What are biomarkers & why are they important in research?
Biomarkers are characteristics of the body found in fluids, such as blood or tissue, that you can measure. They may serve as a sign of an abnormal or normal process in the body. Examples of this include a blood test measuring a kind of protein in the body, a scan such as an MRI or PET, etc.
Since biomarkers are measurable, they can be used to predict the risk of developing a disease or condition, as well as determine how well the body responds to a treatment for a disease or condition.
Biomarkers are critical to research studies because they help measure the risk for disease and the effects of investigational treatments in clinical trials.
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