

**Case Summary** 1/12

**This case will help you understand:**

- Why Roche's lack of proactive did not optimally manage the operational implementation of Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2 (HER2) testing.
- How Roche's lack of proactive Dx optimization impacted physicians' initial experience of Herceptin as a targeted therapy.
- The negative financial impact that this suboptimal Dx implementation most likely had on Herceptin's brand performance.
- The most important areas of 'leakage' in the Dx program that led to the loss of patients for Herceptin.

**Key messages:**

- A pharma company with an Rx asset dependent on a test should take a proactive approach to managing the Dx environment from the outset, in order to drive adoption and avoid implementation flaws.
- Physicians can be put off using a promising new targeted therapy if the Dx environment is not a straightforward exercise optimized to suit their needs.
- A suboptimal Dx environment can cause substantial financial losses to an Rx asset.

There are several potential areas of considerable 'leakage' in any Dx environment. This leakage can result in the loss of patients demanding testing (for a drug that depends on such a Dx environment) and in the population indicated for testing by guidelines.

**Key actions:**

- Understand the current Dx routine at the physician's office.
- Understand propensity to prescribe (P2P) in terms of your plan. Prepare and revise your Dx strategy.
- Prepare for a Dx technology evolution.

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Herceptin is Indicated for Breast and Gastric Cancer** 2/12

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

Herceptin is a HER2/neu receptor antagonist indicated for:

- The treatment of HER2-overexpressing breast cancer (1.1, 1.2).
- The treatment of HER2-overexpressing metastatic gastric or gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma (1.3).

Source: <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov>

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Herceptin - an Example of Flawless Personalized Medicine Execution?** 3/12

# The New York Times

**Cancer Drug May Elude Many Women Who Need It**

CHICAGO — The breast cancer drug Herceptin is considered the model for the future of medicine tailored to each individual. The drug is given only to the 20 percent of breast cancer patients whose tumors have a particular genetic characteristic.

But now, nearly a decade after the drug's approval, evidence is emerging that the testing of the tumors can be highly inaccurate or that the wrong cutoff values are being used to determine who qualifies for treatment.

That could mean that as many as 40 percent of women with early breast cancer might benefit from the drug but are not getting it, some experts say. Yet other women may be paying for the drug and risking its side effects unnecessarily.

Dr. Pamela M. Klein, an executive at Genentech, the manufacturer of Herceptin, said the company was continuing to explore how to best identify patients for the drug.

"Here we are, 10 years into it," said Dr. Marc L. Citron, an oncologist in Lake Success, N.Y., "and we don't know how to test for it."

Source: The New York Times, June 12, 2007

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Herceptin Sales Grow Steadily Over Ten Years, Helped by an Evolving Dx Market** 4/12

Year	Sales (\$ Billions)
1999	0.2
2000	0.3
2001	0.5
2002	0.6
2003	0.9
2004	1.1
2005	1.7
2006	3.1
2007	4.4
2008	4.5
2009	5.1
2010	5.8
2011	5.9

Source: <http://www.roche.com>

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Problems in Diagnostic Implementation** 5/12

**American Society of Clinical Oncology, Chicago 2007.**

*Dr. Michael Press, a pathologist at the University of Southern California stated 'as many as one third of positive antibody tests could be false positives'. One study found that when five pathologists looked at the same slides, they disagreed on the diagnosis in half the cases.*

*Dr. Dennis Slamon of UCLA, who is largely credited with developing Herceptin, stated 'a high level task force is required to figure out how to reduce errors in testing for HER2'. As a first step, he said, 'any negative tumor samples of women who got Herceptin in the clinical trials should be retested by independent blinded pathologists to make sure they're true negatives'.*

Source: American Society of Clinical Oncology, 2007

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Many Physicians Struggle with HER2 Testing Six Years After Herceptin Launch** 6/12

Aspect of Dx Implementation	% of Physicians Surveyed Experiencing Problems 2006
Storage and sending of samples	20% and 60% respectively
Reimbursement	50%
Communications with lab	53%
Limited testing capacity	47%
Interpretation of results	20%

Source: Woelberink et al '06

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Herceptin Testing Technologies are Adopted at Varying Rates** 7/12

	CISH	FISH	IHC
Signal stability	Archivable	Fades over time	Archivable
Microscope	Bright-Field	Fluorescence	Bright-Field
Magnification	40x	60-100x	20-40x
Protocol length	Overnight + 3hr, 55min	Overnight + 3hr, 12min	3hr, 2min
Morphology	Good	Limited	Good
Amount of training required	Medium	High	Low
Internal control	Yes	Yes	No
Interpretation	Objective / Quantitative	Objective / Quantitative	Subjective / Qualitative
Overall cost	Medium	High	Low
Market adoption by oncologists in 2008	1-2%	20-40%	100%

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Guidelines for HER2 Testing are Still Complex** 8/12

**NCCN Guidelines™ Version 2.2011 Invasive Breast Cancer**

**PRINCIPLES OF HER2 TESTING**

Initial testing by IHC 3 or FISH 5

Flowchart details: Laboratory meets quality assurance standards for IHC HER2 testing methodology. If IHC 2+, IHC 3+, or IHC 0.1+, send sample to reference laboratory. If IHC 3+, IHC 2+, or IHC 0.1+, send sample to reference laboratory. If IHC 3+, IHC 2+, or IHC 0.1+, send sample to reference laboratory. If IHC 3+, IHC 2+, or IHC 0.1+, send sample to reference laboratory. If IHC 3+, IHC 2+, or IHC 0.1+, send sample to reference laboratory. If IHC 3+, IHC 2+, or IHC 0.1+, send sample to reference laboratory.

Source: NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2011 Invasive Breast Cancer

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Physicians' Propensity to Prescribe is a Key Metric to be Understood** 9/12

**Herceptin US Propensity To Prescribe Advanced Breast Cancer**

Year	%HER2+ Patients Receiving Herceptin
MAT Q4'05	65%
MAT Q1'06	67%
MAT Q2'06	68%
MAT Q3'06	71%
MAT Q4'06	70%
MAT Q1'07	69%
MAT Q2'07	69%

Source: Highcharts.com

Even in 2005, the majority of HER2 testing is still relying on the IHC method and up to 20 to 60 per cent variability in sensitivity is reported in HER2 studies. This serves to undermine physicians' confidence in the test answer.

Overall P2P rates remain high, despite testing confidence, as Herceptin is regarded as the only therapy in the HER2 class. Tykerb is eventually launched by GSK in 2008 but does not make a significant impact on Herceptin P2P levels.

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Herceptin Sales Could Have Been Higher** 10/12

**US Business Case Forecast**

Year	Actual Herceptin Sales US 98-07 (Cumulative Revenue = \$5.2bn)	Optimized Herceptin Sales US 98-07 (Cumulative Revenue = \$7.1bn)
98	0	0
99	~100	~100
00	~200	~200
01	~300	~300
02	~400	~400
03	~500	~500
04	~600	~600
05	~700	~700
06	~800	~800
07	~900	~900

Source: Roth et al '10

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Diagnostic Inefficiencies Resulted in a Substantial Loss of Patients for Herceptin** 11/12

**75,000 Her2+ patients in US in 2005**

- 20% loss of potential Herceptin Rx due to complexity of interpretation. Required reflex testing algorithm to be developed.
- 8% loss of potential Herceptin Rx due to physicians being dragged into test reimbursement issues.
- 40% loss of potential Herceptin Rx due to insensitive testing method. Required new test methods to be developed.
- 7% loss of potential Herceptin Rx due to slow turnaround of results, leading to other Rx.

Source: Roth et al '10

**Herceptin/HER2**  
 Herceptin's loose diagnostic partnering enabled growth but hindered peak sales.

**Key Messages** 12/12

**Key messages:**

- A pharma company with an Rx asset dependent on a test should take a proactive approach to managing the Dx environment from the outset, in order to drive adoption and avoid implementation flaws.
- Physicians can be put off using a promising new targeted therapy if the Dx environment is not a straightforward exercise optimized to suit their needs.
- A suboptimal Dx environment can cause substantial financial losses to an Rx asset.
- There are several potential areas of considerable 'leakage' in any Dx environment. This leakage can result in the loss of patients demanding testing (for a drug that depends on such a Dx environment) and in the population indicated for testing by guidelines.

**Key actions:**

- Understand the current Dx routine at the physician's office.
- Understand propensity to prescribe (P2P) in terms of your plan.
- Prepare and revise your Dx strategy.
- Prepare for a Dx technology evolution.