

## EXECUTIVE BRIEF



## Validated Statistical Calculators for Efficient Clinical Trial Design

For: VPs of R&amp;D; Chief Medical Officers, Clinical Development Leaders

Reading Time: 5-7 minutes

**FDA PUBLISHED MAJOR GUIDANCE (January 12, 2026)**

FDA released draft guidance extending Bayesian methodology to drugs and biologics. Draft guidance signals regulatory direction; final implementation details may evolve.

FDA Commissioner: "Bayesian methodologies help address high costs and long timelines."

**THE CLINICAL TRIAL EFFICIENCY PROBLEM****Trials Are Too Expensive and Too Slow**

Phase III clinical trials cost \$50-100 million and require 4-6 years. Yet most use conservative designs that inflate costs:

Inefficiency	Impact	Cost to Industry
Ignoring baseline covariates	15-35% sample size inflation	\$7-35M per Phase III
No interim monitoring	Continuing futile trials	6-18 months wasted
Binary go/no-go decisions	\$50-100M on doomed Phase III	50-60% failure rate

**Why Efficient Designs Aren't Used**

- Software is expensive: \$5,000-\$15,000 annual licenses
- IT barriers: Desktop installation requires IT involvement
- Limited scope: Separate tools for each methodology
- Limited transparency: Public, independently reproducible validation suites not typically available

**THE OPPORTUNITY**

Three proven methodologies can substantially reduce trial costs and duration:

CUPED (15-35% reduction) | Group Sequential (20-40%) | Bayesian Predictive Power

FDA guidance supports all three methods when operating characteristics are well understood. The barrier is accessible software.

Example: A standard Phase III trial enrolling 500 patients at \$50K/patient = \$25M. With efficient design: 400 patients = \$20M. **Saving \$5M** without reducing statistical power.

**Beyond Cost Savings: Strategic Benefits**

- Faster time to market: Accelerated BLA submissions mean earlier revenue and patient access
- Reduced investor risk: Quantitative go/no-go decisions provide data-driven confidence
- Regulatory alignment: FDA/EMA guidance increasingly supports modern statistical methods when operating characteristics are well understood
- Competitive advantage: Smaller trials with same power = faster enrollment

## THE ZETYRA SOLUTION

## Three Integrated Calculators, One Platform

### CUPED - Covariate-Adjusted Power Analysis

What: Calculates sample size reduction from baseline-outcome correlations

**Savings: 15-35% fewer patients** | FDA: May 2023 guidance encourages adjustment

### Group Sequential - Interim Analysis Boundaries

What: Calculates stopping boundaries with rigorous Type I error control

**Savings: 15-30% expected sample size reduction** | FDA: Nov 2019: "simplest adaptive designs"

### Bayesian - Predictive Power

What: Computes probability of trial success given interim data

**Savings: Quantitative go/no-go decisions** | FDA: Jan 2026 guidance extends to drugs/biologics

## Validation Excellence: 51 Tests, 100% Pass Rate

Calculator	Tests	Benchmark	Max Deviation	Result
Group Sequential	30	gsDesign R package	0.0046 z-score	<b>10x more accurate</b>
CUPED	12	Analytical formula	Exact match	<b>Zero error</b>
Bayesian	9	Conjugate priors	Exact match	<b>Zero error</b>

All validation code is public: [github.com/evidenceinthewild/zetyra-validation](https://github.com/evidenceinthewild/zetyra-validation)

## Key Differentiators vs. Commercial Software (as of January 2026)

Feature	Zetyra	East	PASS	ADDPLAN	nQuery
All 3 methodologies	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Public validation	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Web-based (no IT)	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Annual cost	<b>\$1,188</b>	\$15,000	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$6,000

Bottom line: Zetyra is the only platform integrating CUPED + Group Sequential + Bayesian with publicly validated accuracy, at **95% cost reduction** vs. East.

## Who Uses Zetyra?

- Biostatisticians designing Phase II/III trials
- Clinical development teams evaluating design options
- CROs providing statistical consulting services
- Academic medical centers running investigator-initiated trials

### Public API for Programmatic Access

RESTful endpoints for R/Python integration. Full documentation at [zetyra.com/docs](https://zetyra.com/docs). Used by our own validation test suite—proven in production.

## BUSINESS IMPACT

## Quantified Case Studies

Note: These case studies are illustrative scenarios based on typical trial parameters, not retrospective analyses of specific trials. Actual savings depend on correlation strength, interim timing, and program-specific factors.

## CASE STUDY

1

## Oncology Phase II — 30% Sample Size Reduction

HER2+ metastatic breast cancer, single-arm Phase II evaluating ORR

\$3.6M

30%

3.6mo

Standard: 240 pts, \$12.0M  
CUPED: 168 pts, \$8.4M

Saved | Reduction | Faster

## CASE STUDY

2

## Cardiovascular Phase III — \$18M Saved, Early Stop

PCSK9 inhibitor for MACE in secondary prevention

\$18.1M

24%

12mo

4-look O'Brien-Fleming GSD  
Stopped early at Interim 2

Saved | Cost Cut | Faster

## CASE STUDY

3

## Rare Disease — Bayesian Decision Framework

Duchenne muscular dystrophy gene therapy, 6-minute walk distance endpoint

Traditional: p=0.08 → "Not significant" → No-go

Potentially wrong decision

Bayesian: 78% probability of benefit → Go\*

FDA granted Breakthrough Therapy Designation

\*Decision incorporated clinical relevance, unmet need, and regulatory feedback—not a single probability threshold.

## TRIAL COST SAVINGS: NSCLC Immunotherapy (Case Study 4)

Traditional: 66 months, \$104M → Zetyra-Optimized: 50 months, \$89.9M

\$14.1M saved (14% reduction) | 16 months earlier BLA submission

Illustrative Revenue Upside: For successful programs with \$2B peak sales, 16-month acceleration could yield \$2.1B NPV gain. Revenue acceleration can dominate cost savings; magnitude depends heavily on commercial assumptions.

## CASE STUDY

4

## Full Program — Integrated CUPED + GSD + Bayesian

NSCLC immunotherapy combination, Phase II → Phase III development

Element	Traditional	Zetyra-Optimized	Savings
Phase II	80 pts, 12 mo, \$4.0M	53 pts, 8 mo, \$2.4M	\$1.6M (40%)
Phase III	500 pts, 54 mo, \$100M	425 expected, 42 mo, \$87.5M	\$12.5M (13%)
Total Program	66 months, \$104M	50 months, \$89.9M	\$14.1M (14%)
BLA Submission	Month 72	Month 56	16 months earlier

## WHY ZETYRA

## Competitive Advantages

## 1 Transparency Creates Trust

Public validation suite with 51 automated tests. Independently reproducible validation not typically available from commercial tools.

## 2 Integration Saves Time

Single login, consistent interface across all 3 calculators. No juggling between multiple tools.

## 3 Regulatory-Ready

FDA/EMA guidance citations embedded in outputs. Pre-written protocol language included.

## 4 Zero IT Friction

Web-based: works on any device. Time to first calculation: 1 hour vs. 2-8 weeks.

## Regulatory Support is Strong

- CUPED: May 2023 FDA guidance calls covariate adjustment "low-hanging fruit"
- Group Sequential: November 2019 FDA guidance: "simplest and most established"
- Bayesian: January 2026 draft guidance extends to drugs/biologics (published this week)

## Pricing

Evidence Pro	Evidence Collective	Enterprise
\$99/month	\$349/month	Custom
Full CUPED, GSD, Bayesian	Team features for 5 users	FDA compliance features

Free trial available. No credit card required. Equivalent functionality typically requires 2-3 separate tools at \$15K+ annually.

## Getting Started

Step 1: Start free trial at [zetyra.com/trial](https://zetyra.com/trial)

Step 2: Run your first calculation in <1 hour

Step 3: Generate FDA-ready documentation

Step 4: Integrate into your workflow

## NEXT STEPS

1. Free trial: [zetyra.com/trial](https://zetyra.com/trial) (no credit card required)
2. Schedule demo: [maggie@zetyra.com](mailto:maggie@zetyra.com) (30-minute walkthrough)
3. Technical white paper: [zetyra.com/whitepaper](https://zetyra.com/whitepaper)
4. Validation suite: [github.com/evidenceinthewild/zetyra-validation](https://github.com/evidenceinthewild/zetyra-validation)

## What Makes zetyra Different?

Commercial software typically costs \$6,000-\$15,000/year; zetyra provides equivalent functionality at 95% lower cost with publicly validated calculations. Our GitHub-hosted test suite lets you verify every result independently.

Zetyra supports trial planning and design decisions; sponsors retain responsibility for final regulatory strategy.

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*The future of clinical trial design is transparent, validated, accessible, and efficient.*