

RGA

The Importance Of Genetics On Mortality and Morbidity Risk

A Study Based On Half A Million Lives In The UK Biobank Cohort

Peter Banthorpe

SVP, Global Head of Research and Data Analytics

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Lead Health Data Scientist

Stephen Courquin

VP, UK Head of Actuarial Research

Institute and Faculty of Actuaries
Highlights of the Life Conference 2018
March 2019



Institute and Faculty of Actuaries

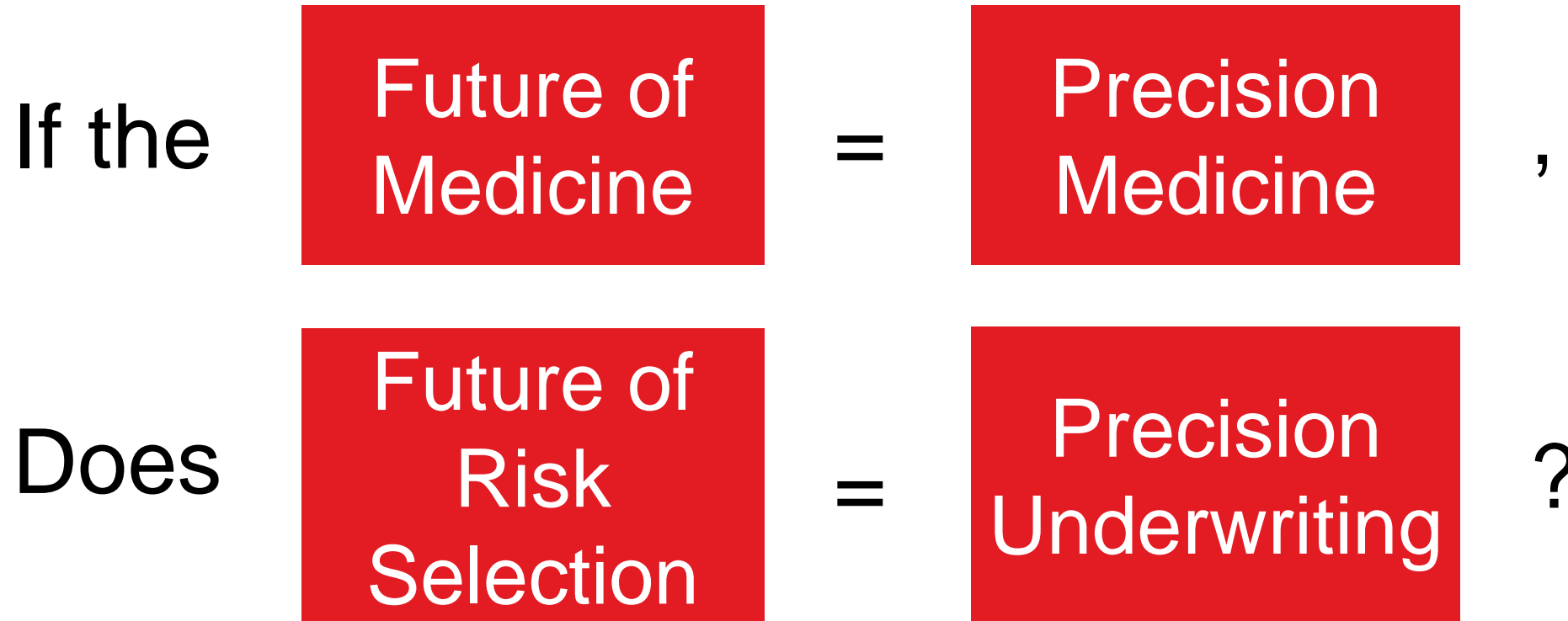
Agenda

- Genetic Data and Insurance
- Genomic Medicine Today and in the Next 5 to 10 Years
- Genetic Risk to Disease and Polygenic Risk Scores
- RGA / King's College London Research Collaboration
- Genetics and Risks of Anti-selection
- Key Messages



Genetic Data and Insurance

Genetics is a great case study for a potential future vision of risk selection




Precision Underwriting brings a range of **ethical**, **legal**, **competitive** and **social** concerns.

Genetics has always elicited a varied set of views across stakeholders

APRIL 14, 2014

DNA and Insurance, Fate and Risk

INTRODUCTION




Tubes of DNA to be tested for hereditary disorders.
Brendan Smialowski for the New York Times

As costs for DNA sequencing drop, hundreds of thousands of Americans are undergoing the procedure to see if they are at risk for inherited diseases. But while federal law bars employers and health insurers from seeking the results, insurers [can still use them](#) in all but three states when considering applications for life, disability and long-term care coverage.


Should insurance companies be barred from seeing genetic information when considering those policies so people can get the tests without fear that the results would be used against them?

DEBATERS




Risks Are Too Small for Insurers to Worry
ANGUS S. MACDONALD, PROFESSOR OF ACTUARIAL MATHEMATICS

Only the rarest hereditary disorders would create a major cost burden for insurers. They should agree to ignore genetic tests, and avoid a legal ban.




Guarantee Privacy to Ensure Proper Treatment
JEREMY GRUBER, COUNCIL FOR RESPONSIBLE GENETICS

If the promise of the genetic revolution is to be fulfilled, the public must know that genetic testing will not endanger their economic security.




Questions Remain; Some Rules Should Be Clear
FRANCIS S. COLLINS, NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Even without barring insurers from seeing genetic tests, such tests should not be demanded of anyone. And research data must be kept private.




It's Yet to Be Shown That Discrimination Exists
BARTHA MARIA KNOPPERS, MCGILL UNIVERSITY

Only rare conditions can be predicted with certainty, and insurers can already access a variety of hereditary information about applicants.



Let Insurers Have Data and Trust to Get It Right
SHAWN HAUSMAN, AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LIFE INSURERS

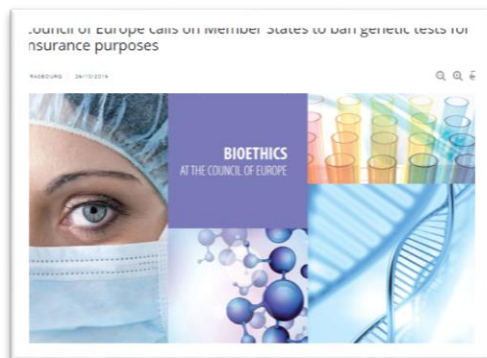
Advances in medicine have made it possible for insurers to offer coverage to more people, not fewer.



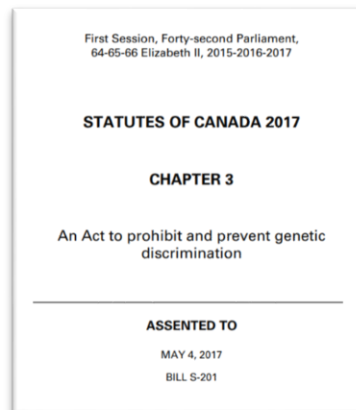
Test Results Are Not Always What They Seem
JOY LARSEN HAIDLE, NATIONAL SOCIETY OF GENETIC COUNSELORS

Even if insurers are allowed to consider the tests, they need to ensure they fully understand what results do and do not reveal.

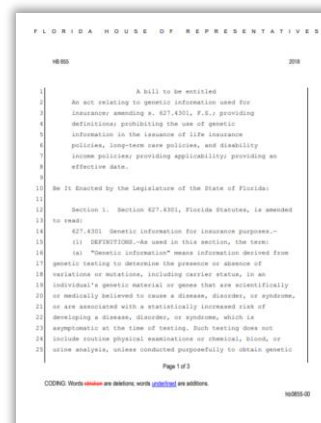
Increasing levels of interest in genetics and genomics from governments and regulators



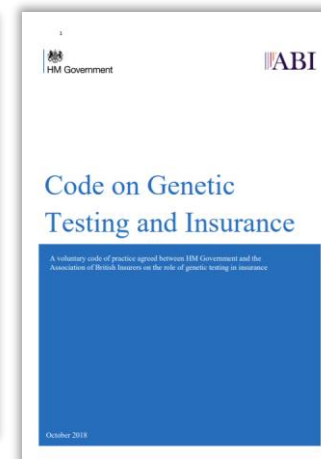
[Council of Europe Recommendation](#)
October 2016



[Canadian Genetic Non-discrimination Act](#)
May 2017



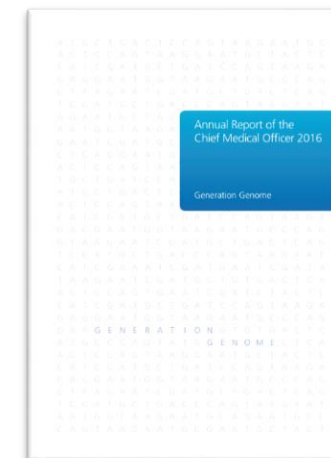
[United States – Various Bills](#)
2017-2019



[Code Genetic Testing and Insurance](#)
October 2018



[Australian Moratorium](#)
July 2019



[England CMO Annual Report: Generation Genome](#)
July 2017

Whole genome sequencing costs today

€259 Full DNA Analysis (Offer Valid Until Feb. 28th). Get the test

Home / Home Page Europe / My Full DNA: Whole Genome Sequencing with mtDNA

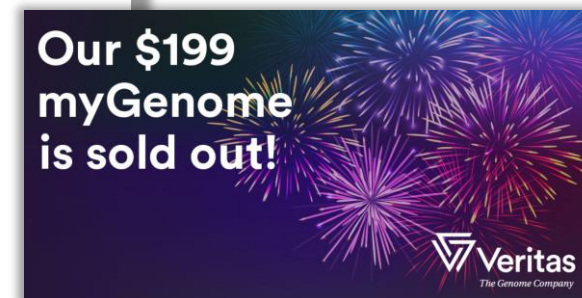
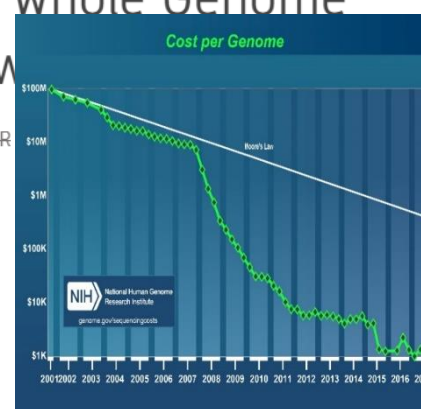
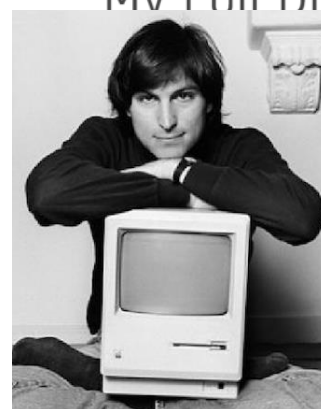
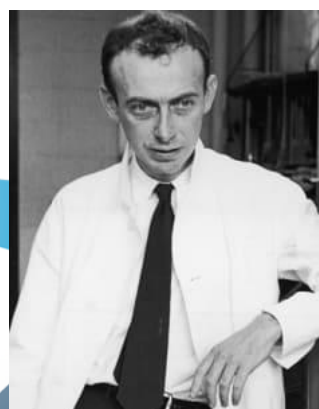
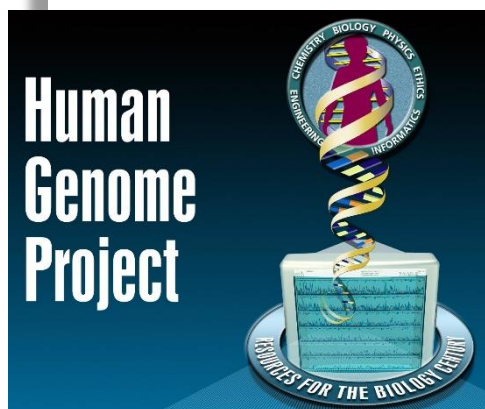
2003

2007

2011

2015

2018



\$2.7 billion

\$2 million

\$100,000

\$1,000

\$199

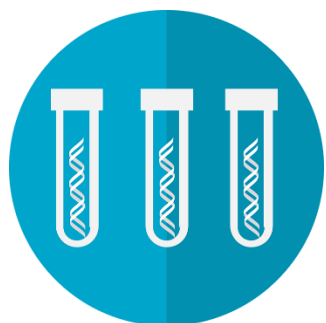
Whole Genome Sequencing
Full DNA analysis
saliva collection kit

DESCRIPTION

Dante Labs Rare Disease Month: Dante Labs celebrates the Rare Disease Day offering "My Full DNA (Whole Genome Sequencing Test)" at a special price. To get more information about the "Rare Disease Month", take a look at our [FAQ](#)

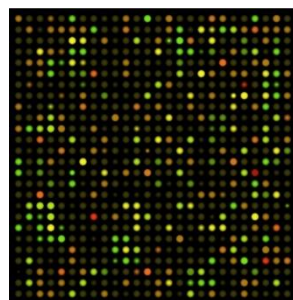
Growing opportunities for genetic anti-selection

26 million



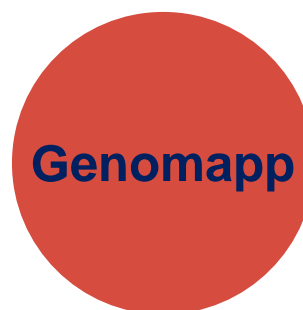
Consumer genetic tests sold since 2012

600,000



DNA variants measured by 23andMe

800+



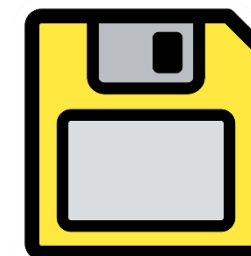
Diseases tested for genetic susceptibility

No. 14



Genetic counsellors are the 14th fastest growing occupation according to US Bureau of Labour Statistics (2016 to 2026)

40 billion



Gigabytes of new genomic data generated a year by 2030

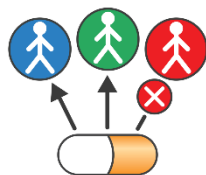
Genetic anti-selection risk: are these beliefs still valid?

1. Genetic risk information will not be widely available in the near future
2. Monogenic mutations that confer significantly higher risk of disease are rare therefore the cost imposed on insurers by any associated adverse selection is deemed small
3. Most common diseases are multifactorial, and the genetic contribution to these diseases is modest
4. Genetic test results will not deliver significant risk information that is not already available from traditional clinical/biometric measures used in underwriting
5. The genetic contribution to disease is adequately captured by family history

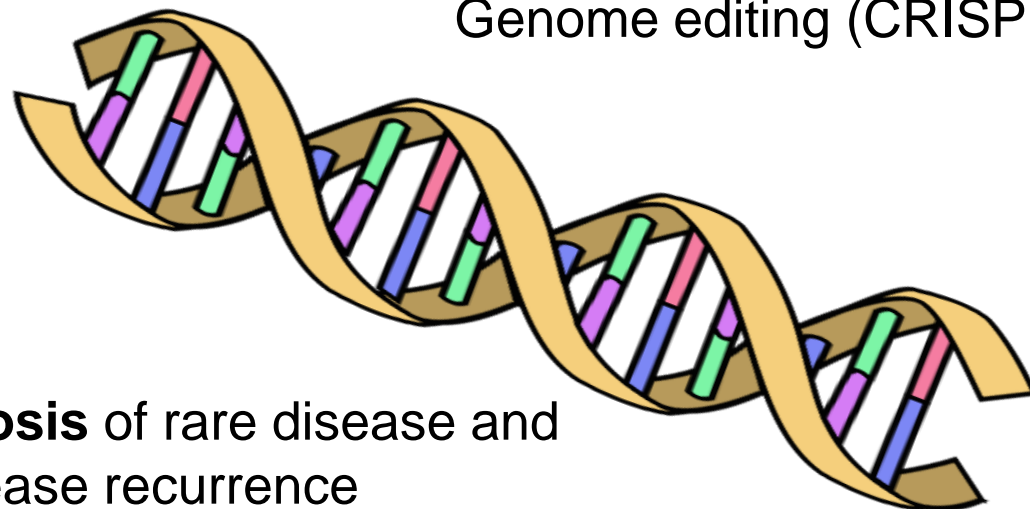
Genomic Medicine Today and in the Next 5 to 10 Years

Genomics medicine today

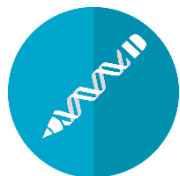
Precision medicine: pharmacogenetics, cancer treatments



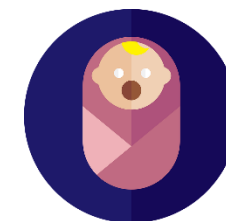
Genome editing (CRISPR-Cas9)



Accurate **diagnosis** of rare disease and detection of disease recurrence



Prenatal and newborns **screening**



More accurate disease **prognosis**



Motivating lifestyle modification



Genomic medicine in the next 5 to 10 years...

**Integrating genomics into mainstream care:
the new NHS Genomic Medicine Service**

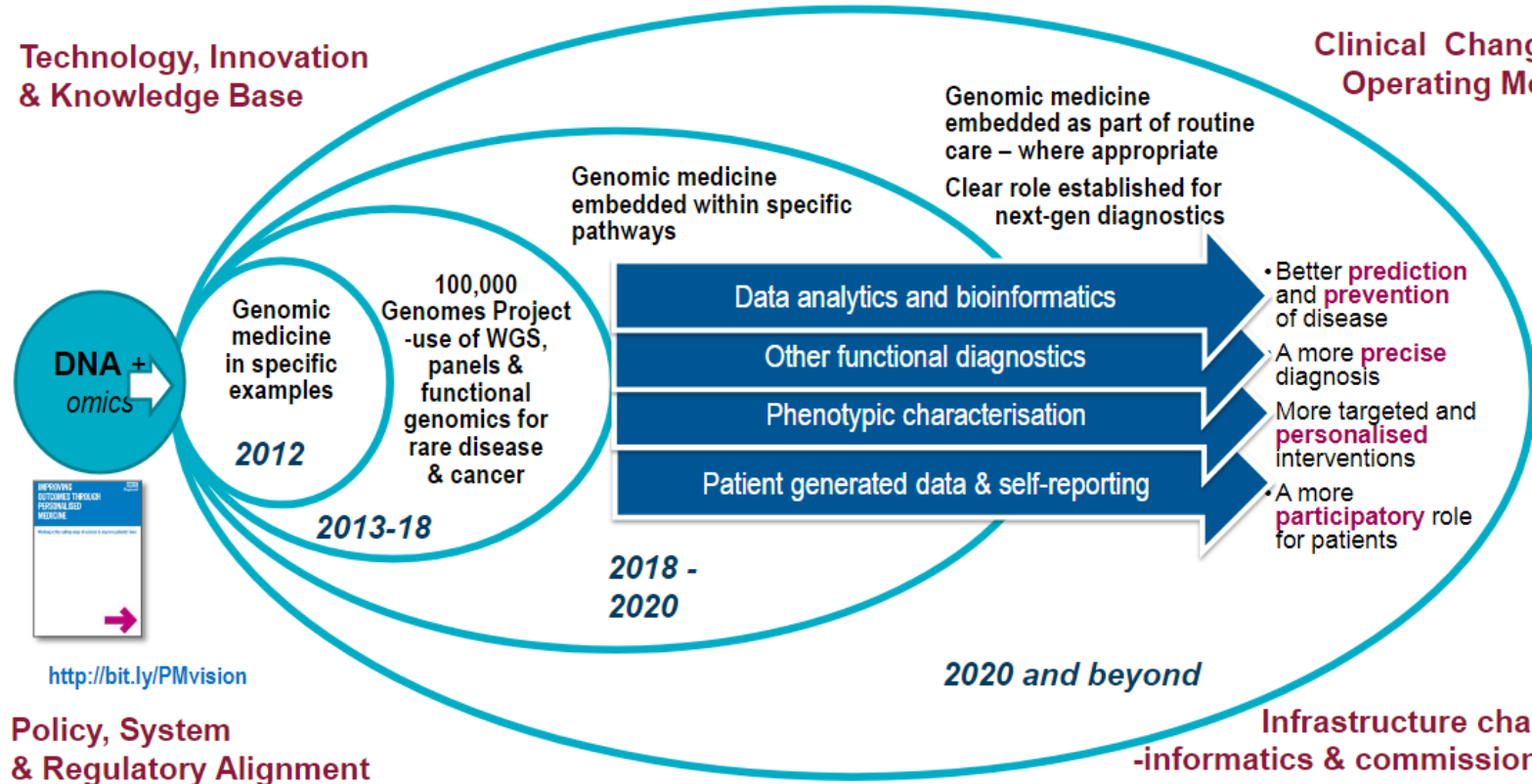
Prof Sir Malcolm Grant
Chair, NHS England
Director, Genomics England Ltd
Jan 2018




The personalisation journey

Technology, Innovation
& Knowledge Base

Clinical Change &
Operating Model



5 million genomes in 5 years – January 2019

theguardian

NHS to sell DNA tests to healthy people in push to find new treatments

Service will be free for patients with serious genetic conditions as health service in England aims to recruit 5 million volunteers



THE
SPECTATOR

FEATURES

The future of your health could soon be in the NHS's hands

Home testing kits are all the rage – but do you really want to know the secrets of your genome?

Robert Plomin



 **INDEPENDENT**

NHS to sell patients genetic tests showing risk of killer diseases such as cancer and dementia

Sequencing will cost a few hundred pounds and patients will have to agree to DNA data being retained for research

Colin Drury | @colin_drury | Saturday 26 January 2019 14:00 |

196 shares |

NEWS

Health

NHS to offer paid-for DNA tests if patients share data

© 26 January 2019

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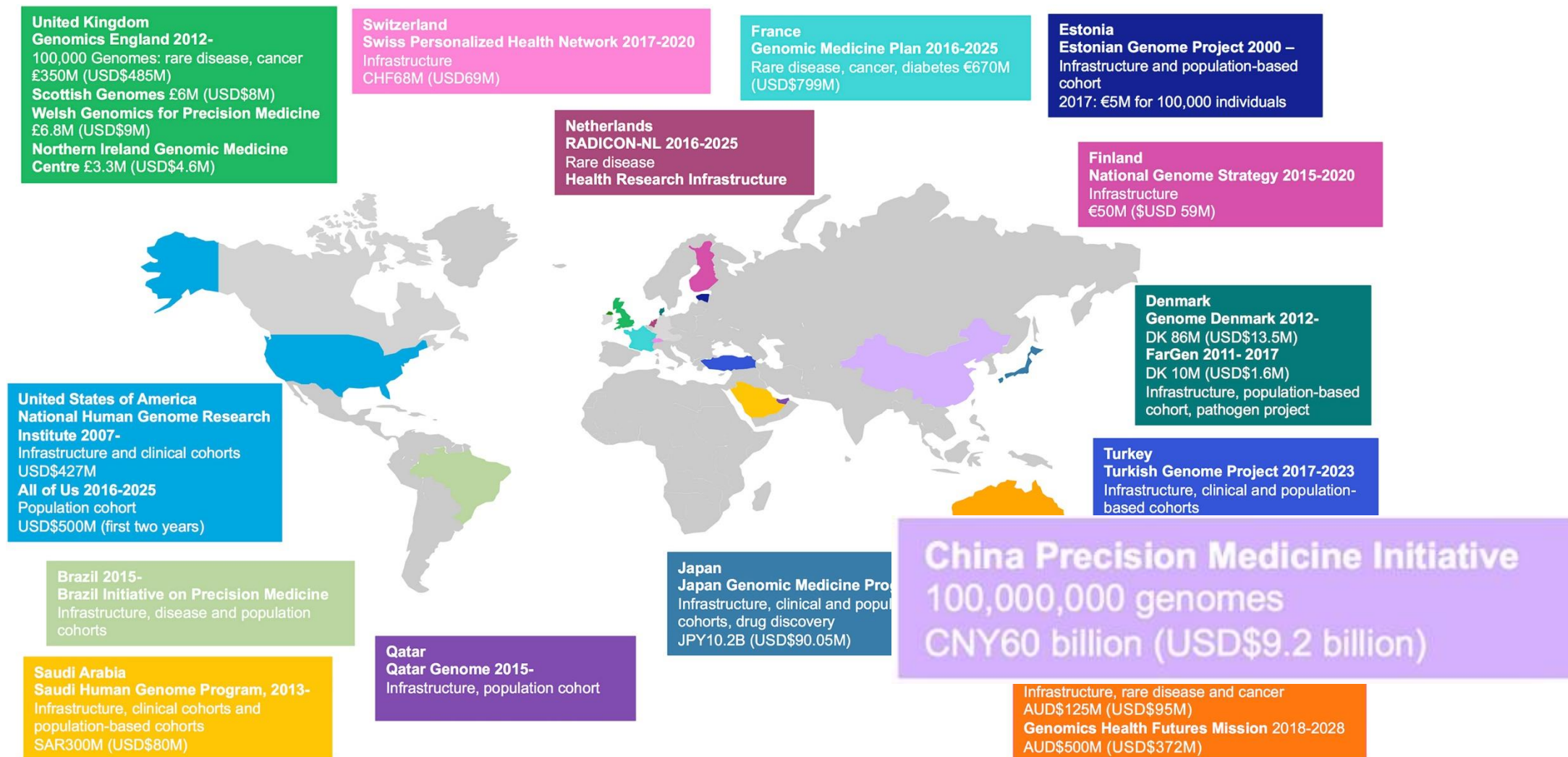
Health Secretary Matt Hancock said he wants healthy people to become "genomic volunteers" to help scientists better understand diseases and human genetics



[Like](#) Click to follow
The Independent

RGAA

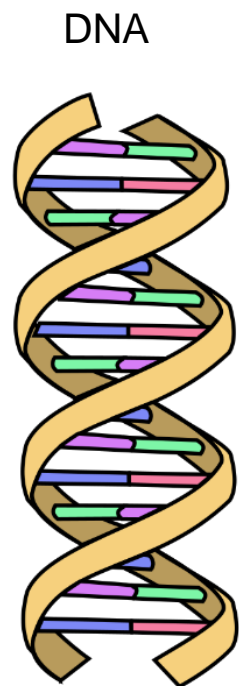
'Generation genome': national programmes and spending










Genetic Risk to Disease and Polygenic Risk Scores (PRS)

Genetics 101: DNA, chromosomes and single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)

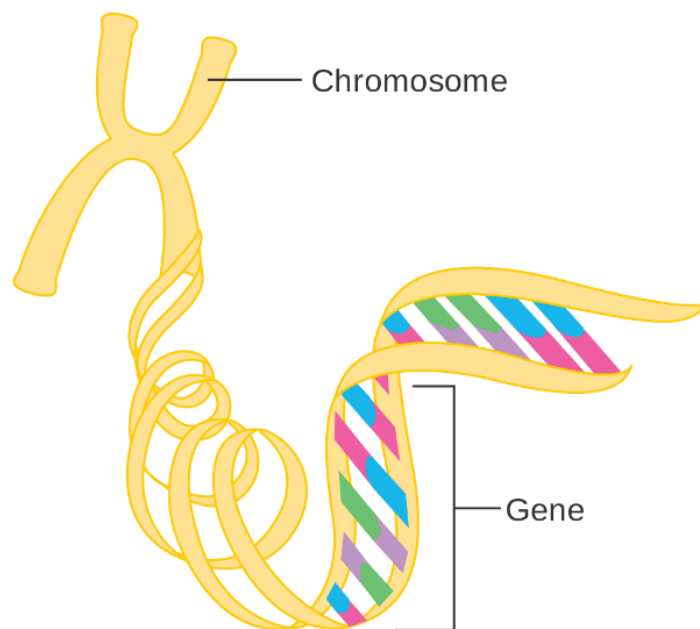


DNA

Base pairs

-  = Adenine
-  = Thymine
-  = Cytosine
-  = Guanine
-  = Phosphate backbone

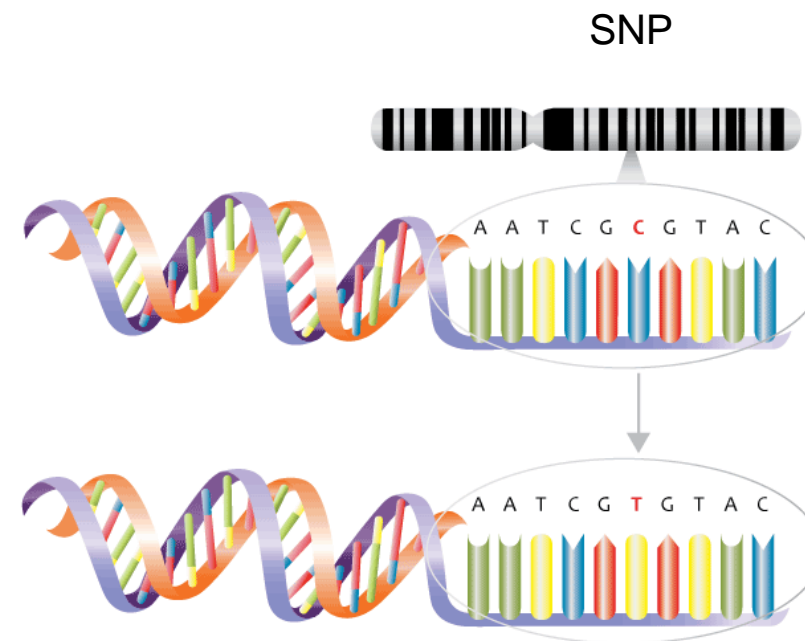
DNA is composed of four 'building blocks' (nucleotides):
adenine (A), cytosine (C),
guanine (G) and thymine (T)



Chromosome

Gene

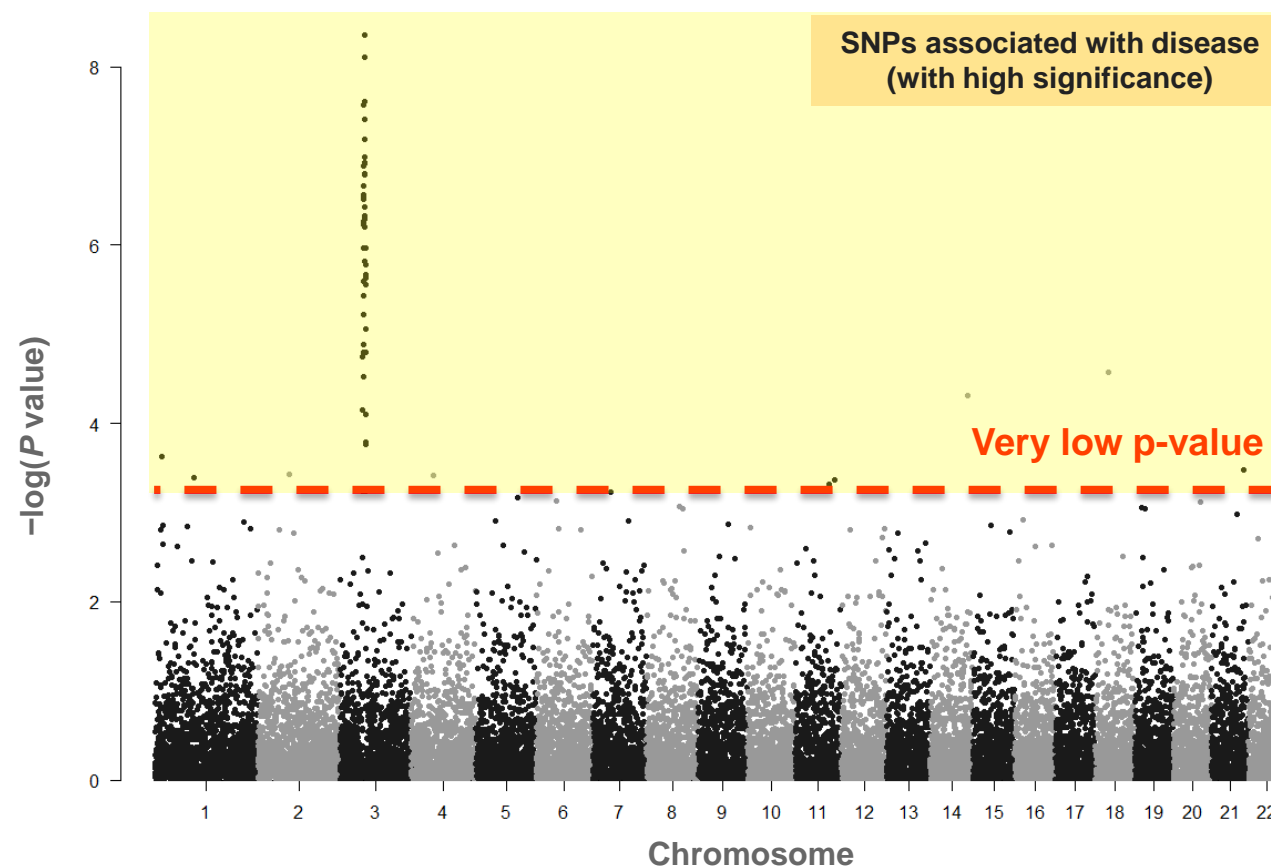
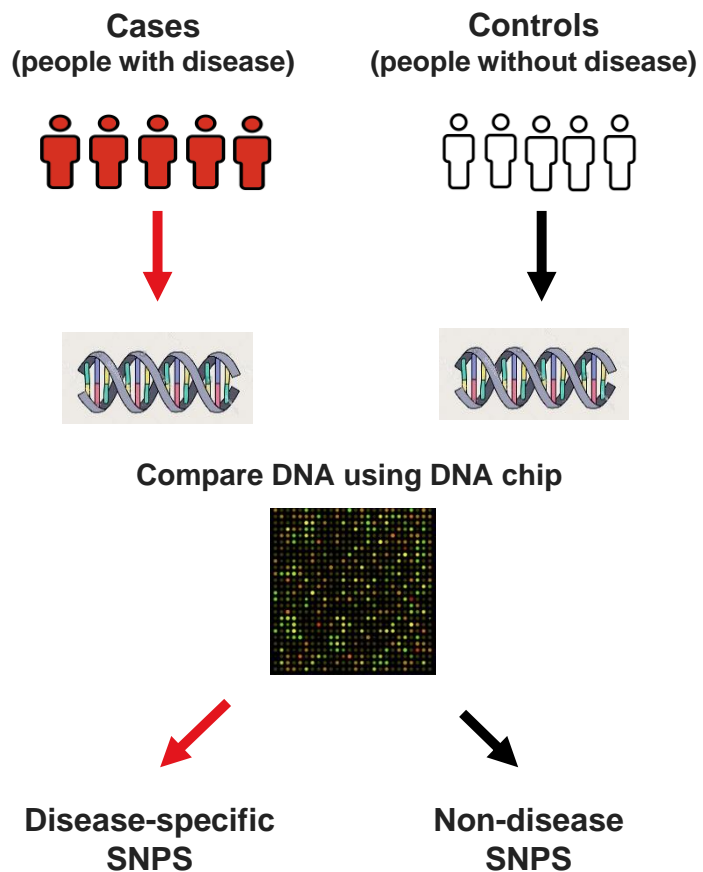
Human DNA is packaged into 23 pairs of chromosomes



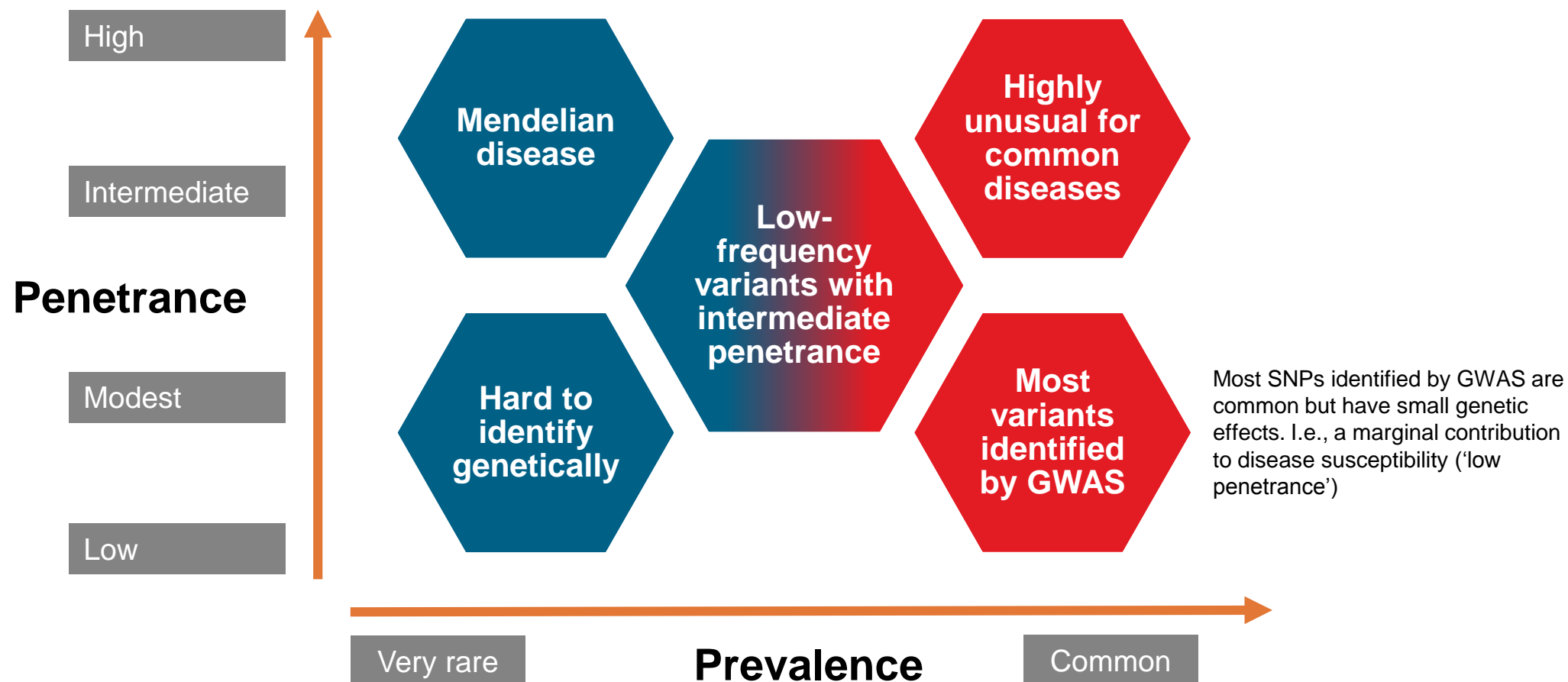
SNP

A single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) describes variation in a single nucleotide position. E.g., here, a **Thymine** nucleotide exists instead of **Cytosine**, which is most commonly observed.

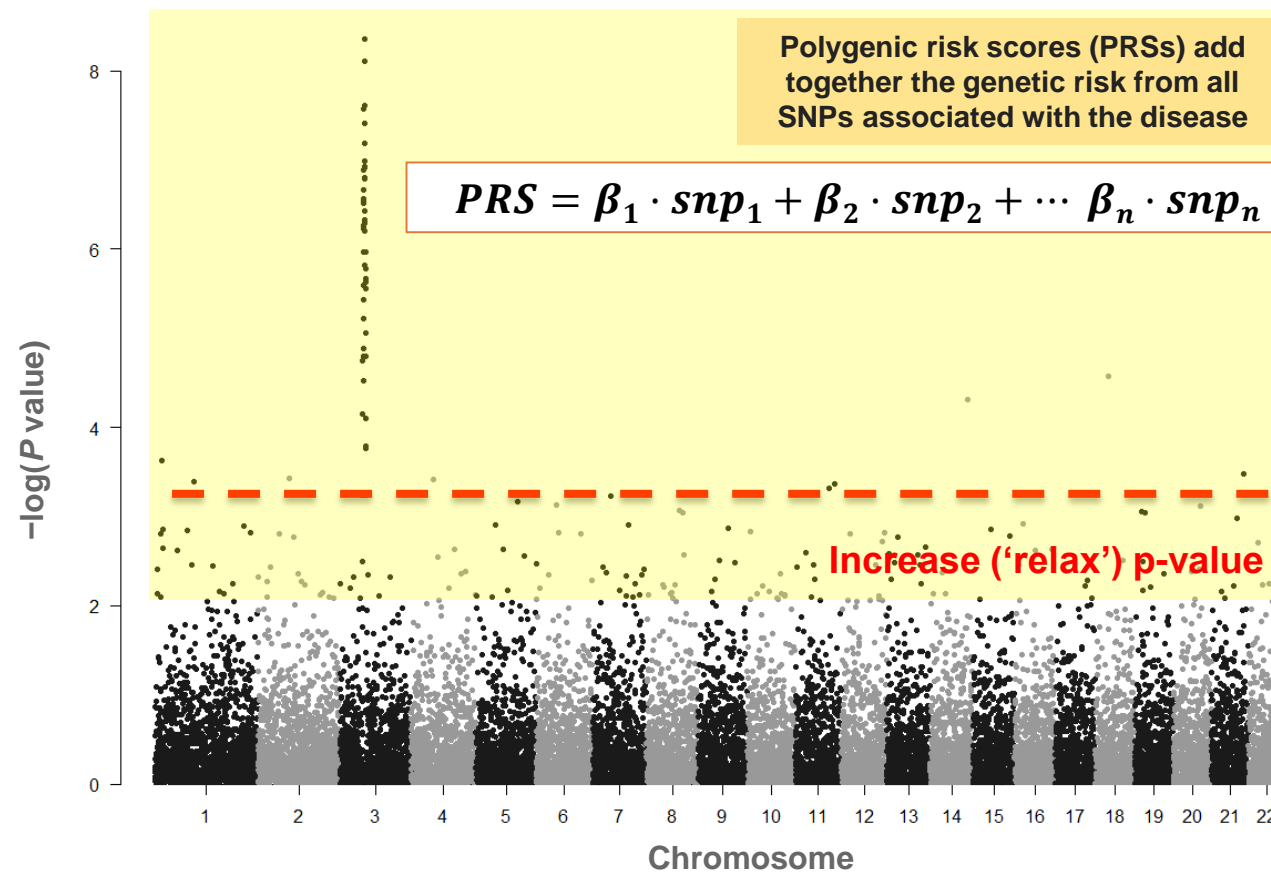
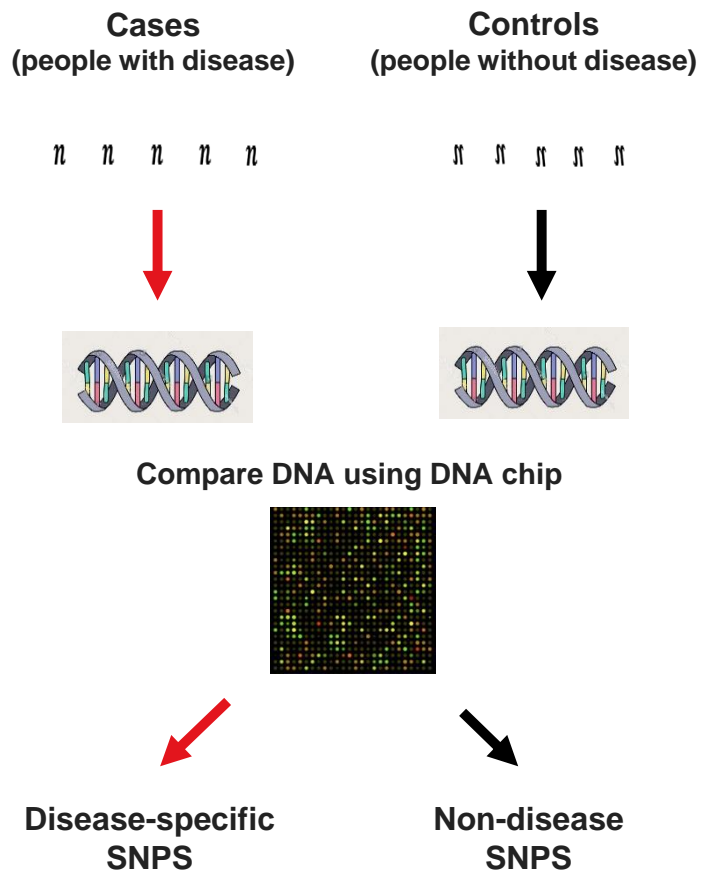
Genome wide association studies ('GWASes')



Prevalence vs. penetrance of genetic variants

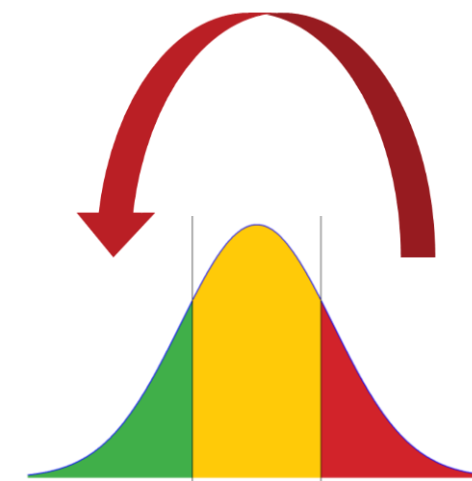


GWAS → Polygenic risk scores



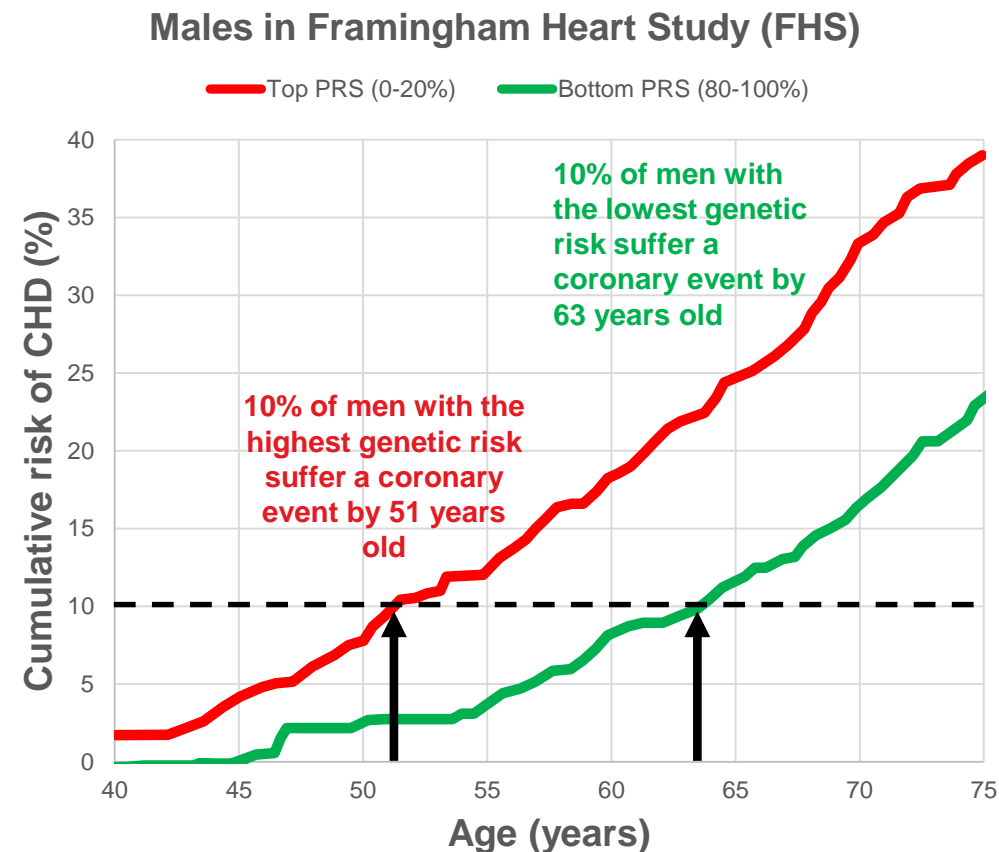
Sample of PRS in literature

Disorder	No. of Genetic Variants	Relative risk, comparing top 20% to bottom 20% PRS	Reference
Coronary artery disease	50	2.0	Khera AV. <i>et al.</i> (2016), N Engl J Med.
Coronary artery disease	49,310	1.8 to 4.5	Abraham G. <i>et al.</i> (2016), Eur Heart J.
Type 2 diabetes	1000	3.5	Läll K. <i>et al.</i> (2017), Genet Med.
Ischemic stroke	10	1.2 to 2.0	Hachiya T. <i>et al.</i> (2017), Stroke
Breast cancer	77	3.0	Mavaddat N. <i>et al.</i> (2015), J Natl Cancer Inst.
Breast cancer (East Asian ancestry)	44	2.9	Wen W. <i>et al.</i> (2016), Breast Cancer Res.
Prostate cancer	25	3.7 (25%)	Amin Al Olama A. <i>et al.</i> (2015), Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev.
Lung cancer	38	4.6 (25%)	Cheng Y. <i>et al.</i> (2016), Oncotarget



PRS for coronary heart disease increases predictive power, even after adjustment for clinical risk factors

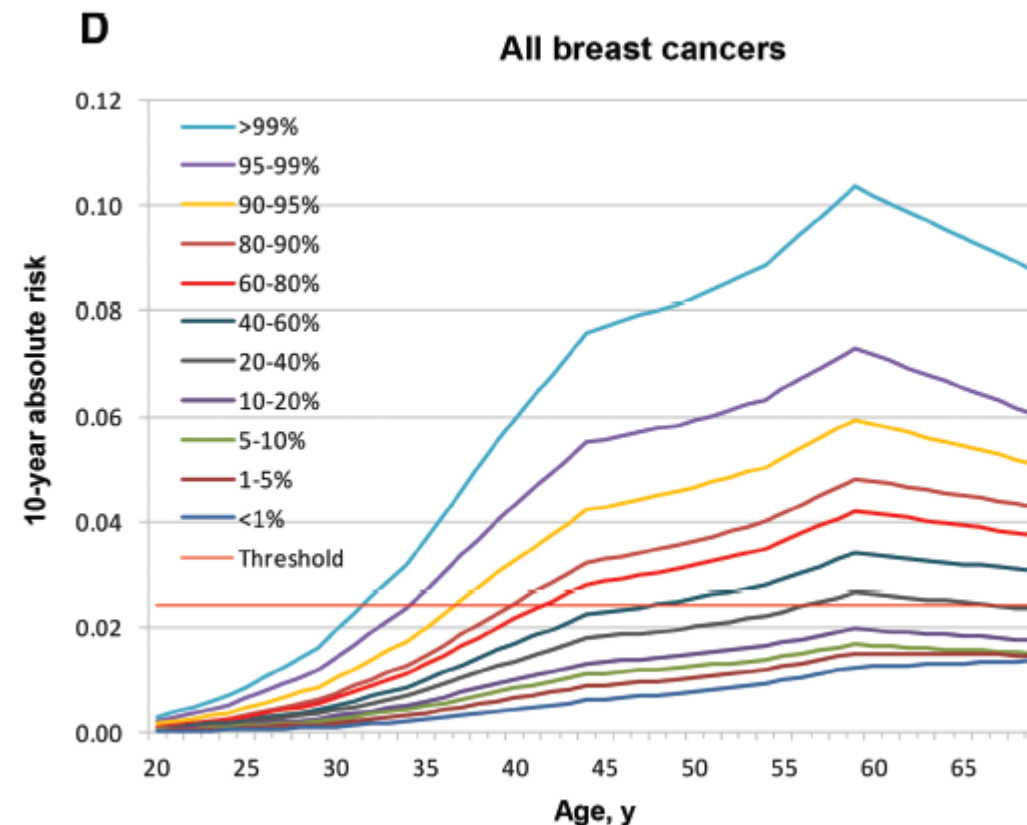
- A study by Abraham and colleagues* tested the clinical utility of a PRS for coronary heart disease (CHD), in terms of lifetime CHD risk and relative to traditional clinical risk
- PRS tested in independent cohorts (FINRISK and Framingham Heart Study [FHS]; combined $n = 16,802$ with 1,344 incident CHD events)
- **The PRS was tested alongside the best clinical risk factors as well as family history. After controlling for these risk factors, the PRS still proved to be a very powerful differentiator of CHD risk.**



How PRS could be adopted into clinical medicine – cancer screening

- Individuals with the highest 1% or 5% of PRS values could be offered:
 - Regular screening
 - Encouraged to participate in lifestyle modifications
 - Prescribed therapeutic interventions

- For example, in the UK, mammogram screening is initiated at age 47, based on a 10-year risk of breast cancer in the average woman, but:
 - Women in the top 5% of PRS-risk reach the average level at age 37
 - Women in the lowest 20% of PRS-risk will never reach the average level



PRS make front page news – August 2018



Genes put millions at triple risk of heart attack

£40 test would spot danger even with no symptoms



Coronary heart disease is ALAMY

Five million Brits attack despite lac

The Telegraph

News

Scientists hail DNA breakthrough that can detect if people are likely to have heart attacks



Save

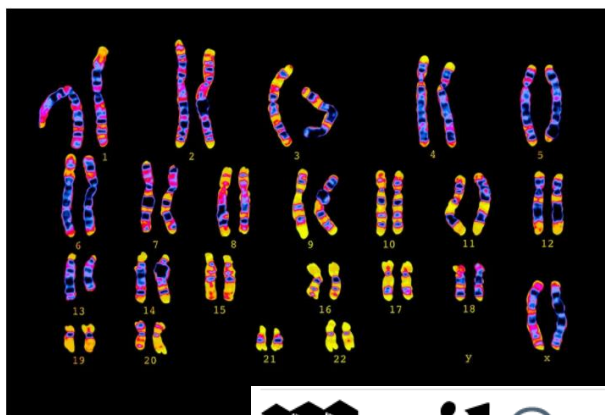


American scientists identified genetic variants in the DNA of patients that increase the risk of five common disorders CREDIT: ISTOCKPHOTO

The New York Times

Clues to Your Health Are Hidden at 6.6 Million Spots in Your DNA

With a sophisticated new algorithm, scientists have found a way to forecast an individual's risks for five deadly diseases.



A set of human chromosomes. Researcher and millions of points in the genome. PHILIP

MailOnline

Chaffin^{4,5}, Kr...
Natarajan²,
Sekar Kathiresan

\$50 blood test could spot killer diseases from heart attacks to breast cancer BEFORE symptoms show: Millions who are at risk due to their genes could be saved

- Harvard Medical School developed the test called 'polygenic risk scoring'
- It measures a person's risk of developing five life-threatening diseases based on their DNA
- The diseases they currently measure are: coronary artery disease, atrial fibrillation, type 2 diabetes, inflammatory bowel disease, and breast cancer
- It could be administered at birth to spot at-risk people from the earliest age

FINANCIAL TIMES

Genetic screening set to identify common serious conditions

Aim is to give people a risk score from birth for illnesses such as heart disease and breast cancer

Clare Elwell and Clive Cookson AUGUST 14, 2018



A genetic test is set to identify artery disease, breast cancer and other common serious conditions well before any symptoms are evident.

Scientists hope to eventually

The "polygenic risk test" uses genome to look for small vari

Forbes

A Harvard Scientist Thinks He Has a Gene Test for Heart Attack Risk. He Wants to Give It Away Free.



Matthew Herper Forbes Staff
Healthcare
I cover science and medicine, and believe this is biology's century.



Sekar Kathiresan SEKAR KATHIRESAN

PRS make front page news – August 2018

- Authors showed that common diseases can be predicted using PRSs for: coronary artery disease, type 2 diabetes, atrial fibrillation, breast cancer and inflammatory bowel disease

Risk in top 20% vs. bottom 80%:

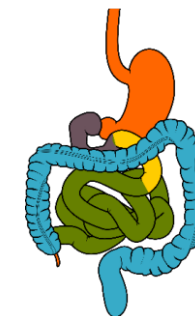
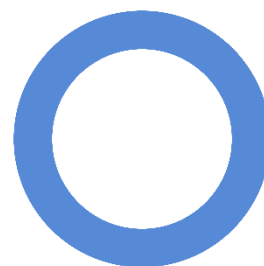
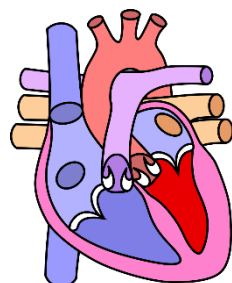
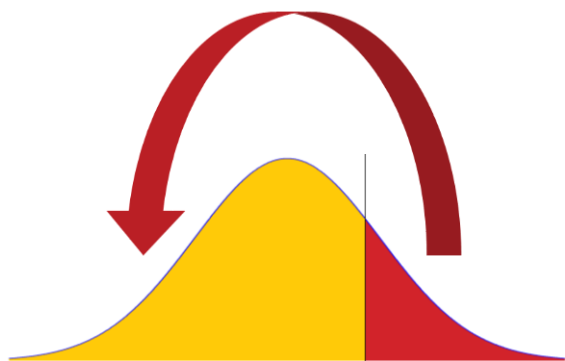
2.55x

2.33x

2.43x

2.07x

2.19x





Approved project: 23203



RGA Research Collaboration with King's College London



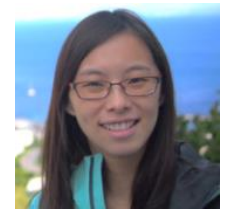
Prof. Cathryn Lewis
(Senior Lecturer)
Co-Principal Investigator



Dr Paul O'Reilly
(Senior Lecturer)
Co-Principal Investigator



**Miss Jessye
Maxwell**
(PhD Student)
Project Research Assistant



Dr Beatrice Wu
(Postdoctoral Researcher)
Project Research
Associate

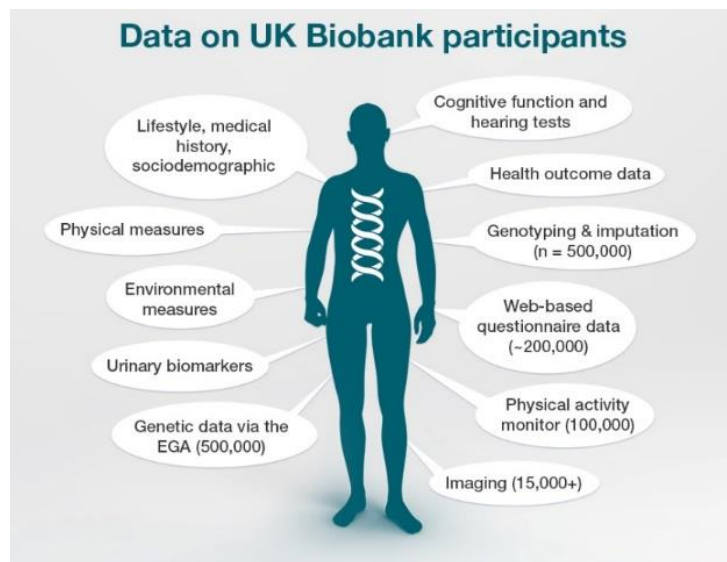
RGA Research Collaboration with KCL

- RGA-funded one year research project at KCL
- Desire to inform the debate around significance of (lack of) access to genetic information by insurers in non-compulsory insurance markets
- Collaborative agreement meets the principles set out in the UK Biobank Access Procedures, including commitment to publish all findings and results from the project so that they are available for other researchers to use for health-related research that is in the public interest
- **Only approved King's College London research staff have access to UK Biobank data**



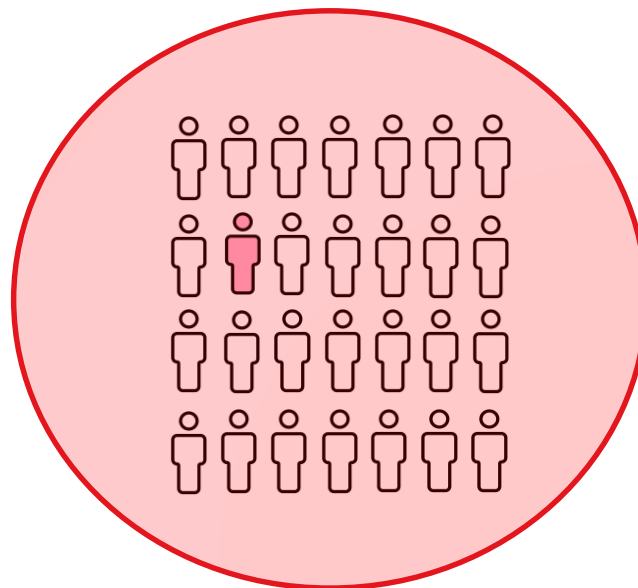
Why UK Biobank?

Breadth and Depth

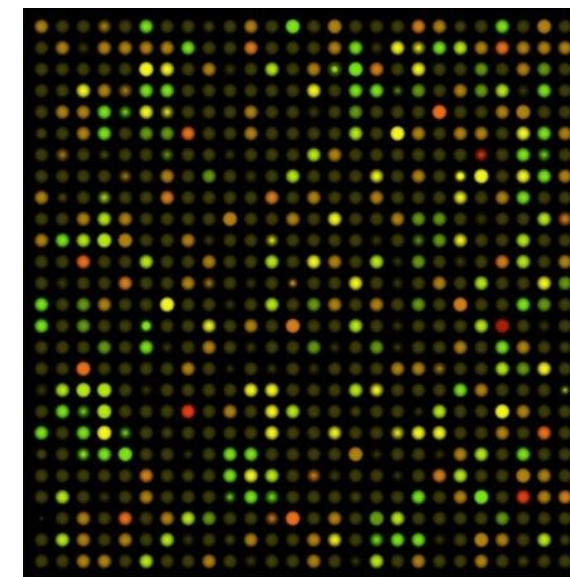


<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/about/news/feature-story/biobanks-genetic-data-demand>. Accessed 12 May 2018

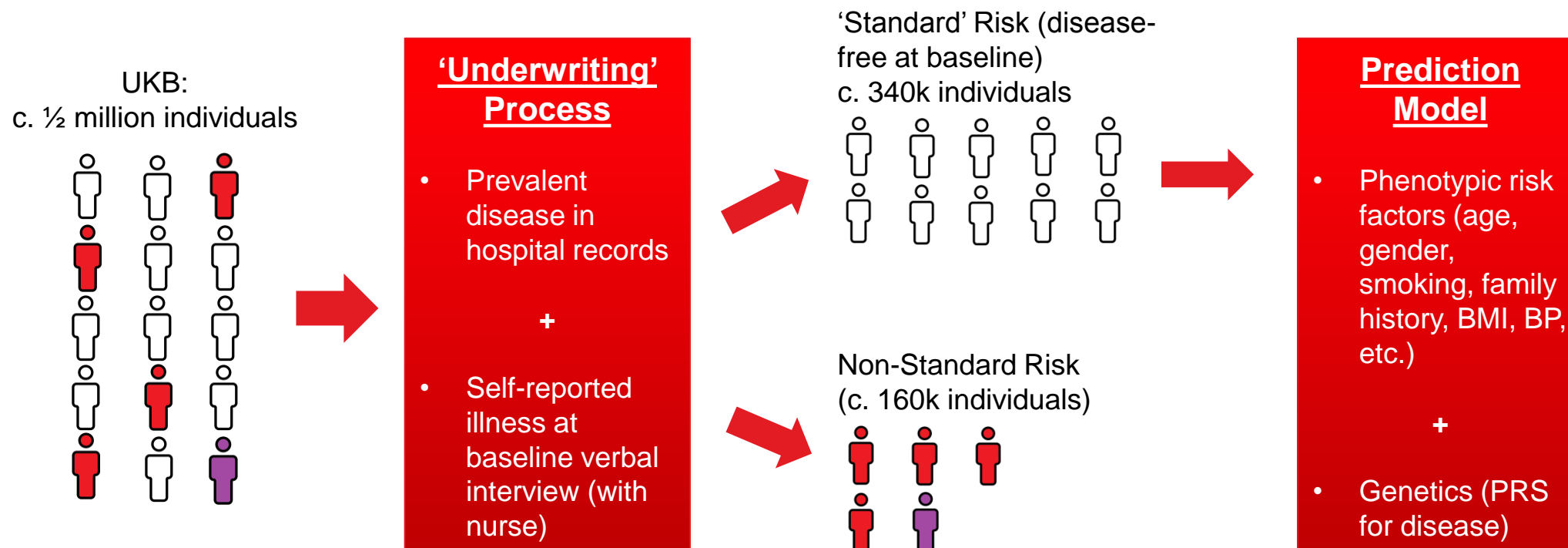
Long-term follow up of multiple outcomes



Genotyping on all 500k participants



'Underwriting' UKB participants and predicting disease incidence



PRS to predict incidence of breast cancer (RGA-KCL study results)

Total Participants: 199,322
Number of breast cancers: 3,947 (1.98%)



Percentile	Full cohort: Hazard ratio (95% CI)
0-1	0.39 (0.23 - 0.65)
1-5	0.6 (0.49 - 0.75)
5-10	0.63 (0.51 - 0.76)
10-20	0.67 (0.58 - 0.78)
20-40	0.88 (0.79 - 0.98)
40-60	1 (reference group)
60-80	1.22 (1.1 - 1.34)
80-90	1.5 (1.35 - 1.68)
90-95	1.73 (1.51 - 1.97)
95-99	2.02 (1.76 - 2.32)
99-100	2.47 (1.97 - 3.11)

Decreased risk



Increased risk



Total Participants: 143,898
Number of breast cancers: 2,835 (1.97%)



Percentile	Standard cohort: Hazard ratio (95% CI)
0-1	0.44 (0.25 - 0.79)
1-5	0.68 (0.53 - 0.87)
5-10	0.66 (0.52 - 0.83)
10-20	0.69 (0.58 - 0.82)
20-40	0.9 (0.8 - 1.02)
40-60	1 (reference group)
60-80	1.25 (1.12 - 1.41)
80-90	1.58 (1.38 - 1.8)
90-95	1.74 (1.49 - 2.05)
95-99	2.04 (1.73 - 2.4)
99-100	2.71 (2.08 - 3.53)

Decreased risk



Increased risk



PRS to predict incidence of cardiovascular disease (RGA-KCL study results)

Total Participants: 373,022
Number of CAD events: 6,430 (1.72%)



Percentile	Full cohort: Hazard ratio (95% CI)
0-1	0.56 (0.4 - 0.79)
1-5	0.49 (0.41 - 0.59)
5-10	0.71 (0.62 - 0.82)
10-20	0.73 (0.65 - 0.81)
20-40	0.82 (0.75 - 0.89)
40-60	1 (reference group)
60-80	1.17 (1.09 - 1.27)
80-90	1.45 (1.33 - 1.58)
90-95	1.49 (1.34 - 1.66)
95-99	1.88 (1.68 - 2.09)
99-100	2.78 (2.35 - 3.29)

Decreased risk



Increased risk



Total Participants: 260,791
Number of CAD events: 3,489 (1.34%)



Percentile	Standard cohort: Hazard ratio (95% CI)
0-1	0.51 (0.31 - 0.82)
1-5	0.43 (0.33 - 0.56)
5-10	0.7 (0.58 - 0.86)
10-20	0.75 (0.65 - 0.87)
20-40	0.86 (0.77 - 0.96)
40-60	1 (reference group)
60-80	1.27 (1.14 - 1.41)
80-90	1.57 (1.4 - 1.77)
90-95	1.56 (1.35 - 1.82)
95-99	2.2 (1.9 - 2.54)
99-100	3.46 (2.79 - 4.29)

Decreased risk



Increased risk





Genetics and Risks of Anti-selection

Research into anti-selection risk from genetics

- There have been several research papers.....
 - Alzheimer's disease anti-selection (Zick *et al.*, 2005)
 - Huntington's disease anti-selection (Oster *et al.*, 2009)
 - Work of GIRC / Angus MacDonald
 - CIA Genetic Testing (Mortality and Morbidity)
 - SOA reproduction of CIA work for US Markets
 - Australian paper, May 2017

-suggesting a wide range of possible impacts

- Many modelling assumptions being made
 - Insurance buying behavior pre/post tests
 - Probability of disease and impact thereof



Research into anti-selection risk from genetics: assumptions

Genetic Risk Assumptions

- **Prevalence** of disease variants
- **Penetrance** of disease variants

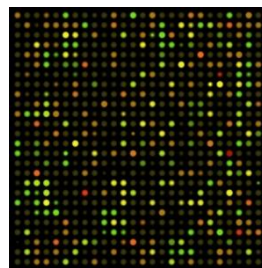
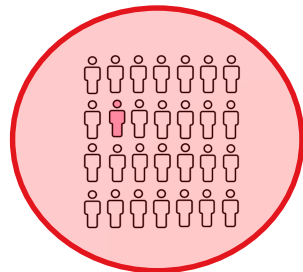


Insurance Assumptions

- Testing Rate
- Seeking insurance etc.



**Strengthen
assumptions using UK
Biobank results**



**Still great uncertainty
and more research is
needed**



Predicting impact of PRSs is still early

- Many scientific, clinical, and social obstacles must still be overcome to bring PRSs into clinical practice
- Genetic loci associated with disease will continue to be found and could confer additional predictive power
- Correlations with other health and lifestyle factors could be more significant than high penetrance genes
- Correlations between PRS for different conditions
- Risk of developing a disease may be correlated with severity of disease
- Application of PRS to non-Caucasian populations
- **Preventative or mitigating actions, such as:**
 - **Screening programs based on PRS may limit mortality impact**
 - **Impact of preventative lifestyle actions unknown**
 - **Pharmacogenomics, precision medicine etc.**

Potential for anti-selection – example in breast cancer

Total Participants: 199,322
Number of breast cancers: 3,947 (1.98%)



Percentile	Full cohort: Hazard ratio (95% CI)
0-1	0.39 (0.23 - 0.65)
1-5	0.6 (0.49 - 0.75)
5-10	0.63 (0.51 - 0.76)
10-20	0.67 (0.58 - 0.78)
20-40	0.88 (0.79 - 0.98)
40-60	1 (reference group)
60-80	1.22 (1.1 - 1.34)
80-90	1.5 (1.35 - 1.68)
90-95	1.73 (1.51 - 1.97)
95-99	2.02 (1.76 - 2.32)
99-100	2.47 (1.97 - 3.11)

Decreased risk



Increased risk



Total Participants: 143,898
Number of breast cancers: 2,835 (1.97%)



Percentile	Standard cohort: Hazard ratio (95% CI)
0-1	0.44 (0.25 - 0.79)
1-5	0.68 (0.53 - 0.87)
5-10	0.66 (0.52 - 0.83)
10-20	0.69 (0.58 - 0.82)
20-40	0.9 (0.8 - 1.02)
40-60	1 (reference group)
60-80	1.25 (1.12 - 1.41)
80-90	1.58 (1.38 - 1.8)
90-95	1.74 (1.49 - 2.05)
95-99	2.04 (1.73 - 2.4)
99-100	2.71 (2.08 - 3.53)

Decreased risk

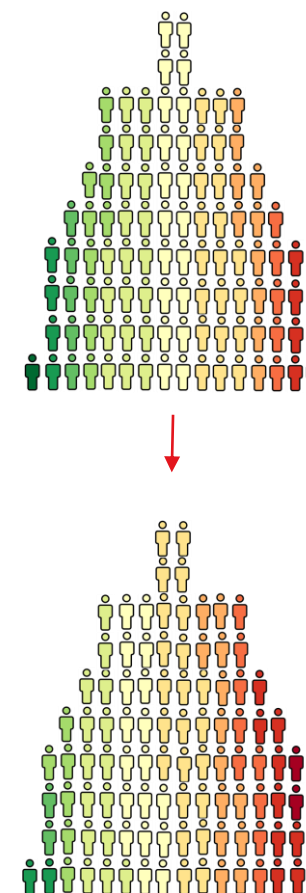


Increased risk



Potential for anti-selection – example in breast cancer. Scenario 1:

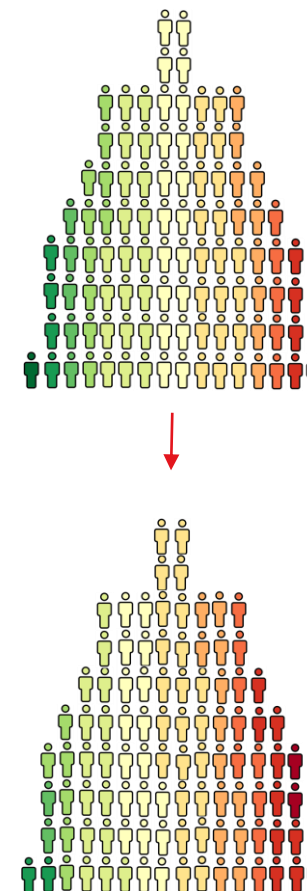
Percentile	% in general population	Hazard ratio for breast cancer	Probability of purchasing insurance *	% in new risk pool
0-1	1%	0.44	0.44x	0.4%
1-5	4%	0.68	0.68x	2.4%
5-10	5%	0.66	0.66x	3.0%
10-20	10%	0.69	0.69x	6.2%
20-40	20%	0.9	0.9x	16.1%
40-60	20%	1	1x	17.9%
60-80	20%	1.25	1.25x	22.4%
80-90	10%	1.58	1.58x	14.1%
90-95	5%	1.74	1.74x	7.8%
95-99	4%	2.04	2.04x	7.3%
99-100	1%	2.71	2.71x	2.4%



- **+12.6%** increase in incidence
- **Further +2.2%** if include **BRCA1/2 mutations** (assuming 0.2% prevalence and 5x odds ratio)

Potential for anti-selection – example in breast cancer. Scenario 2:

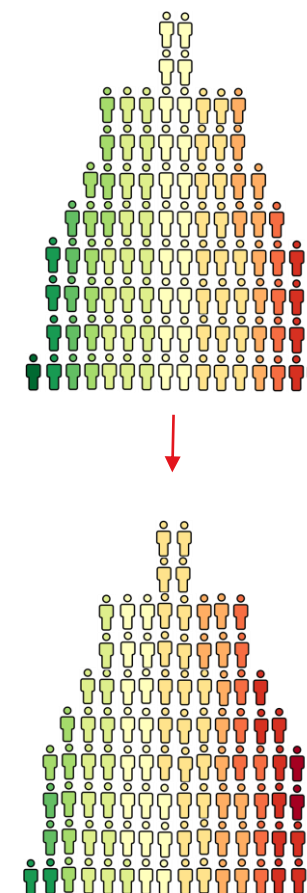
Percentile	% in general population	Hazard ratio for breast cancer	Probability of purchasing insurance *	% in new risk pool
0-1	1%	0.44	0.73x	0.7%
1-5	4%	0.68	0.84x	3.2%
5-10	5%	0.66	0.83x	3.9%
10-20	10%	0.69	0.85x	8.0%
20-40	20%	0.9	0.96x	17.9%
40-60	20%	1	1x	18.9%
60-80	20%	1.25	1.13x	21.3%
80-90	10%	1.58	1.29x	12.2%
90-95	5%	1.74	1.37x	6.5%
95-99	4%	2.04	1.53x	5.7%
99-100	1%	2.71	1.87x	1.8%



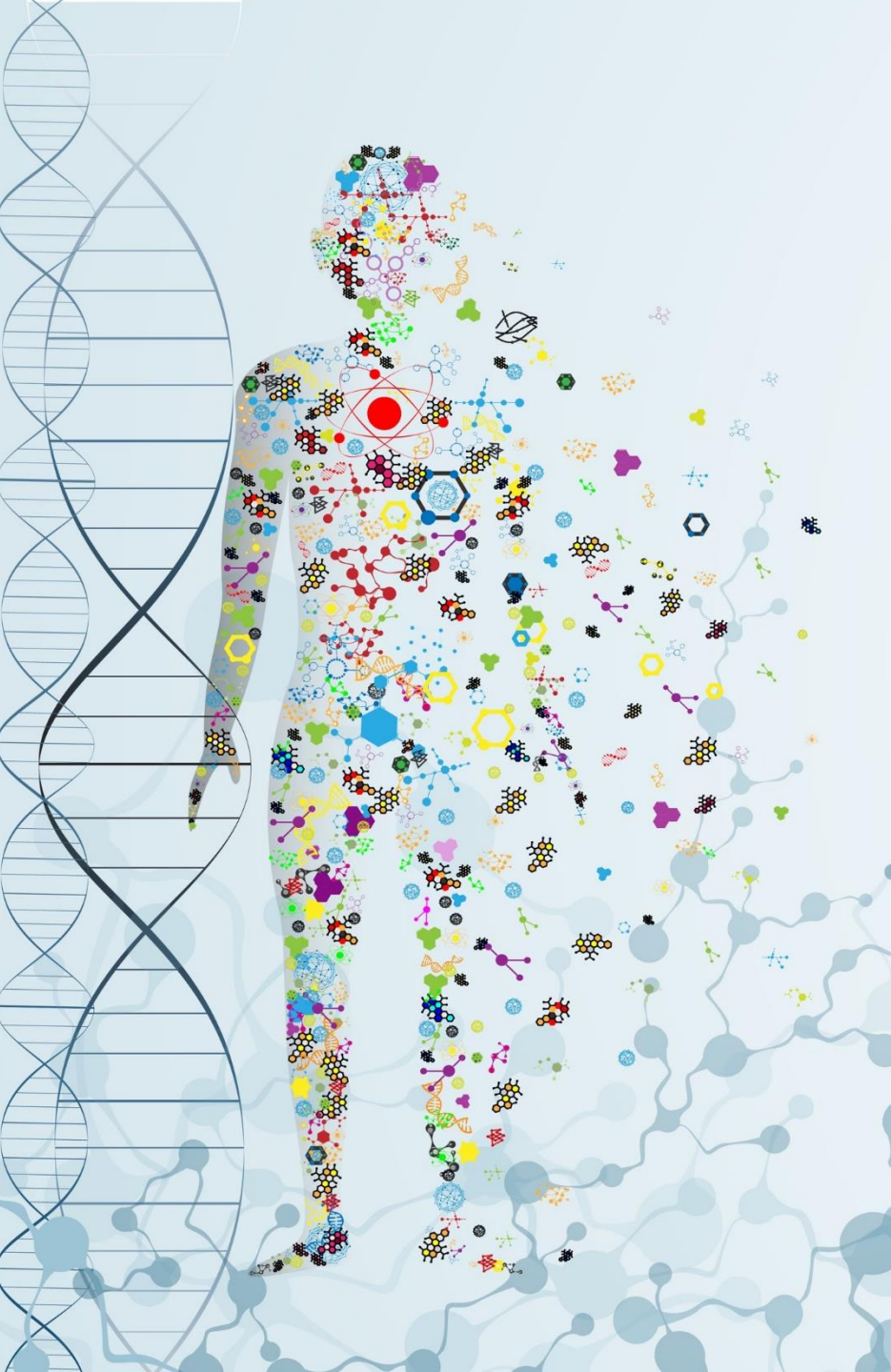
- **+6.6%** increase in incidence
- **Further +1.2%** if include **BRCA1/2 mutations** (assuming 0.2% prevalence and 5x odds ratio)

Potential for anti-selection – example in breast cancer. Scenario 3:

Percentile	% in general population	Hazard ratio for breast cancer	Probability of purchasing insurance *	% in new risk pool
0-1	1%	0.44	1x	0.9%
1-5	4%	0.68	1x	3.6%
5-10	5%	0.66	1x	4.5%
10-20	10%	0.69	1x	9.1%
20-40	20%	0.9	1x	18.2%
40-60	20%	1	1x	18.2%
60-80	20%	1.25	1.13x	20.4%
80-90	10%	1.58	1.29x	11.7%
90-95	5%	1.74	1.37x	6.2%
95-99	4%	2.04	1.53x	5.5%
99-100	1%	2.71	1.86x	1.7%








- **+5.0%** increase in incidence
- **Further +1.1%** if include **BRCA1/2 mutations** (assuming 0.2% prevalence and 5x odds ratio)



Key Messages

Genetic anti-selection risk: are these beliefs still valid?

1. Genetic risk information will ~~not~~ be widely available in the near future 
2. Monogenic mutations that confer significantly higher risk of disease are rare therefore the cost imposed on insurers by any associated adverse selection is deemed small, **while genetic risk information remains not widely available** 
3. Most common diseases are multifactorial, and the genetic contribution to these diseases is ~~modest~~ **much greater than previously thought** 
4. Genetic test results will ~~not~~ deliver significant risk information that is not already available from traditional clinical measures used in underwriting 
5. The genetic contribution to disease is ~~adequately captured by~~ **inadequately captured by** family history 

Closing Remarks

- Polygenic risk scores increase our concerns about anti-selection risk from genetic information asymmetry. It is a classic emerging risk for our industry
- Advances in genomic medicine will undoubtedly improve disease diagnosis and ultimately disease prognosis which will drive improvements in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy
- Genetic data is one example of data that has the potential to enable “Precision Underwriting”. There are a range of social, ethical, regulatory and competitive issues that need to be addressed before that happens

Thank you for your attention

Any Questions?

RGIA



Institute
and Faculty
of Actuaries