

# **CDC Anthrax Vaccine Research Program**

**Non-human Primate Study Design &  
Application to Correlates of Protection**

**Nina Marano, DVM MPH DACVPM  
Meningitis and Special Pathogens Branch**

# **Anthrax Vaccine Research Program**

## **Three interrelated studies:**

- 1) Human Reactogenicity and Immunogenicity Clinical Trial to Address Change in Route of Administration and Dose Reduction
- 2) Non-human Primate Vaccine Dose Ranging, Immunogenicity and Challenge Trial
- 3) Anthrax Pathogenesis, Immunology and Correlates of Protection Against Inhalational Challenge

# Human Clinical Trial

## Design

- Randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled
- 6 study groups, N=1560 adults
- Study duration: 43 months
- Primary Endpoints
  - Immunogenicity: Four-fold rise in anti-PA IgG titer & Geometric Mean Concentration measured by ELISA
  - Reactogenicity: Local injection site reactions

## Objective

- Change route of administration from SQ to IM
- Drop 3 of 6 doses from priming regimen and boost every 2-3 years

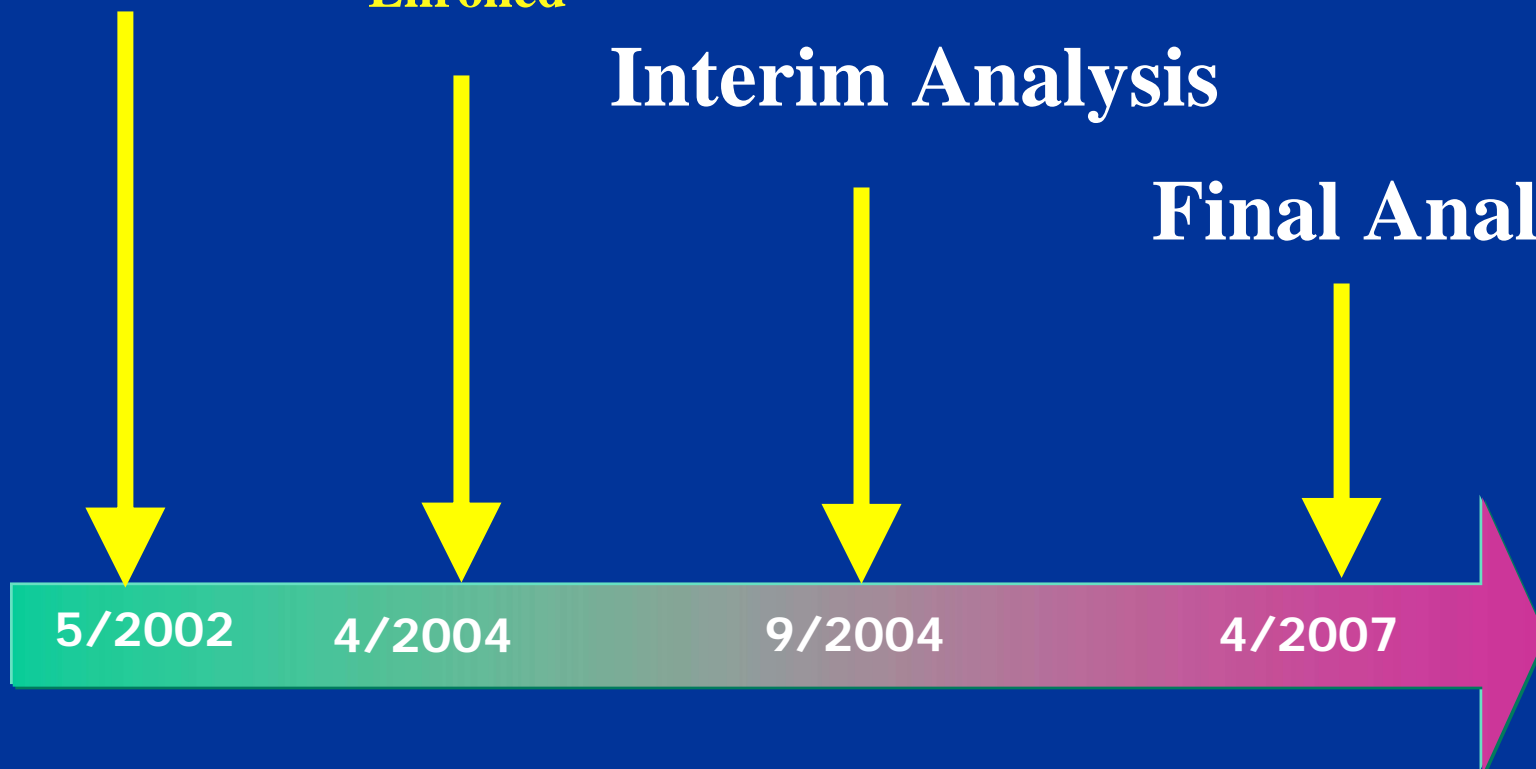
# Timeline for the Human Clinical Trial

**First Volunteer  
Enrolled**

**Last Volunteer  
Enrolled**

**Interim Analysis**

**Final Analysis**



# NHP Study

## - *Objectives* -

---

- To identify immunological correlates of protection in macaques at 12, 30 & 42 months post vaccination
- To extrapolate for surrogate markers of protection in humans
- To support the proposed changes in AVA human route of administration and dosing schedule

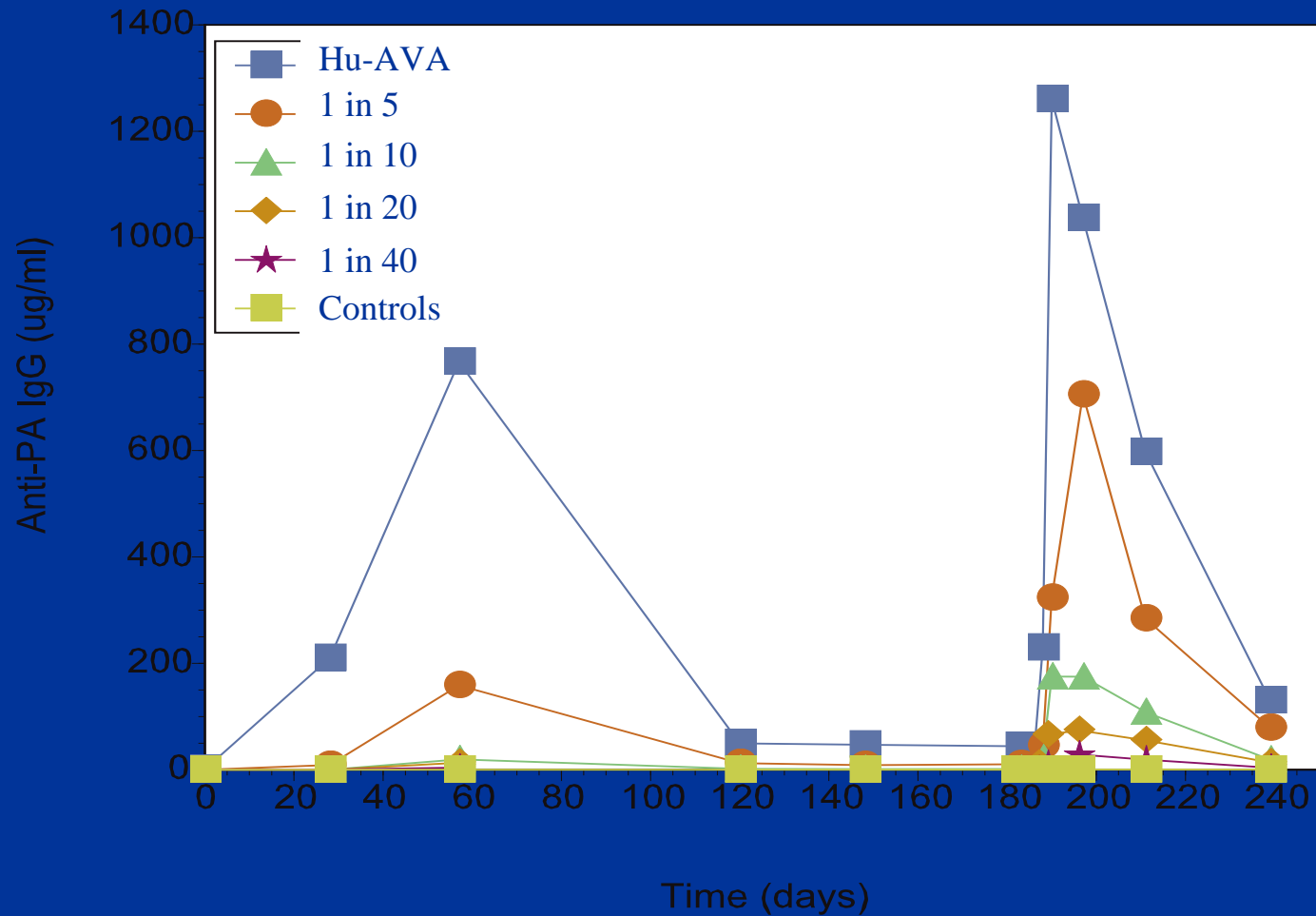
# NHP Study

## *- Methods -*

---

- Modulate NHP immune responses to AVA by dose variation
  - Human dose AVA, 1/5, 1/10, 1/20, 1/40, + controls
  - Vaccine injections at 0, 4, 26 weeks IM
- Challenge at 12, 30 & 42 months post 1<sup>st</sup> vaccination
- Immunological & protection data to build a model for predicting a defined outcome  
*survival*
- Apply this relationship to human clinical study to predict protection of vaccinees

# AVA Dose Modulates the Anti-PA IgG Response



# Relationship of NHP Studies to the Human Clinical Trial

---

- Vaccination regimen parallels target human primary series of 0-wks, 4-wks and 6 months
- Timing of challenges parallels points where dose reduction occurs for human study groups
- Timing of blood draws (+ kinetics at 6 months) in NHPs corresponds to humans



# NHP Survival is Anticipated to be Dose and Time Dependent

---

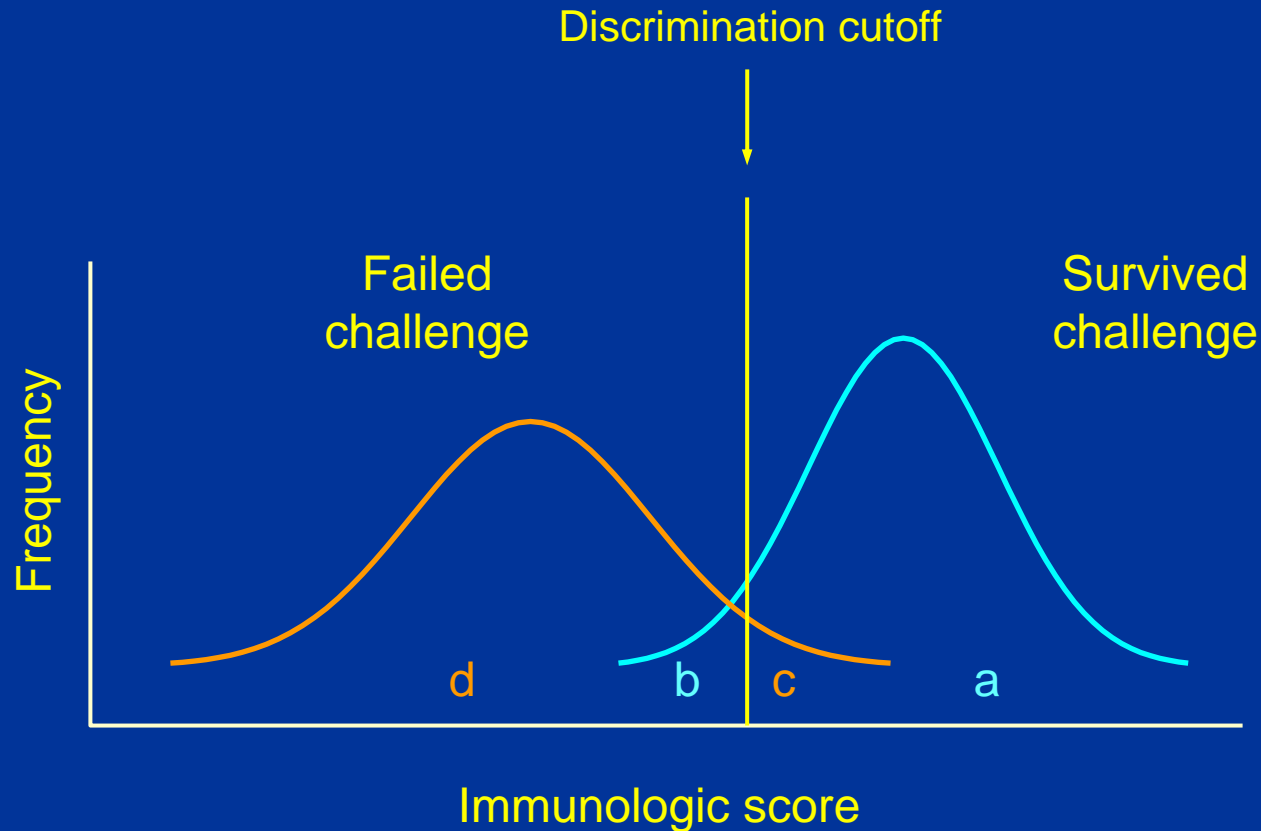
| Vaccine Dilution | Anticipated Survival |           |           |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                  | 12 Months            | 30 Months | 42 Months |
| Full Dose        | 100%                 | 100%      | >60%      |
| 1/5              | 100%                 | >60%      | 30-60%    |
| 1/10             | >60%                 | 30-60%    | <30%      |
| 1/20             | 30-60%               | <30%      | 0         |
| 1/40             | <30%                 | 0         | 0         |

# Correlation to NHP Survival

---

- Select variables (assay combinations) with greatest discriminating power
- Calculate immunologic 'score' for all subjects
- Discriminant cutoff may be placed to maximize sensitivity or specificity
- In this study, cutoff will be placed to optimize sensitivity (set to 95%)

# Logistic Discriminant Analysis



a = survivors correctly classified as survivors

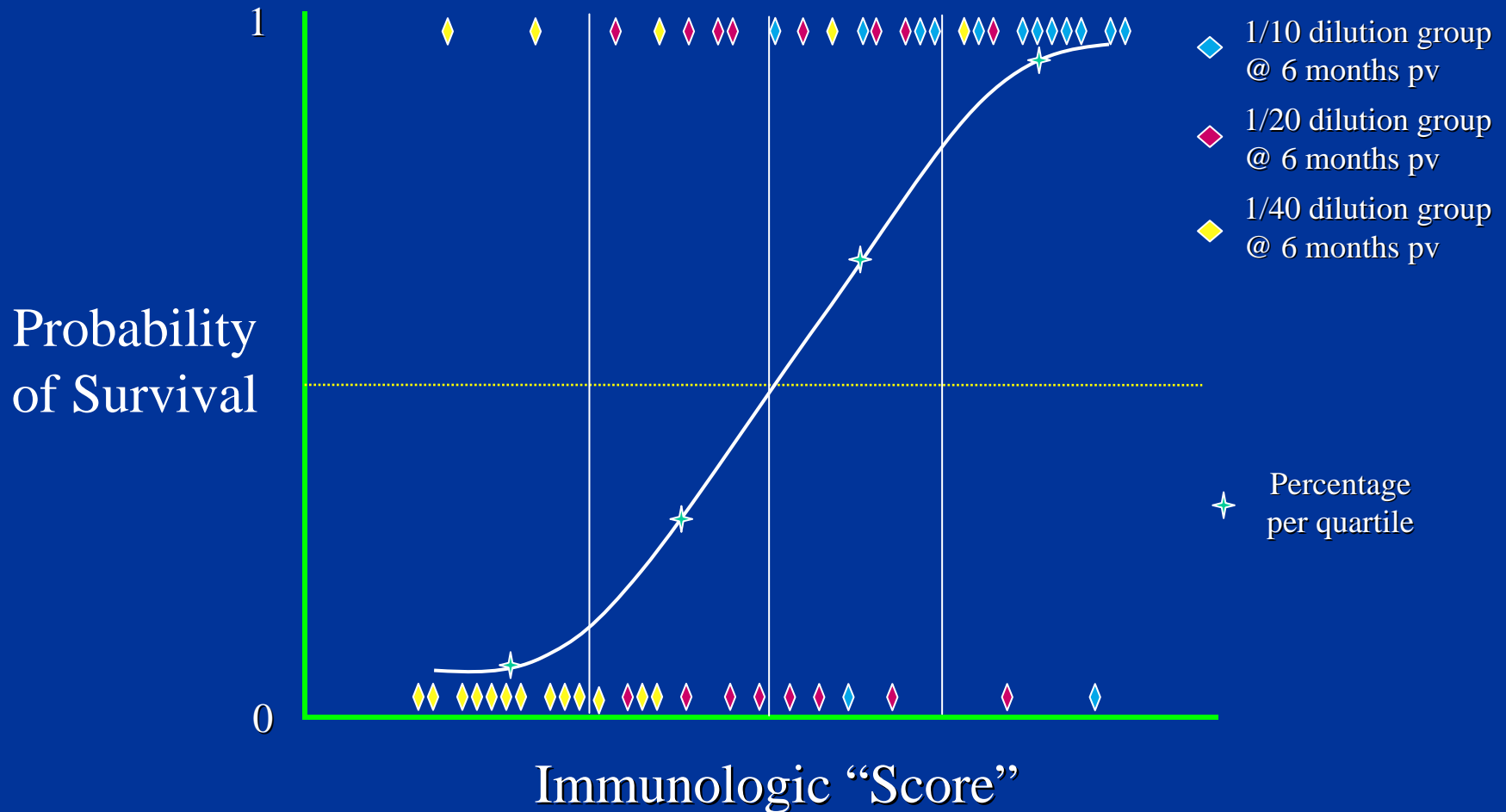
b = survivors incorrectly classified as failures

d = failures correctly classified as failures

c = failures incorrectly classified as survivors

# Immune Response vs. Survival

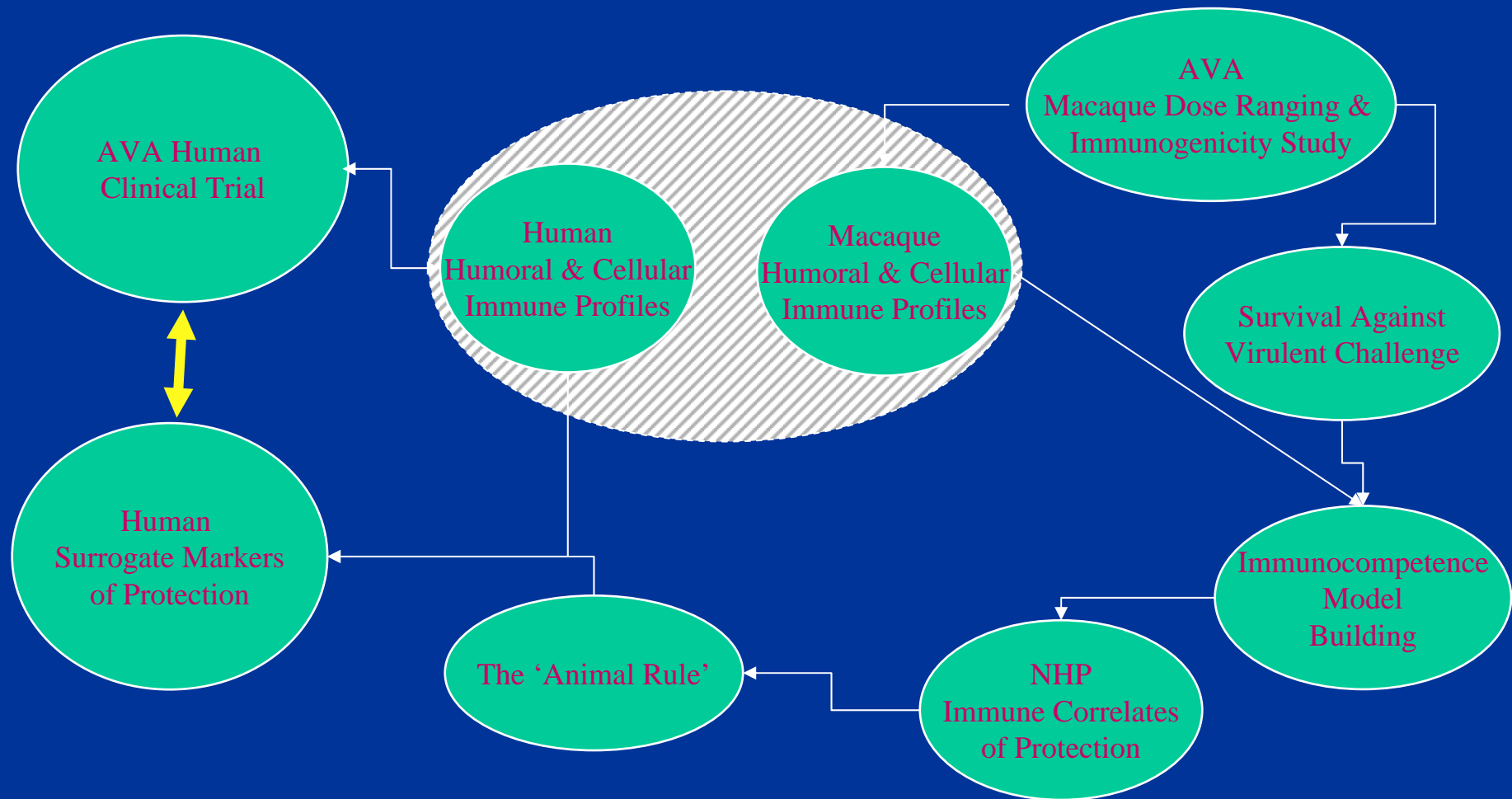
## ~ Model Building ~



# Correlation to Human Study

- Assumes NHP immunogenicity-survival curve can be used to predict protection in humans
- Application of the 'Animal Rule'
- Apply discriminant function to Immune Correlates Study clinical trial subset data
- Examine how vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals are 'scored'
- Determine if these variables convey information about onset of protection & potential for survival

# An Integrated Study in Humans & Non-Human Primates



# Acknowledgements

- Microbial Pathogenesis and Immune Response Laboratory, CDC
- Biostatistics and Information Management Branch, CDC
- National Immunization Program, CDC
- Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program, DoD
- US Army Medical Research Institute for Infectious Diseases, DoD
- Mayo Clinic and Foundation
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Battelle Memorial Institute
- Baylor College of Medicine
- Walter Reed Army Institute for Research
- Emory University School of Medicine
- Emory University Vaccine Center
- Ohio State University
- BioPort Corporation
- Technical Resources International
- Datametrics Incorporated