



State of Genetic Testing

How is genetic testing done? What do the results mean?

Nejat Mahdieh

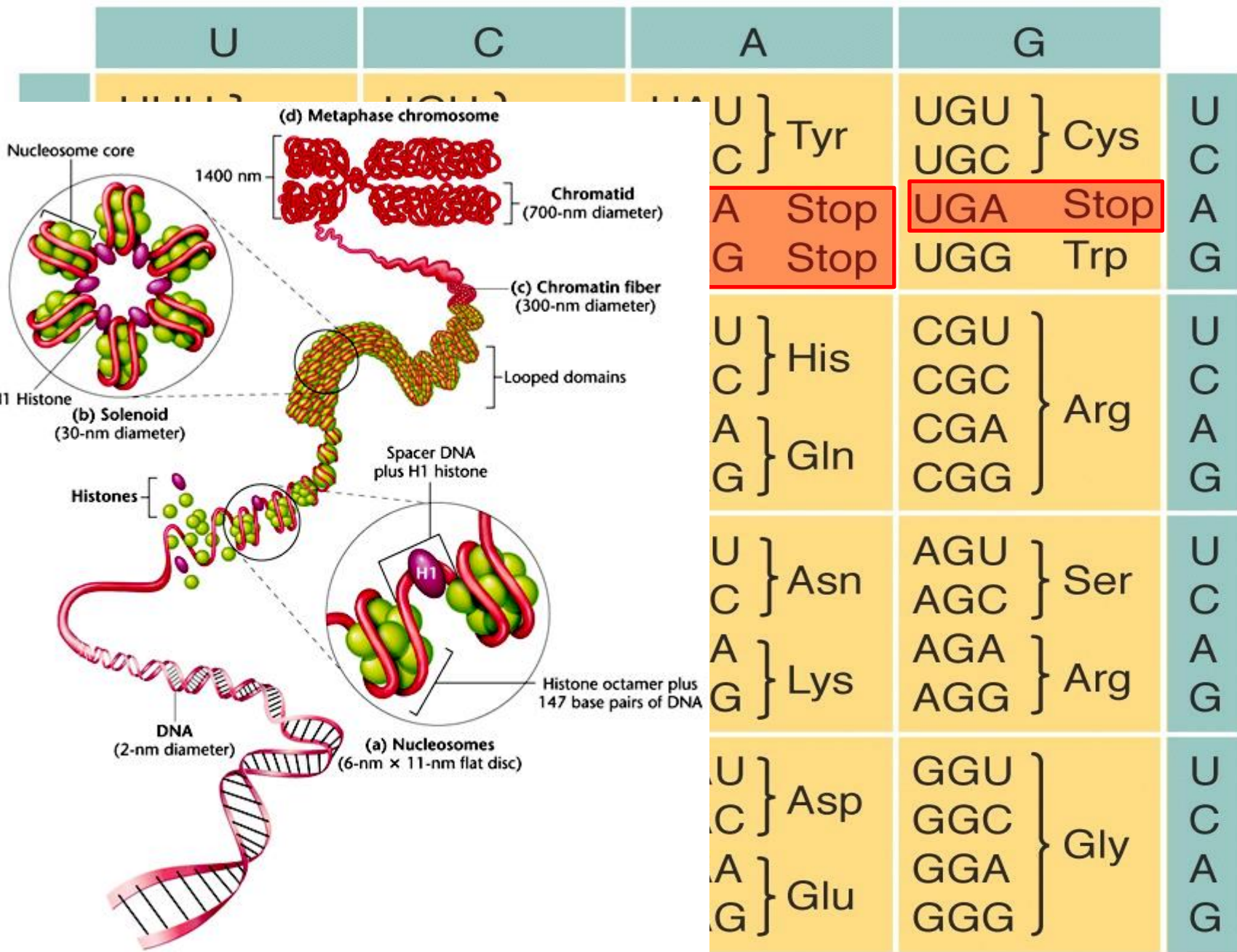
Medical Geneticist, PhD, Associate Professor

Genetic Laboratory, Cardiogenetic Research Center,
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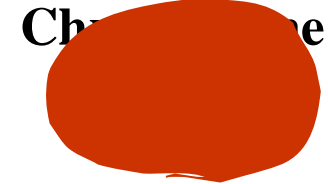
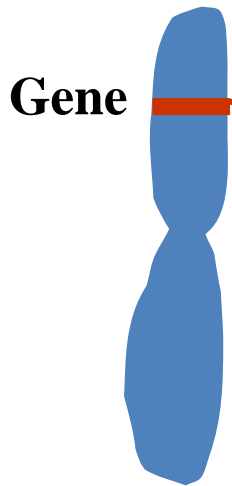
Second letter

First letter

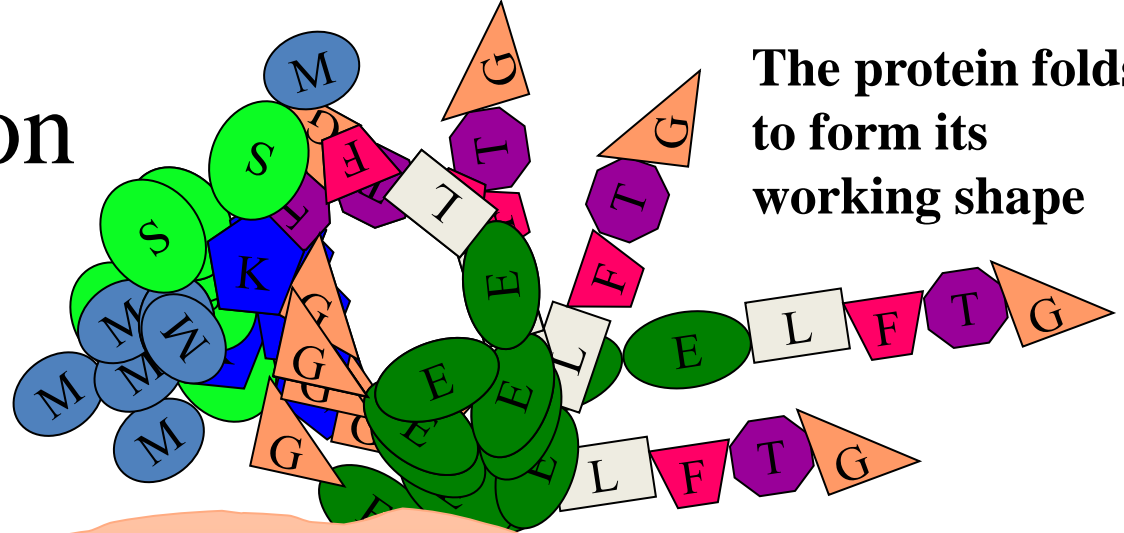
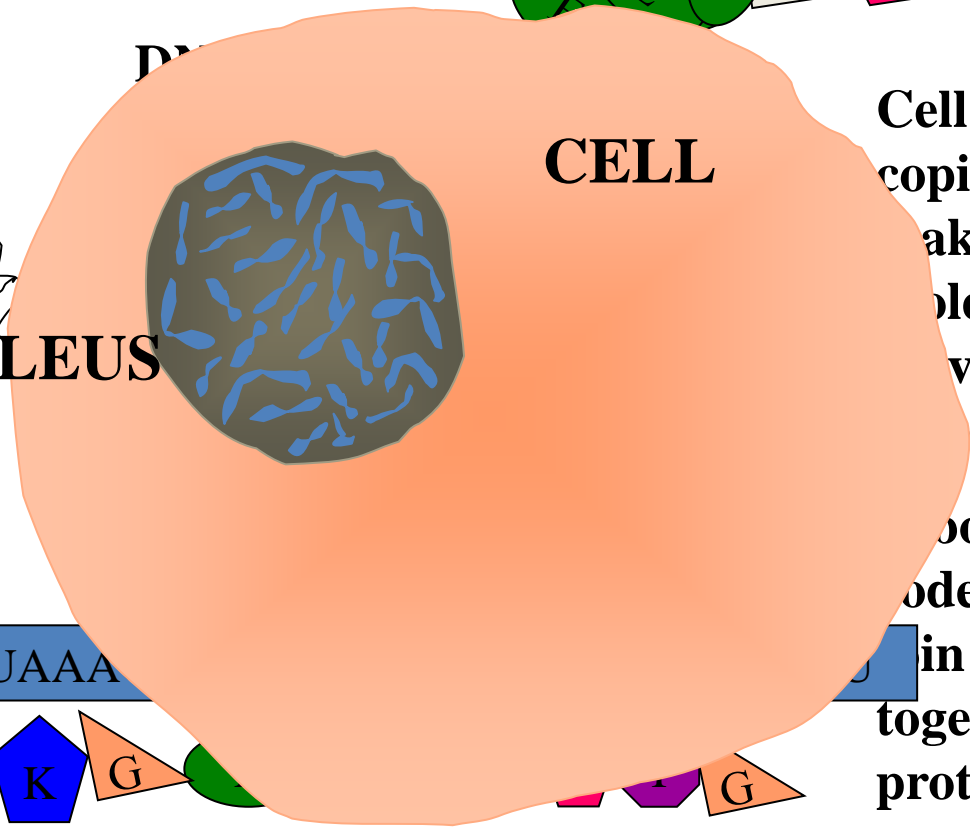
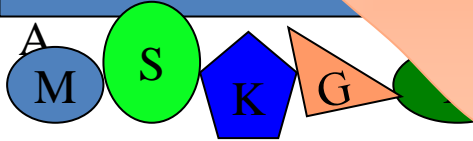
Third letter



Gene Expression



AUGAGUAAA

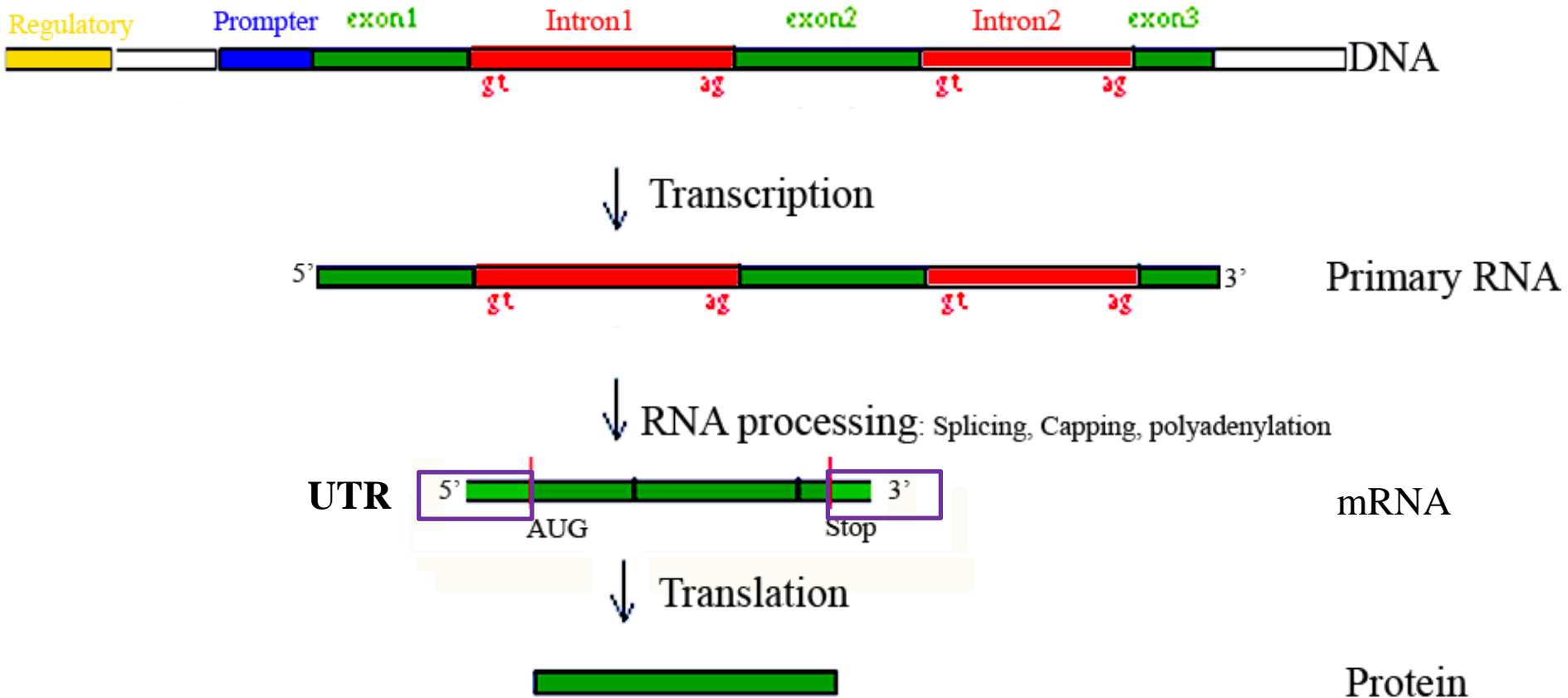


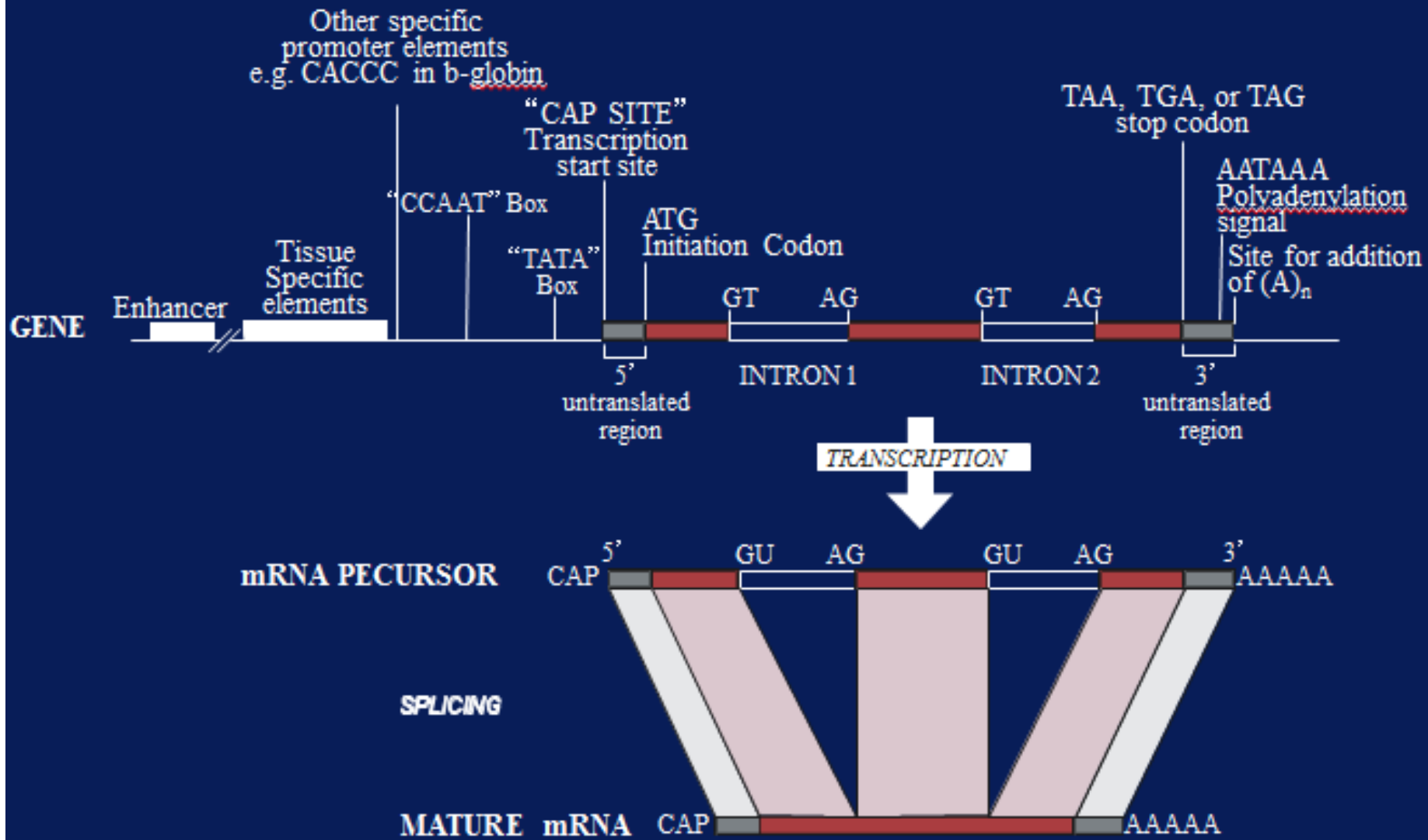
The protein folds to form its working shape

Cell machinery copies the code making an mRNA molecule. This moves into the cytoplasm.

Ribosomes read the code and accurately join amino acids together to make a protein

Central Dogma, Gene Structure





Genetic variation

- Makes us unique
 - “variants”
- Is the basis for evolution
- Is the basis for disease



Genetic Disorders

1. **Single Gene Inheritance** (Mendelian inheritance)

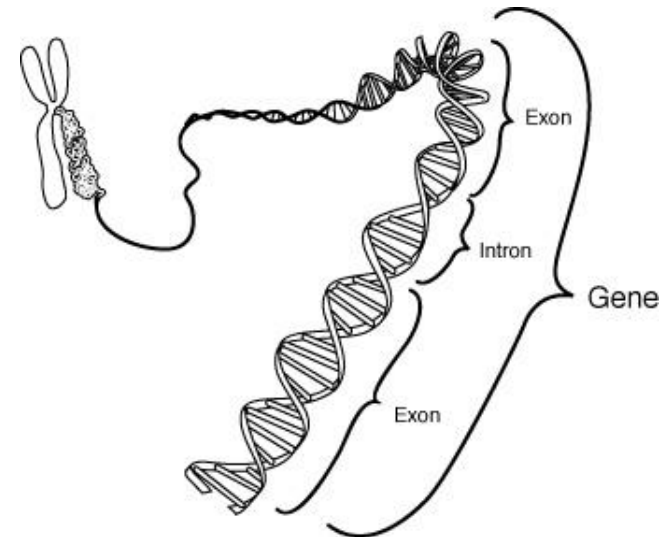
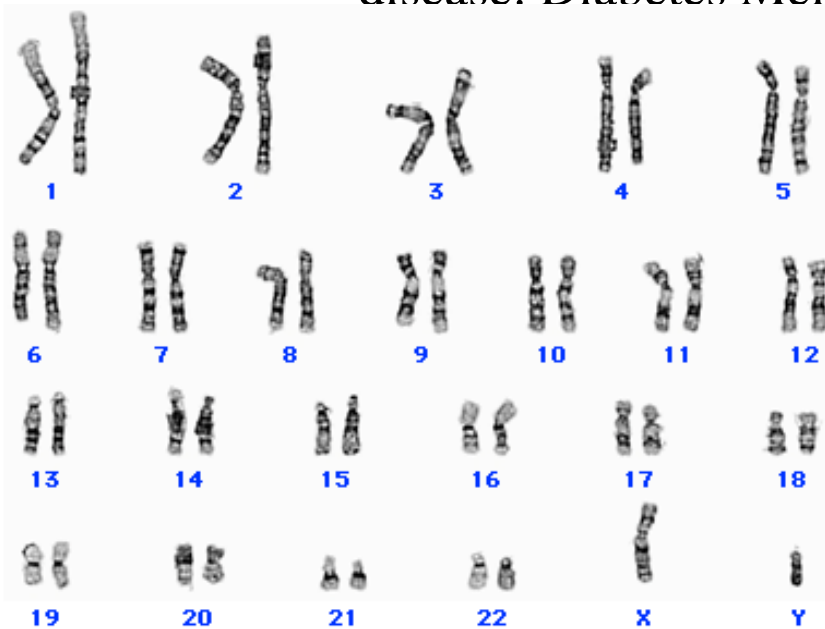
- Cystic Fibrosis, Marfan Syn., Familial Hypercholesterolemia

2. **Chromosomal disorders** (Cytogenetics)

- Trisomy 21

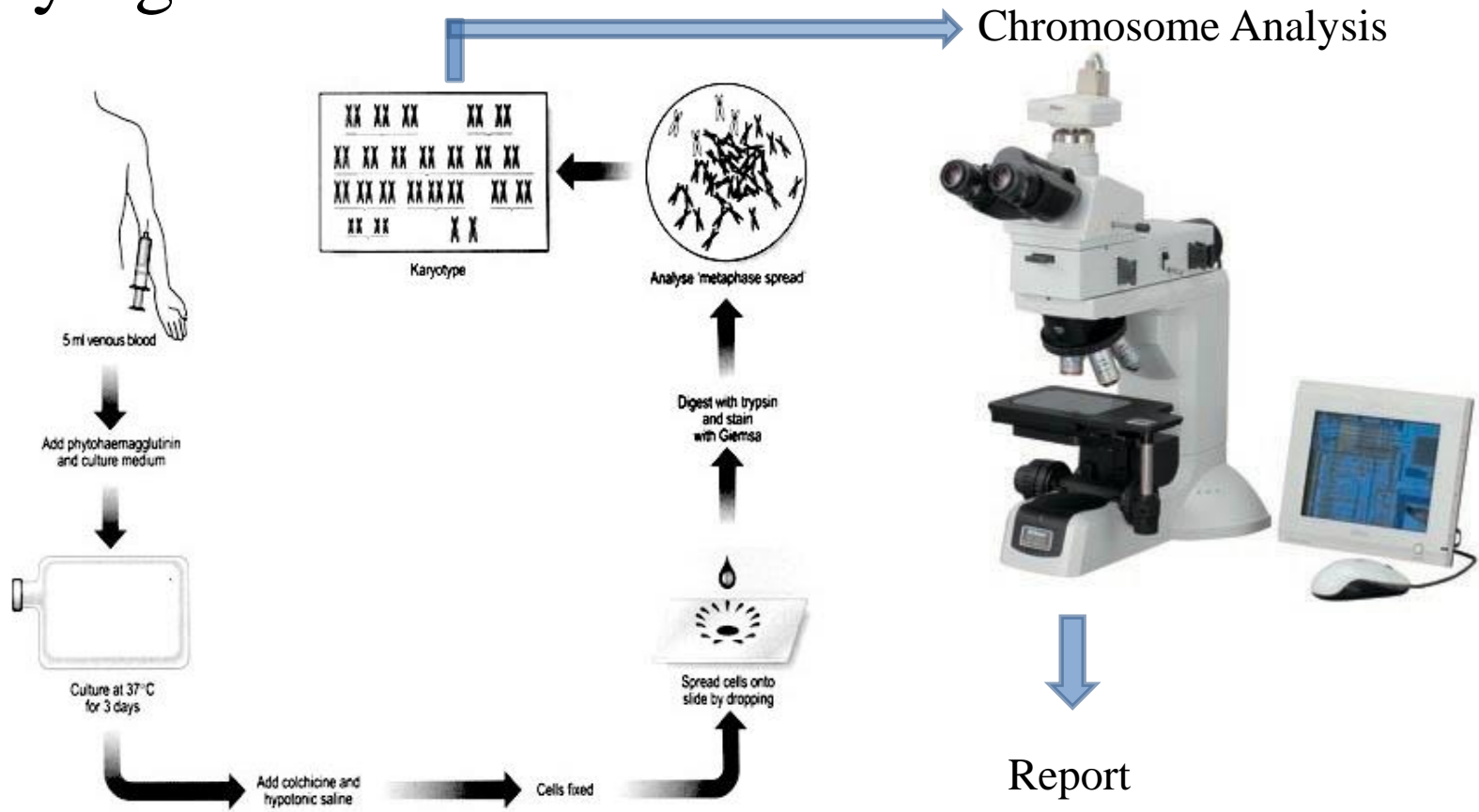
3. **Multifactorial Disorders**

- Combination of Genetic and environmental factors (Common disease: Diabetes Mellitus, CAD)



Cytogenetic tests

- Cytogenetics:



Molecular tests

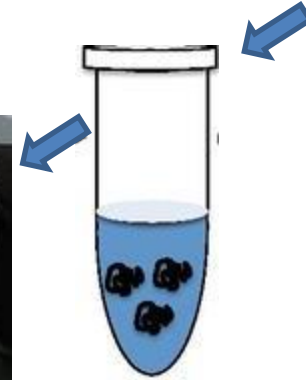
- Molecular Genetics:

- PCR
- Sanger Sequencing
- WES

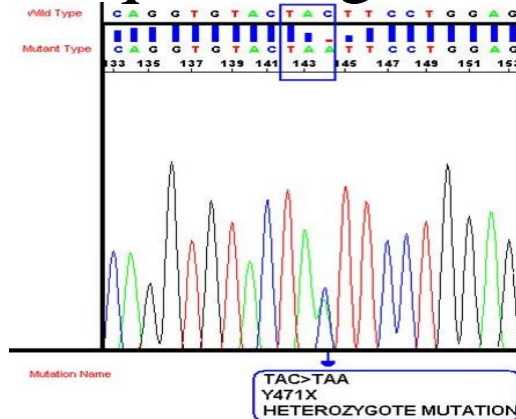


Whole Blood
Fresh Blood
Heparin-treated
EDTA-treated
Citratated-treated
Plasma

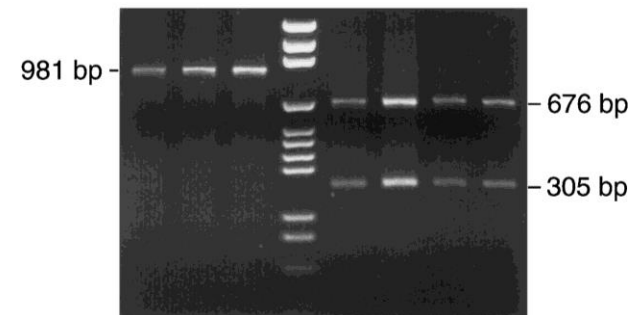
PCR



Sequencing



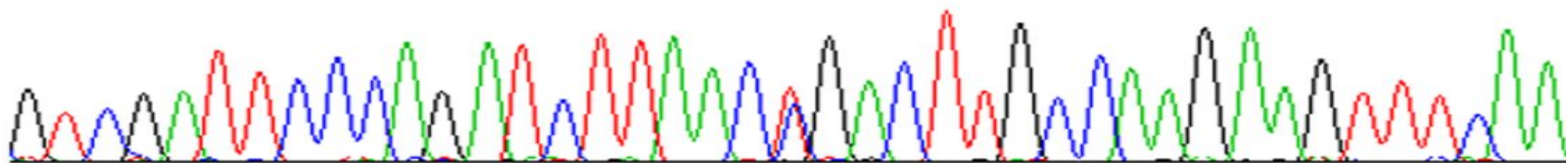
Electrophoresis



Report

Mutation Nomenclature

G T C G A T T C C C A G A T C T T A A C N G A C T T G C C A A G A A G T T T C A A



c.1552C>T

Replacement

Original base

Deletion: **197delAG**

Insertion: **2552insT**

Inversion: **76_83inv**

Base position

"c." for coding DNA sequence

p.R518X

Original aa

Replacement

del508F in CFTR gene

aa position

Silent: p.Arg197Arg

Missense: p.Arg197Trp

Nonsense: p.Arg197Ter

Missense

ATA
ile

Silent

GGA
gly

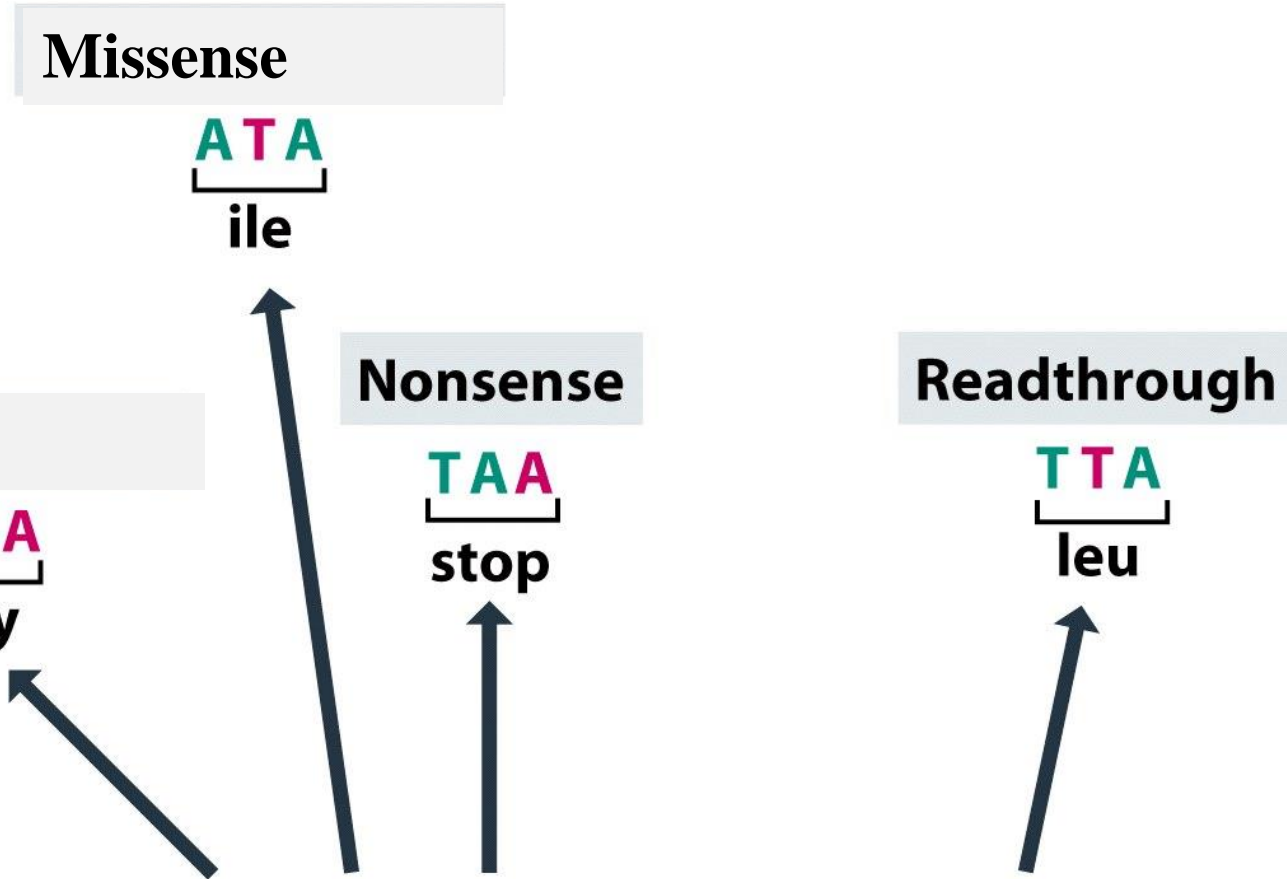
Nonsense

TAA
stop

Readthrough

TTA
leu

...ATGGGCAAATATAGCATTCCATAAAAATATATA...
met gly lys tyr ser ile pro stop



Allelic heterogeneity

Locus heterogeneity

Loss of function

Gain of function

Dominant negative

Haploinsufficiency

Pleiotropy

Reduced penetrance

Variable expressivity

Variant classification

Variant, mutation, polymorphism

The American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG):

(1) pathogenic

(2) likely pathogenic

(3) uncertain significance

(4) likely benign

(5) benign

	Benign		Pathogenic			
	Strong	Supporting	Supporting	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong
Population Data	MAF is too high for disorder <i>BA1/BS1</i> OR observation in controls inconsistent with disease penetrance <i>BS2</i>			Absent in population databases <i>PM2</i>	Prevalence in affecteds statistically increased over controls <i>PS4</i>	
Computational And Predictive Data		Multiple lines of computational evidence suggest no impact on gene /gene product <i>BP4</i> Missense in gene where only truncating cause disease <i>BP1</i> Silent variant with non predicted splice impact <i>BP7</i>	Multiple lines of computational evidence support a deleterious effect on the gene /gene product <i>PP3</i>	Novel missense change at an amino acid residue where a different pathogenic missense change has been seen before <i>PM5</i> Protein length changing variant <i>PM4</i>	Same amino acid change as an established pathogenic variant <i>PS1</i>	Predicted null variant in a gene where LOF is a known mechanism of disease <i>PVS1</i>
Functional Data	Well-established functional studies show no deleterious effect <i>BS3</i>		Missense in gene with low rate of benign missense variants and path. missenses common <i>PP2</i>	Mutational hot spot or well-studied functional domain without benign variation <i>PM1</i>	Well-established functional studies show a deleterious effect <i>PS3</i>	
Segregation Data	Non-segregation with disease <i>BS4</i>		Co-segregation with disease in multiple affected family members <i>PP1</i>	Increased segregation data →		
De novo Data				<i>De novo</i> (without paternity & maternity confirmed) <i>PM6</i>	<i>De novo</i> (paternity & maternity confirmed) <i>PS2</i>	
Allelic Data		Observed in <i>trans</i> with a dominant variant <i>BP2</i> Observed in <i>cis</i> with a pathogenic variant <i>BP2</i>		For recessive disorders, detected in <i>trans</i> with a pathogenic variant <i>PM3</i>		
Other Database		Reputable source w/out shared data = benign <i>BP6</i>	Reputable source = pathogenic <i>PP5</i>			
Other Data		Found in case with an alternate cause	Patient's phenotype or FH highly specific for			

Rules for Combining Criteria to Classify Sequence Variants

Pathogenic:

- 1 Very Strong (PVS1) *AND*
 - ≥ 1 Strong (PS1–PS4) *OR*
 - ≥ 2 Moderate (PM1–PM6) *OR*
 - 1 Moderate (PM1–PM6) and 1 Supporting (PP1–PP5) *OR*
 - ≥ 2 Supporting (PP1–PP5)
- ≥ 2 Strong (PS1–PS4) *OR*
- 1 Strong (PS1–PS4) *AND* ≥ 3 Moderate (PM1–PM6) *OR*
 - 2 Moderate (PM1–PM6) *AND* ≥ 2 Supporting (PP1–PP5) *OR*
 - 1 Moderate (PM1–PM6) *AND* ≥ 4 Supporting (PP1–PP5)

Likely Pathogenic:

- 1 Very Strong (PVS1) *AND* 1 Moderate (PM1–PM6) *OR*
- 1 Strong (PS1–PS4) *AND* 1–2 Moderate (PM1–PM6) *OR*
- 1 Strong (PS1–PS4) *AND* ≥ 2 Supporting (PP1–PP5) *OR*
- ≥ 3 Moderate (PM1–PM6) *OR*
- 2 Moderate (PM1–PM6) *AND* ≥ 2 Supporting (PP1–PP5) *OR*
- 1 Moderate (PM1–PM6) *AND* ≥ 4 Supporting (PP1–PP5)

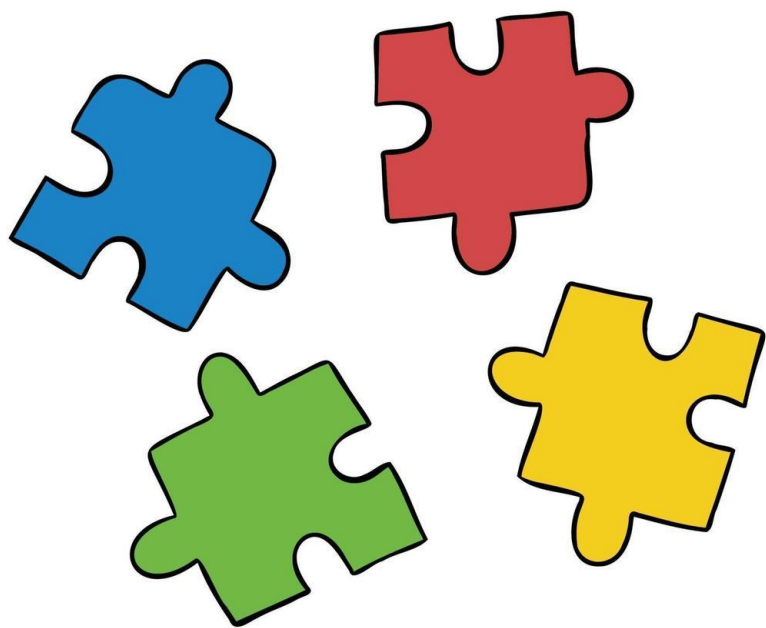
Benign:

- 1 Stand-Alone (BA1) *OR*
- ≥ 2 Strong (BS1–BS4)

Likely Benign:

- 1 Strong (BS1–BS4) and 1 Supporting (BP1–BP7) *OR*
- ≥ 2 Supporting (BP1–BP7)

وضعیت جاری



• پزشک:

- درخواست تست
- گرفتن جواب

• بیمار:

- پذیرش تست
- ارجاع به پزشک معالج

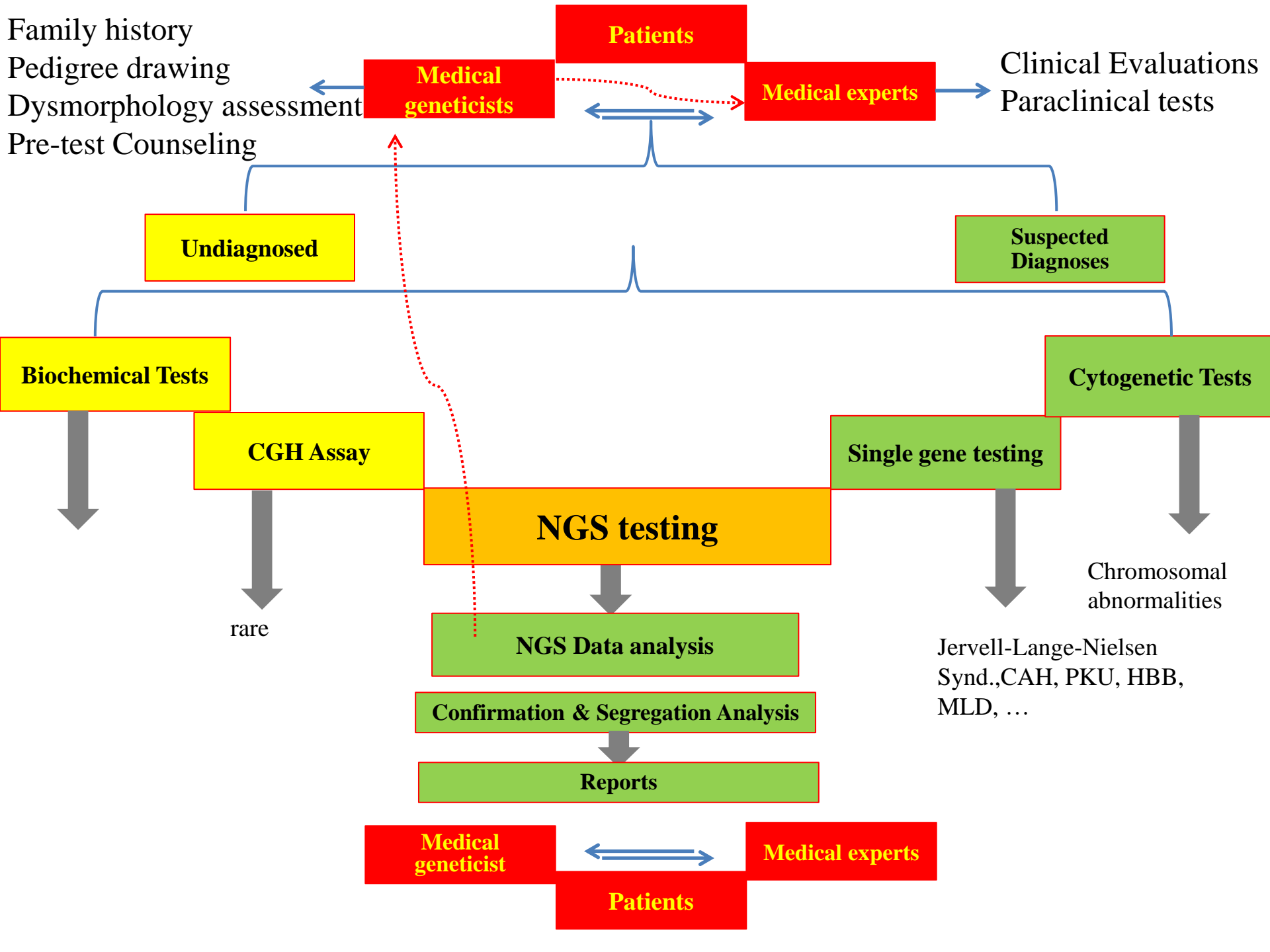
• آزمایشگاه:

- دریافت نسخه پزشکی توسط واحد پذیرش و پذیرش بیمار
- انجام آزمایش
- جوابدهی

فرآیند تشخیص بیماری ژنتیک

- بیمار
- پزشک (های) متخصص
- مشاوره ژنتیک، pre-test ، post-test
- آزمایشگاه:





Genetic Testing

- Essential principles of genetic testing
 - modes of inheritance
 - different testing methodologies,
 - interpretation of variants

Genetic Models of Cardiac disease

❖ Syndromic

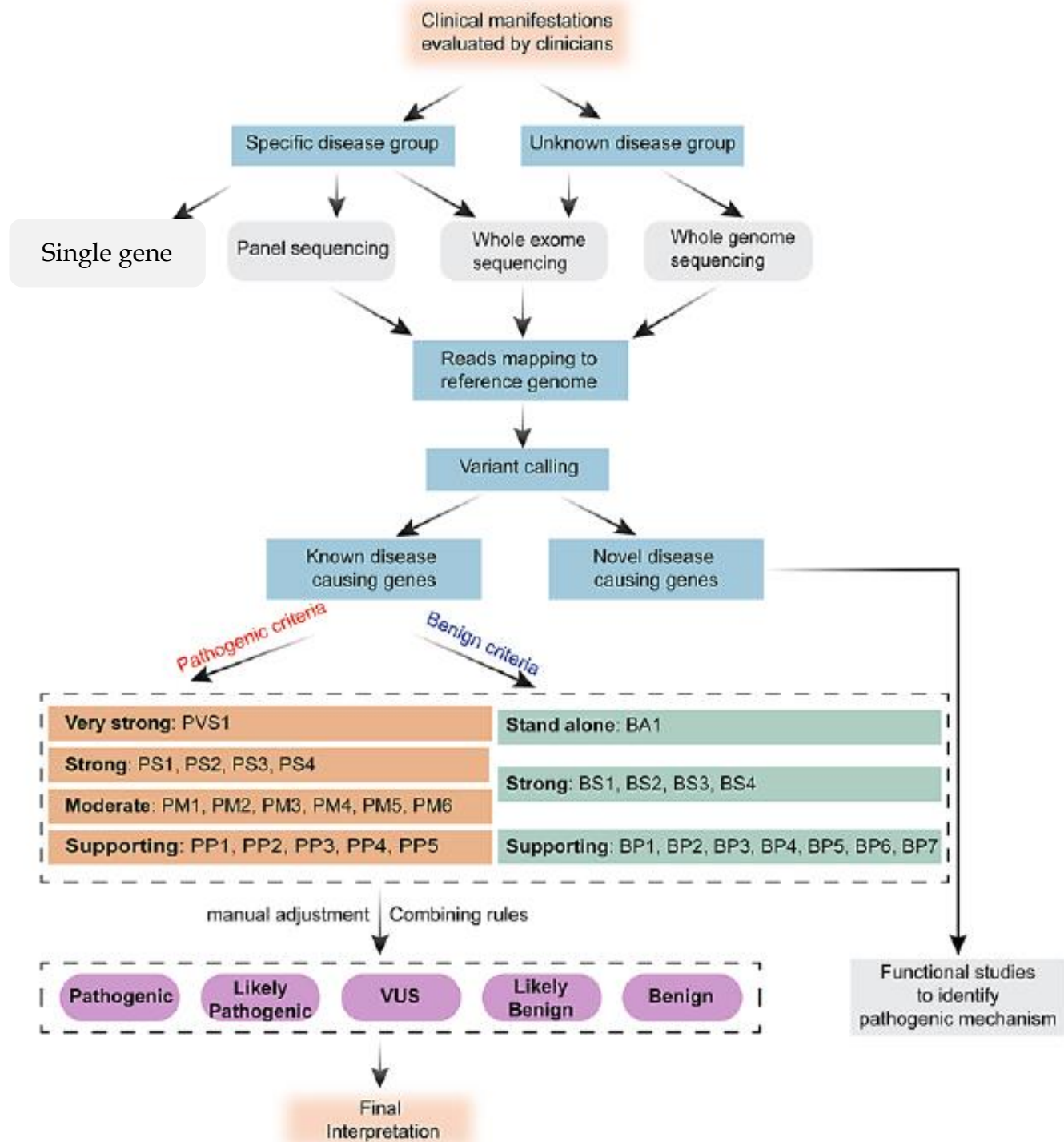
➤ Chromosomal Syndromes

- Aneuploidy syndromes; e.g. *Down syndrome, Turner syndrome*
- Abnormal chromosomal structural syndromes; e.g. *Williams-Beuren, DiGeorge syndrome*

➤ Single gene mutation syndromes; e.g. *Holt-Oram, Noonan, Costello syndromes*

❖ Nonsyndromic

- single gene & polygenes
 - Cardiomyopathies
 - CHD



Genetic testing

- **Sanger sequencing (gene-by-gene)**
 - CAH (CYP21A2)
 - PKU (PAH)
 - CF (CFTR)
 - Galactosemia (GALT, GALK1, GALE)
 - Gaucher (GBA), Fabry disease (GLA)
 - Niemann-Pick disease? (SMPD1 : A,B; NPC1,2: C)
- **Next generation sequencing (NGS)**
 - **Gene-panel**
 - **Whole-exome sequencing (WES)**
 - ~1–2% of the genome
 - ~85% of recognized disease-causing mutations
 - exome coverage 90 and 95%
 - A month
 - **Whole-genome sequencing (WGS)**

Genetic testing

Non-sequencing approaches

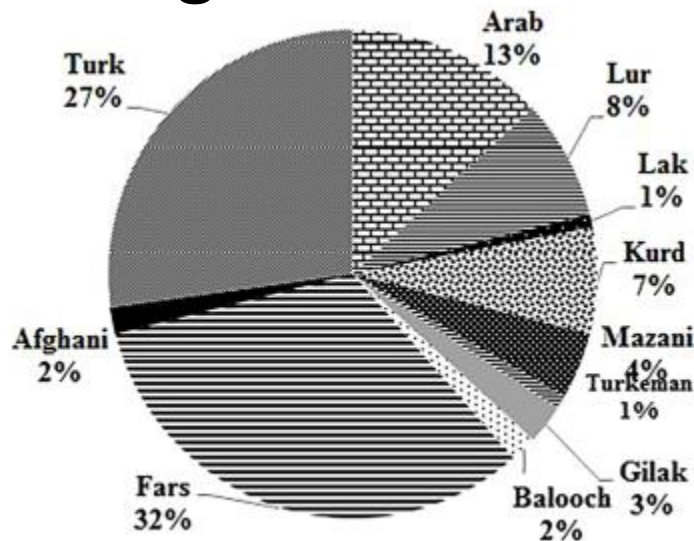
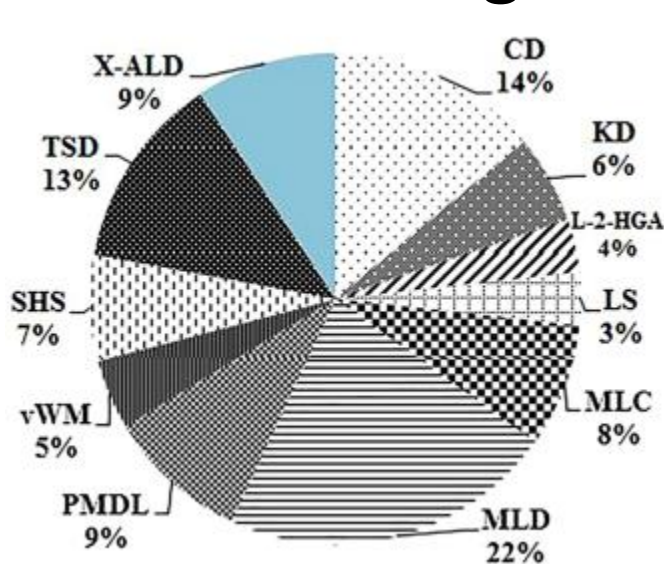
Allele-specific PCR	Quick, cheap, accurate	Pre-specified variants only	Testing a single variant in a large family (more likely Sanger sequencing now)
Array comparative genomic hybridization	Cheap screening for SVs/CNVs High-resolution (compared with cytogenetic approaches)	Insensitive to other variant classes	Screening for structural variants including aneuploidy, e.g. in structural congenital heart disease
Droplet digital PCR	Low cost, high-sensitivity, detection of genome dose for SV/CNV detection at a pre-specified locus	Scalability limited by multiplexing of pre-specified PCR amplicons targeting regions of interest	Confirmation of putative CNVs detected in high-throughput sequence data
DNA SNP arrays	Genome wide Relatively cheap	Pre-specified variants only Accuracy poor for many rarer variants	Recreational ancestry analysis Polygenic risk Pharmacogenetics

Types of Genetic Test Results

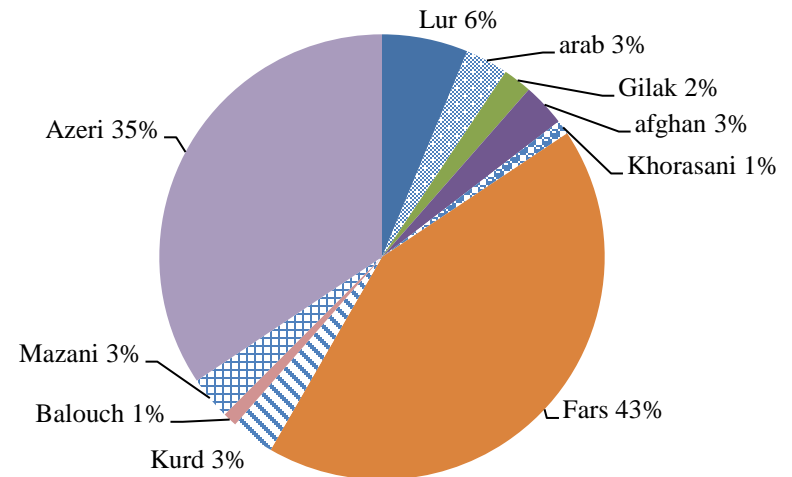
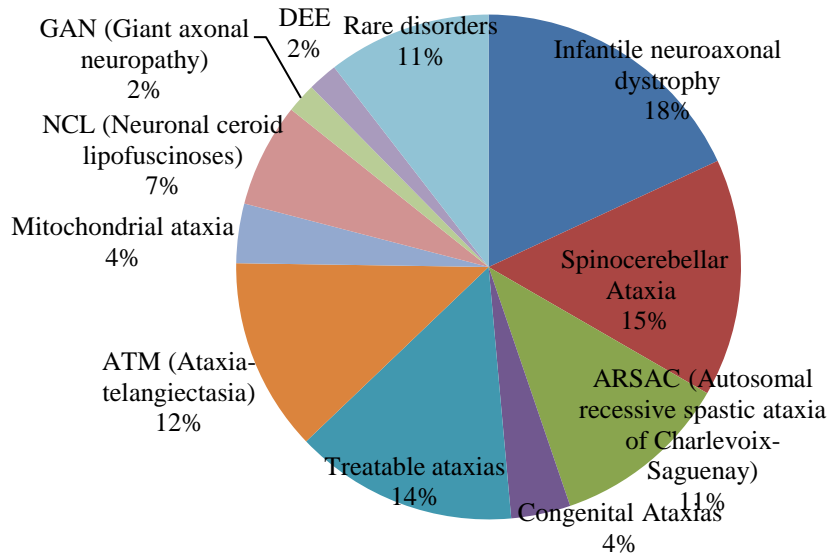
- **Positive**
 - the test found a genetic change known to cause disease
- **Negative**
 - the test did not find a genetic change known to cause disease
- **Uncertain**
 - a variant of unknown or uncertain significance means there isn't enough information about that genetic change to determine whether it is benign (normal) or pathogenic (disease causing)

Create patient awareness of benefits and harms

- 152 children based on clinical and neuroradiological findings



The genetic basis of early-onset hereditary ataxia in Iran



168 patients from different parts of Iran
diagnostic rate of 70%

Mahdieh et al., submitted

