

HEALTH ADVANCES

Strategy Consultants for the Healthcare Industry

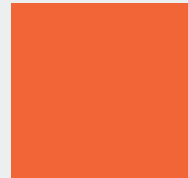
HA101: Demystifying SARS-CoV-2 Testing

Fourth Edition: The Long-Term Dx Industry Impact

Health Advances LLC
BOSTON | SAN FRANCISCO | ZUG | HONG KONG
www.healthadvances.com

CONFIDENTIAL

July 2022



This document provides:

- A review of how the diagnostic industry was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Commentary on the pandemic's long-term impact on the diagnostic industry ecosystem, implications for established manufacturers, and the outlook for new entrants



For additional insights on COVID related testing please refer to previous additions of Demystifying SARS-CoV-2 Testing.

[First Edition](#)
[Second Edition](#)
[Third Edition](#)

We cannot wait to further discuss the pandemic's long-term implications with you at Health Advances' AACC Reception. All are welcome.

HEALTH ADVANCES

Annual AACC Cocktail Reception and Panel

Now What? The Dx World Beyond COVID

Come Debate with Our Panelists . . .

- If the perception of Dx value and investment is sustainable
- How new players (in digital, point of care, lab and precision medicine) are reshaping the market
- Where COVID cash will be best invested
- *And many more topics*

Our panelists will be:

- Jeff Luber (Binx, CEO)
- Josh Pulido (LumiraDx, Director, Global Product Marketing)
- Valerie Dixon (Morgan Stanley, Managing Director)
- Yves Dubaquié (Perkin Elmer, Senior Vice President of Diagnostics)
- Fernando Chaves (Siemens, Global Head of Hematology)

[LINK TO REGISTER](#)

When:

Tuesday, July 26, 2022
Cocktails at 5:30PM CDT,
Panel at 6:30PM CDT

Where:

THE CHICAGO FIREHOUSE
RESTAURANT

1401 S Michigan Ave
Chicago, IL 60605

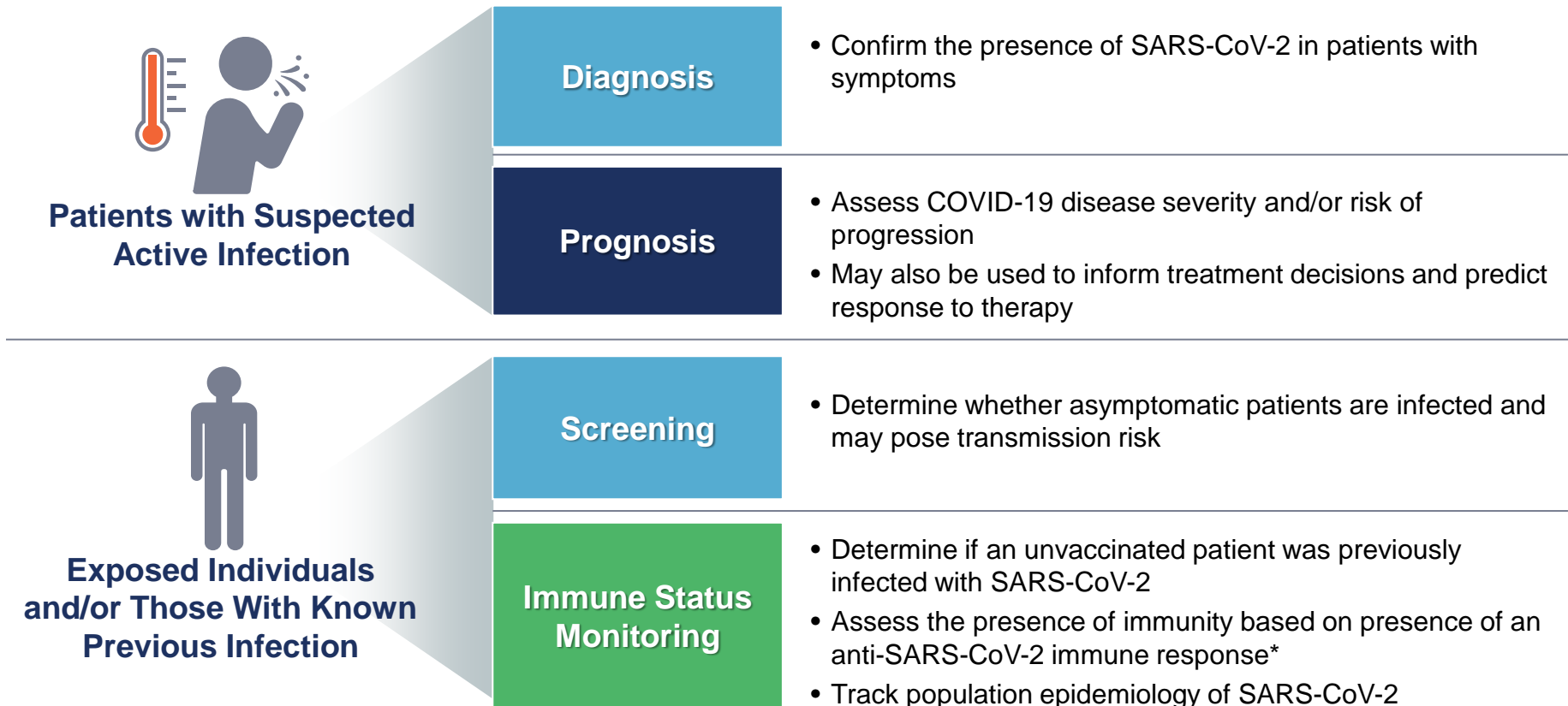
We will also have a virtual attendance option. Details will follow for all registered guests.

- ***What new COVID-19 test types have emerged since the start of the pandemic?***
- What macro trends has the industry experienced? What changes in COVID testing are expected moving forward?
- How has the pandemic impacted established OEM activities and investment?
- What types of new entrants emerged during the pandemic and how will they fare long-term?
- What questions remain outstanding?

Original COVID-19 Testing Options

At the start of the pandemic, testing options for COVID-19 diagnosis, prognosis, exposure screening, and immune status monitoring were introduced.

Start of the Pandemic Testing Options



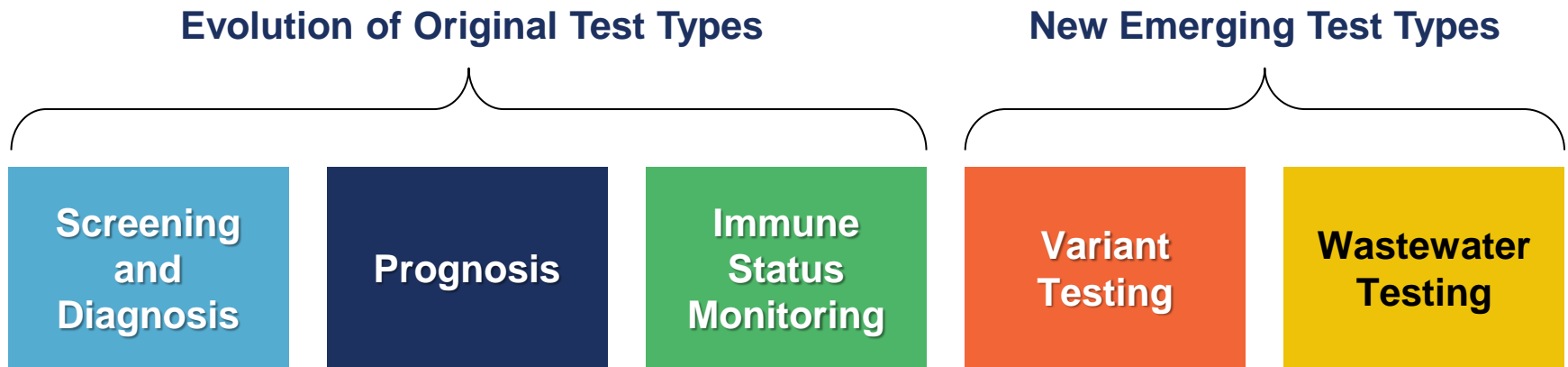
* Antibodies are a protein the body's immune system produces in response to an infection. Antibodies identify the infection as foreign and direct other parts of the immune system to attack and neutralize/destroy the infection. The presence of anti-virus antibodies does not necessarily mean a person is immune to future infection, but the presence of "virus-neutralizing" antibodies is more likely to suggest immunity. We are still learning about the SARS-CoV-2 immune response.

Original: Slide 11 in 1st Edition.

Source: Health Advances analysis, McKean, 2012 Principles and Practice of Hospital Medicine.

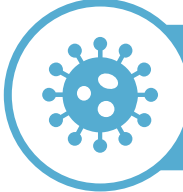



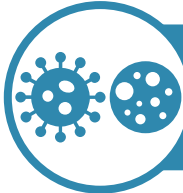

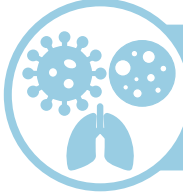

Changing Nature of COVID Test Types

As the pandemic has progressed, the use of original testing options has evolved. New test types for variant and wastewater assessment have also emerged.



Source: Health Advances analysis.

Panel tests have emerged as an important test category to complement SARS-CoV-2 targeted testing. The breadth and composition of these panels varies.

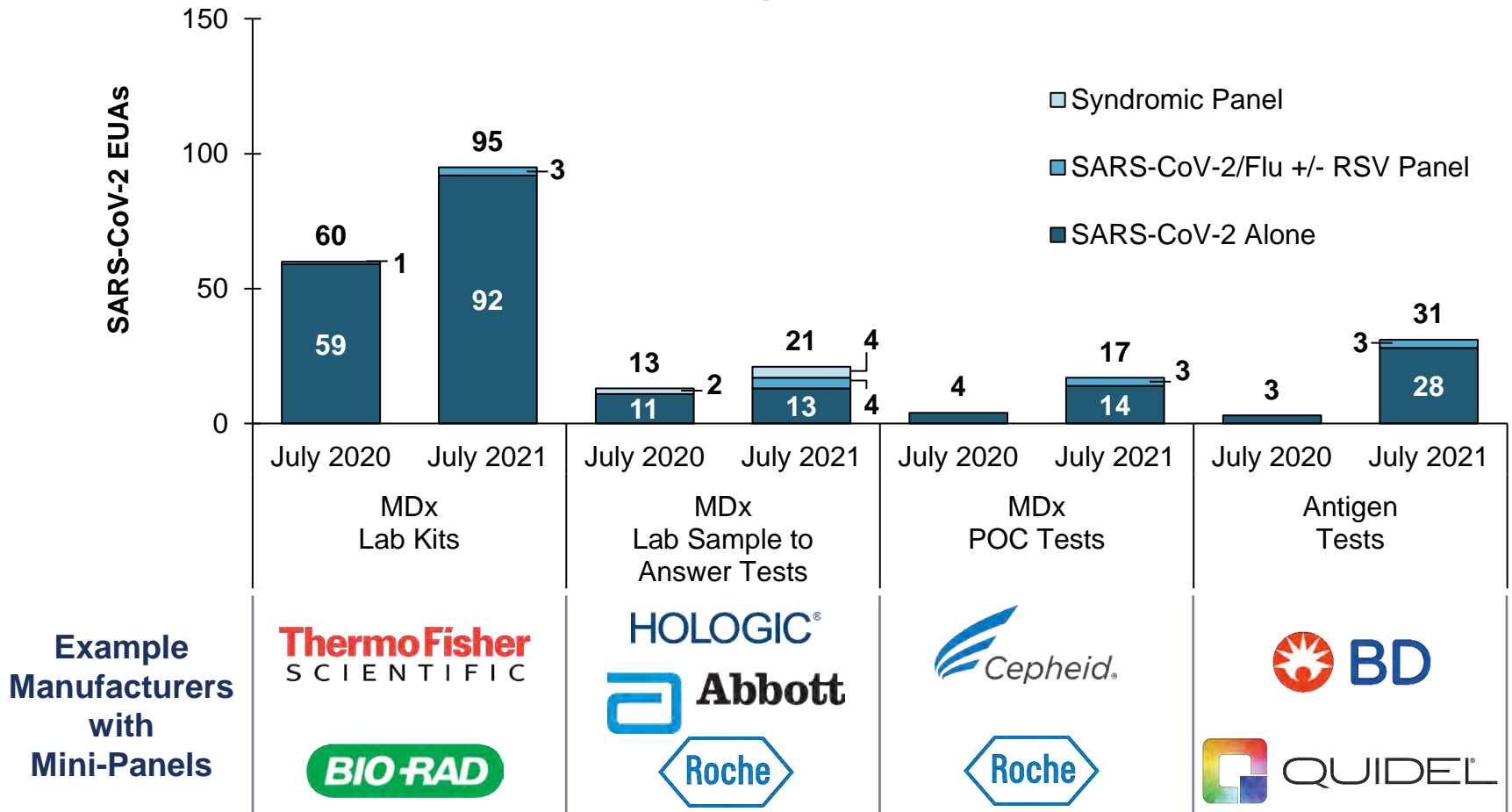
	Test Type	Launch	Primary Patient Populations
Targeted	 SARS-CoV-2 Only	March 2020	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm or disconfirm COVID in symptomatic patients or screen asymptomatic patients
	 Syndromic Panel*	March 2020	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify pathogen of cause in severely symptomatic patients
Panels	 SARS-CoV-2 + Flu A/B Mini-Panel	July 2020	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiate Flu and COVID in mild to moderately symptomatic patients
	 SARS-CoV-2 + Flu A/B + RSV Mini-Panel	Sept. 2020	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiate Flu, RSV, and COVID in mild to moderately symptomatic children

* For the purposes of this report, syndromic is any panel broader than Flu A/B + RSV + SARS-CoV-2.

Source: Health Advances analysis.

Mini-panels have emerged as one notable panel category. Many manufacturers have added these mini-panels to menus to help manage the resurfacing of flu alongside COVID.

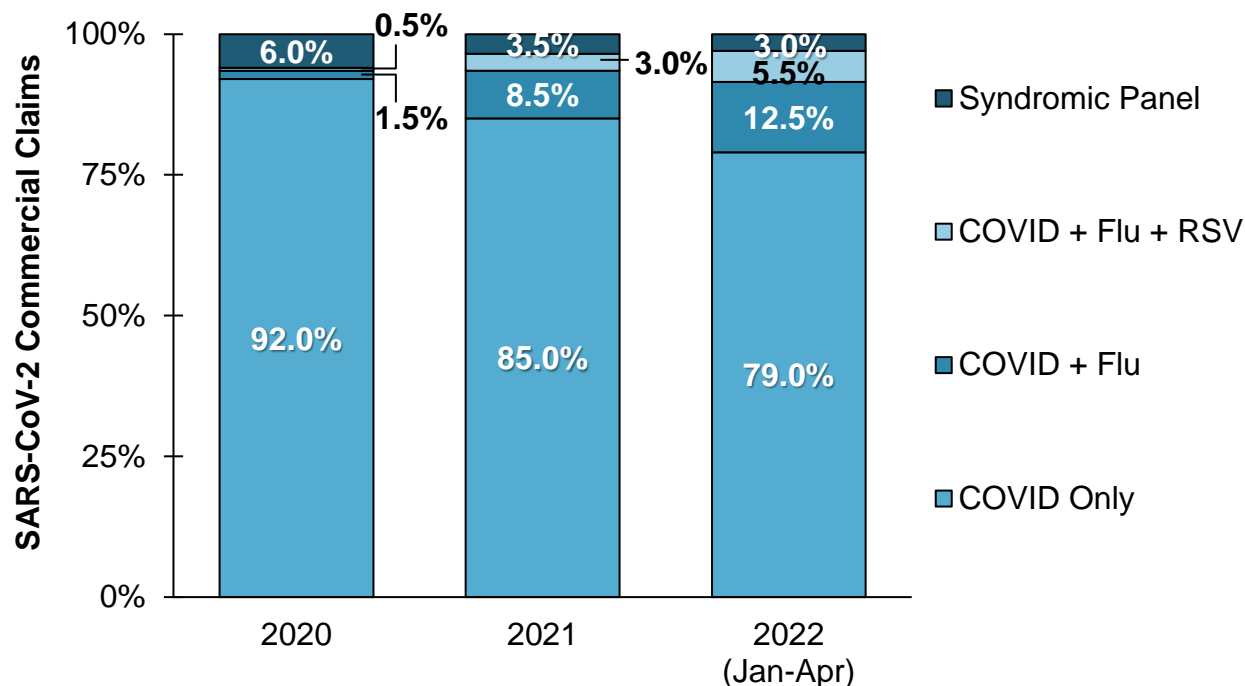
MDx and Antigen SARS-CoV-2 US EUAs



Note: EUA = Emergency Use Authorization.
 Source: Health Advances analysis, FDA, 360Dx, FierceBiotech, FDA SARS-CoV-2 FAQ, company websites.

Against the backdrop of a slow return to normal societal behavior, use of mini-panels has steadily increased. Simultaneously, use of broader syndromic panels has decreased.

Symptomatic or Exposure Driven COVID-19 Testing by Panel Type Between 2020 and 2022*



- Mini-panel utilization has increased steadily since their introduction in 2020 while the use of syndromic panels has decreased
- The increase has been driven by the slow return of flu with the re-opening of society
- The decrease in syndromic panels is likely driven by their cost vs. alternative mini-panel options

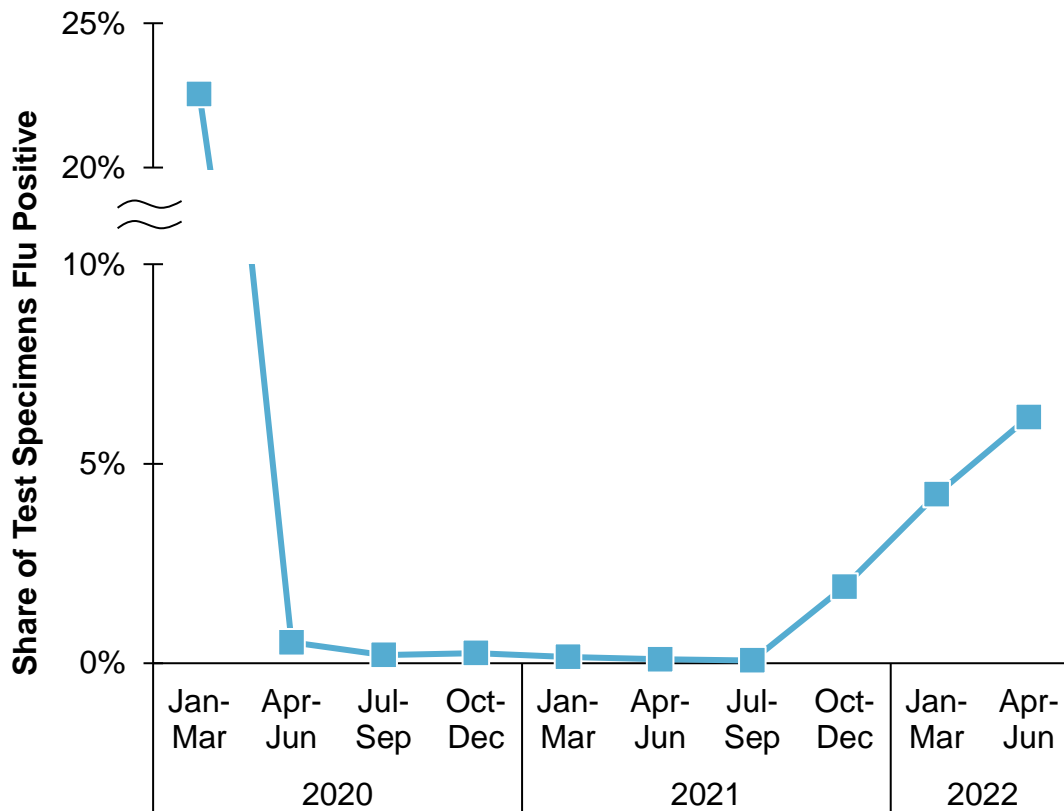
* Based on Definitive Healthcare data representing provider claims to commercial payers using the following codes 87635, 87636, 87637 and 87633.

Note: 2022 data is from January to April.

Source: Health Advances analysis, Definitive Healthcare, local community COVID-19 dashboards, media articles.

Looking forward, use of mini-panels will likely continue to increase as flu activity continues to slowly return to pre-pandemic levels.

US Influenza Activity Monitored by CDC *Reported to CDC by US Clinical Laboratories*



- *“The symptom overlap is so high that as flu rates return to normal, it will be valuable to test for both.” – PCP*
- *“We are already seeing flu return with the re-opening and, going forward, we anticipate more frequent use of the mini-panels to distinguish between them.” – Lab Director*

Source: Health Advances analysis, CDC Influenza Activity Tracker.

Given the variability in the severity of COVID-19 symptoms and the emergence of long hauler syndrome (“long COVID”), multiple use cases for prognostic testing have emerged.

Prognostic Testing Clinical Use Cases



Pre-Infection Risk

Severity Prediction

Long-Hauler Diagnosis

Definition

- Identify individuals at high-risk of severe COVID-19 infection

- Predict probability of progressing to severe disease at time of diagnosis or later stages of infection/hospitalization

- Identify patients at risk of long-hauler syndrome and/or diagnose patients with persistent COVID related impacts

Rationale for Testing

- *Enable patients to feel more confident in managing their risk mitigation and social distancing activities*

- *Determine who should be hospitalized and optimize treatment among various patient groups to reduce morbidity and mortality*

- *Optimize acute infection and long-term treatment*

Source: Health Advances analysis.

Commercial and clinical research efforts have focused on developing severity prediction as this is an urgent need for patient care. Tests for other use cases are still emerging.



Pre-Infection Risk

Severity Prediction

Long-Hauler Diagnosis

Focus of Clinical Dx Research



- Some studies have identified potential genetic biomarkers for predisposition



- Several papers published on a variety of approaches to predict severity in patients



- Autoantibodies and other serum biomarkers are being explored by a small group of researchers*

Commercial Test Availability



- Several proprietary genetic tests available as LDTs



- CBC indexes and IL-6/IL-10 tests available
- Proprietary test from MeMed is available in EU



- No commercial tests available to date

* No studies have been published or preprinted to date.

Note: LDT = laboratory developed test.

Source: Health Advances analysis, PubMed, medRxiv, bioRxiv, GenomeWeb/360Dx.

Limited to No Studies/
Tests Available



Several Studies/
Tests Available

Research to determine risk factors for severe COVID-19 in healthy individuals remains early. Studies have demonstrated genetic correlation but not direct causation.

Select Pre-Infection Risk Studies

Publication or Posting	Year	N	Brief Description	Study Results and Implications
Ishak Gene	2022	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A systematic literature review on the association of COVID-19 susceptibility and severity with genetic risk factors found 60 relevant publications globally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The review concluded that high-risk HLA variants and ACE polymorphisms increase susceptibility and severity of COVID-19
Hunter, bioRxiv	2021	80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blood samples of 80 COVID-19 patients with varying severity were used to derive an algorithm based on genomic loci to predict severity of COVID-19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applying the algorithm to the same cohort of 80 patients in a cross-validation study found an 86% positive predictive value for severe COVID-19 infection
Dite, medRxiv	2020	1,582	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK biobanked samples of 1018 severe and 564 non-severe COVID-19 were used to develop a logistic regression model using clinical factors and 64 SNPs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The model had 111% better discrimination of disease severity (AUC=0.786) than a model with just age and gender (AUC=0.635)

- Given the variability in SARS-CoV-2 response, genetics may be able to help predict the risk of severe infection
- Research is still early with limited validation of findings in large populations
- More studies are needed to confidently discern the genetic factors that drive variable virus responses

Note: SNPs = single nucleotide polymorphisms.

Source: Health Advances analysis, GenomeWeb, Hunter 2021 Preprint bioRxiv, Dite 2020 Preprint medRxiv.

Research studies on prognostic testing for severity prediction have yielded promising results and found many biomarkers to be useful, including CBC indices, IL-6, and IL-10.

Select Severity Prediction Studies






Publication or Posting	Year	N	Brief Description	Study Results and Implications
Mastboim, medRxiv	2021	394	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A study by MeMed of 394 COVID-19 patients with varying outcomes derived a score for predicting severity based on levels of TRAIL, IP-10, and CRP together 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a cross-validation study with the same cohort the signature demonstrated a ROC curve AUC score of 0.86
Dhar, Heliyon	2021	2,157	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meta-analysis of 18 studies measuring levels of 13 different cytokines in 2,157 COVID-19 patients determined cytokines to be associated with severity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measuring the standardized mean difference (SMD) of cytokine levels between severe and non-severe cases found IL-6 and IL-10 to have SMDs of .53 and .65 for severe cases
Fois, Molecules	2020	119	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A retrospective observational study of 119 patients was used to identify CBC-derived inflammation indexes for severity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neutrophil*platelet to lymphocyte ratio (systemic inflammation index) was significantly associated with severity with a hazard ratio of 1.0001
Andragie, JCI Insight	2021	138	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prospective cohort study at Johns Hopkins patients to measure cfDNA levels including nuclear and mitochondrial cfDNA to determine link to COVID-19 and severity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cfDNA levels 20-fold higher in COVID-19 than healthy individuals (P < 0.0001) Nuclear cfDNA levels 4.5-fold higher in COVID-19 patients that died vs. those that recovered (P < 0.0001)

- A broad review of the clinical literature indicates that most research is focused on severity prediction of active cases
- CBC indices and IL-6/IL-10 are already being used to predict severity today, and newer biomarker approaches have promising study results

Note: Selected studies are representative to demonstrate research into multiple biomarker types ranging from inflammatory biomarkers to hematological indices to cell-free DNA.
 Source: Health Advances analysis, Foiss 2020 Molecules, Dhar 2021 Heliyon, Andragie 2021 JCI Insight, Mastboim 2021 Preprint MedRxiv.

Example Novel Commercial Prognostic Tests

Several novel commercial tests have emerged for prognosis to date. Most are pre-infection tests directed towards consumers; one aids clinicians with severity prediction.

Test Type	Company	Test Name	Description	Markers	Status	Data Summary
Pre-Infection Risk	 OXFORD BIODYNAMICS	EpiSwitch COVID-19 Severity Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blood-based qPCR test to predict severity of response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six epigenetic markers undisclosed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LDT at specialty lab; on market in US / UK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 96% Sens. 86% Spec. 92% PPV 93% NPV
	 SAMPLED 	COVID-19 Risk Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blood-based SNP test to predict severity of response¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical factors + 64 SNPs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LDT at specialty lab; on market in US 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Not available</i>
	 SEQUENCING.COM OUTSMART YOUR GENES®	Coronavirus Health Report ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze raw genome data provided by patient 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviews status of 26 SNPs and haplotypes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On market globally (un-regulated) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Not available</i>
Severity Prediction	 MeMed	COVID-19 Severity Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> POC serum test to predict likelihood of severe infection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TRAIL, IP-10, and CRP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CE Marked; on market in EU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 86% Sens. 98% Spec. 91% NPV

¹ The technology used analyze the SNPs has not been disclosed.

² Four similar tests from other companies (SelfDecode, GeneInformed, LifeDNA, and Xcode) also provide a similar service.

Note: SNP = single nucleotide polymorphism, POC = point-of-care, NPV = negative predictive value, LDT = laboratory developed test

Source: Health Advances analysis, Forbes, company websites.

Immune status monitoring is another tool to combat COVID-19 and enables insight on prior exposure, potential degree of immunity, and population surveillance for outbreaks.

Immune Status Monitoring Use Cases



Prior Exposure

Immunity

Surveillance

Definition

- Determine if an unvaccinated person has been previously exposed to SARS-CoV-2
- Assess the current degree of immunity conferred from vaccination or previous infection if unvaccinated
- Understand how much of a population has been infected with and/or vaccinated from SARS-CoV-2












Testing Rationale



- Evaluate if lingering symptoms or exposure concerns have merit
- Understand if a patient possesses immunity to COVID-19
- Enable public health to track the epidemiology of SARS-CoV-2 infections

Source: Health Advances analysis.

T-cell tests show greater potential value than antibody tests in the different use cases for immune status monitoring.

Potential Value for Immune Status Monitoring

Test Types	Description	 Prior Exposure	 Immunity	 Surveillance
 Antibody Tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detect or measure levels of antibodies (IgA, IgG, IgM) against SARS-CoV-2 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only useful within first few months due to declining antibody response 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antibody titers and degree of immunity have not been determined yet 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not reliable for long-term measurements due to antibody decay
 T-cell Tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detect or measure T cell-mediated immune response to SARS-CoV-2 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More reliable indicator due to longer-lasting response 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theoretically useful, but studies have not proven connection to immunity conferred 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Longer-lasting T-cell response makes it a potentially useful tool for public health

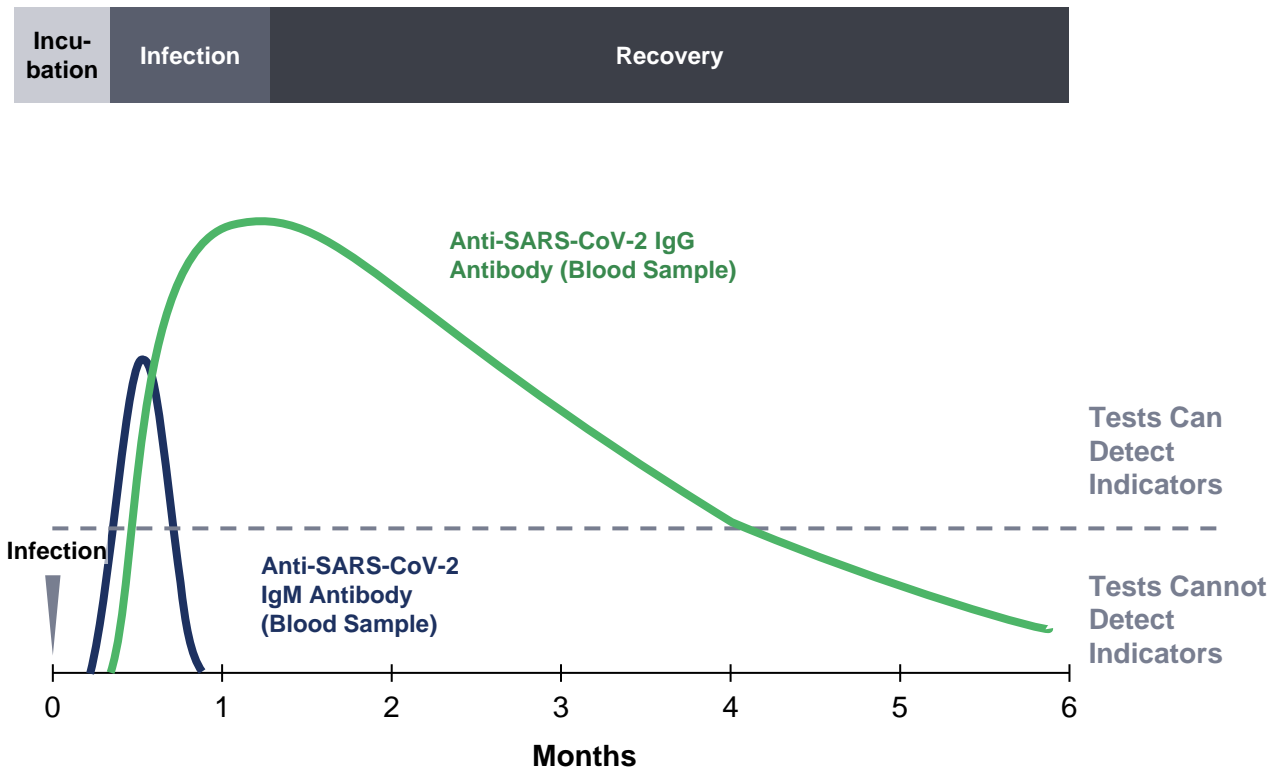
Lower Potential Value  ↔  Higher Potential Value

Source: Health Advances analysis. Hedges 2021 Vaccines, Ibarra 2020 N Engl. J Med, Seow 2020 Nature Microbiology, Long 2020 Nature Medicine, Tan 2020 medRxiv, Spellberg 2020 JAMA Intern. Med, Wyllie 2021 medRxiv, Bert 2020 Nature, Peng 2020 Nature Immunology, Sekine 2020 Cell, Cox 2020 Nature Reviews.

While antibody tests can indicate prior exposure soon after infection, their reliability wanes over time. Their ability to predict protection from reinfection is unknown.

Antibody Response to SARS-CoV-2 Infection

Illustrative Representation



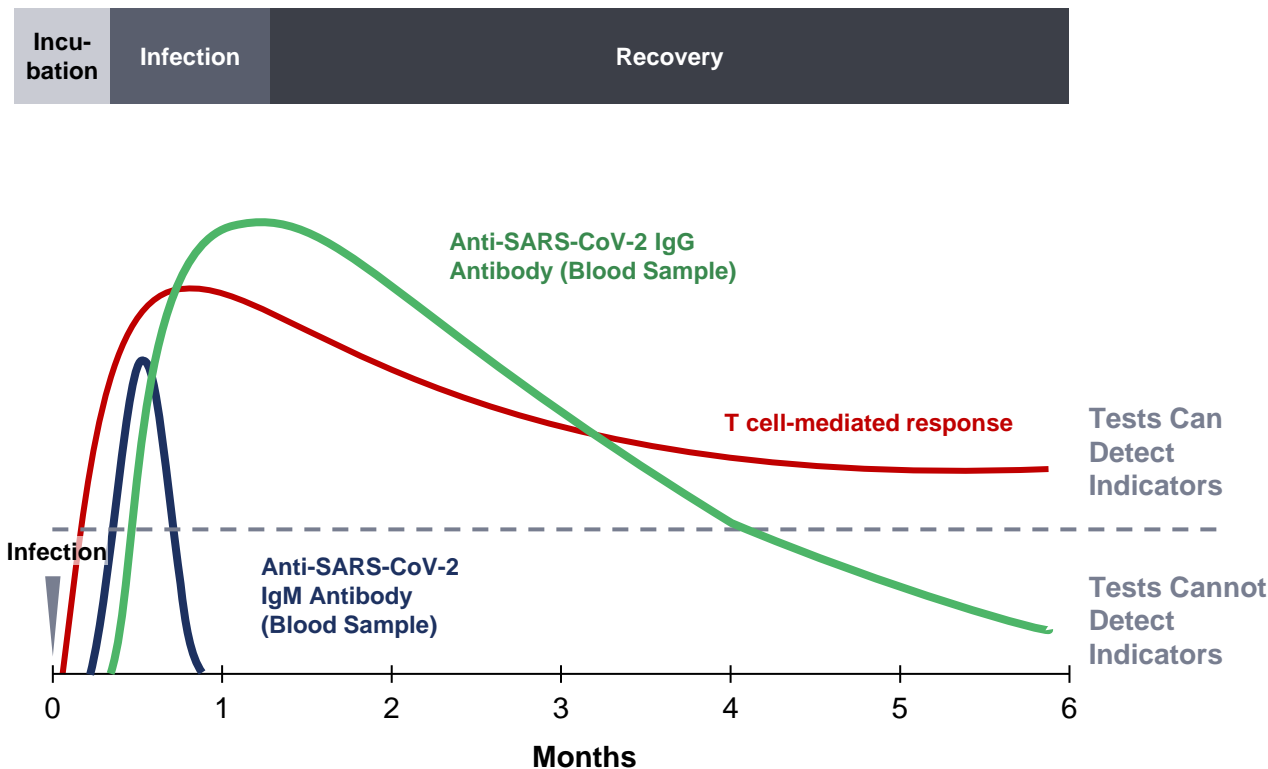
- Antibody response deteriorates within months after infection
 - Antibody titers wane within 3-5 months after infection
 - 10-30% of patients may never develop antibodies
- The protection conferred by antibodies has not been determined
 - The protective titer of the neutralizing antibody and correlation of binding antibody titers to neutralization are under study

Source: Health Advances analysis. Hedges 2021 Vaccines, Ibarra 2020 N Engl. J Med, Seow 2020 Nature Microbiology, Long 2020 Nature Medicine, Tan 2020 medRxiv, Spellberg 2020 JAMA Intern. Med.

Researchers have postulated that T-cells could be a better predictor of prior exposure and immunity than antibodies. Early data indicates this may be true.

T-cell and Antibody Response to SARS-CoV-2 Infection

Illustrative Representation



- Robust T-cell response is maintained at 6 months following infection
 - A study of 100 individuals with SARS-CoV-2 infection found all retained T cell responses at 6 months following infection
- T-cell counts have shown early association with COVID-19 protection
 - Additional studies are required to validate this hypothesis
 - A prospective study of 2,826 participants found those with higher T-cell responses did not develop COVID-19 during a median 118 days follow-up; those with lower T-cell responses did develop COVID-19 in the same time period

Source: Health Advances analysis, Zuo 2021 T cell immunity Nature Immun, Wyllie T cell protection medRxiv.

We anticipate T-cell tests will become the gold standard for assessing long-term immunity to COVID-19 given their more reliable measure of immune response vs. antibodies.



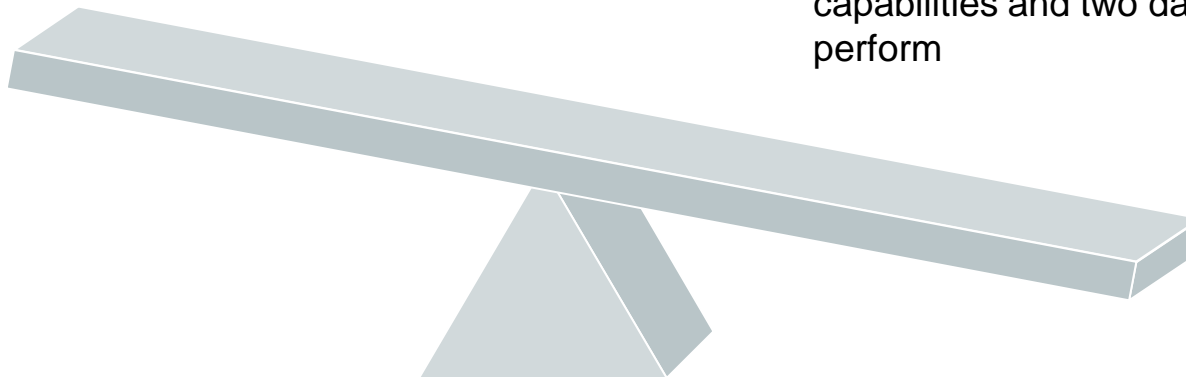
Antibody Tests

- ✓ Simple to perform and widely available across labs
- ✓ Can confirm prior exposure in initial months after infection
- ✗ Not reliable as some patients do not produce antibodies
- ✗ Correlation of titers to immunity not understood



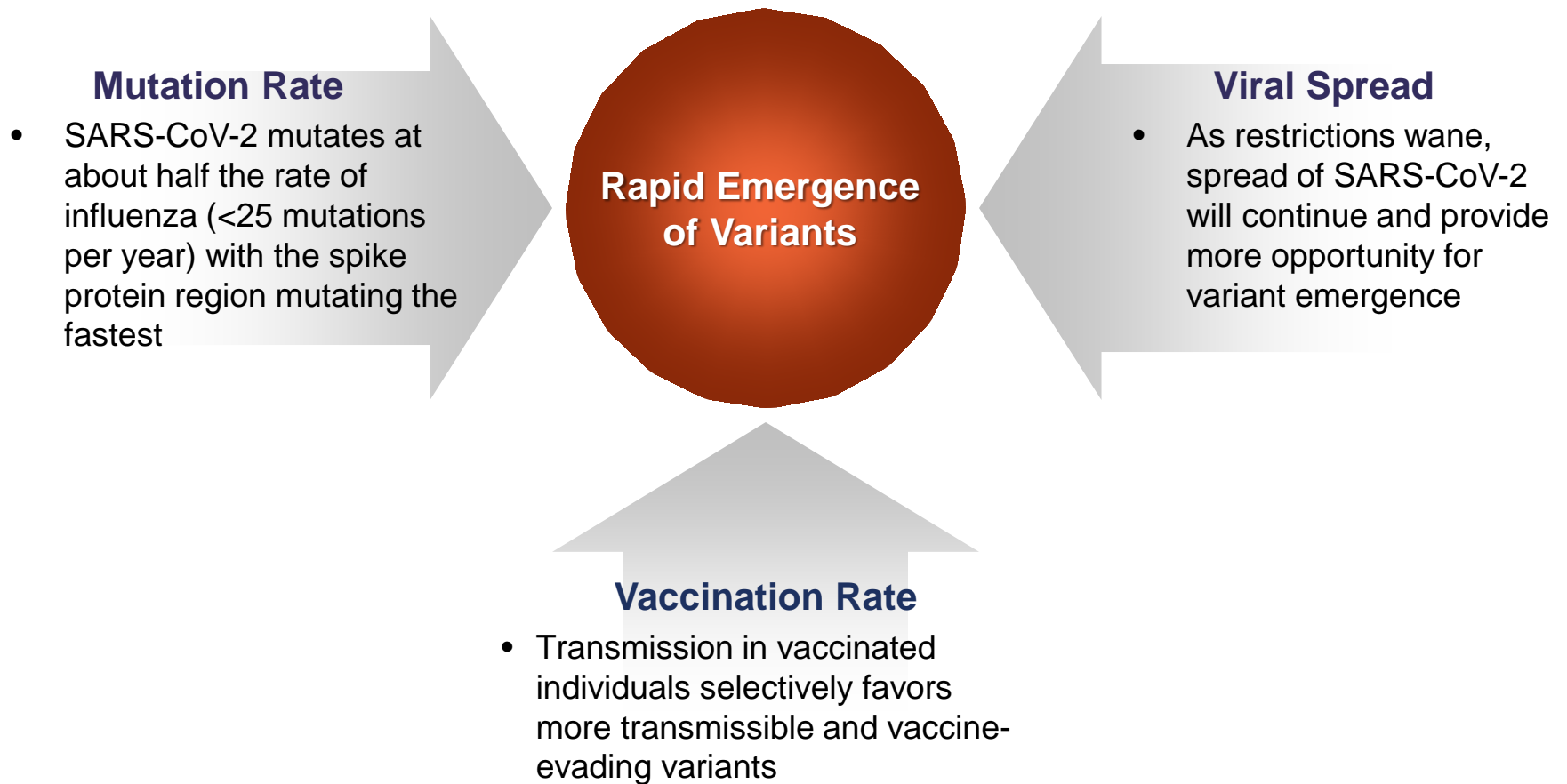
T-Cell Tests

- ✓ More reliable measure of immune response compared to antibodies
- ✓ Longer-lasting response that can be measured
- ✓ Possible correlation between T-cell counts and degree of immunity
- ✗ Requires specialized testing capabilities and two days to perform



Source: Health Advances analysis.

Widespread SARS-CoV-2 transmission and increasing vaccination are applying strong selective pressure and leading to variant emergence, thus creating need for variant tests.

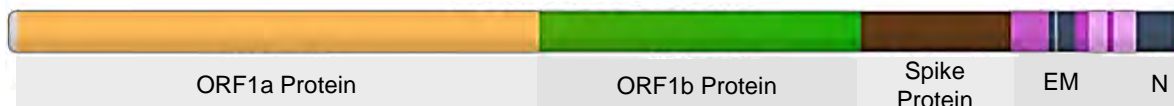


Source: Health Advances analysis, NIH, Washington Post, Monto 2020 J Inf Dis, Healio, AstraZeneca.

Many variants have emerged over the course of the pandemic. The most notable variants of concern have high transmissibility and have included the Delta and Omicron variants.

Mutations and Emergence of Variants

The SARS-CoV-2 Genome



- As important regions such as the spike protein mutate, the virus's ability to replicate and attach to human cells changes and thus these regions are closely monitored for changes.

Variants of Concern
(proven high transmissibility and/or high severity)

Alpha (Sep 2020)

- S: 484K
- ↑ transmissibility, potential ↑ severity

Delta (Oct 2020)

- S: 452R
- ↑ transmissibility

Omicron* (Nov 2021)

- S: E484A, N501Y
- ↑ transmissibility

Beta (May 2020)

- S: 417N, 484K, 501Y
- ↑ transmissibility

Gamma (Nov 2020)

- S: 417T, 484K, 501Y

Earliest Documentation and Classification from WHO

Variants of Interest
(predicted or known to affect transmission and/or severity with known high spread)

Zeta (Apr 2020)

- S: 484K, 614G, 1176F

Iota (Nov 2020)

- S: 484K

Eta (Dec 2020)

- S: 484K

Mu (Jan 2021)

- Y144S

Epsilon (Mar 2020)

- S: 13I, 152C, 452R

Kappa (Oct 2020)

- S: 452R, 484Q, 681R

Lambda (Dec 2020)

- S: 452Q

Theta (Jan 2021)





- S: E484K, N501Y, D614G, P681H

* The WHO has classified multiple Omicron lineages under monitoring.

Note: Mutations of therapeutic concern are listed. S: 417N indicates a mutation in the spike protein at amino acid 417 to asparagine (N).

Source: Health Advances analysis, WHO, CDC.

To date, variants have had minimal impact on the performance of tests used to screen for or diagnose a SARS-CoV-2 infection because most tests include multiple targets.

Type of Test	Impact from Variants	Rationale
 Molecular	Minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vast majority of molecular tests target 2-3 regions of the SARS-CoV-2 genome (e.g., ORF1/2 and N regions), which are highly conserved • This limits the risk from mutations in any one region • FDA identified only 2 out >250 molecular tests with potential concerns due to target regions being impacted by variant mutations
 Antigen	Minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited concern; antigen tests target 1 region of N gene, which is highly conserved • Mutations in new variants have predominantly occurred in the S gene that codes for the spike protein
 Serology	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited risk as serology tests measure the host's antibodies rather than the virus itself; a small concern is if the antibodies being formed are not detected due to antigenic mutations in the virus
 Prognostic	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally, no risk as they rely on the host's genetic and/or protein biomarkers, which are not directly impacted by variants

Source: Health Advances analysis, company websites, FDA.

WHO and regional health organizations recommend continued vigilance and continued variant monitoring within each country's national health systems.



- Encourages countries to deposit sequences in public database
- Refrains from specific guidance due to varying sequencing infrastructure by country



- Recommends ≥ 50 samples sequenced per month
- Implemented 8 regional sequencing labs network to support in-country testing



- Advises member states to include genomic surveillance as part of disease surveillance
- Few specific details









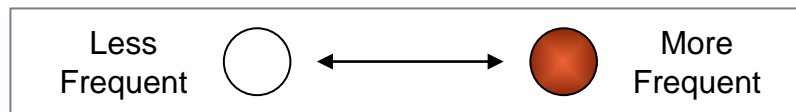
- Provides target of ≥ 500 samples or $\geq 10\%$ of cases sequenced per week
- Relies upon countries to implement programs

Source: Health Advances analysis, WHO, ECDC, Africa CDC, PAHO.

Multiple approaches are available to monitor the emergence and spread of variants. The most common approach is sequencing-based genomic analysis.

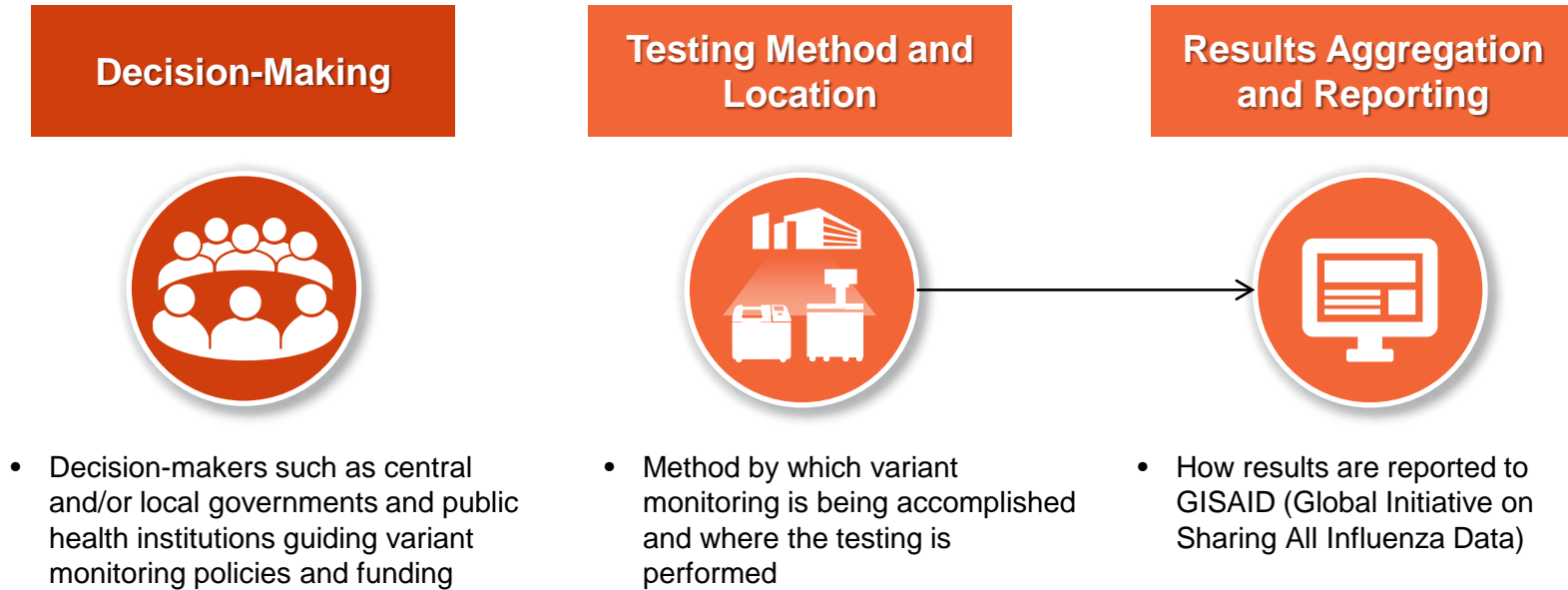
Technologies for Variant Monitoring

Technique	Frequency of Use	Description	Example Products	
Sequencing-based Methods		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary method for tracking existing variants and identifying new variants Required cost and time limits the number of samples analyzed in this manner 		
NAAT		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most tests cannot distinguish variants Some tests can serendipitously detect certain variants 		

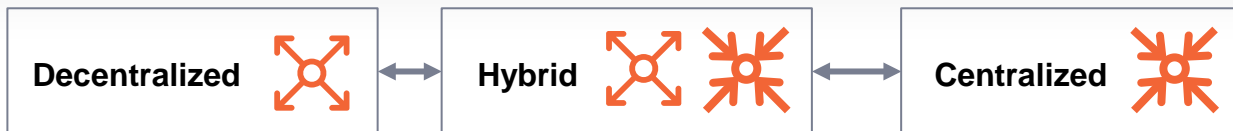


Note: NAAT = nucleic acid amplification test.
 Source: Health Advances analysis, WHO Methods for Variant Detection

Several archetypes of variant monitoring are observable, which are differentiated by the degree of centralization in decision making and processing.

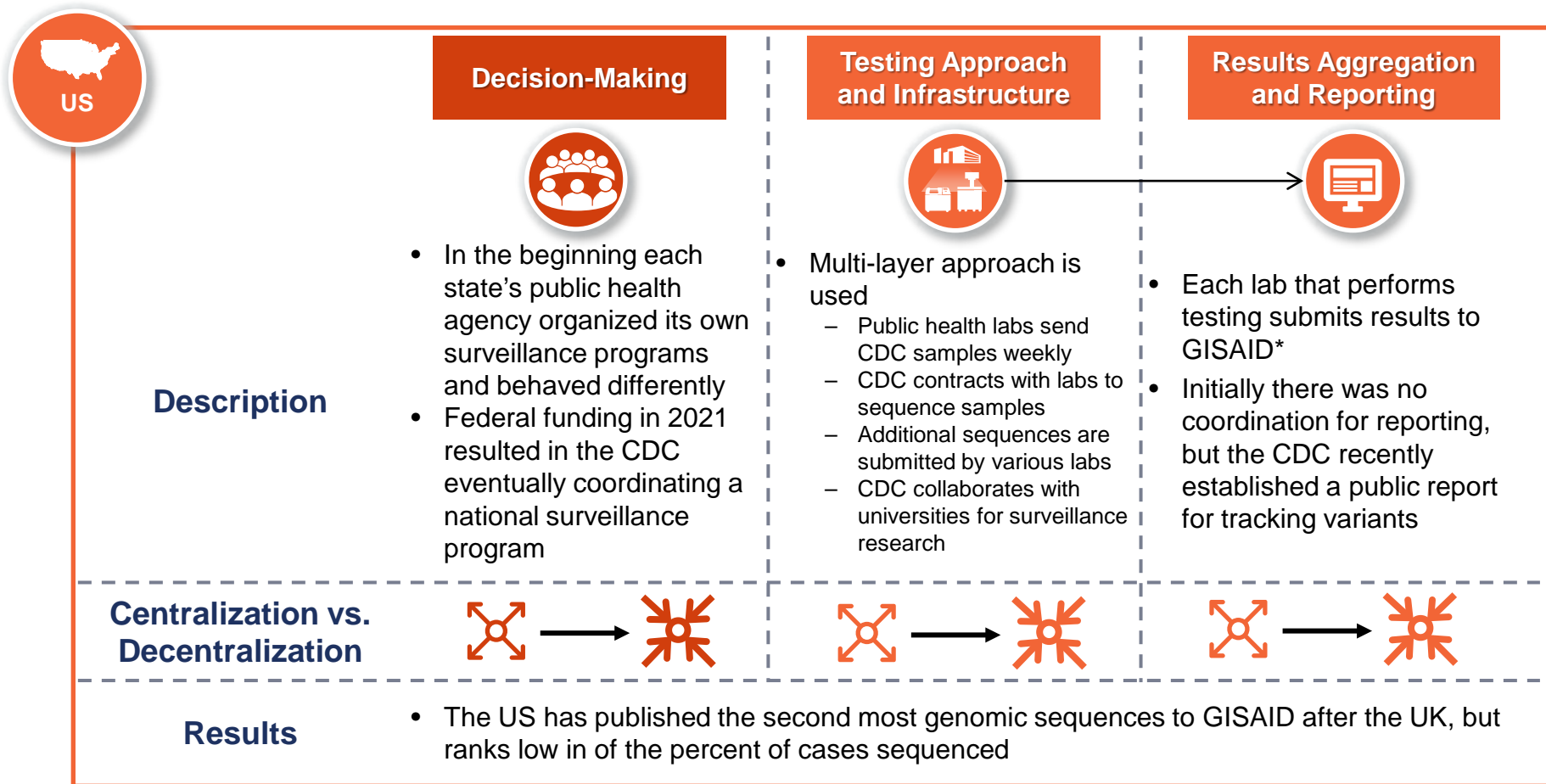


Each approach further varies by degree of centralization:



Source: Health Advances analysis.

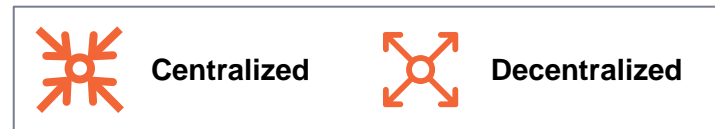
The US started with a highly decentralized approach where each state determined its own method of monitoring. Eventual federal funding created a more centralized approach.



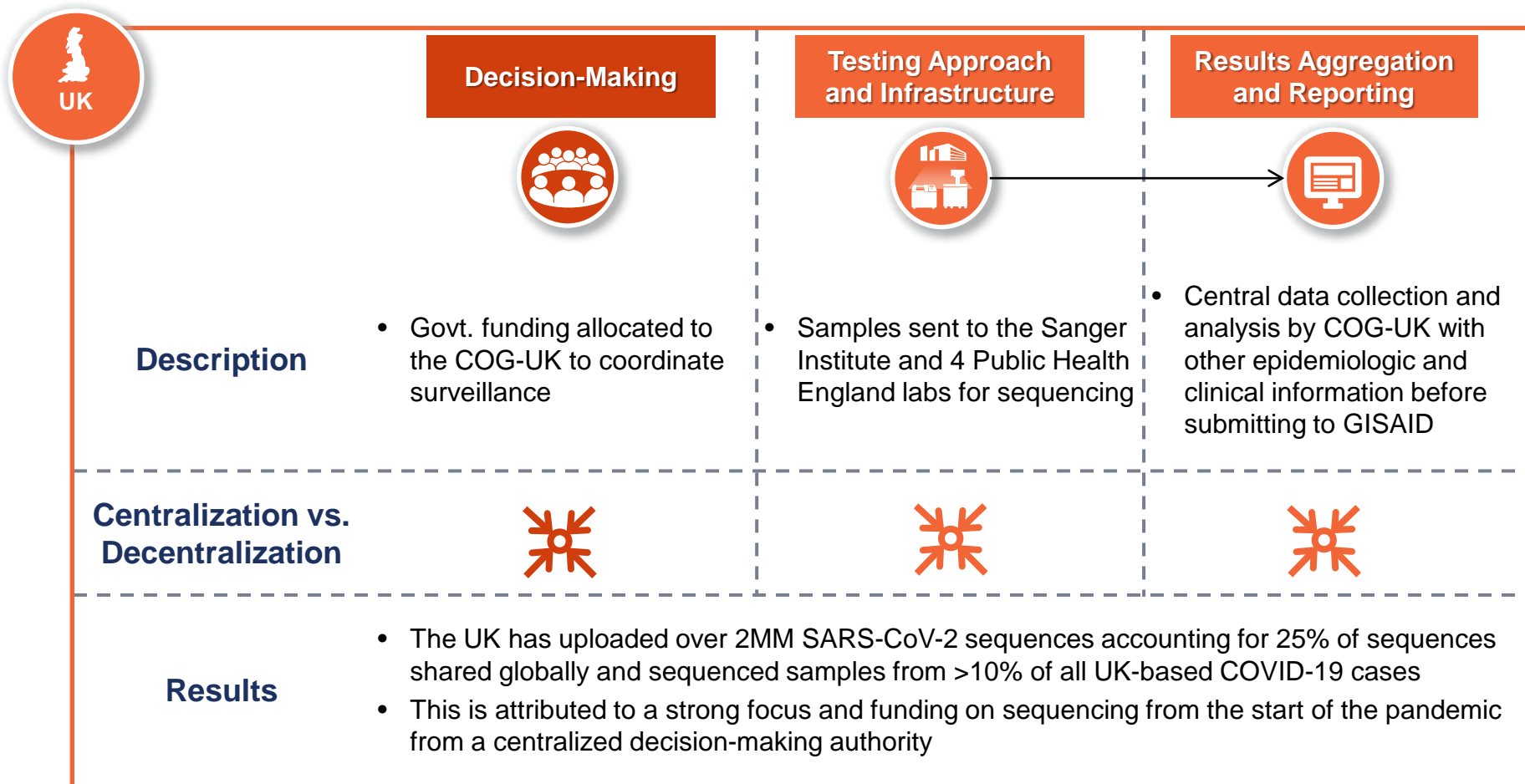
* GISAID provides open access to genomic data of influenza viruses and coronaviruses. It plays a critical role as a central global repository for SARS-CoV-2 sequences.

Note: GISAID = Global Initiative on Sharing Avian Influenza Data CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Source: Health Advances analysis, CDC, Abbasi 2021 J Am Med Assoc, Maxmen 2021 Nature, Washington Post, Furuse 2020 Intl J Infec. Dis.

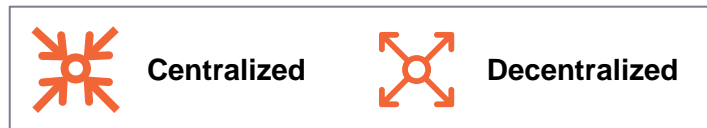


The UK has a highly centralized approach to variant monitoring, resulting in one of the highest percentages of cases sequenced and making it a global leader in surveillance.

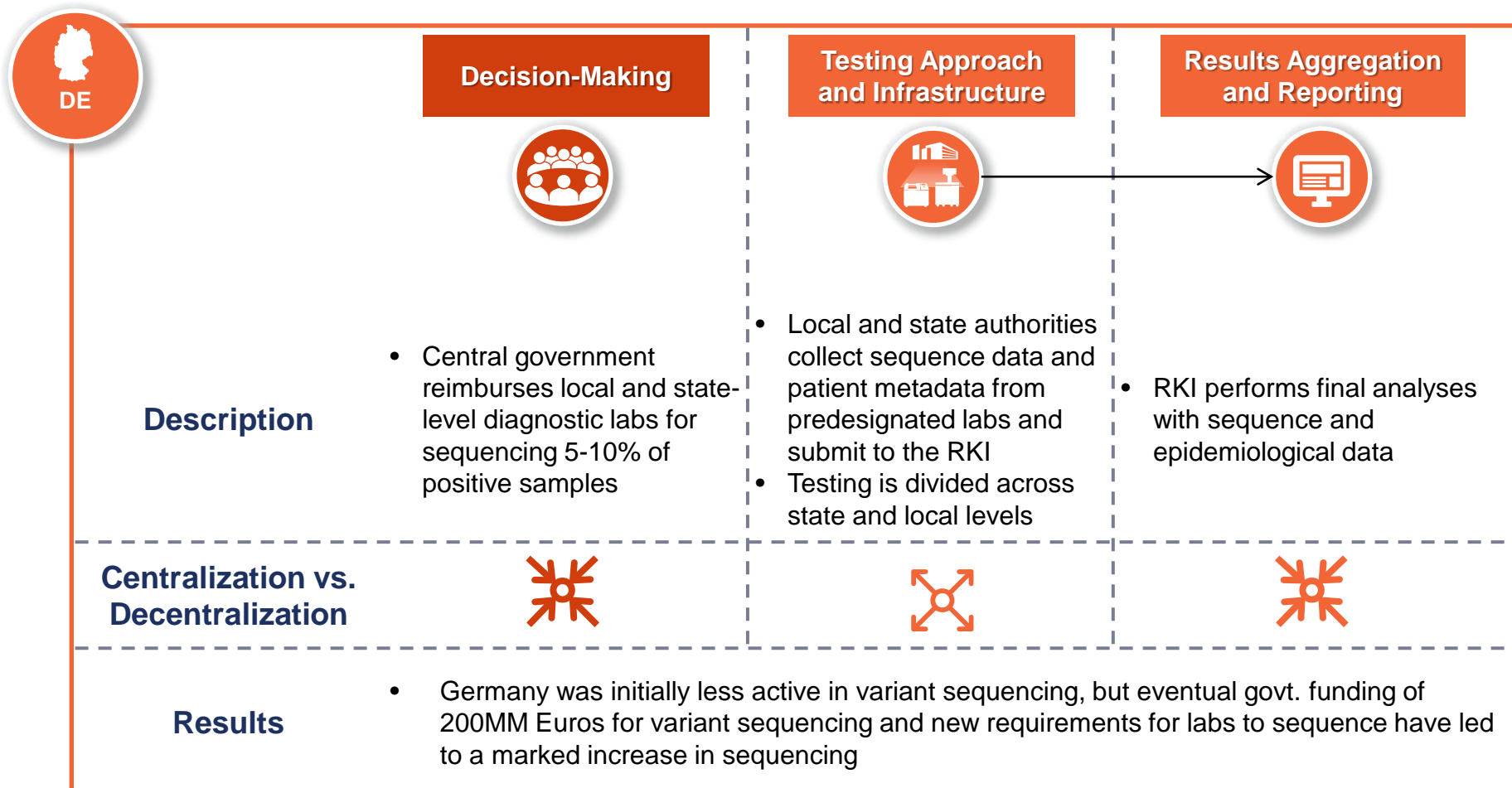


Note: COG-UK = COVID-19 Genomics UK, which is a consortium of National Health Services, Public Health England, Wellcome Sanger Institute, and academic institutions.

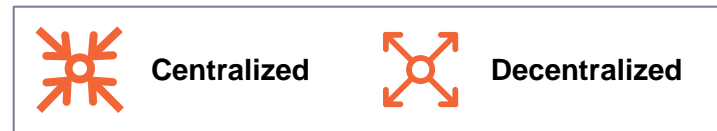
Source: Health Advances analysis, COG-UK, PHE, Furuse 2021 Intl J Infect. Dis, AP News, UK Govt.



Germany's surveillance program is a hybrid of centralization and decentralization. Variant monitoring traditionally lagged, but new funding and attention increased utilization.

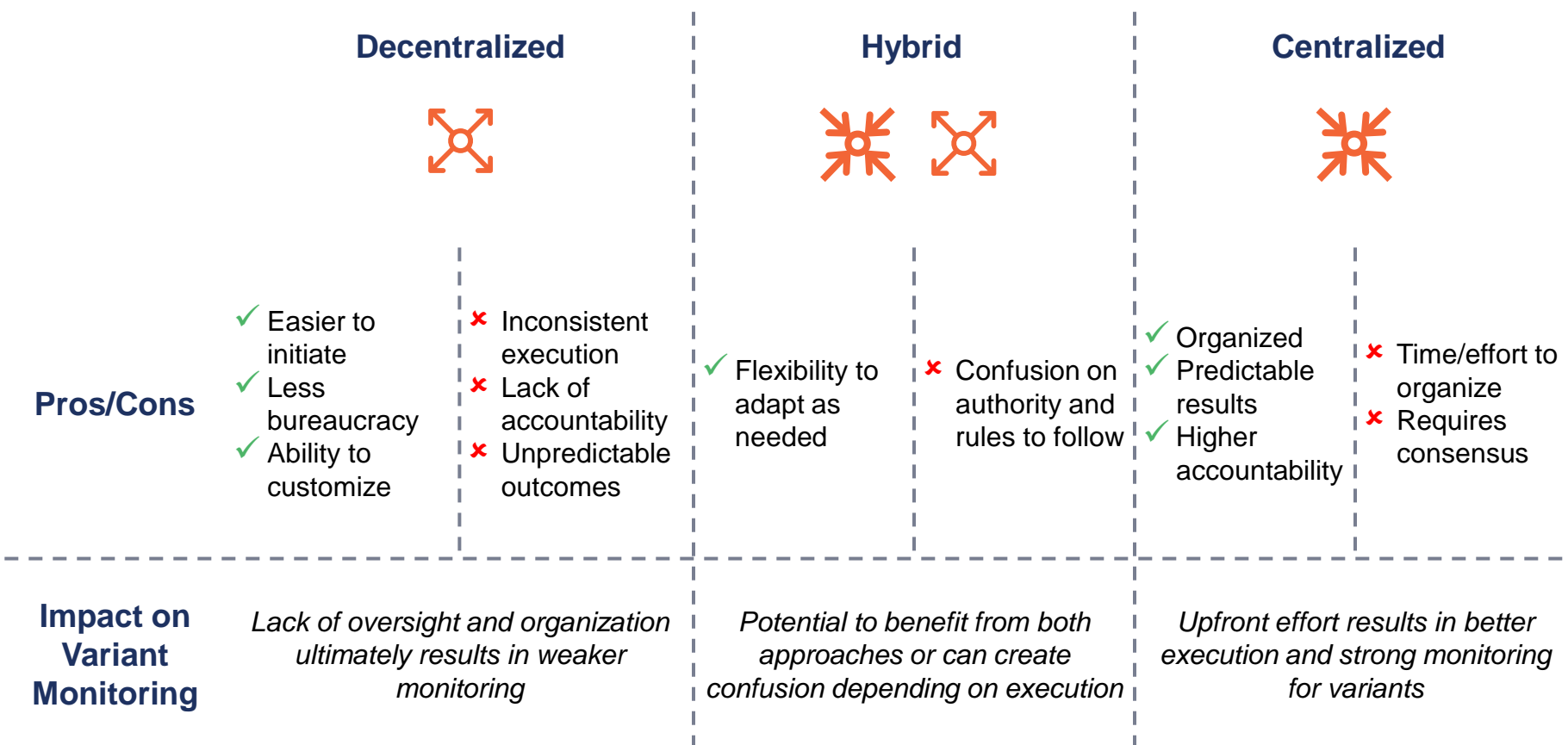


Note: RKI = Robert Koch Institut.
Source: Health Advances analysis, RKI, Furuse 2020 Intl J Infect. Dis, Reuters.



Different approaches to monitoring variants each have pros and cons. Overall, centralized approaches reap greater benefits of coordination and standardization across a country.

Strategies for Monitoring Variants



Source: Health Advances analysis.

Research has shown that wastewater testing can effectively monitor overall disease burden and COVID-19 incidence in local communities.

Important Wastewater Studies

Study	Journal	# of Citations	Findings on Wastewater Testing
First Detection of SARS-CoV-2 in Wastewater in Australia	<i>Sci. Total Environ</i>	1125	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First study that reported the detection of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater
SARS-CoV-2 RNA in Wastewater Tracks Infection Dynamics	<i>Nature Biotech.</i>	426	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wastewater provides notice of infections in community days ahead of patient testing
Analysis of SARS-CoV-2 Surveillance by Wastewater: Feasibility, Economy, Opportunities and Challenges	<i>Sci. Total Environ</i>	369	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One infected individual theoretically is detectable among 100 to 2,000,000 persons

Implications

- The number of COVID-19 cases in a community correlates with the SARS-CoV-2 RNA concentration in that community's wastewater
- SARS-CoV-2 RNA concentrations can be found several days in advance of positive SARS-CoV-2 test results
- Wastewater testing is cost-effective method for monitoring epidemiology

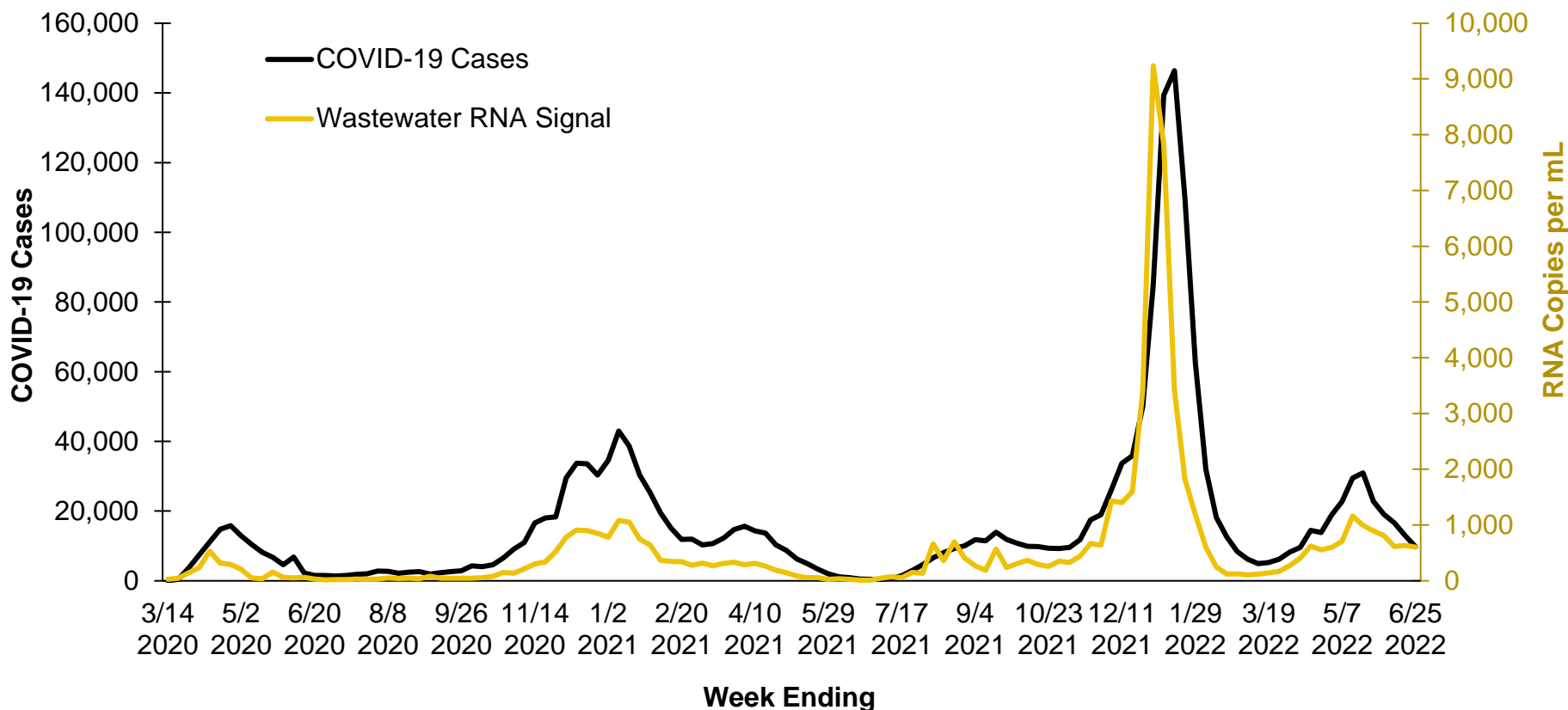
Source: Health Advances analysis, Ahmed, W., 2020 Sci Tot. Environ, Peccia, j., 2020 Nature Biotech, Hart, O., 2020 Environ. Sci. Technol.

Value to Identify Real-Time Case Rates

For example, Massachusetts reports its wastewater testing and uses these results as an early predictor of outbreaks and to contextualize potential underreporting of cases.

Massachusetts Wastewater COVID-19 Tracking

COVID-19 Cases and Viral RNA Signal in Wastewater by Date*



* Cases and viral RNA signal is based on the running 7-day average at the represented date. Data accounts for the individual North and South Water Systems being monitored by MA. Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, JHU.

Thus far, the US, Europe, and Australia have been at the forefront of implementing wastewater testing to monitor case rates and identify potential outbreaks.

Utilization of Wastewater Testing

As Indicated by Publications and/or Media Reports

US



- CDC has provided guidance and a voluntary program for municipalities to submit wastewater to labs, followed by CDC data analysis and result reporting back to health departments
- Lack of national or state-level policies has resulted in sporadic use
- Wastewater testing has highest adoption in the Midwest, Northeast and West coast regions

Europe

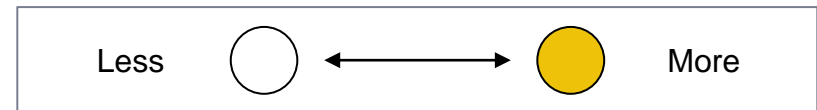


- The European Commission recommended EU members establish a common systematic surveillance approach for SARS-CoV-2 in EU wastewater
- EU member states have responded, with France, Belgium, Netherlands, Spain, and Austria leading the way with the most waste treatment plants under regular surveillance

ROW

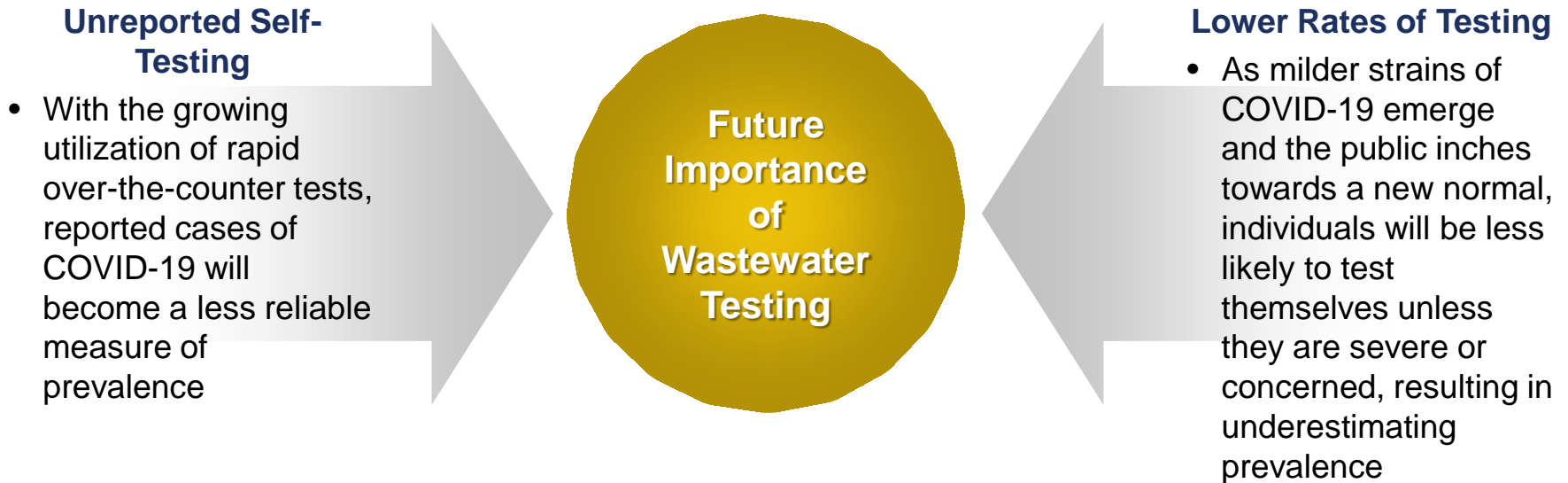


- Australia established a national program sewage surveillance program that at its peak can test 90% of the population's wastewater to aid COVID-19 response
- Lack of national policies or guidelines to monitor wastewater suggests limited use elsewhere



Source: Health Advances analysis, Politico, European Union Website.

Looking forward, as unreported self-testing grows and/or the general rate of testing wanes, wastewater testing will become essential for measuring COVID trends.



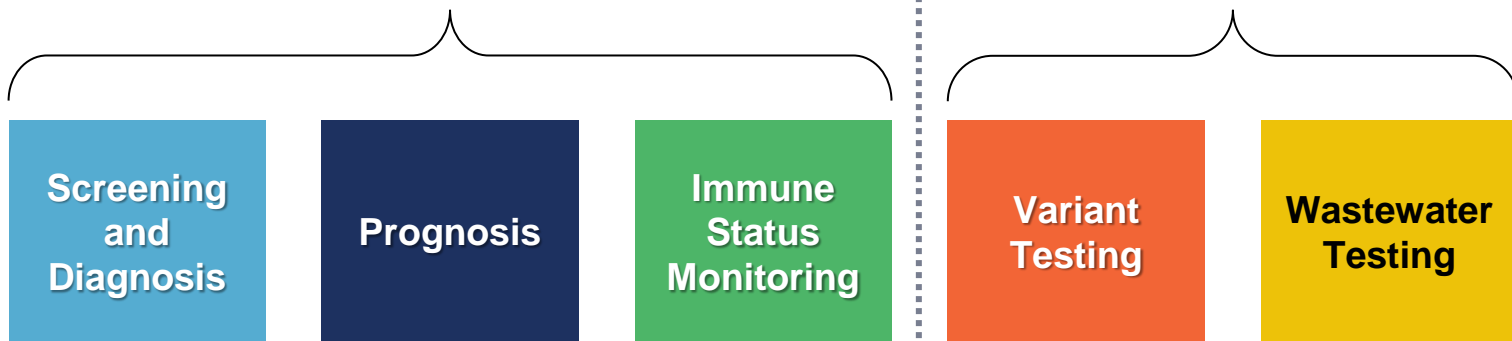
Source: Health Advances analysis, Mara Aspinall COVID Newsletter Dec 2021.

Future Outlook for Test Types

Screening and diagnosis of COVID-19 will continue to wane as normal societal behavior prevails, while other test types will either stay flat or rise as we shift to preventing outbreaks.

Evolution of Original Test Types

New Emerging Test Types



Outlook on Utilization



Rationale

- Relatively lower case rates and societal adaptation to COVID will result in declining testing rates overall with random spikes when new concerning variants emerge

- Will depend on consumer interest to drive use and further research but likely to remain flat with random spikes if there is an outbreak of a severe variant

- If testing can be tied to future vaccination schedules, then use will rise otherwise use will be flat and track with future outbreaks

- Will continue to rise as more countries adapt protocols to track COVID and over the long-term help globally manage the virus and its variants

- Will continue to rise slowly as its benefits of alerting of potential outbreaks becomes proven and more countries join the effort for monitoring



Rising



Declining



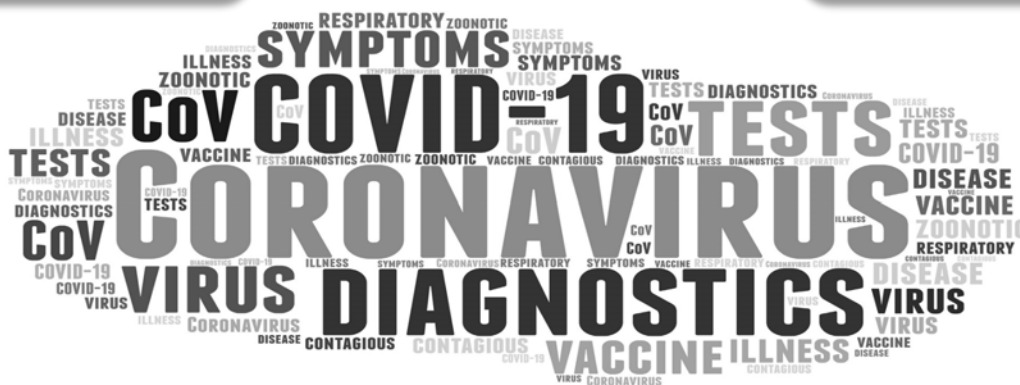
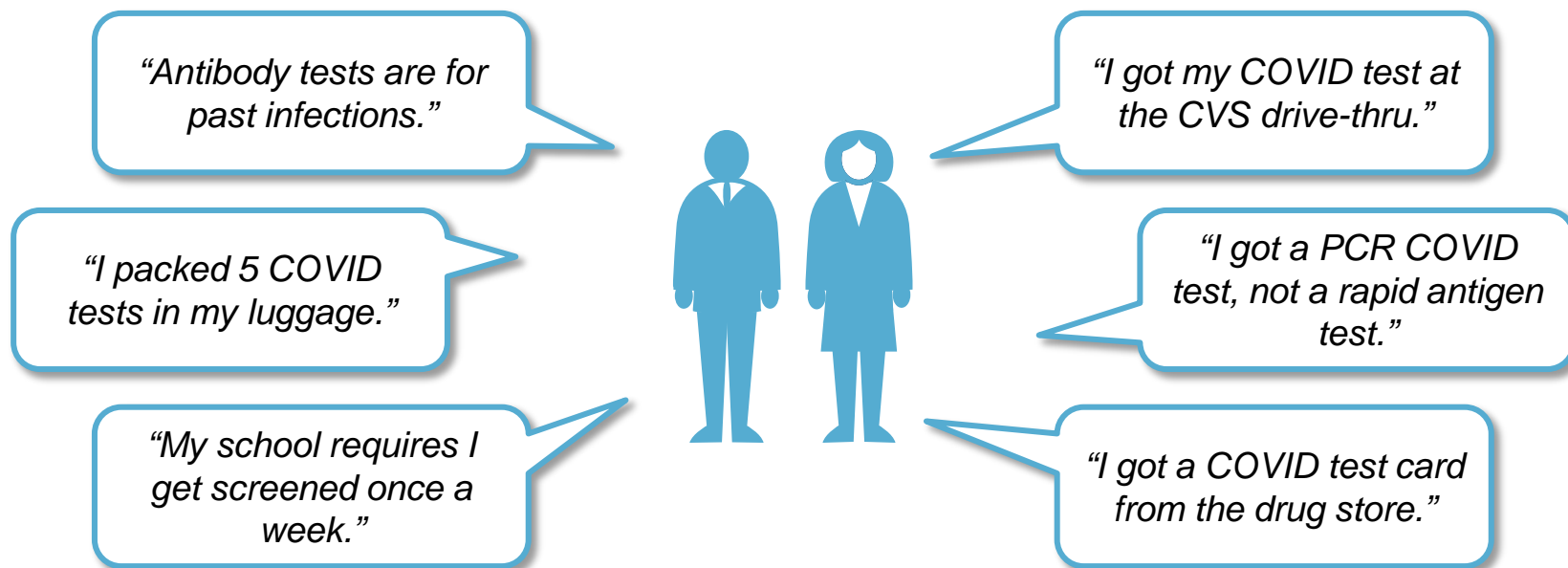
Flat

Source: Health Advances analysis.

- What new COVID-19 test types have emerged since the start of the pandemic?
- ***What macro trends has the industry experienced? What changes in COVID testing are expected moving forward?***
- How has the pandemic impacted established OEM activities and investment?
- What types of new entrants emerged during the pandemic and how will they fare long-term?
- What questions remain outstanding?

Elevation of Diagnostics in the Public Conversation

The COVID pandemic put the diagnostics industry “on the map” and extended broad public awareness of testing around the globe.



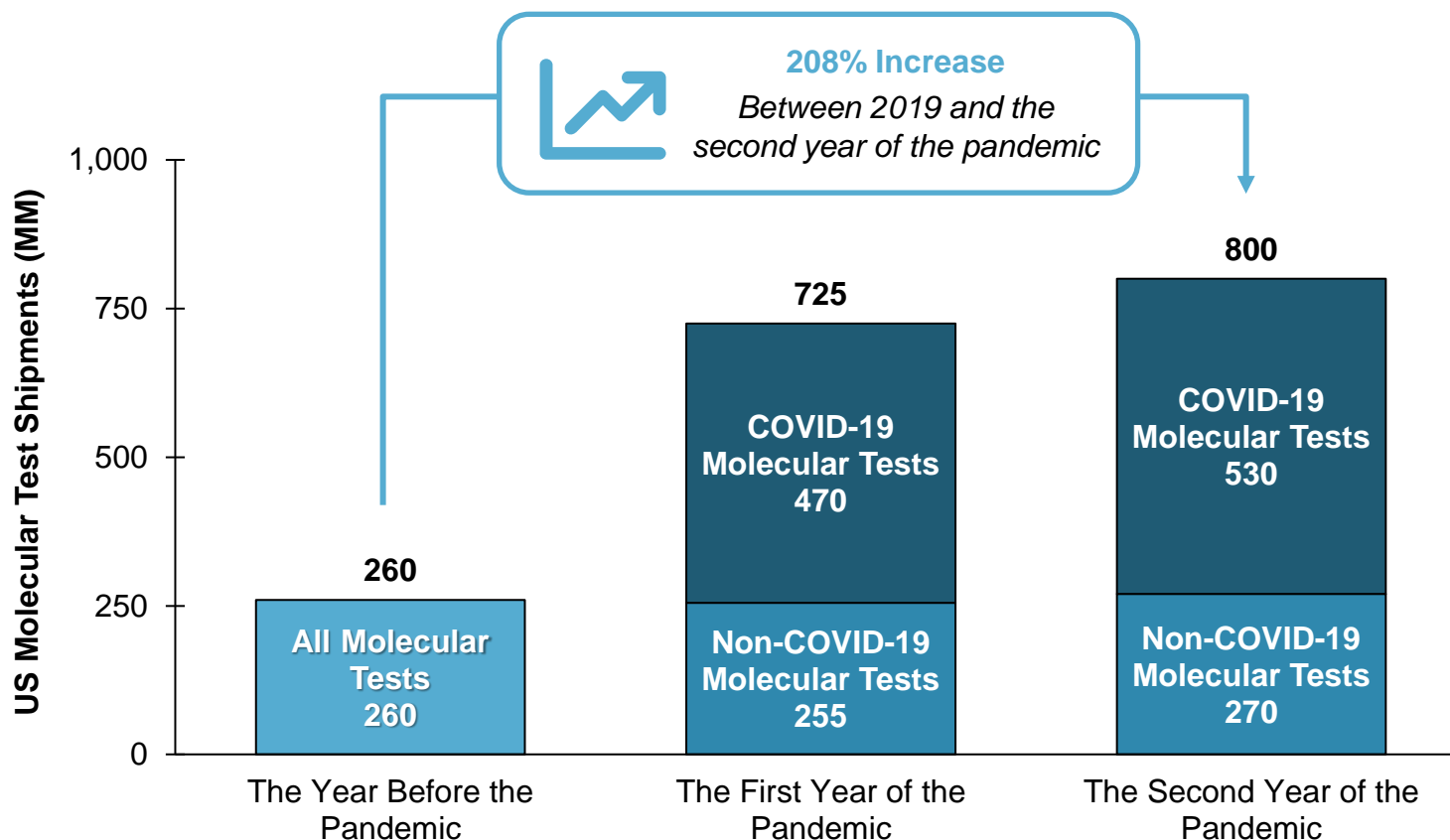
Note: Dx=Diagnosics; The diagnostics industry is defined, for the purposes of this publication, as test reagent and instrumentation manufacturers.
Source: Health Advances analysis.

US SARS-CoV-2 Test Volumes

SARS-CoV-2 US molecular test shipments ramped quickly, reaching ~470MM in the first year and continued to account for 2/3 of the 800MM molecular tests the next year.

US Molecular Test Shipments Before and During the Pandemic

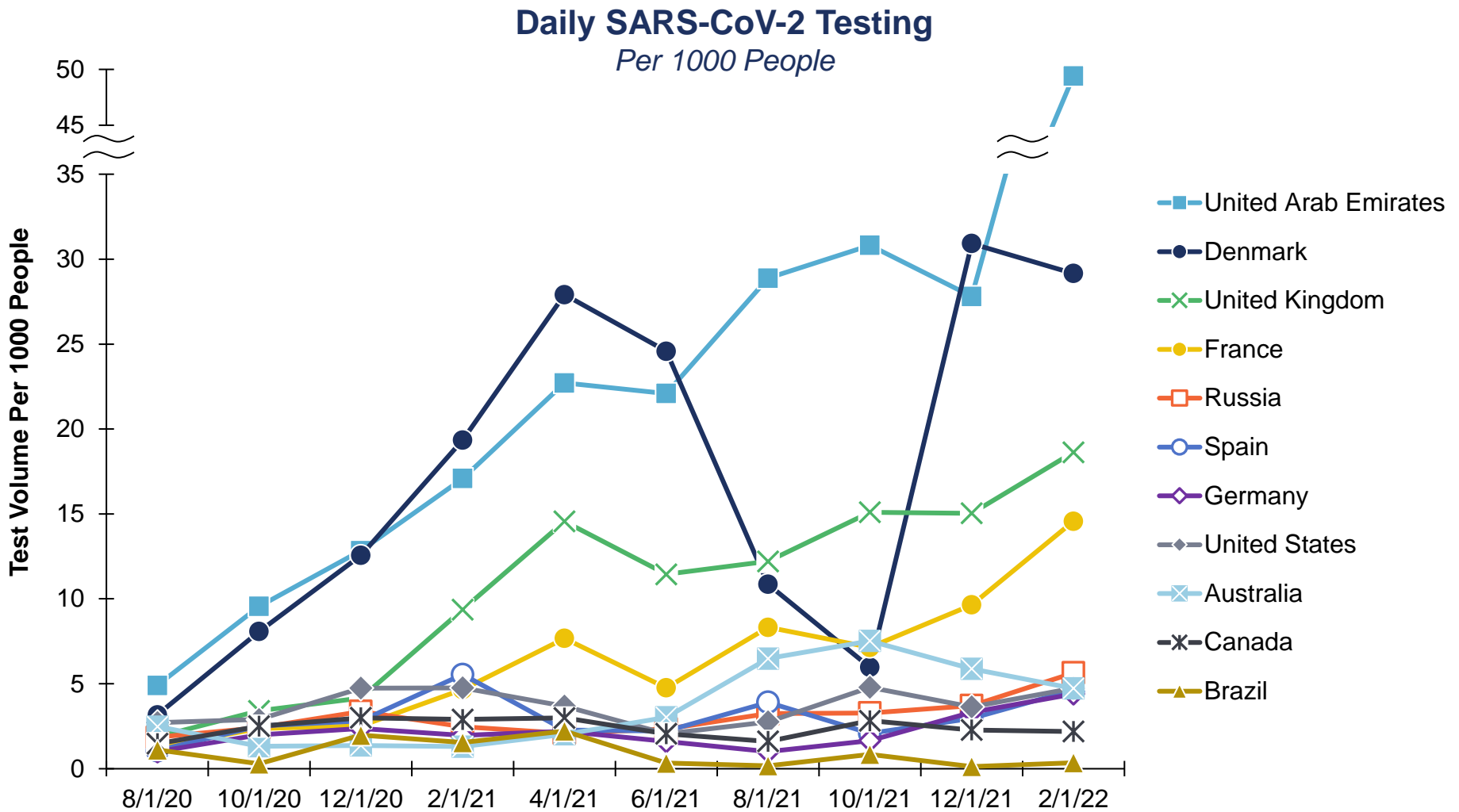
Millions (MM)



Source: Health Advances analysis, AdvaMedDx COVID Testing Supply Retrospective Report 2022.

WW SARS-CoV-2 Test Volumes

Testing rates have similarly remained at high rates throughout the world.

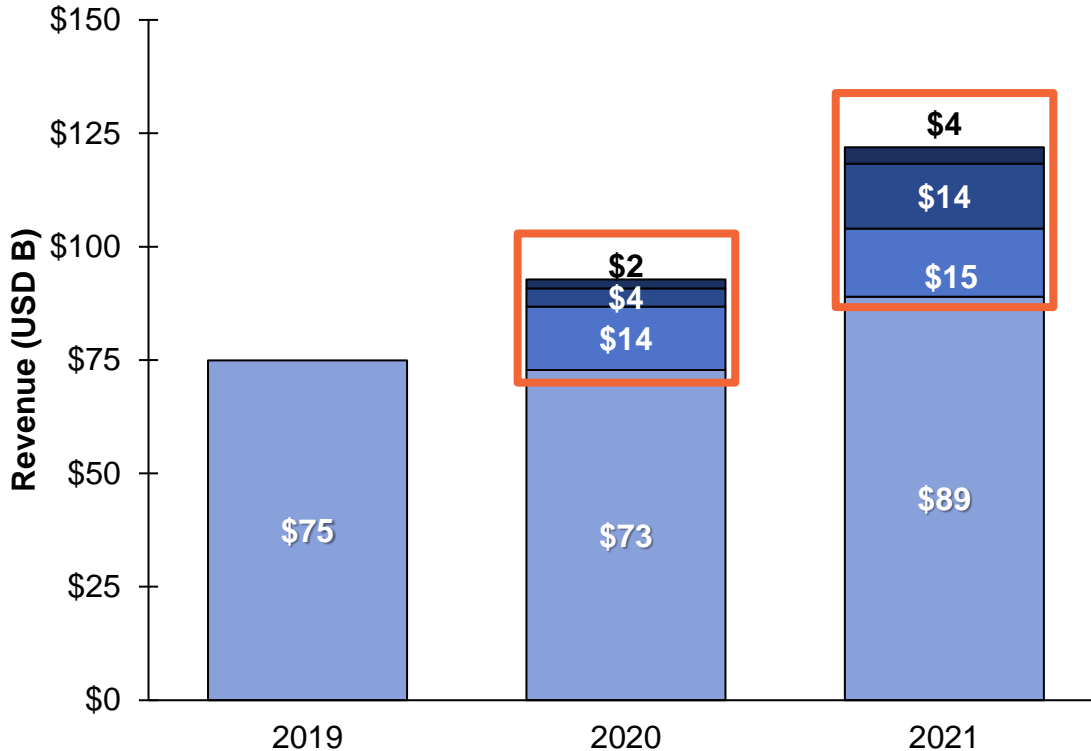


Note: Selected countries out of the top 25 by daily SARS-CoV-2 daily tests per 1000 people on Aug 1, 2020, are presented.
Source: Health Advances analysis, Our World in Data.

WW IVD Revenues

As a result, the overall diagnostics industry has grown significantly over the pandemic despite temporary declines in non-COVID testing segments.

WW IVD Product Revenue



	2019-2021 CAGR
■ SARS-CoV-2 Serology	N/A
■ SARS-CoV-2 Antigen	N/A
■ SARS-CoV-2 Molecular	N/A
■ Non-SARS-CoV-2	9%
Total	28%

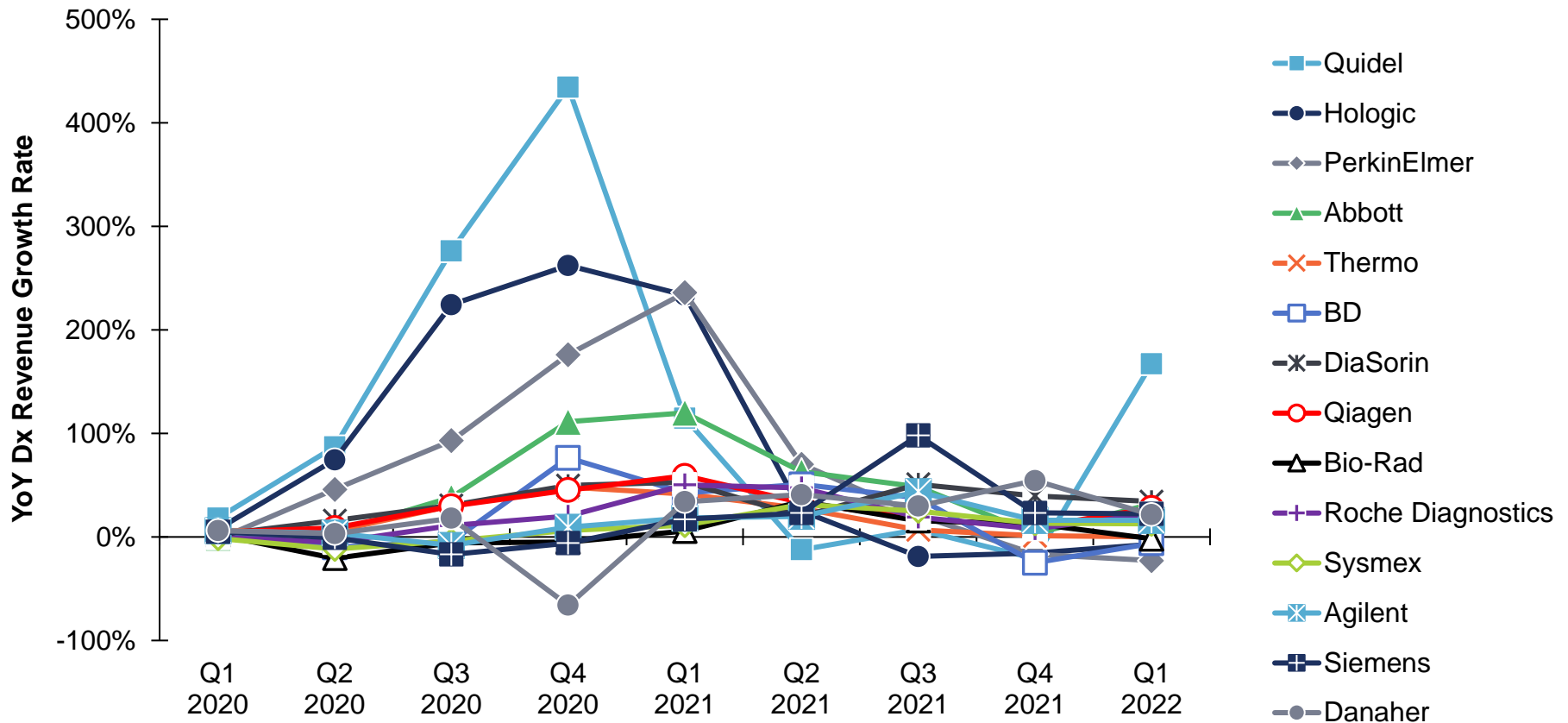
 SARS-CoV-2 Tests

Source: Health Advances analysis, Kalorama.

Major OEM Growth

Major diagnostics OEMs observed very high YoY growth rates throughout 2020, with the highest growth rates among Quidel, Hologic, and PerkinElmer, with strong MDx portfolios.

Revenue Growth of Leading Dx Product Companies




















Note: Companies shown are the largest companies by worldwide diagnostics revenue in 2019, except companies with no published quarterly revenues. YoY= year over year, Dx=Diagnosics, OEM= original equipment manufacturer, CY=Calendar Year.
 Source: Health Advances analysis, company SEC filings.

Blockbuster Sales by Major OEMs

Several companies achieved COVID-driven blockbuster sales of >\$1B for some of their diagnostic platforms and assays in 2020.

Selected Blockbuster Dx Products

		CY20 Annual Revenue*			CY20 Annual Revenue*	
	COVID Related Products		\$6.6 B		BinaxNOW™ 	\$6.1 B <i>(All Rapid Diagnostics)</i>
	Panther Assays		\$2.3 B		ID NOW™ 	
	Alinity m Assays		\$1.3 B		Sofia® Assays 	\$1.2 B
 	CFX96 Assays		\$0.7B		Veritor™ 	\$1.2 B
					COVID Related Products	\$1 B

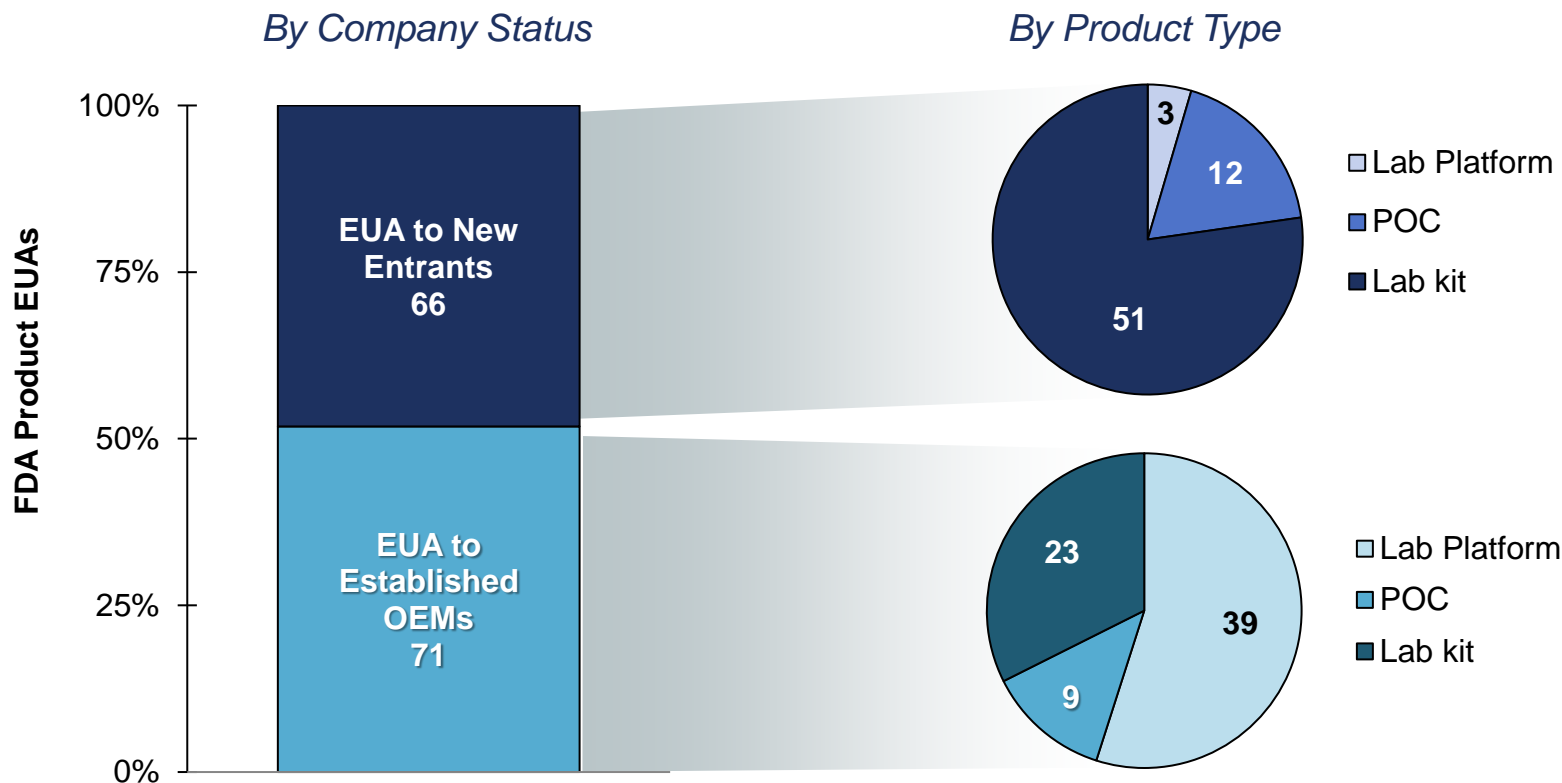
* Revenue from Q2 2020-Q1 2021, CY=Calendar Year.
Source: Health Advances analysis.

New Entrants

New entrants were also able to join the market, enabled by the favorable regulatory environment. More than 40% of EUAs were awarded to new Dx product companies.

FDA Molecular and Antigen Product EUAs

March 2020-Aug 2021



Note: Data included here are as of Aug 20, 2021. New Entrants are defined as companies for which the COVID EUA represents a first US regulatory approved/reviewed product. Lab platforms are defined as products that include both reagents and instrumentation to perform testing. Lab kits are defined as reagents only (for use on open systems). POC represents any form of point of care product defined as those with CLIA waiver for professional or home use. Additional FDA EUAs not counted here include 29 home sample collection kits and 125 single site lab tests.

Source: Health Advances analysis, FDA.

Changed Market Dynamics

Against the backdrop of this growth, the pandemic changed fundamental market dynamics.

Pandemic-Driven Market Trends



Source: Health Advances analysis.

Heightened Dx Valuation and Investment

The diagnostics industry has traditionally played second fiddle to biopharma. COVID was a turning point that has significantly increased available capital for investment in diagnostics.



Increased Appreciation of the Value of Diagnostics
across many stakeholders



Greater Investor Interest
in the Diagnostic Sector



Cash Windfall for Strategic OEMs,
especially those with pandemic exposure via MDx and antigen portfolios



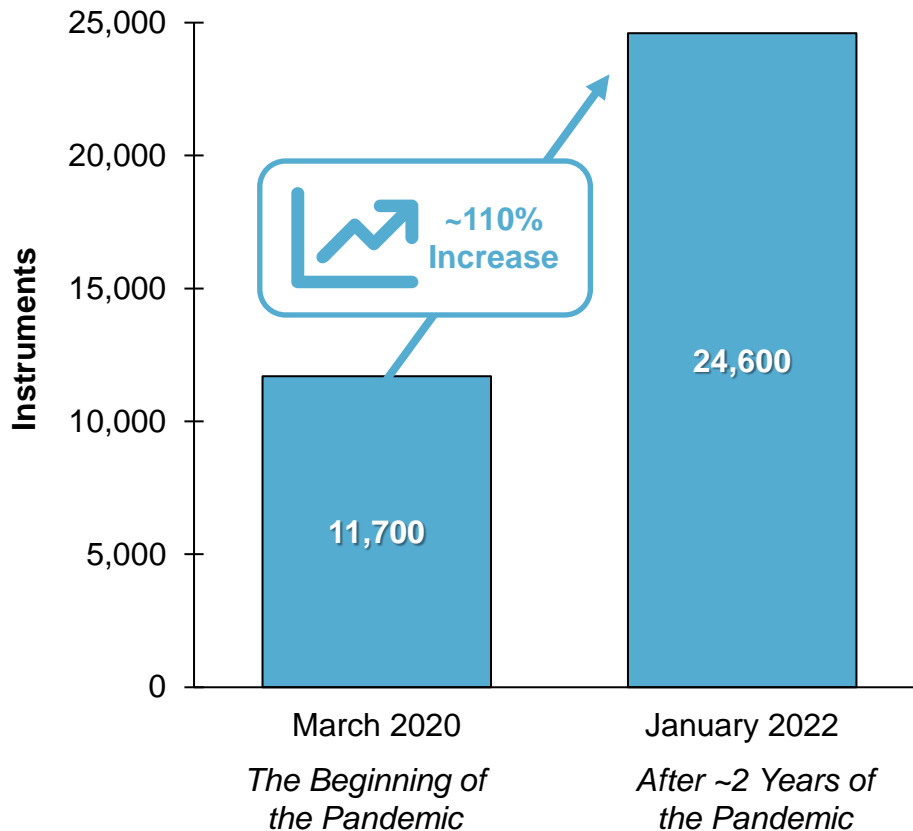
Elevated perception and pandemic-driven revenue performance has led to **increased capital for diagnostics investment** available from both investors and strategic OEMs

Source: Health Advances analysis.

MDx Installed Base Expansion

The MDx installed base increased by ~110% to meet the urgent need for testing, disrupting capital purchasing cycles and broadening testing placement settings.

Number of Molecular Testing Instruments in the US



During the Pandemic, Labs Were Seeking to Add New Instruments to Support Demand

Disruption in Purchasing Cycles

Expanded Placement Settings for MDx Testing

Slowdown in Platform Consolidation within the Lab

Purchasing of Back-Up Options to Keep TAT for Results Short

The Next Several Years Will Be Affected By a Ripple Effect in Customer Purchasing Decisions

However, these instruments have seen very high utilization and may be replaced on shorter than traditional lifecycles

Source: Health Advances analysis, AdvaMedDx COVID Testing Supply Retrospective Report 2022.

Accelerating Consumerization of Testing (1 of 2)

Simultaneously, COVID-19 self-testing has gained significant traction driving demand for other, consumer-friendly workflows like remote sample collection and for other indications.

COVID-19 Has Accelerated Demand for Rapid Accessible Testing



Self Test

- Widespread access at-home COVID-19 testing
- Increased consumer familiarity with self-testing workflow
- Self-testing menus expected to expand to include other respiratory pathogens, STIs



Remote/Home Sample Collection

- Enables moderate and high complexity testing combined with ease of consumer sample collection
- May also ride tailwinds of increasing consumer familiarity with self-testing workflows



Professional POC

- Enables rapid results within the physician office, urgent care, retail and other settings

More Consumer-Driven



More Clinician-Driven

Source: Health Advances analysis.

Accelerating Consumerization of Testing (2 of 2)

Ellume, Everlywell, and Abbott have built large businesses based on the success of consumer-focused workflows and will likely see continued growth as offerings expand.

Example Companies Offering Consumerized Testing



Self Test



- BinaxNow major contributor to Abbott Rapid Dx revenue growth
- \$1B+ contract to provide rapid COVID-19 testing to US federal government



- Broad distribution deals with CVS, Walmart, Everlywell, Qiagen

Remote/Home Sample Collection



- \$2.9B valuation following acquisition of PWNHealth and Home Access Health
- Offers 35+ home testing kits



- Large menus of tests for direct purchase
- Partnerships with major retail settings (e.g., Quest & Walmart, LabCorp & Walgreens)

Professional POC

WW POC Installed Base Expansion (000s)

		2019	Δ	2021
ID NOW		19	+395%	75
		18 ¹	+390%	71
Liat		3.6	+39%	5.0 ²

¹ Installed base not reported in 2019. 2018 installed base was 17,500 systems.

² Installed base not reported in 2021. 2020 installed base was 5,000 and has likely grown significantly.

Source: Health Advances analysis, FDA, press releases, SEC filings.

Supply chain disruptions—both pandemic and Ukraine/Russia-related—have and are continuing to lead to pressure on price, supplier selection, and labs as the end-customer.

Laboratory Supply Shortages Are Impacting COVID-19 and Non-COVID Diagnostic Testing

American Society for Microbiology, 2020

‘Another year of crazy hiccups’: Russia and China pose new threats to global supply chain

The Washington Post, 2022

- Shipping & raw materials costs increasing, transportation disruptions to continue through the year
- Impacting businesses broadly, including the diagnostics sector

OEMs Must Continue to Navigate Supply Chain Issues in Face of Global Uncertainties



- Uncertain macroeconomic conditions driven by ongoing pandemic and geopolitical conflict in Russia and Ukraine
- OEMs face decisions to increase prices to maintain margins across their portfolios
- Labs and hospitals face staffing shortages and lack of reliable access to testing products, driving changes to supplier selection decisions

SARS-CoV-2 Test Volume Outlook

Looking towards the future, SARS-CoV-2 is expected to become endemic and evolve slowly, potentially with seasonal fluctuations like the flu.

Estimated Demand for COVID-19 Testing



COVID-19 Broadly Expected to Become Endemic

- Timeline to endemic state likely to vary by country, based on vaccination status, prior exposure, and emergence of novel variants

Demand for COVID-19 Testing, Including Differential Diagnosis, Expected to Continue

- Testing volume will likely decline to level of flu testing in 3-5 years
- Demand for testing that enables differential diagnosis between COVID-19, flu, and/or RSV likely to remain attractive
- Testing will continue to decentralize away from the lab as POC and home testing grow; POC antigen and POC molecular testing will battle each other for share competing on price and accuracy with molecular likely winning in developed countries and antigen winning in emerging countries

Total Test Volume in 3-5 Years	Relative Share by Test Type in 3-5 Years		
	Molecular	Antigen	Serology
↓	■ / ↓	■ / ↑	■

Source: Health Advances analysis, analyst reports.

Regardless of future SARS-COV-2 test volume, many of the shifted market dynamics of COVID will persist and have ramifications for the segments with future market growth.

Tailwinds: Elevation of the Diagnostics Sector

- Widespread appreciation of the value of diagnostics
- Significant market growth and expansion
- Increased access to testing and resulting new customer channels

Headwinds: Ramifications of “Endemic Phase”

- Supply chain disruptions
- Lower overall demand for COVID testing

Outstanding Questions

- *What is the outlook for valuations of diagnostic companies?*
- *What demands will new customer types (e.g., consumers) put on diagnostic companies for products and services?*
- *Which technology(s) will win for COVID testing?*
- *How will companies that have found initial success in COVID testing stay relevant?*

Source: Health Advances analysis.

- What new COVID-19 test types have emerged since the start of the pandemic?
- What macro trends has the industry experienced? What changes in COVID testing are expected moving forward?
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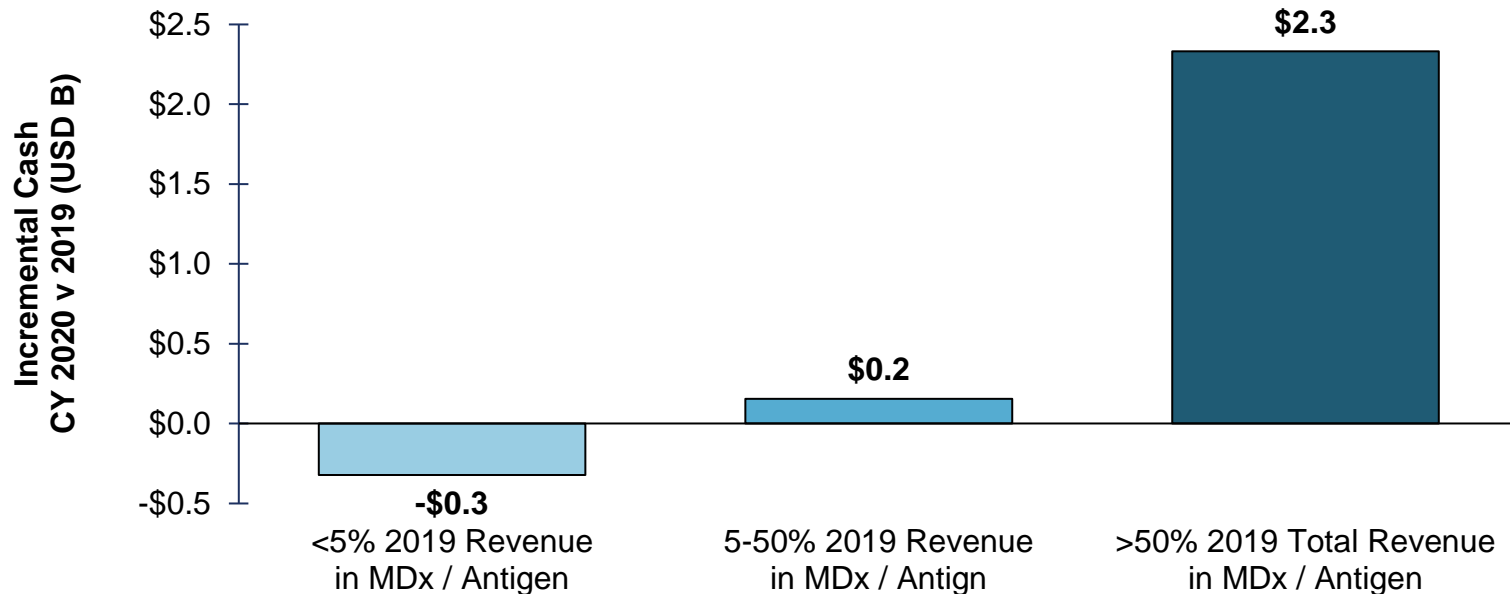
COVID Cash Investment Opportunity

Many OEMs with significant MDx and antigen portfolios have had and continue to have an unparalleled opportunity to invest in their businesses with COVID cash.

Avg. Incremental Cash Among OEMs

2020 vs. 2019, Large Dx Companies*

By % Total Revenue in MDx / Antigen



OEMs, Grouped by % Total Revenue in MDx / Antigen






Note: CY=Calendar Year.

* Companies and divisions included are listed here. <5% 2019 Revenue in MDx / Antigen: Siemens Healthineers (Diagnostics), Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Sysmex. 5-50% 2019 Revenue in MDx / Antigen: Qiagen, DiaSorin, Agilent, Bio-Rad. >50% 2019 Revenue in MDx / Antigen: Abbott (Dx), BD (IDS), PerkinElmer (Dx), Thermo (Specialty Dx), Hologic, Quidel, Seegene, Danaher, Roche.

Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis, company SEC filings.

OEM Investment Priorities

As OEMs consider how to invest, priorities include disciplines with heightened importance post-COVID, such as MDx menu and POC. Other portfolio areas also remain key.

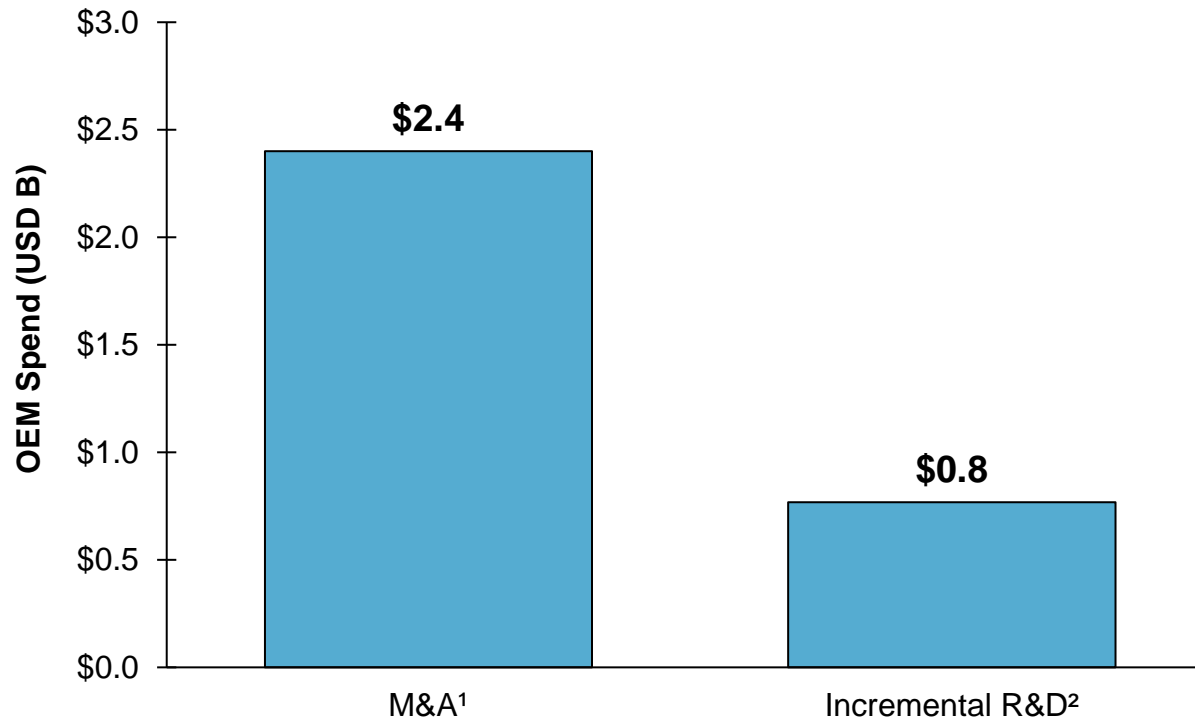
OEM Investment Priority		Rationale
MDx Menu Expansion		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilize expanded MDx installed base and capacity• Reach parity with MDx competitors
POC		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Capture growth of consumer-friendly workflows• Capitalize on pandemic growth of lateral flow
COVID Portfolio Mgmt.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extend SARS-CoV-2 revenues as long as possible• Ensure test options align with evolving epidemiology of respiratory pathogens
Ancillary Testing Components and Workflows		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refocus on components, like pipet tips, that proved to be critical in pandemic testing supply chain• Improve workflows and sample types to differentiate in crowded field
Other Key Portfolio Areas		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diversify and solidify competitive advantage in other portfolio areas that are critical for long-term growth

Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis.

OEMs have largely chosen to invest in these areas with M&A as the primary mechanism, rather than internal R&D.

Incremental R&D vs. M&A Spend

*H1 2021, Large Dx OEMs with
>50% 2019 Revenue in MDx / Antigen*



¹ M&A is the total Dx related deal value between Jan 1, 2021-Jun 30, 2021 among OEMs with >50% 2019 revenues in MDx / Antigen.

² Incremental R&D is H1 2021 Dx R&D expense minus H1 2020 Dx R&D expense for the OEMs with >50% 2019 revenues in MDx / Antigen.

Note: CY=Calendar Year

Source: Health Advances analysis, company filings and reports.

M&A vs. Internal R&D Trade-Offs

M&A offers the advantage of enabling rapid inorganic growth with investment in more proven products, while internal R&D is inherently riskier with uncertain returns.

-
- ✓ Drives inorganic growth
 - ✓ Enables near-term revenue from largely proven products
 - ✗ May face competitive bidding and high valuations for attractive targets
 - ✗ Requires operational investments to capture deal synergies

M&A















- ✓ Accelerates progress of ongoing projects
- ✓ Invests in improvements to existing portfolio products to remain competitive
- ✗ Inherently risky with uncertain payoffs in terms of both magnitude and timing
- ✗ Unclear if increase in R&D investment can be sustained beyond COVID years

Internal R&D

Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis.

Key M&A Segments

Some OEMs have invested heavily through M&A in their portfolio beyond Dx, like both Thermo and PerkinElmer. Other M&A has highlighted continued interest in POC and MDx.

Acquirer	Target	POC	MDx	Other Portfolio	Deal Value	Target Portfolio
				✓	\$17.4B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract clinical research and lab services for drug development
				✓	\$5.25B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antibodies and related reagents
			✓		\$1.8B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protein and molecular multiplexing instruments and reagents for research and clinical Dx testing
			✓		\$1.8B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syndromic testing Respiratory pathogen detection Order to reporting workflow
	 A Hologic Company	✓	✓		\$795M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infectious disease molecular diagnostics
		✓	✓		\$550M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rapid POC PCR detection of infectious diseases
			✓		\$230M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCR-based early-stage breast cancer dx PCR-based all metastatic cancer dx

Multiples of 5X-15X of 2020 revenue

Note: CY=Calendar Year

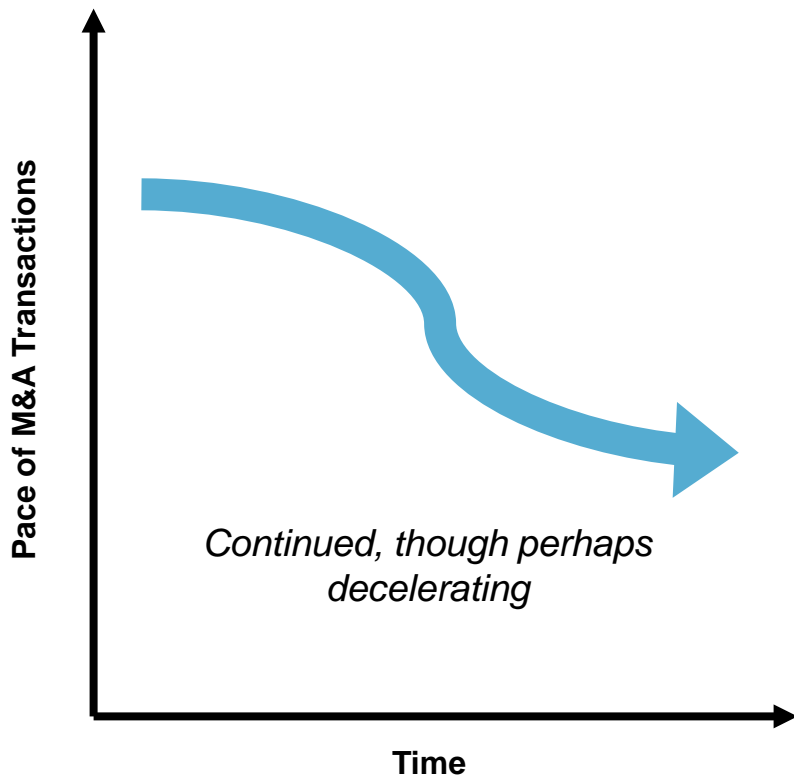
Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis, BioMed Tracker, company websites.

Outlook for Continued M&A

M&A will likely continue under the current financial conditions, though perhaps at a slower pace.

Pace of M&A Transactions

Forward-Looking



- Established OEMs continue to have high capital availability with large amounts of cash persisting on their balance sheets
- These companies are experiencing pressure from boards to reduce cash and make inorganic growth investments
- In addition, the IPO market is no longer a promising exit strategy for new entrants, thus creating an M&A opportunity for OEMs
 - M&A is more attractive exit option for new entrants given recent fall in public market valuations
 - As a result, potential deal/transaction values have also decreased and thus become more attractive to the larger OEM buyers

Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis, company financials, conference call transcripts.

Potential Buyers and Targets

Many of the large diagnostics OEMs represent key potential buyers for continued M&A. Large companies as well as midsize and new entrants may be targets.

Potential Buyers

OEM has Pursued >\$2B+ M&A Since Pandemic Onset*

Potential Targets

Big Dx
Did not benefit from COVID

Midsize Dx
Some COVID cash, but may pursue M&A due to high valuations

New Entrants
Non-exhaustive list

* Accounts for M&A deals of PerkinElmer/BioLegend, ThermoFisher Scientific/PPD, and Quidel/OrthoClinical Diagnostics.

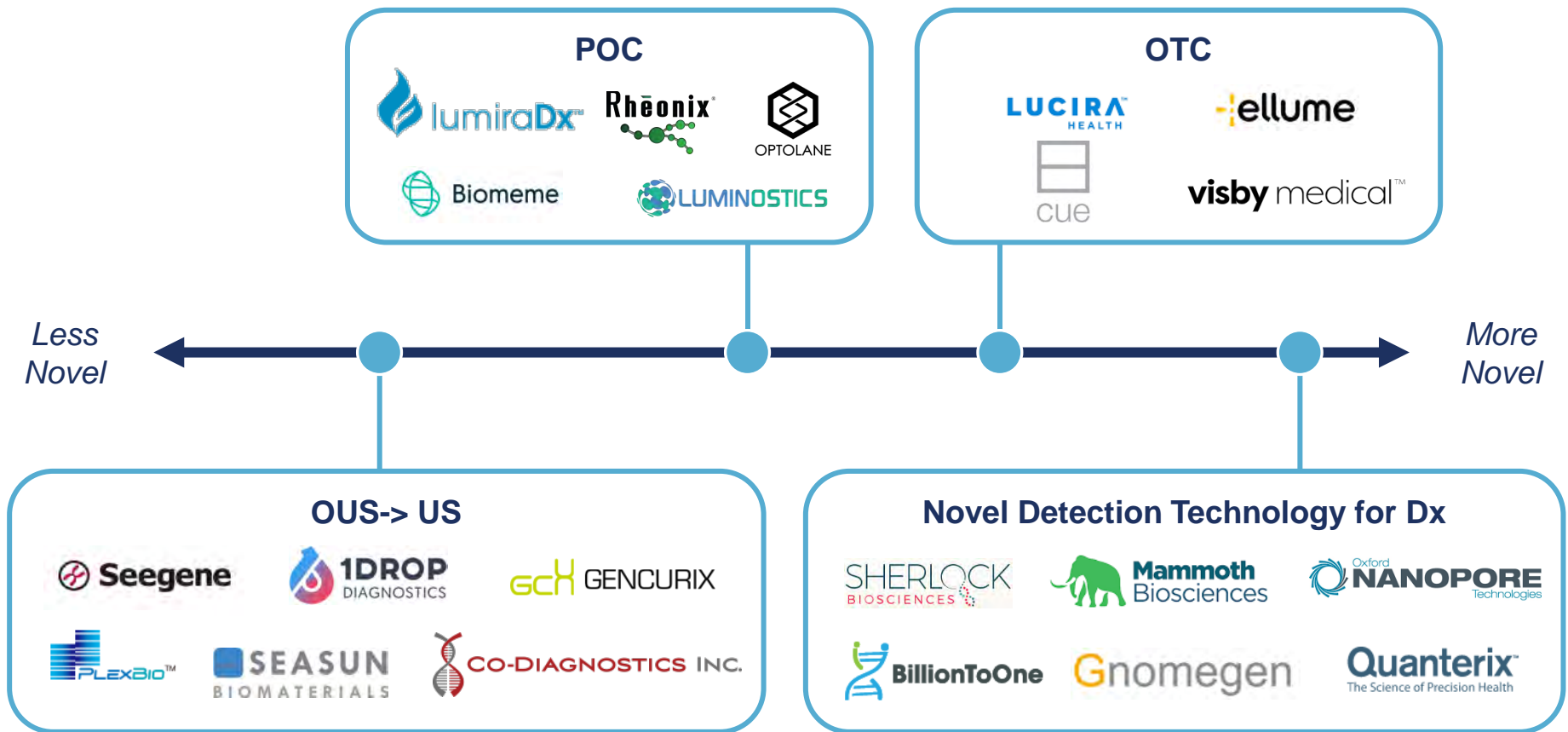
Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis.

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COVID Dx New Entrants

A wide range of companies gained early market entry thanks to COVID EUAs.

Spectrum of Technical Innovation Among New Entrants



Note: EUA=emergency use authorization.

Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis, company websites.

Expanded Capabilities and Presence

New entrants also obtained new manufacturing capabilities, new capital, new partners, or expanded to new markets due to increased investor interest and strong market demand.

New Funding



Closed \$235M financing round

LUCIRA™

IPO with \$176M proceeds



IPO with £350M proceeds



Achieved public listing through merger with a SPAC*



Built New 180K sq ft mfg facility in Maryland



Built new capacity to supply 6MM tests / month

Build Out of Manufacturing Capacity



LUCIRA™

Built new facility in Dominic Republic



Built new facility in Glasgow to product 28MM COVID tests / month

New Partners



Sherlock established strategic partnership with IDT to manufacture CRISPR SARS-CoV-2 Diagnostic



Nanopore partners with UK government to roll out sequencing based COVID testing



Ellume extended strategic partnership with Qiagen to build COVID antibody test on QIAreach™ platform

GENETRON 泛生子

Cancer Dx company obtained EUA to claim “international recognition” on website

Geographic Expansion



GCX GENCURIX

GCX obtained first regulatory clearance with FDA through its SARS-CoV-2 Test

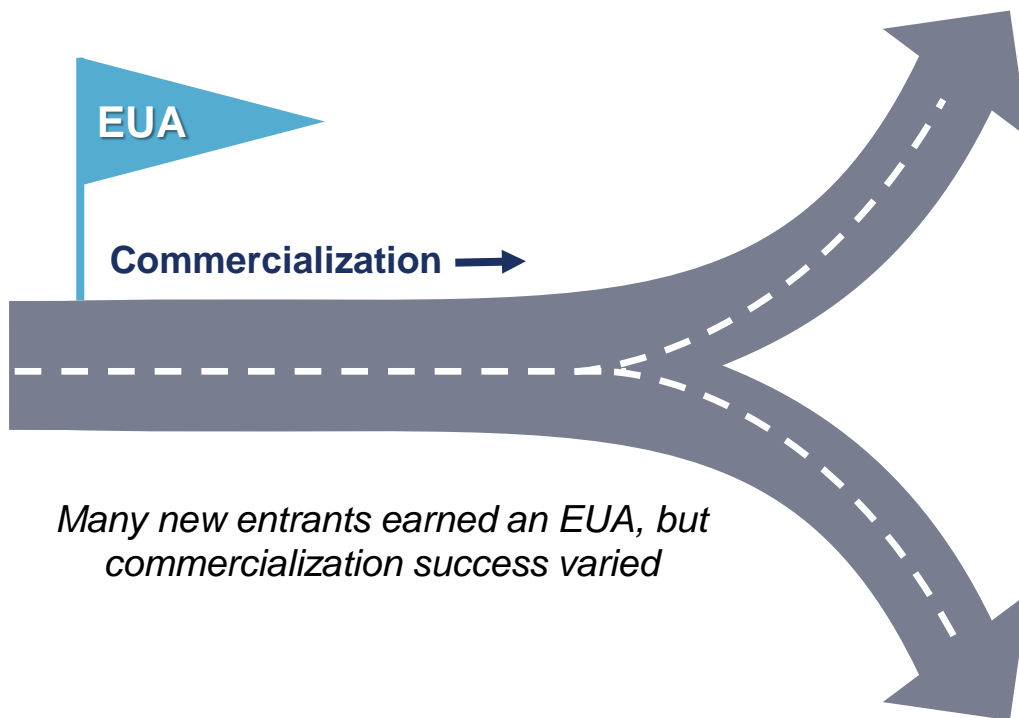


Seegene secured multi-million deals in public tenders in Italy, Scotland and Germany

Note: HTP=high throughput. SPAC: special purpose acquisition company.
Source: Health Advances analysis, company website and press releases.

Mixed Outcomes

Despite receiving an EUA, many new entrants did not gain significant traction in commercialization or struggled to scale manufacturing/logistics.



More Successful New Entrants

- Strong volume uptake was the experience of outlier new entrants, not the majority
- These entrants often marketed a disruptive product directly to consumers, rather than incumbent clinical Dx customers
- Some that were regarded as successful, like Cue, are now pursuing layoffs

Less Successful New Entrants

- EUA demonstrated basic regulatory capabilities, but many faced challenges scaling operations and supply chains
- After EUA and launch, lack of subsequent press releases documenting sales suggests minimal uptake

Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis, 360Dx, company websites and press releases.

Headwinds for New Entrants

Today, these new entrants face many long-term headwinds, which create challenging market conditions, operating capabilities, and access to capital.

Wide Availability of COVID Tests Across Markets

- Lab, POC, OTC, Home Sample Collection



Rising Customer Requirements

- Menu, Pricing, Reimbursement



Declining Covid Test Demand



- Future endemic testing rate <20% of peak test demand



Investment in Broader Company Capabilities

- Manufacturing, regulatory, logistics, sales



Difficult Macro-Economic Environment



- Inflation and CPI
- Supply Chain
- Tight labor supply

Capital Markets Pressure



- Access to capital for public and private companies

Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis.

Headwinds Impact

These headwinds are causing many entrants to revert to pre-COVID long-term strategies. More successful entrants are seeking to use COVID as a springboard for future growth.



- Menu expansion with CE Marks for NT-proBNP, D-Dimer, HbA1c
- *“R&D efforts to expand our test menu for 30+ diagnostic tests for common health conditions gives us confidence in our opportunities for non-COVID growth for many years” – Lumira Dx CEO*



- De Novo submission for COVID-19 FDA IVD approval
- *“Together with BioReference, Cue can empower healthcare providers with the tools and insights they need to make better-informed care decisions together with their patients, today and into the future” – Cue Health CEO*



- Website now focused on Unity™ cfDNA testing for prenatal genetic testing with no mention of COVID-19

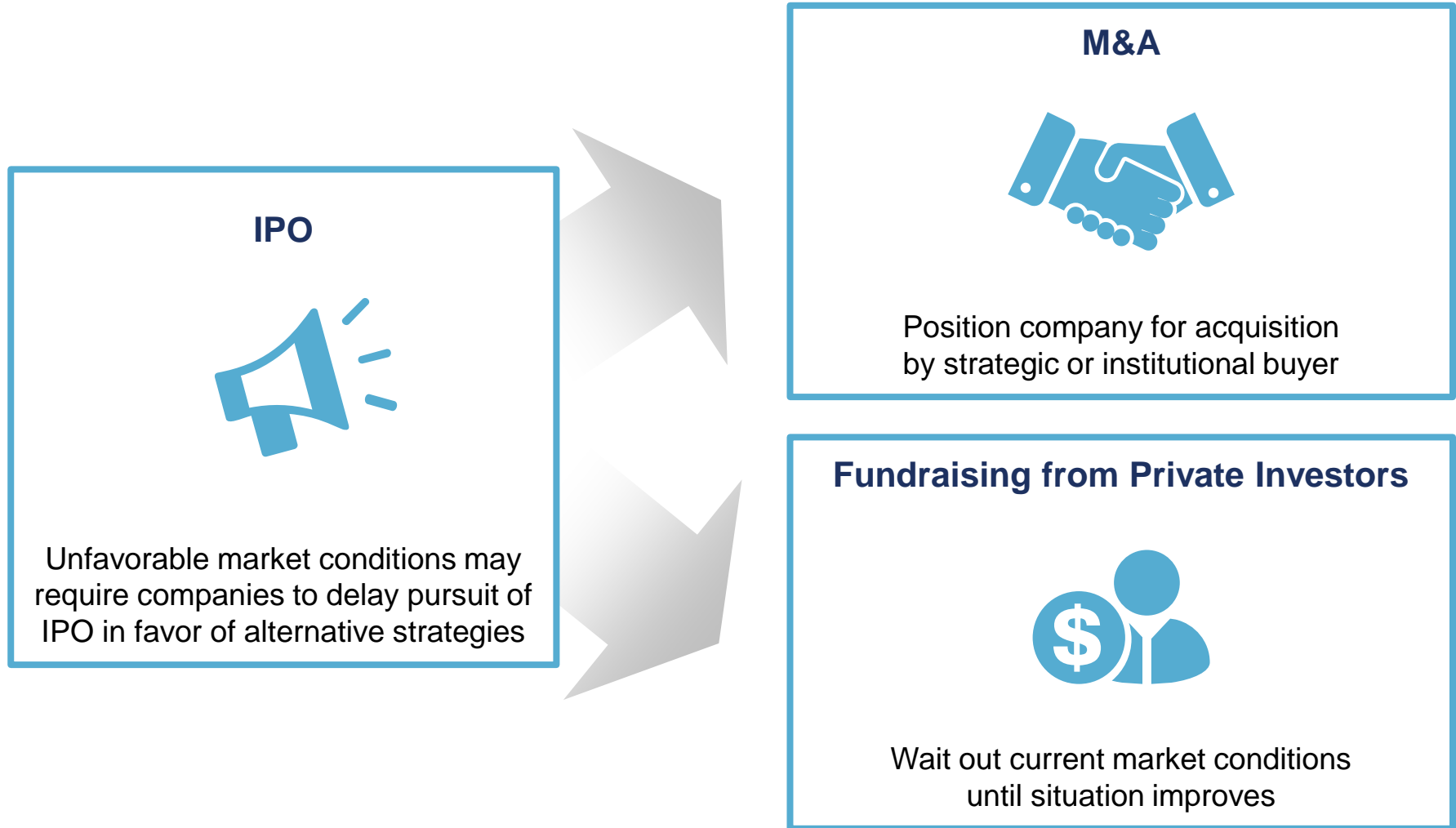


- Expanding offering of tests and digital services
- *“Everlywell launches new food and celiac disease testing” – PR Newswire, June 27, 2022*
- *“Everlywell, a leading digital health company, has acquired PWNHealth and Home Access Health Corporation and formed parent company Everly Health” – PR Newswire, March 24, 2022*

Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis.

Exit Strategy and Long-Term Planning

Exit strategy planning has become a more acute question given changing access to capital and deflating public IPO markets.



Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis.

M&A as Exit Strategy

For many new entrants, M&A is a promising exit strategy as potential acquirers are motivated by significant cash on hand and more favorable valuations.

Large Cash Reserves

Recent Acquisition Activity

HOLOGIC[®]

Closed five acquisitions in 2021, including Mobidiag for \$795MM



Acquisition of Genmark (\$1.8B)

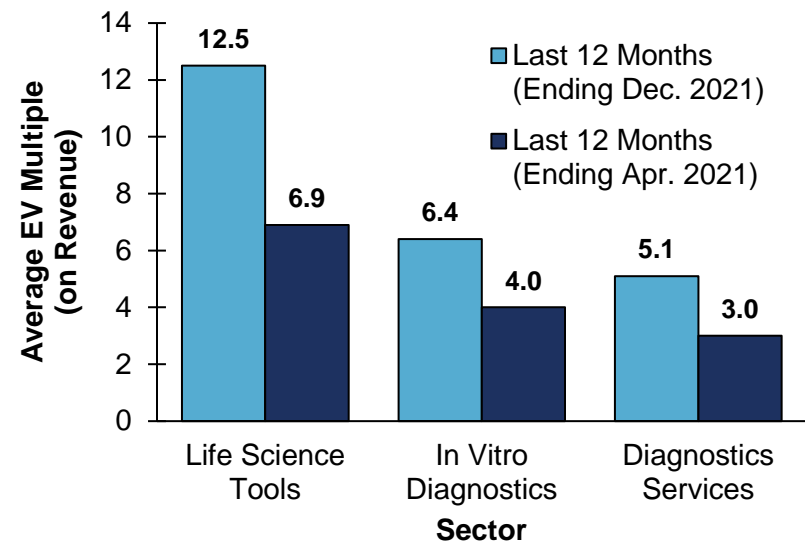


Acquisition of Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics (\$6B)

“With mergers worth more than \$22B currently awaiting close, and plenty of big medtechs sitting on Covid-based fortunes, the sector could make another very strong showing in 2022” – Elizabeth Cairns, Evaluate Vantage




Lower Valuations

Average Dx EV Multiples on Revenue



Source: Health Advances analysis, Evaluate Vantage January 2022, Crosstree Capital Diagnostics & Tools Blue Book.

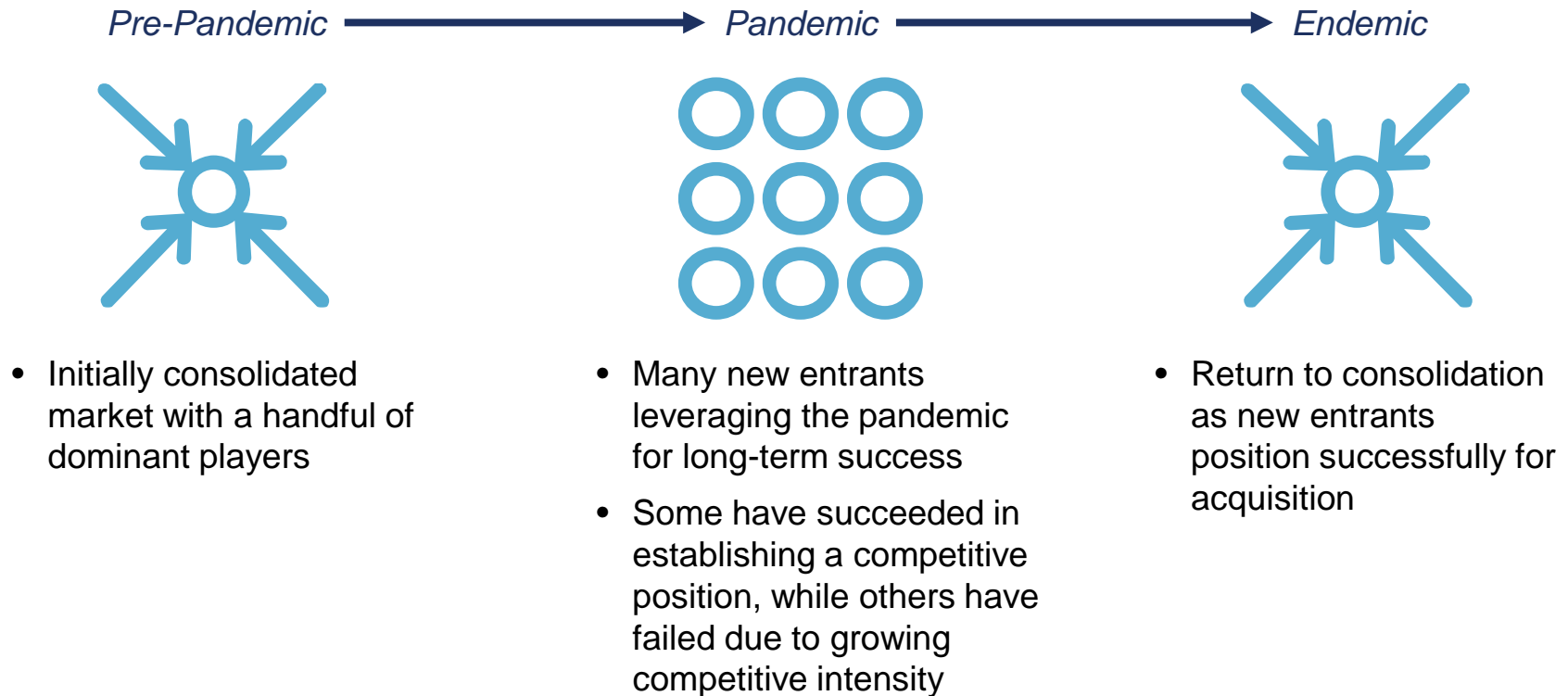
New entrants can make themselves attractive to potential acquirers by bolstering internal capabilities and articulating a compelling story on product value and quality.

Factor	Key Considerations
	Internal Capabilities and Expertise <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan for key talent retention• Acknowledge and plan for key risks
	Value Proposition and Differentiation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Articulate realistic product launch roll-out strategy and planning• Show clear differentiation of core business from potential acquirer• Highlight how strategy is niche, focused, and reasonable
	Product Quality <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate mitigated regulatory risk for full FDA approvals• Show robust manufacturing QC controls (e.g., no risk of product recalls)

Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis.

Outlook for New Entrants

If new entrants can navigate the increasingly competitive M&A environment, the trend towards consolidation is likely to continue.



Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis.

- What new COVID-19 test types have emerged since the start of the pandemic?
- What macro trends has the industry experienced? What changes in COVID testing are expected moving forward?
- How has the pandemic impacted established OEM activities and investment?
- What types of new entrants emerged during the pandemic and how will they fare long-term?
- ***What questions remain outstanding?***

When will the pandemic end and the endemic phase begin?

What is the future for COVID testing itself?

Is the current perception of the value that diagnostics provide sustainable?

Is the current level of diagnostic investment sustainable?

How will COVID cash best be invested going forward?

What have we learned as an industry over the course of the pandemic?



Source: Health Advances interviews and analysis.

We cannot wait to further discuss the pandemic's long-term implications with you at Health Advances' AACC Reception. All are welcome.

HEALTH ADVANCES

Annual AACC Cocktail Reception and Panel

Now What? The Dx World Beyond COVID

Come Debate with Our Panelists . . .

- If the perception of Dx value and investment is sustainable
- How new players (in digital, point of care, lab and precision medicine) are reshaping the market
- Where COVID cash will be best invested
- *And many more topics*

Our panelists will be:

- Jeff Luber (Binx, CEO)
- Josh Pulido (LumiraDx, Director, Global Product Marketing)
- Valerie Dixon (Morgan Stanley, Managing Director)
- Yves Dubaquier (Perkin Elmer, Senior Vice President of Diagnostics)
- Fernando Chaves (Siemens, Global Head of Hematology)

[LINK TO REGISTER](#)

When:

Tuesday, July 26, 2022
Cocktails at 5:30PM CDT,
Panel at 6:30PM CDT

Where:

**[THE CHICAGO FIREHOUSE
RESTAURANT](#)**

1401 S Michigan Ave
Chicago, IL 60605

We will also have a virtual attendance option. Details will follow for all registered guests.

Experienced Diagnostics and Life Science Research Tools Leadership



Donna Hochberg, PhD
Partner

- Donna Hochberg joined Health Advances in 2005 and leads the firm's Diagnostics and Life Science Tools Practice. Her work includes application prioritization, launch strategy, corporate strategy, deal diligence, and international and domestic market analysis using both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Her clients offer products and services in personalized medicine, point-of-care, mainstream clinical diagnostic, and life science tools and range from small diagnostics and tools start-ups to the largest public companies and non-profit institutions in the industry.
- Prior to joining Health Advances, Donna worked as a scientist at One Cell Systems and Iqum developing diagnostics for oncology and infectious diseases. She received her Bachelors degree in Biology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and her PhD in Immunology from the Sackler School of Biomedical Sciences at Tufts University.



Gary Gustavsen
Partner

- Gary Gustavsen came to Health Advances in 2005 and leads the Personalized Medicine Practice at Health Advances. His work focuses on commercialization strategy, indication prioritization, pricing and reimbursement strategy, system economics, and business development opportunities for both diagnostic and therapeutic clients.
- Prior to joining Health Advances, Gary was a researcher at Brookhaven National Lab evaluating a proprietary line of synthetic growth factors. Gary also worked in the Cell & Tissue Technologies group at Becton Dickinson, the Exploratory Cancer Research group at OSI Pharmaceuticals, and most recently the Corporate Strategy group at Millennium Pharmaceuticals. Gary received his Bachelors degree in Biomedical Engineering from Duke University and his Masters degree in Biomedical Engineering from Stony Brook University.



Kristen Amanti, PhD
Partner

- Kristen Amanti joined the Health Advances team in 2010 and is a leader in the Reproductive and Genomic Health practice and Personalized Medicine practice. She has deep experience in commercialization strategy, business development opportunity assessment, deal diligence, international and domestic market assessment, corporate strategy, and is a seasoned workshop facilitator. She has content expertise in companion diagnostics, reproductive and prenatal health, genomic health, cancer screening, tumor genetics and oncology.
- Prior to joining Health Advances, Kristen received her PhD in Cancer Pharmacology from Dartmouth College where her research focused on the development of novel targeted cancer therapeutics. She received her Masters degree in Cell and Molecular Biology and Bachelors degree in Biology from the University of Vermont.



Daniela Hristova-Neeley, PhD, MBA
Vice President

- Daniela is an experienced team leader with expertise in opportunity assessment, global commercialization strategy, market access, and business model evaluation across diagnostics and life sciences products. Daniela's diverse experience in the diagnostics and life sciences tools space provides a strong base to help generate actionable growth strategies for clients.
- Prior to joining Health Advances, Daniela helped clients in the healthcare industry optimize their value proposition and global market access strategies to enable product adoption.
- Daniela earned her PhD in Chemistry, summa cum laude, from the University of Basel, Switzerland and her MBA from Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell University.

Experienced Diagnostics and Life Science Research Tools Leadership



Peter Origenes
Vice President

- Peter joined Health Advances in 2019 bringing over 30 years of healthcare experience including corporate executive, principal investor and strategy consulting positions across diagnostics, life science research products, medical devices and biopharmaceuticals. With an integrated view of technology commercialization, medical markets and corporate capability,
- Prior to joining Health Advances, Peter held executive positions at Becton Dickinson, GE Healthcare and Ortho Clinical Diagnostics. Previously, was a Partner with Radius Ventures, a consultant with The Wilkerson Group and Bain, and held business development, marketing and sales positions with Schering-Plough, Genentech and Roche Laboratories, respectively.
- Peter holds a Master of Science in Industrial Administration from the Tepper School at Carnegie Mellon University, and Bachelors degrees in Genetics and History from the University of California at Berkeley.



Kristine C. Mechem, PhD
Vice President

- Kristine Mechem has over 15 years of life science experience across diagnostics, medical devices and therapeutics. Her experience spans the full continuum of commercial activities from market planning to sales force effectiveness. She has expertise in portfolio prioritization, product requirements, asset opportunity assessments and launch planning.
- Most recently she was the commercial head of a micro-cap molecular diagnostic company. At OncoCyte, she helped to take the company public, served as a corporate officer and led the development of the commercial plan. She has also held positions at Abbott, Genentech and The Zitter Group
- Kristine received her PhD in Sociology from the University of Chicago. She is an active member of Women In Bio.



Arushi Agarwal
Vice President

- Arushi Agarwal joined the Health Advances team in 2011 and spends the majority of her time working in the Diagnostics and Life Sciences Practice. She has expertise in M&A due diligence and global commercialization strategies for diagnostics. Arushi's specific areas of focus include companion diagnostics, point-of-care diagnostics and liquid biopsy testing.
- Prior to joining Health Advances, Arushi received her Masters in Biomedical Engineering from Columbia University and Bachelors in Biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Chris Karras
Vice President

- Over the past 25 years, Chris has worked closely with leading companies across the diagnostics and biopharma industries on a broad array of strategy issues. He brings diverse insights from his experience to help leaders make tough decisions in the face of uncertainty.
- Prior to joining Health Advances, Chris served as a Director in Global Strategic Marketing in the Rapid Diagnostics Division of Abbott Laboratories.
- Chris's work focuses developing strategies
- Prior to Abbott, Chris spent 15 years in management consulting, primarily with Arthur D. Little as a Principal in their Healthcare and Strategy Practices. Chris also served as a Director in Strategy Development at Pharmacia (now Pfizer) and was an Equity Analyst at Prudential covering the specialty pharmaceuticals sector.
- Chris holds a BBA degree from the University of Iowa and an MBA from the Booth School of Business at the University of Chicago.