

*Comparison of various platforms for  
Large Molecule analysis*

*-  
Introduction of the Imperacer<sup>®</sup>  
technology*

*PRA International*

EBF

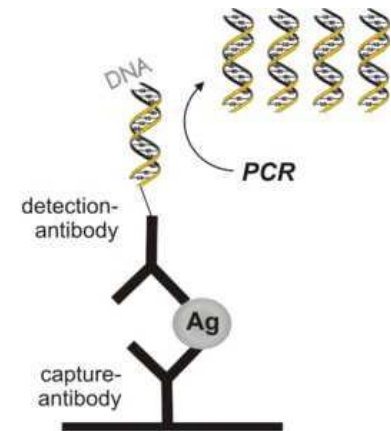


*Martin Nemansky, Ph.D.  
Scientific Director*

*PRA - Bioanalytical Laboratory*

# Contents

- Introduction of PRA and Chimera
- Immuno-PCR technology
- Comparison of assay platforms
- Applications for the Imperacer<sup>®</sup> technology
- Cytokine assay development and validation
- Conclusions



# PRA Early Development Services

## LENEXA, KS, USA

- Phase I unit
- Data Support

## BERLIN, GERMANY

- Patient Phase I/IIa studies
- 5 operational sites in CEE
- Data Support

## LENEXA, KS, USA

- Bioanalytical Laboratory
- PK small molecules:  
3 LC-MS/MS
- Large Molecules: 2011

## ASSEN, NL

- Bioanalytical Laboratory
- PK SM: 17 LC-MS/MS
- PK and ADA assays for LM
- PD/Biomarkers

## ZUIDLAREN/GRONINGEN, NL

- 140-bed Phase I/IIa unit
- Safety laboratory
- GMP-grade pharmacy
- Data Support

# PRA Clinics and Labs in NL



1. Hospital based Phase-I/IIa unit
  - Microbiology Unit
2. Phase I unit with:
  - Safety Laboratory (fully automated)
  - Microbiology Unit
  - Full GMP pharmacy
  - Dedicated <sup>14</sup>C clinic
3. Recruitment and Screening Center
4. Bioanalytical Laboratory (PK, PD, ADA-assays; FACS; Biohazard and Isotope labs)
5. CLL - Central Laboratory services

# Supporting Drug Development



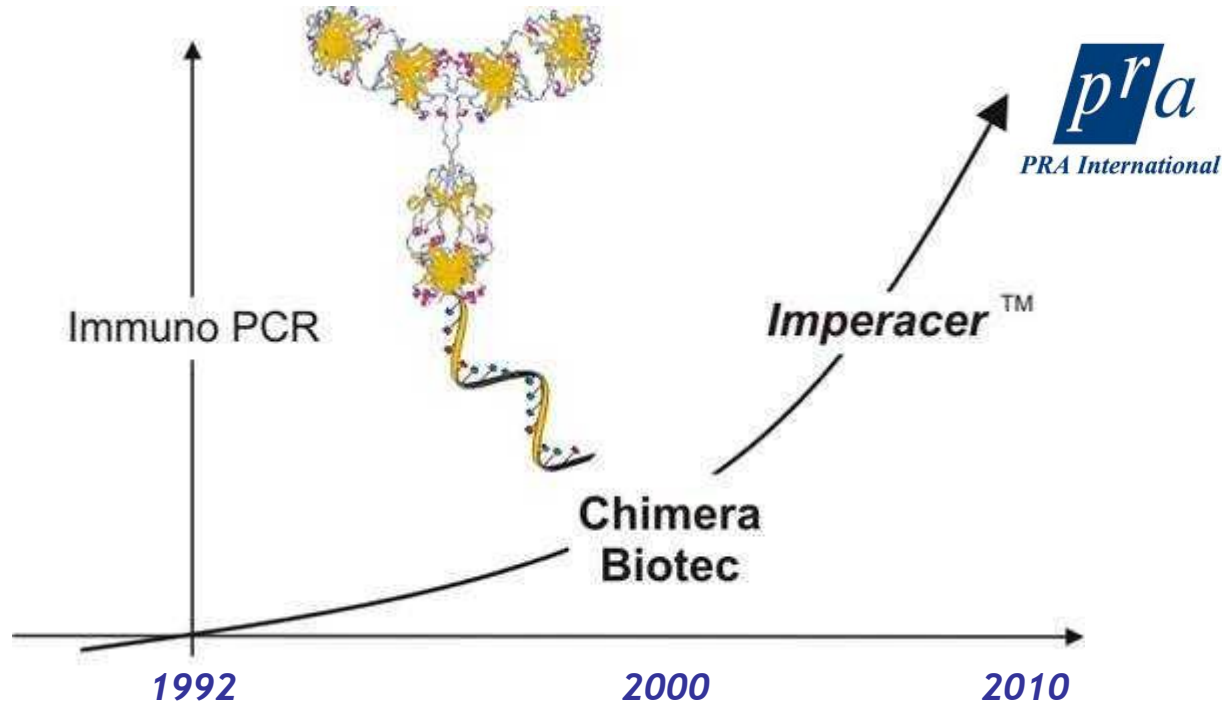
**Bioanalytical Laboratory Services Across All Phases**

# Chimera Biotec



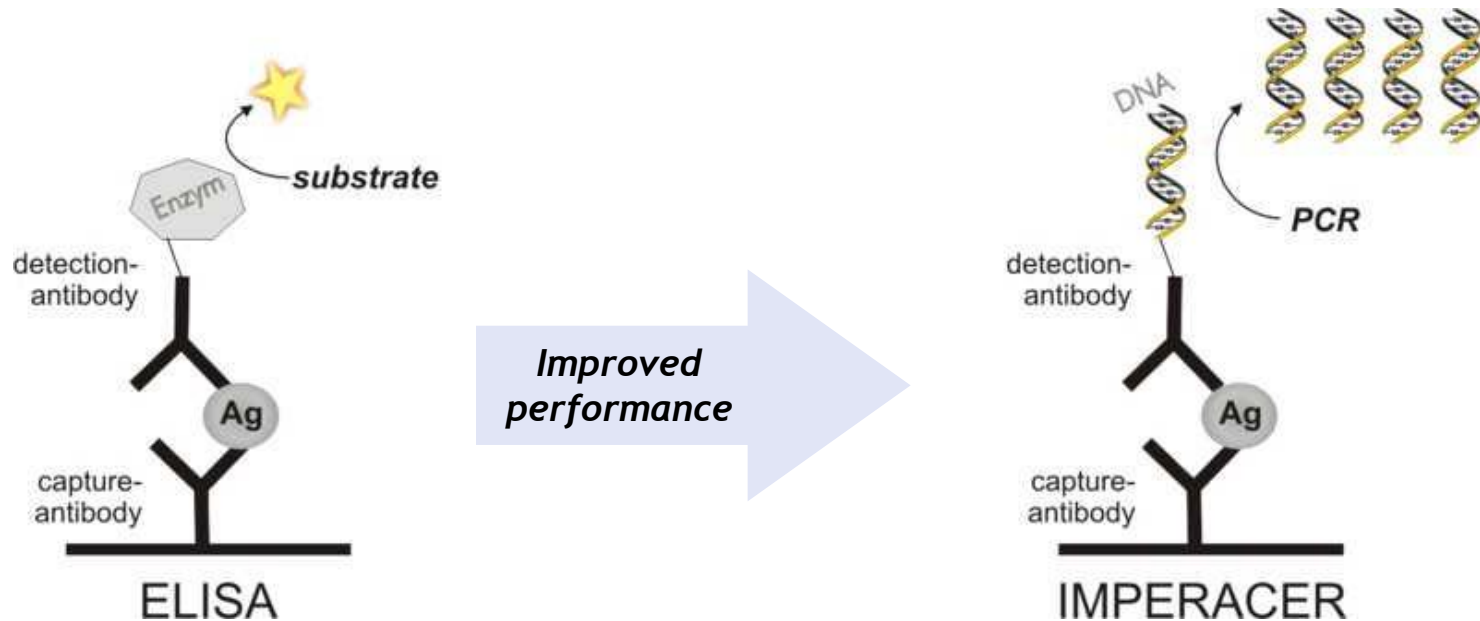
- Manufacturer of the Imperacer® platform
- Focus on ultra-sensitive immunoassays
- Laboratory in Dortmund, Germany
- Founded in 2000
- Marketing Imperacer® since 2004
- Staff of 20 specialists
- Collaboration with **PRA International** for GLP studies

# Immuno-PCR Development



- 1992** - Start of Immuno-PCR technology
- 2000** - Foundation of Chimera Biotec
  - 210 Projects realized since 2004
  - 10 out top 25 Pharma/Biotech use Imperacer®
- 2010** - Collaboration with **PRA International** for GLP studies

# Immuno-PCR Technology



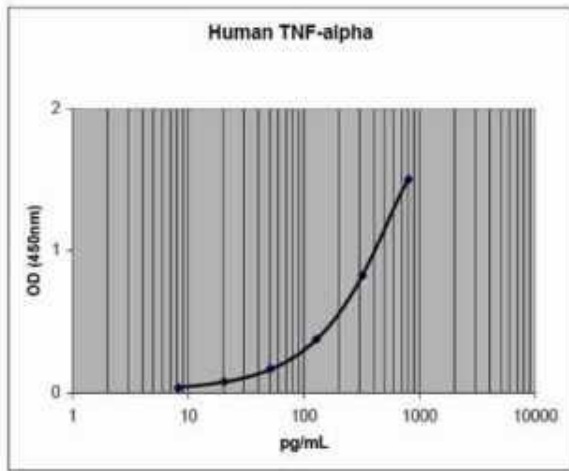
- Antibody-Enzyme Conjugate
- Conventional UV/Vis

- Antibody-DNA Conjugate
- Real-time PCR

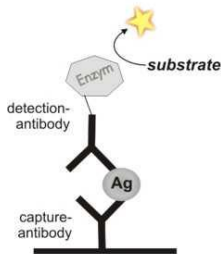


# ELISA compared to Imperacer<sup>®</sup>

**TNF $\alpha$  ELISA kit (Biosource)**

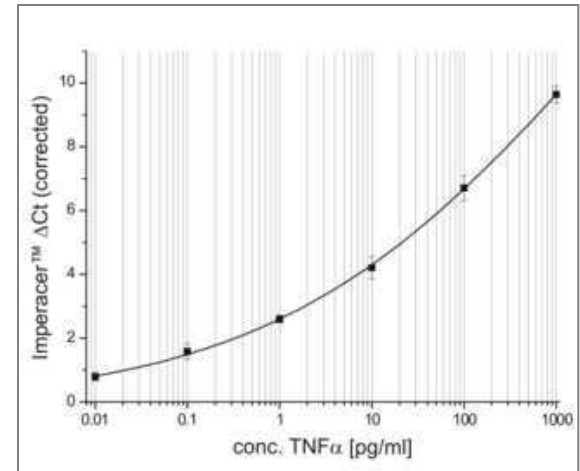


**LOD: 10 pg/ml**

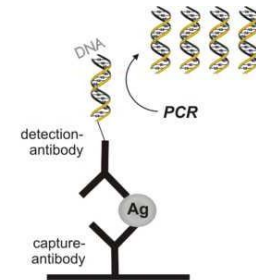


**Improved performance**

**TNF $\alpha$  Imperacer<sup>®</sup> kit**

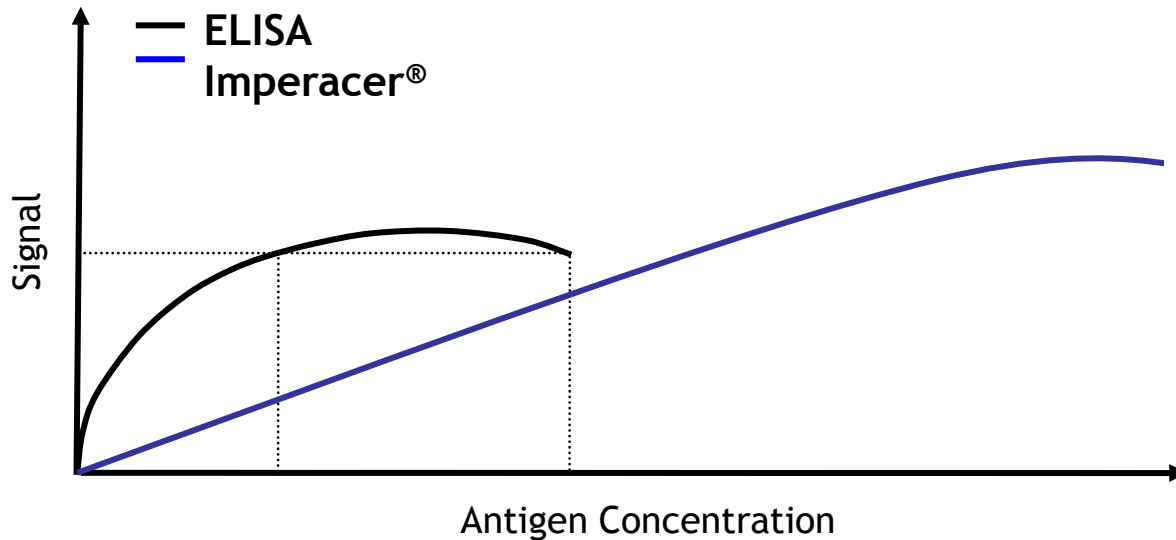


**LOD: 0.01 pg/ml**



**Same Antibody pair**

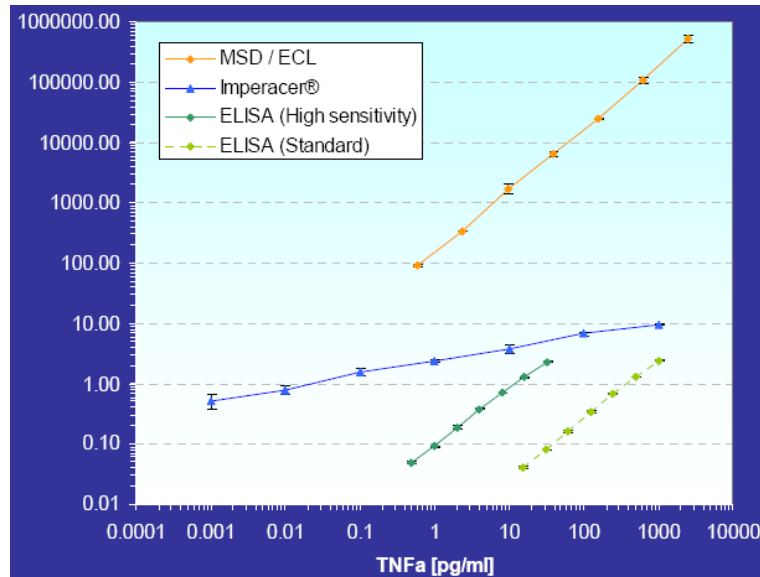
# ELISA compared to Imperacer<sup>®</sup>



## Advantages of the Imperacer<sup>®</sup> platform:

- Higher sensitivity
- A wider dynamic range (3-6 orders of magnitude)
- Imperacer<sup>®</sup> allows shifting the hook-effect through dilution

# MSD compared to Imperacer®



LOD in human serum	Imperacer (pg/ml)	MSD (pg/ml)	Increase in sensitivity by factor
IL-2	0.10	1.3	13
IL-6	0.10	0.7	7
IL-11	0.80	n/a	-
IL-12	0.05	n/a	-
IL-17	0.02	0.4	20
IL-23	0.20	n/a	-
TNF $\alpha$	0.01	1.1	110
TNF $\alpha$ (buffer)	0.001	0.7	700

## Advantages of the Imperacer® platform:

- Increase in sensitivity by a factor 7-700
- A wider dynamic range (6 vs. 4 orders of magnitude)
  - MSD: LOD is defined as the NC value plus 2.5-times standard deviation
  - Imperacer: LOD is defined as the NC value plus 3-times standard deviation

# Comparison of Assay Platforms

## Assay platforms for anti-drug antibody (ADA) analysis

Assay format	Acid treatment required	Typical sensitivity in ADA	Typical drug tolerance	Pros	Cons
Standard ELISA	Yes	~10 ng/mL	>1:100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic reagents and instrumentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple steps</li> <li>• Low drug tolerance</li> </ul>
ELISA Drug Depletion		~10 ng/mL	~1:300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good drug tolerance</li> <li>• Generic reagents and instrumentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laborious</li> <li>• Requires large sample volume</li> <li>• Increased variability of results</li> </ul>
Solution ELISA		~10 ng/mL	~1:400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good drug tolerance</li> <li>• Generic reagents and instrumentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple sequential assay steps</li> <li>• Requires high quality STV plates</li> </ul>
Gyros		~10 ng/mL	>1:100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automation</li> <li>• Assay Time &lt;2hrs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single provider of technology</li> <li>• Currently not available at CROs</li> <li>• Specialized instrument and consumables</li> </ul>
AlphaLISA		~20 ng/mL	~1:100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homogeneous assay without washing steps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single provider of technology</li> <li>• Specialized instrument and consumables</li> <li>• Narrow dynamic range and hook effect</li> </ul>
MSD		~10 ng/mL	~1:100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fewer steps than ELISA</li> <li>• Wider dynamic range</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single provider of technology</li> </ul>
Imperacer	No	~0.5 pg/ml	~1:1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good drug tolerance</li> <li>• Good assay sensitivity</li> <li>• No pre treatment required</li> <li>• Wide dynamic range</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single provider of technology</li> <li>• Limited availability at CROs</li> </ul>

Data: Amaravadi et al., AAPS, November 2008; Spengler et al., BBRC, 2009.

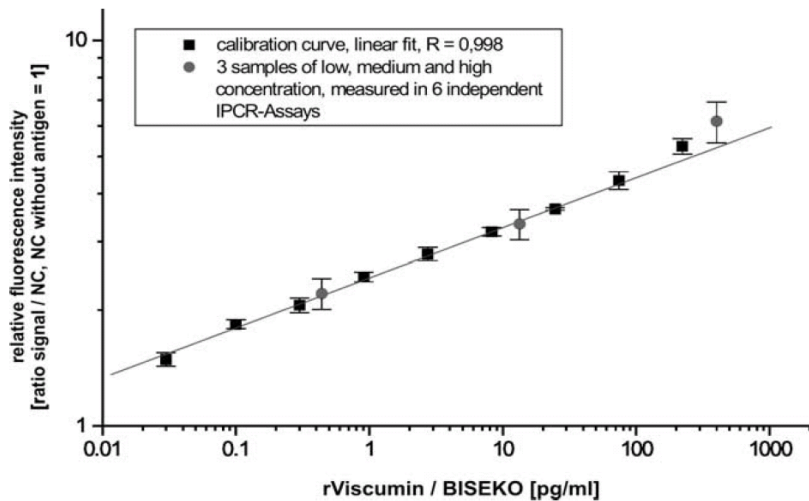
# Imperacer<sup>®</sup> Applications

## PK analysis: drug assay in a Phase I study

- Phase I clinical study
- Solid tumors; Intravenous Aviscumine
- 41 patients



*Aviscumine*

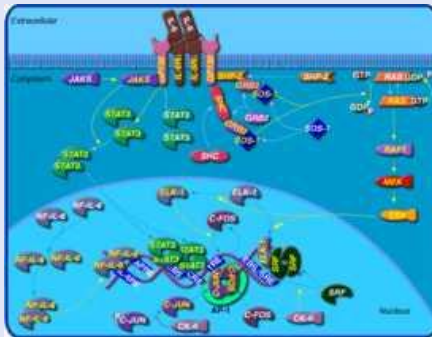


## Validated Imperacer<sup>®</sup> Assay

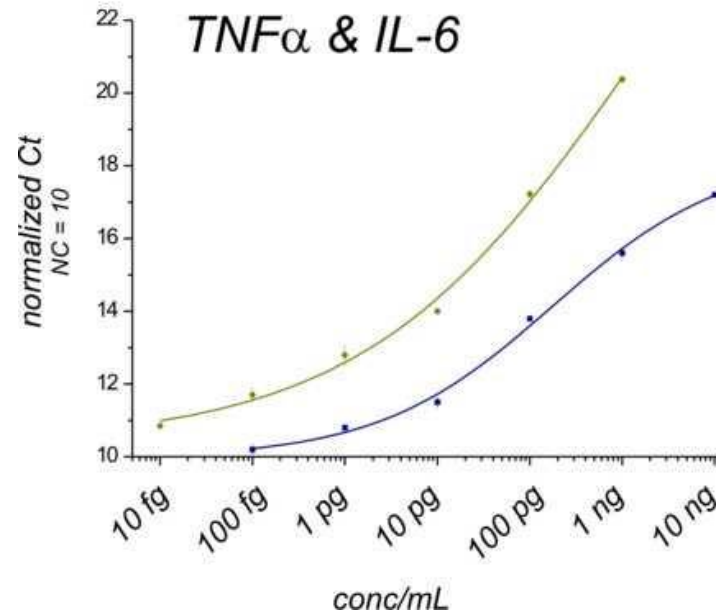
- Correlation coefficient: >0.99
- Quantification range: 0.1 - 1000 pg/mL
- LOD: 0.004 pg/mL
- Average recovery (citrate plasma): 86%

# Imperacer<sup>®</sup> Applications

## PD analysis: Cytokines in inflammation



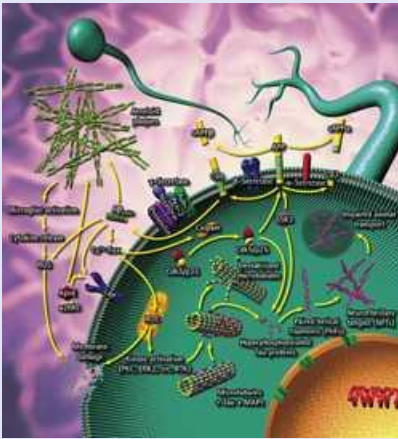
*Imperacer<sup>®</sup> Cytokine assays (e.g. IL-6, IL-8 and TNF $\alpha$ )*



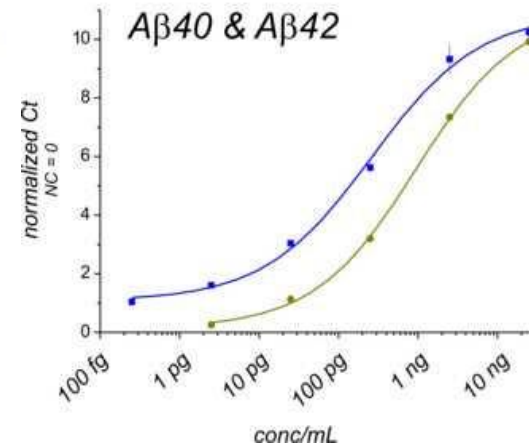
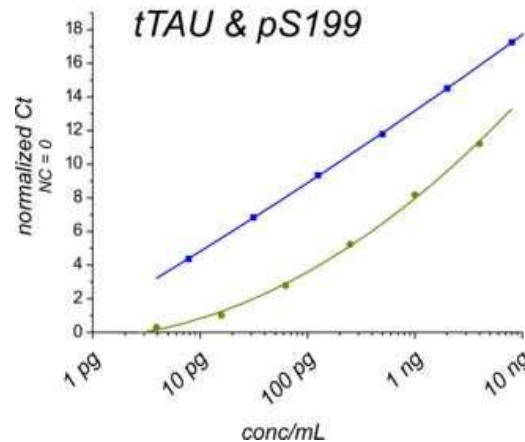
- Sensitivity: Variations in endogenous levels
- Dynamic range: Elevated levels in inflammation
- Various assay formats: Free vs. bound Cytokines

## Diagnostics: Alzheimer's Disease

www.calbiochem.com



Alzheimer's Disease pathway

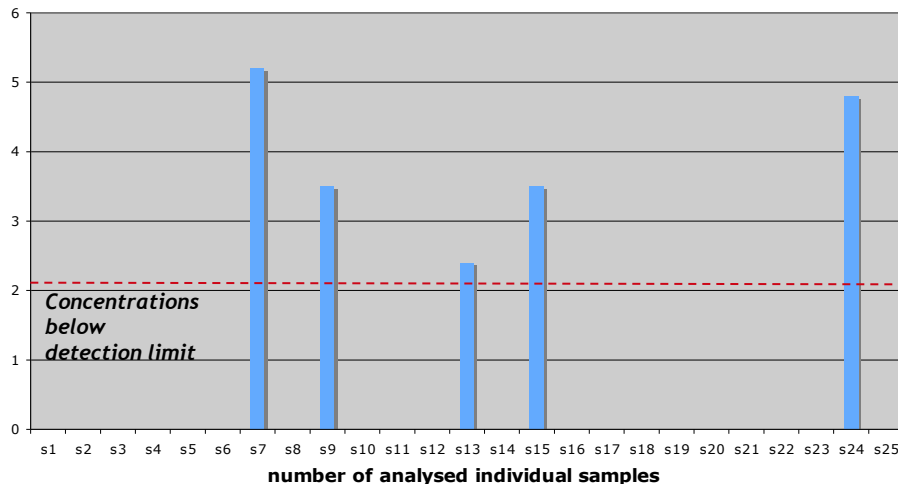


Imperacer<sup>®</sup> enables the detection of:

- Less than 10 pg/mL phosphorylated TAU in only 2  $\mu$ l CSF sample
- Less than 5 pg/mL Amyloid beta 40 and 42 in CSF sample

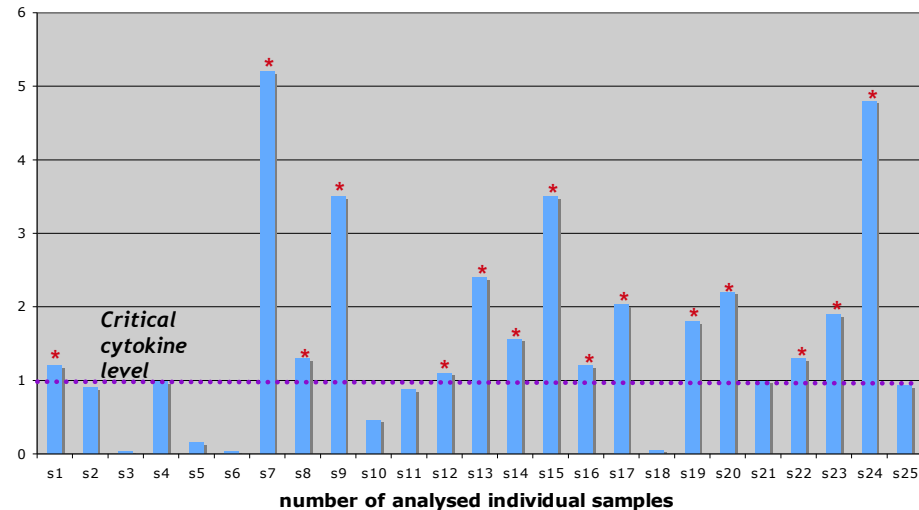
## Clinical trial screening: study inclusion (e.g. anti-cytokine drug)

**Cytokine detection common technology**



- Cytokine screening with common technology (e.g. ELISA)
- Most patients with elevated levels are not detected as concentrations are <LOD

**Cytokine detection Imperacer® technology**



- Cytokine screening with Imperacer® technology
- Detection of low level concentrations
- Identification (and follow-up) of patients with critical cytokine levels

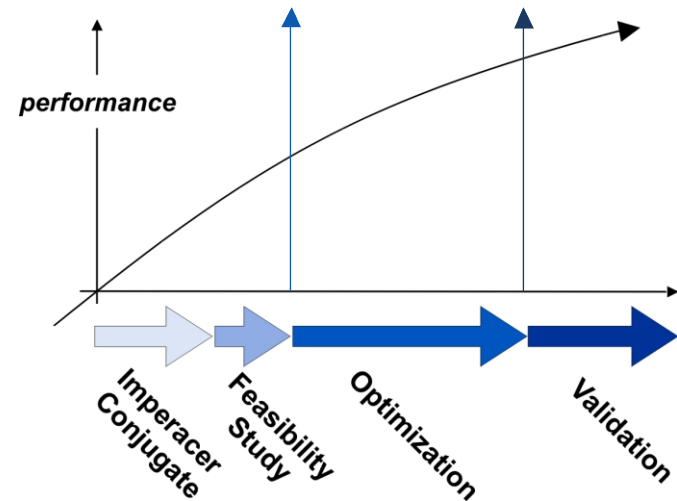
**Ultra-sensitive patient screening enables dramatic increase in responder rate. Current FDA guidelines support patient testing prior to study enrollment.**



# Development of a Cytokine Assay

## Development of an Imperacer<sup>®</sup> assay

1. Conjugate synthesis
2. Feasibility study
3. Assay optimization
4. Manufacturer assay validation (**Chimera**)
5. Fit-for-purpose (GLP) validation (**PRA**)

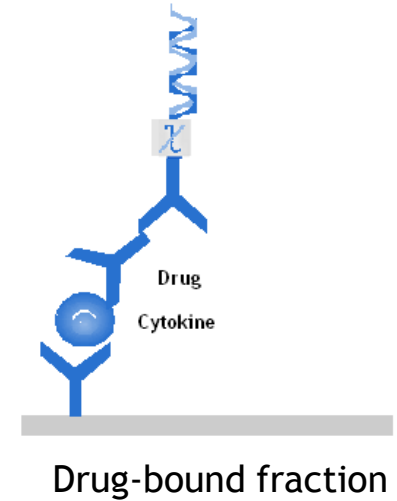
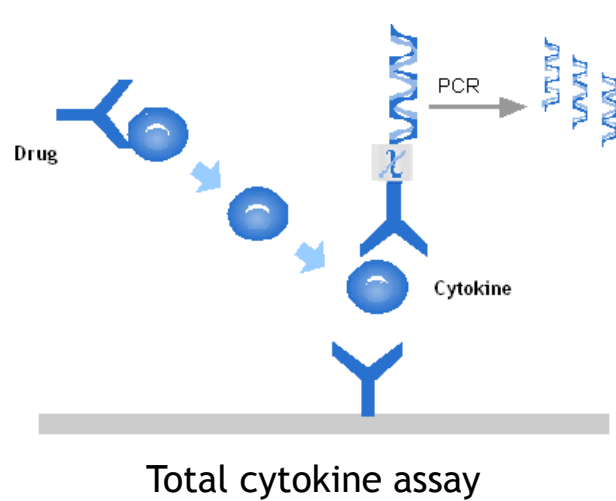
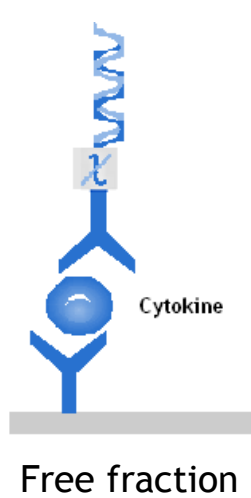


## Key facts

Antibodies:	Customer/Commercial - Choice of right Antibody-pair is key
Sensitivity:	Maximally achievable
Deliverables:	Manufacturer validated kits and detailed report
Duration:	12 to 16 weeks
Validation:	4 to 8 weeks (GLP or GLP-like, depending on purpose)

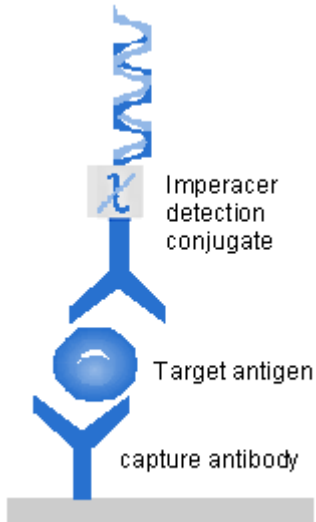
# Cytokine Assay Development

Imperacer<sup>®</sup> assays for a specific Cytokine: **Free, Total and Bound**



# Cytokine Assay Development

Imperacer® assays for a specific Cytokine: **Free assay**

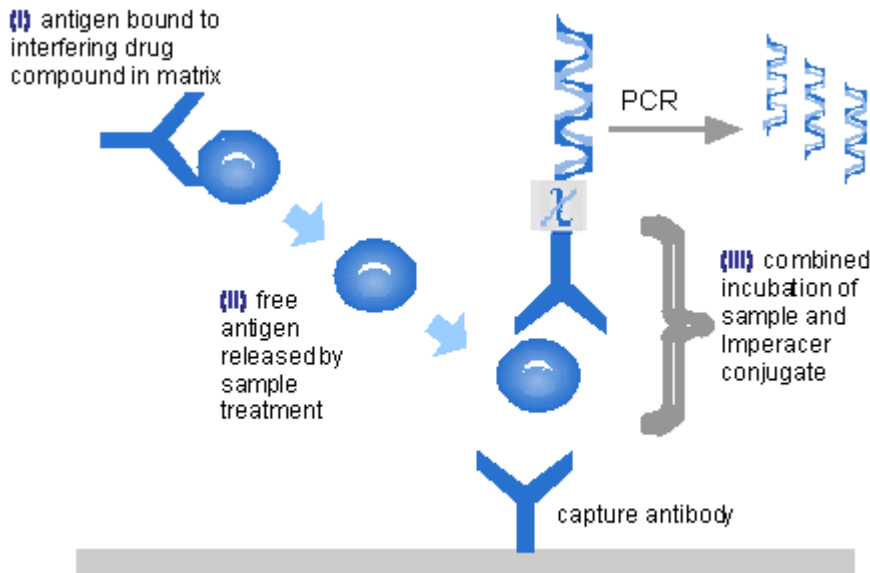


## Free Assay

Sandwich Imperacer® assay to detect the free Cytokine with highest sensitivity. The detection conjugate will not bind to drug-bound cytokine.

# Cytokine Assay Development

## Imperacer® assays for a specific Cytokine: Total assay

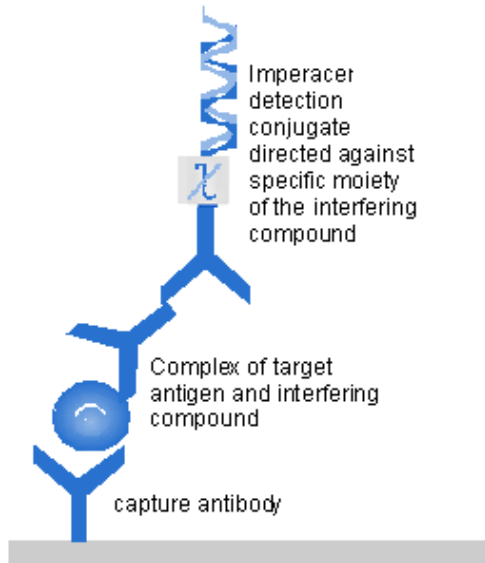


## Dissociation Assay

1. Release Cytokine from drug (pH or organic solvent).
2. Dilute sample in buffer including the detection conjugate to neutralize the dissociation procedure.
3. Incubate the conjugate containing sample on the capture plate.

# Cytokine Assay Development

Imperacer<sup>®</sup> assays for a specific Cytokine: **Drug-bound assay**



## Complexed Cytokine Assay

1. Capture by Cytokine-specific capture antibody.
2. Detection by drug-specific Imperacer<sup>®</sup> detection conjugate.

# Free Cytokine Assay Validation

## Validation of the specific Free Cytokine Imperacer<sup>®</sup> assay

### Calibration

- Regression model: 4PL regression
- Validated range: 0.059 - 6000 pg/ml
- Back-calculated results:  $r^2 > 0.99$

LLOQ: 0.059 pg/ml (in human serum)

Spike recovery: 104 - 109% (at 0.100, 10.0 and 100 pg/ml)

### Precision

- Signal: 0.4 - 1.1% (intra CV%); 0.4 - 1.8% (inter CV%)
- Concentration: 4.0 - 20.0% (inter-assay CV%)

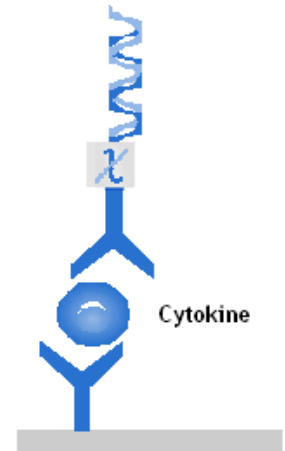
### Specificity (matrix variability)

- Spike recovery: 79 - 128% (10.0 pg/ml in healthy subjects and patients)
- Endogenous levels: ND - 0.745 pg/ml

Freeze/thaw stability: 1.0 - 9.9% (CV% of QCs at 3 levels; 3 F/T cycles)

### Robustness (QCs at 3 levels)

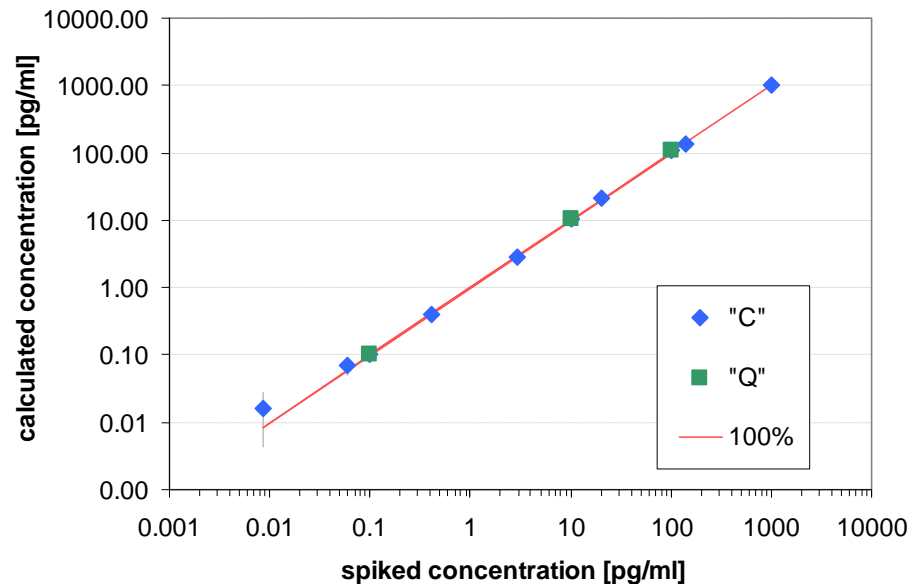
- Buffer vs. matrix: 0.5 - 1.9% (inter-matrix CV%)
- Instrument variation: 3.0 - 24.0% (CV%; 3 non-normalized instruments)
- Lot-to-lot variation: 3.0 - 19.0% (CV%; 2 batches of conjugate)



# Cytokine Assay Validation

## Free Cytokine assay - Summary

- Calibration curve in analyte-free proxy-matrix
- QCs spiked in human serum
- LLOQ: 0.059 pg/ml (59 fg/ml) in human serum
- Good spike-recovery, precision and stability
- GLP validation and analysis at PRA International



# Conclusions

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The **Imperacer**<sup>®</sup> low fg/ml sensitivity assays enable:

- Determination of endogenous levels of special interest analytes
- Investigation of analyte variations at ultra-low concentration levels
- Resolving matrix effects by dilution
- Immunogenicity assays with excellent drug tolerance
- Specific assays for total, bound and free analytes

**PRA International** offers in collaboration with **Chimera Biotec**:

- Development and optimization of custom tailored Imperacer<sup>®</sup> assays
- Validation and bioanalysis under GLP conditions



# Presence at EBF 2010

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## Presence at EBF 2010 - Third Open Symposium:

- [PRA International](#) - exhibition booth
- Martin Nemansky, [PRA International](#) - Current presentation
- Mark Spengler, [Chimera Biotec](#) - Presentation on Dec. 3, 12:20 hours
- Michael Adler et al., [Chimera Biotec](#) - Poster presentation

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- Mark Spengler: [Spengler@Chimera-biotec.com](mailto:Spengler@Chimera-biotec.com)