SOA MEDICAL MARKERS STUDY – SOME BACKGROUND

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OUTLINE

1. SoA research process
   - Idea flow
   - Project Oversight Group (POG) role
   - Appeal for volunteers

2. Comments/Observations about Medical Markers study

3. Al Klein will present Medical Markers study approach and findings
SoA Research Idea Flow

- Idea source – anyone
- Project or Experience Study?
- Experience Committee or Section Research Committee referral
- Champion sketches idea
- Compete for funding
- Project Oversight Group (POG) volunteers recruited
POG Role

- Define project scope & approach
- Draft solicitation document (RFP or CFP)
- Evaluate proposals
- Select researchers
- Monitor progress
- Ongoing peer review
- Resolve issues
- Recommend approval
Appeal for Volunteers

- Why?
  - Learn new things
  - Network with experts
  - Be on cutting edge
  - CPD credit

- How?
  - Contact your section chair or SoA staff
  - Indicate experience & interests
## Medical Markers Study - Process

### POG
- Jean-Marc Fix, FSA, MAAA – Chair
- Tom Edwalds, FSA, ACAS, MAAA
- Carl Holowaty, MD, DBIM
- Cynthia French-Poteet, AALU
- Val Munchez-van der Wagt, CLU, AALU, ACS
- Ronora Stryker, ASA, MAAA
- Jan Schuh, SoA staff

### Funding Sources
- Reinsurance Section
- Product Development Section
- Committee on Life Insurance Research
- Association of Home Office Underwriters
- Canadian Institute of Underwriters
Medical Markers Study - Overview

- Research Question:
  - What value might new laboratory tests have for life insurance underwriting?
- Solicited insurance lab participation before RFP
- Chose Milliman Research Team (Al Klein, Karen Rudolph)
- Picked tests to investigate
- Estimated protective value
  - Standard vs substandard
Opportunities for further study
- Normal distribution for marker values?
- Info overlap?
- Hoped labs would have this data
- Excellent actuarial study
- Estimates vetted by POG
- Conclusions hold up