

Next NGS approaches to the unsolved: Telethon Undiagnosed Program



V:

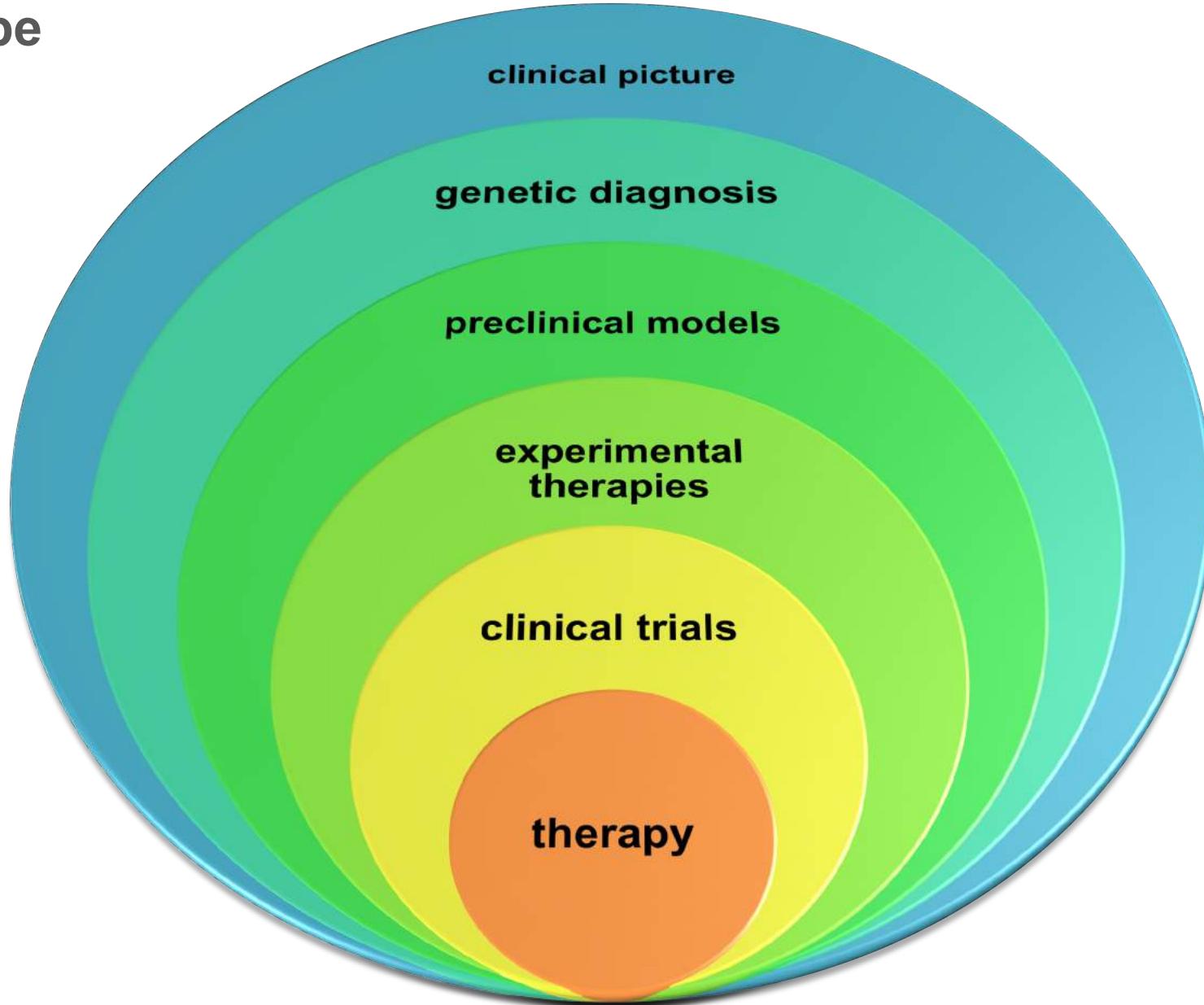
Università
degli Studi
della Campania
Luigi Vanvitelli

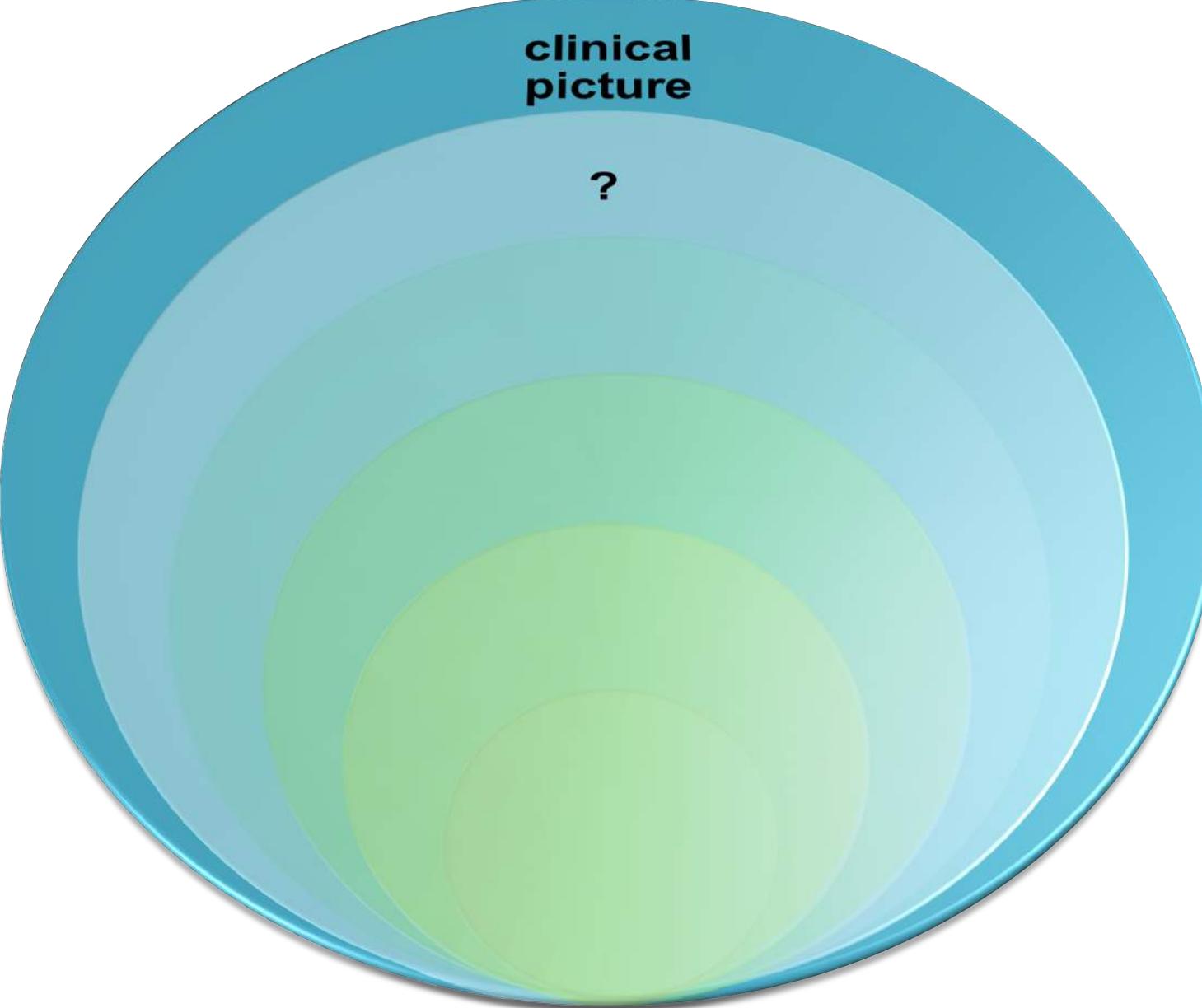
vincenzo nigro

Prof medical genetics

Università degli Studi della Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”, Naples, Italy
Telethon Institute of Genetics and Medicine (TIGEM), Pozzuoli, Italy

funnel of hope





**clinical
picture**

?

recognize the disease?



The Starry Night, 1889
Vincent van Gogh



no idea

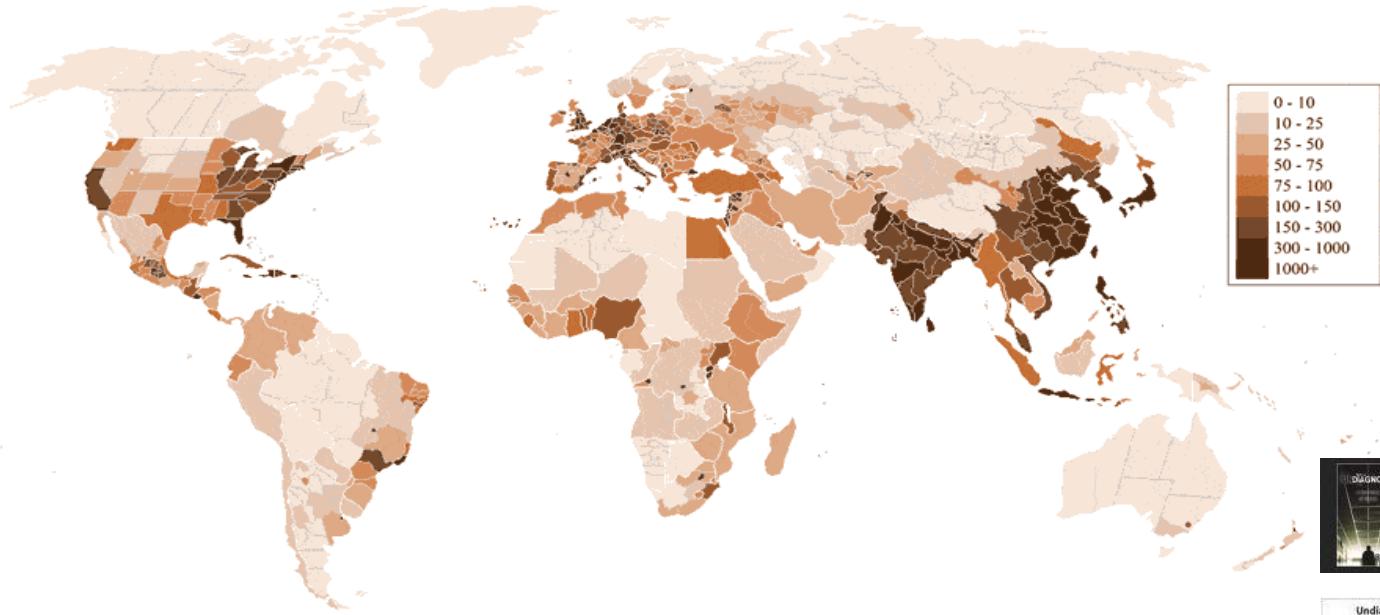




elethon

#nonmiarrendo





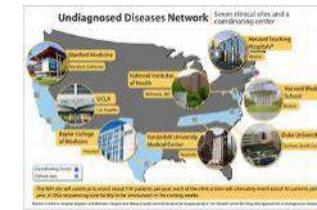
thousands of unknown genetic disorders

- Without name
 - Without diagnosis
 - Without genetic testing
 - Without prognosis
 - Without scientific research
 - Without targeted therapy

international initiatives for undiagnosed diseases

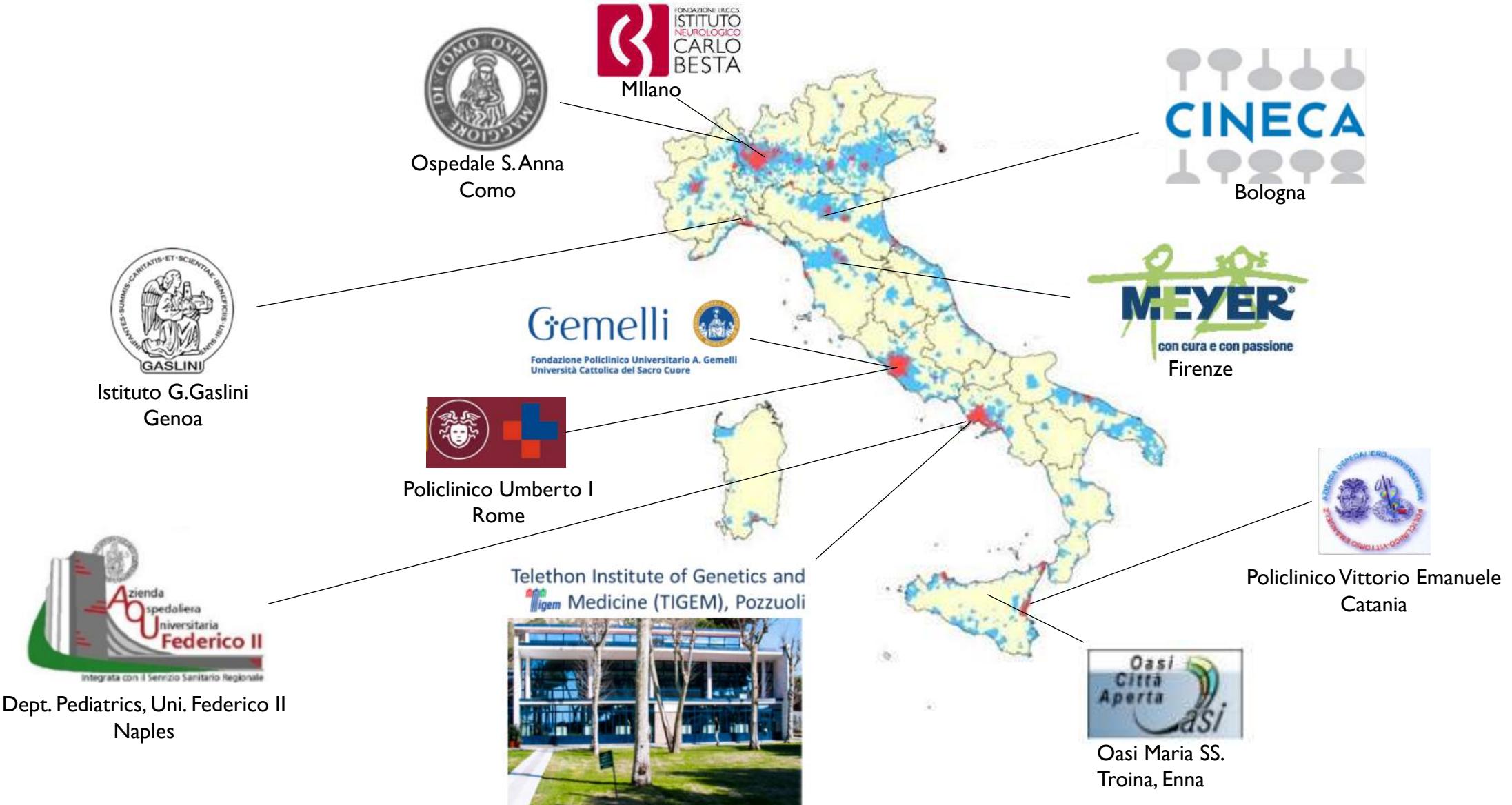


IRUD



EURenOmics
NeurOmics
RDConnect

The pediatrics and clinical genetics TUDP network



TUDP collaborators



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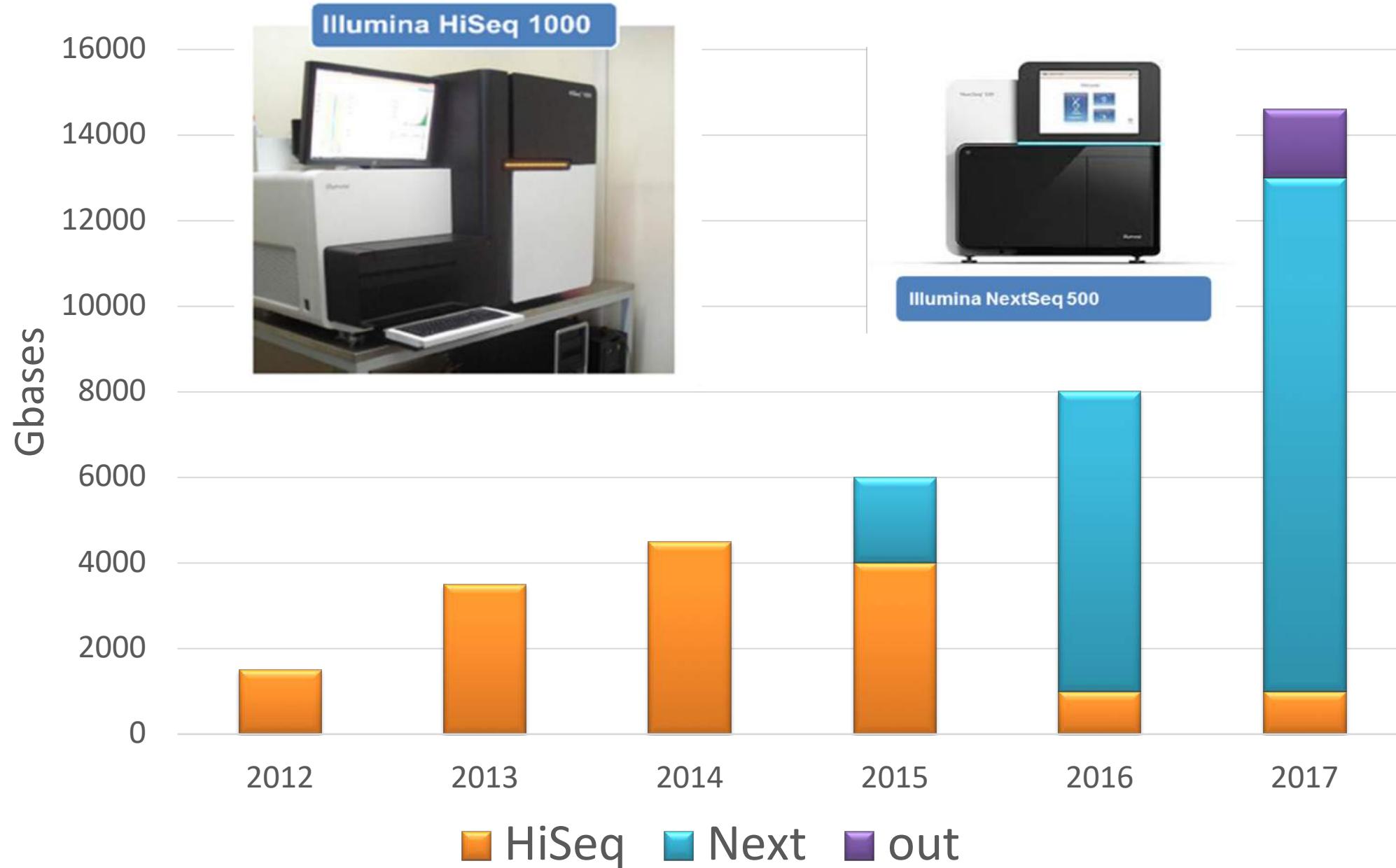
S. Maitz



V. Capra



**Bruno Dalla Piccola, Marco Tartaglia,
Ospedale Bambino Gesù, Rome



At Tigem



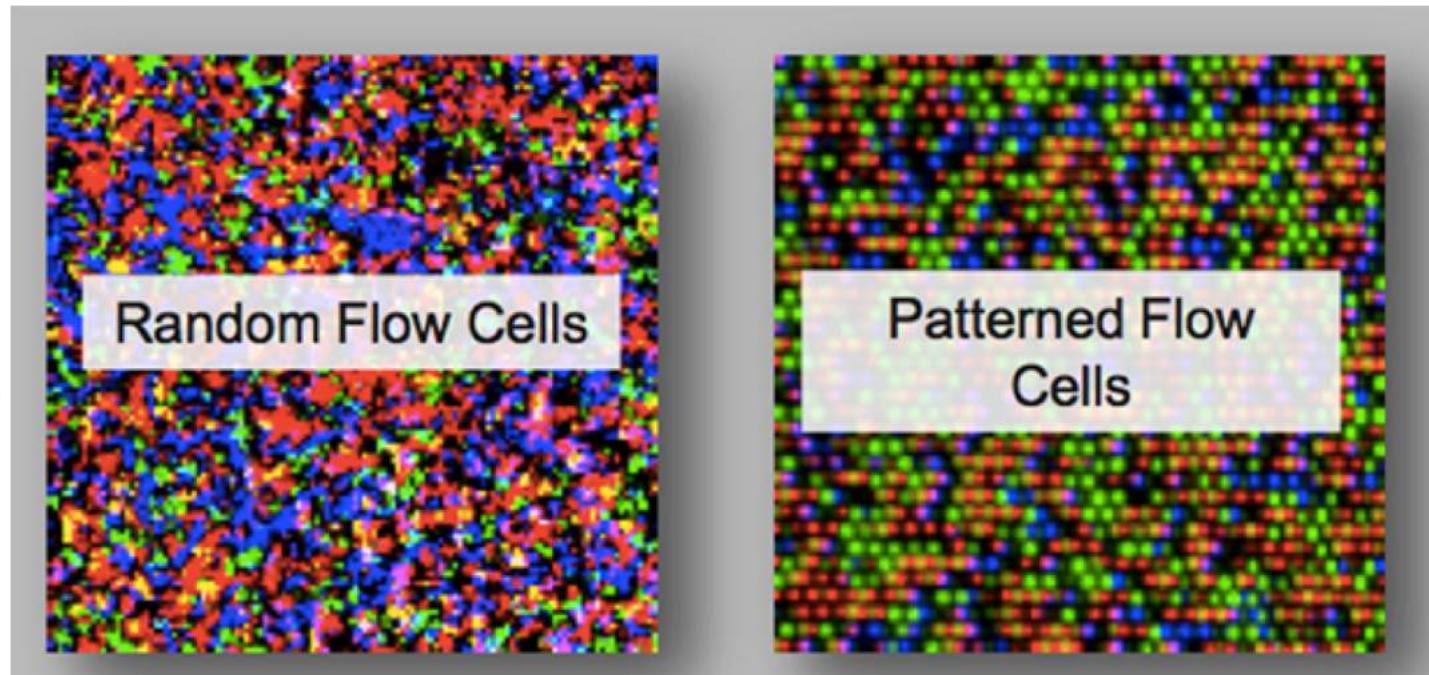
NovaSeq6000

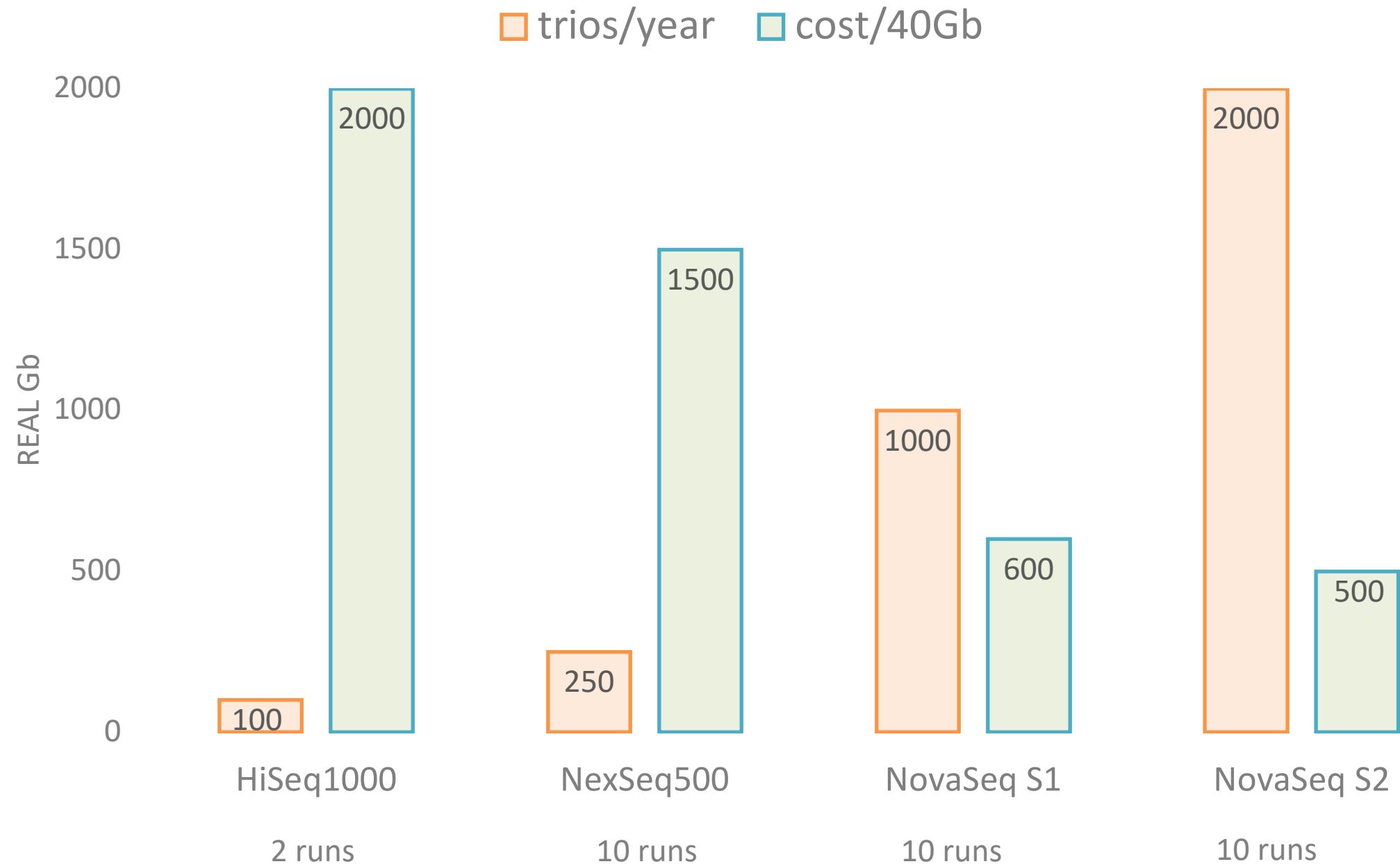
6,000,000,000,000 bp/40 hours

= 40 seconds/ billion DNA bp

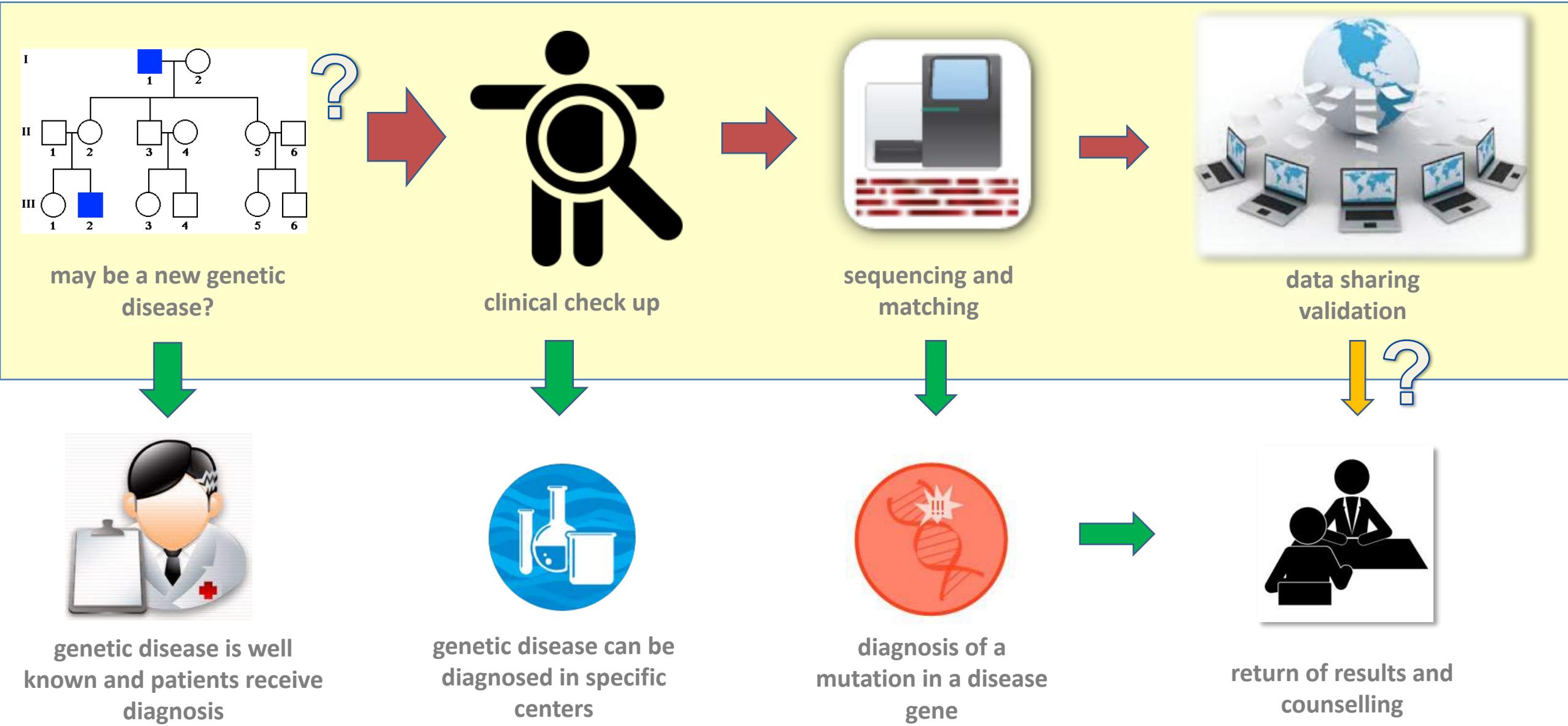
7\$/ billion DNA bp

Four different flow cells S1-S4





Patient expectations: accessibility, diagnosis, sharing, communication

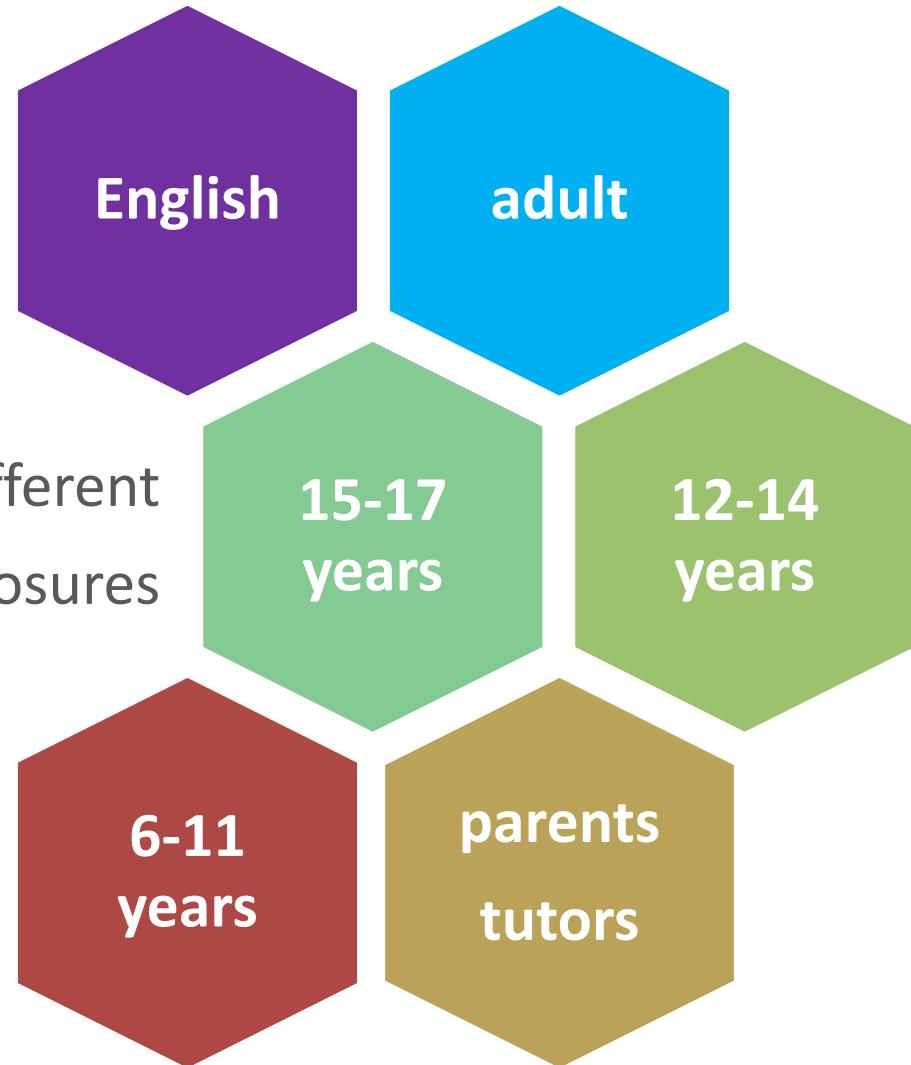




Informed consent for analyzing whole exome/genome sequence data from all family members and for sharing **deidentified** results with other Undiagnosed Diseases networks

Incidental findings (known, validated actionable genetic counseling

Informed consent for analyzing NGS data and for sharing results

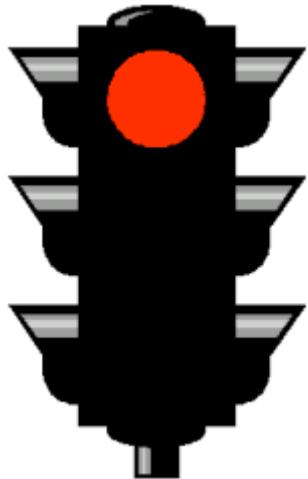


cases recruitment using a web form

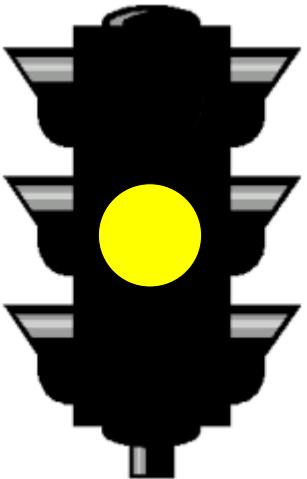
The screenshot shows the official website of the Italian Association for Research on Genetic Diseases (Telethon). The main navigation bar includes links for "LE STORIE", "COSA PUOI FARE", "COSA PUOI FARE", "LA RICERCA", "CHI SIAMO", a search bar, and a "DONA ORA" button. Below the header, a banner for "Malattie senza diagnosi" is displayed, featuring the Telethon logo and the text: "Sono malattie genetiche sconosciute: senza un nome, senza una causa biologica nota, senza nessuno che le studi. Non si sa come evolveranno e se esiste una terapia." A large blue button invites users to "Accedi ora al programma 'Malattie Senza Diagnosi'". Two sections are shown: "RICHIEDI L'ACCESSO AL PROGRAMMA" for new users and "ACCEDI" for existing users, both with "CLICCA QUI" buttons. At the bottom, there's a "COME ACCEDERE AL PROGRAMMA" section and a toolbar with icons for various software applications.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Accreditati" for accreditation. The form consists of several input fields: "Cognome *", "Nome *", "Data di nascita *", "Luogo di nascita *", "Codice Fiscale *", "Provincia di registrazione albo *", "Telefono *", and "Email *". Below the form is a note: "L'E-mail indicata sarà usata per ricevere conferma dell'accreditamento sul Programma Malattie Senza Diagnosi (MSD) e sarà richiesta ad ogni accesso al sistema. La richiesta di accreditamento sarà elaborata entro 48 ore." At the bottom, there's a checkbox for accepting the Privacy Policy and a "Procedi" button.

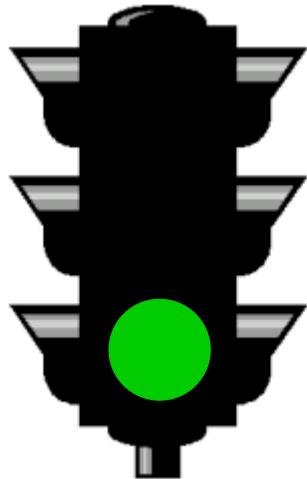
Which responses?



Disease is known or
not genetic, an
indication for a
referral center is
provided



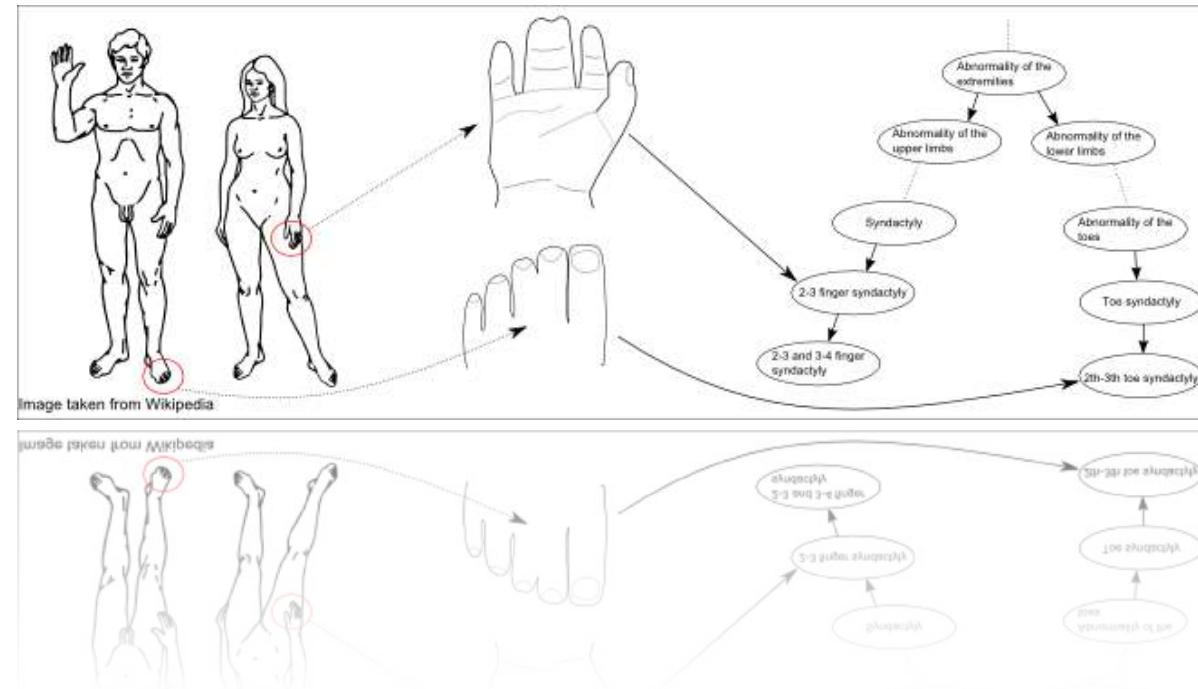
Additional information
required



Patient is recalled for
deep phenotyping and
priority scoring at
clinical plenary meeting

standardization of patients

phenotypic data capture and storage using the standardized vocabulary defined by the **Human Phenotype Ontology (HPO)**



Clinical fellows meetings (14 days)

- Aim: monitor the flow of cases submitted to triage
- Attendance: clinical geneticists hired for the projects, Project Manager



Clinical plenary meetings (30 days)

- Aim: final selection of cases to enter the project
- Attendance: mandatory for clinical geneticists hired for the project and their supervisors, Project Coordinator, Project Manager, members of a Board of Independent Clinicians from the three participating Centers. The Board of Independent Clinicians can be expanded to include clinical investigators with key expertise in the cases to be discussed (selections to be made beforehand by the three clinical centers).

Clinical Plenary meeting prioritization criteria

priority is higher

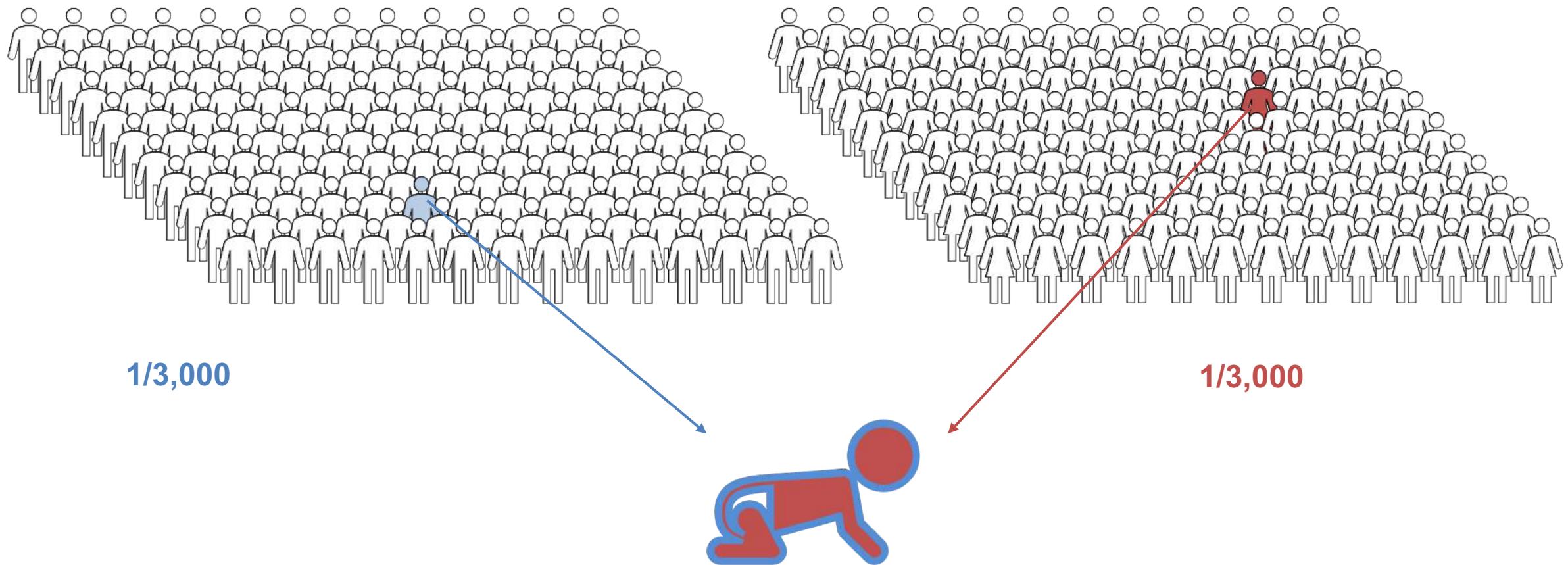
- severity and complexity
- pediatric age
- accurate negative testing
- large pedigree
- new peculiar phenotype

priority is lower

- array-CGH uncertain
- incomplete testing
- nonspecific phenotype
- mild disease

- asbestosis bilim
- edytöründü difficulton
- gnisstet etidmominj

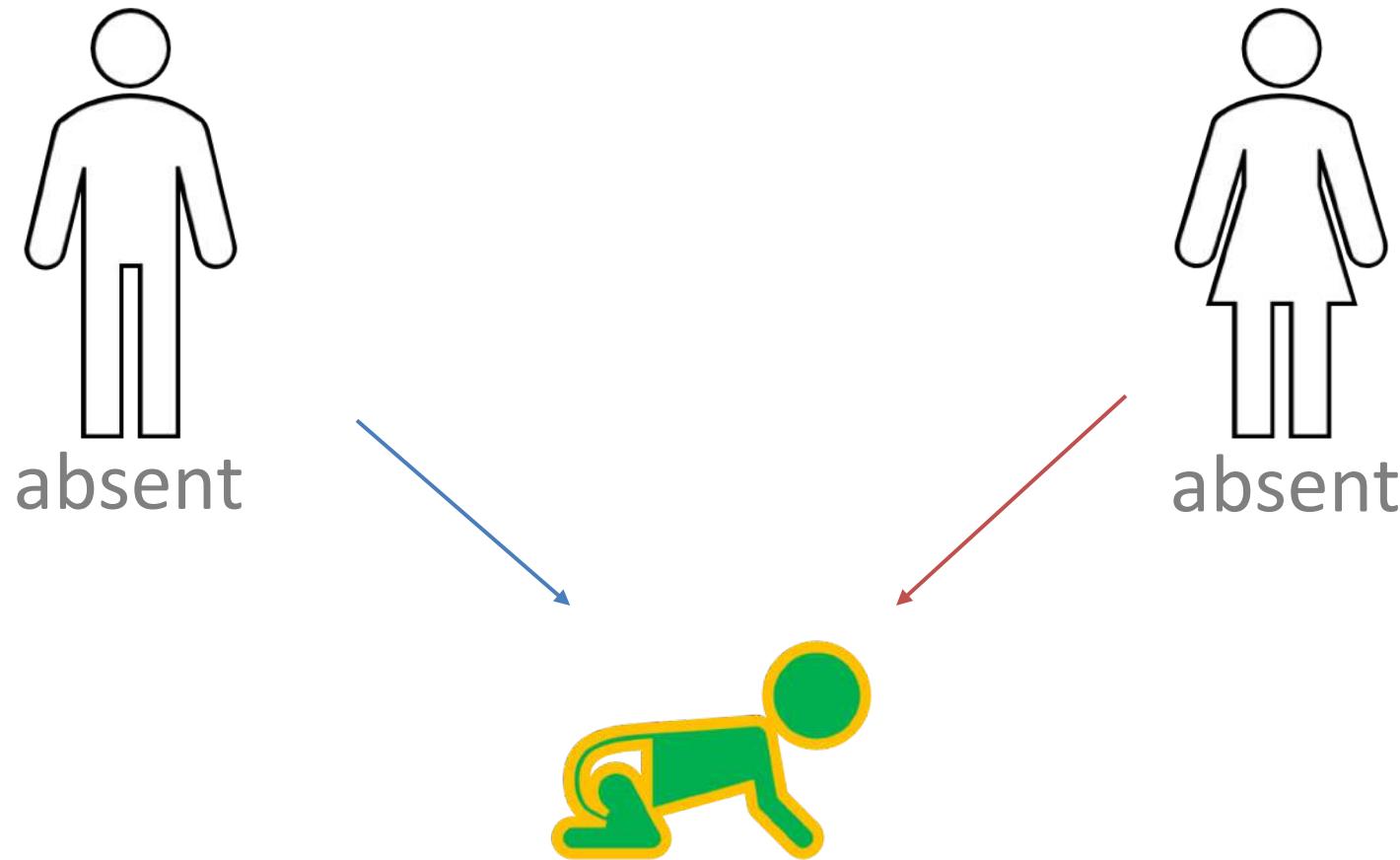
very rare heterozygous carriers, ultra-rare patients



two mutations in the same gene !!

$1/36,000,000 = 1-2 \text{ patients in Italy}$

general population, new patients

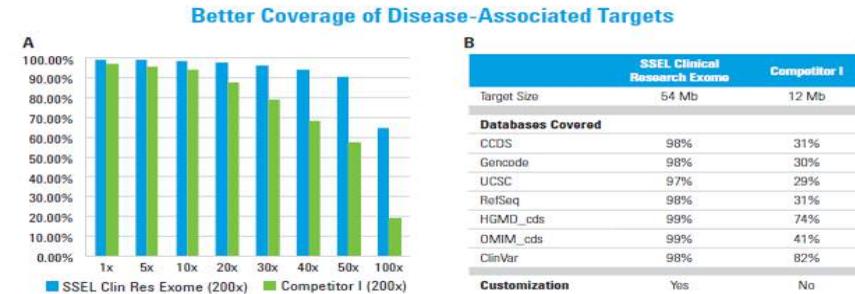
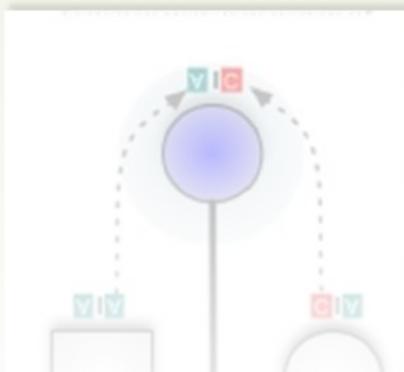
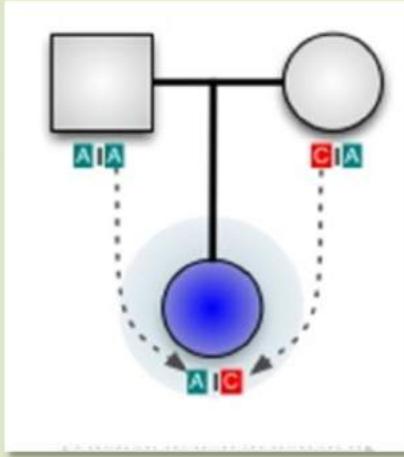


one crucial *de novo* mutation

family WES

Trio analysis will be useful

- to improve variant calling and correct errors
- to discover *de novo* variants
- to get phase and haplotype



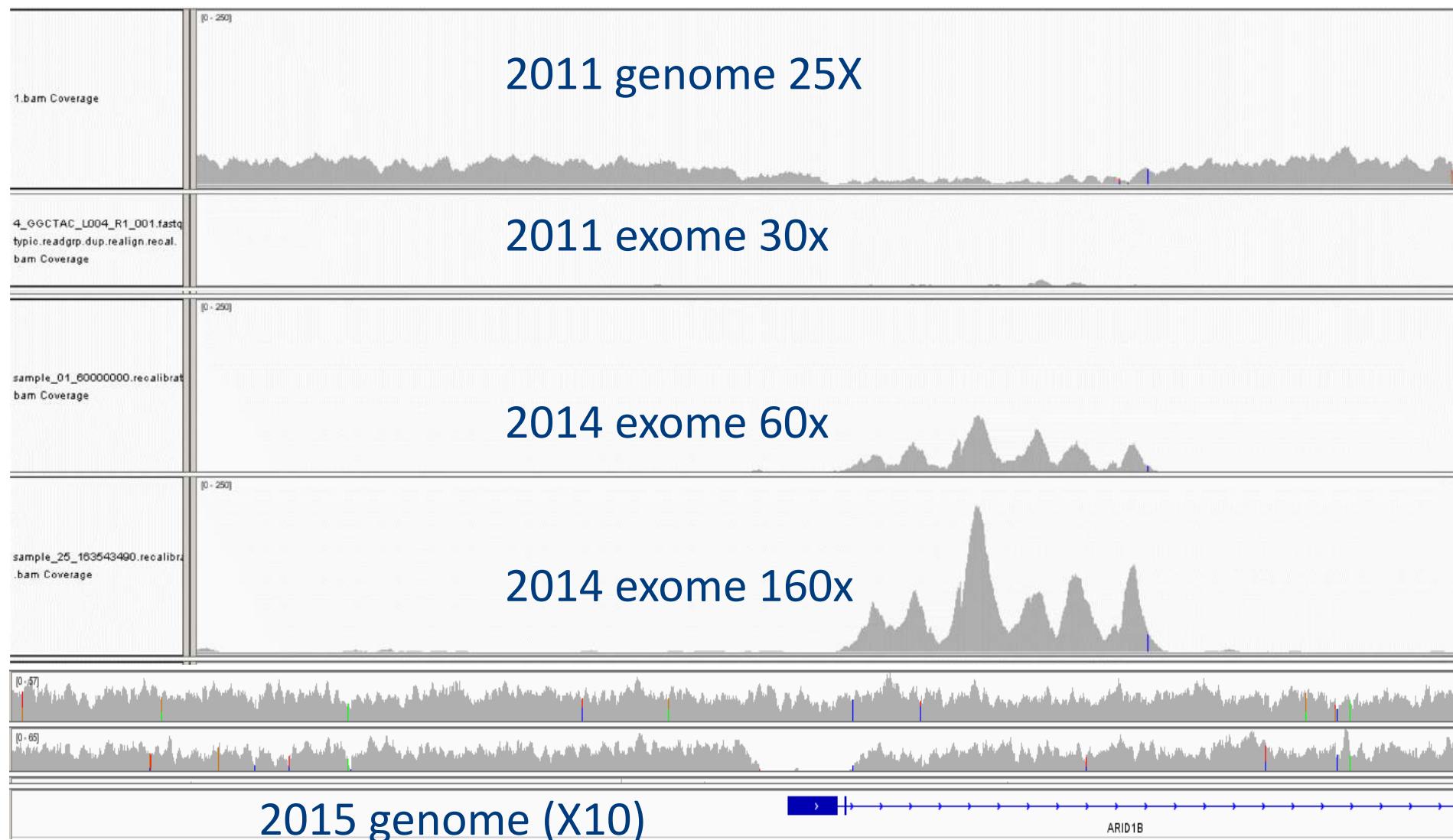
Whole exome target enrichment performed by **SureSelect Clinical Research Exome 54Mb**

sequencing 150x2 nt, av coverage 250x, 20x >95%

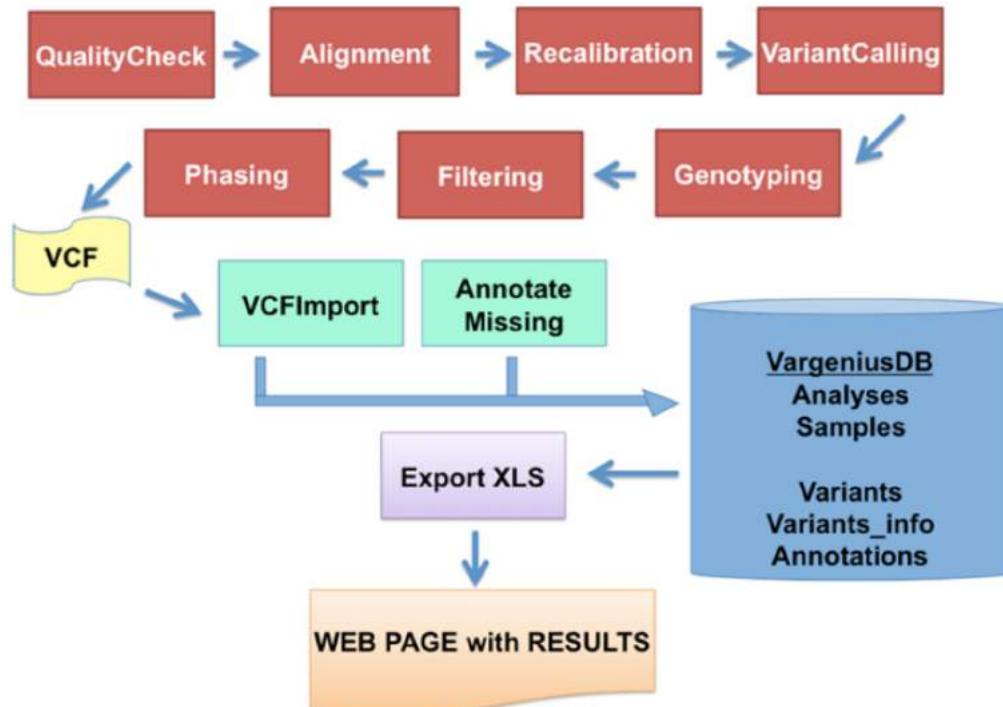
Proband has a **double coverage, parents are run separately**

a WES pipeline has been optimized and shared between OPBG (Rome) and TIGEM

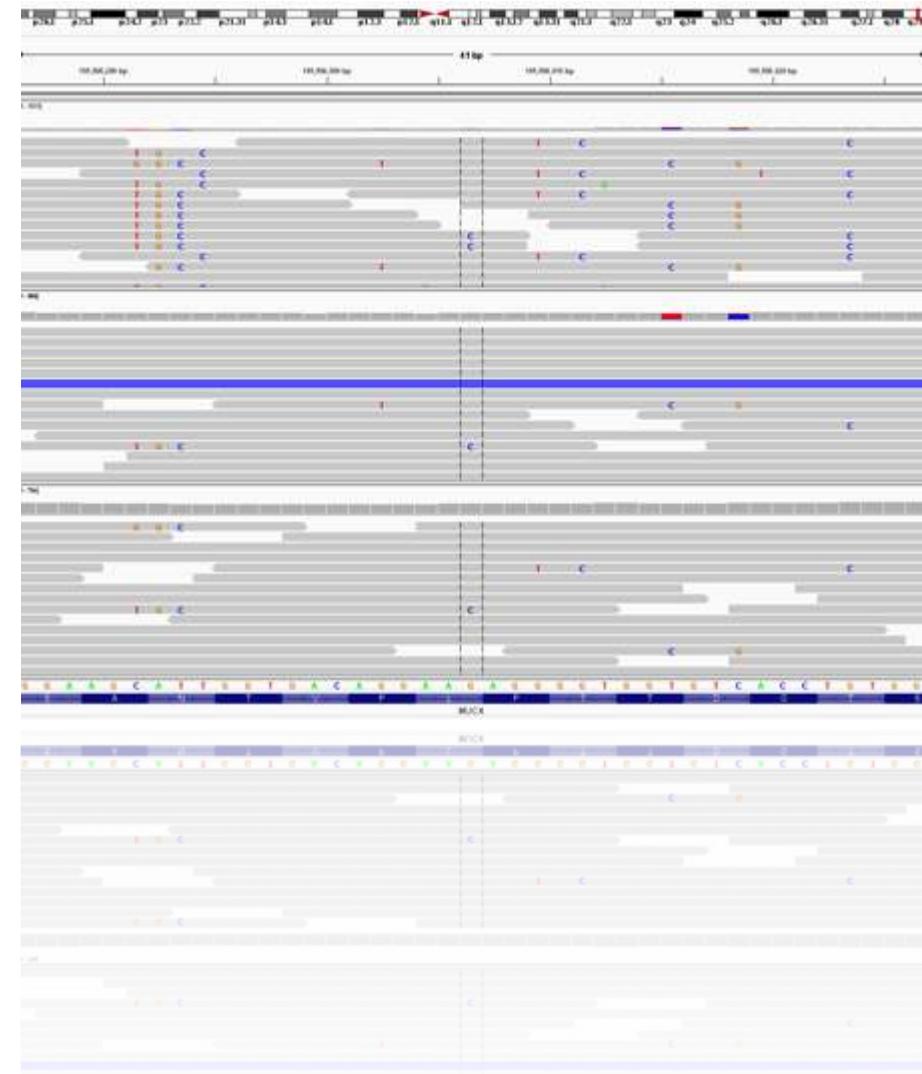
Progress of WES and WGS quality (from GWE Santen)



WES CRE Agilent (>20x) in 84 subjects bases covered



Standardized pipeline run on CINECA cluster (20min)



NGS meetings (30 days)

- Aims: comparative NGS analyses. Discussion of genetic data.
- Attendance: mandatory for all those involved in the NGS pipelines and their supervisors, Project Coordinator.

Project Coordinator
in the NGS pipelines and their supervisors
should be present at the NGS meetings.

sharing sharing sharing

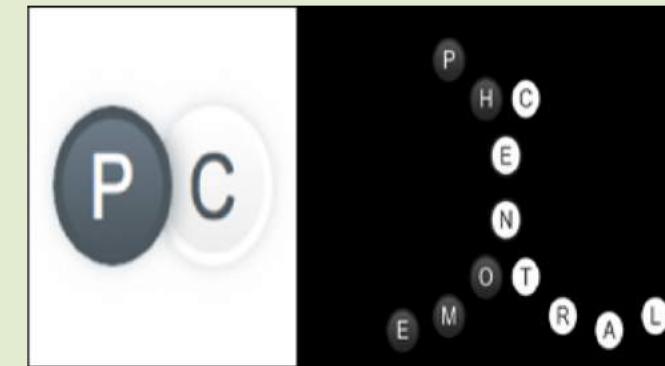


Data will be mainly shared through

PhenomeCentral (<http://phenomecentral.org>)

This has great potential for identifying **additional cases** of phenotypically similar patients required to validate the identified putative disease causative variant(s)

>350 users worldwide, such as the Canadian (**Care for Rare**), US (**Undiagnosed Diseases Network**) and European (**Neuromics, AnDDI-rare**) rare disease sequencing programs





- ❖ PhenomeCentral, a repository for **secure data sharing** targeted at clinicians and scientists working in the rare disorder community.
- ❖ The PhenomeCentral collaboration model allows to **learn about the existence of similar cases** world-wide, which helps to improve understanding of disorder manifestations and confirm underlying causes.
- ❖ The **matching** algorithms -the semantic model- are **sensitive to atypical phenotypic manifestations** of disorders

<https://www.phenomecentral.org/>

sequenced patients

1



17 years ID glaucoma corneal opacity polycystic kidney, spleen, skin and ovarian cysts aracnoid cysts corpus callosum agenesis anosmia macrocephaly

de novo PLAG1
de novo PPP6R1
comp het MAP4K2

NA14

2



12 years intellectual disability obsessive compulsive behaviour hypotonia prognathia primary teeth decreased body weight

de novo SH3BP4
de novo BUB1B

NA04

3



13, 11 years ID Leber congenital amaurosis microcephaly ataxia bone dysplasia femoral head and lumbar vertebral dysplasia cerebral hypotrophy

No shared variants
Shared haplotype

NA11

4



10 years microcephaly, short stature cerebellar atrophy mesencephalon-synapsis aqueductal stenosis C4-C5 and C6-C7 defects brother deceased

comp het PRG4
comp het THOC6 (LoF)

GE03

5



8 years severe hypotonia l.limb hypertonia neuro-axonal dystrophy epilepsy optical nerves and chiasma atrophy obesity microcephaly

de novo KIF1A C92R

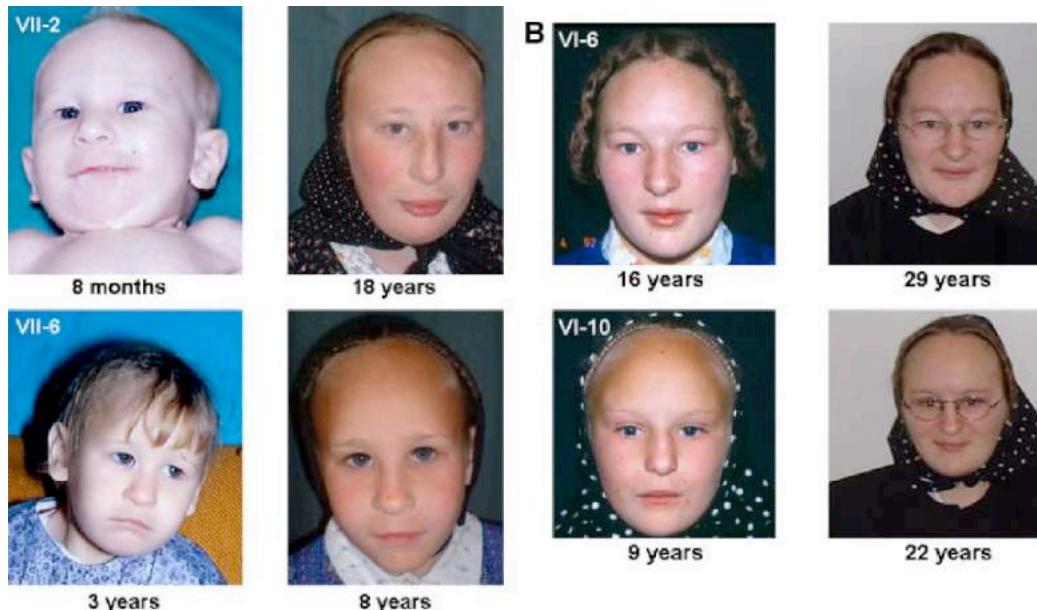
NA13

NEW SYNDROME

AMERICAN JOURNAL
medical gene

A Novel Autosomal Recessive Malformation Syndrome Associated With Developmental Delay and Distinctive Facies Maps to 16ptel in the Hutterite Population

Kym M. Boycott,^{1*} Chandree Beaulieu,² Erik G. Puffenberger,^{3,4} D. Ross McLeod,² Jillian S. Parboosingh,² and A. Micheil Innes^{2†}



Beaulieu et al. *Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases* 2013, 8:62
<http://www.ojrd.com/content/8/1/62>



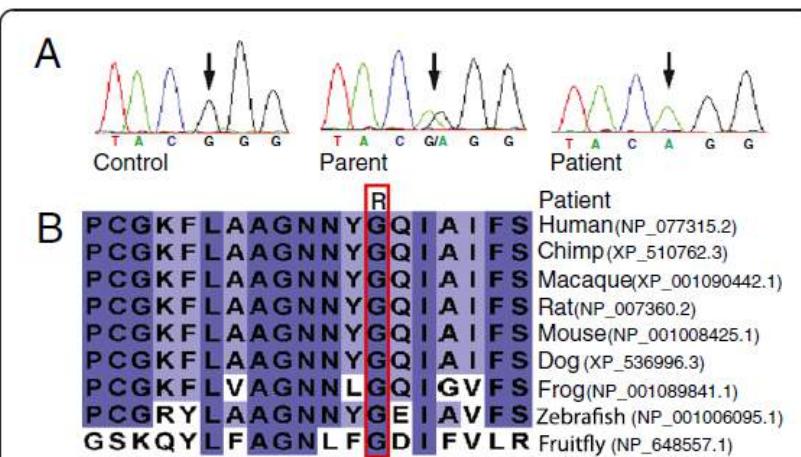
RESEARCH

Open Access

Intellectual disability associated with a homozygous missense mutation in *THOC6*

Chandree L Beaulieu^{1†}, Lijia Huang^{1†}, A Micheil Innes^{2,3}, Marie-Andree Akimenko⁴, Erik G Puffenberger⁵, Charles Schwartz⁶, Paul Jerry⁷, Carole Ober⁸, Robert A Hegele⁹, D Ross McLeod^{2,3}, Jeremy Schwartzentruber¹⁰, FORGE Canada Consortium, Jacek Majewski¹⁰, Dennis E Bulman¹, Jillian S Parboosingh^{2,3†} and Kym M Boycott¹⁺⁺

Homozygous p.Gly46Arg, in *THOC6*



diagnosed patients

6



6 years **severe cognitive impairment** deafness
hypotonia anomaly of **globus pallidus** **vomiting**

de novo **GRIN2B** S555N

7



6 years **tetralogy of Fallot** corectopia esotropia
microcephaly **short stature**

de novo **SMAD4** I550V

8



15 years **blindness** spastic tetraparesis **seizures**
lissencephaly ocular proptosis **macroglossia**
accessory spleen **conical teeth** **intestinal malrotation**

autosomal recessive
WDR81 W28X + R619X

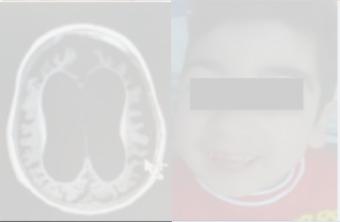
9



20-30 years **ataxia** **hypotonia** **seizures**
severe ID speech impairment strabismus

autosomal recessive
GAMT A22T + A22T

10



5 years **microcephaly** pontocerebellar
atrophy severe ID speech absence **epileptic**
encephalopathy

autosomal recessive
RARS2 fshift + -2A>G

diagnosed patients

6



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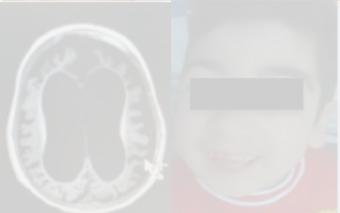
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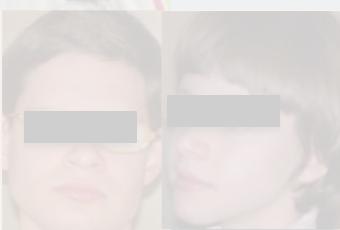
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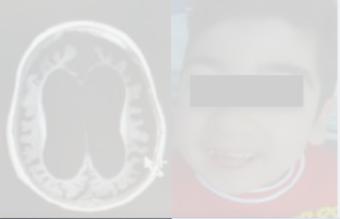
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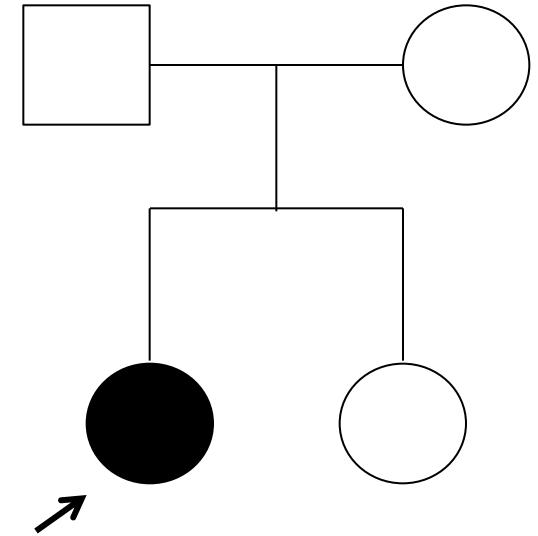


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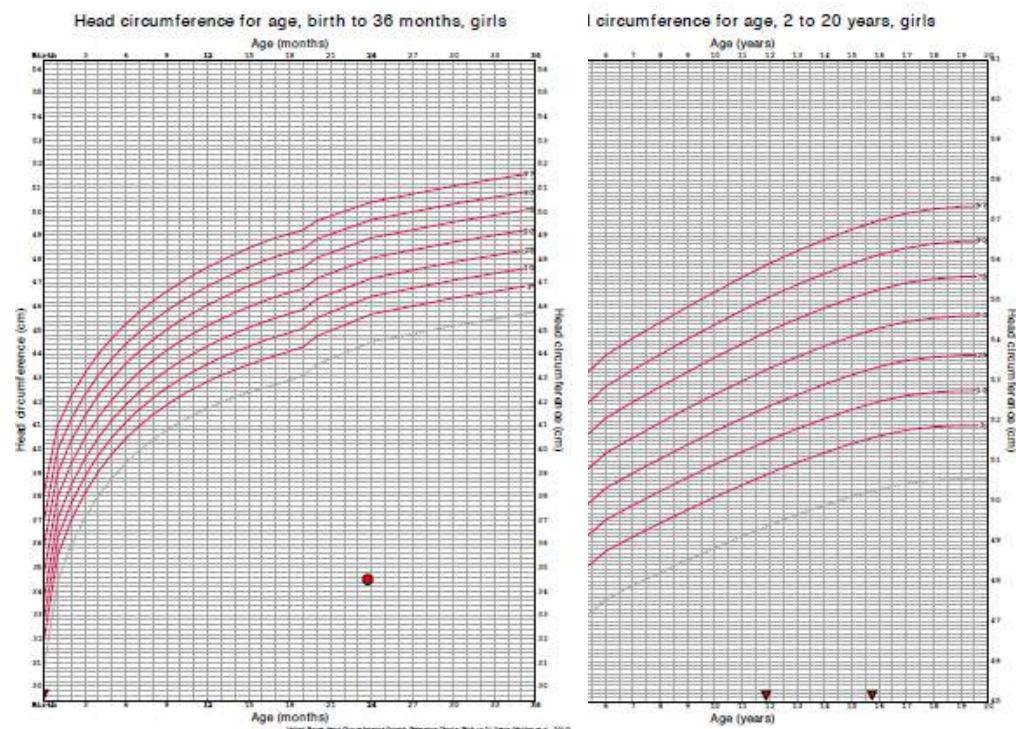
autosomal recessive
RARS2 fshift + -2A>G

8

15 years



- Born at term by dystocic delivery (facial presentation) after uncomplicated pregnancy
- Healthy non-consanguineous parents
- At birth: weight 2.9 kg (34°pc), length 46 cm (8° pc), head circumference 28 cm (<3°pc)
- Microcephaly and facial dysmorphisms, (prominence of coronal ridge, ocular proptosis; bulbous nose, macroglossia, crowded and conical teeth)
- Generalized seizures (tonic-clonic) with neonatal onset
- Bilateral glaucoma, blindness
- Recurrent pneumonia
- Feeding problems
- Cyclic vomiting
- Spastic tetraparesis
- Profound ID, no milestone acquisition



- Abdominal US and Rx study: intestinal malrotation, accessory spleen
- Blood tests: hypercholesterolemia, ALT, AST, GGT, CPK, amilase and lipase mildly elevated
- RX skeletal at 5yrs: bowing radius, congenital hip dysplasia, coccix agenesis
- Karyotype: 46,XX
- Array CGH: negative
- *PTCN*, *CASK*, *ARX* genes: no mutations
- Cerebellar and brainstem malformation NGS panel: negative





- EEG: slow ea, undifferentiated nor reactive
- Brain MRI : Lissencephaly, corpus callosum agenesis, cerebellar and brainstem hypoplasia
- ABR and VEP: absent

New phenotype

8

WDR81

chr17:1639471

Maternal NM_001163673:c.84G>A:p.W28X (exon 2)
Paternal NM_001163673:c.1855C>T:p.R619X (exon 9)

WDR81 encodes a multi-domain transmembrane protein, predominantly expressed in the brain

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Last Updated: Tuesday, 7 March 2006, 17:36 GMT

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Family may provide evolution clue

Five siblings from Turkey who walk on all fours could provide science with an insight into human evolution, researchers have said.

The four sisters and one brother could yield clues to why our ancestors made the transition from four-legged to two-legged animals, says a UK expert.

But Professor Nicholas Humphrey rejects the idea that there is a "gene" for bipedalism, or upright walking.

A BBC documentary about the family will be shown on Friday 17 March.

Professor Humphrey, from the London School of Economics (LSE), says that our own species' transition to walking on two feet must have been a more complex process that involved many changes to the skeleton and to the human genetic make-up.

However, a German group says a genetic abnormality does seem to be involved in the siblings' gait.

Coordination problem

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BBC NEWS: VIDEO AND AUDIO

See the siblings walking on their hands and feet

▶ VIDEO

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PEDIGREE DOGS EXPOSED PEDIGREE DOGS EXPOSED - 3 YEARS ON THE FAMILY THAT WALKS ON ALL FOURS CAN DOGS SMELL CANCER? JERRY LOVE

THE FAMILY THAT WALKS ON ALL FOURS

A family of adult human quadrupeds found living in a remote part of Turkey sparks a fierce scientific debate. A Turkish neuroscientist believes they are evolutionary throwbacks. A German geneticist believes they could hold vital clues about how man became bipeds. But are they right?

Guided by Professor Nick Humphrey and other top experts, the film weaves the scientific evidence with an intimate portrait of the family's life.

The Family That Walks On All Fours first aired in the UK on BBC2 in March 2006. The NOVA version of the film appeared on PBS in the US in November. The film has also been broadcast in 30 other countries. See the NOVA website for the [US trailer](#)

autosomal recessive cerebellar ataxia, mental retardation, and dysequilibrium syndrome-2 with homozygous p.P856L

Research

Homozygosity mapping and targeted genomic sequencing reveal the gene responsible for cerebellar hypoplasia and quadrupedal locomotion in a consanguineous kindred

Suleyman Gulsuner,¹ Ayse Begum Tekinay,² Katja Doerschner,^{3,4} Huseyin Boyaci,^{3,4} Kaya Bilguvar,^{5,6,7} Hilal Unal,² Aslihan Ors,⁴ O. Emre Onat,¹ Ergin Atalar,^{4,8} A. Nazli Basak,⁹ Haluk Topaloglu,¹⁰ Tulay Kansu,¹¹ Meliha Tan,¹² Uner Tan,¹³ Murat Gunel,^{5,6,7} and Tayfun Ozcelik^{1,2,14}

¹Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics, Faculty of Science, Bilkent University, Ankara 06800, Turkey; ²Institute of Materials Science and Nanotechnology, Bilkent University, Ankara 06800, Turkey; ³Department of Psychology, Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences, Bilkent University, Ankara 06800, Turkey; ⁴National Research Center for Magnetic Resonance, Bilkent University, Ankara 06800 Turkey; ⁵Department of Neurosurgery, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut 06510, USA; ⁶Department of Neurobiology, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut 06510, USA; ⁷Department of Genetics, Center for Human Genetics and Genomics and Program on Neurogenetics, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut 06510, USA; ⁸Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Bilkent University, Ankara 06800, Turkey; ⁹NDAL Laboratory, School of Arts and Sciences, Bogazici University, Istanbul 34342, Turkey; ¹⁰Department of Pediatric Neurology, Ihsan Dogramaci Children's Hospital, Ankara 06100, Turkey; ¹¹Department of Neurology, Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine, Ankara 06100, Turkey; ¹²Department of Neurology, Baskent University Faculty of Medicine, Ankara 06490, Turkey; ¹³Department of Physiology, Cukurova University Faculty of Medicine, Adana 01330, Turkey

The biological basis for the development of the cerebro-cerebellar structures required for posture and gait in humans is poorly understood. We investigated a large consanguineous family from Turkey exhibiting an extremely rare phenotype associated with quadrupedal locomotion, mental retardation, and cerebro-cerebellar hypoplasia, linked to a 7.1-Mb region of homozygosity on chromosome 17p13.1-13.3. Diffusion weighted imaging and fiber tractography of the patients' brains revealed morphological abnormalities in the cerebellum and corpus callosum, in particular atrophy of superior, middle, and inferior peduncles of the cerebellum. Structural magnetic resonance imaging showed additional morphometric abnormalities in several cortical areas, including the corpus callosum, precentral gyrus, and Brodmann areas BA6, BA44, and BA45. Targeted sequencing of the entire homozygous region in three affected individuals and two obligate carriers uncovered a private missense mutation, WDR81 p.P856L, which cosegregated with the condition in the extended family. The mutation lies in a highly conserved region of WDR81, flanked by an N-terminal BEACH domain and C-terminal WD40 beta-propeller domains. WDR81 is predicted to be a transmembrane protein. It is highly expressed in the cerebellum and corpus callosum, in particular in the Purkinje cell layer of the cerebellum. WDR81 represents the third gene, after *VLDLR* and *CA8*, implicated in quadrupedal locomotion in humans.

[Supplemental material is available for this article.]

Uner Tan Syndrome : reverse evolution



diagnosed patients

6



6 years **severe cognitive impairment** deafness
hypotonia anomaly of globus pallidus **vomiting**

de novo **GRIN2B** S555N

7



6 years **tetralogy of Fallot** corectopia esotropia
microcephaly **short stature**

de novo **SMAD4** I550V

8



15 years **blindness** spastic tetraparesis **seizures**
lissencephaly ocular proptosis **macroglossia**
accessory spleen **conical teeth** intestinal malrotation

autosomal recessive
WDR81 W28X + R619X

9



6 years **cerebral atrophy** skeletal
anomalies hearing loss mild ID **dysphagia**

de novo
NOTCH3 L2137fs (ex 33)

NA22

10



5 years **microcephaly** pontocerebellar
atrophy severe ID speech absence **epileptic**
encephalopathy

autosomal recessive
RARS2 fshift + -2A>G

NA13

A photograph of a woman with dark curly hair, smiling, holding a young child in a pink shirt. They are standing in a grassy field with trees in the background.

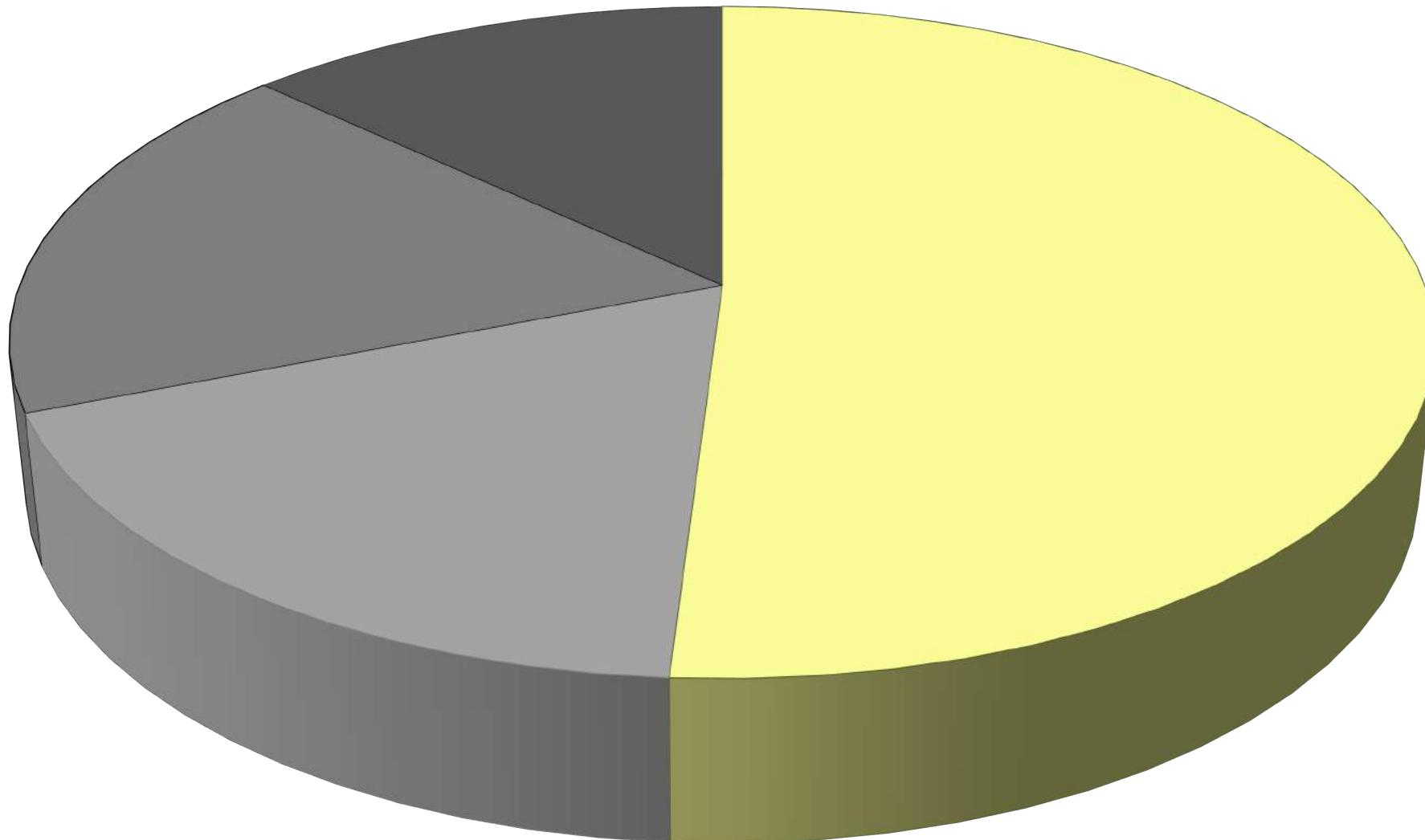
#donotgiveup

de novo
NOTCH3
L2137fs (exon 33)

TUDP, an update

The goal: 350 undiagnosed families in 3 years

High priority cases discussed at plenary meeting	263
Ongoing/complete WES analysis	156
Diagnosis success rate	51 %
Among solved cases, <i>de novo</i> mutations	65 %
Recessive mutations (homozygous + compound het.)	35 %



- solved
- undetected
- unrecognized
- non Mendelian

If >90% of genetic cause is known, why is the NGS diagnostic yield below 50%?

Undetected mutations

- in regions with low coverage
- **insertions/deletions >20-50nt**
- long repeat expansions
- **copy number variations**
- **translocations**
- **inversions**

Increase NGS diagnostic yield

Nonmendelian disorders

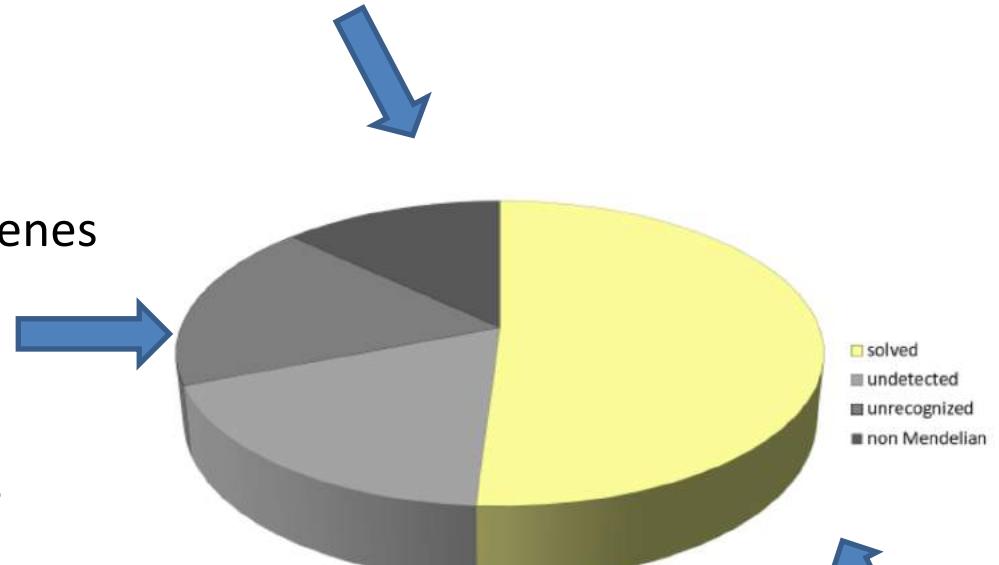
- Digenic/polygenic
- Immune-related diseases
- environmental

Unrecognized effects of mutations

- deep intronic or elusive splicing defects
- in enhancers and promoters
- in genes with unknown function
- **in regions with duplicated sequences**
- in long genes that are variable in the population
- **disease gene has one/more pseudogenes**

patient selection worsens:
poor clinical studies
isolated cases
mild/late onset

knowledge improves:
number of new disease genes
data sharing
RNA studies
functional studies
WGS of large populations



detection rate improves:
improved coverage/uniformity
pipeline of analysis
WGS
new technologies for nonsubstitutions

To find information everywhere in many newspapers...



but you have paper strips to be read..



Phased sequencing (10x Genomics)

Standard sequence



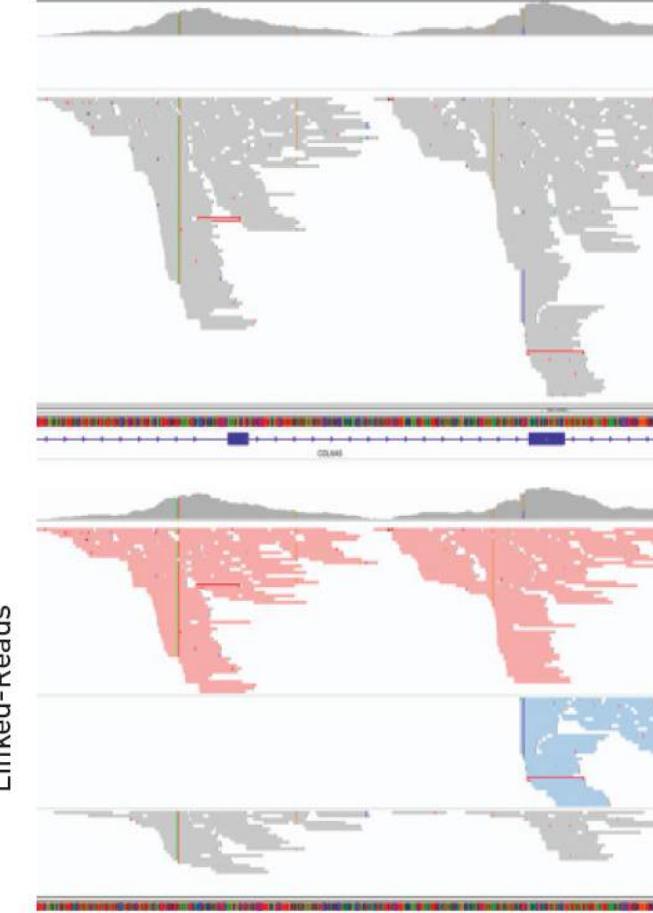
hap 1
(mother allele)

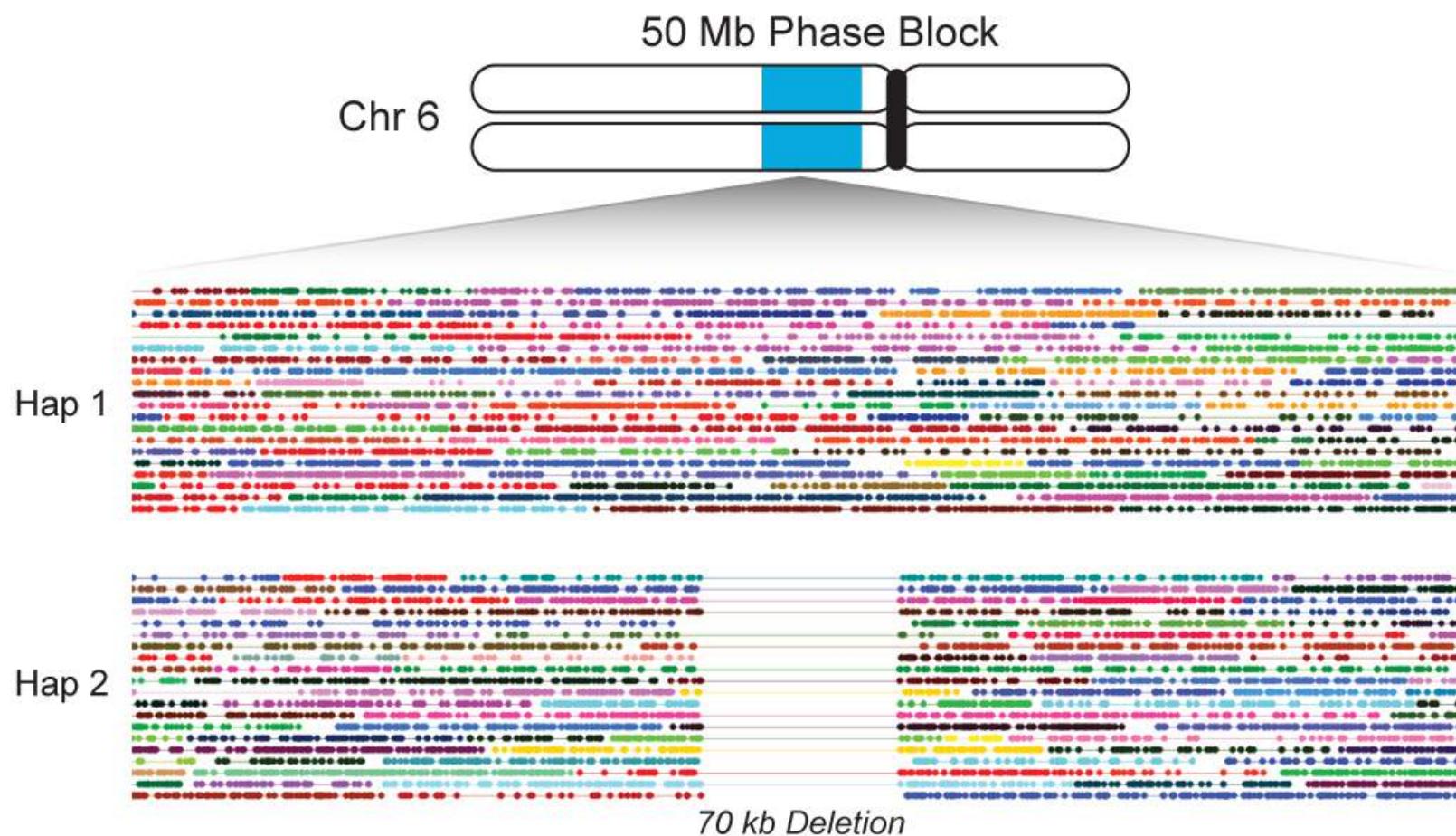


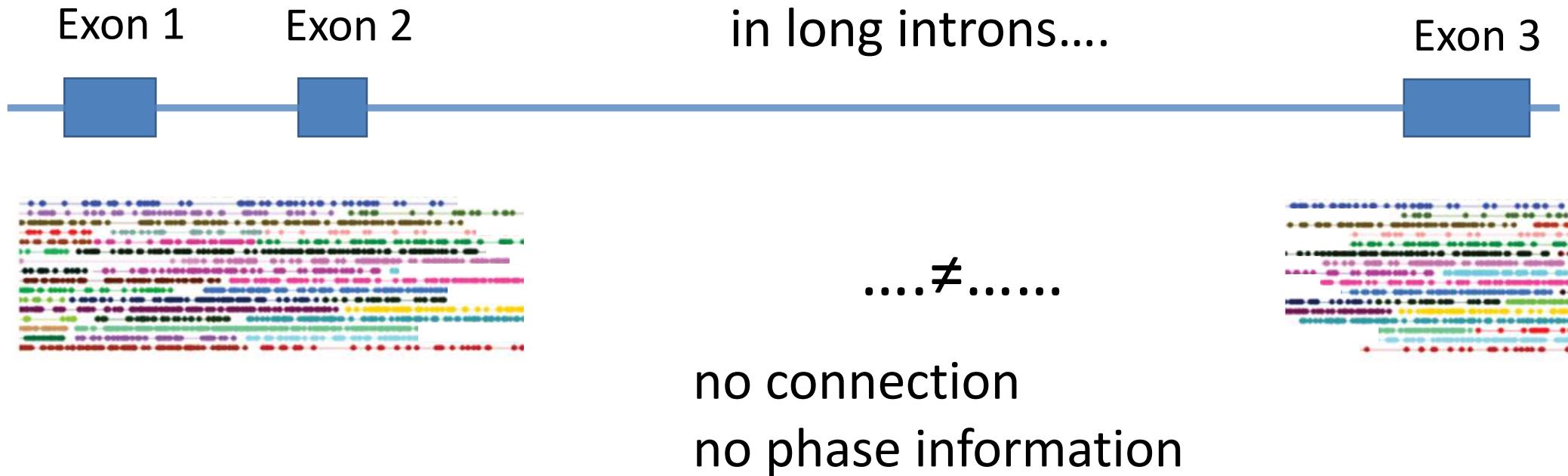
hap 2
(father allele)

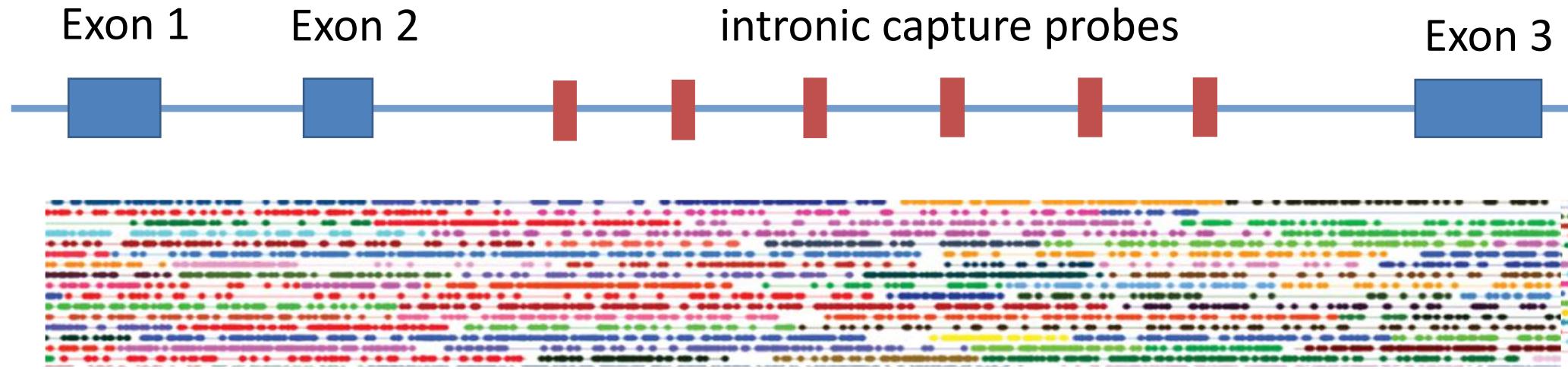
Standard WGS

Agilent SureSelect V6 with
Linked-Reads



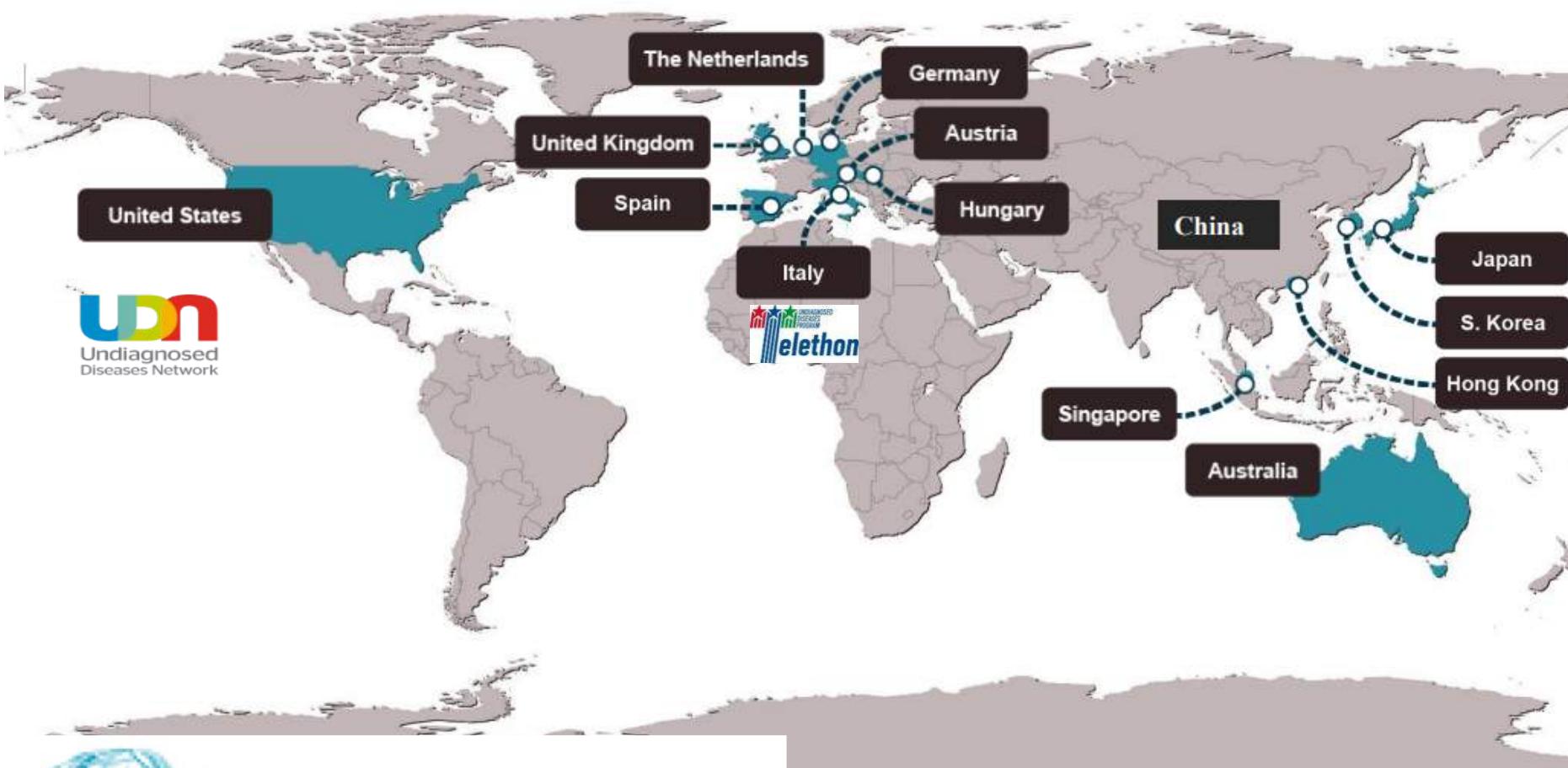






ultra-exome= capture of polymorphic sequences
within long introns (>30kb)

The Undiagnosed Diseases Network International (UDNI)



2017 entries:

- Sweden
- South Africa



Undiagnosed
Diseases Network
INTERNATIONAL

UDNI 2018 Meeting Naples 19-21 June



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