

The background image shows a vast landscape of terraced rice fields. The terraces are filled with green rice plants, and a small wooden hut with a thatched roof is visible on the right. A person is standing on one of the terraces on the left. The sky is a hazy, light blue-green color.

Pushing the limits of PK analysis: can we meet BMV PK criteria with high sensitivity LBAs

Richard Hughes

Pushing the limits of PK analysis: can we meet BMV PK criteria with high sensitivity LBAs

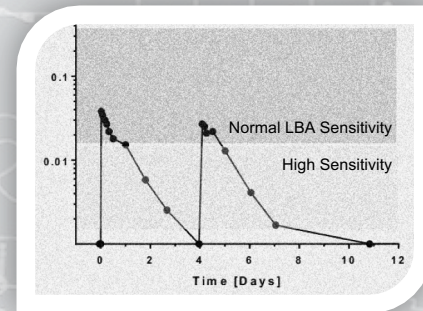
- Requirements for new modalities and ways of working
- Enabling technologies
- Defining the right strategy

Requirements and Challenges



- **Requirements to improve PK sensitivity due to biological MoA**

- New modalities...bi-specifics, tri-specifics, BiTes, VHH...
- highly potent molecules with effects observed at low exposures
- Route of administration
- More complete picture of PK profile



- **Patient-centric microsampling**

- Extraction or elution from the collection device often results in a dilution effect
- Further additional dilution may be required to reduce matrix effects.

- **PK acceptance criteria for precision and accuracy**

- Irrespective of technology platform
- Sensitivity despite minimal sample volume availability (pre-clinical)
- Sensitivity in study population e.g. healthy vs disease (Clinical)
- Sensitivity in testing high sample numbers, potentially across multiple sites

Weighing up the options



ng/mL – fg/mL range
Fast run times (2-3 expt / day)
many avenues to explore in method development to maximise sensitivity
More time consuming to switch formats around



$\mu\text{g/mL}$ – pg/mL range, various options for solid phase
Easy to switch formats around
Effective with high matrix concentrations
Fast method development (2-3 expt / day)



$\mu\text{g/mL}$ – pg/mL range
Easy to switch formats & simpler for free/total assays
Method development can take time (1 expt / day)

$\mu\text{g/mL}$

ng/mL

pg/mL

fg/mL

Spotlight on the assay parameters that can determine sensitivity



Quanterix Simoa

- Bead conjugation chemistry
- On-bead capture concentration
- Biotin linker
- Bead number
- Detection concentration
- Matrix concentration
- Galactosidase concentration
- Diluent type
- 2-step or 3-step method
- Instrument Cadence

Gyrolab

- Biotin linker
- Capture and Detection concentration
- Matrix concentration
- Diluent type
- CD type
- Instrument method

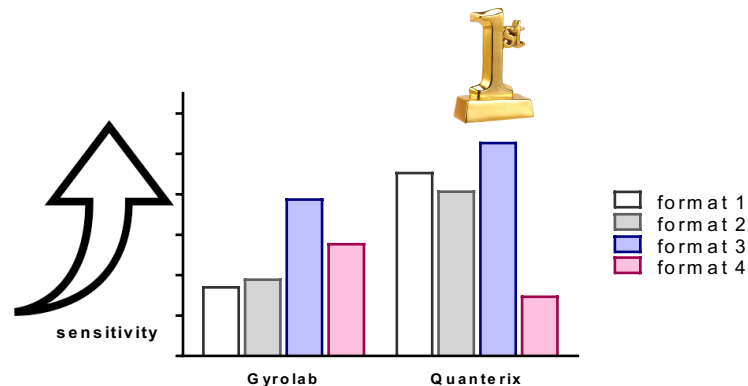
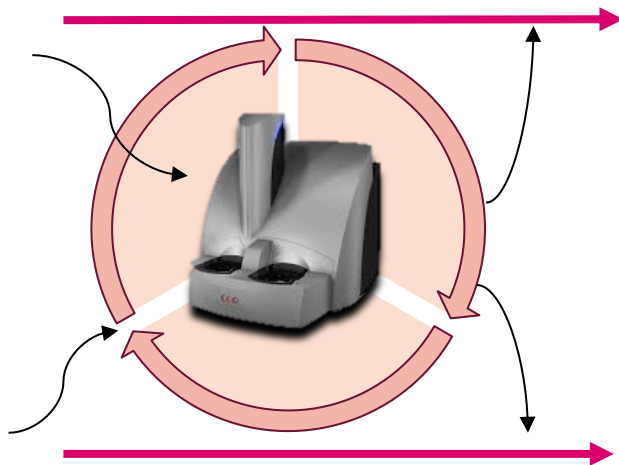
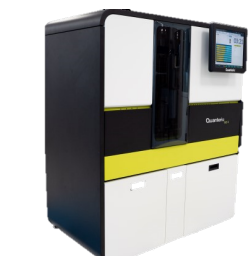
MSD

- Capture and Detection concentration
- Matrix concentration
- Diluent type
- Plate type (maybe?)

We need an assay with <100 pg/mL sensitivity



Method development was platform agnostic with multiple options for capture/detection including various anti-idiotypes and drug target



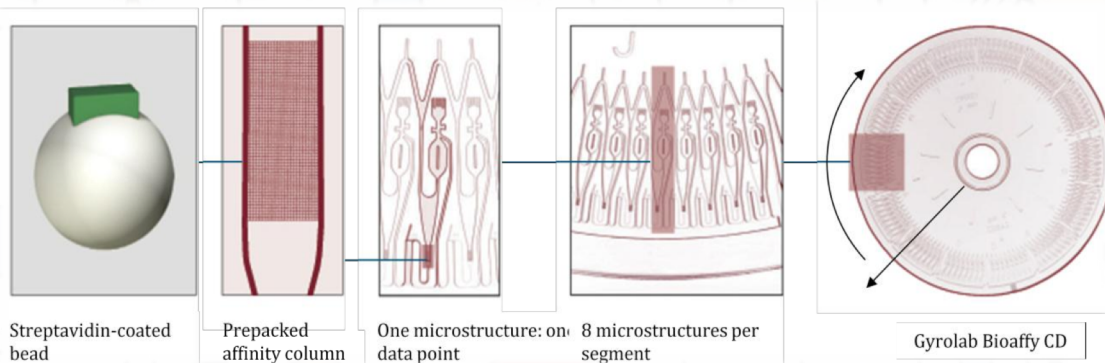
Can we save time and start developing methods across multiple platforms simultaneously....



Gyrolab

- Biotin linker
- Capture and Detection concentration
- **Matrix concentration**
- Diluent type
- **CD type**
- Instrument method

Coinciding with this case study, Gyros released the new more sensitive CD – Bioaffy 4000 CD



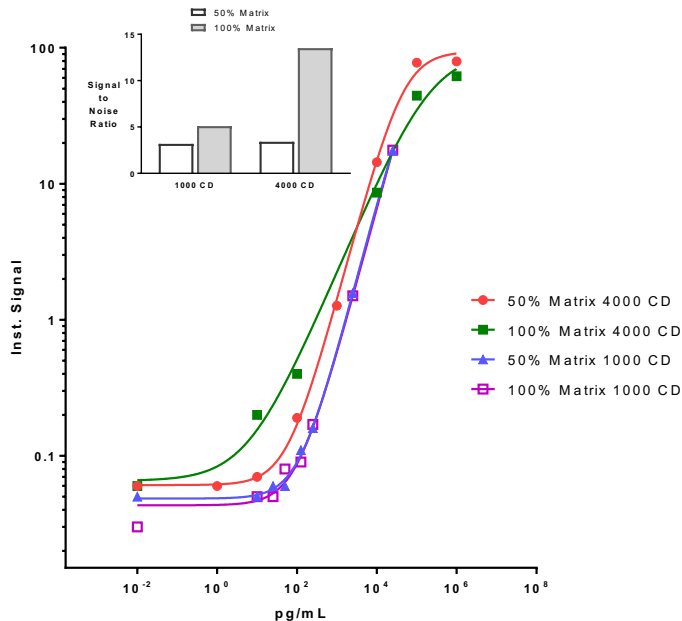
We needed an assay with <100 pg/mL sensitivity, so can we get around having to have a matrix dilution?

Can we save time and start developing methods across multiple platforms simultaneously....



Gyrolab

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Can we save time and start developing methods across multiple platforms simultaneously....



Gyrolab

- Biotin linker
- Capture and Detection concentration
- **Matrix concentration**
- Diluent type
- **CD type**
- Instrument method

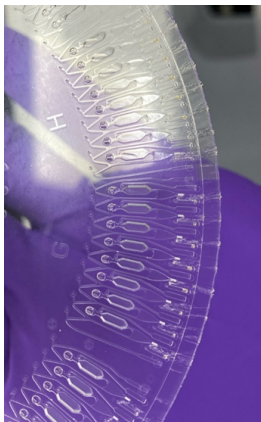
4000 CD, 100% matrix	S/N	%CV
25pg/mL	<3	>10
50pg/mL	>3	<10
75pg/mL	>3.5	<10
100pg/mL	>5	<10
150pg/mL	.7	<10

5 levels of QC prepared in pooled matrix met PK BMV acceptance criteria for P&A

Can we save time and start developing methods across multiple platforms simultaneously....



ID	Signal
Ind 1	-0.210
	-0.210
Ind 2	-0.207
	-0.203
Ind 3	-0.202
	-0.209
Ind 4	0.003
	-0.204
Ind 5	-0.118
	1.223
Ind 6	2.714
	1.597



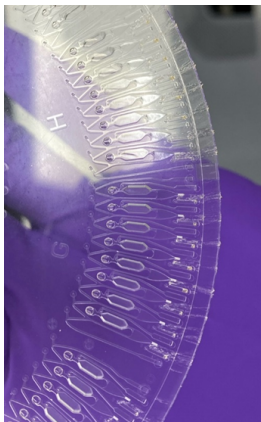
	Pooled matrix spike		Individuals
	2 in 3	1 in 2	1 in 2
Diluent 1	75pg/mL	100-150pg/mL	0% pass
Diluent 2	Neg	Neg	NA
Diluent 3	Neg	100-150pg/mL	0% pass
Diluent 4	150pg/mL	100-150pg/mL	NA

- Assay not selective!
 - Saw mixture of over and under-recovery in individuals

Can we save time and start developing methods across multiple platforms simultaneously....

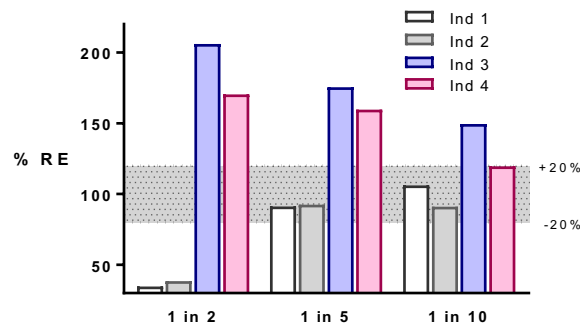


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- Assay not selective!
 - Saw mixture of over and under-recovery in individuals
- What matrix dilution is needed to remove these matrix effects?



Sensitivity is driven by selectivity

Can we achieve selectivity on the HD-X?



Method development was taking place simultaneously on both Gyrolab and the Quanterix, which quickly led to....

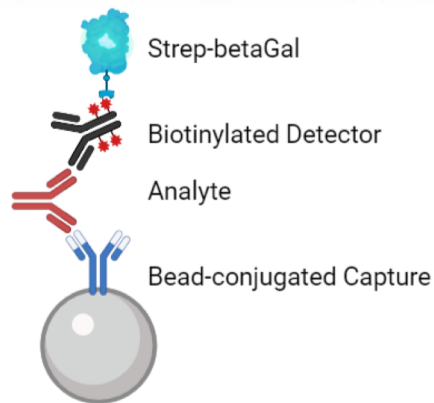


Can we achieve selectivity on the HD-X?



Quanterix

- Bead conjugation chemistry
- On-bead capture concentration
- Biotin linker
- Bead number
- Detection concentration
- Matrix concentration
- Galactosidase concentration
- **Diluent type**
- 2-step or 3-step method
- Helper Beads
- Instrument Cadence



		Bead numbers					
		Diluent 1			Diluent 2		
Diluent	Matrix (%)	100%	50%	25%	100%	50%	25%
0		NaN	1132	NaN	2147	4700	9210
100		622	933	856	2578	8441	11462
500		NaN	NaN	744	3189	10494	13096
1000		4109	NaN	NaN	2846	10445	11335
10000		628	1167	2298	2771	7304	10048

NaN = Not calculable

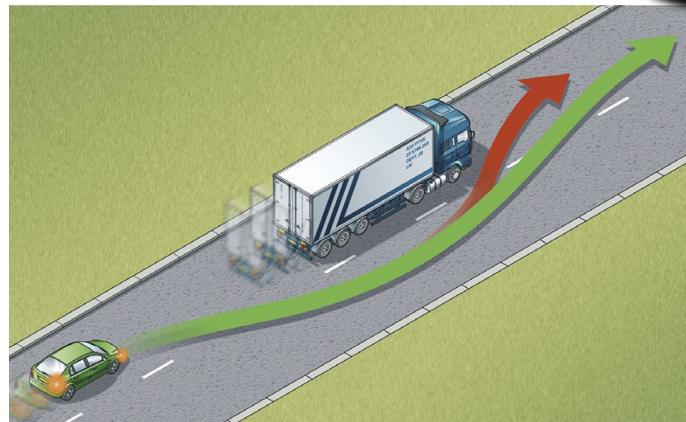
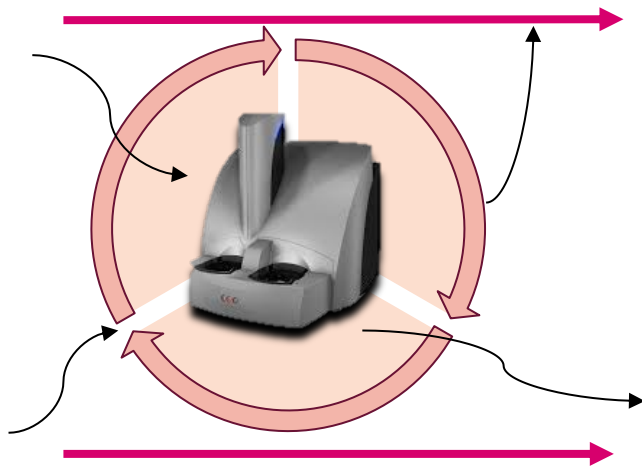
Once again, 5 levels of QC prepared in pooled matrix met PK BMV acceptance criteria for P&A

	Ind 1	Ind 2	Ind 3	Ind 4	
LQC	11.5	8.4	3.7	1.0	%CV
250 pg/mL	-5.5	60	-73.2	34.5	%RE
LLoQ	9.8	30.3	BLQ	21.8	%CV
100 pg/mL	-6.1	-47.8	BLQ	24.4	%RE

In this example, an underdog won the race



Method troubleshooting was frequently performed using the MSD that eventually the gains in sensitivity were outweighed by the need to have a validated assay up and running



Quanterix Simoa can solve selectivity issues with a better signal to noise....



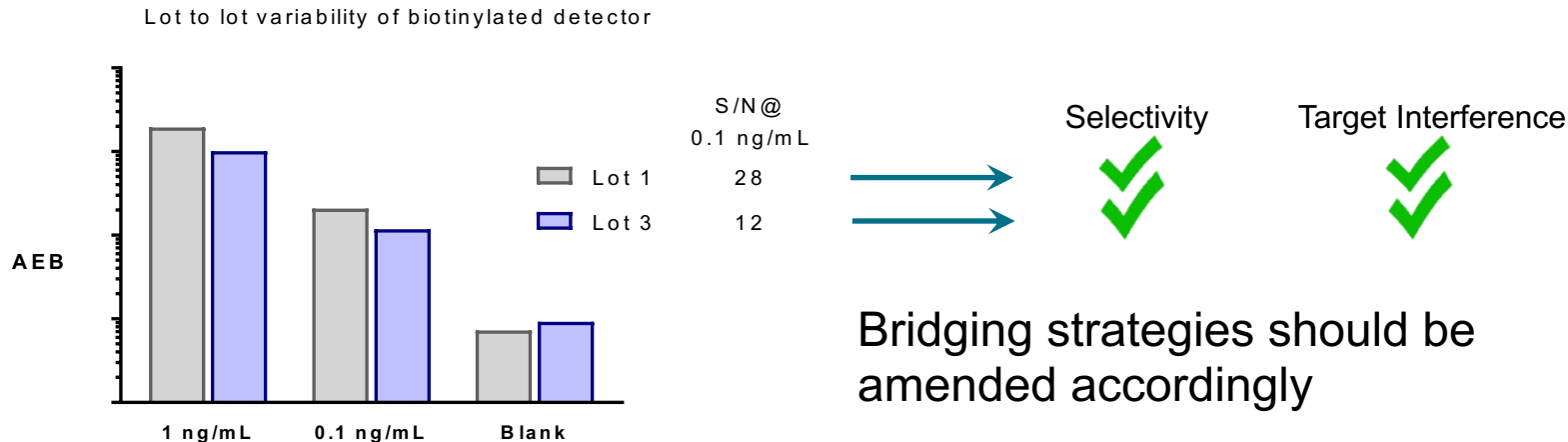
	MRD	S/N @ 100 ng/mL	Selectivity ok?
Gyrolab 4000 CD	2	1.66	No
Quanterix HD-X	4	4.4	Yes

Quanterix Simoa can solve selectivity issues with a better signal to noise....but....



	MRD	S/N @ 100 ng/mL	Selectivity ok?
Gyrolab 4000 CD	2	1.66	No
Quanterix HD-X	4	4.4	Yes

S/N can be increased but you really need to watch the critical reagent and conjugation.



How about two assays?



In cases where a validated PK assay already exists, but additional sensitivity is required

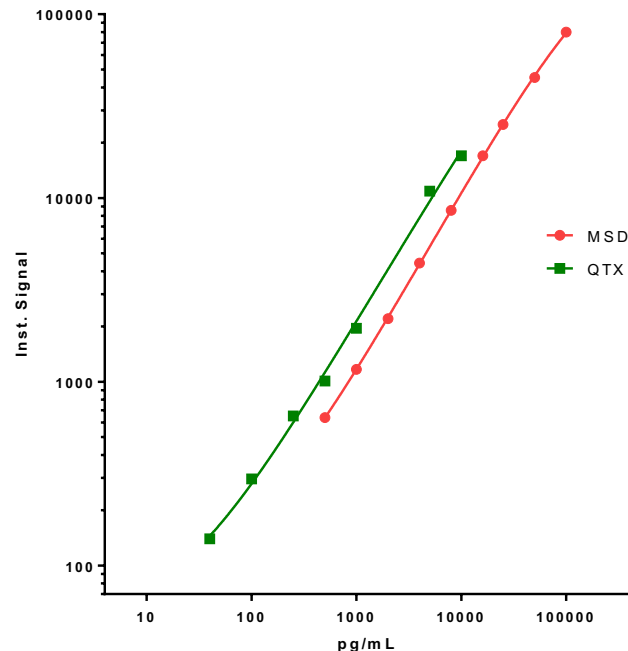
Do we need a complete validation of a new, more sensitive assay?

4.3. Cross validation

Where data are obtained from different methods within and across studies or when data are obtained within a study from different laboratories, applying the same method, comparison of those data is needed and a cross validation of the applied analytical methods should be carried out.

The extent of validation should be on a case-by-case basis

- Existing format, same platform?
Existing format, different platform??
Different format, different platform???
- Do the calibration ranges overlap?
- Should stability be restarted at the new QC concentrations??



Conclusions and key points



High sensitivity platforms can deliver on robust PK assays at <1 ng/mL

The complexity of method development *de novo* does mean a longer process.

A clearer strategy is to consider a platform such as the HD-X as a *transfer* instrument – and actually work with a simpler system to develop the format initially.

Selectivity drives sensitivity

High sensitivity has the potential to influence or amplify any matrix or target interference so test selectivity as soon as possible.

Conjugated critical reagents

Bridging strategies should be dictated by key validation parameters, assay format and underlying biology

Additional tools such as LC/MS and SDS-PAGE to characterise can be invaluable

Two assay strategies

There is a need for careful consideration around the parameters that will be tested to effectively demonstrate that both assays are equivalent.

Thank you for listening

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