



Cross-Study Logistics

Suggestions from Biomarker
Network Laboratory Working Group



Sources of variance

- Assay kit: Try to use same brand if possible, noting lot numbers. If same brand not used, try to determine if information available about how different kit brands vary
- Assay equipment / analyzer: Often related to assay kit
- Manual vs automatic pipetting: May influence the quality or quantity of the sample being evaluated



Reporting Needs for Values

- Will values be reported to participants?
- Will values be needed for clinical use?
This will influence the qualifications and certifications needed for the lab



Validation & QC samples

- Validation samples
 - Need a gold standard for comparison
 - Establish criteria for pass/fail; may be more stringent for clinical values
- QC samples
 - Best to have multiple sample sets from same people at same time
- Consider one set of samples per analyte to allow for full range of values