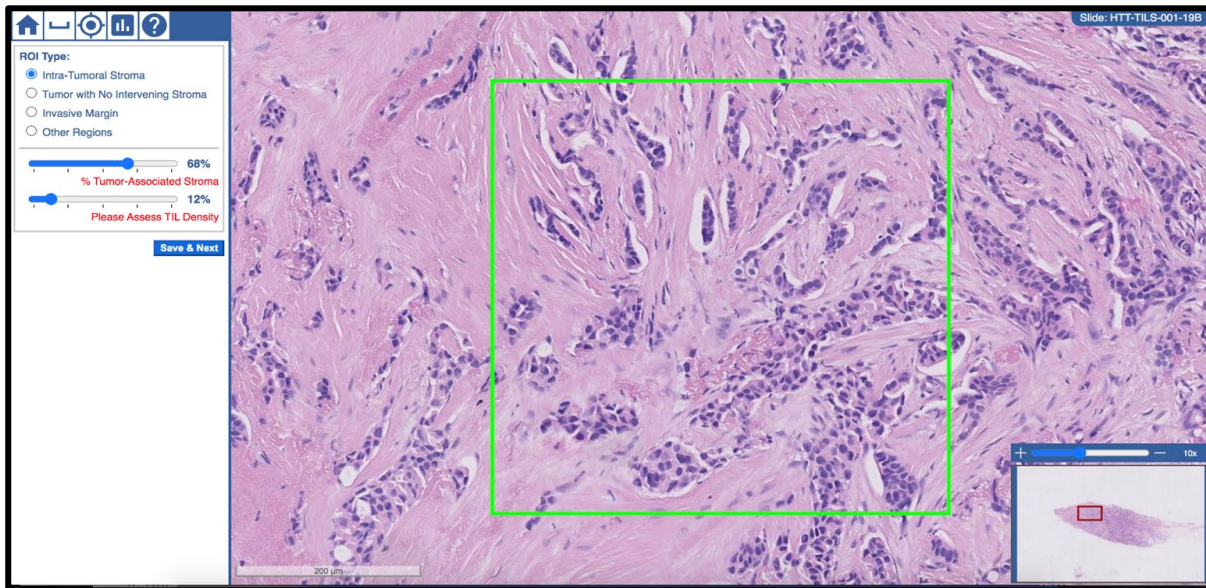
S. Dudgeon, et. al., *J Pathol Inform.* 2021; 12: 45.

# HTT Pilot Study Materials: Feb 2020 – May 2021



# HTT Data Collection Platforms: Digital Modalities

## Platform 1: caMicroscope

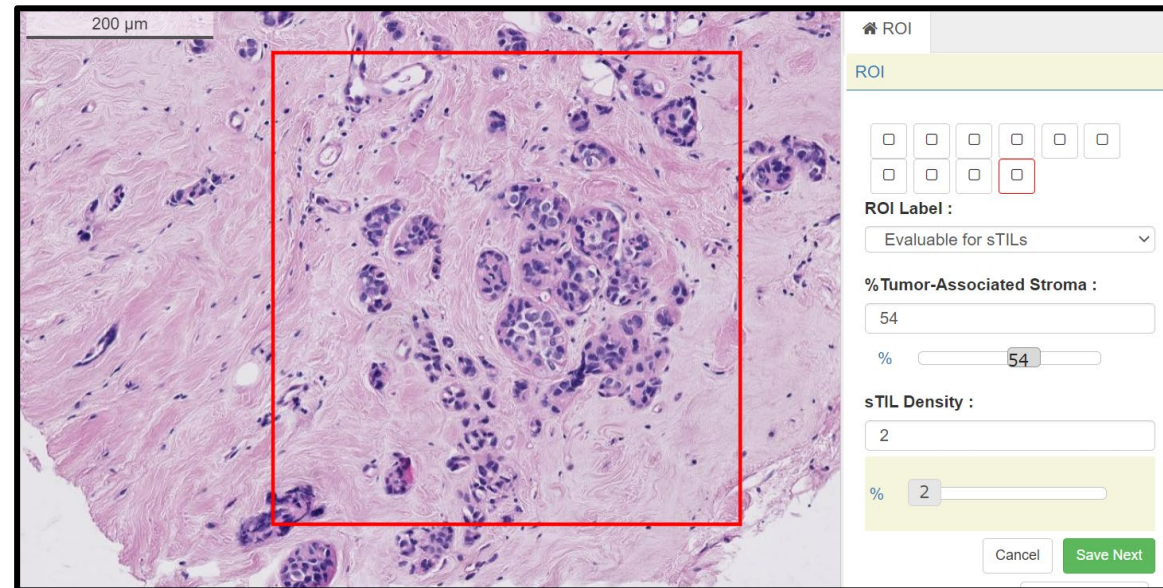


caMicroscope is an open-source platform hosted on precisionFDA



<https://github.com/camicroscope/caMicroscope>

## Platform 2: PathPresenter



PathPresenter is a licensed commercial entity volunteering server space and platform customization



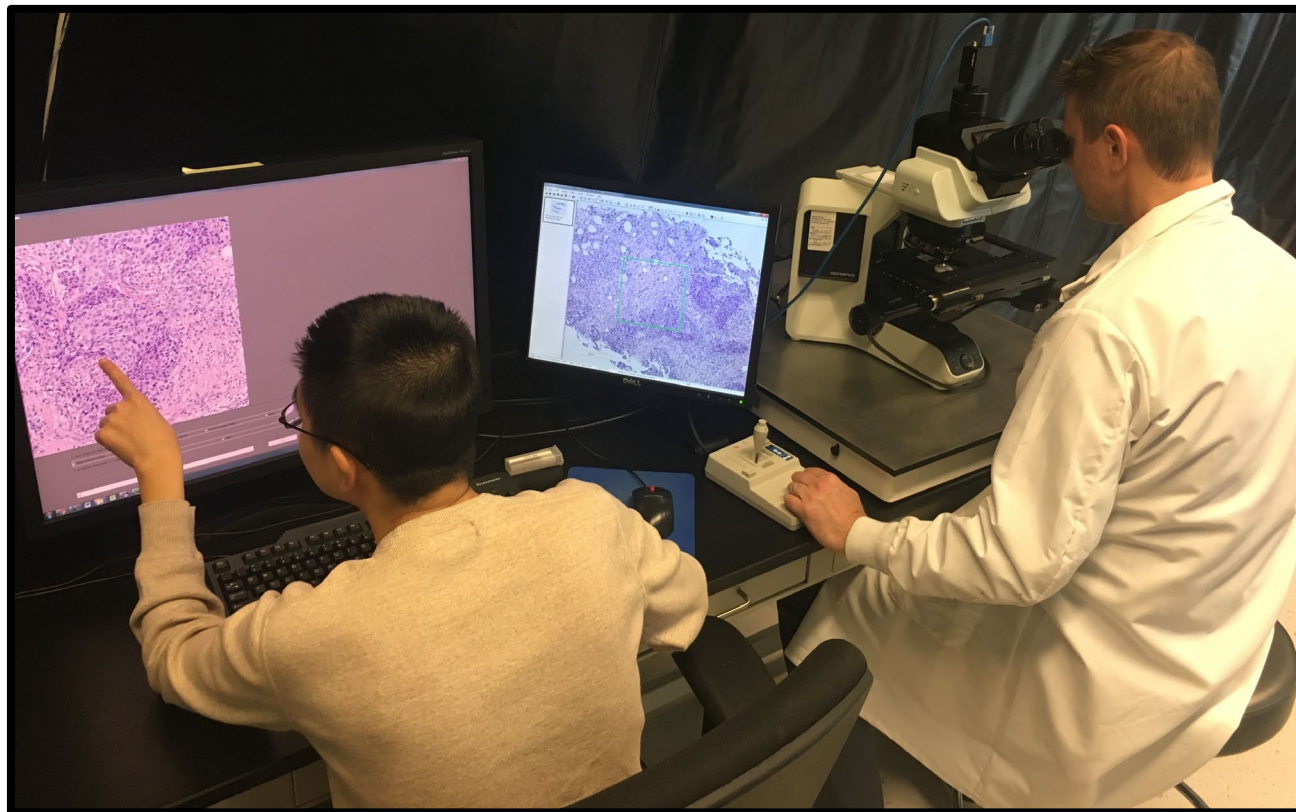
<https://htt.pathpresenter.net>



# HTT Data Collection Platforms: Microscope Modality

## Microscope: eeDAP

eeDAP evaluation environment for Digital and Analogue Pathology  
 previously presented: Qi Gong, et. al. 2018, B.D. Gallas, et. al., 2014



Reference Standard Technology

Enables exact studies on glass slides & WSIs

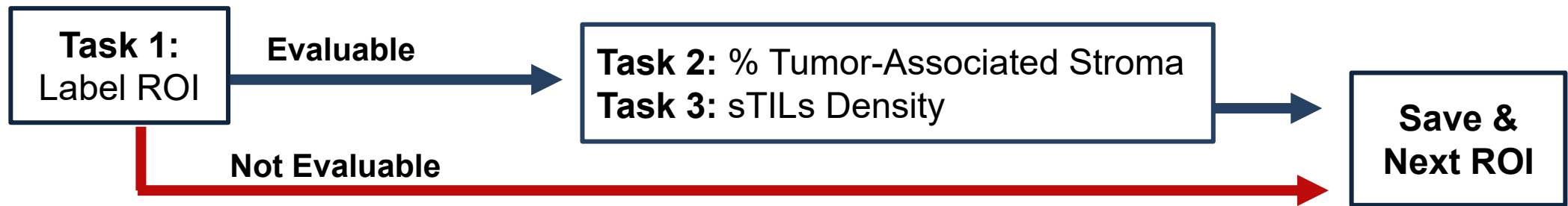
<https://github.com/DIDSR/eeDAP>

# HTT Annotations

[htt.pathpresenter.net](http://htt.pathpresenter.net)

The screenshot shows a histology image with a red rectangular ROI box. A scale bar in the top left corner indicates 200 μm. To the right of the image is a control panel with the following elements:

- A breadcrumb trail: **ROI**
- A yellow header bar: **ROI**
- A 2x6 grid of small square icons, with the icon in the second row, fourth column highlighted in red.
- ROI Label :** A dropdown menu set to "Evaluable for sTILs".
- % Tumor-Associated Stroma :** A text input field containing "54" and a slider below it also set to "54".
- sTIL Density :** A text input field containing "2" and a slider below it also set to "2".
- Buttons for "Cancel" and "Save Next".





# HTT Pilot Study Results: All Platforms

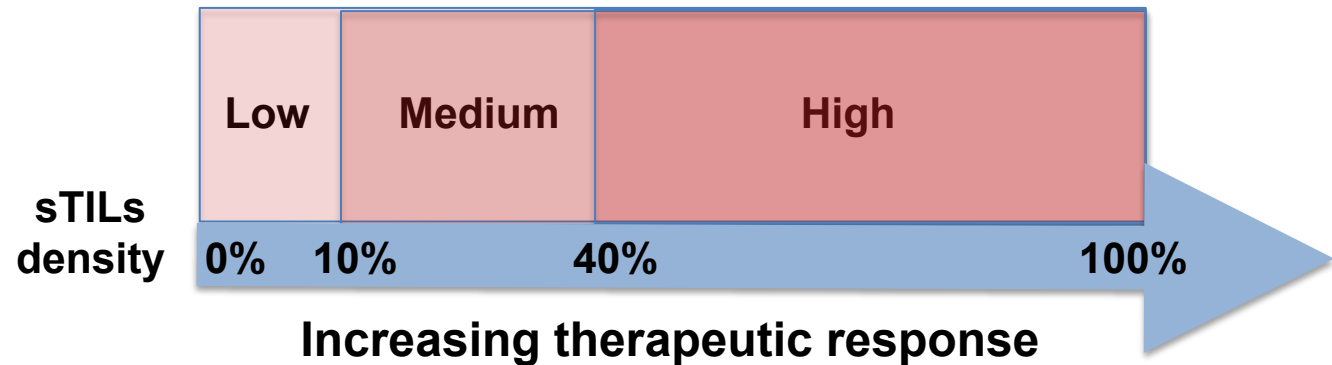
<u>Platform</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Observations</u>
eeDAP	7	440
PathPresenter	10	1833
caMicroscope	20	5100
<b>All</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>7373</b>

**Publication:**

K. Elfer, et. al., J. Med. Imag. 9(4) 047501, 2022.

# HTT Pilot Study Results: All Platforms

<u>Platform</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Observations</u>	<u>Pre-Selected Density Bins</u>		
			<u>Low: 0-10%</u>	<u>Med: 11-40%</u>	<u>High: 41-100%</u>
eeDAP	7	440	323	21	10
PathPresenter	10	1833	1,127	211	79
caMicroscope	20	5100	3,042	912	233
<b>All</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>7373</b>	<b>4,492</b>	<b>1,144</b>	<b>322</b>

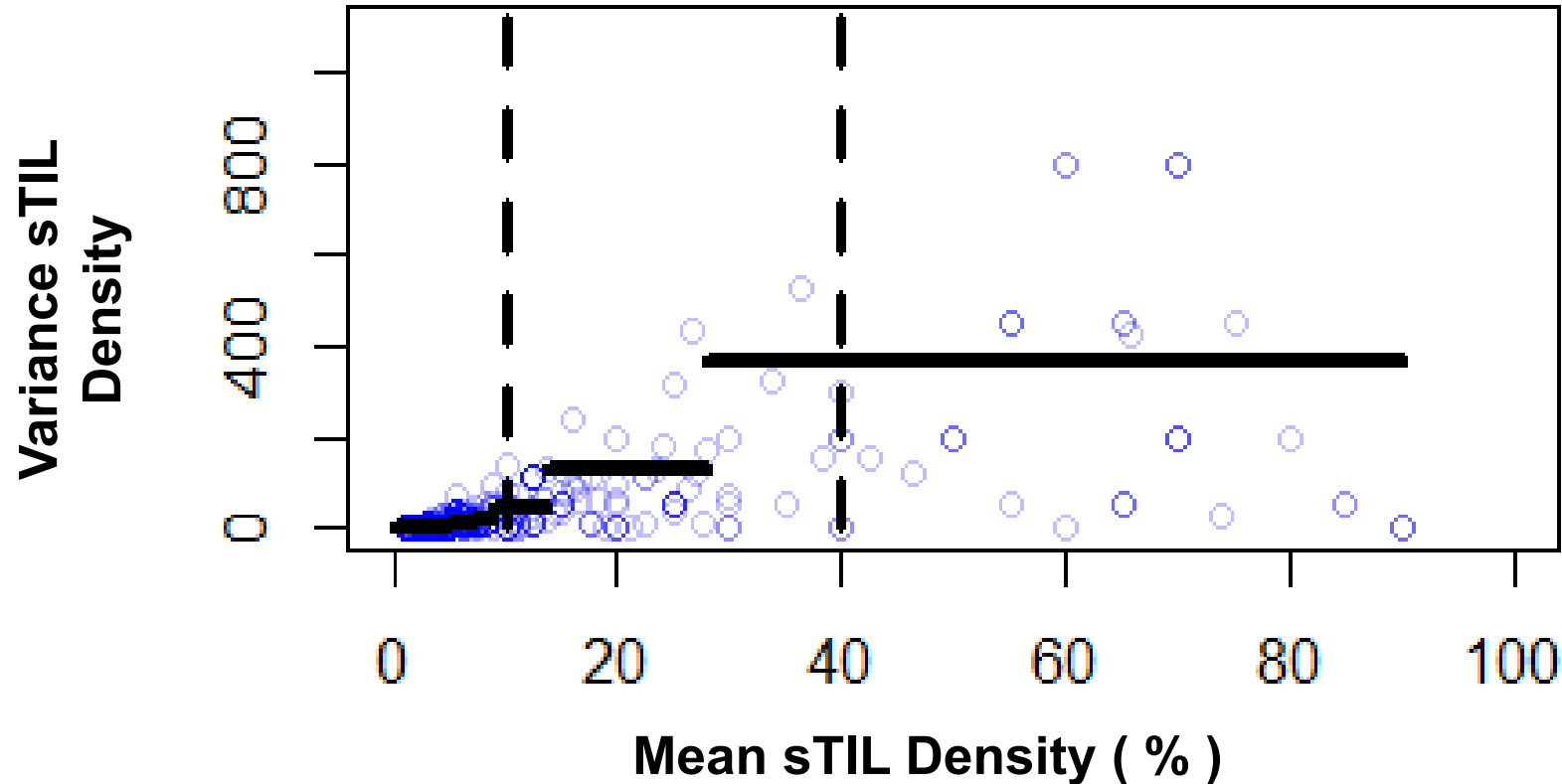


**Publication:**

K. Elfer, et. al., J. Med. Imag. 9(4) 047501, 2022.

# HTT Pilot Study Results

## PathPresenter: Variance for each ROI (nROI=495)



Each blue circle represents one ROI (n=495) with at least two sTIL density estimates.

Pathologist variance depends on the ROI and increases with the mean.

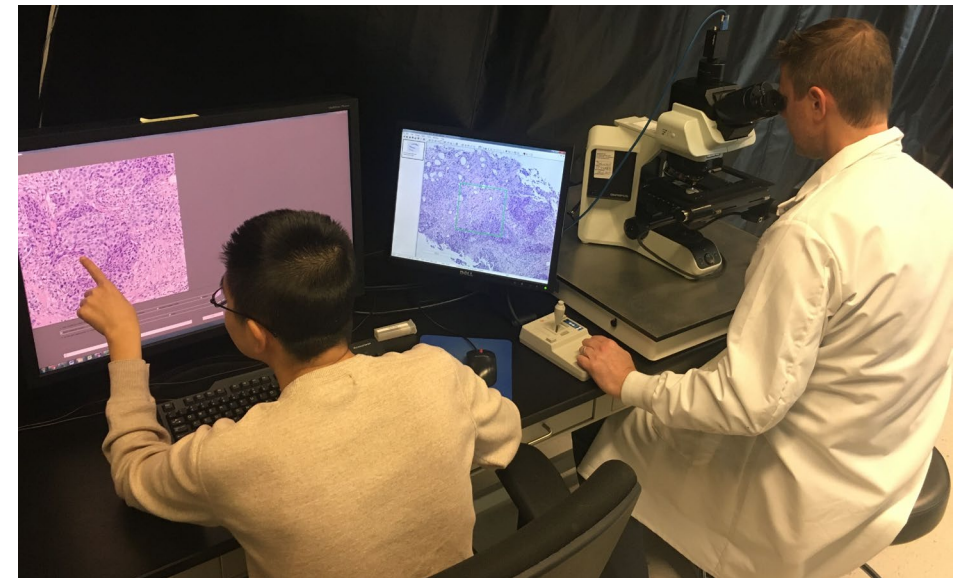
### Publication:

K. Elfer, et. al., J. Med. Imag. 9(4) 047501, 2022.

# Take-Aways from the HTT Pilot Study

## Accomplishments:

- Training methods to reduce variability:
  - Expert Panel: Pearls and Pitfalls of sTILs Assessment
    - V. Garcia, et. al., Cancers (Basel). 2022 May 17;14(10):2467.
  - Development of a medical training course in sTILs Assessment
  - Development of interactive training materials
  
- Improvement of data-collection platforms:
  - Improvement of digital platforms
  - Improved hardware for eeDAP



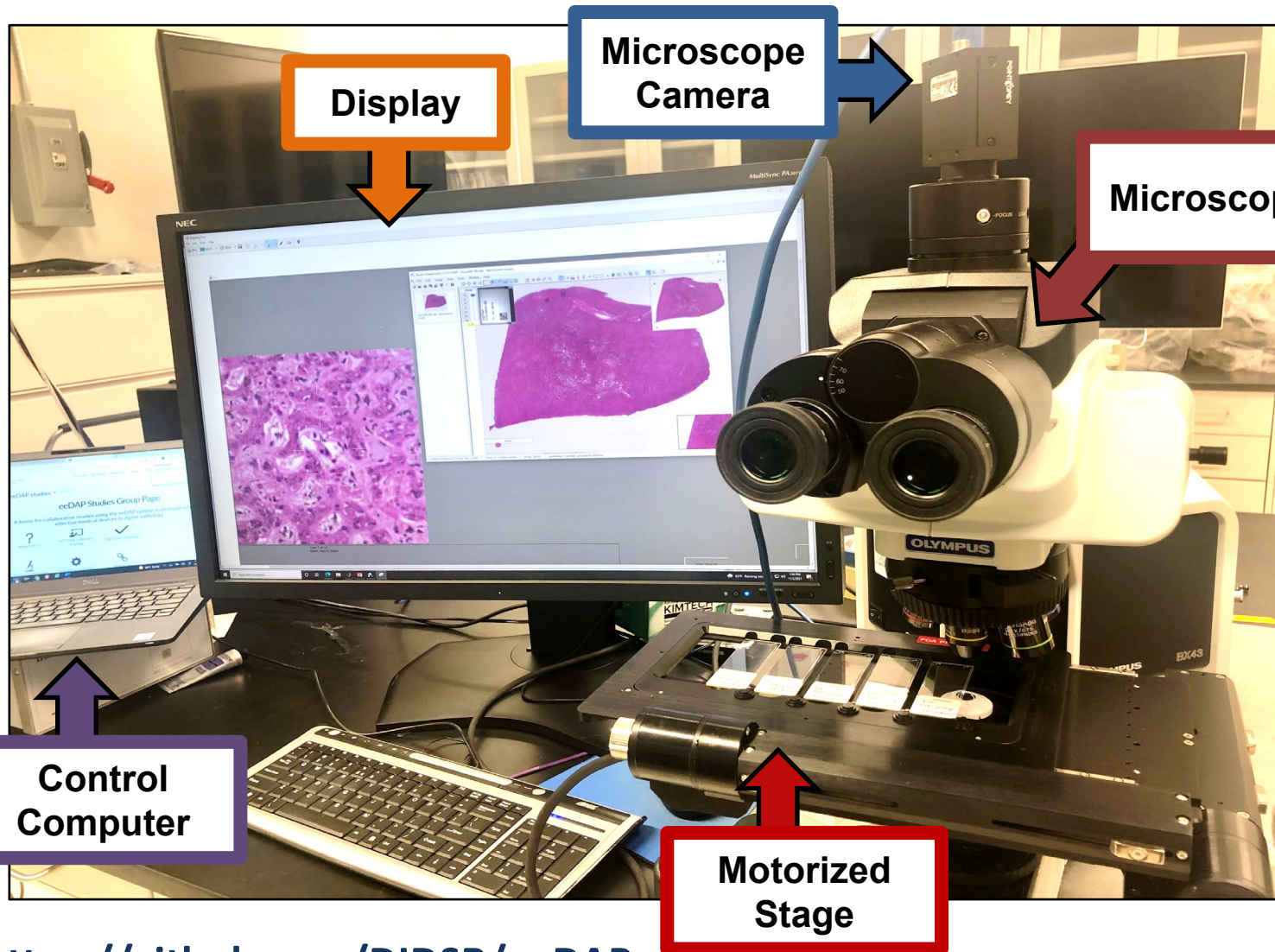
# Study 2

**STUDY GOAL:**  
**Registration Accuracy of eeDAP**

**Continuation of :**  
Qi Gong, et. al., SPIE Med Imag, Proceedings, 2018



# eeDAP: evaluation environment for Digital and Analogue Pathology



eeDAP drives the microscope stage to an x-y target location corresponding to the WSI's spatial coordinates

Uses a set of custom input files to define tasks for annotators.

B.D. Gallas, et. al., Proc. SPIE 9037, Medical Imaging 2014.

B. D. Gallas, et. Al, J Med Imaging 2014 Oct;1(3):037501.

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

# eeDAP Registration Methods

## 4 Registration Methods:

### 1) **Global Registration**

– defines relationship between WSI and glass slide

### 2) **Local: Automatic**

3) **Local: Fast** - utilizes padding to extend boundary of image

4) **Local: Best** - best fit; no-padding

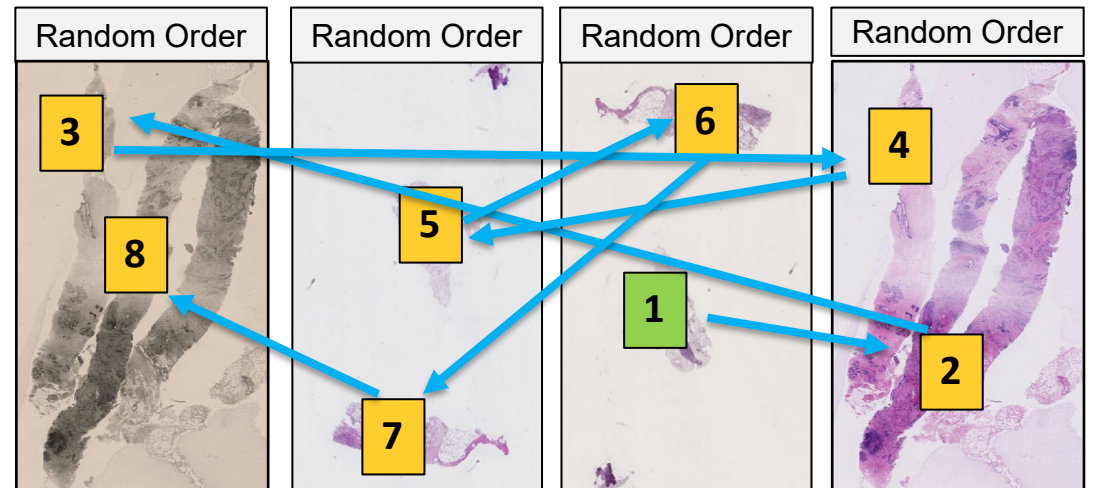
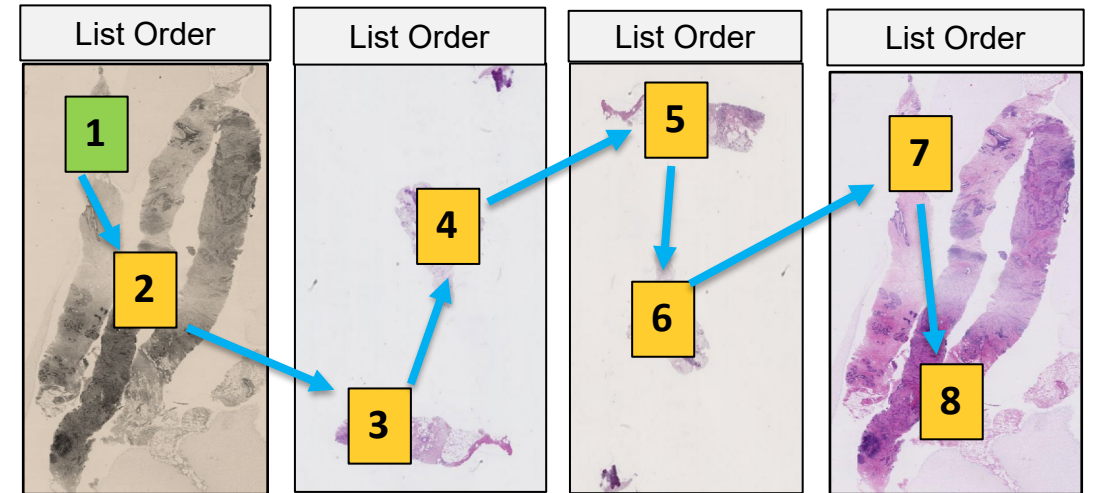
# eeDAP Registration Methods

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## 2 Orders of Operation:

- 1) List Order
- 2) Random Order



# eeDAP Registration Methods

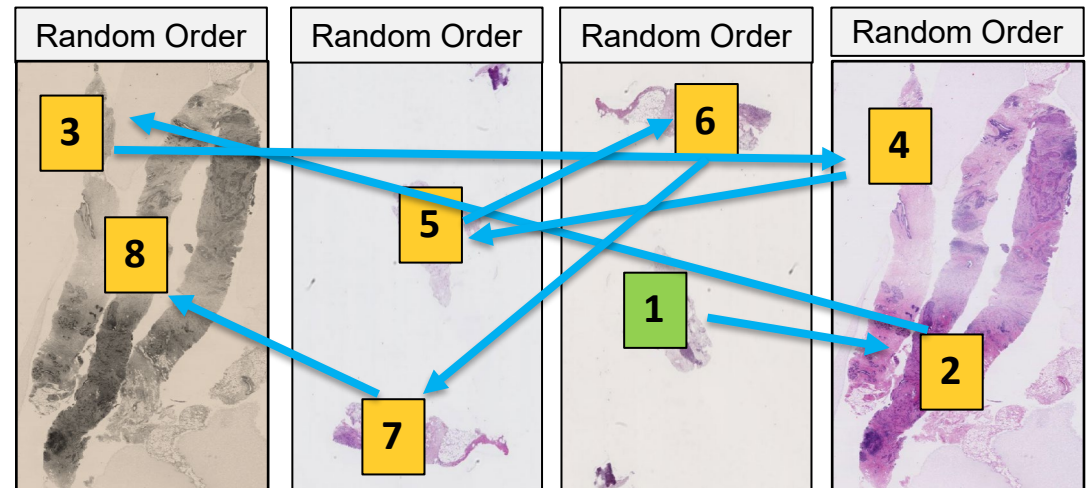
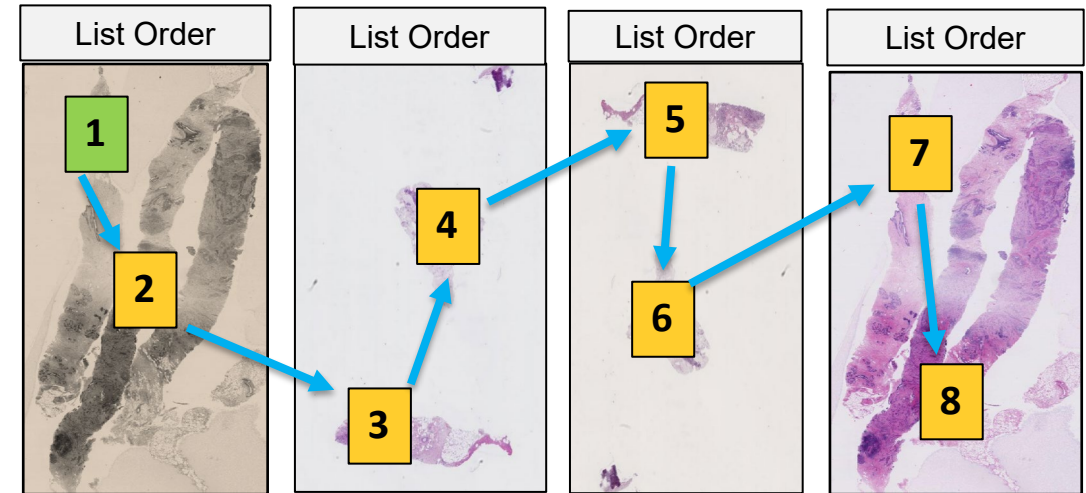
## 4 Registration Methods:

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## 2 Orders of Operation:

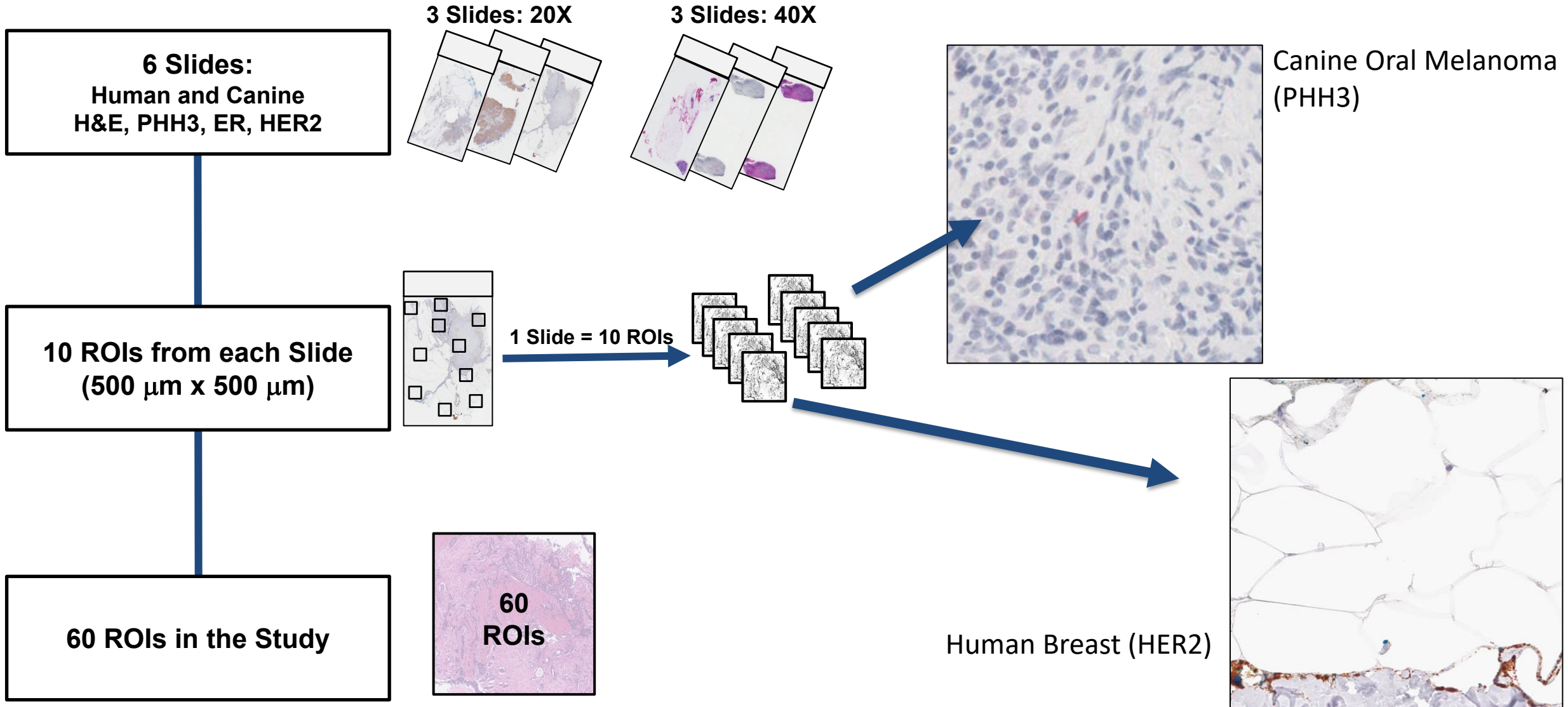
- 1) List Order
- 2) Random Order

**8 Study Conditions**



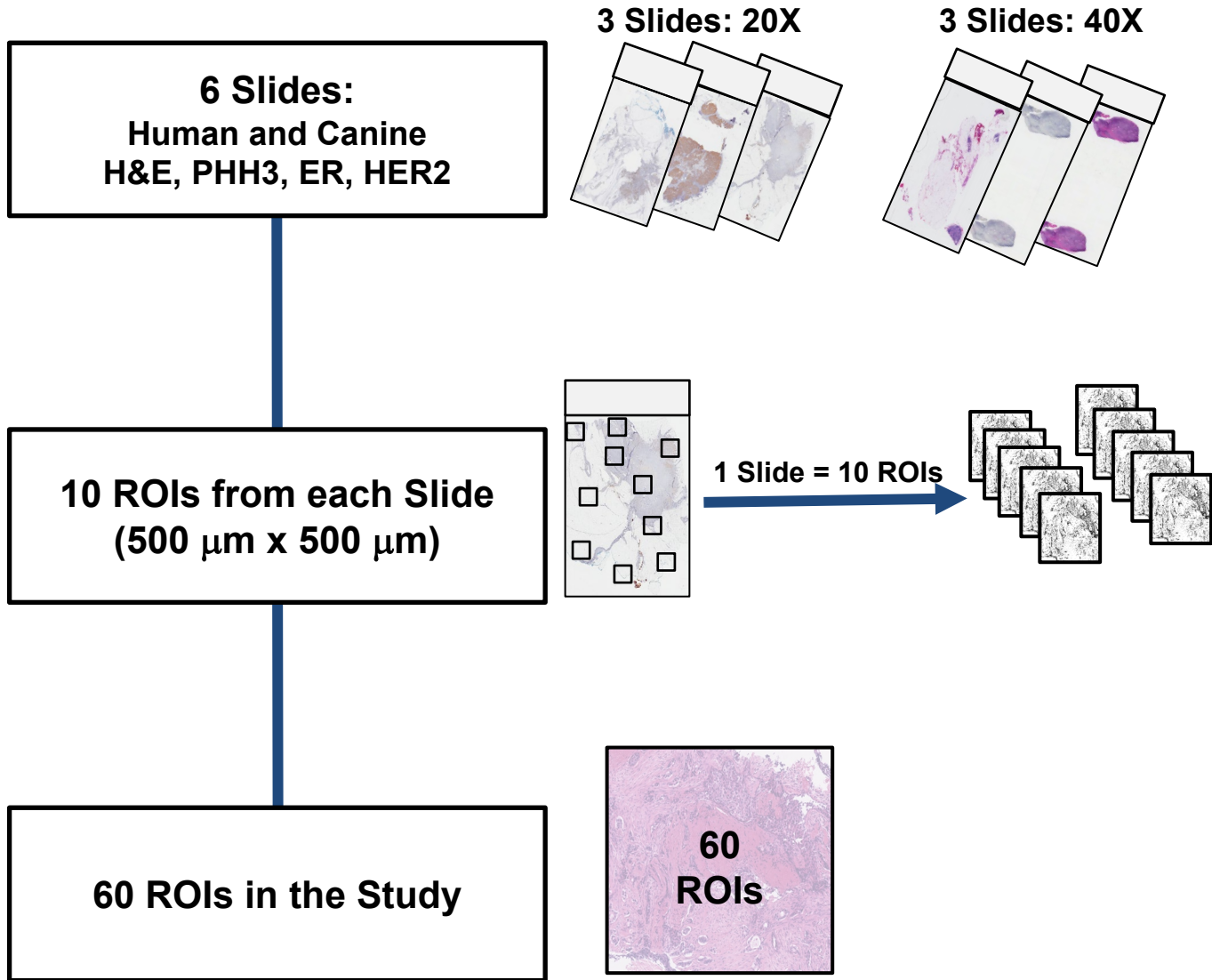


# eeDAP Registration Accuracy Study Materials





# eeDAP Registration Accuracy Study Materials



## 2018: 2 Operators

Camera: PointGrey Grasshopper 3

**0.3 MP ; pixel size = 7.5 μm**

Stage: Ludl BioPrecision 2

**Velocity = 33 mm/s ; accuracy = 6 μm**

Qi Gong, et. al., SPIE Med Imag, Proceedings, 2018

## 2022: 1 Operator

Camera: PointGrey Grasshopper 3

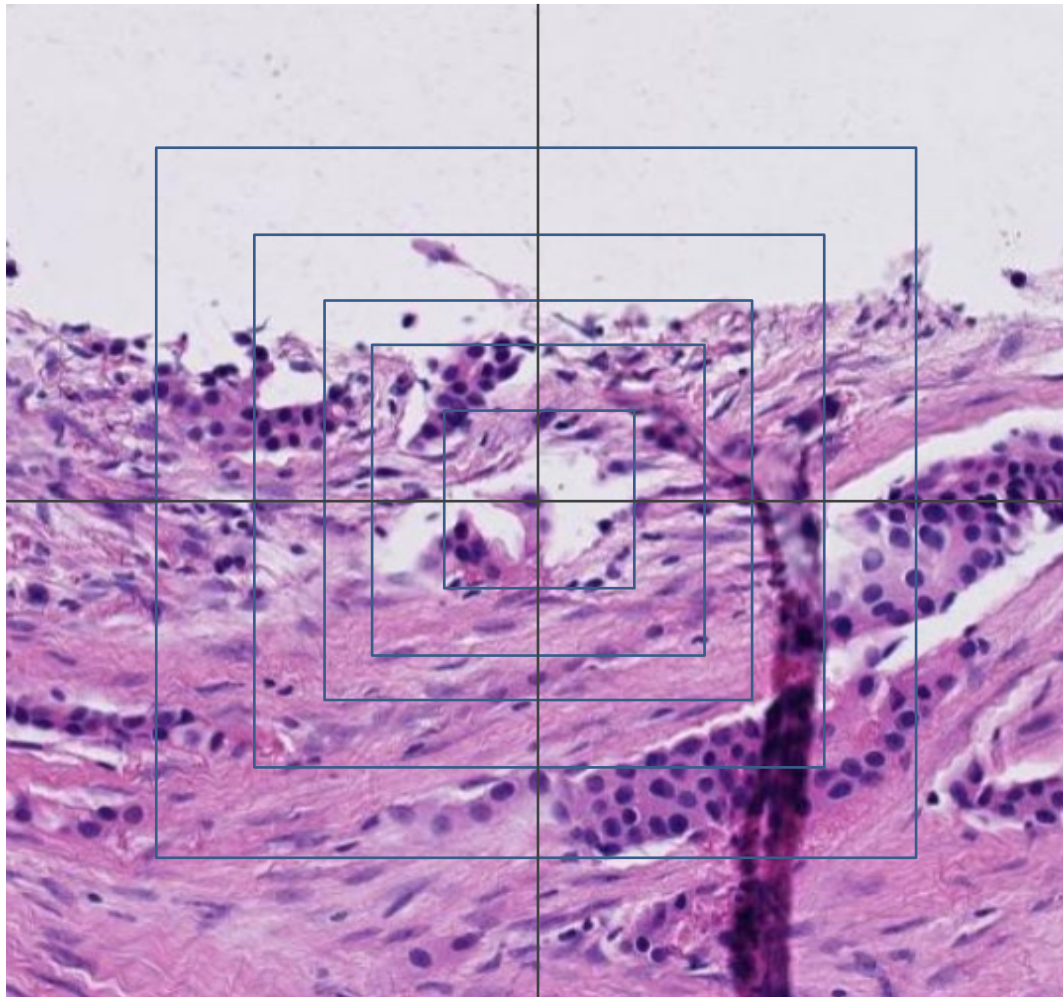
**2.3 MP ; pixel size = 5.36 μm**

Stage: Thorlabs High Speed X-Y

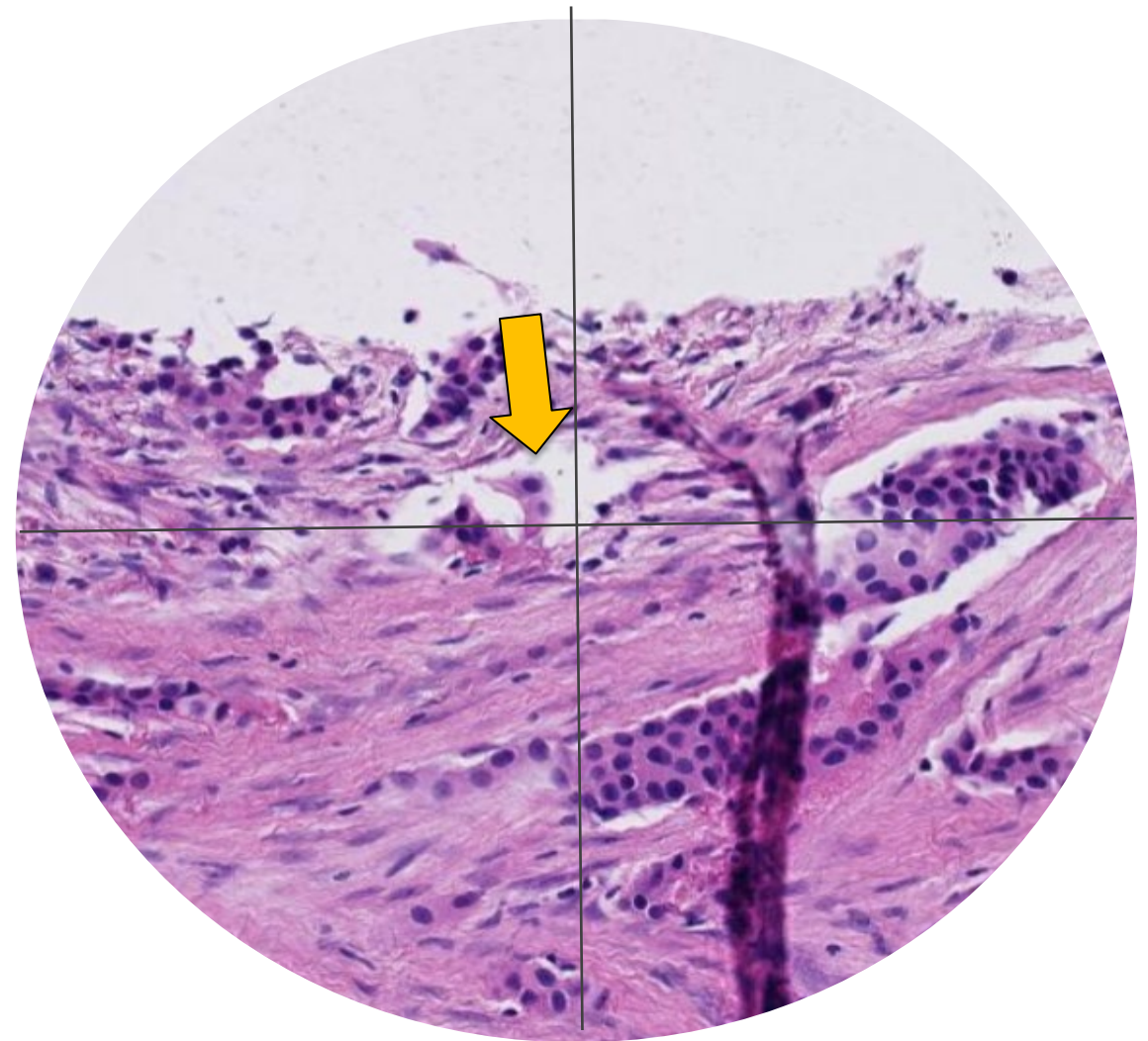
**Velocity = 250 mm/s ; accuracy = 0.25 μm**

Elfer, et. al., SPIE Med Imag, Proceedings, 2023

# Measuring eeDAP Registration Accuracy



**A. ROI with virtual bounding box**



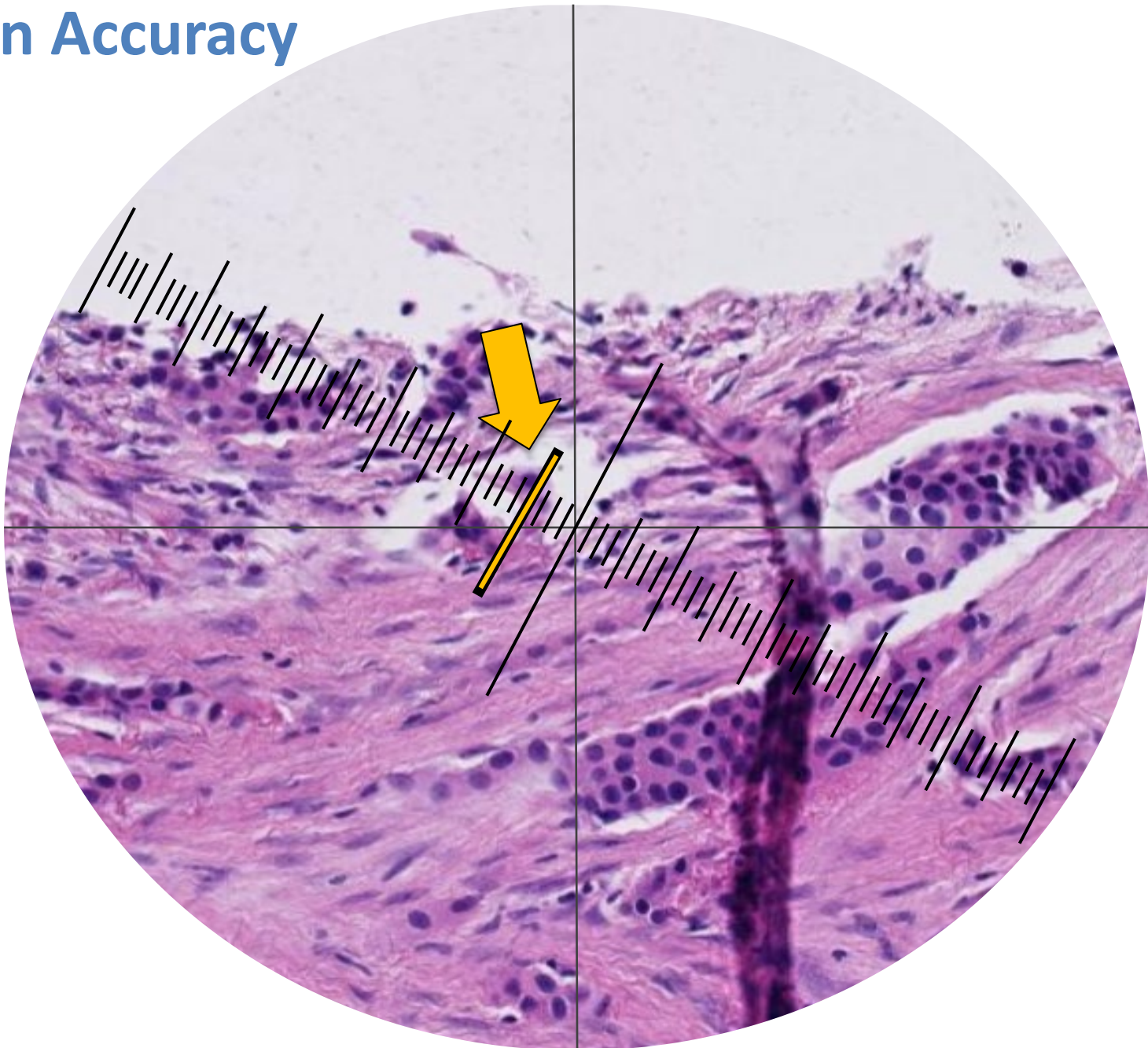
**B. FOV with reticle ruler**



# Measuring eeDAP Registration Accuracy

**Reticle Ruler: 10 mm: 100 divisions**

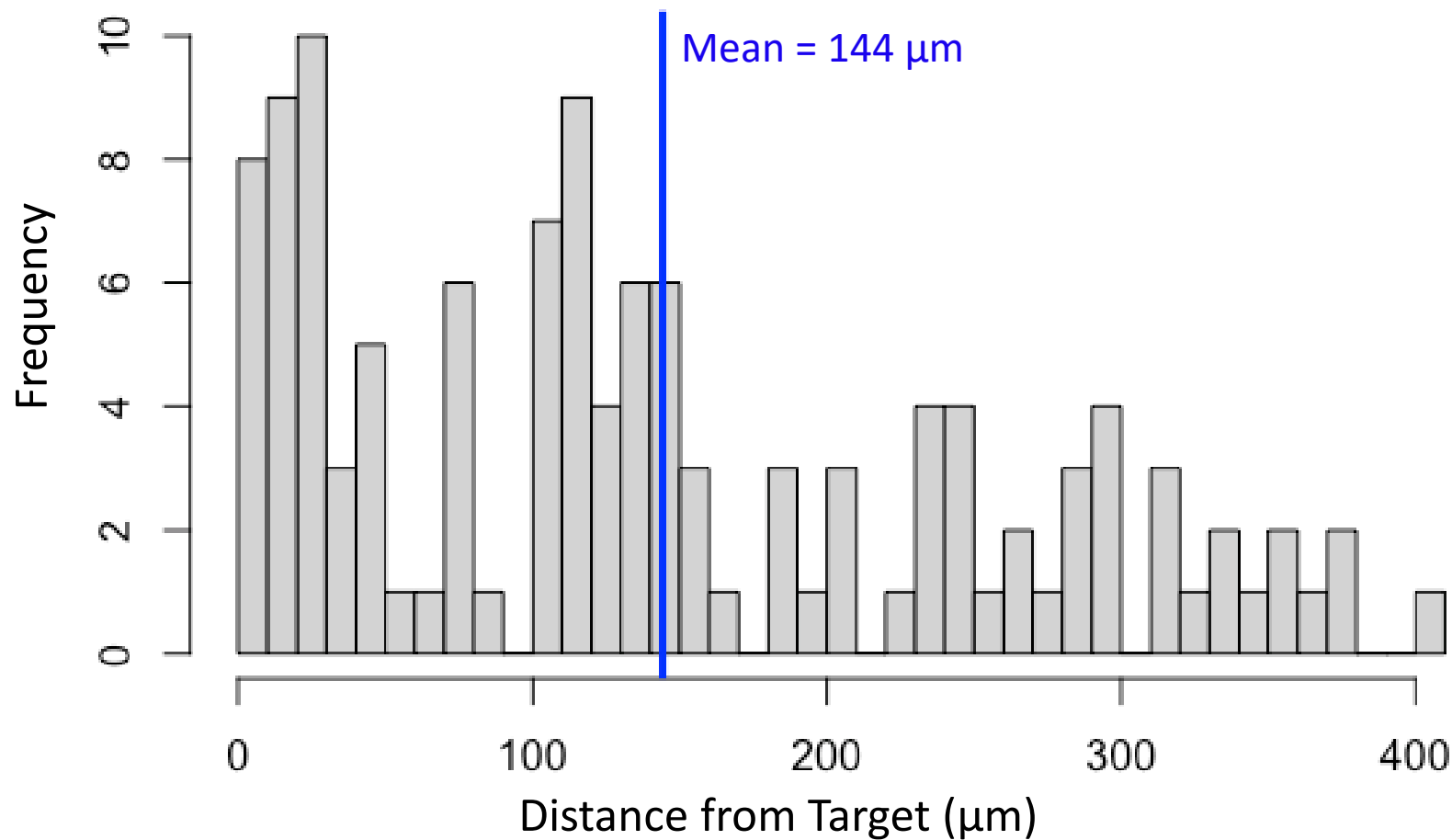
**We measure radial distance from center of cross-hairs to target**



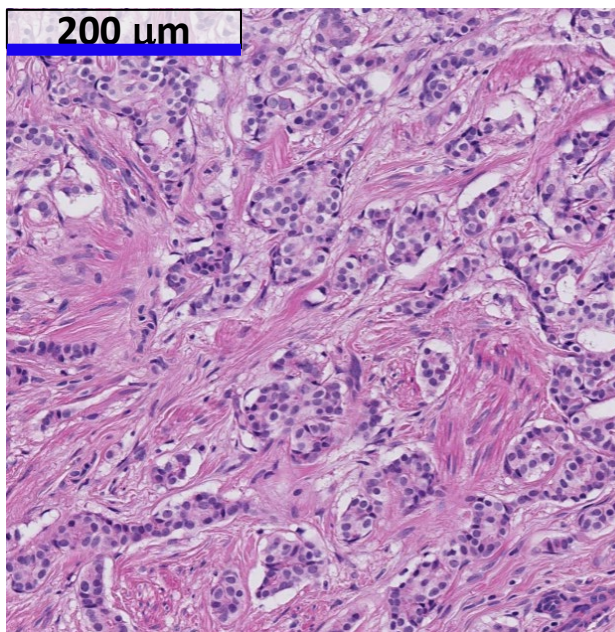
# Global Registration Measurements



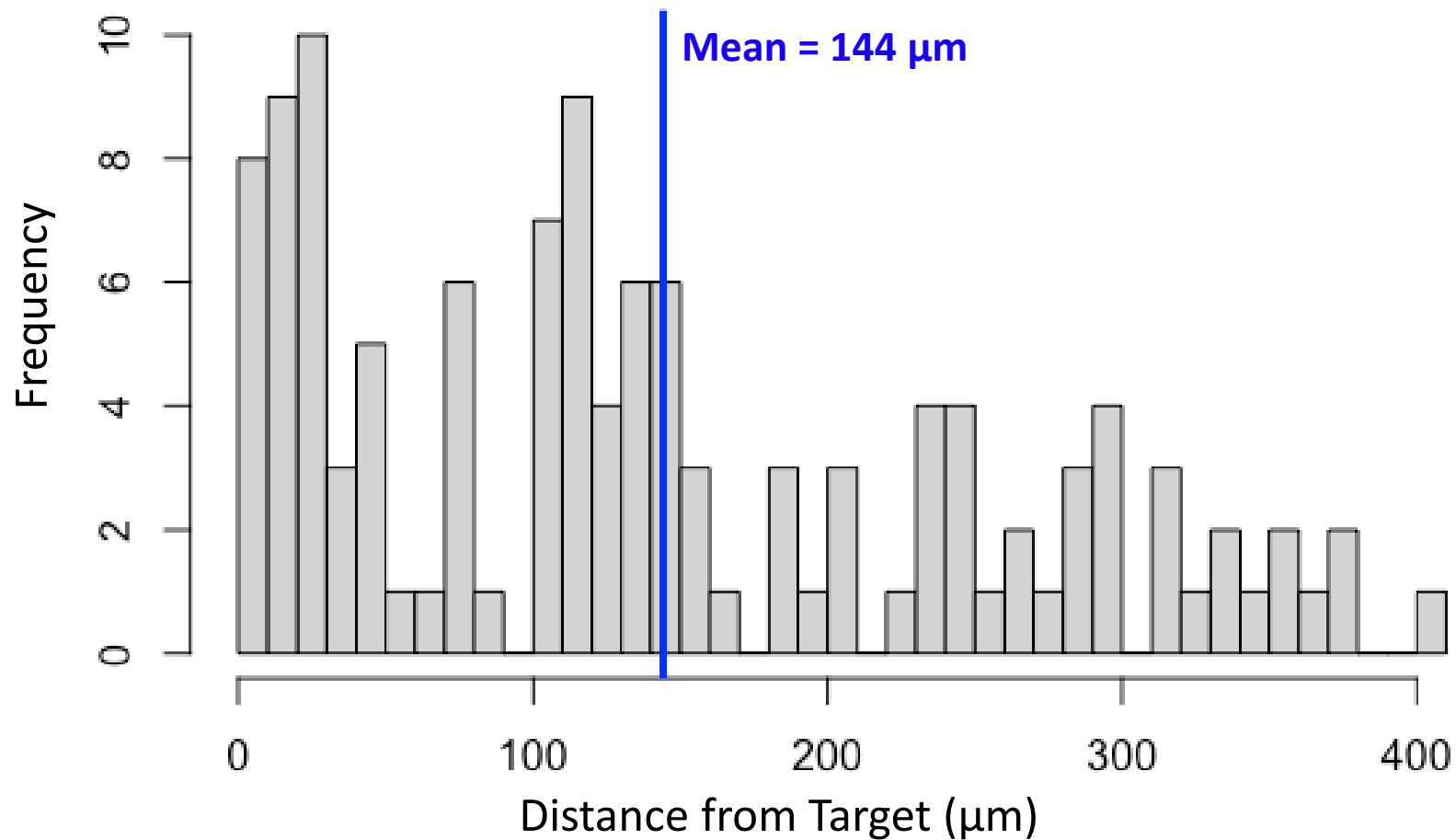
## Histogram of Global Measurements (n=120)



# Global Registration Measurements



## Histogram of Global Measurements (n=120)

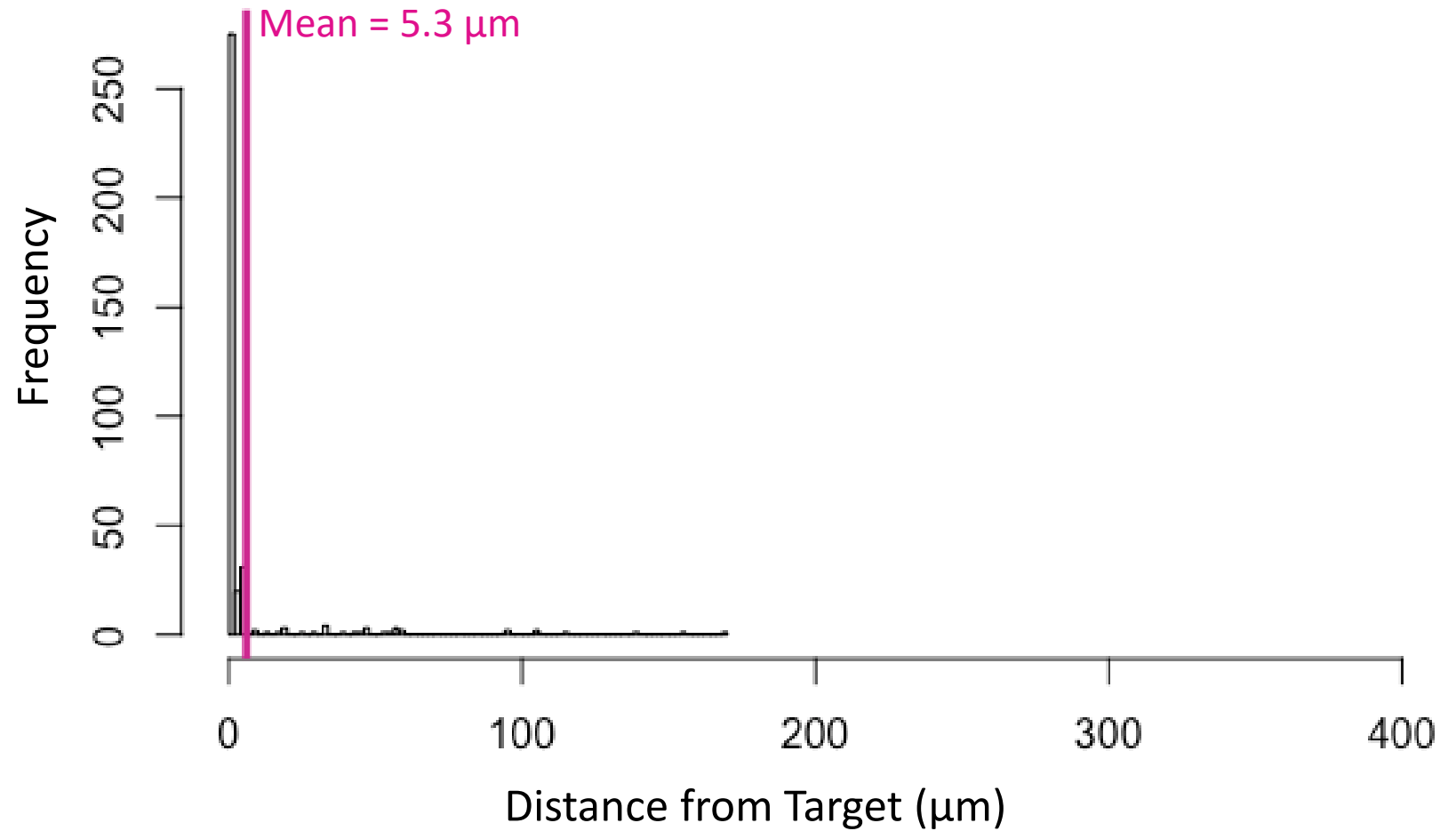




# Local Registration Measurements

## Histogram of Global Measurements (n=120)

With Local:Fast and Local:Best, 97% of measurements were within 5  $\mu\text{m}$



# Multi-Reader Multi-Case Analysis for sizing a validation study



## Variance of Percent Correct (PC) where success = 1; failure = 0

Binary Data: Success  $\leq 5 \mu\text{m}$  : Failure  $> 5 \mu\text{m}$

### 3 Variance Components:

$$\text{var}(\widehat{PC}) = \frac{\sigma_C^2}{N_C} + \frac{\sigma_R^2}{N_R} + \frac{\sigma_{RC}^2}{N_R N_C},$$

Reader Terms

Case Terms

Interaction Terms  
between Cases &  
Readers

iMRMC Github:  
<https://github.com/DIDSR/iMRMC>

# Multi-Reader Multi-Case Analysis for sizing a validation study



**12 Readers pooled across 2018 & 2022 readers and methods**

**3 Readers X (Local:Fast + Local:Best) X (List + Random) = 12 Readers**

**3 Variance Components:**

$$\text{var}(\widehat{PC}) = \frac{\sigma_C^2}{N_C} + \frac{\sigma_R^2}{N_R} + \frac{\sigma_{RC}^2}{N_R N_C},$$

Reader Terms

Case Terms

Interaction Terms  
between Cases &  
Readers

iMRMC Github:  
<https://github.com/DIDSR/iMRMC>

# Multi-Reader Multi-Case Analysis for sizing a validation study



Using these variability results, we can estimate the  $N_C, N_R$  of future validation studies, like one for the HTT project

Component	MRMC Result
Average registration success rate	0.97
MRMC standard error of the average registration success rate	0.013
$\sigma_C^2$ = variability from cases	$6.8 \times 10^{-3}$
$\sigma_R^2$ = variability from readers	$2.7 \times 10^{-4}$
$\sigma_{RC}^2$ = variability from interaction between readers and cases.	$2.3 \times 10^{-2}$

$$\text{var}(\widehat{PC}) = \frac{\sigma_C^2}{N_C} + \frac{\sigma_R^2}{N_R} + \frac{\sigma_{RC}^2}{N_R N_C}$$

**iMRMC Github:**

<https://github.com/DIDSR/iMRMC>

# Current and Future Work



## Launch of the HTT Pivotal Study

## Launch of training course and modules for pathologist sTILs Assessment

### Recent Publications:

S. Wen & B.D. Gallas, Three-Way Mixed Effect ANOVA to Estimate MRMC Limits of Agreement. *Statistics in Biopharmaceutical Research*, 2022.

H. Du, et. al., Single reader between-cases AUC estimator with nested data. *Statistics in Biopharmaceutical Research* 31(11), 2022.

## eeDAP Studies Group Page

A home for collaborative studies to create tools (methods, data, and code) that advance regulatory science in the area of digital pathology imaging and related artificial intelligence software as a medical device.



Wiki Home

links to other project pages



Evaluation Environment for Digital and Analog Pathology (eeDAP)



Device Advice: for medical device sponsors submitting to the FDA



What is HTT?



HTT Data Collection Training



Start Data Collection

<https://ncihub.org/groups/eedapstudies>

[https://www.zotero.org/groups/4384613/eedap\\_studies\\_presentations\\_publications\\_and\\_studies/collections/9ABM9D8M](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4384613/eedap_studies_presentations_publications_and_studies/collections/9ABM9D8M)

# Acknowledgements

**Salgado et al:** Slides and Images: We would like to acknowledge the Pathology Department of Institut Jules Bordet in Brussels, Belgium for providing the pathology slides for this work.

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Kate Elfer would like to acknowledge the funding and support of the National Cancer Institute: Division of Cancer Prevention

**Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program** <https://cpfp.cancer.gov/>



**NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE**

**Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program**

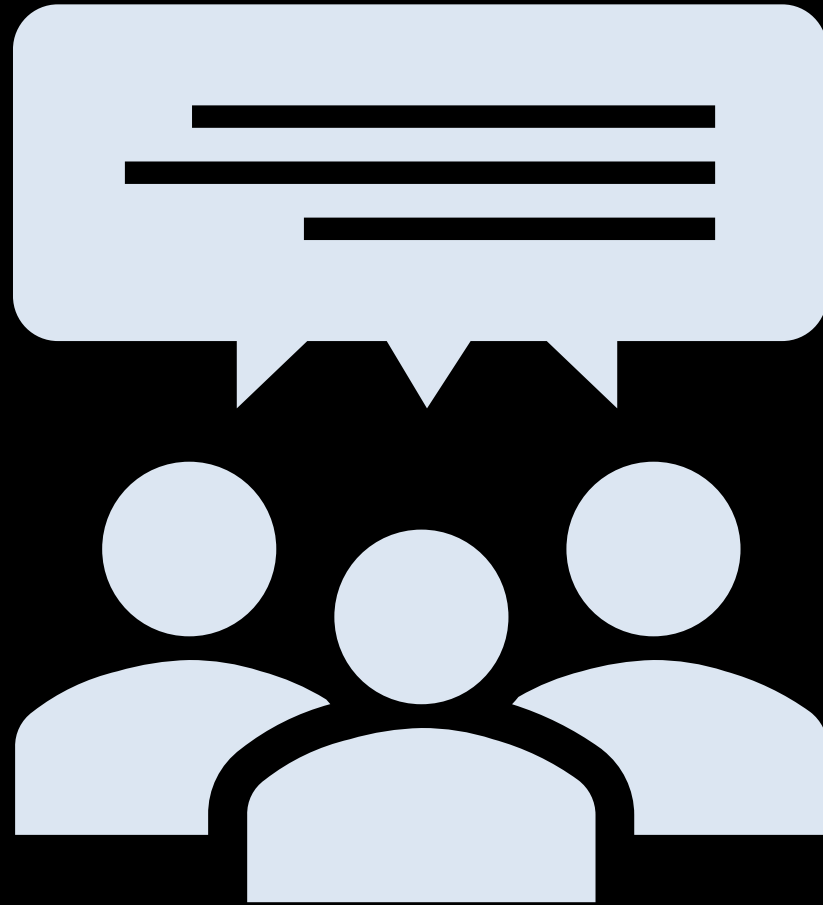


# Collaborators

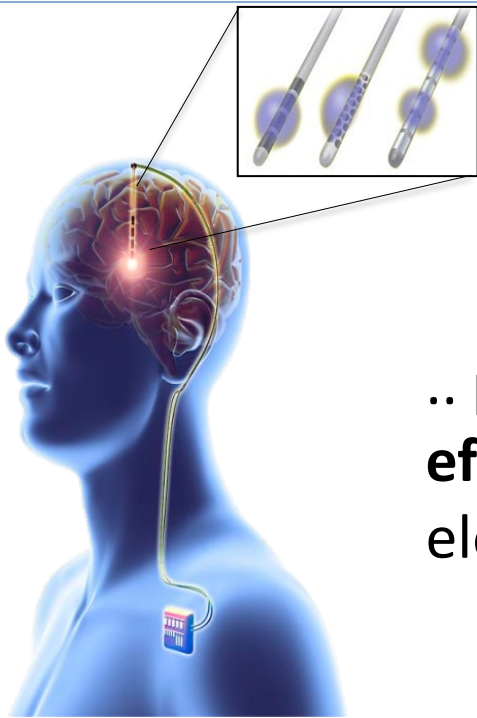
- **Mohamed Amgad, MD**
  - Department of Pathology, Northwestern University
- **Kim Blenman, PhD**
  - Yale School of Medicine
- **Weijie Chen, PhD**
  - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Sarah Dudgeon, MPH**
  - CORE Center for Computational Health Yale-New Haven Hospital
- **Brandon Gallas, PhD**
  - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Victor Garcia, MD**
  - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Ryan Birmingham**
  - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Emma Gardecki,**
  - 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
- **Joe Lennerz, MD**
  - Pathology Innovation Collaborative Community
- **Xiaoxian “Bill” Li, MD/PhD**
  - Emory University School of Medicine
- **Anant Madabhushi, PhD**
  - Case Western Reserve University
- **Roberto Salgado, PhD**
  - Division of Research, Peter Mac Callum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, Australia; Department of Pathology, GZA-ZNA Hospitals
- **Tony Pan, PhD**
  - Emory University, caMicroscope
- **Joel Saltz, MD/PhD**
  - Stony Brook Medicine Dept of Biomedical Informatics
- **Manasi Sheth, PhD**
  - FDA/CDRH/OPQE/Division of Biostatistics
- **Rajendra Singh, MD**
  - Northwell health and Zucker School of Medicine
- **Evan Szu, PhD**
  - Arrive Bio
- **Darick Tong, MS**
  - Arrive Bio
- **Si Wen, PhD**
  - FDA/CDRH/OSEL/DIDSR
- **Bruce Werness, MD**
  - Arrive Bio



# Open for Questions

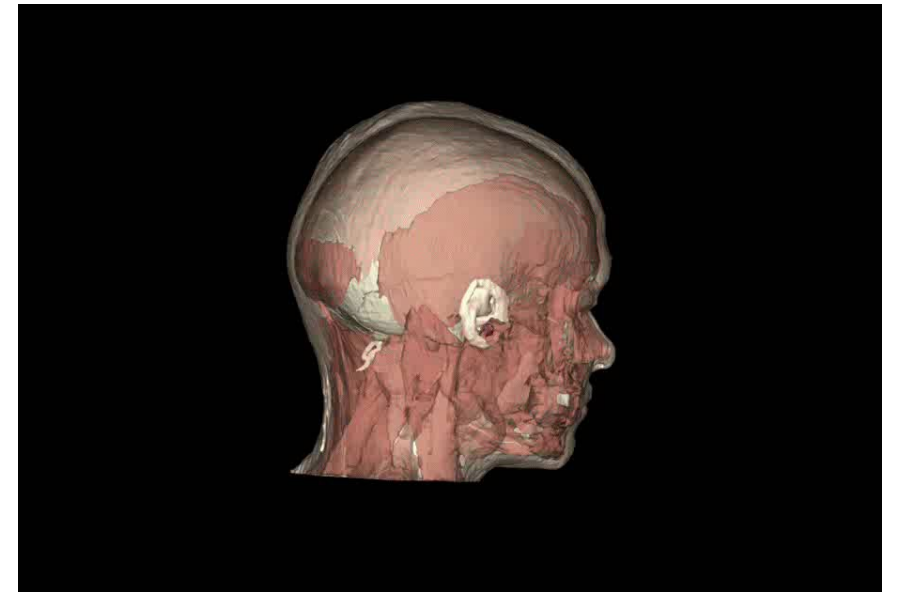


# CDRH Mission

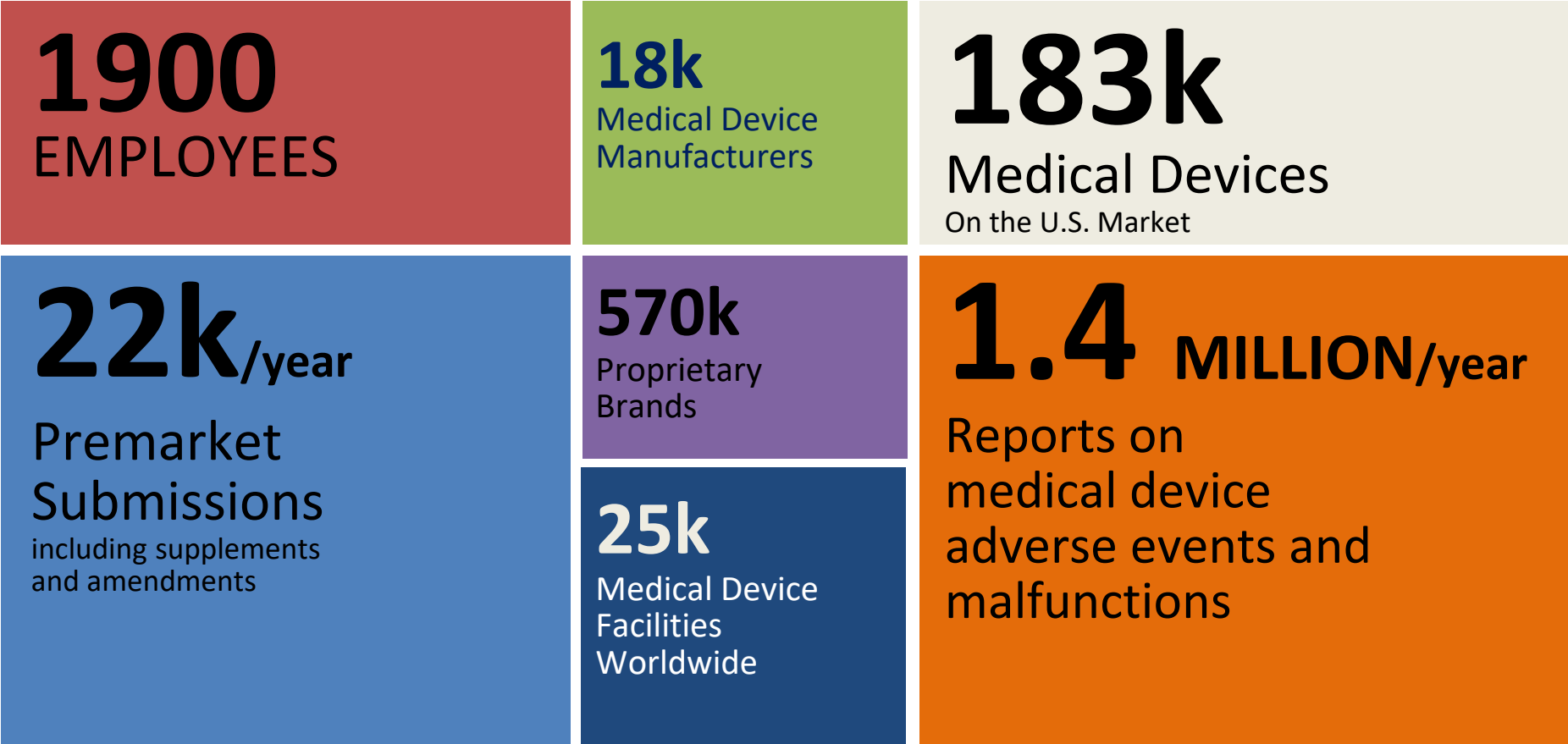


.. protect and promote the health of the public by ensuring the **safety** and **effectiveness of medical devices** and the safety of radiation-emitting electronic products...

We facilitate medical device innovation by advancing regulatory science, providing industry with predictable, consistent, transparent, and efficient regulatory pathways, and assuring consumer confidence in devices marketed in the U.S.



# CDRH Snapshot



# Office of Science and Engineering Laboratories (OSEL)

- Conduct laboratory-based regulatory research to facilitate development and innovation of safe and effective medical devices and radiation emitting products
- Provide scientific and engineering expertise, data, and analyses to support regulatory processes
- Collaborate with colleagues in academia, industry, government, and standards development organizations to develop, translate, and disseminate science and engineering-based information regarding regulated products
- <https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/cdrh-offices/office-science-and-engineering-laboratories>



# OSEL Snapshot

**183**  
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES  
Up to 180 visiting scientists

**140** Projects  
In 20 Program Areas

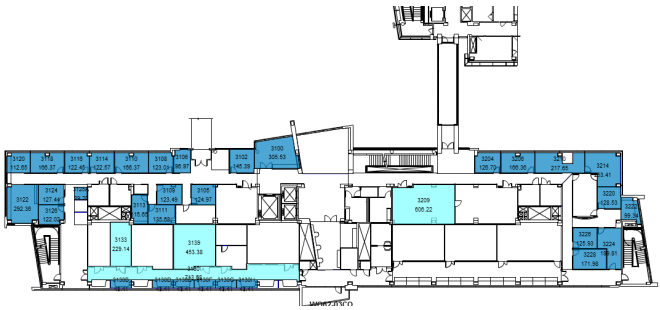
**400**/year  
Peer reviewed presentations, articles,  
and other public disclosures

**2,500**/year  
Premarket  
Regulatory consults

**75**  
Standards and  
conformity  
assessment  
committees

**70%**  
Staff with post  
graduate degree

**55,000 ft<sup>2</sup>**  
Lab facilities



## Division of Imaging, Diagnostics and Software Reliability (DIDSR)

- Develop least burdensome approaches for regulatory evaluation of imaging and big-data devices
  - Efficient clinical trials accounting for reader variability, simulation tools, in silico phantoms and imaging trials, addressing issues related to imperfect / missing reference standards, and limited data for training/testing of machine classifiers
- Develop measures of technical effectiveness of imaging and big-data technologies
  - Phantoms, laboratory measurements, computational models

