



# Traceability in laboratory medicine: a driver of accurate results for patients

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# Outline

- Laboratory medicine in healthcare
- Traceability in laboratory medicine
- Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine
- Facing the challenge

# Some big numbers

Global cost of healthcare \$~8.2 trillion pa

Global cost of laboratory medicine \$~200 billion pa

Global cost of reagents & equipment \$~62 billion pa

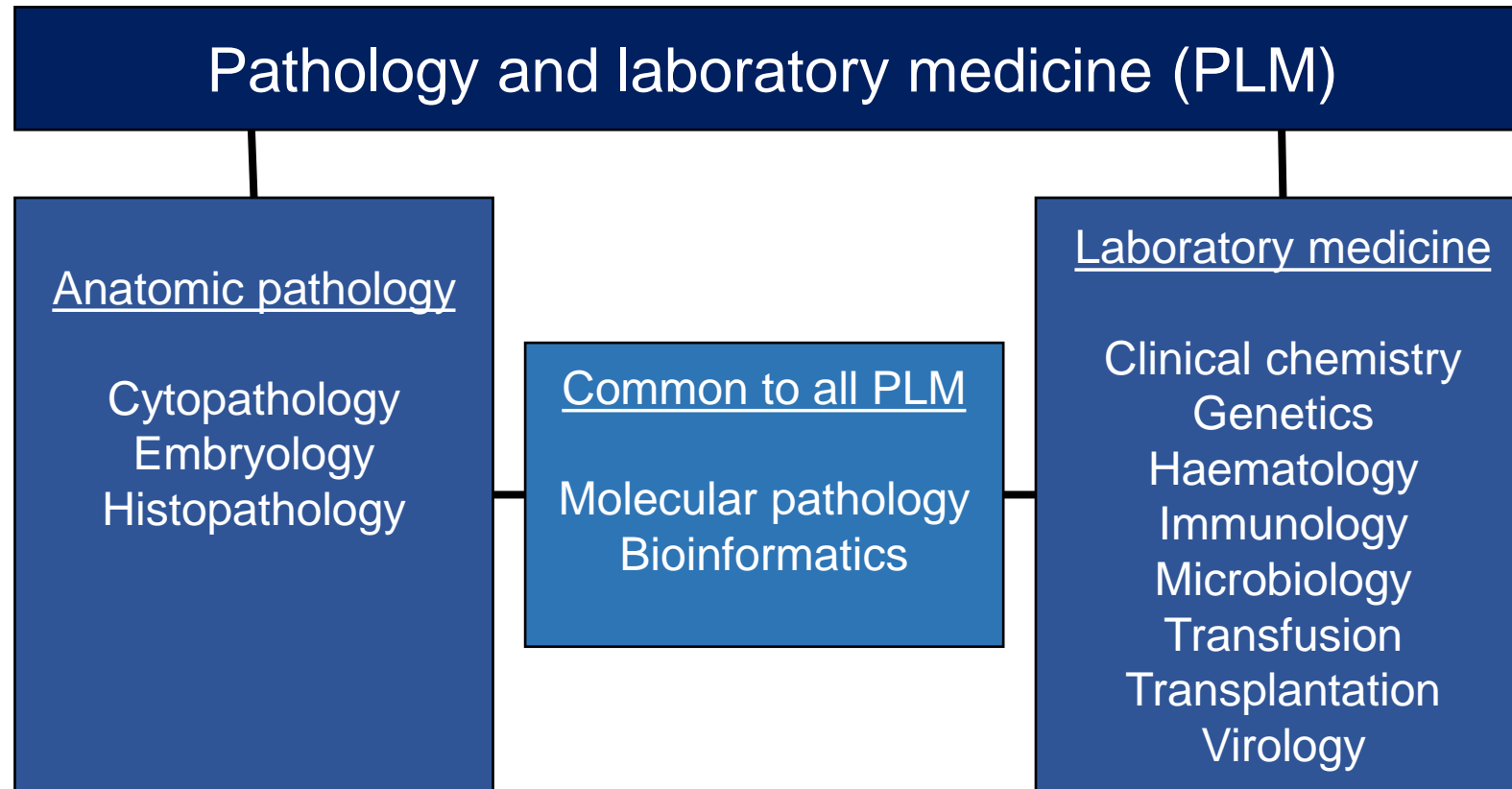
Global cost of staff and overheads \$~138 billion

Global IVD tests ~35 billion pa

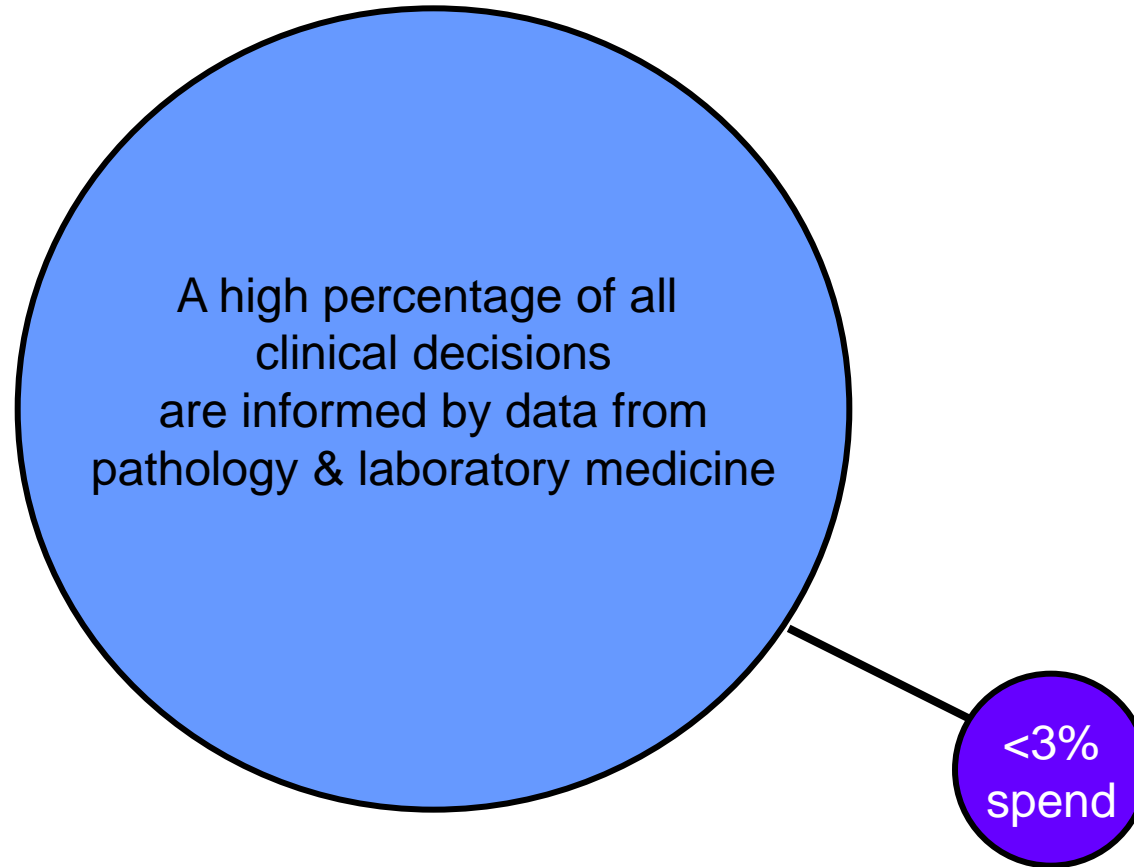
Number of different IVD tests ~ 4000

Annual growth of ~5% for all of above

# Pathology and laboratory medicine



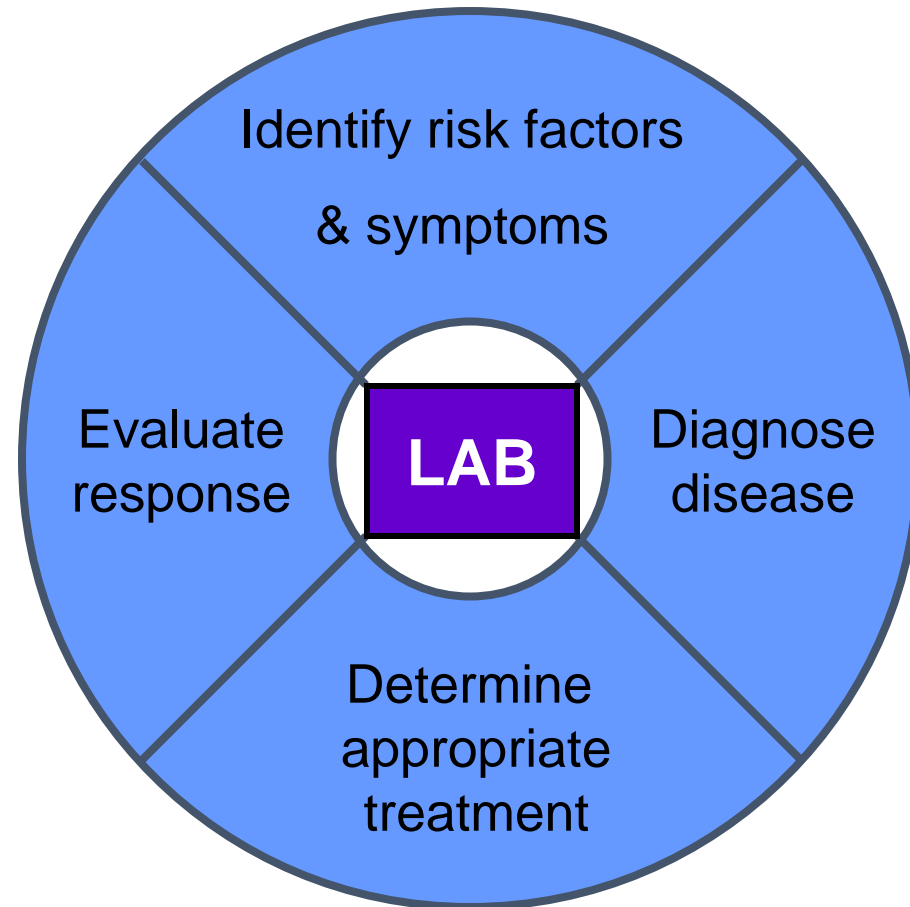
# Central role of pathology & laboratory medicine



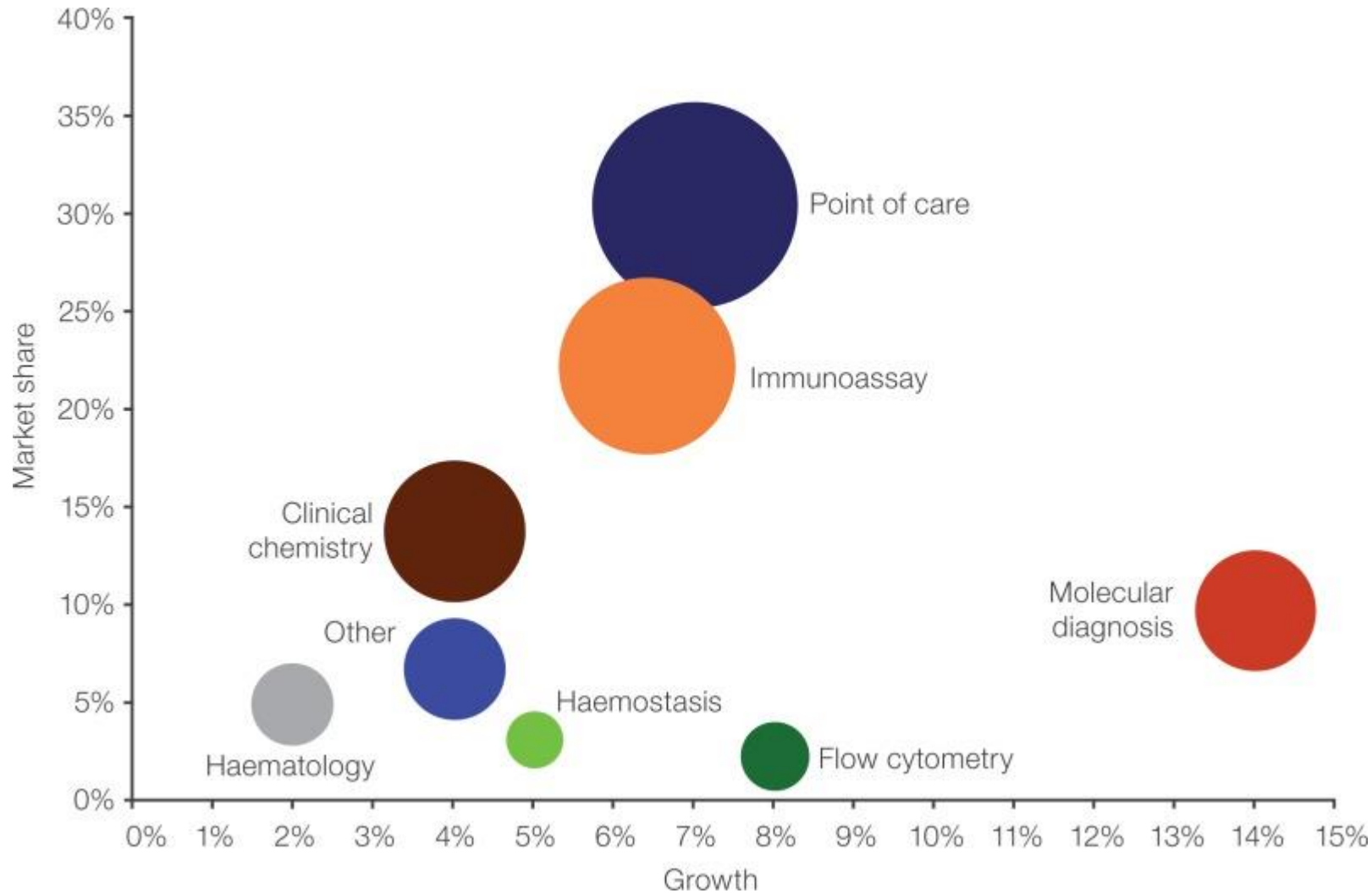
# Central role of pathology & laboratory medicine

Pathology & laboratory medicine  
is part of the multi-disciplinary  
team at the centre of healthcare

With this influence  
comes responsibility to deliver a  
high quality service



# Laboratory medicine sectors



# Laboratory medicine methods

- Some measurands are structurally simple and available in pure form (e.g. glucose)
- Most measurands are complex, often heterogeneous (e.g. viruses)
- Method calibration is a challenge
- >100 diagnostic companies producing IVDs – using 'own' calibrators
- Result is often variability between methods for the same measurand
- The same patient specimen can give different results in different methods!

Variability between methods



Incorrect patient results



Mis-diagnosis / mis-management



Poor clinical outcomes



Impact on patient safety



# Current HbA2 EQA performance

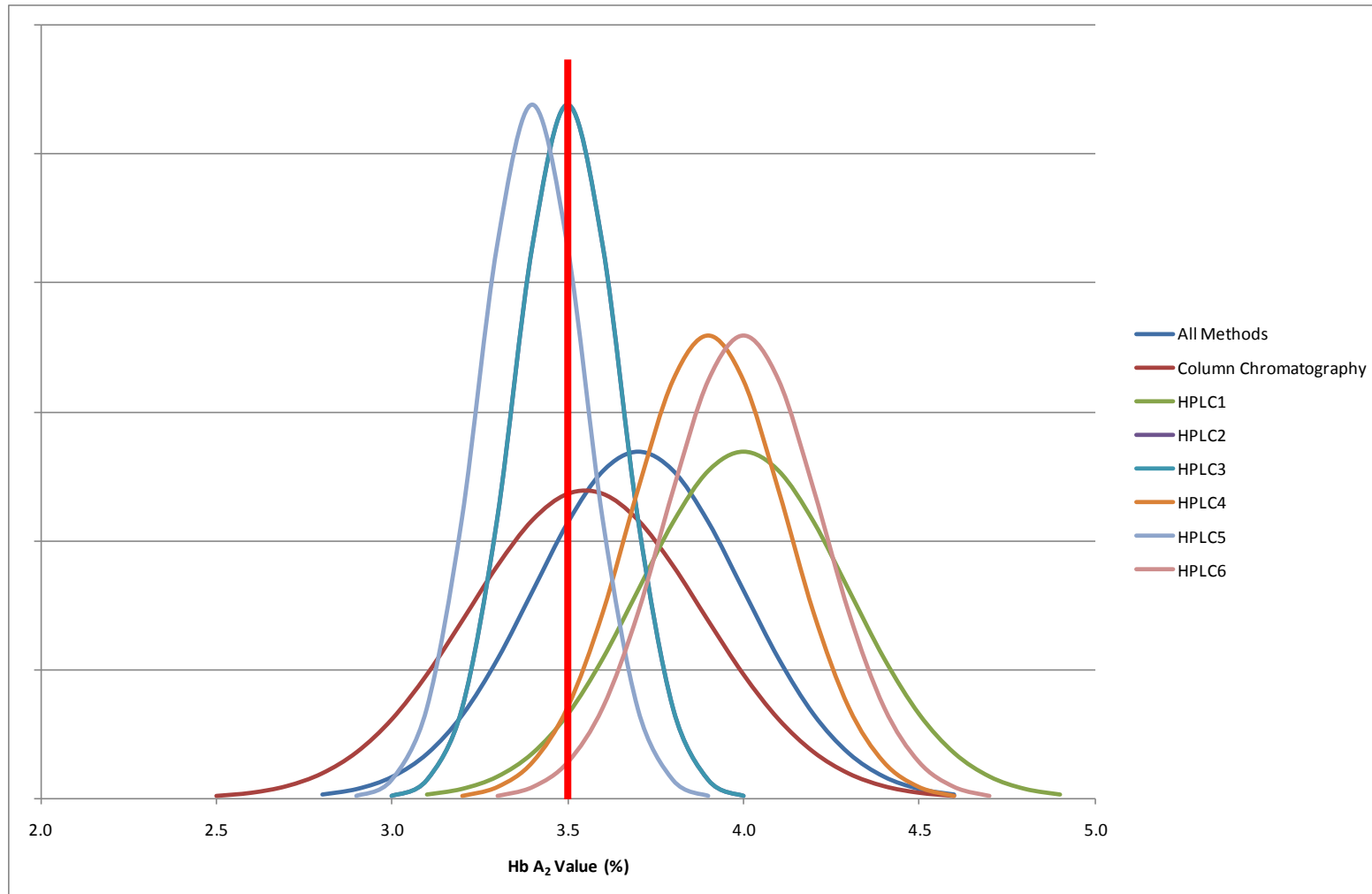


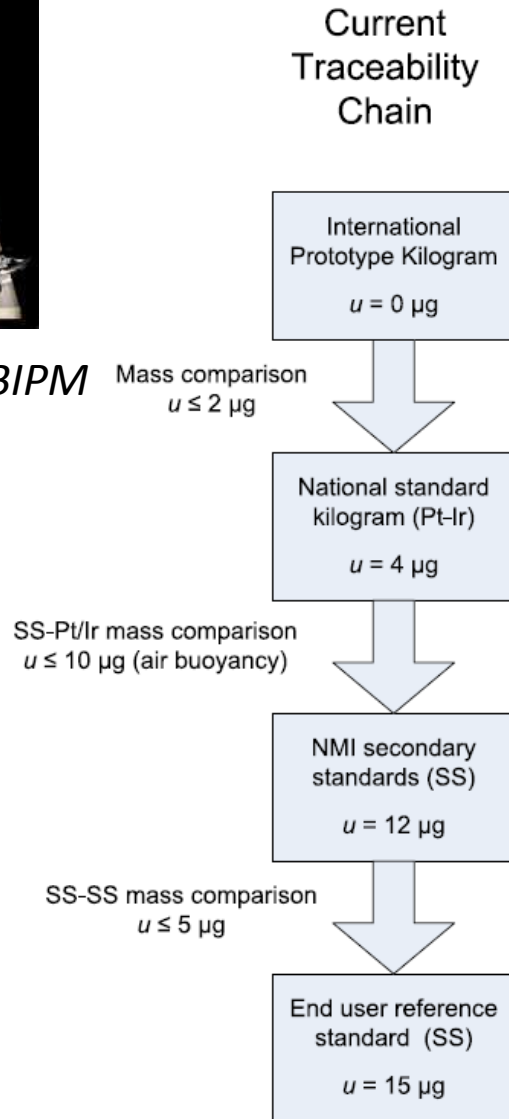
Figure from UK NEQAS with permission

# Outline

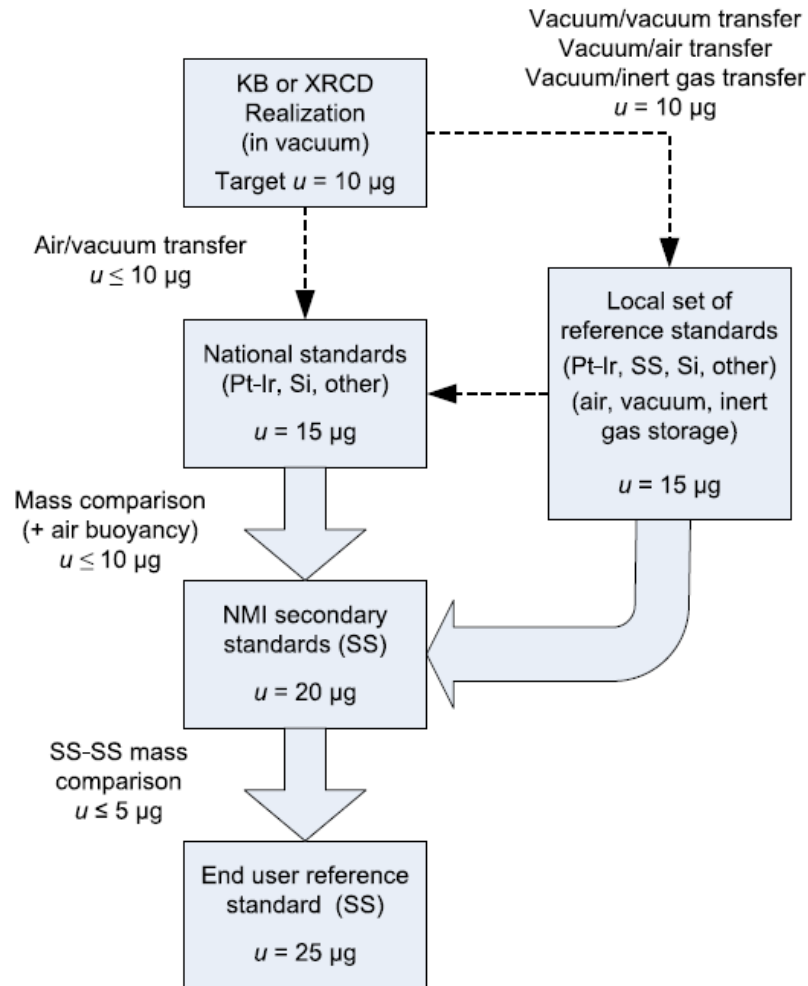
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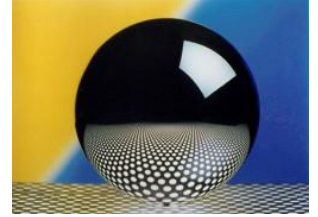
*The IPK, at the BIPM*



**Proposed Future Traceability Chain**



*Kibble Balance*



*XRCD*

Traceability chains for mass measurements

**Traceable measurement results are compatible**

# What is traceability in laboratory medicine?

- Metrological traceability is the property of a measurement result, which can be related to a **reference** through a documented unbroken chain of **calibrations**, each contributing to the **measurement uncertainty**
- Traceability requires both (certified) reference materials and the reference measurement procedures (methods) in which they are used
- For structurally simple measurands (analytes) it is possible to get pure substance primary reference materials . For more complex measurands pure substance may not be available
- Primary reference measurement procedures are based on physical methods (e.g. ID-MS)

## Reference materials (calibrators)

- Primary reference material (pure substance)
- Primary calibrator (SI traceable)
- Secondary calibrator
- Product calibrator

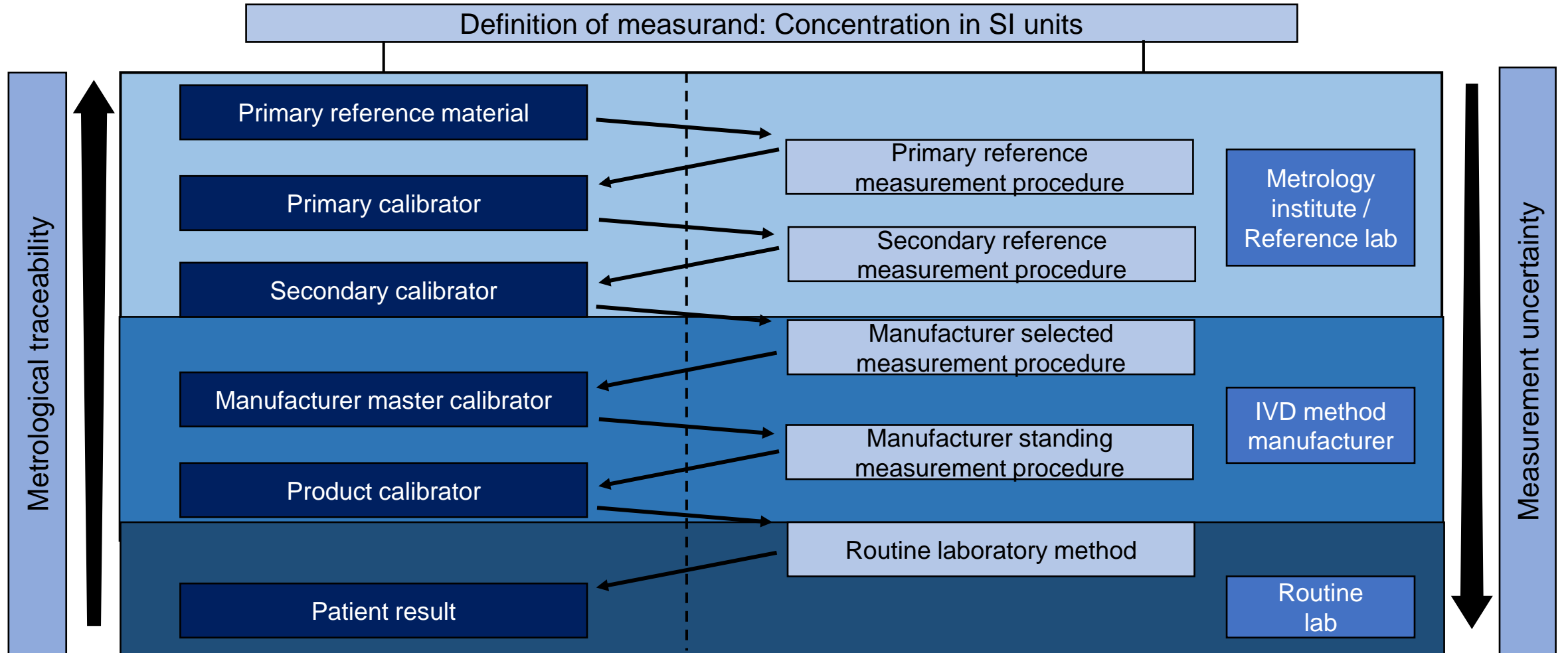
## Reference measurement procedures

- Primary reference measurement procedure
- Secondary reference measurement procedure
- Manufacturer selected procedure
- Routine laboratory procedure

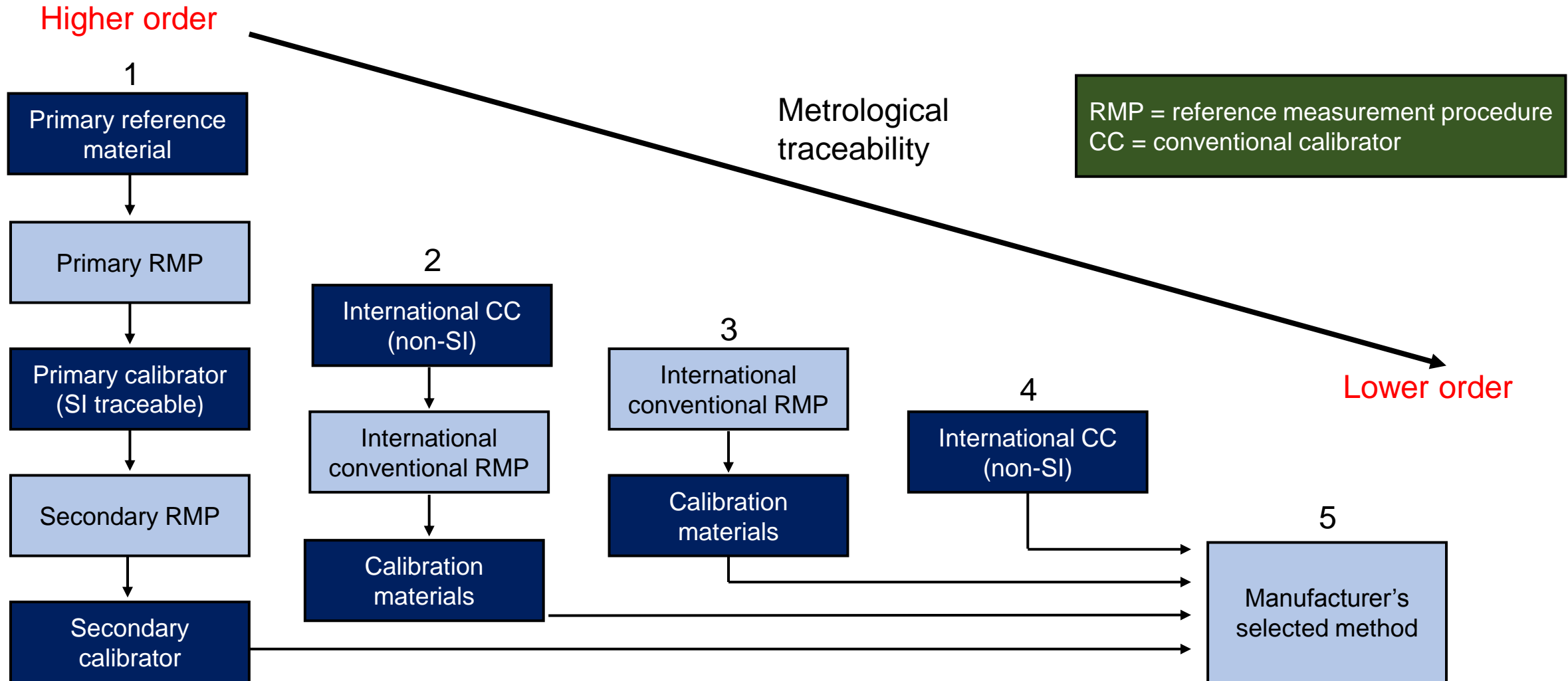


Hierarchy

# The metrological traceability chain



# 'Higher order' materials and procedures



# Requirements for traceability in laboratory medicine

## European Union In-Vitro Diagnostic Directive (IVDD): 98/79/EC

“The traceability of values assigned to calibrators and/or control materials must be assured through available reference measurement procedures and/or available reference materials of a higher order.. ”

## EU In-Vitro Diagnostic Device Regulation (IVDR): EU/2017/746

“9.3. Where the performance of devices depends on the use of calibrators and/or control materials, the metrological traceability of values assigned to calibrators and/or control materials shall be assured through suitable reference measurement procedures and/or suitable reference materials of a higher metrological order”.

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# Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine

Formed in 2002 to enable a global response to the IVD Directive



Intergovernmental treaty organisation for measurement standards



International NGO for professionals in laboratory medicine

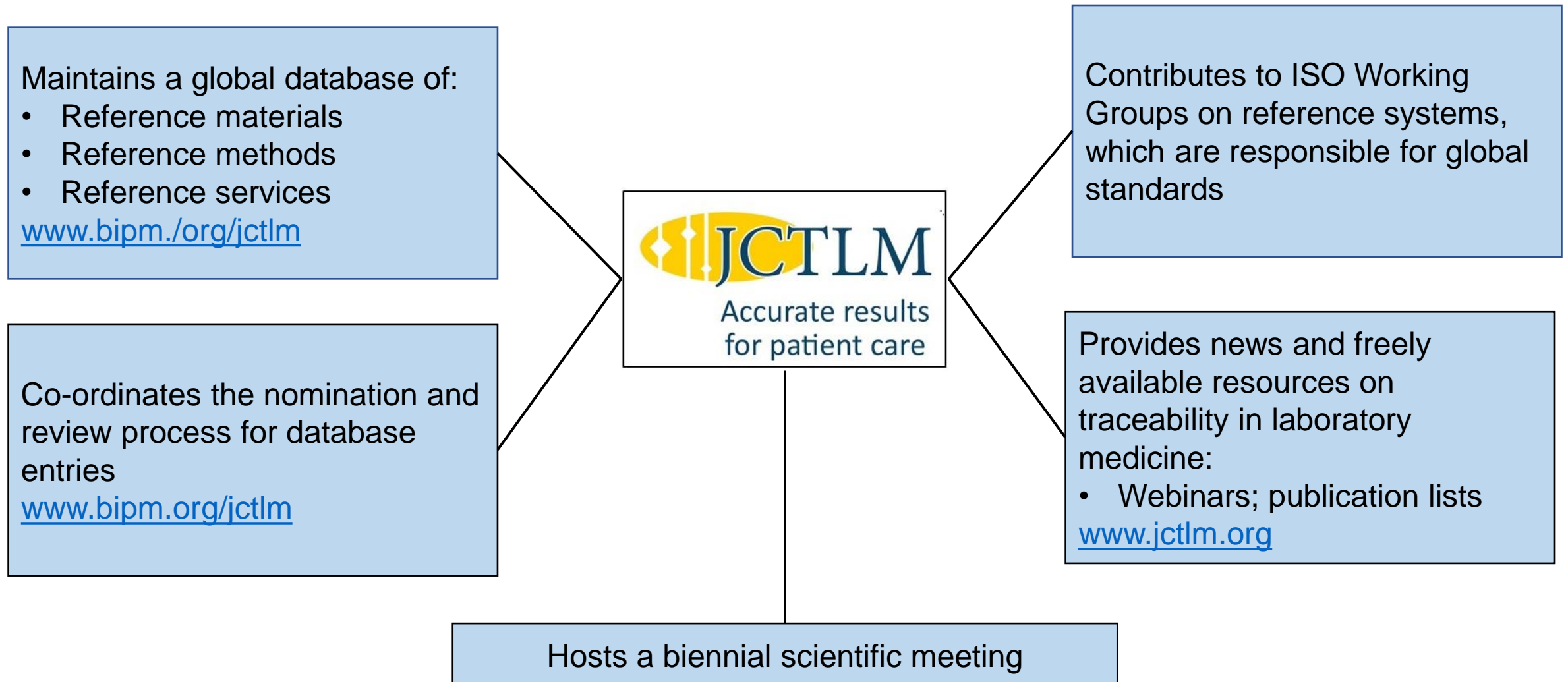


International NGO for accreditation bodies

Now has 49 members from 19 countries  
NMIs, EQA providers, professional bodies, IVD manufacturers  
BIPM leads on metrology and provides the Secretariat



# What does JCTLM do?



# JCTLM Database : [www.bipm.org/jctlm/](http://www.bipm.org/jctlm/)



Bureau International des Poids et Mesures

Database of higher-order reference materials,  
measurement methods/procedures and services



JCTLM Database  
Laboratory medicine and *in vitro* diagnostics

> You are here : JCTLM-DB

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## JCTLM database: Laboratory medicine and *in vitro* diagnostics

### JCTLM-DB

- ➔ [Search Form](#)
- ➔ [General information](#)
- ➔ [List of reference materials no longer listed](#)
- ➔ [Leaflet](#)
- ➔ [Contact us](#)

### Highlights

- ➔ [Extension of the JCTLM-DB](#)
- ➔ [Publication of new data](#)

### JCTLM

- ➔ [General information](#)

### Analyte keyword search for reference materials, measurement methods/procedures and services

Type an analyte name in part or full, e.g. cholesterol

Refine search by analyte category

All

Refine search by matrix category

All

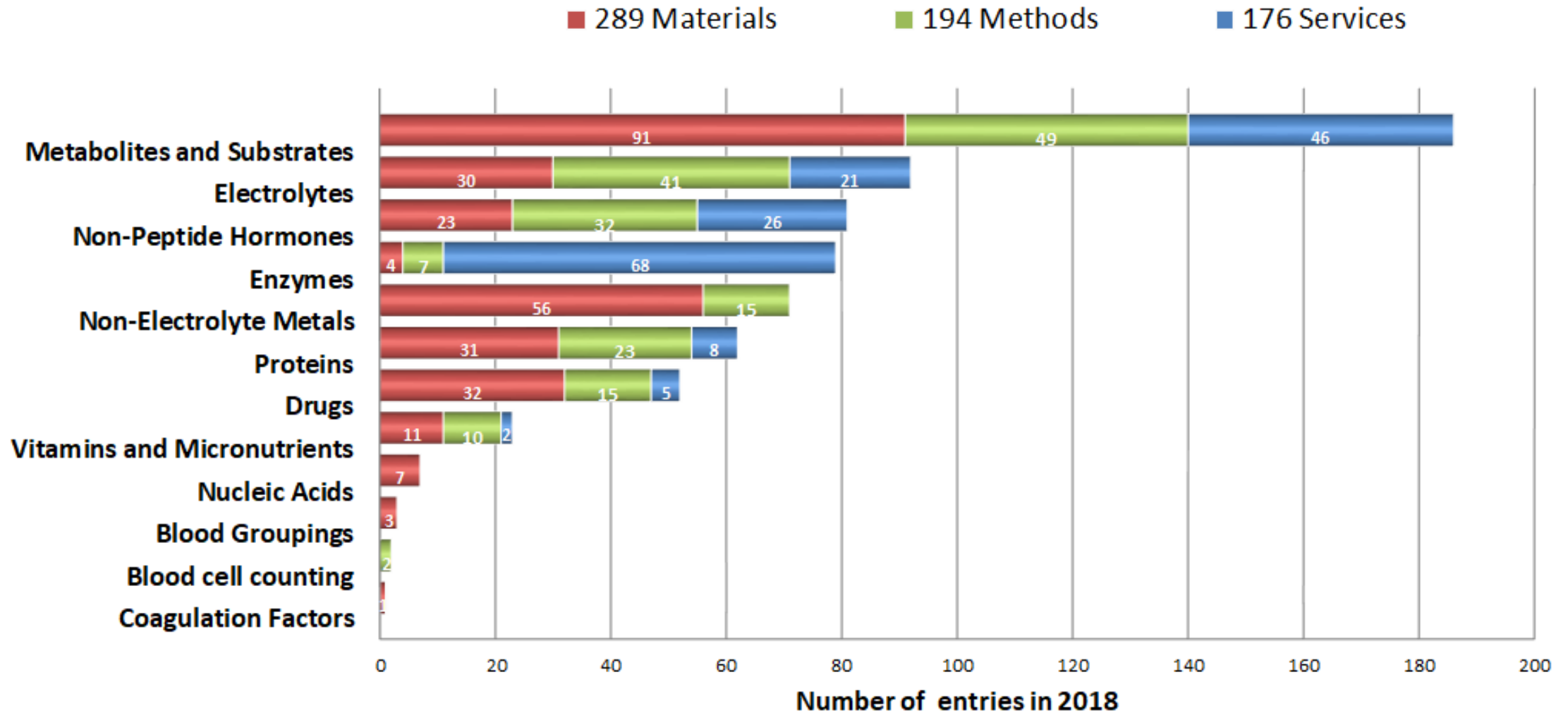
Please select your requirement :

- ☒ Higher-order reference materials
- ☐ Reference measurement methods/procedures
- ☐ Reference measurement services

Reset

Search

# JCTLM Database: Entries in 2018



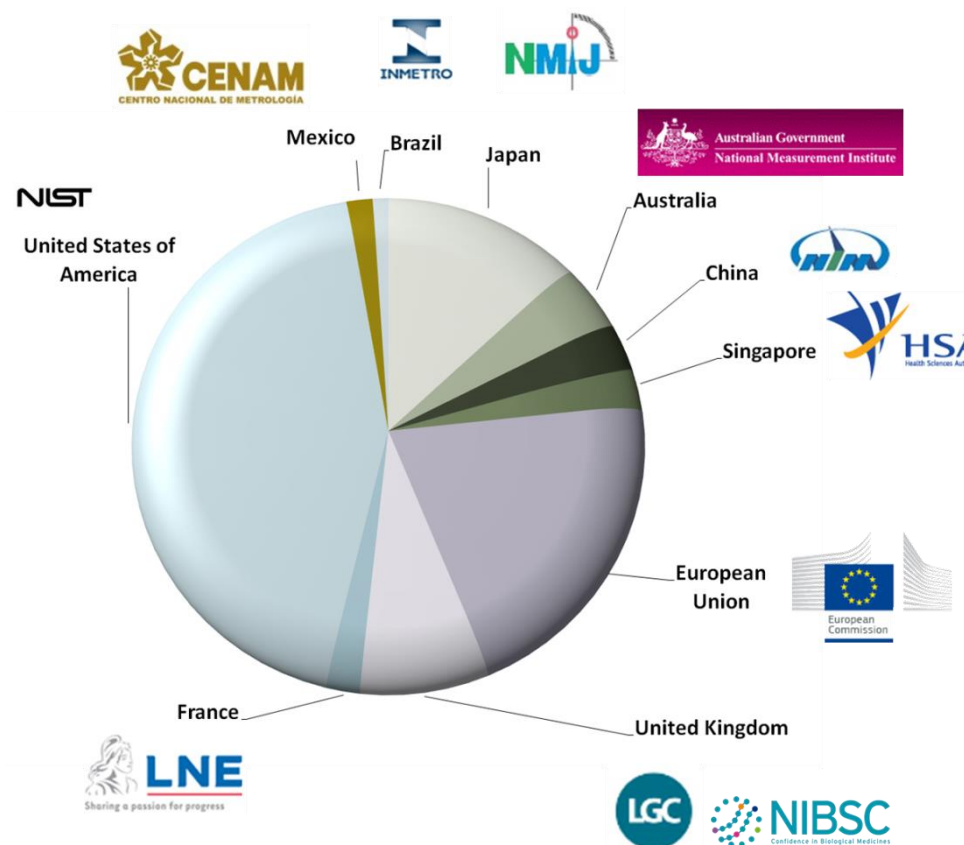
289 Certified Reference Materials

194 RMPs that represent 80 different analytes in 9 categories

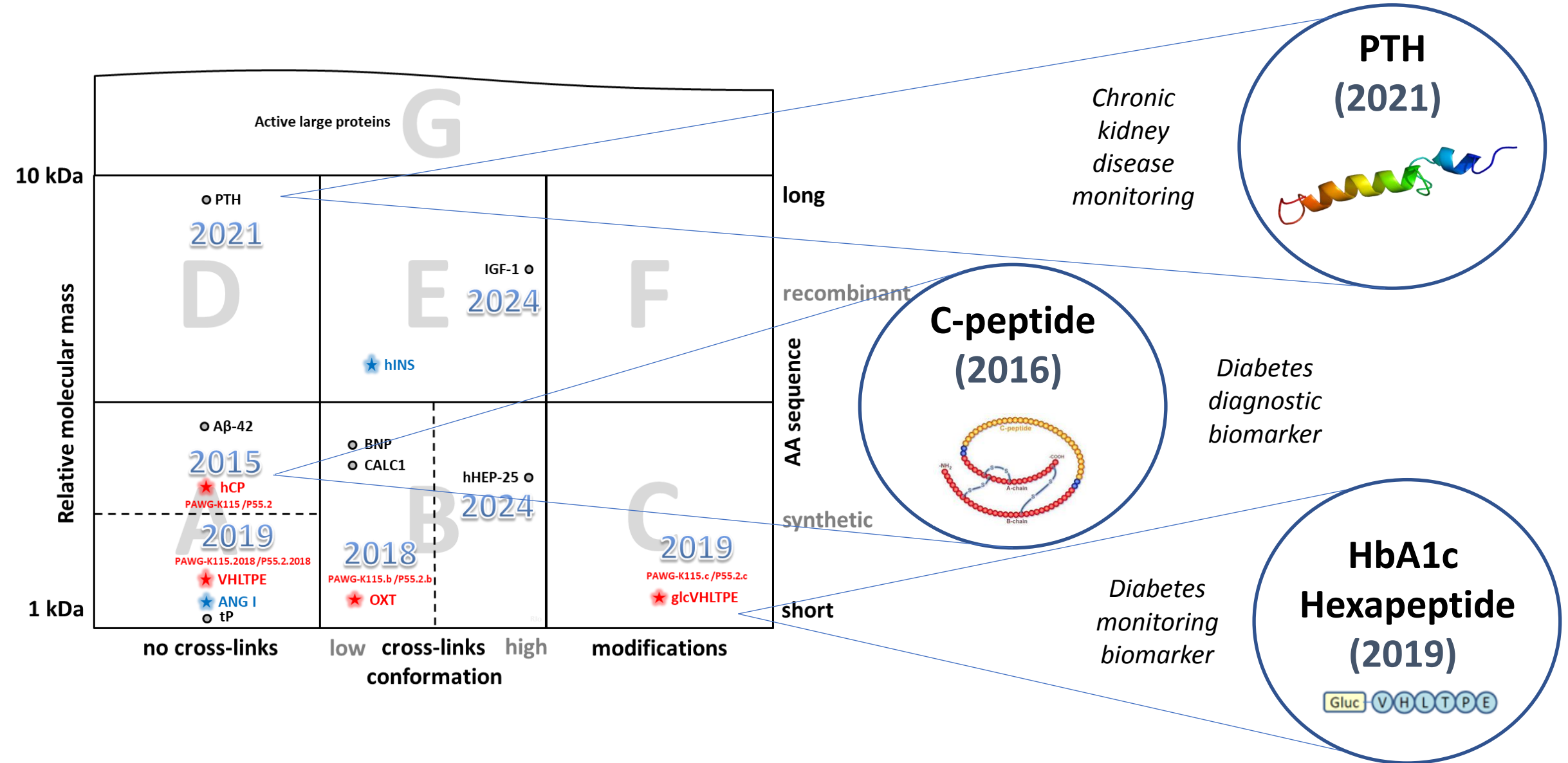
176 reference measurement services delivered by 17 reference labs

# Higher order reference materials

- NMIs provide higher order reference materials (both pure and matrix materials) to support the IVD industry
- Currently 95% of Certified Reference Materials in the JCTLM database come from NMIs
- BIPM functions as an external quality assessment provider for NMIs:
  - Coordinates Key Comparisons
  - Send samples of pure materials for NMIs to value assign and compare
  - Use own labs to value assign the materials independently.



# Pure peptide comparisons coordinated by BIPM for the NMIs



CCQM-K115: Peptide Primary Reference Material Comparison Series

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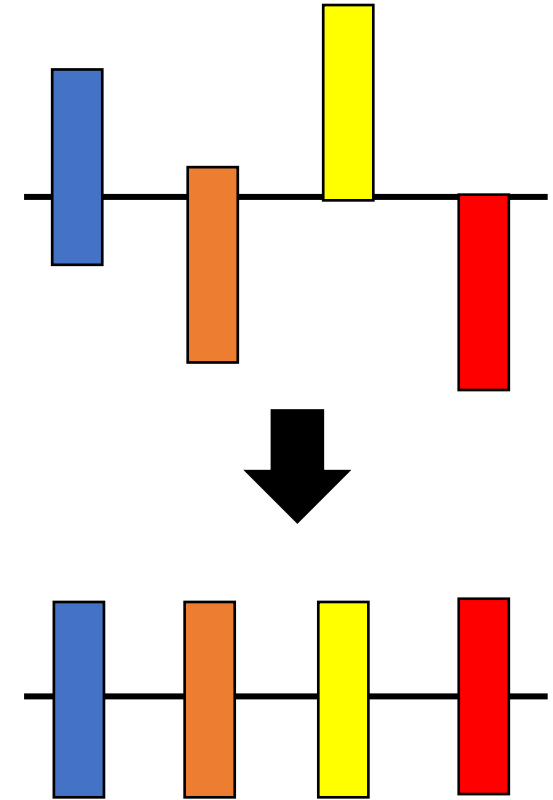
# Facing the challenge



The world population of



7.7 billion people



is entitled to believe that all methods will give the same result on their specimen



# Stakeholder coordination to address the challenge

