

## **The 3 Rs to Authorization for the COVID-19 At-Home Test: Roche, RADx, Rapid**

What we learned from the success and how can we build for the future.

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Public Use

# Reacting to the COVID Pandemic

Need OTC SARs-CoV-2 tests on the market immediately



## Typical IVD Development

- User Needs
- Analytical study designs
- Clinical Study design
- Pre-submission
- Conduct analytical studies
- Conduct clinical study
  - Set up 3 sites
  - Statistical analysis
  - Draft clinical study report
- Draft Submission
- **Total Time = 1.5-2 years?**

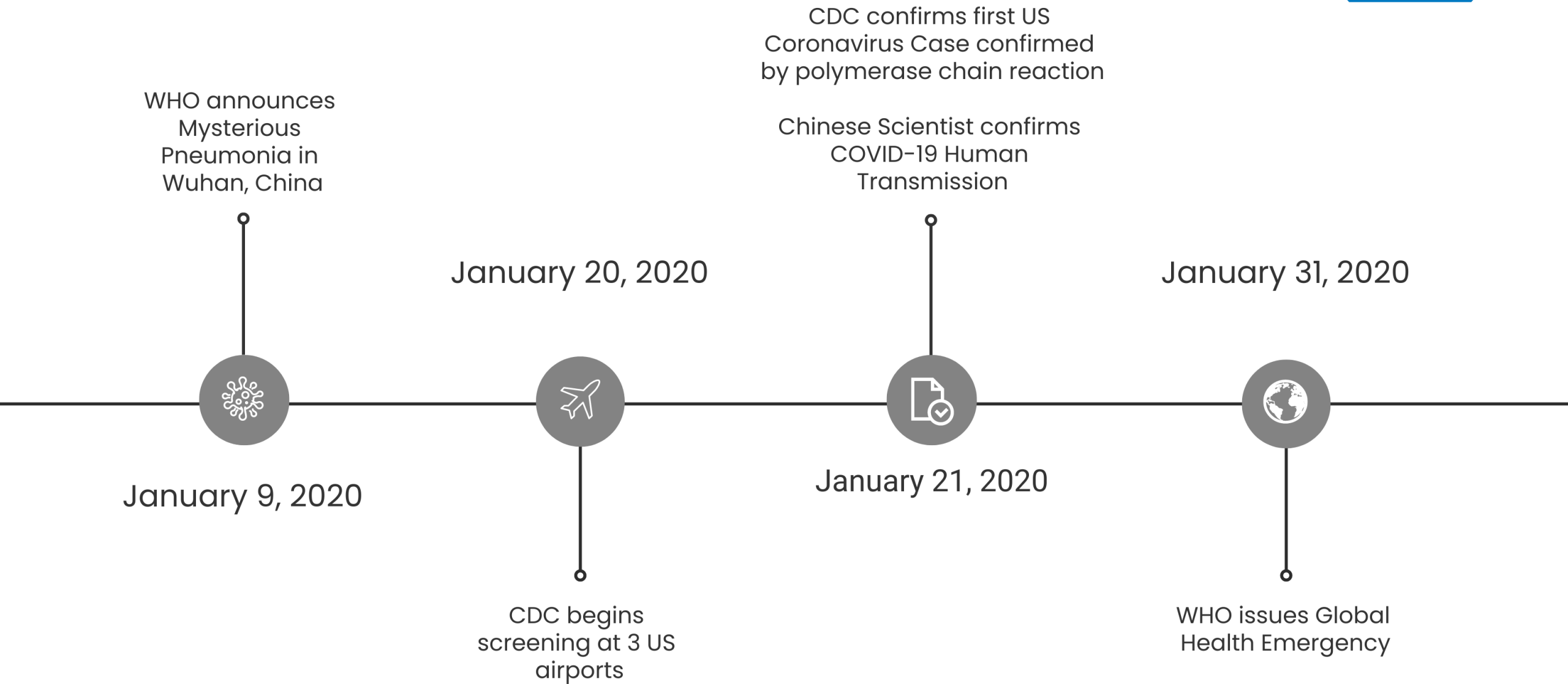


## RADx ITAP Program

- Complete application
  - Product must have data to show capable of rapid development
  - Submission passes RADx intro vetting process
- Analytical studies performed by external test lab using universal protocols
- CRO assigned for clinical
  - Universal protocol sent to IRB, site initiated
  - Statistics and clinical study report provided by CRO
  - Modular submission to FDA throughout process
- **Total Time = 2 months!!**

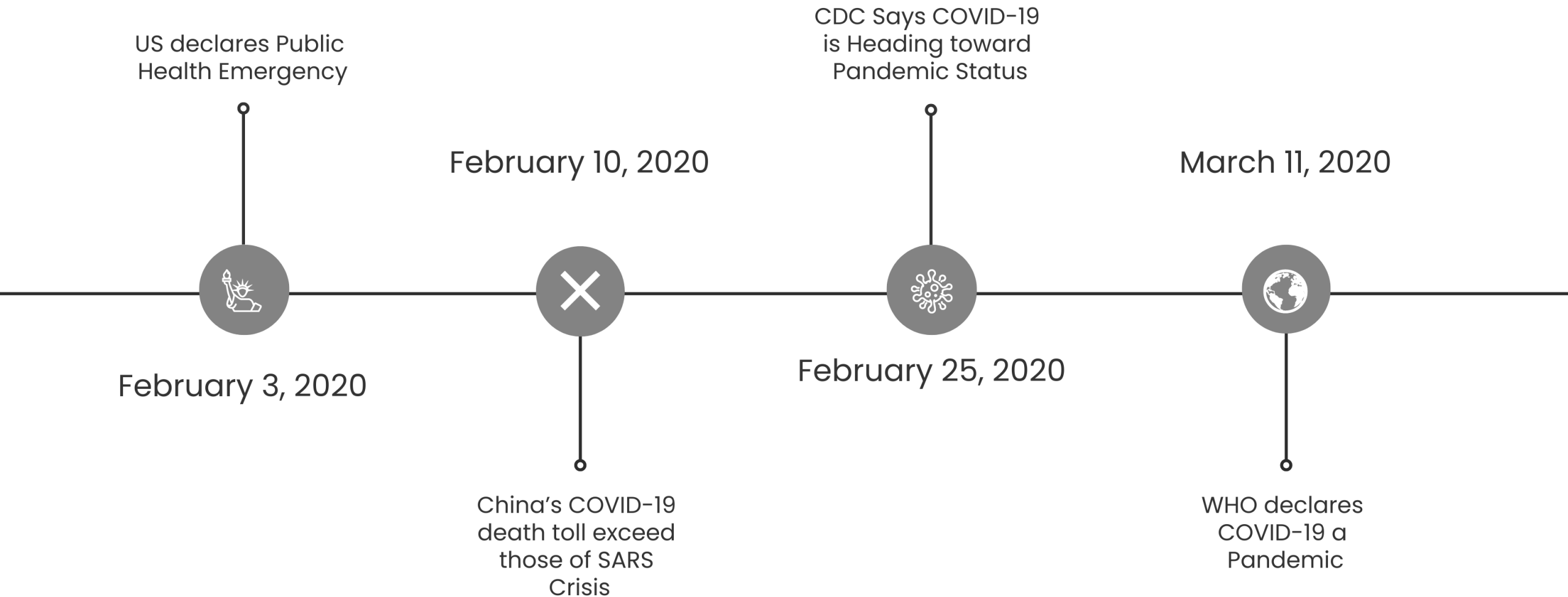
# A Look Back

Uncharted and unknown



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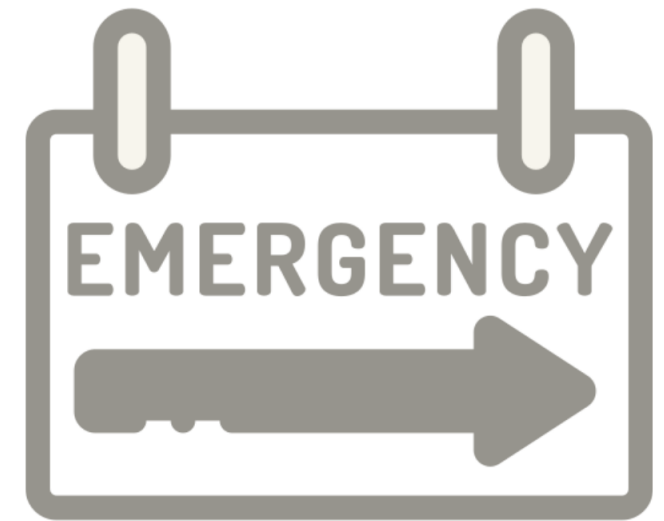


# US Government's Response for SARS-CoV-2 Testing

## Rapidly Responding



- Federal agency collaborations (BARDA, CDC, DOD, FDA, NIH)
- Urgent need for framework around diagnostic testing
  - Within 2 months of the declaration of a global pandemic, FDA delivered templates to guide developers and manufacturers:
    - Need for rapid development
    - Minimal validation to demonstrate product was safe enough to help fill the need for diagnostics
- CDC developed a PCR based assay for SARs-CoV-2
- NIH launched RADx Tech for Rapid acceleration of diagnostics
- FDA authorizes:
  - Feb 4, 2020- FDA authorized CDC test
  - March 12, 2020 - 1st EUA for lab based molecular test (Roche rtPCR)
  - March 27, 2020 – 1st isothermal test- Abbott ID Now
  - May 11, 2020 – 1st Antigen test (Quidel)
  - December 15, 2020 – 1st OTC antigen test (Ellume)



# Surge in COVID cases: No Tests on the Shelves

Fall 2021



## **White House, NIH, FDA, RADx: Initiate Independent Test Assessment Program (ITAP) Program October 25, 2021**

- \$70 million
- Identify companies with rapid lateral flow antigen tests on market outside US
- Minimum Manufacturing requirements must be fulfilled
- Goal to get tests on market by the end of the year



## **ITAP Program**

- Developed universal protocols for analytical and clinical testing
- Provided external testing for analytical & clinical studies
- Subject area experts in regulatory, quality, clinical, manufacturing, commercialization



## **Project Teams**

- Agreed to work with ITAP team- provide quick turnaround
- Manufacturing emphasis
- Labeling reviewed iteratively





## RADx, Roche and SD Biosensor

Looking for the fastest path

- Roche regular engagements with the USG- informed of a NIH new program focused on expediting availability of Rapid Antigen OTC tests to the U.S. market
- Knowing our development efforts were already underway, Roche engaged NIH to learn more about the program and potential collaboration
- We gained alignment with the Roche senior leadership (locally and globally) and prioritized the collaboration
- We officially signed up with NIH to participate in the ITAP program according to the below timeline:
  - Introductory call with NIH on October 13, 2021
  - Official kick off call with RADx: October 21, 2021
  - Official acceptance: October 28, 2021 Roche/SD Biosensor received



# Working Independently and Together

Finding rapid solutions to complex processes



- November 2021 RADx and Roche worked to finalize
  - Aligned and agreed upon protocols
- RADx and FDA
  - Aligned on protocols
  - Created a modular EUA review for ITAP
    - Enabled iterative review by module
      - Background, test contents, manufacturing, preliminary labeling
      - LoD study
      - Analytical and Flex Studies
      - Clinical and labeling
  - FDA returned feedback within ~ 2 days for each module



# Benefits of ITAP

Independent and familiar smooths the process



## Universal Analytical Protocols

The FDA knew what to expect from universal analytical protocols

- Review was quick because protocols were vetted
- Independently performed, so FDA did not have questions about implementation



## Universal Clinical Protocol

- FDA reviewed the protocol before initiation
- ITAP met with FDA weekly to discuss any issues that arose
- ITAP had access to FDA almost 24/7



## Waived Requirements

FDA waived requirement for usability study



## Additional Assistance

Assistance with shipping, customs (call from FDA to release product)

# Special Analysis Made Possible

Equal evaluation applied



## Samples

RADx obtained large volumes of excess samples from clinical labs performing CDC surveillance testing

Emory Analytical Core

- ~250K clinical samples with unique S and N genes mutations
  - Including Omicron with various mutations
- Variant wet testing
  - Known variants were pooled and all LFAs were wet tested
  - Data from wet testing was included in labeling
- Epitope Mapping



## Bioinformatics Platform

Bioinformatics platform with ~9.0M GISAID sequences

- Real-time view of mutation prevalence trends
- Robust *in silico* analysis

# Speed Bumps

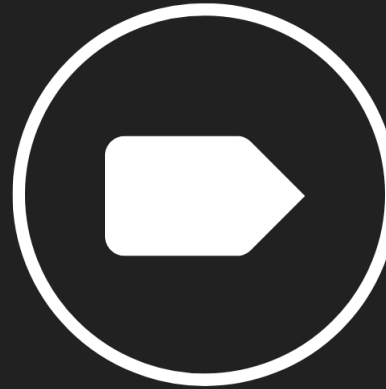
Proceed with care



## Review of Study Reports

### Review of Study Reports

- Review of study reports required extra caution as test reports designed for universal protocols
- Some items were specific to the SD Biosensor/Roche kit



## Labeling

### Labeling

- FDA changed intended use
  - serial testing and pediatric text needed extra review
- Number of tests in a box
- FDA added warnings and precautions



## Clinical Data Review

### Clinical Data Review

- FDA asked for letter from clinical site while PI at Christmas party!

# The Rapid Process Leads to a Christmas Miracle

Rapid work leads to authorization



## ITAP– Independent Test Assessment Program

- Analytical studies performed at external site
- Clinical study CRO assigned to study
  - Clinical study performed in 3 weeks (5 sites, 128 subjects, 43 positives)

## Important Dates

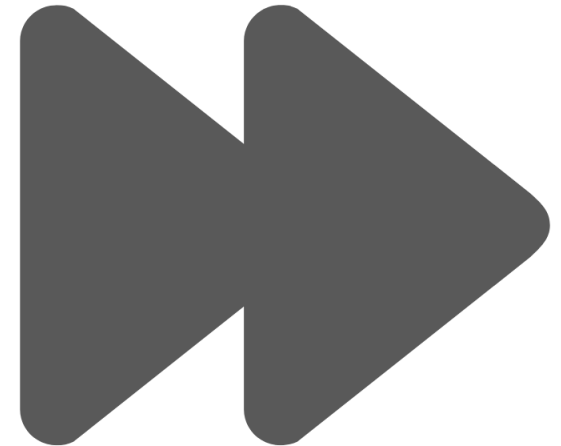
- December 9, 2021- Modular submission initiated with sections: 1-4 submitted to FDA
  - New modular template required a little finesse
- December 14, 2021- sections 6 (LoD) and 10 (IFU and labeling)
  - Let the labeling revisions begin
- December 17, 2021- section 8 (flex studies)
- December 20, 2021- section 5 (Product manufacturing)
- December 21, 2021- section 7 (analytical studies)
- December 23, 2021- section 9 (clinical studies)
- December 24, 2021- authorization granted at 7:03 pm CET (1:03 pm EST)

Merry Christmas !!!  
Authorization achieved



## Can we carry lessons learned forward?

- ITAP useful in responding to a pandemic quickly
- Evaluation of new high medical value products by a team of subject experts is useful
- Vetted protocols allow FDA to concentrate on data, not on process
- Clinical and analytical testing agencies selected by government eliminate bias





Doing Now What Patients Need Next

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# QUESTIONS



Doing now what patients need next