

# Research & Validation Roadmap

*The current and planned validation programme — phased, governed and openly reported.*

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## B.1 Purpose

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*Appendix B sets out how Silk Clarity progresses from its current state to independently validated scientific maturity, in phases that can be scrutinised, replicated and reported in open form.*

## B.2 Independent methodological review

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A standing invitation to qualified academic reviewers to interrogate construct definitions, indicator operationalisation, synthesis logic and provenance. Reviewer feedback is captured through the platform's structured review instrument and incorporated into the published change record.

## B.3 Pilot studies

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Bounded pilots in executive search and enterprise leadership contexts, run with founding partners under defined protocols. Pilots produce evidence on usability, decision utility and behavioural sensitivity of the instrument.

## B.4 Reliability testing

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- Inter-rater reliability on indicator extraction.
- Internal consistency of competency aggregation.
- Test–retest stability of baseline measures.

## B.5 Construct validation

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- Construct validity against established communication taxonomies.
- Convergent validity with established psycholinguistic indicators.
- Discriminant validity from neighbouring personality constructs.

## B.6 Practical utility studies

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Studies assessing whether Silk Clarity outputs improve decision quality above and beyond conventional assessment inputs — measured through structured decision-maker protocols rather than aggregate outcomes alone.

## B.7 Longitudinal research

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Tracking of development trajectories among consenting users over six- to twenty-four-month windows, evaluating sensitivity of indicators to deliberate practice and external coaching input.

## B.8 Research governance

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- Independent ethics oversight.
- Pre-registration of confirmatory studies.
- Open reporting of results, including null and unfavourable findings.

## B.9 Version control

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All methodology revisions are documented in a public change record with rationale, evidence and effective date. The current state of the methodology and its open questions are tracked in the Methodology Maturity Model.

## B.10 Independent review process

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Reviewers receive a structured pack (Appendix A, Independent Methodological Review Request, current change record) and submit feedback through the platform. Substantive feedback is acknowledged in the change record under contributor attribution.