

Advances in Genetics: From Base Pairs to Bedside

Pediatric Grand Rounds

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January 18, 2012

Objectives

- To review the recent advances in Medical Genetics
- To discuss the benefits and limitations of recent technologic advances in genetic testing
- To recognize the value of family history and clinical examination in the evaluation of patients as well as ethical, legal and social implications
- To be aware of the complexity of current practice of Genetics requiring referral to specialized centers
- To recognize individualized medicine as our ultimate goal

Disclosure

Nothing to disclose

“We live in a revolutionary age. Our science has caught the spirit of the times, and more improvements have been made in all its branches in the last 20 years than have been made in a century before”

Benjamin Rush, 1791



Genetic Code of Human Life Is Cracked by Scientists

Human Genome Project

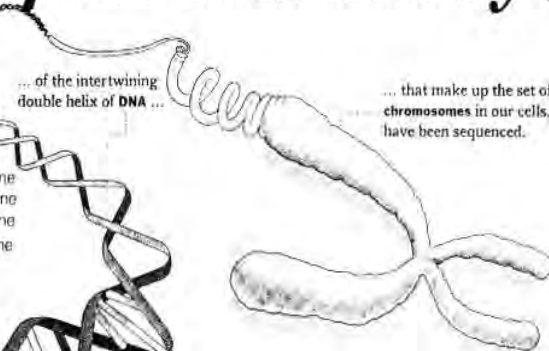
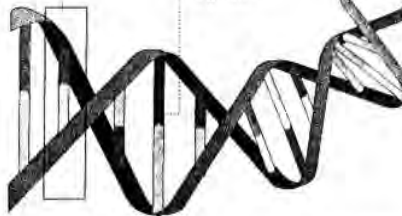
- Conceived in the mid 1980's
- Debated and argued
- Oct 1, 1990 start date
- Initial efforts focused on technology, maps & sequencing model organisms
- Ended in 2003

The Book of Life

The 3 billion base pairs ...

BASE PAIRS
Rings between the strands of the double helix

BASES
A adenine
C cytosine
G guanine
T thymine



By ordering the base units, scientists hope to locate the genes and determine their functions.

The New York Times

Science Times A special issue

- Putting the genome to work.
- Some information has already paid research dividends.
- Two research methods, two results
- More articles, charts and photos of the genome effort.
- From Mendel to helix to genome.

Section D

Francis S. Collins, head of the Human Genome Project, right, with J. Craig Venter, head of Celera Genomics, after the announcement yesterday that they had finished the first survey of the human genome.



Paul Heston/The New York Times

A Pearl and a Hodgépodge: Human DNA

Collins, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, said that though scientists underscore the

A SHARED SUCCESS

2 Rivals' Announcements Marks New Medical Era, Risks and All

By NICHOLAS WADE

WASHINGTON, June 26 — An achievement that represents a pinnacle of human self-knowledge, rival groups of scientists said today that they had deciphered the hereditary script, the set of instructions that defines the human organism.

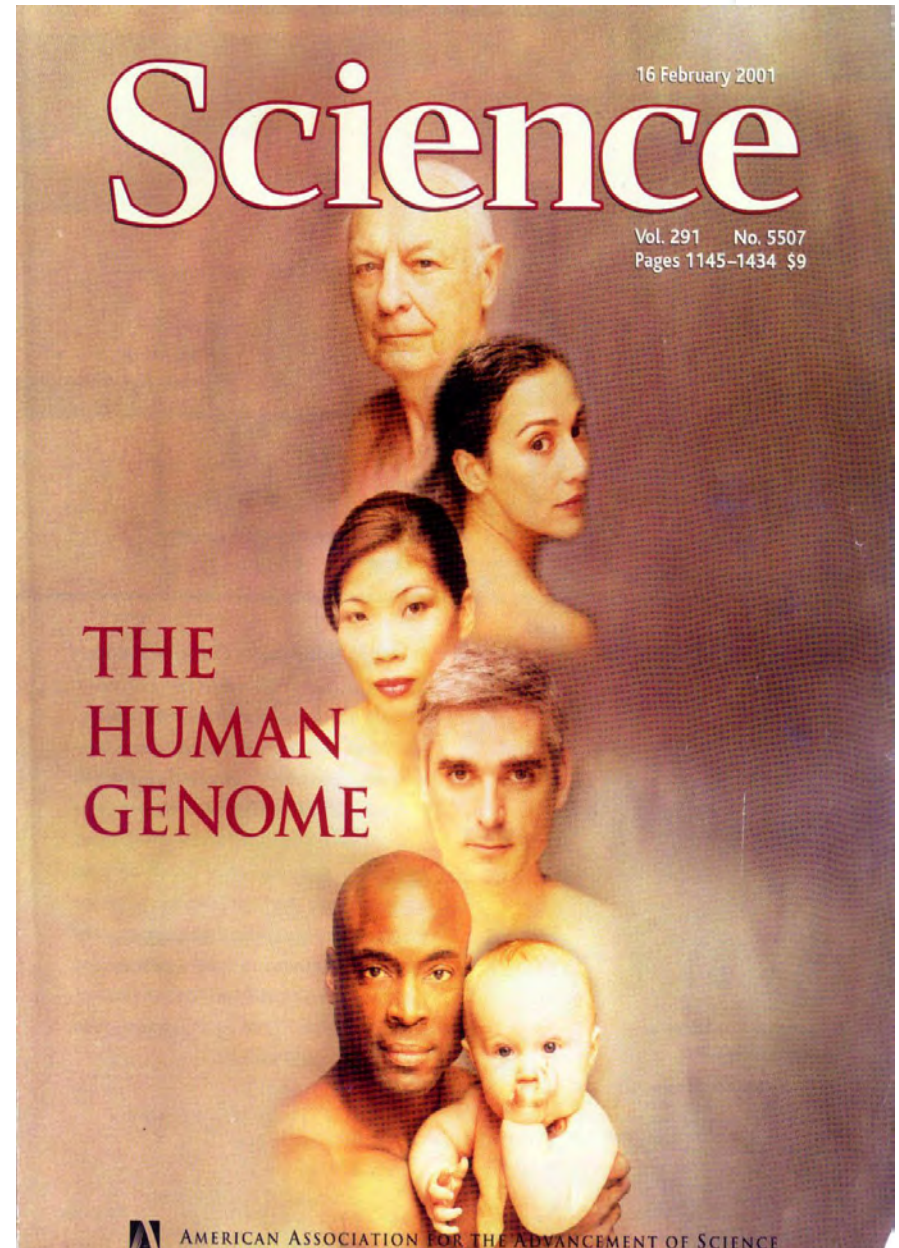
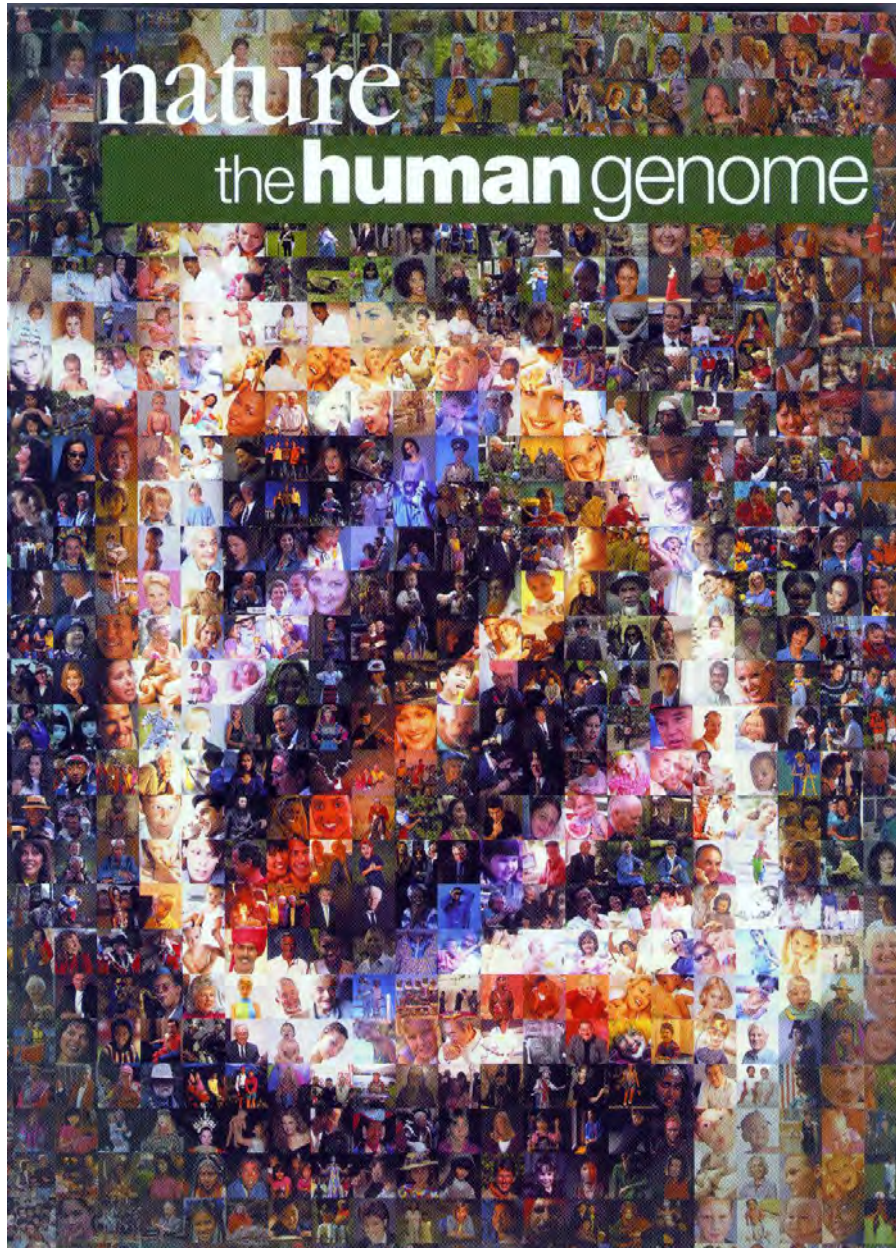
"Today we are learning the language in which God created life," President Clinton said at a White House ceremony attended by members of the two teams and, via satellite, Prime Minister Tony Blair of England. [Excerpts, Page D8.]

The teams' leaders, Dr. J. Craig Venter, president of Celera Genomics, and Dr. Francis S. Collins, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, praised each other's contributions and hailed a spirit of cooperation from now on, even though the two efforts will remain firmly independent.

The human genome, the ancient script that has now been deciphered, consists of two sets of 23 giant molecules, or chromosomes, each set — one inherited from each parent — containing more than 3 billion chemical units.

The successful deciphering of the vast genetic archive attests to the extraordinary pace of biology's

The Human Genome in Print February 2001

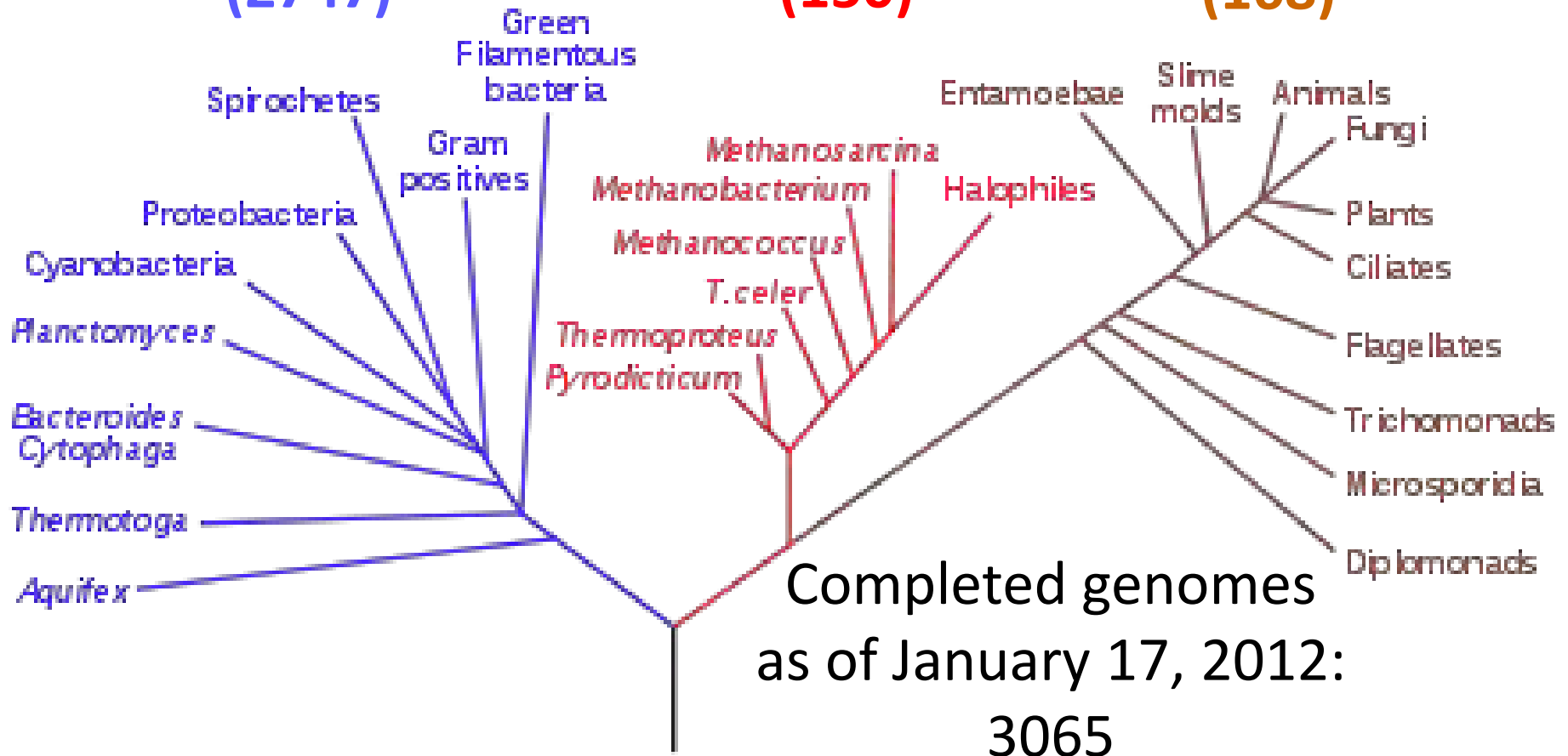


Whole Genome Sequences : Progress Report

**Bacteria
(2747)**

**Archaea
(150)**

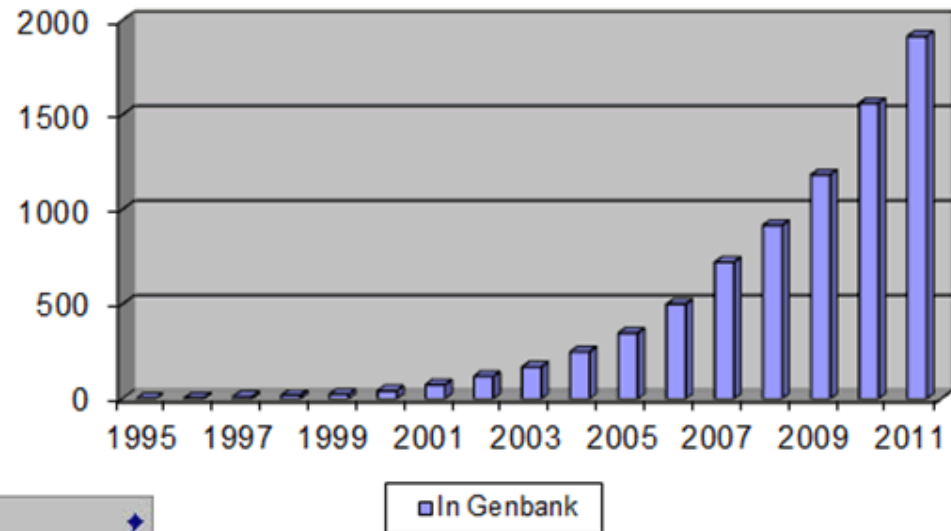
**Eucaryota
(168)**



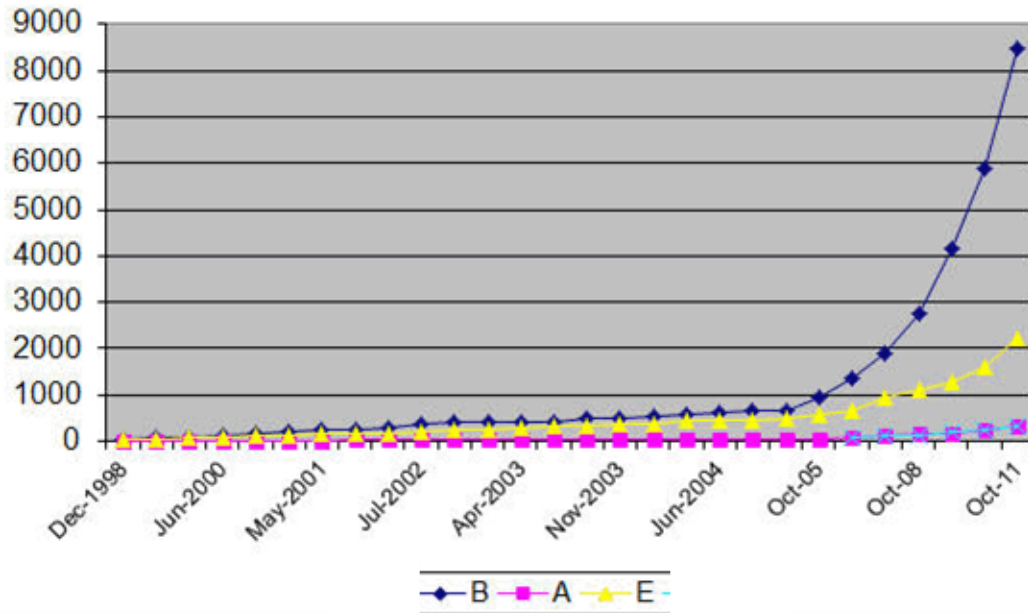
Genomes Online Statistics



www.genomesonline.org



Completely Sequenced Genomes



Genome Projects according to Phylogenetic Groups

Human Genome Project

What have we learned about the human genome itself over the past decade?

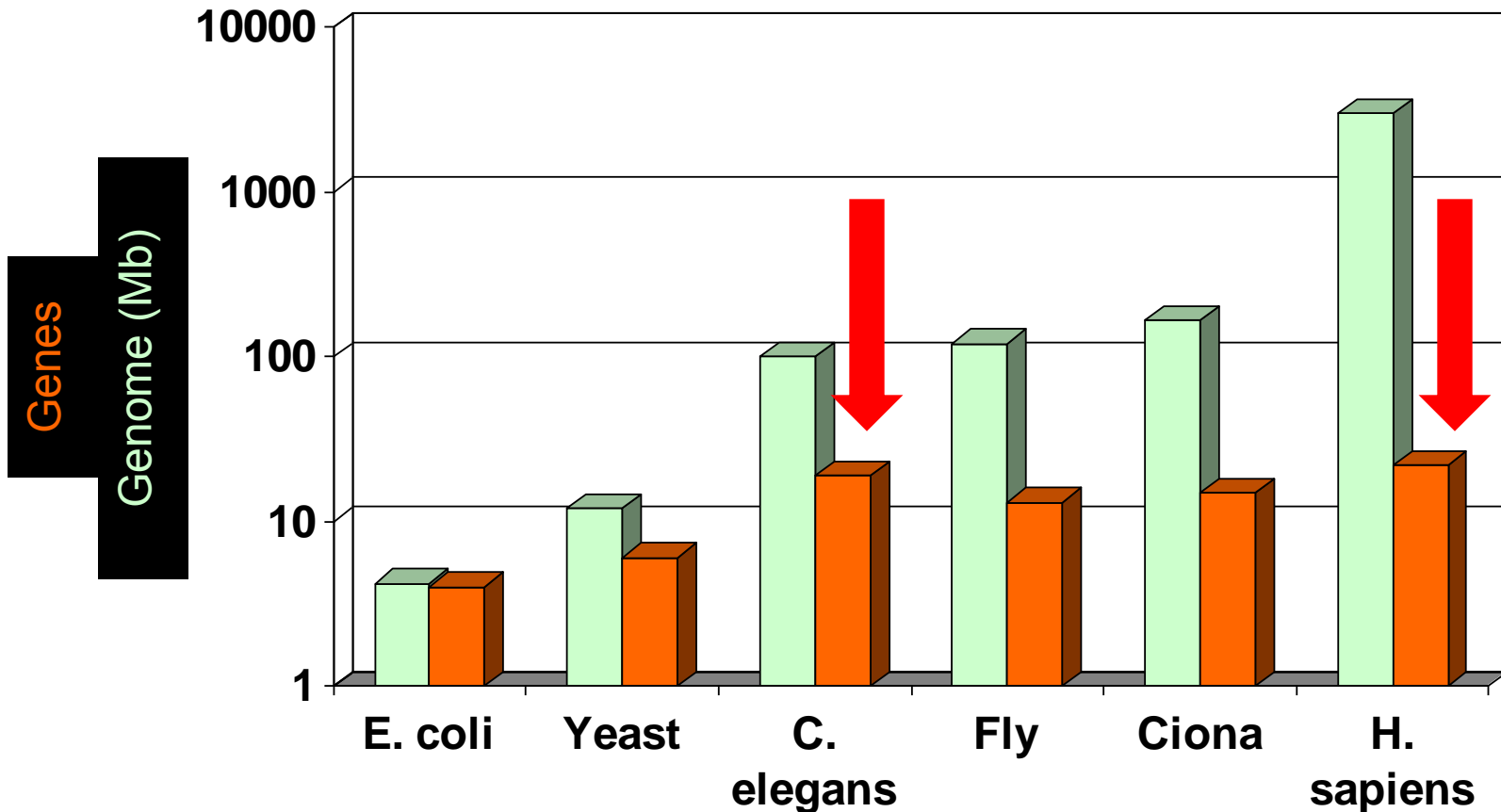
How has the human sequence propelled our understanding of human biology?

What is the road ahead?

Understanding the structure of genomes

- In the early 2000 our knowledge of the contents of the human genome was surprisingly limited:
- Today the human genome is known to contain between 21,000 and 23,000 protein coding genes
- The human genome is more complex than imagined, regulatory elements outweigh coding regions

Gene Number Independent of Genome Size



Worm vs. Human



Caenorhabditis elegans

- 20,470 protein-coding genes
~ 972 cells



Homo Sapiens (Ella Sapiens)

~ 22,000 protein-coding genes
~ 100 trillion cells

Generation of Complexity

- Only modest increase in gene number
- More sophisticated regulation of gene expression
- More sophisticated post- transcriptional regulation

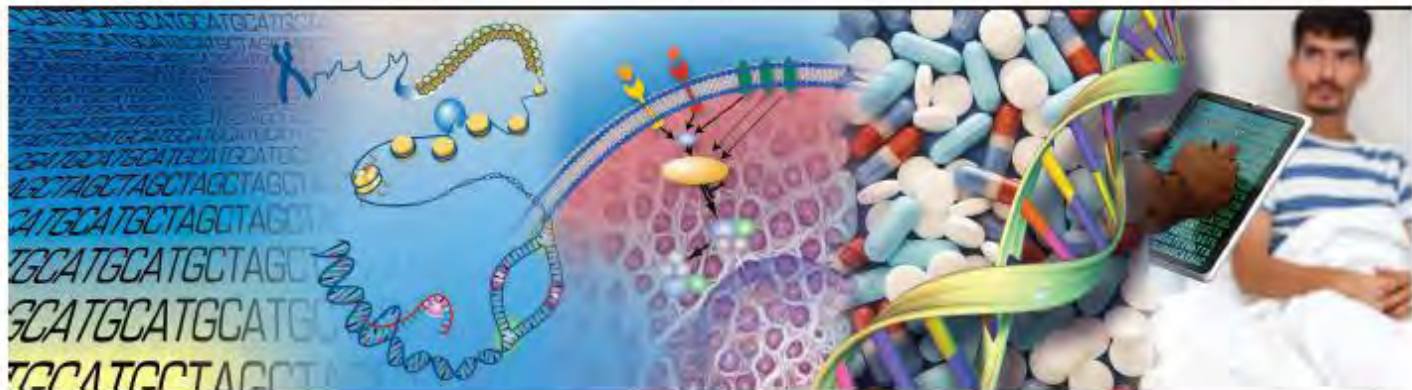
Understanding
the structure of
genomes

Understanding
the biology of
genomes

Understanding
the biology of
disease

Advancing
the science of
medicine

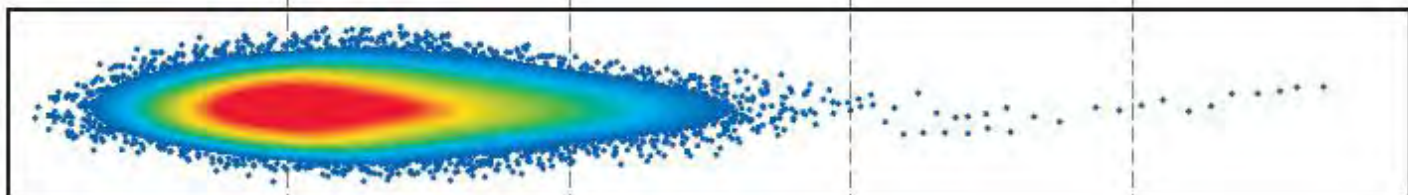
Improving the
effectiveness of
healthcare



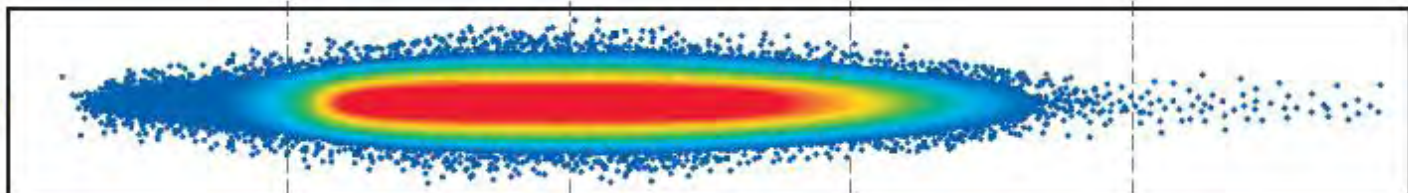
1990–2003
Human Genome Project



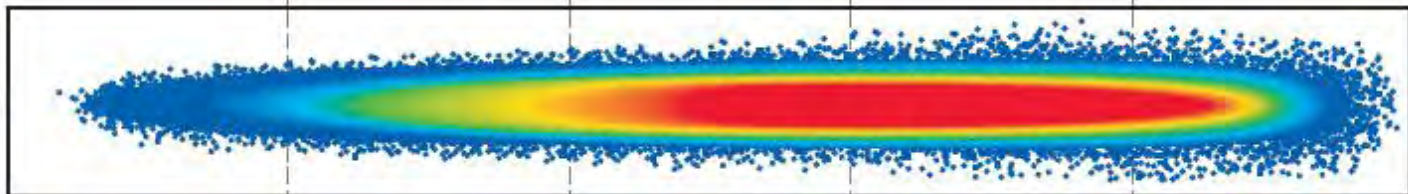
2004–2010



2011–2020

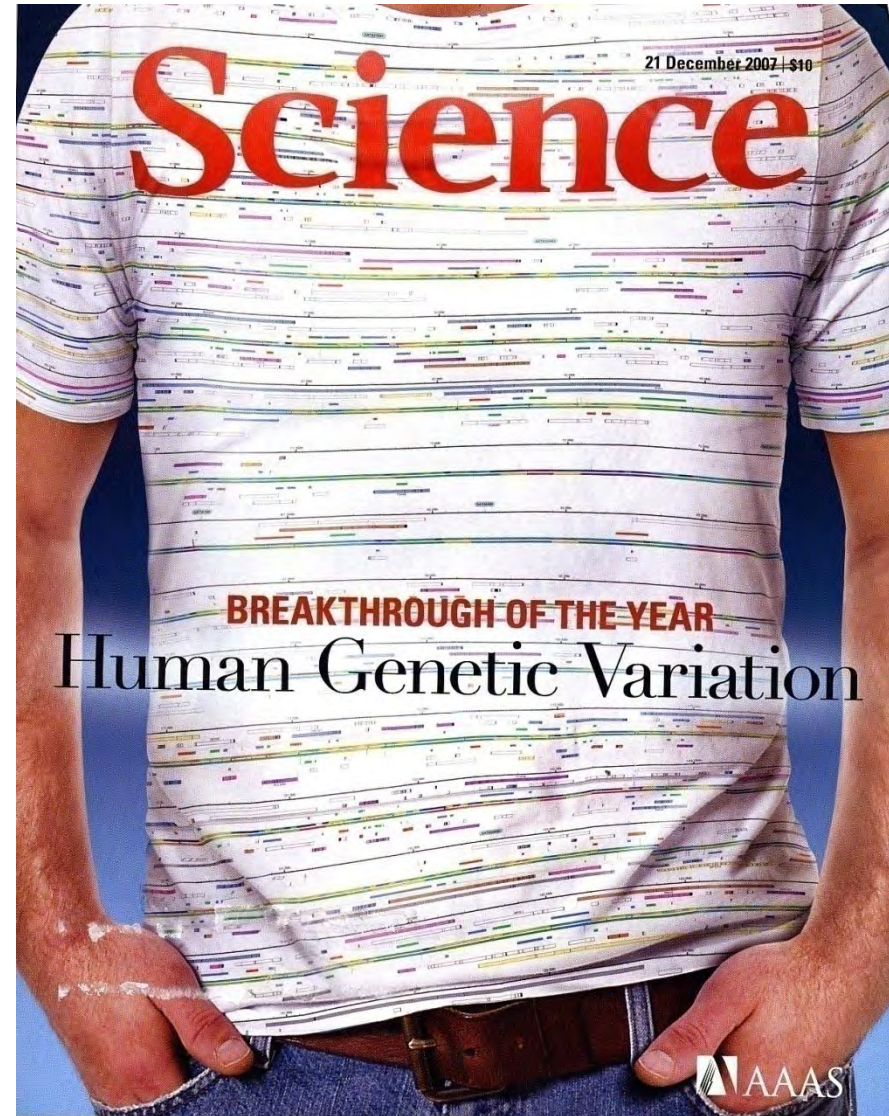


Beyond 2020



“Variation is the Spice of Life”

- Since the early 1900's Sir Archibald E. Garrod recognized the importance of human variation
- In 2007 Science Magazine recognized Human Genetic Variation as the Breakthrough of the year



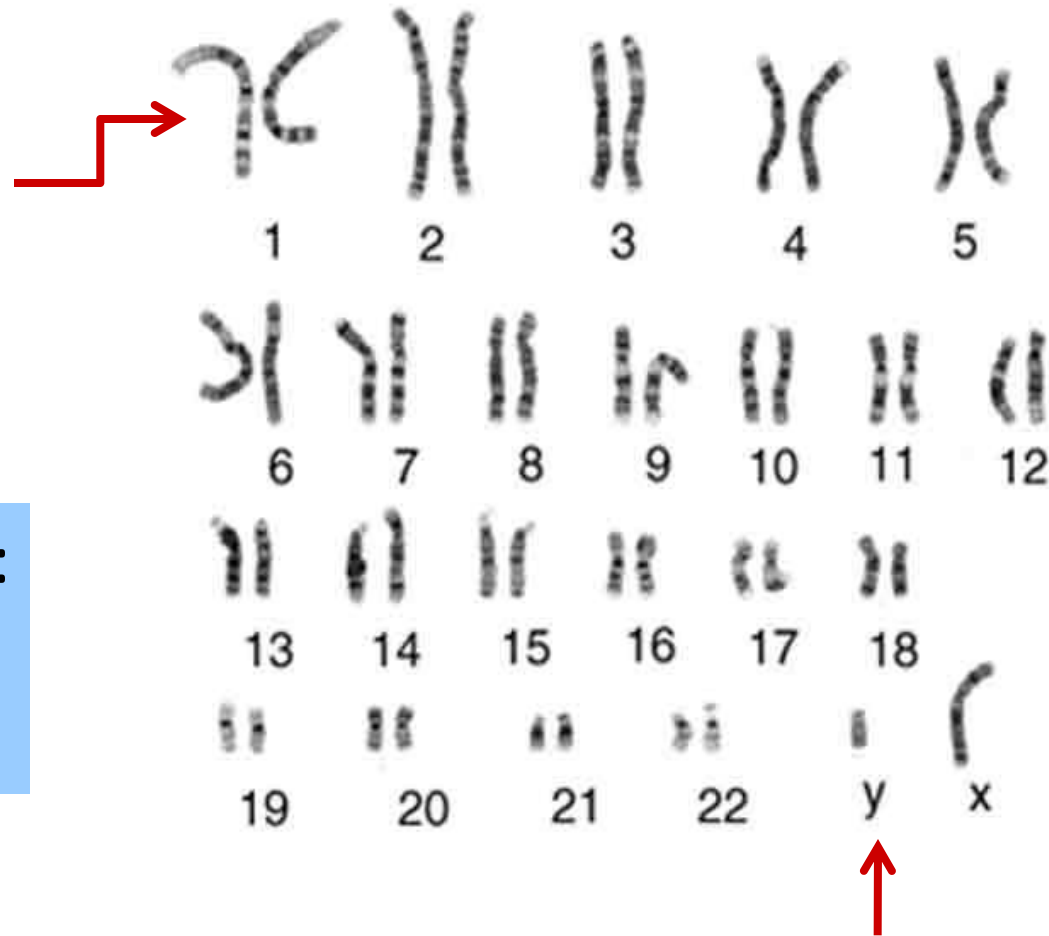
Scales of DNA

- 1 base pair (bp): SNP
- 1,000 bp: size of a typical protein-coding region
- 100,000 bp (100 kb): size of a typical gene
- 3 million bp (3 Mb): minimum size visible with conventional cytogenetics
- 150 Mb: size of average chromosome
- 3,000 Mb (3 Gb): Size of the human genome

Scales of DNA

Chromosome 1:
246 Mb
(2968 genes)

Human genome:
3 billion base
pairs



Chromosome Y: 50 Mb (231 genes)

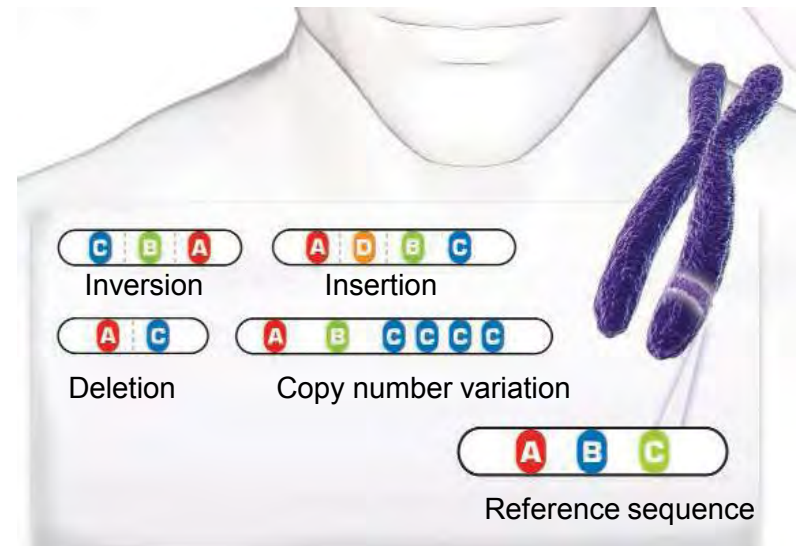
Genetic Variation

- Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) 1 bp
- Insertion/deletions (Indels) few bp
- Short tandem repeats (STRs) few bp
- Copy number variation (CNVs) 1 to 100s kb
- Cytogenetic deletions/insertions >3 Mb
- Aneuploidy >100 Mb

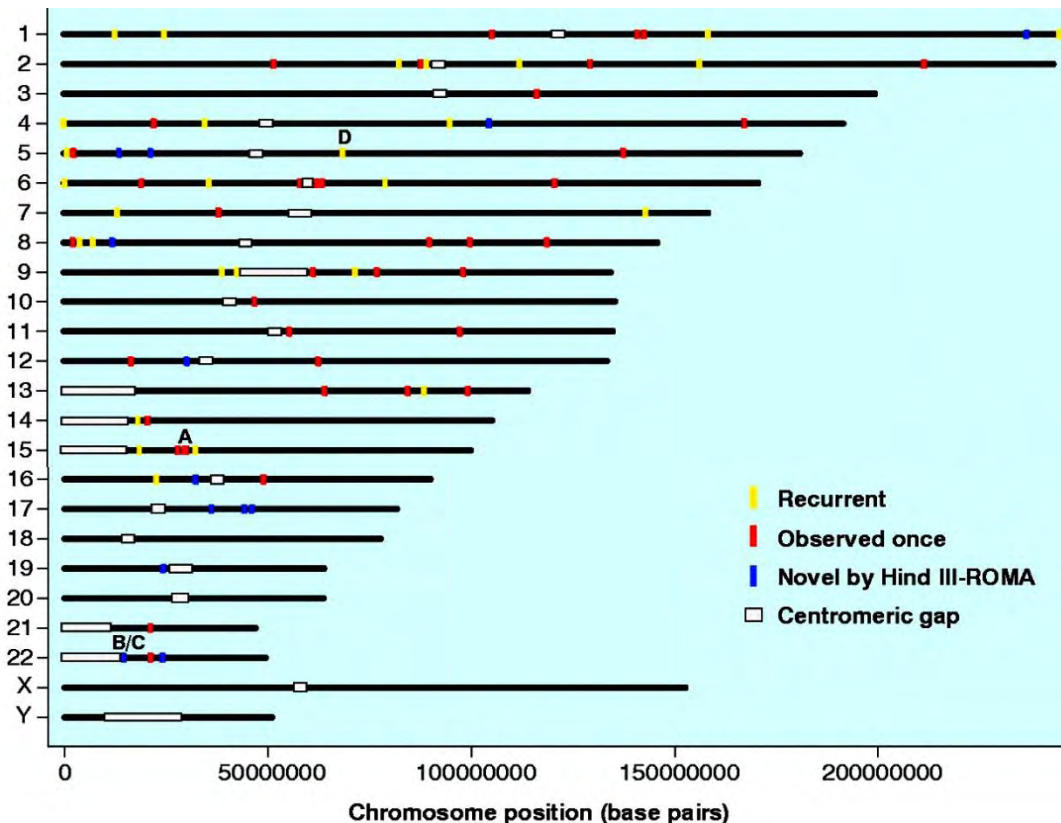
Copy number variants (CNVs)

- DNA segment >1kb with a variable copy number compared to the reference genome
- Microdeletions and microduplications
- Currently limited information regarding clinical significance:

Pathological?
Benign?



What is the extent of CNV between the genomes of normal individuals?



Analyzed 20 normal individuals

~ 11 CNP differences between individuals

Average length of CNP was 465 kb

About 50% of identified CNP were recurrent in multiple individuals

CNP frequently located near regions responsible for neurodevelopmental disorders

Large-Scale Copy Number Polymorphism in the Human Genome Sebat et al.
Science Vol 305, July 23, 2004

Copy number variation

The ultimate goal is to catalog all the CNV's that can be examined for associations with phenotypes and interpreted in the clinical setting

Database of Genomic Variants

A curated catalogue of structural variation in the human genome

Hosted by:
The Centre for
Applied
Genomics



[About The Project](#) | [Genome Browser](#) | [Download](#) | [Links](#) | [Data Submissions](#) | [Email us](#)

Please select genome assembly: Build 36 (Mar. 2006) ▾

View Data by Chromosome

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#) [10](#) [11](#) [12](#) [13](#) [14](#) [15](#) [16](#) [17](#) [18](#) [19](#) [20](#) [21](#) [22](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [All](#)

Keyword Search

Exact Match? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Examples: clone name, accession number, cytoband or gene

BLAT Search

Enter sequence in FASTA format here:

View Data by Genome



Summary Statistics

Total entries: **101923** (hg18)
CNVs: 66741
Inversions: 953
InDels (100bp-1Kb): 34229
Total CNV loci: 15963
Articles cited: **42**
Last updated: Nov 02, 2010
[Join our mailing list](#)

The road ahead

- Affordable sequencing
- Understanding all the functional elements of the human genome
- Improve diagnosis of unexplained congenital disorders and identify therapeutic targets for genomic disorders
- Identification of susceptibility loci and functional validation studies of common diseases (polygenic disorders)

Role of Genes in Disease

OMIM[®]

Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man[®]
An Online Catalog of Human Genes and Genetic Disorders
Updated 6 January 2012

[Sample Searches](#)

Advanced Search: [OMIM](#), [Clinical Synopses](#), [OMIM Gene Map](#)



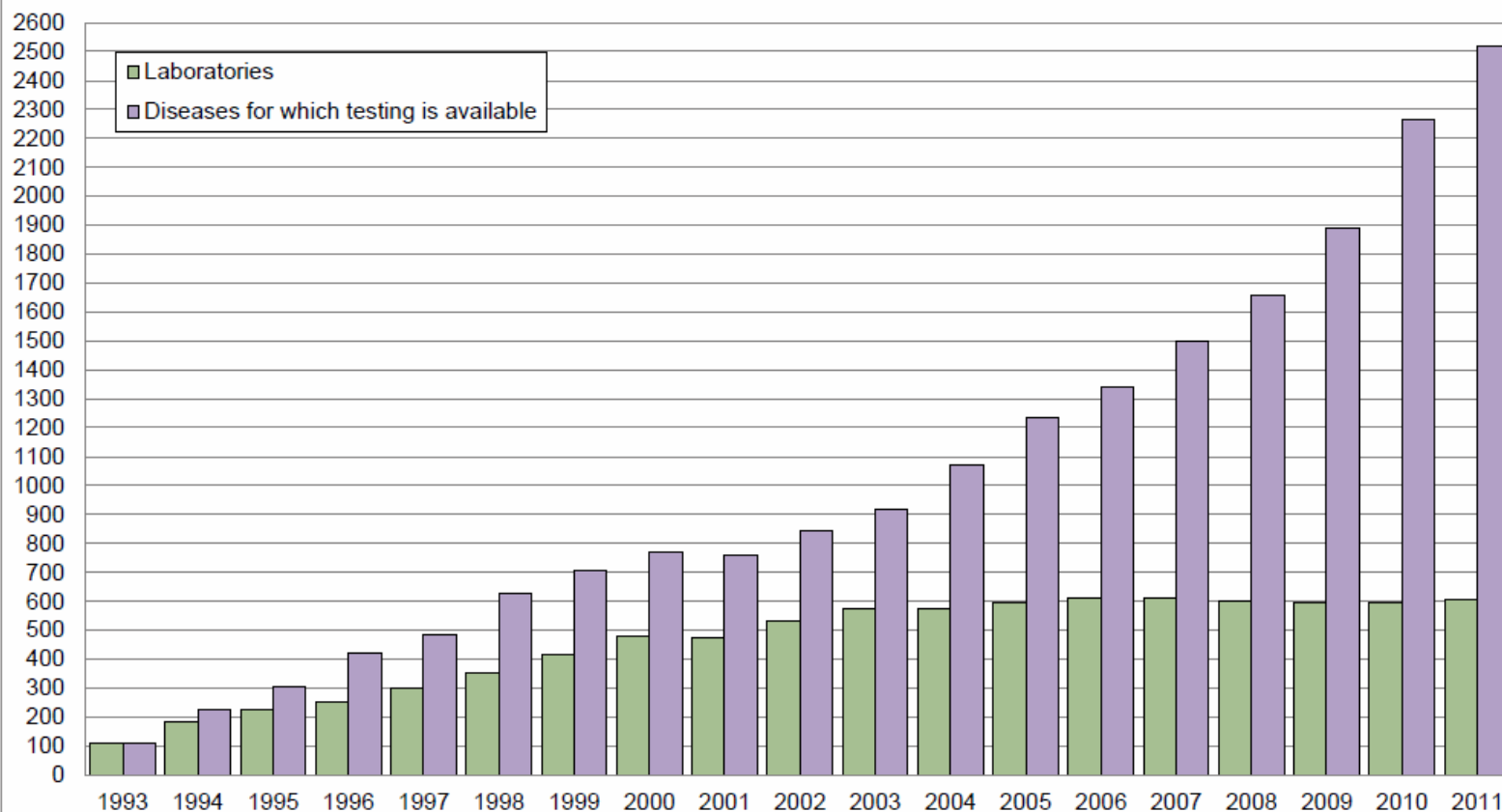
Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man OMIM[®] lists 3,364 phenotype descriptions with known molecular bases (January 17, 2012)



Gene Tests lists 2,528 diseases with molecular tests
2,273 clinically available
(January 17, 2012)

Role of Genes in Disease

GeneTests: Growth of Laboratory Directory



Data source: GeneTests database (2011)/ www.genetests.org

Benefits of understanding Mendelian diseases?

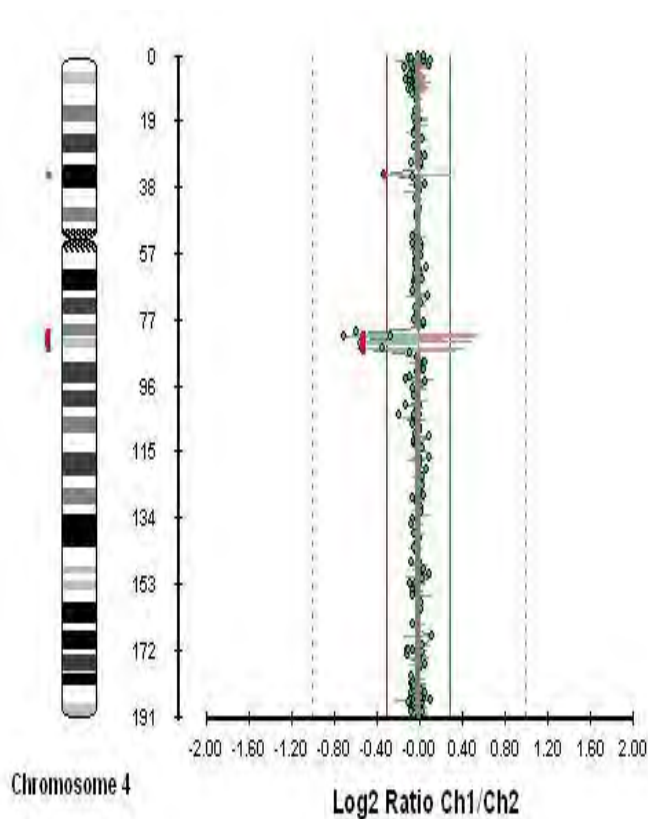
- Elucidating gene function and regulation
- Recognizing normal and pathological pathways
- Development of effective diagnostic tools
- Development of therapeutic targets
- Contribute to understanding of the molecular genetic basis of common complex diseases

Traditional methods of finding Mendelian disease causative genes

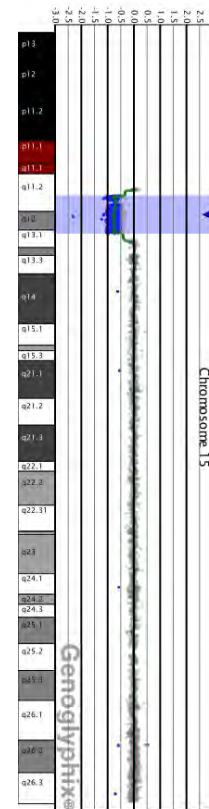
- Linkage analysis
- Cytogenetics
- Compelling biology - candidate genes
- Animal models with similar phenotypes

New strategies of finding Mendelian disease causative genes

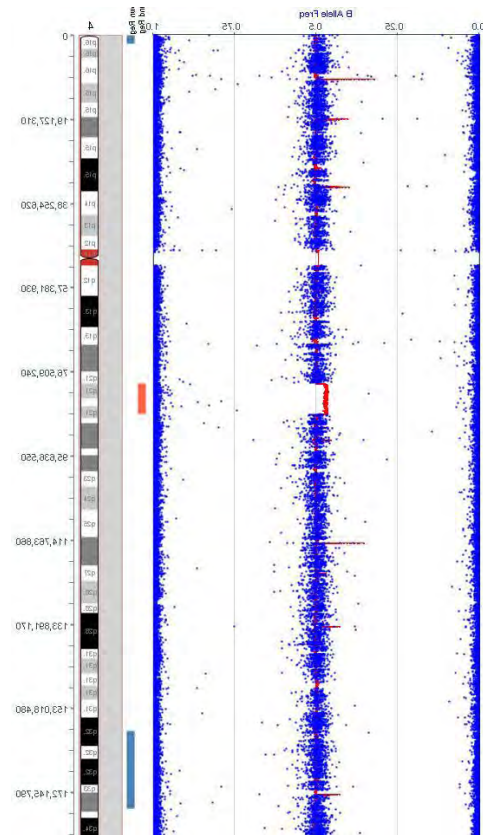
Molecular Karyotyping



1. BAC array
4,200 BAC Clones



2. Oligonucleotide array
135,000 Oligonucleotides



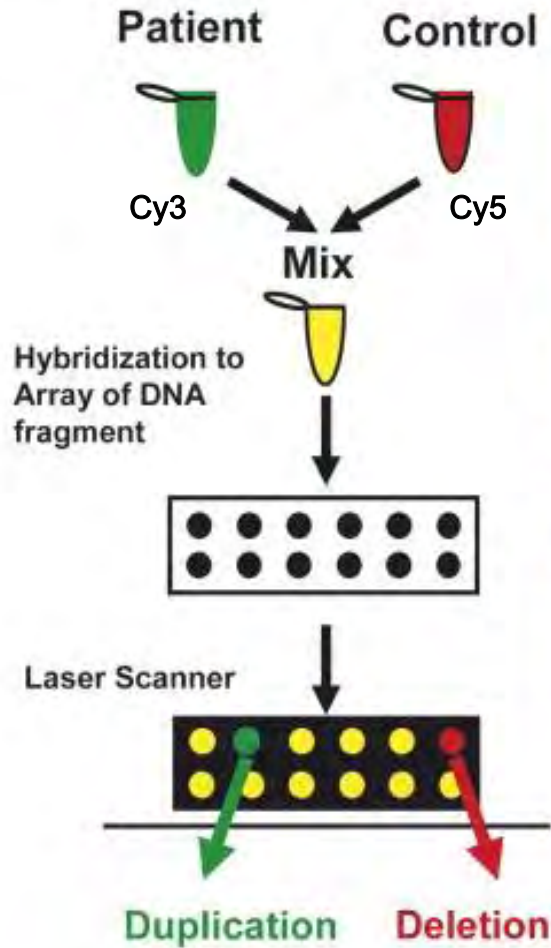
3. SNP array
610,000 SNPs

Array Comparative Genomic Hybridization (aCGH)

- AKA chromosome microarray
- Developed as a research tool in cancer cytogenetics
- Revolutionized the diagnostic work-up of patients and facilitated identification of the molecular bases of many genetic disorders

aCGH

(a)



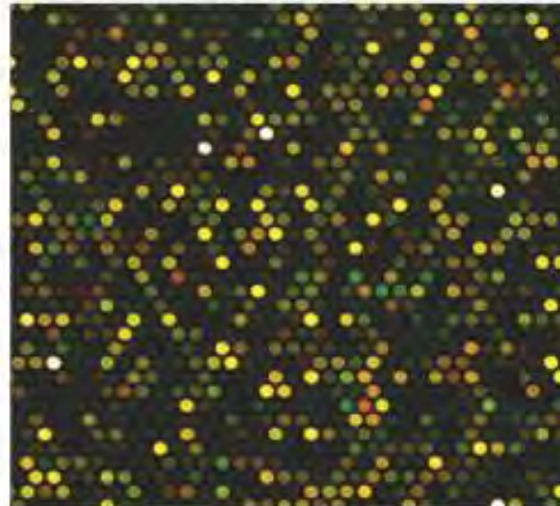
(b)

Laser Scanner



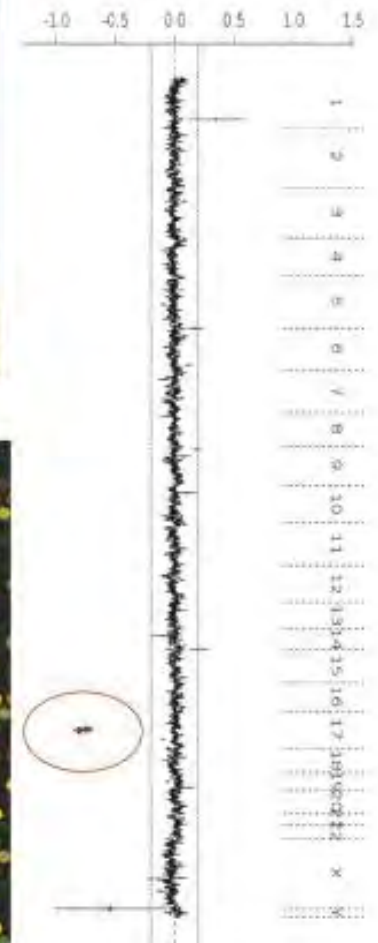
(c)

Actual Array



(d)

array profile

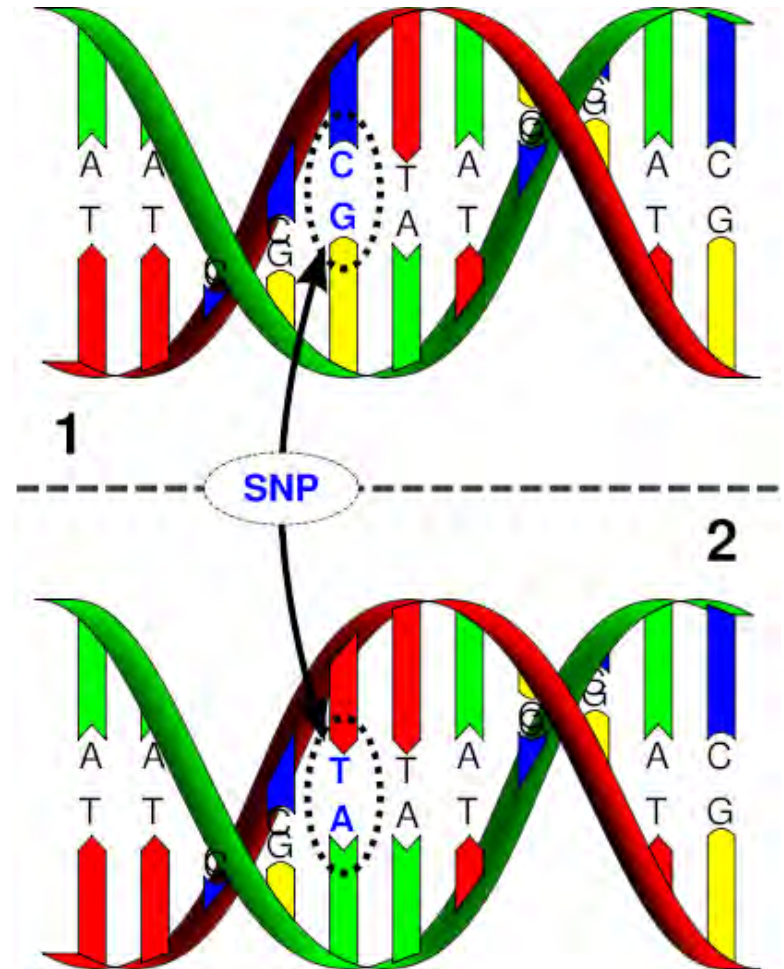


Pros and Cons of Arrays

- Pros
 - High detection rate 5-20%
 - Better mapping of aberrations
 - No need for cell culture
 - Shorter result time
 - Reveals unsuspected genomic imbalances
 - Detects genomic duplications
- Cons
 - Not able to identify balanced chromosomal rearrangements or inversions
 - Detection of imbalances of unclear significance
 - Costly

SNP Array

- What is a SNP?
 - A SNP is defined as a single base change in a DNA sequence that occurs in a significant proportion (more than 1 percent) of a large population



SNP Array

- SNP arrays are comprised of oligonucleotides that correspond to SNPs along the human genome
- Used to: -detect polymorphisms within a population; -find disease susceptibility alleles; -find important variants in pharmacogenomics; -to detect LOH
- Allows the use of DNA sequence variation to identify copy number changes
- Identification of long stretches of homozygosity (consanguinity) and copy neutral genetic abnormalities like uniparental disomy

New strategies of finding Mendelian disease causative genes

- Next-generation sequencing:
 - Whole genome sequencing
 - Exome sequencing
- Considerations:
 - Exons (180,000) are about 1% of human genome or 30 Mb
 - About 85% of the disease causing mutations are found in coding regions or canonical splice sites
 - Difficult to interpret the functional consequences of variations in non-coding regions

WGS vs ES

Whole Genome Sequencing

Determining the
sequence of the
entire human
genome

Exome Sequencing

Determining the
sequence of the
coding regions
(exome) of our
genome

Whole Genome and Exome Sequencing

- By sequencing the entire genome or exome of affected individuals different groups have identified the molecular bases of Mendelian disorders



Whole Genome and Exome Sequencing

- WGS and ES will identify a large number of sequence variants (Raw data is HUGE!)
- Using additional methods like linkage and bioinformatics, variants are prioritized and the clinically significant (causal) variant is identified
- Recent AR and AD Mendelian disorder causal variants identified using ES and WGS data include: Miller syndrome, Metachondromatosis, Kabuki Syndrome, Schinzel-Gideon Syndrome and the list is growing!

Exome/Genome Sequencing



WANTED!
KABUKI SYNDROME
GENE
CAPTURED BY ES: MLL2
REWARD \$ 14,000
studentposters.co.uk

Exome sequencing identifies *MLL2* mutations as a cause of Kabuki syndrome

Sarah B. Ng^{1,*}, Abigail W. Bigham^{2,*}, Kati J. Buckingham^{2,*}, Mark C. Hannibal^{2,3}, Margaret McMillin⁴, Heidi Gildersleeve⁵, Anita E. Beck^{2,3}, Holly K. Tabor^{2,3}, Greg M. Cooper¹, Heather C. Mefford², Choli Lee¹, Emily H. Turner¹, Josh D. Smith¹, Mark J. Rieder¹, Koh-ichiro Yoshiura⁶, Naomichi Matsumoto⁶, Tohru Ohta⁶, Norio Niiikawa⁶, Deborah A. Nickerson¹, Michael J. Bamshad^{1,2,3,1}, and Jay Shendure^{1,1}

¹Department of Genome Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA

²Department of Pediatrics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA

³Seattle Children's Hospital, Seattle, Washington, USA

⁴Department of Human Genetics, Nagasaki University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Nagasaki, Japan

⁵Department of Human Genetics, Yokohama City University Graduate School of Medicine, Yokohama, Japan

⁶Research Institute of Personalized Health Sciences, Health Sciences University of Hokkaido, Hokkaido, Japan



WANTED!
MILLER SYNDROME
GENE
CAPTURED BY ES: DHODH
\$ 14,000
studentposters.co.uk

Exome sequencing identifies the cause of a Mendelian disorder

Sarah B. Ng^{1,*}, Kati J. Buckingham^{2,*}, Choli Lee¹, Abigail W. Bigham², Holly K. Tabor², Karin M. Dent³, Chad D. Huff⁴, Paul T. Shannon⁵, Ethelyn Wang Jabs^{6,7}, Deborah A. Nickerson¹, Jay Shendure^{1,1}, and Michael J. Bamshad^{1,2,3,1}

¹Department of Genome Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA

²Department of Pediatrics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA

³Department of Pediatrics, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

⁴Department of Human Genetics, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

⁵Department of Genetics and Genomic Sciences, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, New York, USA

⁶Department of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

⁷Children's Hospital, Seattle, Washington, USA



WANTED!
METACHONDROMATOSIS
GENE
CAPTURED BY WGS: PTPN11
\$ 14,000
studentposters.co.uk

Whole-Genome Sequencing of a Single Proband Together with Linkage Analysis Identifies a Mendelian Disease Gene

Nara L. M. Sobreira^{1,2,*}, Elizabeth T. Cirulli^{3,*}, Dimitrios Avramopoulos^{1,4,*}, Elizabeth Wohler⁵, Gretchen L. Oswald¹, Eric L. Stevens^{1,2}, Dongliang Ge⁶, Kevin V. Shianna⁷, Jason P. Smith⁸, Jessica M. Mola⁹, Curtis E. Gumbs⁹, Jonathan Pevsner^{9,7}, George Thomas^{1,5}, David Valle^{1,8,*}, Julie E. Hoover-Fong^{1,8,9}, David B. Goldstein^{8,*}

¹McKusick-Nathans Institute of Genetic Medicine, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America; ²Predoctoral Training Program in Human Genetics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America; ³Center for Human Genome Variation, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, North Carolina, United States of America; ⁴Department of Psychiatry, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America; ⁵Department of Cytochrome P450, Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America; ⁶Department of Neuroscience, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America; ⁷Department of Neurology, Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America; ⁸Department of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America; ⁹Greenberg Center for Statistical Dysplasia, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America

Tools used with ES/WGS

- At present, the sequencing of each new individual identifies ~402 novel variants introducing changes in the encoded protein
- Prioritize mutations that introduce truncations of the encoded protein
- Prioritize mutations that occur at highly conserved positions
- Consult SNP databases and use mutation prediction software

Tools used with ES/WGS

Table 1 Example of tools to analyze variants

Has the variant been seen in a patient with a particular disease?

OMIM

HGMD

PubMed

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/omim>

<http://www.hgmd.cf.ac.uk/ac/index.php>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>

Is the variant evolutionarily conserved?

phastCons

<http://compugen.bscb.cornell.edu/phast/index.php>

If it is a coding region variant will it result in a premature stop codon, a read-through of a stop codon, affect protein structure or function?

SIFT

<http://sift.jcvi.org>

PolyPhen-2

<http://genetics.bwh.harvard.edu/pph2>

Has the variant been seen in humans before?

dbSNP

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/projects/SNP/>

Does the variant affect RNA splicing?

GeneSplicer

<http://www.cbcb.umd.edu/software/GeneSplicer/>

In genes with several transcripts, does the variant affect a well documented transcript?

RefSeq

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/RefSeq/>

CCDS

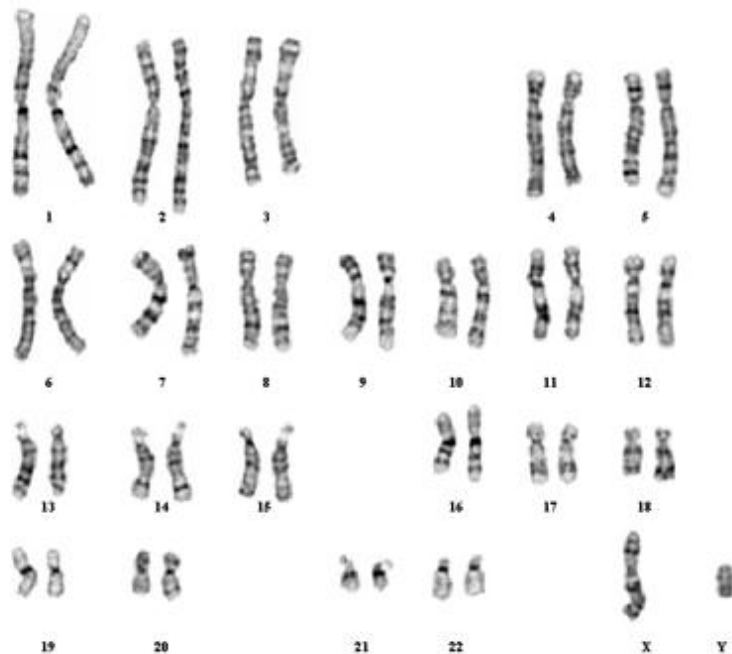
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/projects/CCDS/CcidsBrowse.cgi>

Is there a region of homozygosity in consanguineous families to help find the location of a causal recessive disease?

BEAGLE

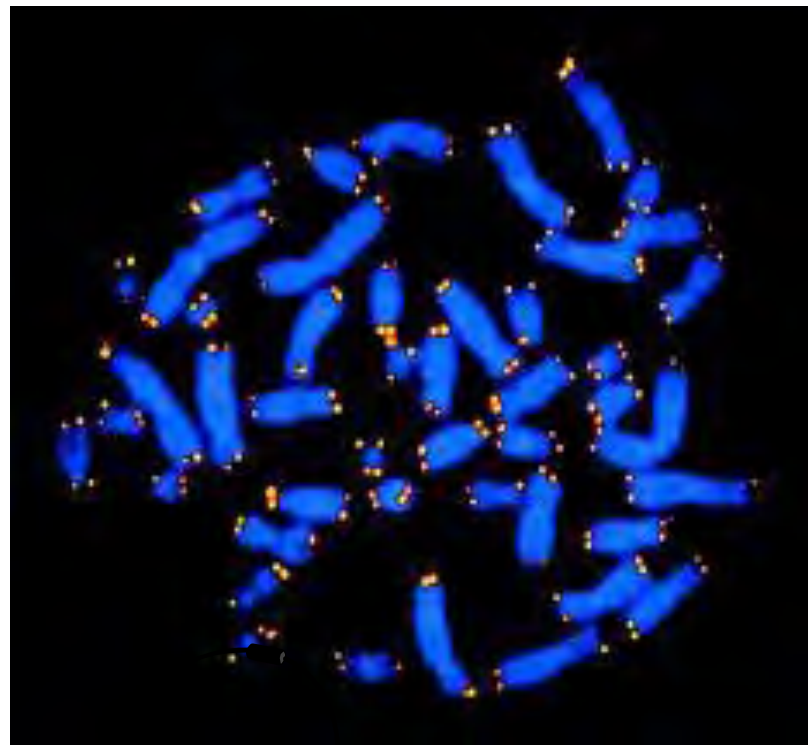
<http://faculty.washington.edu/browning/beagle/beagle.html>

Costs of genetic testing



Karyotype

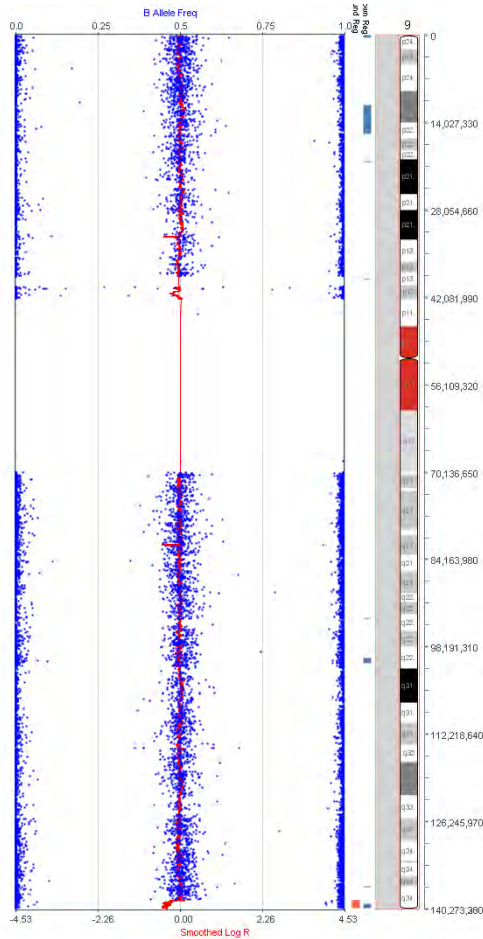
\$ 500-
600



FISH

\$ 260

Costs of genetic testing



SNP
Array



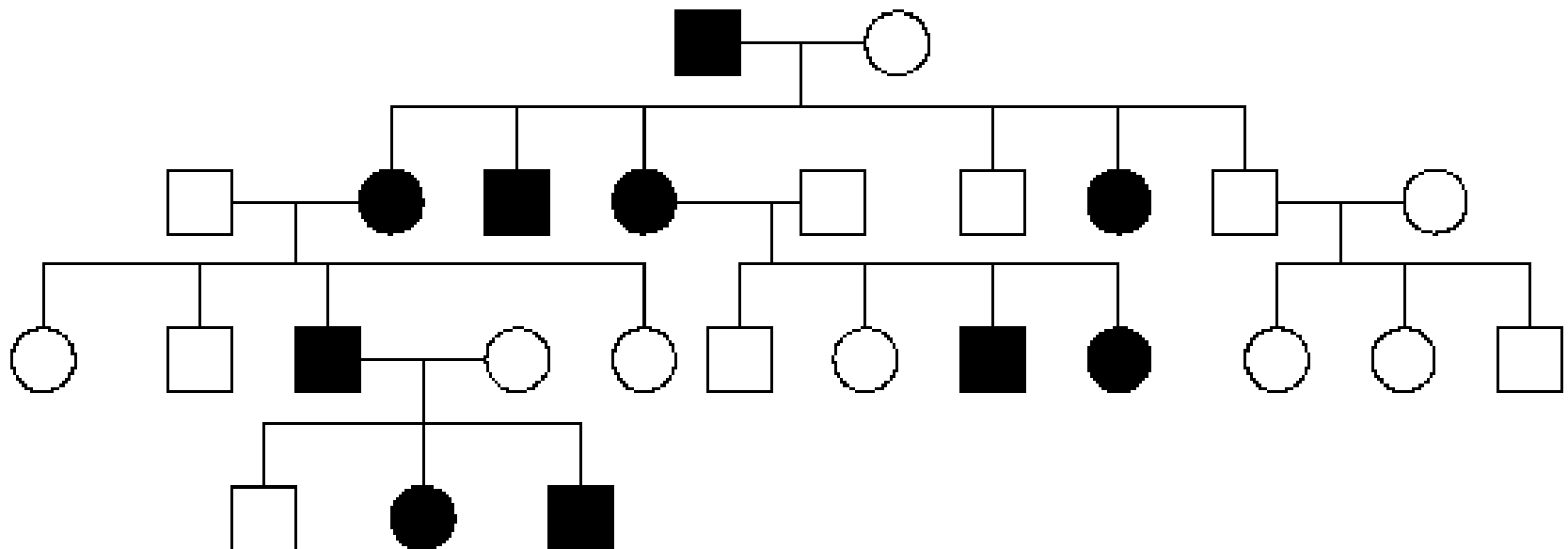
Exome
Sequencing

\$1,000-
2,000

\$14,000

Family History

The pedigree is one of the most useful tools in genetic diagnosis



Genotype first diagnosis controversy



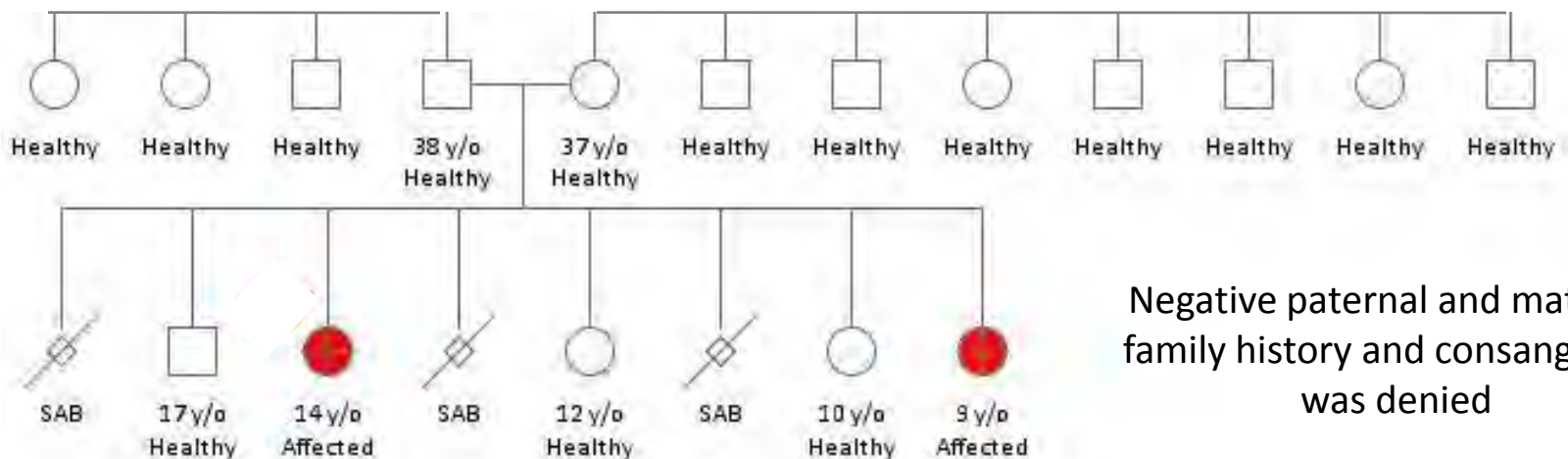
- New technologies have increased the number of patients with an established diagnosis

**Technology is a
powerful tool
when used right**

- Recent publications support a new approach to the evaluation of patients with developmental delay by primary care providers
- The yield of additional testing is higher after the patient has undergone a thorough PE and FH (YL)
- I feel the family history and PE by an expert clinician should always precede testing in patients with disorders of development

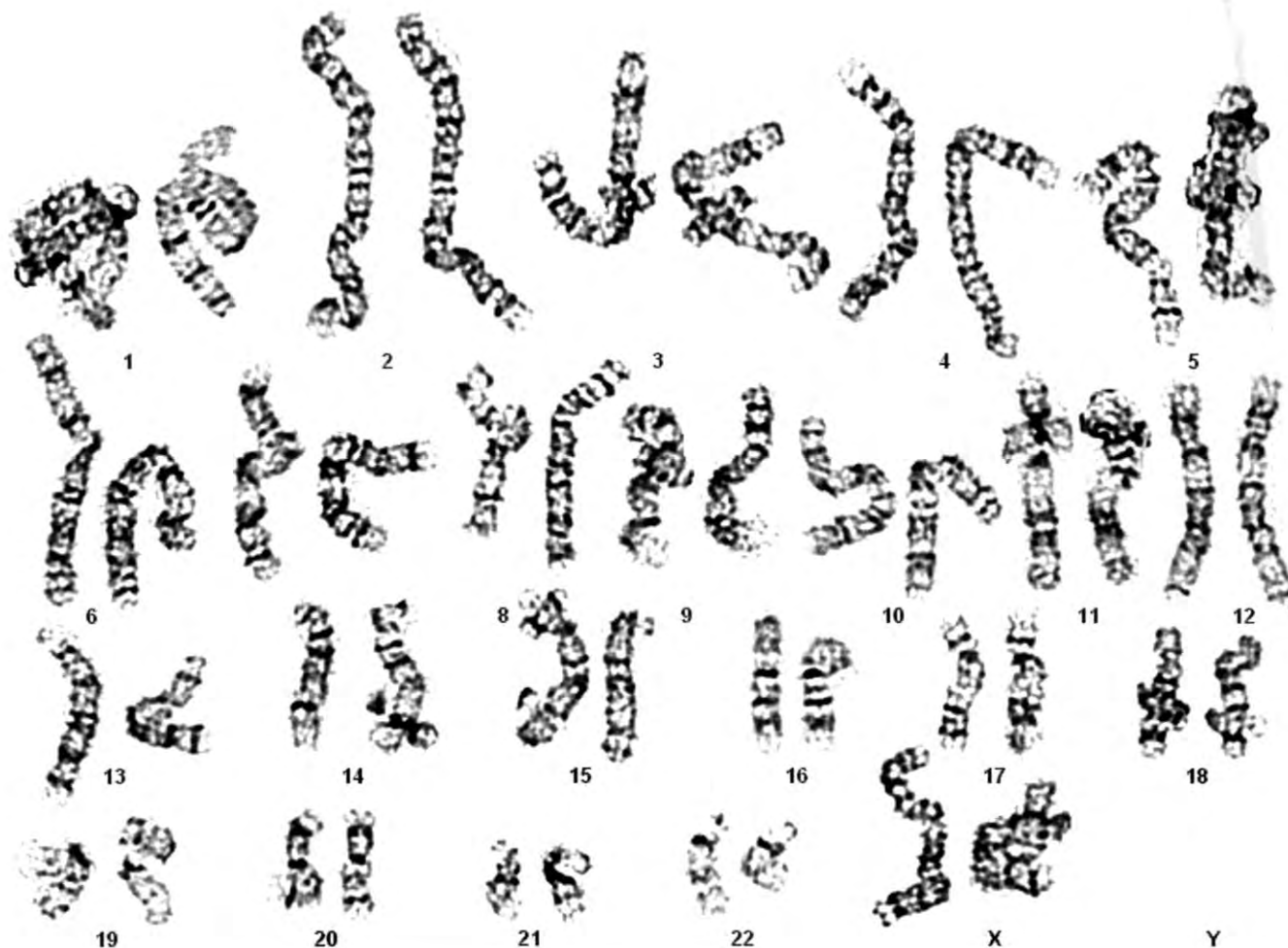
Case Report

- 14yo and 9yo Hispanic females
- DDM, microcephaly and dysmorphic features
- Seen in 2005



Case Report

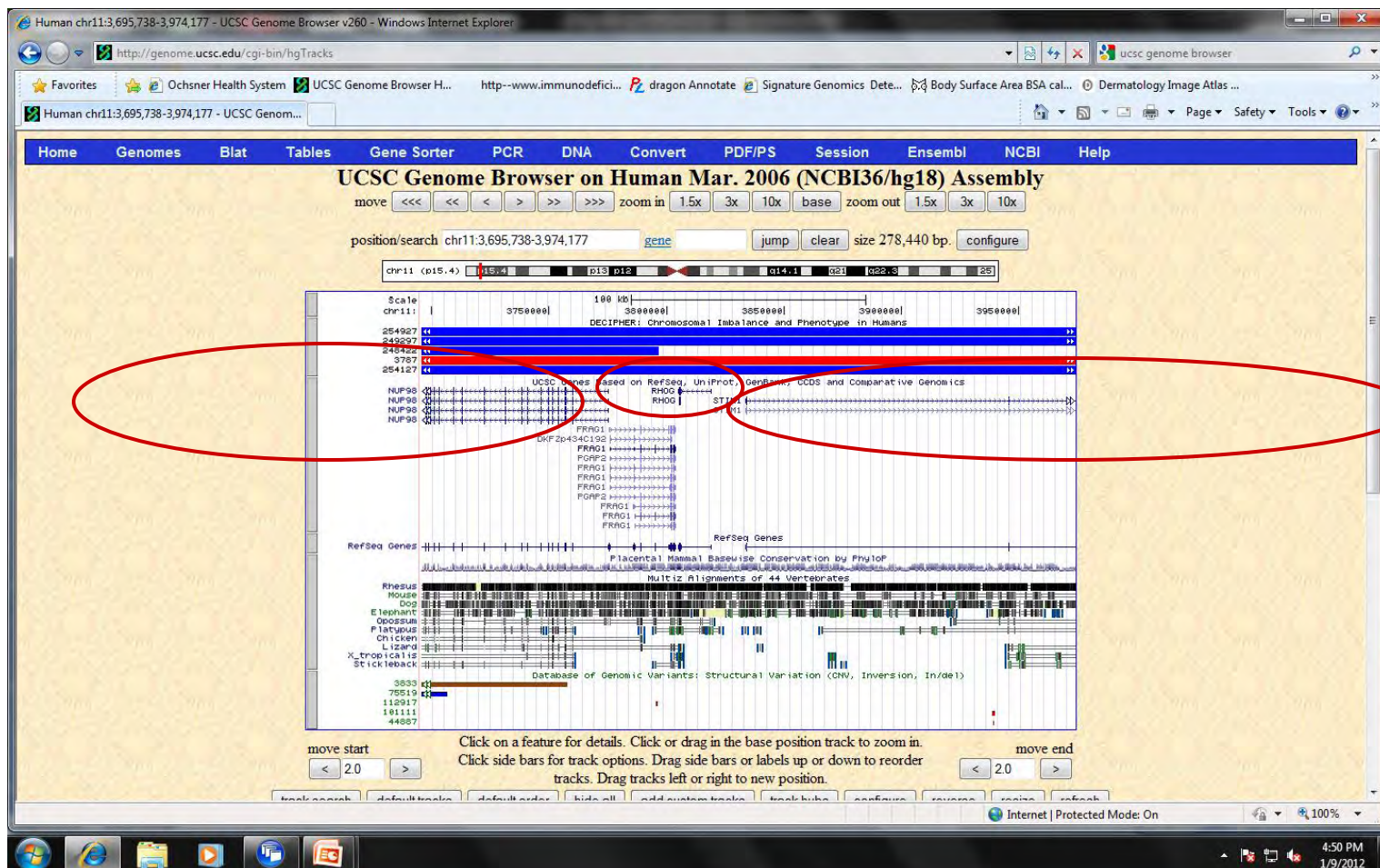
Suspected chromosomal anomaly. Karyotype was normal (2005)



Case Report

- 5 years later in 2010
returned to clinic and
CMA was requested:
dup 11p15.4 (278.4kb)
- Sister same abnormality
- Parental testing pending

UCSC Genome Browser



NCBI Map Viewer

- 3 OMIM[®] annotated genes
- *NUP98*
- *RHOG*
- *STIM1*

NCBI

Build 36.3 (Previous)

Human genome overview page (Build 37.3)

Human genome overview page (Build 36.3)

Map Viewer Home

Map Viewer Help

Human Maps Help

FTP

Data As Table View

Maps & Options

Region Shown:

3,696K

3,974K

Go

out

zoom

in

You are here:

Ideogram

11p15

11p14

11p13

11p12

11q12

11q13

11q14

11q21

11q22

11q23

11q24

11q25

default

master

NCBI Map Viewer

Build 36.3 (Previous)

PubMed

Entrez

BLAST

Search

Find

Homo sapiens (human) Build 36.3 (Previous)

Chromosome: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 [11] 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 X Y MT

Master Map: Genes On Sequence

Region Displayed: 3,696K-3,974K bp

Ideogram Contig Hs Unig Genes_seq Symbol Links E Cyto Description

3796K

3716K

3726K

3736K

3746K

3756K

3766K

3776K

3786K

3796K

3806K

3816K

3826K

3836K

3846K

3856K

3866K

3876K

3886K

3896K

3906K

3916K

3926K

3936K

NT_9923...

Hs_524756

Hs_602139

Hs_133965

Hs_662101

Hs_705629

Hs_581720

Hs_669285

Hs_672472

Hs_699887

Hs_581705

NUP98

† OMIM HGNC sv pr d lev mm hm sts CCDSSNP best RefSeq 11p15.5 nucleoporin 98kDa

FRAG1

† sv pr d lev mm hm sts CCDSSNP best RefSeq 11p15.5 FGF receptor activating protein 1

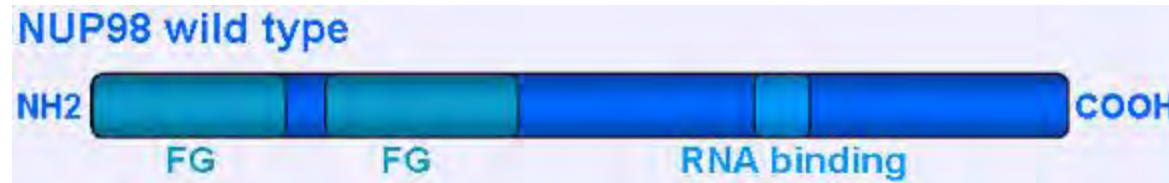
RHOG

† OMIM HGNC sv pr d lev mm hm sts CCDSSNP best RefSeq 11p15.5-p15.4 ras homolog gene family, member G (rho G)

STIM1

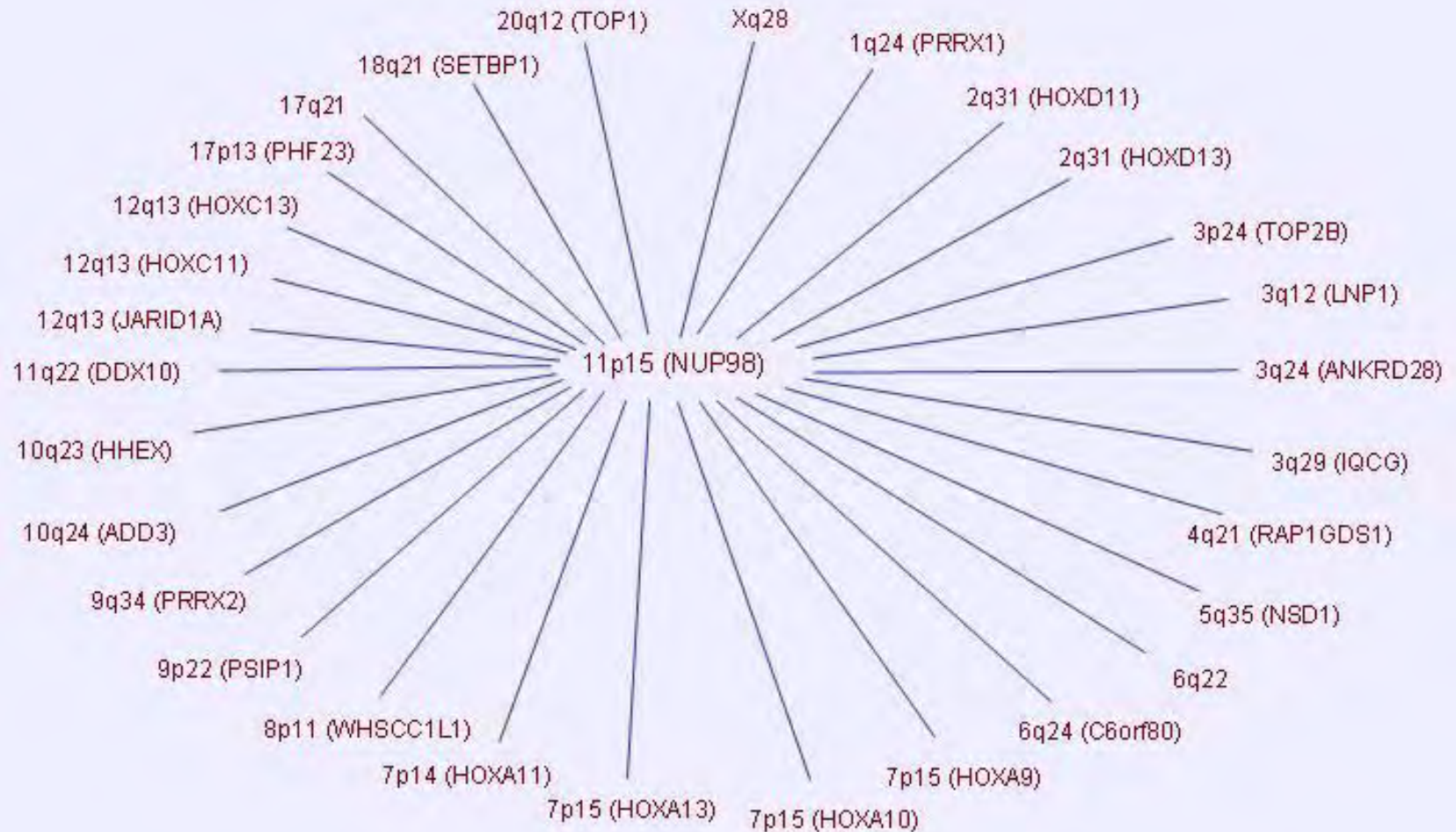
† OMIM HGNC sv pr d lev mm hm sts CCDSSNP best RefSeq 11p15.5 stromal interaction molecule 1

NUP98



- 920 amino acids; 97 kDa; contains repeated motifs (GLFG and FG) in N-term and a RNA binding motif in C-term
- Mediates nucleo-cytoplasmic transport of protein and RNA
- Chromosomal translocations involving *NUP98* have been identified in patients with MDS, T-ALL, CML and AML

NUP98



NUP98

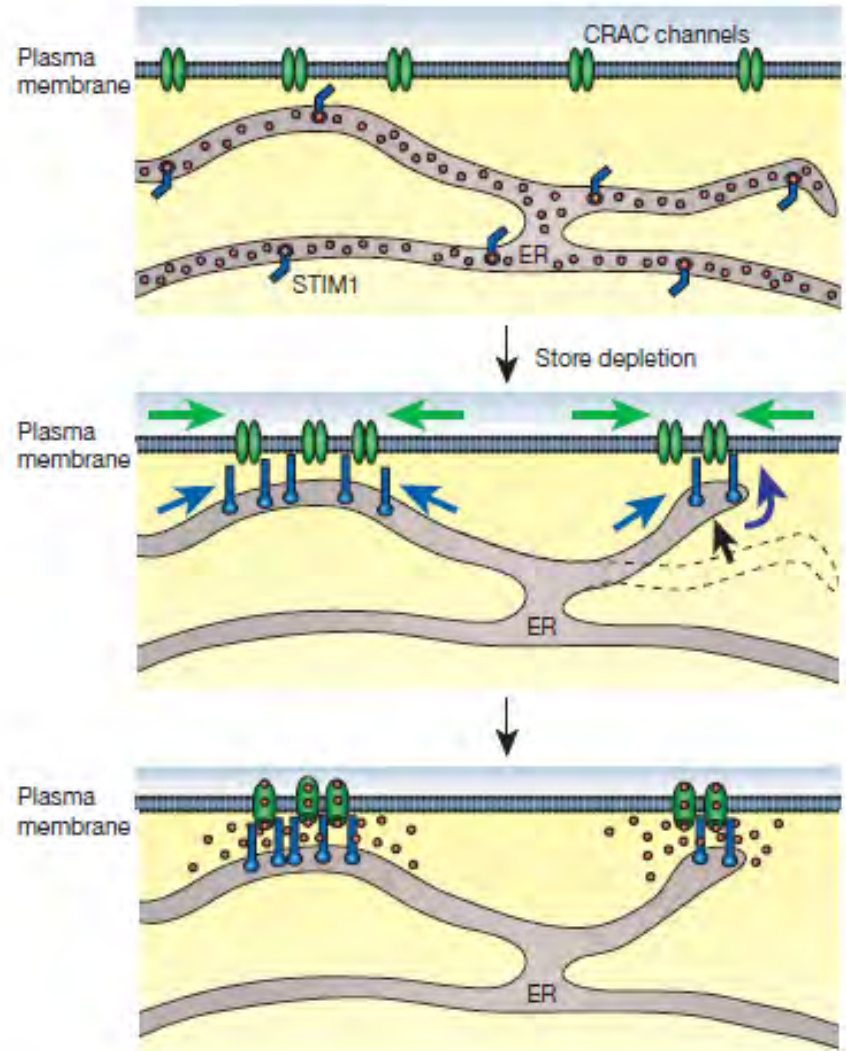
- Unclear what are the implications of duplications of *NUP98*
- Dual haploinsufficiency of *Nup98* and *Rae1* has been shown to result in premature separation of sister chromatids, leading to severe aneuploidy

RHOG

- Member of the RAS family of supergenes
- Encodes a GTP binding protein that acts in the pathway of signal transduction and plays a role in the regulation of cellular functions
- Unclear what are the implications of duplications of *RHOG*

STIM1

- 746 amino acids, 90 % sequence identity to mouse Stim1, conserved from *Drosophila* to human
- Encodes a calcium sensor that conveys calcium load of the ER to store operated calcium channels at the plasma membrane



STIM1

- Mutations in *STIM1* cause immune dysfunction with T-cell inactivation due to Ca entry defect
- It is not clear what is the effect of duplications of *STIM1*, but overexpression in HEK293 cells modestly enhanced calcium entry

Decipher

DECIPHER v5.1
GRCh37


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Patient 254127

[Overview](#) [Aberrations \(1\)](#) [Phenotypes \(2\)](#) [Citations \(0\)](#) [Karyotype](#)

1 to 1 of 1 aberrations

Chr	Start(bp)	End(bp)	Interval (Mb)	Mean Ratio	Classification	UCSC/!
11	3637741	4238493	0.60	0.8	Familial inherited from normal parent	

10

Patient 254127: Chr11:3,637,741-4,238,493

Microcephaly and short stature

Our patients: Chr11:3,695,738-3,974,177

Microcephaly, short stature and dysmorphic features

What is the CNV Consensus Track?

Summary

- Duplications at 11p15.4 have not been reported in the literature and the information regarding clinic significance is still unclear
- Both sisters have the duplication, it must have been inherited from a normal parent
- Region is located near a known imprinted region (BWS region at 11p15.5)

Evolution of Medicine

19 th Century	20 th Century	21 st Century
Treat symptoms	Treat diseases	Predict and Preempt symptoms & disease

Annual Meeting of the Roadmap Multidisciplinary Clinical Research Career Development Program

Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D.

Director

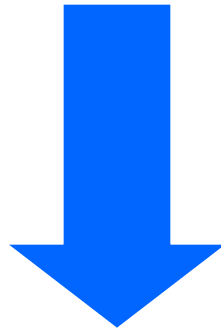
Average Medicine vs. Individualized Medicine



One-size-fits-all !

- When it comes to the practice of medicine, we have been educated in the “classic case mentality”
- With the technologic advances we have learned of genetic variation giving each one of us our own “flavor of health or disease”
- With our increasing ability to identify and interpret genetic variations, a paradigm shift in medicine is occurring

One size fits all
medicine or
“Average
Medicine”



Individualized
medicine

Individualized medicine

- Individualized medicine is the use of information from a patient's genotype to:
 - Initiate a preventative measure against the development of a disease or condition, or
 - Select the most appropriate therapy for a disease or condition that is particularly suited to that patient

Pharmacogenomics

- Analyzes patient genotypes for cytochrome P450 (CYP) genes CYP2D6 and CYP2C19
- AmpliChip CYP450 Test is based on microarray technology
 - 2 CYP2C19 phenotypes
 - 4 CYP2D6 phenotypes
- It is a major step toward introducing personalized prescribing into the clinical environment



Obstacles to overcome

- Millions of genetic variant exist and identification of them all will take years
- Medication adverse reactions may depend on not only one variant but interacting variants
- Determination of such interactions is also going to take sometime
- Expense of testing

Breaking News

- Mayo Clinic announced in December 2011 that it will start a pilot project to sequence the genomes of volunteers
- “The project will help managers at the clinic decide whether it makes sense to read and store a patient's whole genome early on, instead of ordering single genetic tests as and when the need arises”

But...

- Who is going to store the information?
- How is it stored securely?
- Who has access?
- What are you going to do with information that you or the patient might not necessarily want to find out?
- There are some significant ethical and privacy issues and they are probably more difficult to solve than storing the information

Ethics and Genetics

- In 2008 the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination act (GINA) was passed in the US
 - Prohibits insurers from using personal genetic information to determine eligibility or premiums
 - Prohibits an insurer from requiring a person to have a genetic test
 - Prohibits employers from using a person's genetic information in making hiring, firing, job assignments decisions
 - Prohibits employers from requesting, purchasing, requiring personal or familial genetic information



Direct To Consumer Genetic testing

- When GINA was conceived the availability of genetic testing was limited
- By 2008 when the law was passed genetic testing was available for > 1,300 conditions
- Today we have available tests for > 2,500 disorders
- Most of these tests are offered in the clinical setting
- Some can be offered via DTC test kits



DTC Genetic Testing



Accredited DNA Testing Pioneers Since 1987



GRACEFUL EARTH INC.

Health Alternatives;
Customized Dietary, Nutritional and Herbal Information



Questions ?



- A bright future awaits
- Be mindful of Ethical, legal and Social implications

*"You were to have inherited all this, son,
but genetic screening has indicated
you're too big of a health risk."*

Bio-Informatic Resources



- OMIM
 - <http://www.omim.org>
- Gene tests
 - <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/GeneTests/review?db=GeneTests>
- dbSNP
 - <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/projects/SNP/>
- UCSC Genome Browser
 - <http://genome.ucsc.edu/>
- Ensembl Genome Browser
 - <http://www.ensembl.org/index.html>
- DECIPHER
 - <https://decipher.sanger.ac.uk/application/>
- DGV
 - <http://projects.tcag.ca/variation/>