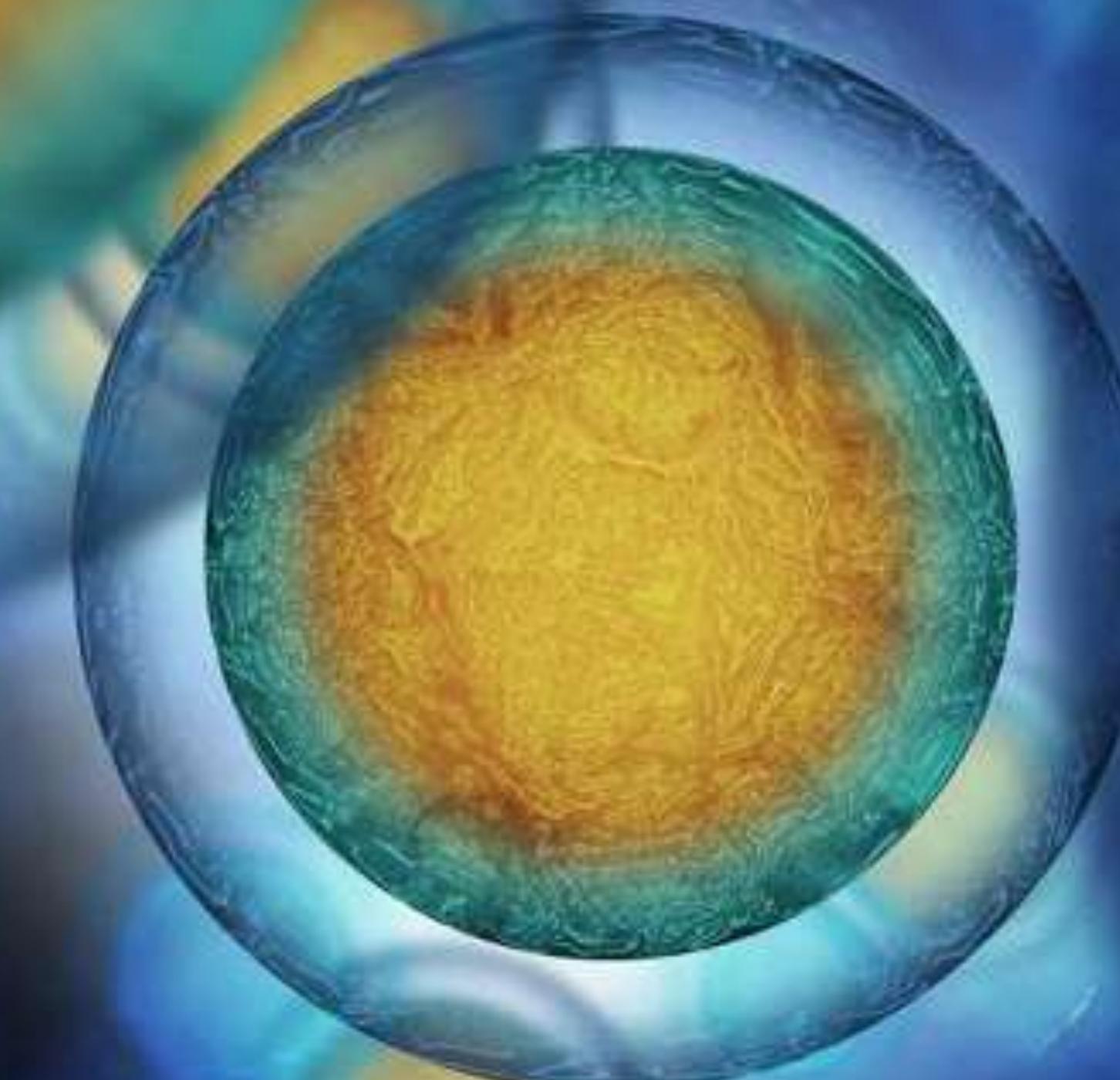


# RESEARCH TECHNIQUES COURSE 2018



Neil RAJAN  
Nick REYNOLDS

# **Course Faculty**

**Mark Birch-Machin**

**Simon Cockell**

**Jonathan Coxhead**

**Rob Ellis**

**Andy Filby**

**Pawan Gulati**

**Muzz Haniffa**

**David Hill**

**Kirsty Hodgson**

**Alex Laude**

**Penny Lovat**

**Ashleigh McConnell**

**Siobhan Muthiah**

**Beth Poyner**

**Neil Rajan**

**Nick Reynolds**



# MONDAY

Start	End	Activity	Speaker/Lead	Location
850	900	Arrival and Registration	Neil Rajan	Biomedicine West Reception
900	920	Introductions and overview	Neil Rajan	Biomedicine West Lecture Theatre
920	930	Lab Health and Safety	Julie Taggart	Biomedicine West Lecture Theatre
930	950	DNA extraction and PCR	Kirsty Hodgson	Biomedicine West Lecture Theatre
950	1000	Transfer to labs, bag storage	NR/KH/SM	Rajan/Veltman Labs
1000	1045	Practical - PCR setup	NR/KH/SM	Rajan/Veltman Labs
1045	1115	Coffee		B235 Boardroom
1115	1130	Introduction to animal cell culture and skin disease models	Pawan Gulati	B235 Boardroom
1130	1145	3D culture and zebrafish models for studying melanoma metastasis	David Hill	B235 Boardroom
1145	1200	Transcriptomics in psoriasis	Nick Reynolds	B235 Boardroom
1200	1215	Human cell atlas and the skin	Muzz Haniffa	B235 Boardroom
1230	1330	Lunch		B235 Boardroom
1330	1415	Zebrafish practical	David Hill	Fish room
1420	1430	Birthmarks and genetic mosaicism	Siobhan Muthiah	B235 Boardroom
1430	1500	Massively parallel sequencing technologies	Jonathan Coxhead	B235 Boardroom and Sequencing facility
1500	1520	Coffee		B235 Boardroom
1520	1540	Bioinformatics	Simon Cockell	B235 Boardroom
1540	1620	Bioinformatics practical:Heatmaps!	Simon Cockell	B235 Boardroom
1620	1700	PCR gel practical	NR/KH/SM	Rajan/Veltman Labs
1900	Late!	Course dinner	Delegates and Faculty	Earl of Pitt street 1900 for 1930 start

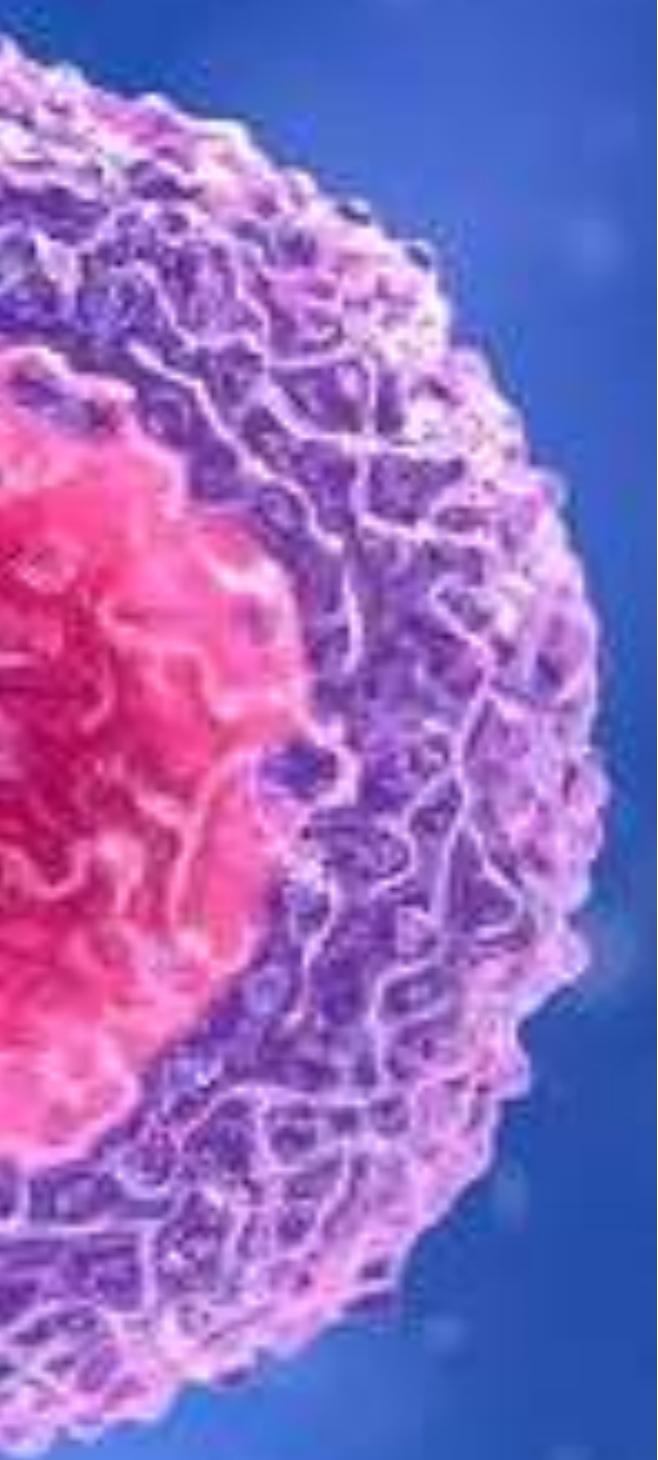
# TUESDAY

Start	End	Activity	Speaker/Lead	Location
900	930	Skin ageing in the 21st century	Mark Birch-Machin	B235 Boardroom
930	1000	Biomarkers for melanoma	Rob Ellis/ Penny Lovat	B235 Boardroom
1000	1045	Practical analysis of a novel immunohistochemical prognostic biomarker for AJCC stage 1 melanoma	Ashleigh McConnell/RE/ PL	B235 Boardroom
1045	1110	Coffee+Cake		B235 Boardroom
1115	1130	“Cytometry”: How to become a cell detective	Andy Filby	B235 Boardroom
1130	1140	Multi-modal microscope based imaging: From the organelle to the organ	Alex Laude	B235 Boardroom
1140	1230	FACS, live cell imaging demos and single cell analysis (4x4 group)	Filby/Laude/ Poyner	FACS Facility/Bioimaging/ B235
1235	1300	Analysis of FACS data	Andy Filby	B235 Boardroom
1300	1400	Lunch and feedback	Rajan/ Reynolds	B235 Boardroom



# DNA EXTRACTION AND PCR

**Kirsty Hodgson**



# DNA extraction and PCR

*BAD Research Techniques Course  
International Centre for Life*

*12 Nov 2018*

## Overview

- What is PCR?
- Core reagents
- DNA extraction
- Primers
- Thermal cycling stages
- Gel Electrophoresis
- Applications

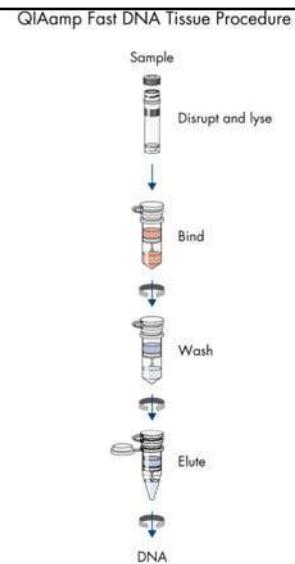
## What is PCR?

- The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is a technique widely used to study DNA
- Developed in 1983, it is a rapid way of amplifying a specific target DNA sequence from a mixed pool of DNA (often total genomic DNA)
- Numerous applications in basic and clinical research

## Six core PCR reagents

- Template DNA
- Primers
- DNA nucleotide bases (dNTPs)
- Magnesium Chloride ( $MgCl_2$ )
- Taq polymerase enzyme
- Buffer

## DNA extraction



## Primer design

### Template DNA

5' GCTGGAAAAATCAAGCAGTTGTAAAACCTGCAACACTCAAGTGAGCTCCCTTCACTTAAT 3'  
3' CGACCTTTAGTCGTAAACATTTGGACGTTGAGTTCACTCGAAGGGAAGTGAATTA 5'

Region to be copied

5' GCTGGAAAAATCAAGCAGTTGTAAAACCTGCAACACTCAAGTGAGCTCCCTTCACTTAAT 3'  
3' ACTCGAAGGGAAGTGAATTA 5'

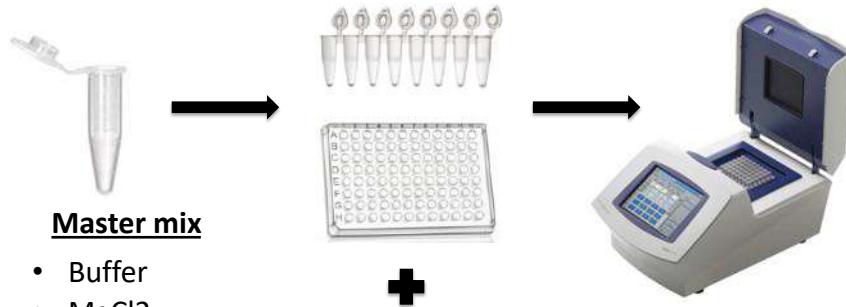
Primer 1

Primer 2

5' GCTGGAAAAATCAAGCAGTT 3'

3' CGACCTTTAGTCGTAAACATTTGGACGTTGAGTTCACTCGAAGGGAAGTGAATTA 5'

## PCR sample preparation



## Step 1. Denaturing

Double-stranded template DNA is heated to split it into two single strands

### Template DNA

5' GCTGGAAAAATCAAGCAGTTTGTAACACCTGCAACACTCAAGTGAGCTTCCCTTCACTTAAT 3'  
3' CGACCTTTAGTCGTAAAACATTTGGACGTTGTGAGTTCACTCGAAGGGAAAGTGAATTA 5'

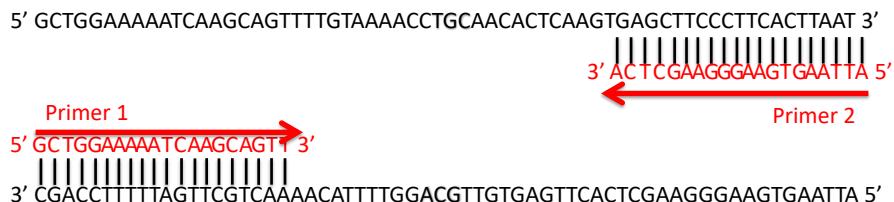
94-95°C

5' GCTGGAAAAATCAAGCAGTTTGTAACACCTGCAACACTCAAGTGAGCTTCCCTTCACTTAAT 3'

3' CGACCTTTAGTCGTAAAACATTTGGACGTTGTGAGTTCACTCGAAGGGAAAGTGAATTA 5'

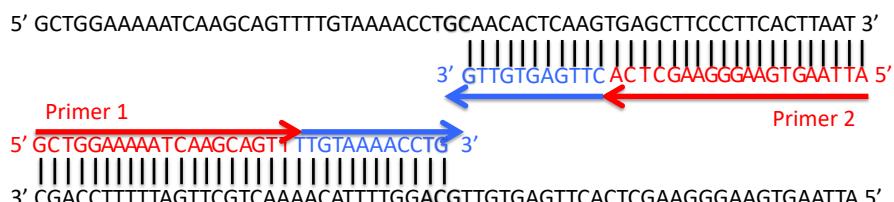
## Step 2. Annealing

The temperature is lowered to allow the primers to anneal to the single strand template DNA

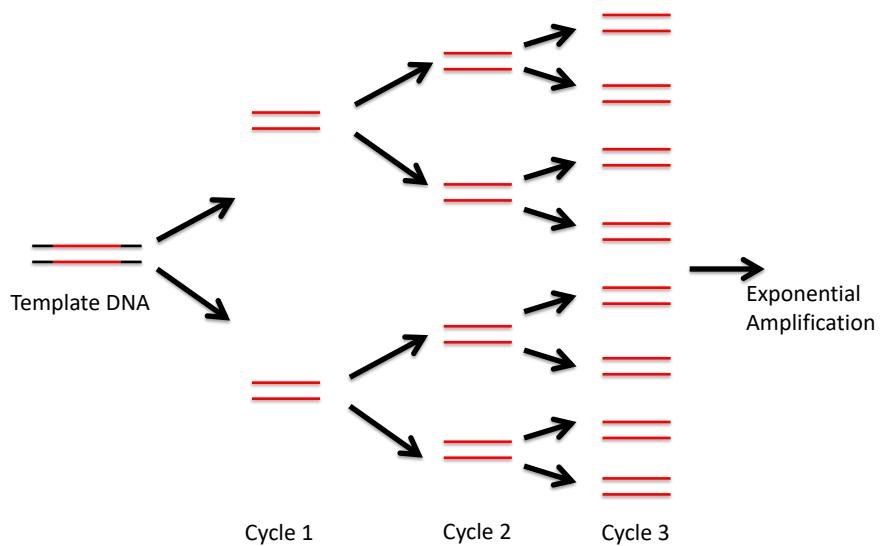


## Step 3. Extension

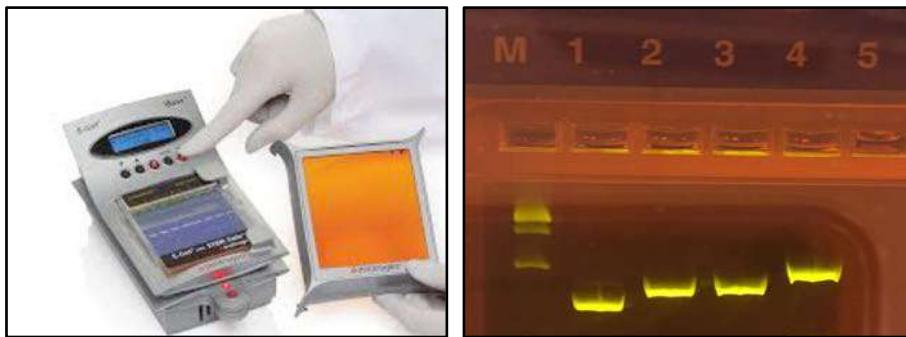
The temperature is raised and new strands of DNA are made by the taq polymerase enzyme



30 – 40 cycles of steps 1 - 3



Gel electrophoresis



## Applications

- CRISPR
- DNA Barcoding
- Forensics
- Sequencing
- Genotyping
- Cloning
- Mutation detection
- Paternity testing etc

## Further reading/Resources

Strachan T & Read A (2010) Human Molecular Genetics (4<sup>th</sup> Ed). Garland Science (pages 182 – 190).

UCSC Genome Browser  
<https://genome.ucsc.edu>

Primer BLAST  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/tools/primer-blast>



# INTRODUCTION TO ANIMAL CELL CULTURE AND SKIN DISEASE MODELS

Pawan Gulati

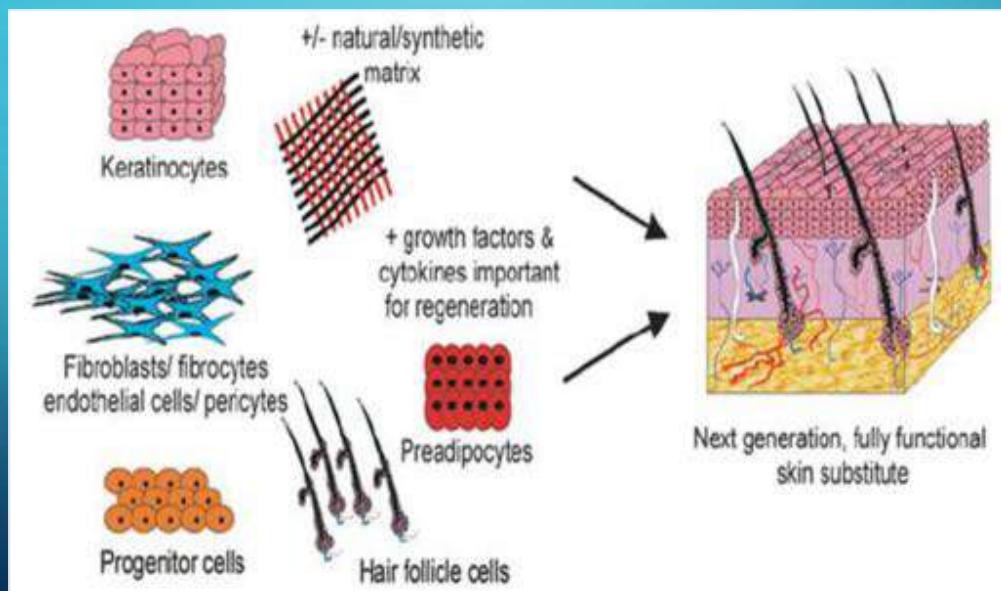
# Introduction to Animal cell culture and Skin disease Models

(Highlight slides)

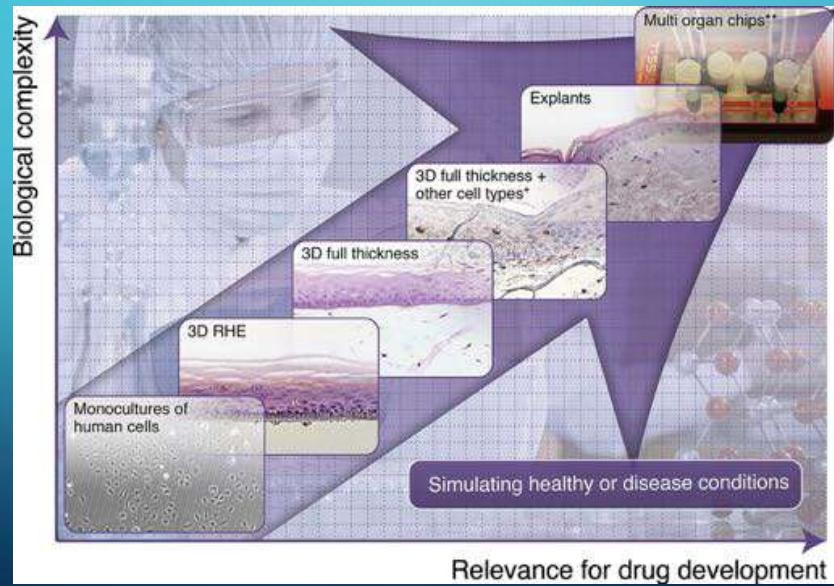
Pawan Gulati

British Association of Dermatologists Research technique course  
Newcastle University  
12-13<sup>th</sup> November 2018

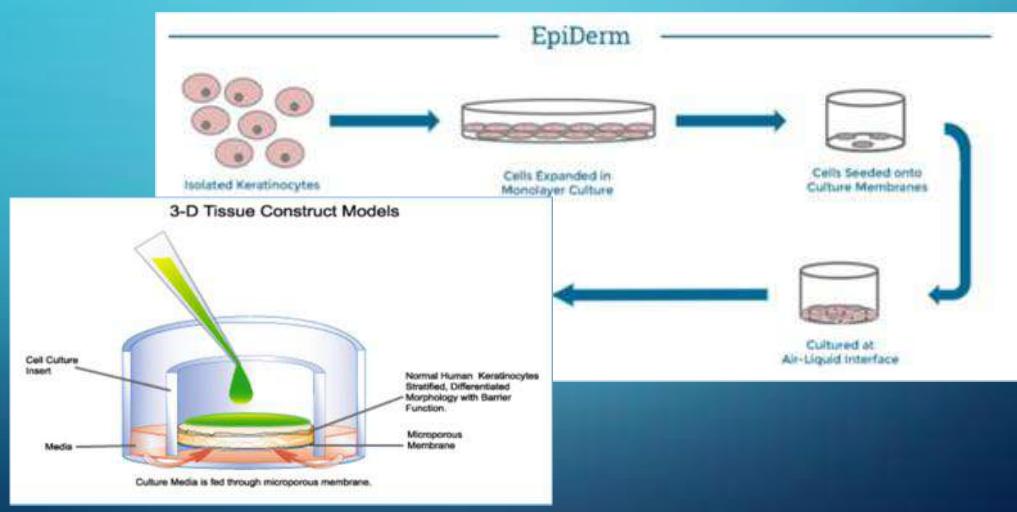
## An ideal skin model



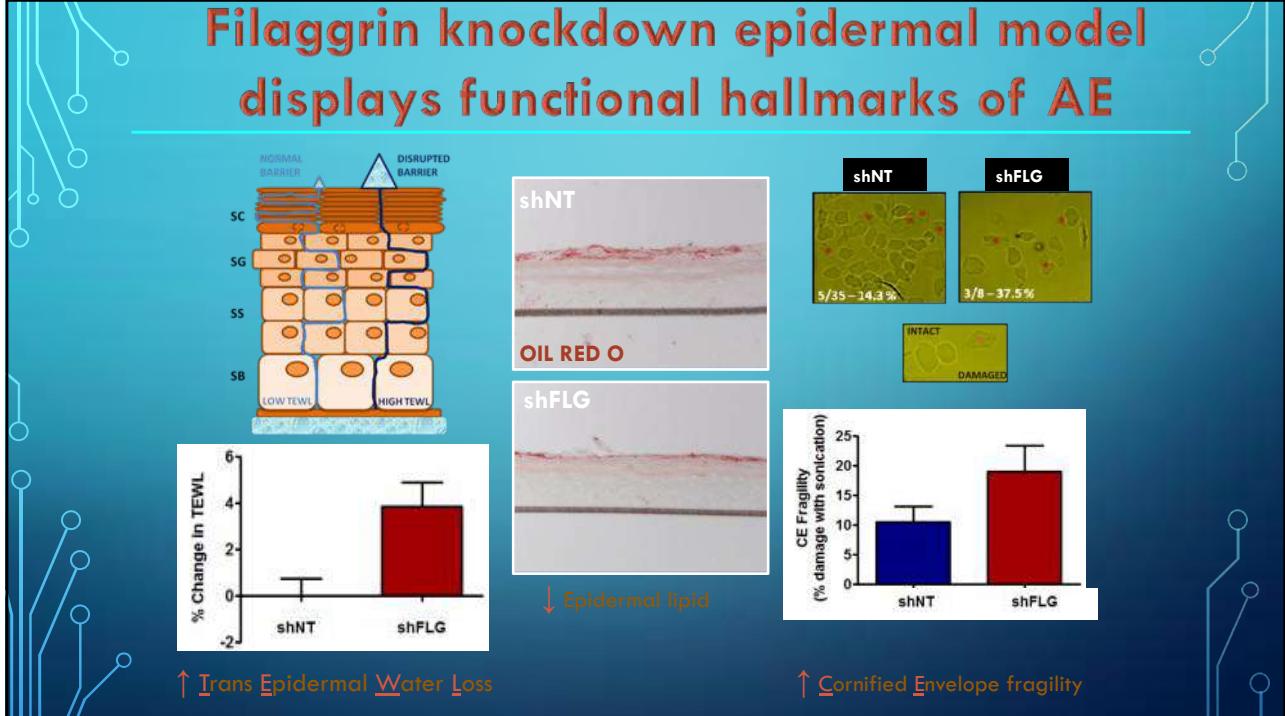
# Models of skin diseases



## 3-D model of skin disease



## Filaggrin knockdown epidermal model displays functional hallmarks of AE



## Applications of cell culture in human diseases and beyond

### Areas where cell culture technology is currently playing a major role

- **Model systems for**  
Studying basic cell biology, interactions between disease causing agents and cells, effects of drugs on cells, process and triggering of aging & nutritional studies
- **Virology**  
Cultivation of virus for vaccine production, also used to study their infectious cycle.
- **Genetic Engineering**  
Production of commercial proteins, large scale production e.g. polio, rabies, chicken pox, hepatitis B & measles
- **Gene therapy**  
Cells having a functional gene can be replaced to cells which are having non-functional gene
- **Toxicity testing**  
Study the effects of new drugs



# 3D CULTURE AND ZEBRAFISH MODELS FOR STUDYING MELANOMA METASTASIS

David Hill

# 3D culture and zebrafish models for studying melanoma metastasis

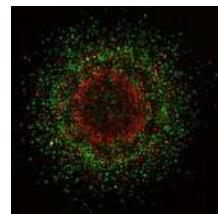
Dr David Hill [david.hill5@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:david.hill5@newcastle.ac.uk)

Stratified Medicine, Biomarkers, & Therapeutics,  
Institute of Cellular Medicine,  
Newcastle University, UK

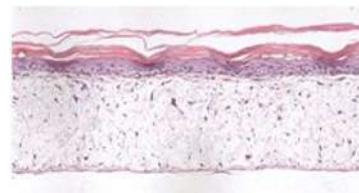


# 3D culture and zebrafish models for studying melanoma metastasis

- 3D collagen-embedded spheroids



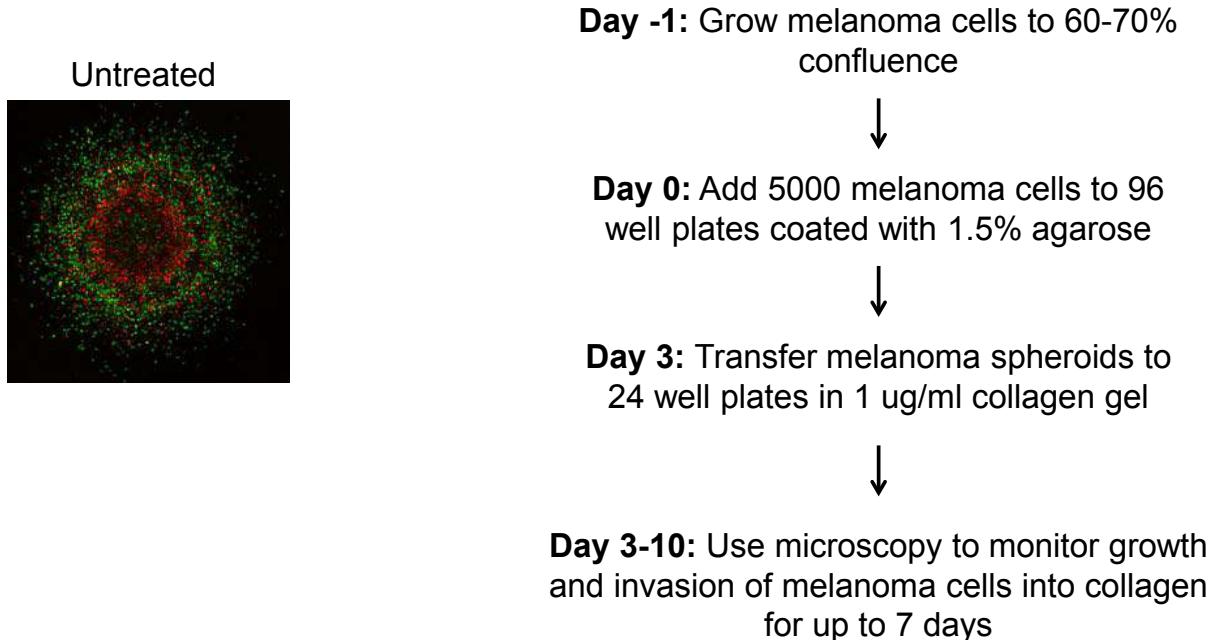
- Full-thickness skin organoid model



- Embryonic zebrafish xenograft of human melanoma

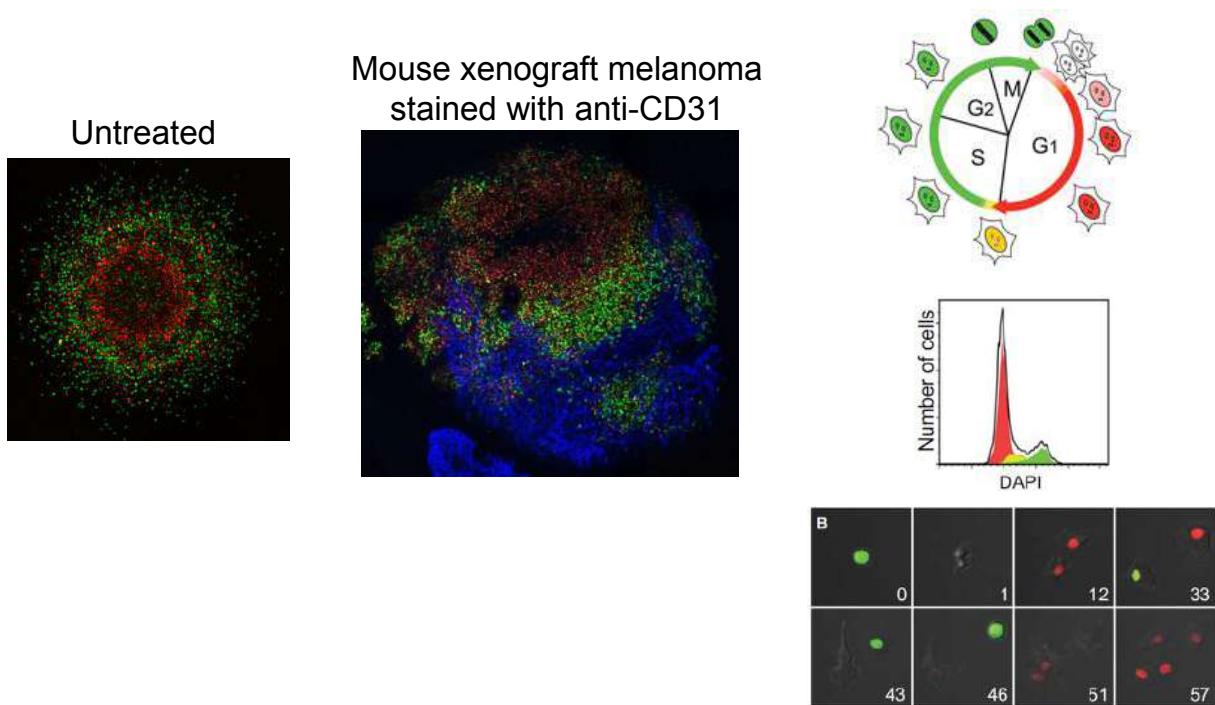


# 3D collagen-embedded spheroids



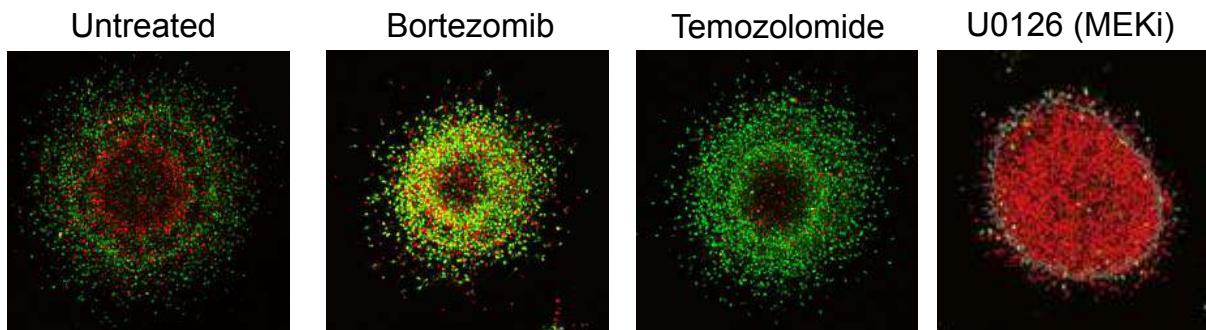
Hill DS, and Beaumont KA, et al (2016)  
*Cell cycle phase-specific drug resistance as an escape mechanism of melanoma cells.*  
J Invest Dermatol; 136:1479-1489.

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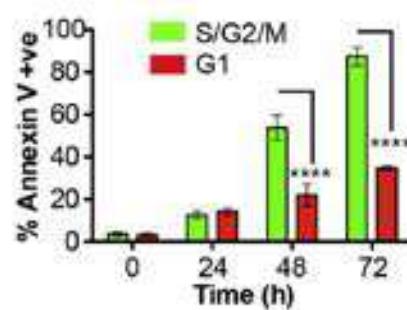


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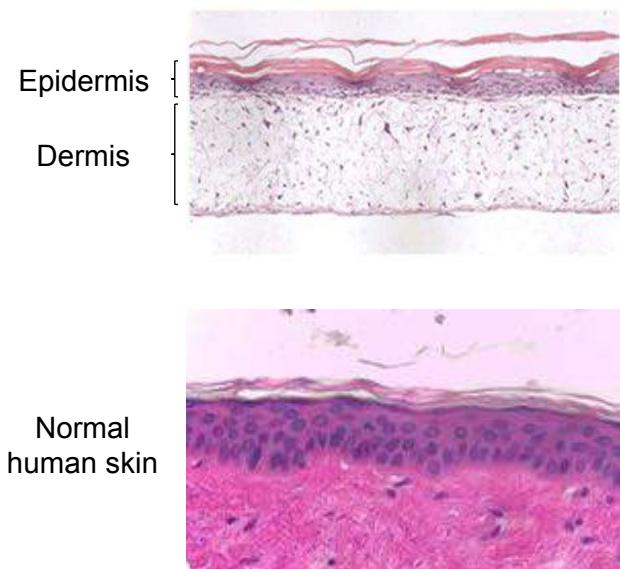
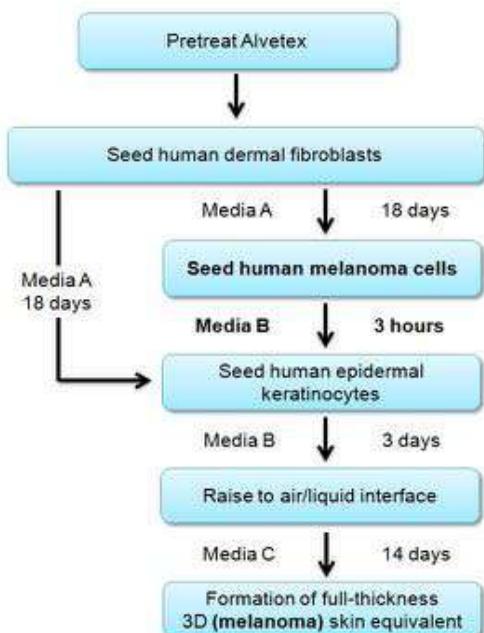
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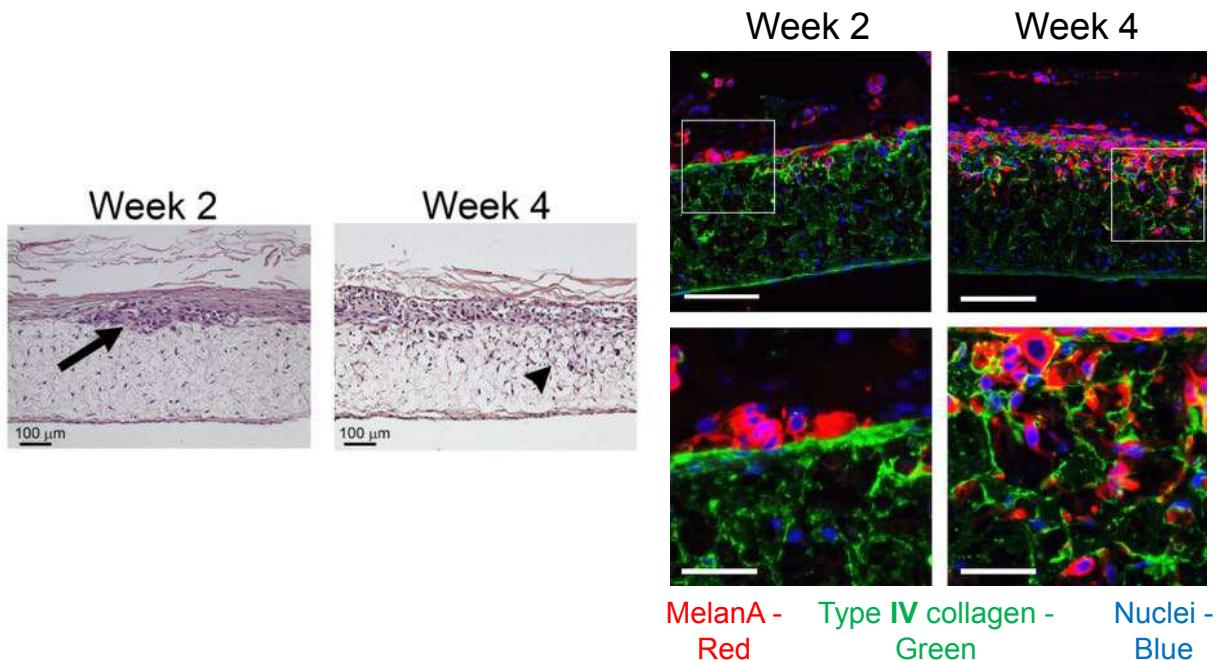


## Full-thickness skin organoid model



Hill DS, et al (2015)  
A Novel Fully Humanised 3D Skin Equivalent to Model Early Melanoma Invasion.  
Molecular Cancer Therapeutics Nov;14(11):2665-73.

# Full-thickness skin organoid model

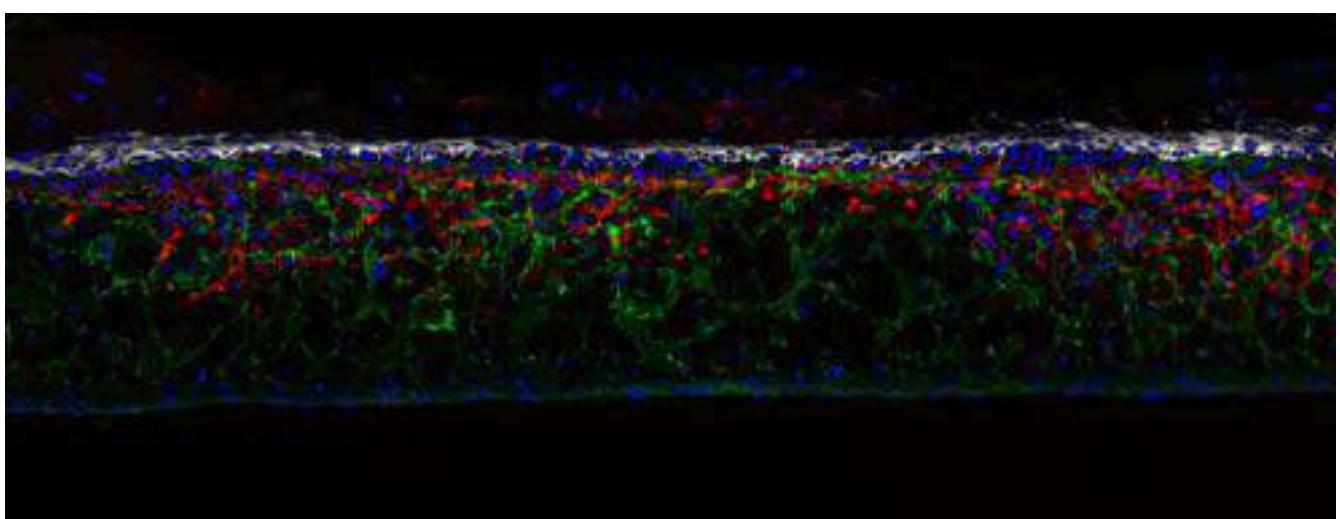


Hill DS, et al (2015)  
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Molecular Cancer Therapeutics Nov;14(11):2665-73.

# Full-thickness skin organoid model

Invasion of metastatic melanoma cells into full-thickness skin organoid

- Red = SKmel28 melanoma cells
- White = Cytokeratin 14, marker of keratinocytes
- Green = Type IV collagen, marker of ECM/basement membrane
- Blue = DAPI, marker of cell nuclei



# Embryonic zebrafish xenograft of human melanoma

**Day -1:** Pair up fish for breeding

↓

**Day 0:** Collect fertilised eggs

↓

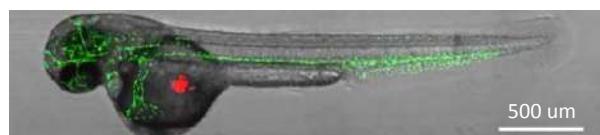
**Day 2:** Stain melanoma cells with Dil (Red fluorescent dye)

↓

**Day 2:** Micro-inject melanoma cells into the yolk sac, or circulation of 2-day old anaesthetised zebrafish embryos

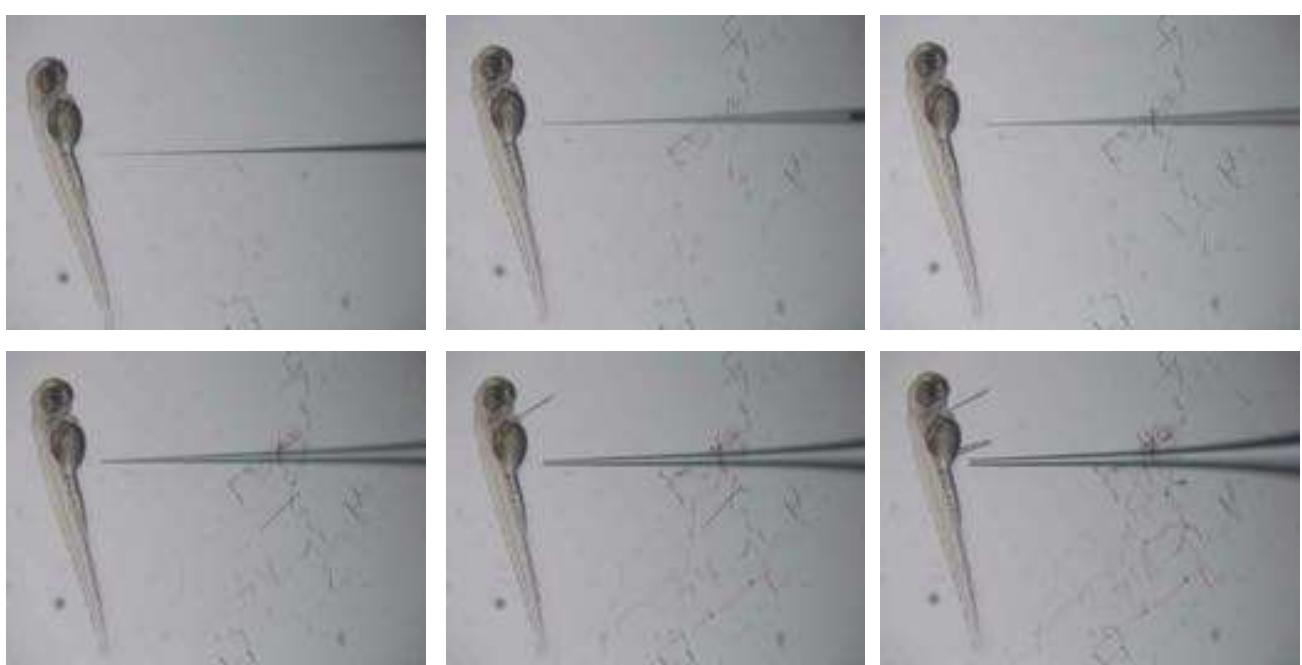
↓

**Day 2-5:** Image live zebrafish by microscopy for up to 72 hrs



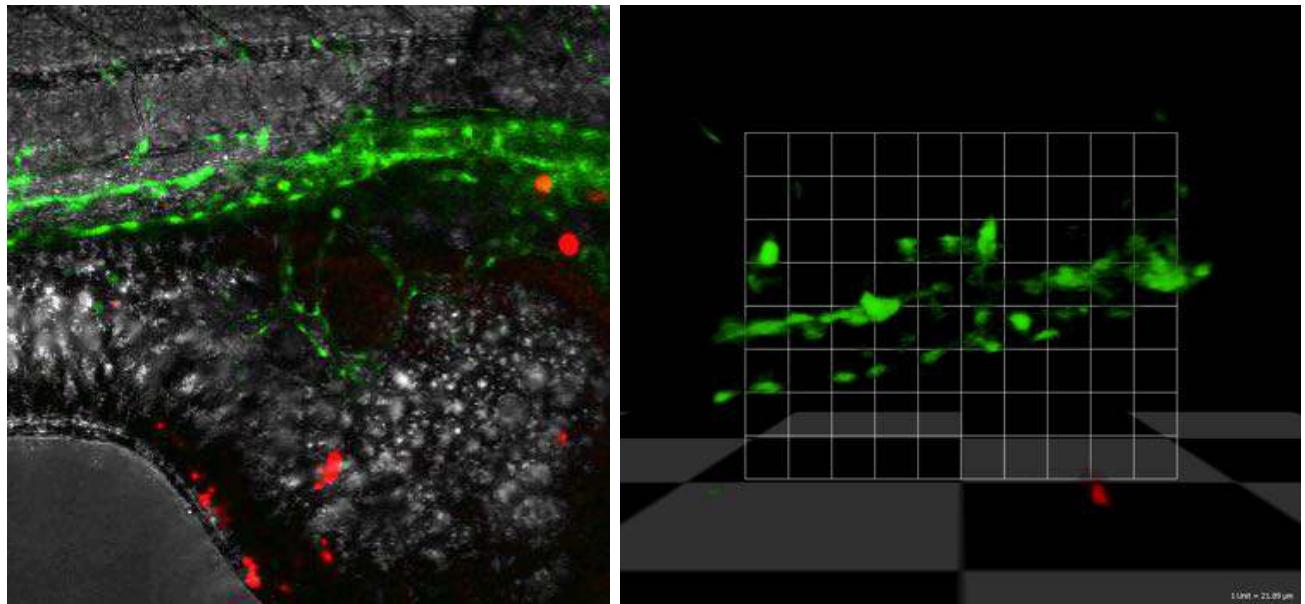
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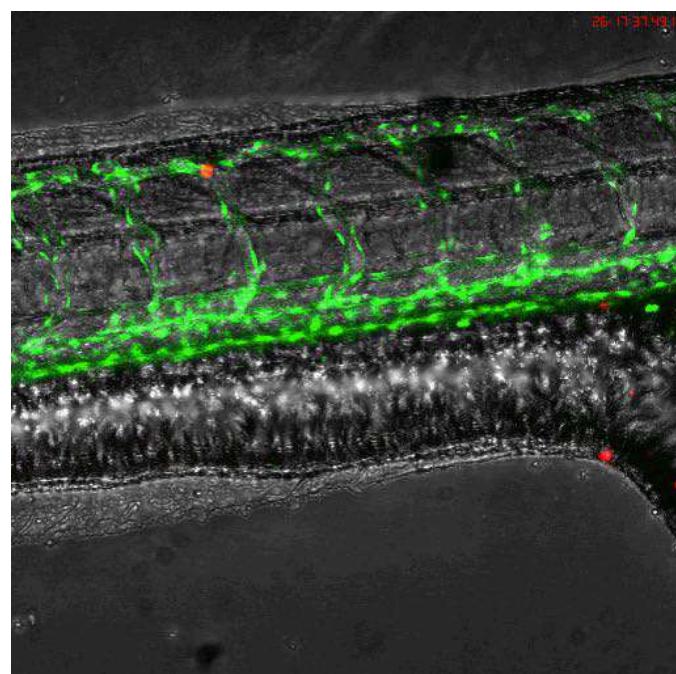
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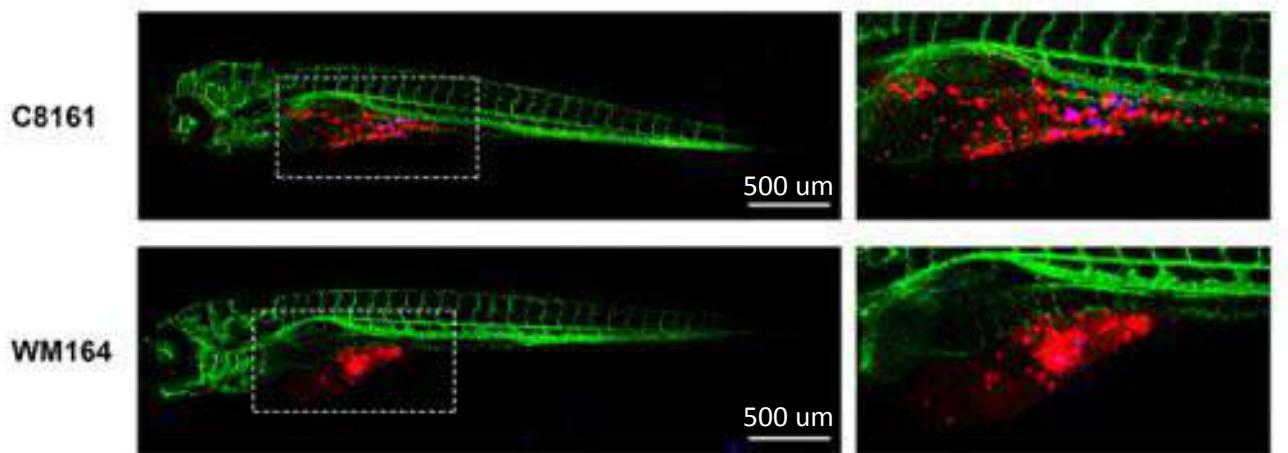
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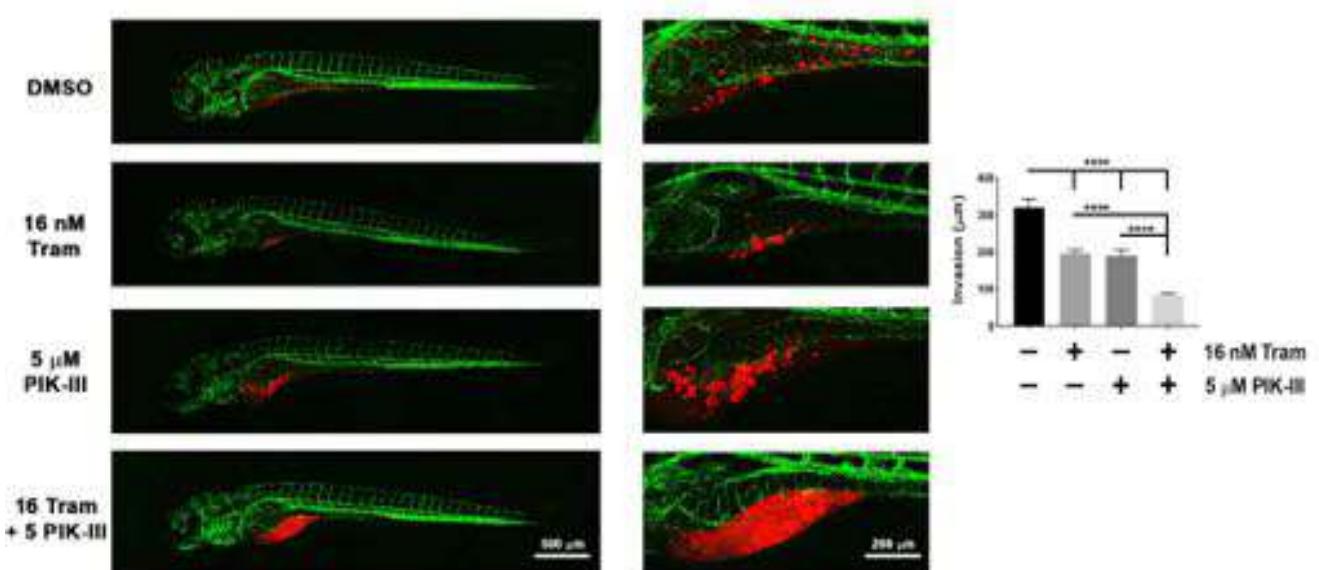
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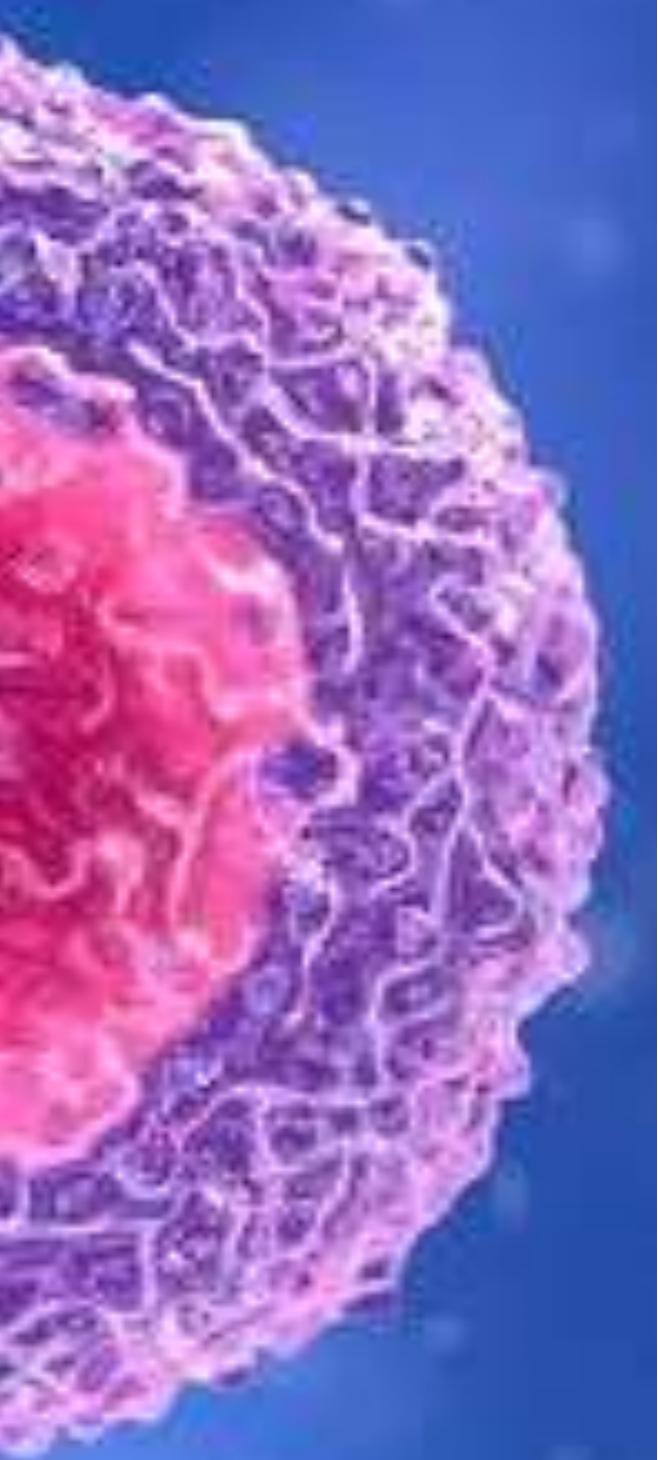
Verykiou et al (2018)  
Harnessing autophagy to overcome MEKi induced resistance in metastatic melanoma.  
Brit J Dermatol; in press.



RESEARCH TECHNIQUES COURSE 2018

# TRANSCRIPTOMICS IN PSORIASIS

**Nick Reynolds**



## Transcriptomic analysis of psoriasis following biologic therapy

Nick J Reynolds

Newcastle University and Royal Victoria Infirmary,  
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK



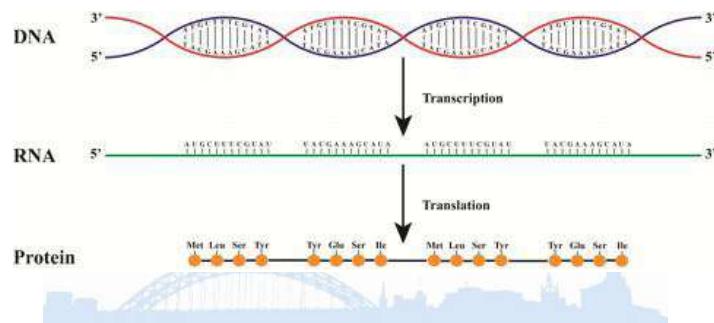
## Outline of talk

- Translational research
  - Identifying important questions and unmet clinical need
- Development of analytical techniques (transcriptomics and other omic technologies) that can be usefully applied to human tissue samples to address:
  - Disease and therapeutic endotypes (psoriasis)



# A pilot omics study of etanercept response in psoriasis

- Lead: Dr Amy Foulkes, Manchester
- GSK-funded pilot study of 10 biologic naïve, psoriasis patients initiating etanercept (TNF inhibitor)
- Multiple omic measures at 0wk, 1wk and 12wks
  - ◆ mRNASeq (Skin biopsies - involved & uninvolved skin)



PSORT  
Psoriasis Stratification to  
Optimise Relevant Therapy

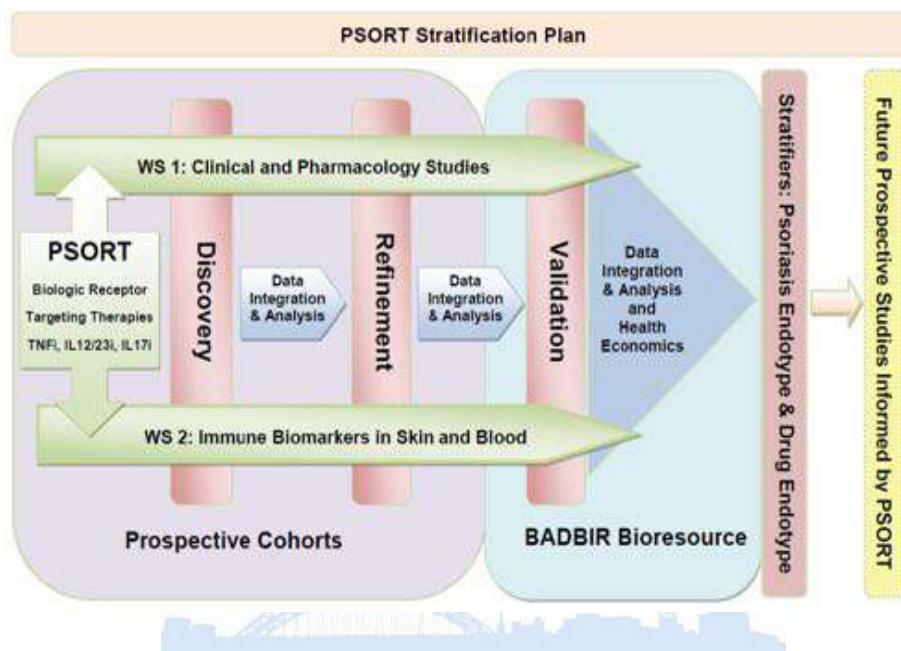
## Psoriasis Stratification to Optimise Relevant Therapy (PSORT)



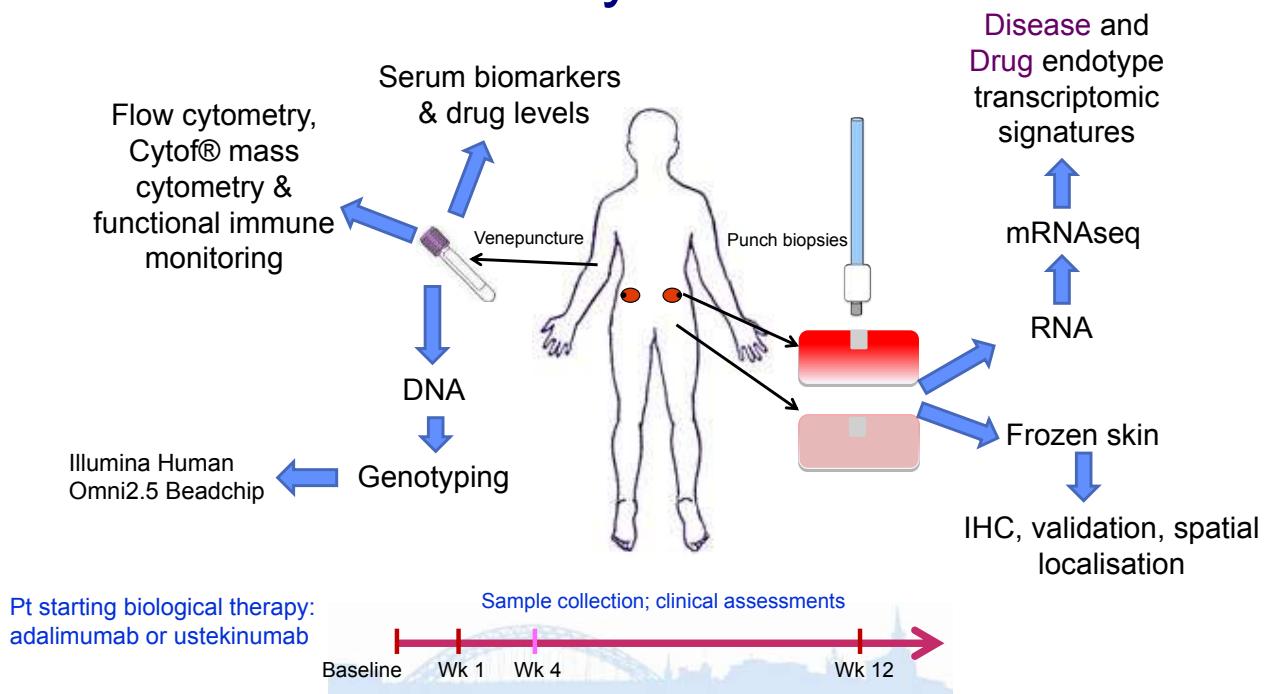
- Multi-disciplinary consortium
  - ◆ Based around British Association of Dermatologists Biologics Intervention Registry (BADBIR)
  - ◆ Understand determinants of response to biologic therapies
- Stratification of therapy
  - ◆ Clinical
  - ◆ Pharmacological
  - ◆ Genetic
  - ◆ Immune

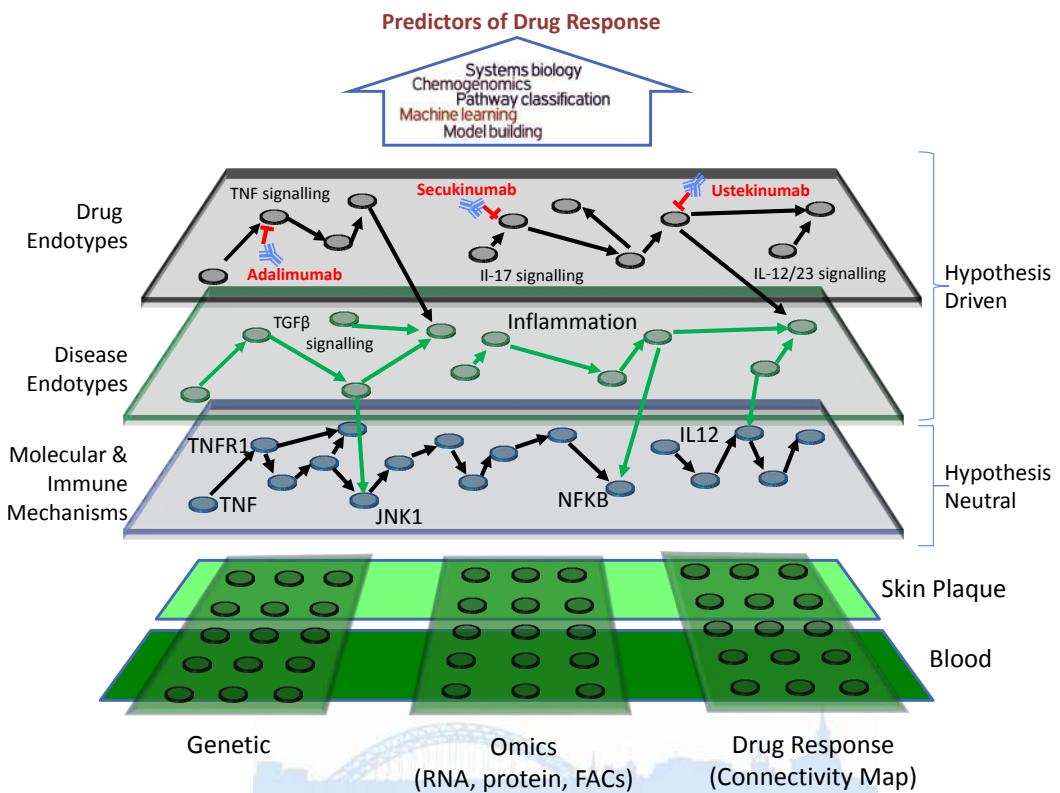


# PSORT Integrative Structure



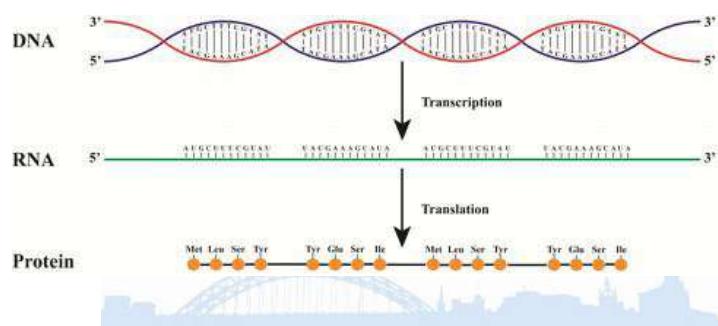
## Discovery Cohort





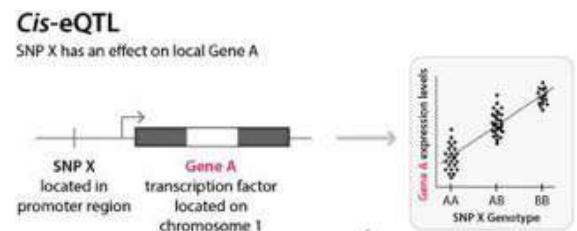
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- GSK-funded pilot study of 10 biologic naïve, psoriasis patients initiating etanercept (TNF inhibitor)
- Multiple omic measures at 0wk, 1wk and 12wks
  - ♦ mRNASeq (Skin biopsies - involved & uninvolved skin and blood)

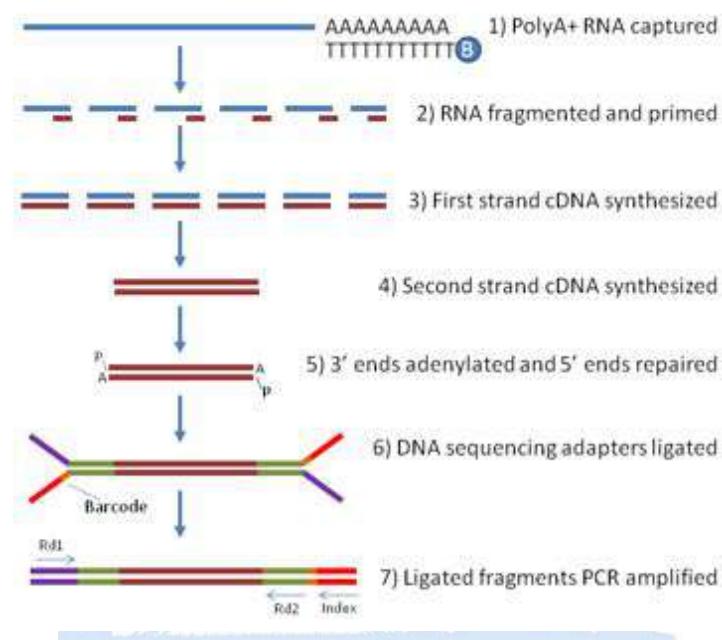


# RNAseq

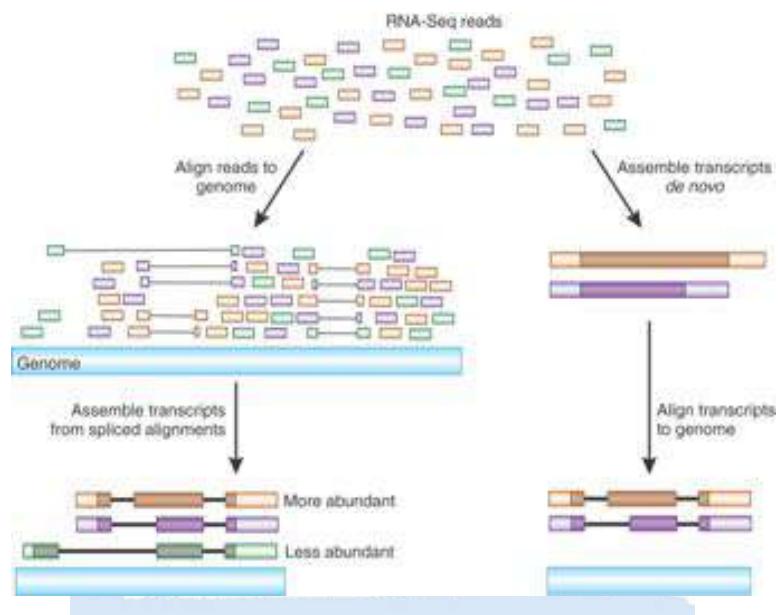
- Advantages compared to gene arrays
- Increased sensitivity (low abundance transcripts)
- Isoform specific expression
- Integration with genetic data yields information on *cis* and *trans* eQTL



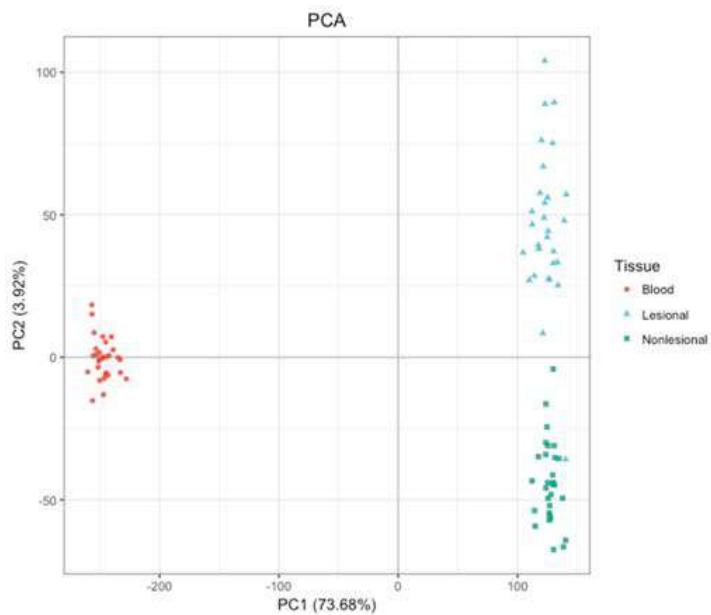
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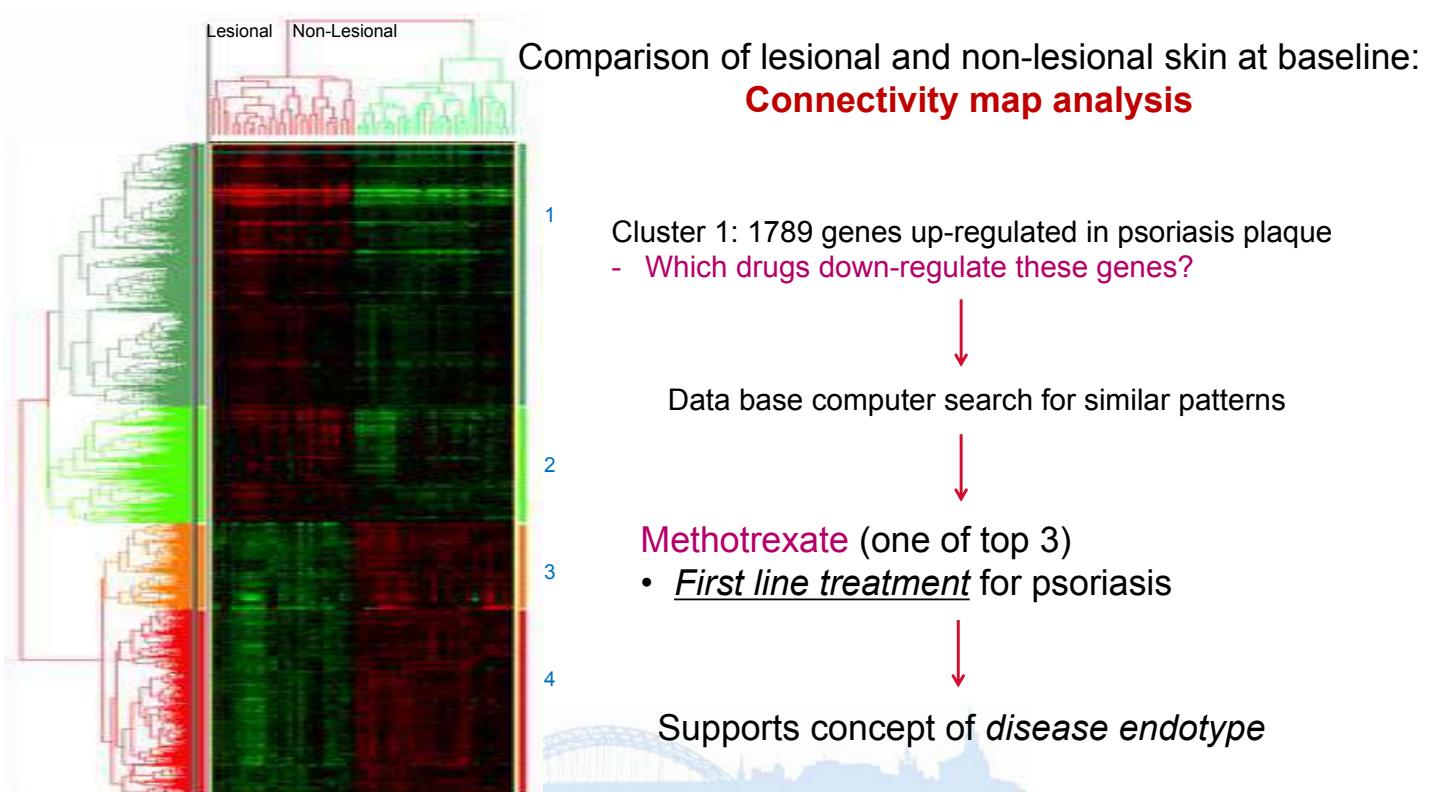
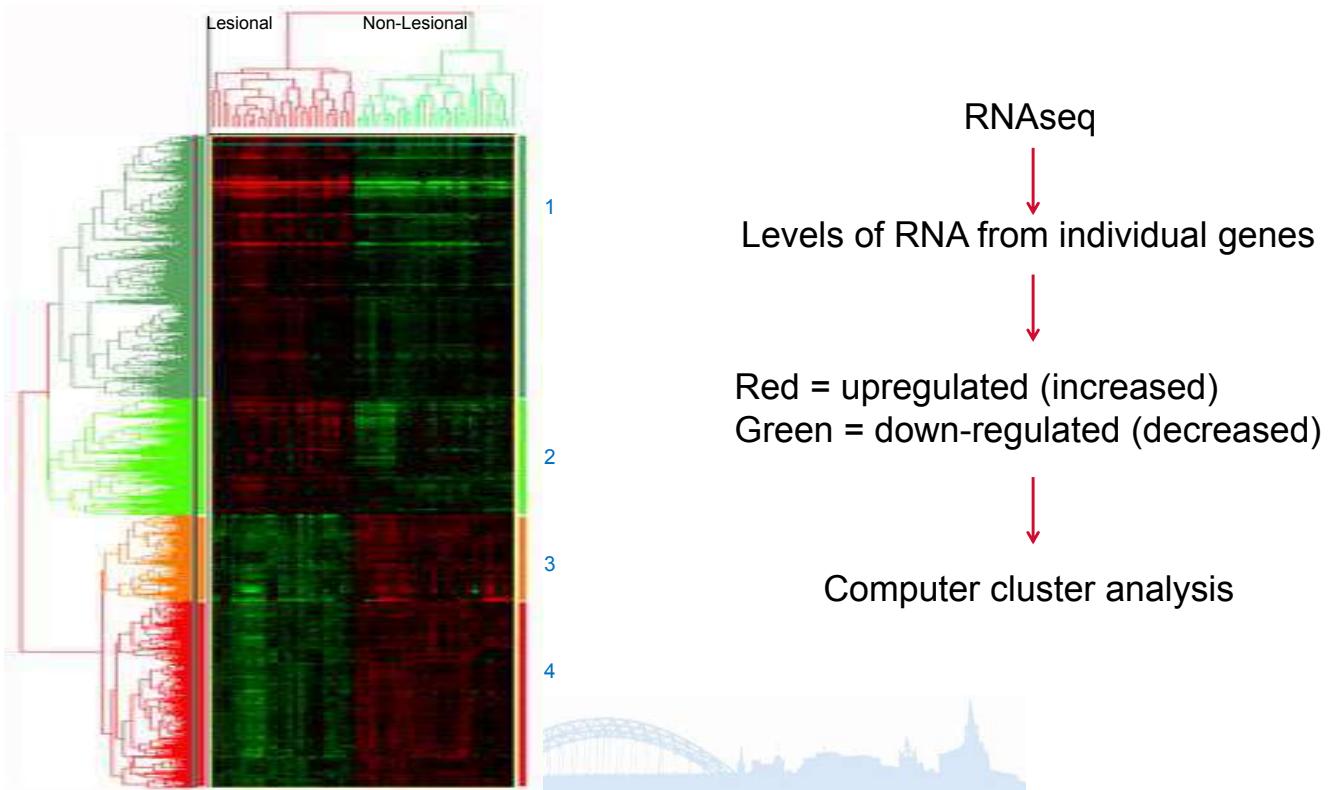


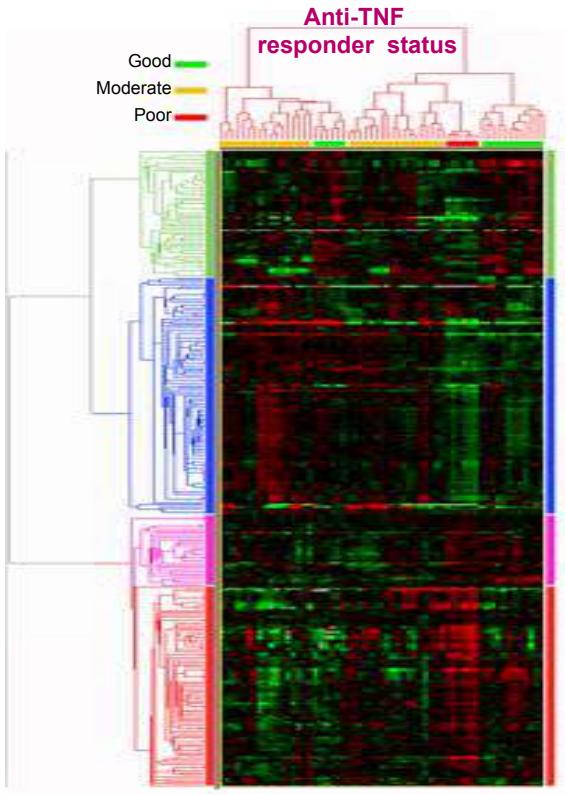
# RNAseq



Principal component analysis of all skin and blood transcriptomic samples across all time points







## Time course analysis of anti-TNF response

A

- 295 transcripts with different levels of expression between responders and non-responders

B

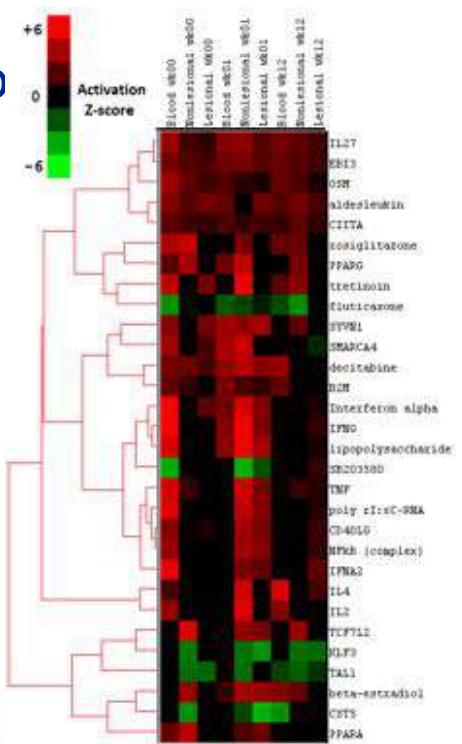


## Precision medicine for psoriasis

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### A Framework for Multi-Omic Prediction of Treatment Response to Biologic Therapy for Psoriasis

Amy C. Foulkes<sup>1</sup>, David S. Watson<sup>2</sup>, Daniel F. Carr<sup>3</sup>, John G. Kenny<sup>4</sup>, Timothy Slidel<sup>5</sup>, Richard Parslew<sup>6</sup>, Munir Pirmohamed<sup>1</sup>, The PSORT Consortium, Simon Anders<sup>7</sup>, Nick J. Reynolds<sup>8</sup>, Christopher E.M. Griffiths<sup>3</sup>, Richard B. Warren<sup>1,9</sup>, and Michael R. Barnes<sup>7,9</sup>



# Perspectives

- Value of combining hypothesis driven research with omic analysis and data interpretation
- New analysis techniques readily applicable to carefully phenotyped clinical samples
- Exciting time to be entering the field



The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals **NHS**  
NHS Foundation Trust

**PSORT**  
Chris Griffiths  
Jonathan Barker  
Richard Warren  
Catherine Smith  
Mike Barnes  
Amy Foulkes  
Simon Cockell  
Graham Smith  
Deborah Stocken  
Richard Parslew

**GSK**  
Michael Donaldson  
Sequencing hub, Stevenage

**Acknowledgements**

**Patients**  
Psoriasis clinics  
Research nurses  
Technicians  
Data managers

**Newcastle University**

**PSORT**  
Psoriasis Stratification to Optimise Relevant Therapy

**gsk** **STIEFEL** Research in Dermatology **Pfizer** **MedImmune**

**janssen** **Newcastle University** **Sanquin**

**Celgene** United Kingdom **MANCHESTER 1824** **abbvie**

**Royal College of Physicians** **QIAGEN** **KING'S College LONDON** **65 NHS**  
Celebrating 65 Years of the NHS

**Queen Mary University of London** **NOVARTIS** **BD** **UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL**

**NHS** **Newcastle Dermatology**

Newcastle Biomedical Research Centre



RESEARCH TECHNIQUES COURSE 2018

# HUMAN CELL ATLAS AND THE SKIN

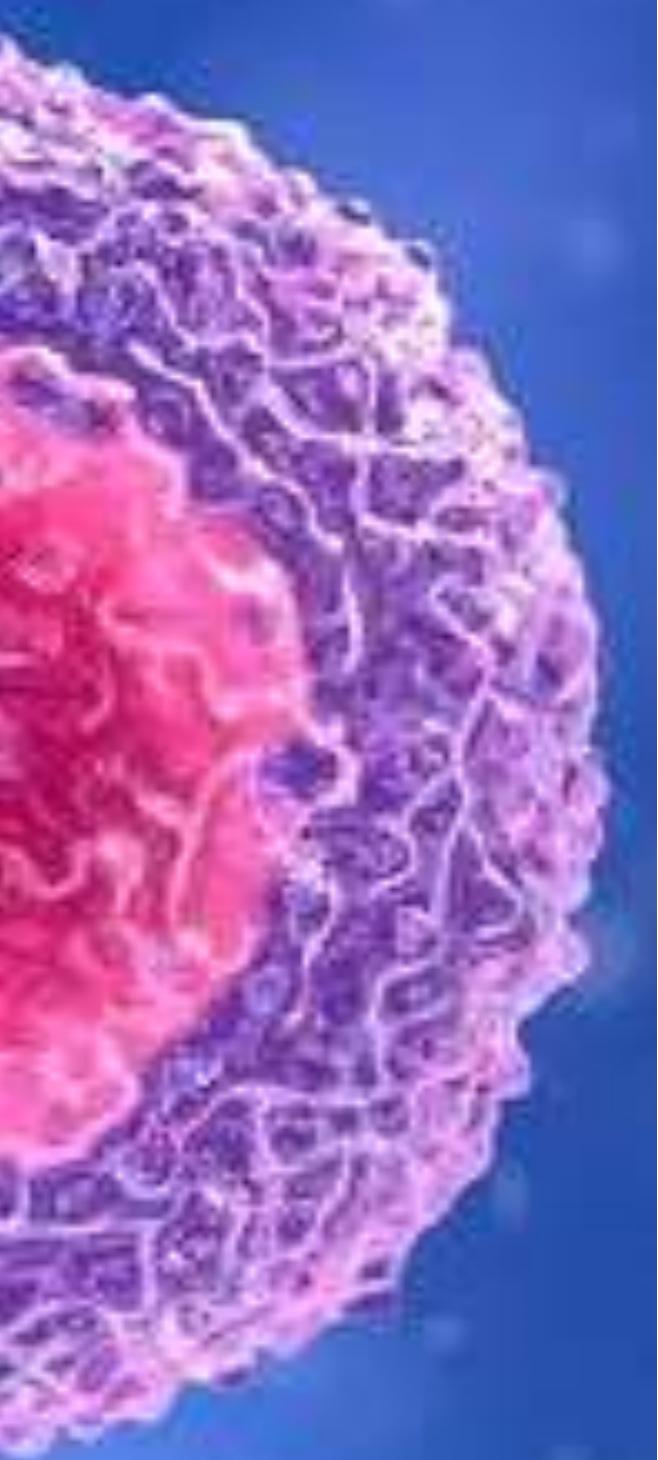
Muzz Haniffa





# BIRTHMARKS AND GENETIC MOSAICISM

**Siobhan Muthiah**



# Birthmarks and genetic mosaicism

BAD Research Techniques Course

2018



12 November 2018



## Aims

- Discuss cutaneous mosaicism and its patterns
- Explore current understanding of naevi in the spectrum of mosaic RASopathies

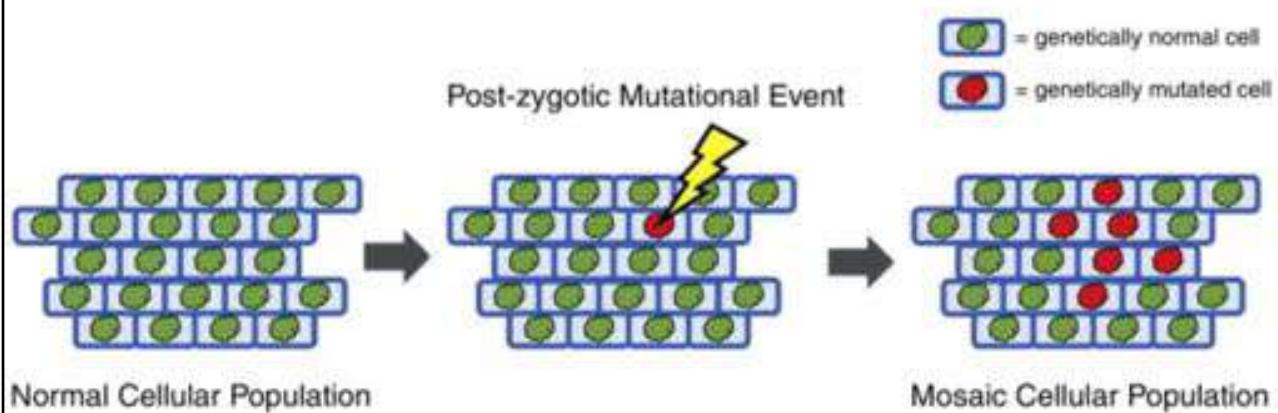


12 November 2018



# Cutaneous mosaicism

## Mosaicism



Machiela MJ, Chanock SJ. The ageing genome, clonal mosaicism and chronic disease. *Current Opinion in Genetics & Development*. 2017 Feb 1;42:8–13.

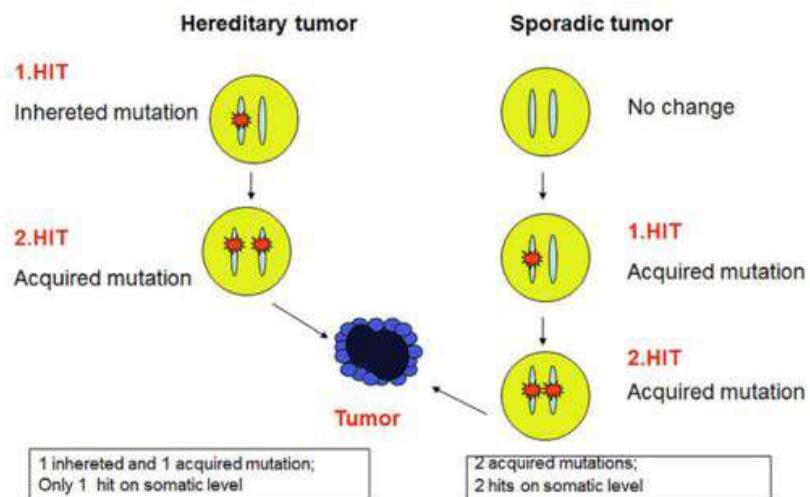
## Cutaneous mosaicism

- Mosaicism can involve all organs but is most easily apparent in the skin in the form of birthmarks
- It can arise through a number of ways
  - Loss of heterozygosity
  - Lethal mutations
  - Nonlethal mutations

## Loss of heterozygosity

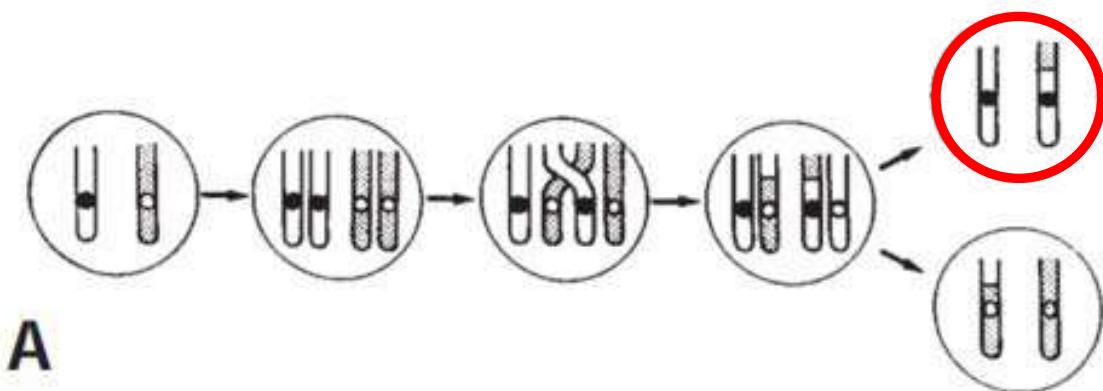
- In an individual heterozygous for a mutation, post-zygotic loss of the corresponding wild-type allele may result in a mosaic phenotype
- Benign and malignant skin tumours can be seen as examples of cutaneous mosaicism.
- This idea is known as the "two-hit" hypothesis, and it was first proposed by geneticist Alfred Knudson in 1971.
- LOH may arise from a variety of mutational events

## Loss of heterozygosity



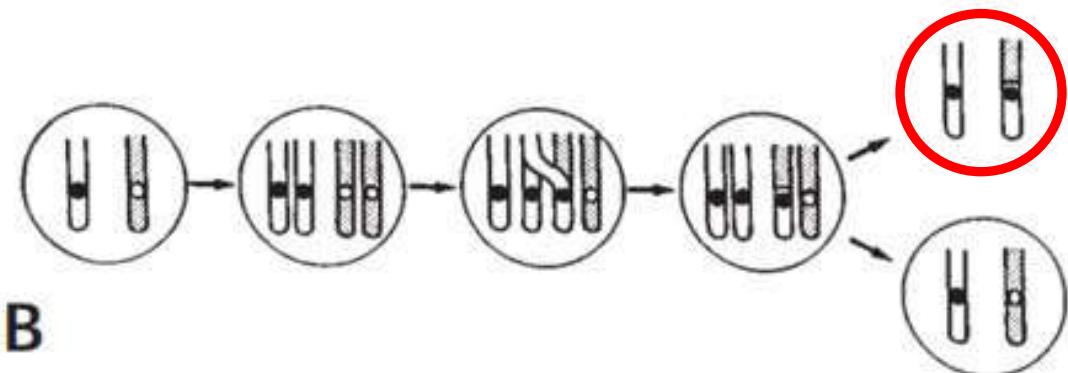
Happle R. Loss of heterozygosity in human skin. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. 1999 Aug 1;41(2):143–61.

## Mitotic crossing-over



Happle R. Loss of heterozygosity in human skin. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. 1999 Aug 1;41(2):143–61.

## Gene conversion



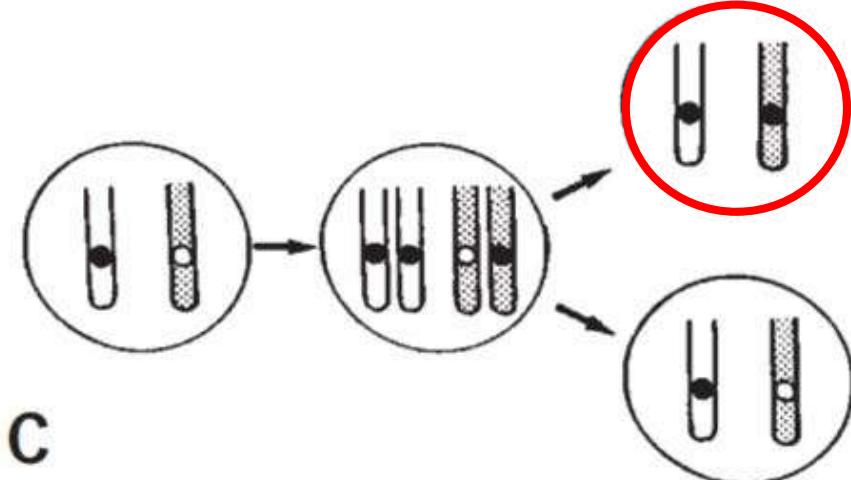
Happle R. Loss of heterozygosity in human skin. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. 1999 Aug 1;41(2):143–61.



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## Point mutation



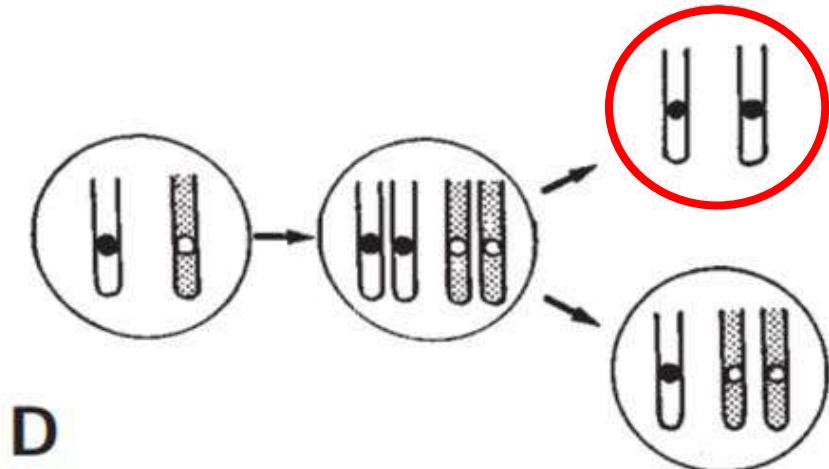
Happle R. Loss of heterozygosity in human skin. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. 1999 Aug 1;41(2):143–61.



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## Mitotic non-disjunction



Happle R. Loss of heterozygosity in human skin. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. 1999 Aug 1;41(2):143–61.

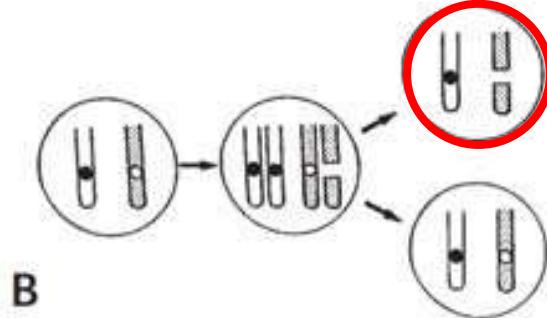
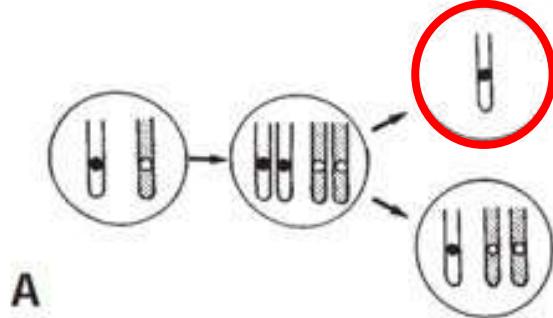


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## Mitotic non-disjunction

## Deletion



Happle R. Loss of heterozygosity in human skin. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. 1999 Aug 1;41(2):143–61.



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## Loss of heterozygosity

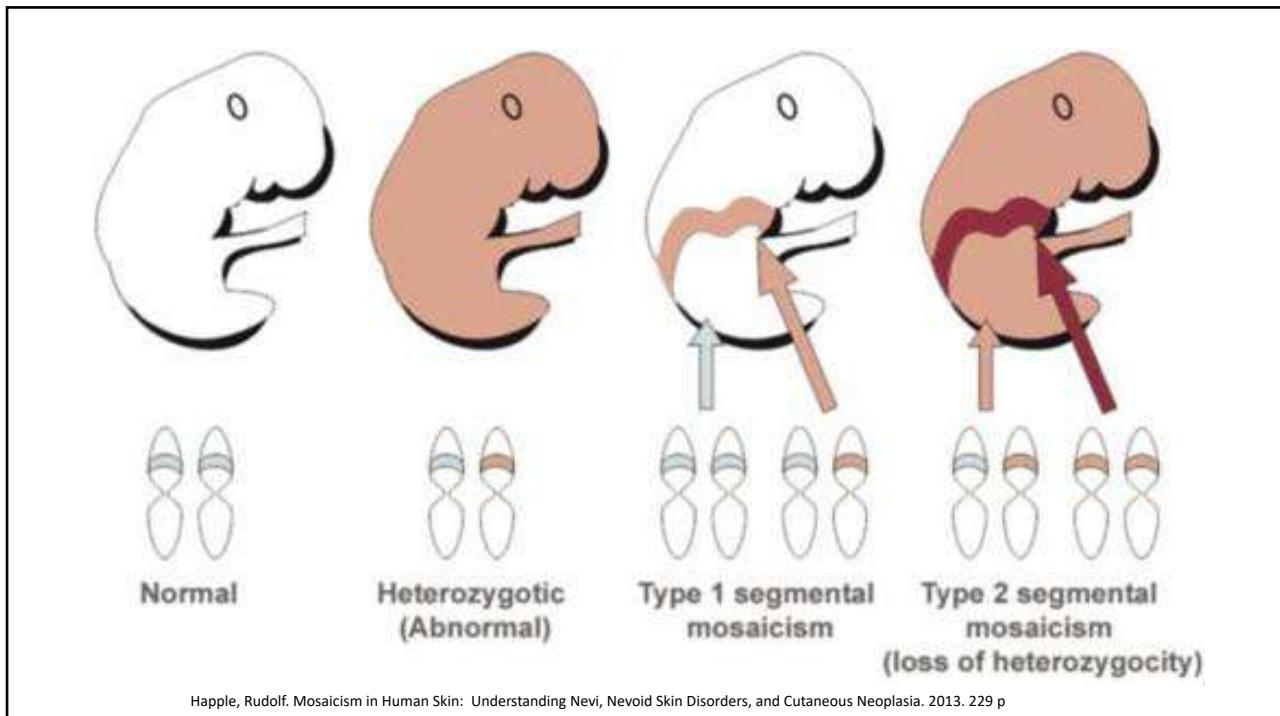
- Malignant skin tumours originating from LOH
  - Nevoid basal cell carcinoma originates from loss of the wild-type allele at 9q22.3



Happle R. Loss of heterozygosity in human skin. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. 1999 Aug 1;41(2):143–61.

## Mosaicism of Nonlethal Mutations

- Happle described patterns of non-lethal mutations as
  - Type 1 segmental
  - Type 2 segmental

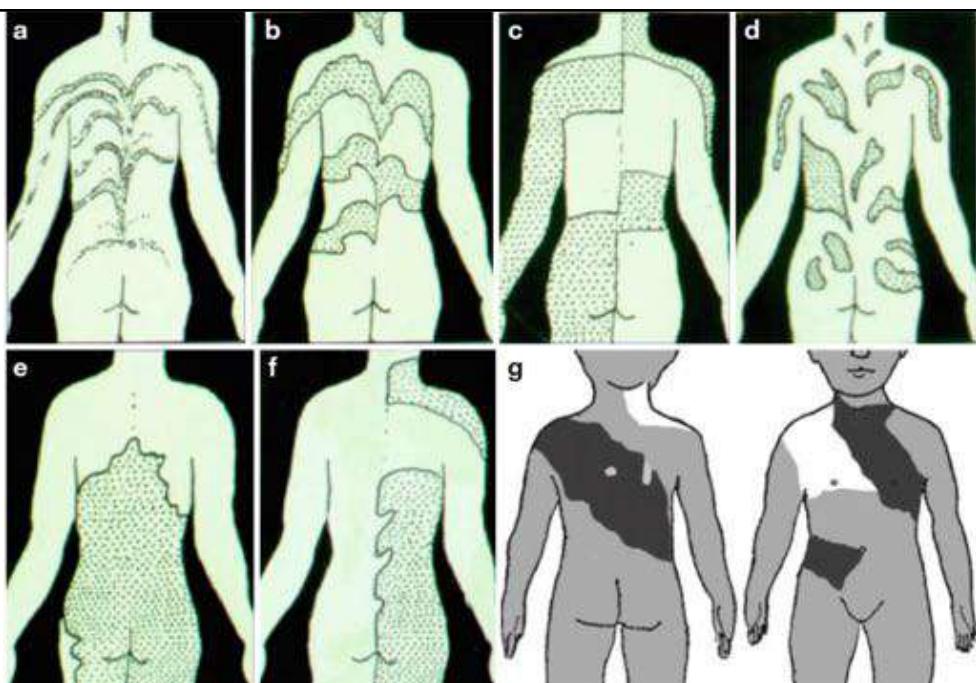


## Patterns of cutaneous mosaicism

## Patterns of cutaneous mosaicism

6 archetypical patterns of cutaneous mosaicism can be distinguished

1. Lines of Blaschko
2. Checkerboard pattern
3. Phylloid pattern
4. Patchy pattern without midline separation
5. Lateralisation pattern
6. Sash-like pattern



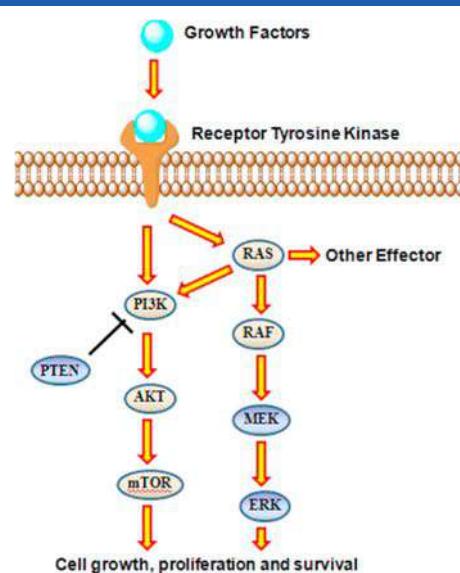
# Naevi

# Naevi

- Naevoid proliferations make obvious mosaic presentations particularly when they are extensive. Examples include:
  - Systemised keratinocytic epidermal naevi (KEN)
  - Schimmelpenning syndrome
  - Phacomatosis pigmentokeratotica
- The molecular basis for these naevi **continue to be elucidated and recently RAS signalling appears to be an important pathway in the formation of some naevi**

## RAStopathies and mosaic RAStopathies

- RAS proteins transduce extracellular growth factor stimuli into the intracellular environment
- 2 RAS dependent pathways
  - Ras-Raf-MEK-ERK
  - PI3K-Akt



Asati V, Mahapatra DK, Bharti SK. PI3K/Akt/mTOR and Ras/Raf/MEK/ERK signaling pathways inhibitors as anticancer agents: Structural and pharmacological perspectives. European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry. 2016 Feb 15;109:314-41.

## RAS proteins

- RAS proteins are encoded for by 3 genes
  - *HRAS, KRAS and NRAS*
- Activating mutations in *RAS* genes are found in 30% of human cancers

## RASopathies and mosaic RASopathies

- **RASopathies** are a group of syndromes with overlapping clinical symptoms due to GERMLINE mutations in the Ras/MAPK signalling pathway
  - Noonan, NF1, Costello syndrome, cardio-facio-cutaneous syndrome
- **Mosaic RASopathies** are due to mutations in the Ras/MAPK signalling pathway that occur in the mosaic state presenting with a congenital syndrome distinct to that seen in the corresponding germline mutation

## Mosaic RASopathies

- Epidermal naevi
  - Represent a unique paradigm for cutaneous mosaic disorders
  - Follow Blaschko's lines
  - Become visible at birth or in first few years of life

## Mosaic RASopathies

- Keratinocytic Epidermal Naevi (KEN)
  - Can occur as a result of mosaic mutations in *FGFR3* and *PIK3CA*
  - More recently KEN has been reported to occur as a result of **mosaic RAS mutation**
  - The *RAS* mutation were seen in the lesion BUT not in the epidermal tissue adjacent and in blood leukocytes



Happle, Rudolf. Mosaicism in Human Skin: Understanding Nevi, Nevoid Skin Disorders, and Cutaneous Neoplasia. 2013. pg 80

## Mosaic RASopathies

- Sebaceous Naevus
  - A type of epidermal naevus which can develop secondary tumours in later life (25%), preferentially affecting the scalp and face
- Schimmelpenning syndrome
  - Is the presence of sebaceous naevus and extracutaneous abnormalities

Figure 1: Clinical, histological and molecular analyses of nevus sebaceous.

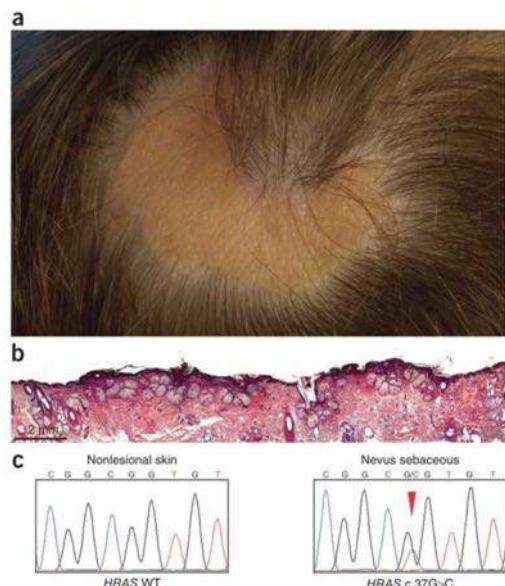
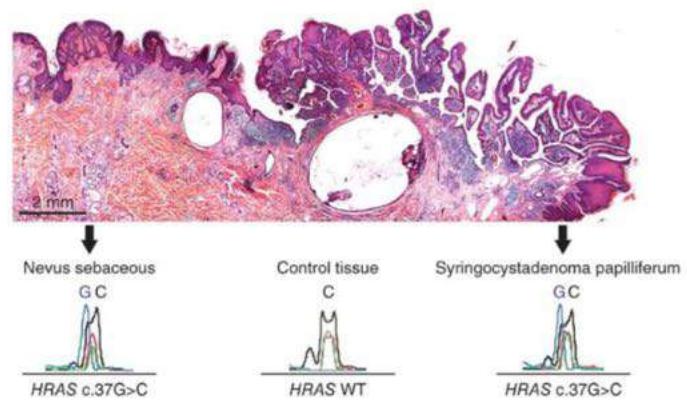
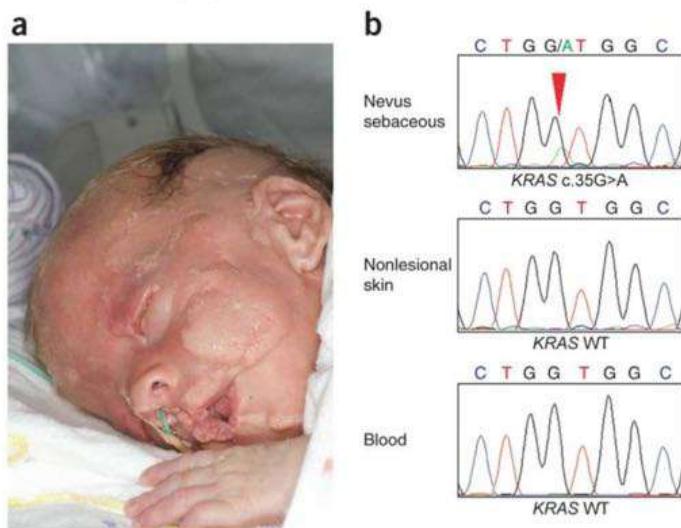


Figure 3: Molecular analysis of a syringocystadenoma papilliferum associated with a nevus sebaceous.



Groesser L, Herschberger E, Ruetten A, Ruivenkamp C, Lopriore E, Zutt M, et al. Postzygotic HRAS and KRAS mutations cause nevus sebaceous and Schimmelpenning syndrome. *Nature Genetics*. 2012 Jun 10;44:783.

**Figure 2: Clinical manifestations and molecular analysis of Schimmelpenning syndrome in a newborn.**



Groesser L, Herschberger E, Ruetten A, Ruivenkamp C, Lopriore E, Zutt M, et al. Postzygotic HRAS and KRAS mutations cause nevus sebaceous and Schimmelpenning syndrome. *Nature Genetics*. 2012 Jun 10;44:783.

## Mosaic RASopathies

- Sebaceous Naevus
  - Underlying genetic cause of this is a post zygotic mutation in HRAS c.37G>C of the epithelial cells
- Schimelpenning syndrome
  - Extensive mosaicism for activating HRAS and KRAS (HRAs c.37G>C and KRAS c.35G>A) mutations involving the skin, skeletal, ocular and CNS is the **genetic cause for this syndrome**

## Mosaic RASopathies

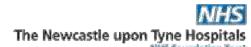
- Phacomatoses  
pigmentokeratotica
  - Epidermal naevus  
syndrome
    - Sebaceous naevus
    - Speckled lentiginous  
naevus (naevus spilus)



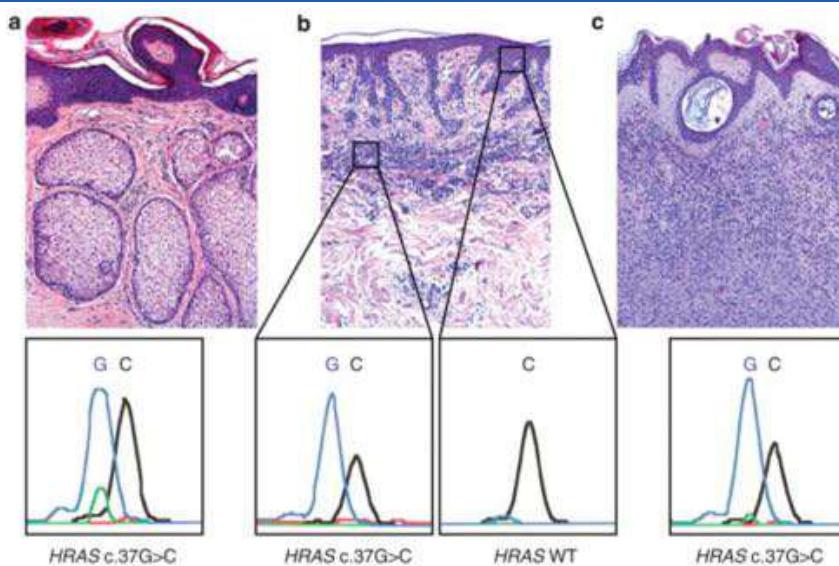
Groesser L, Herschberger E, Sagrera A, Shwayder T, Flux K, Ehmann L, et al. Phacomatoses Pigmentokeratotica Is Caused by a Postzygotic HRAS Mutation in a Multipotent Progenitor Cell. *Journal of Investigative Dermatology*. 2013 Aug 1;133(8):1998–2003



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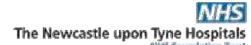
## Mosaic RASopathies



Groesser L, Herschberger E, Sagrera A, Shwayder T, Flux K, Ehmann L, et al. Phacomatoses Pigmentokeratotica Is Caused by a Postzygotic HRAS Mutation in a Multipotent Progenitor Cell. *Journal of Investigative Dermatology*. 2013 Aug 1;133(8):1998–2003



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## Mosaic RASopathies

- This study showed that, sebaceous naevi, speckled naevi (papular type) and congenital melanocytic naevi **all harbour same HRAS mutation within each patient**
- Highlights the pleiotropy (single gene influences 2 or more unrelated phenotypic traits) of HRAS mosaic mutation in the context of an **ectodermal progenitor cell**



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## Speckled lentiginous naevi (naevus spilus)



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## SLN

Papular type



Macular type



Happle, Rudolf. Mosaicism in Human Skin: Understanding Nevi, Nevoid Skin Disorders, and Cutaneous Neoplasia. 2013.

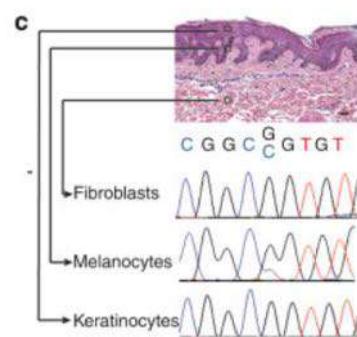
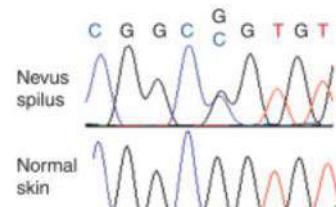


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## Small naevus spilus

- Khavari group in 2014 published work looking at HRAS in SLN/ naevus spilus



Sarin KY, McNiff JM, Kwok S, Kim J, Khavari PA. Activating HRAS Mutation in Nevus Spilus. Journal of Investigative Dermatology. 2014 Jun 1;134(6):1766-8

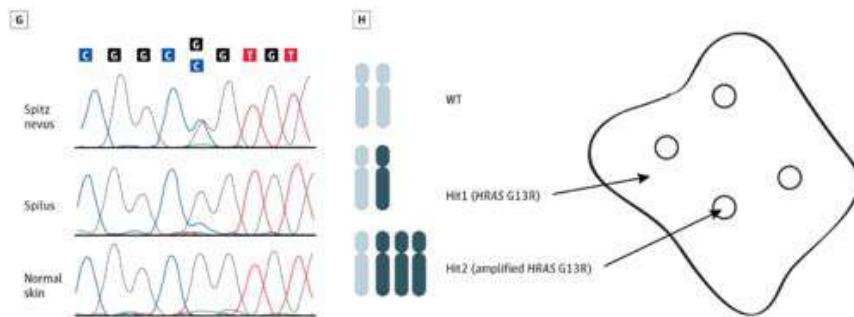


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## Naevus spilus and spitz naevi

- Khavari group in 2013 identified agminated spitz naevi in a naevus spilus
- They identified HRAS in the naevus spilus and a copy number increase in HRAS in the agminated spitz naevi



Sarin KY, Sun BK, Bangs CD, et al. Activating hras mutation in agminated spitz nevi arising in a nevus spilus. JAMA Dermatology. 2013 Sep 1;149(9):1077–81.

## Naevus spilus/SLN and spitz naevi

- However they have yet to identify the secondary mutations that give rise to the diverse melanocytic neoplasms seen in SLN
- Or how HRAS mutations are represented differentially amongst the different types of SLN
  - Papular versus macular

## Nevus Spilus-Type Congenital Melanocytic Naevus

## Naevus Spilus-Type CMN

- Phenotype that has been described with café au lait macule and medium/large CMN



Kinsler VA, Kengel S, Riviere J-B, Waelchli R, Chapusot C, Al-Olabi I, et al. Next-Generation Sequencing of Nevus Spilus-Type Congenital Melanocytic Nevus: Exquisite Genotype–Phenotype Correlation in Mosaic RASopathies. The Journal of Investigative Dermatology. 2014 Oct;134(10):2658–60.

## Naevus spilus-type CMN

- A single *NRAS* mutation was found in the café-au-lait macule and the superimposed CMN
- The missense activating mutation in *NRAS* was identified in the skin and absent from the blood



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## Summary

- Various patterns found on the skin, such as the lines of Blaschko, checkerboard and phylloid patterns, are well-known manifestations of mosaicism
- Nevoid proliferations make obvious mosaic presentations, particularly when they are extensive
- The molecular basis for these phenotypic expressions are continually being elucidated



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# MASSIVELY PARALLEL SEQUENCING TECHNOLOGIES

Jonathan Coxhead

# Massively parallel sequencing technologies (2018 overview)

*Dr Jonathan Coxhead*

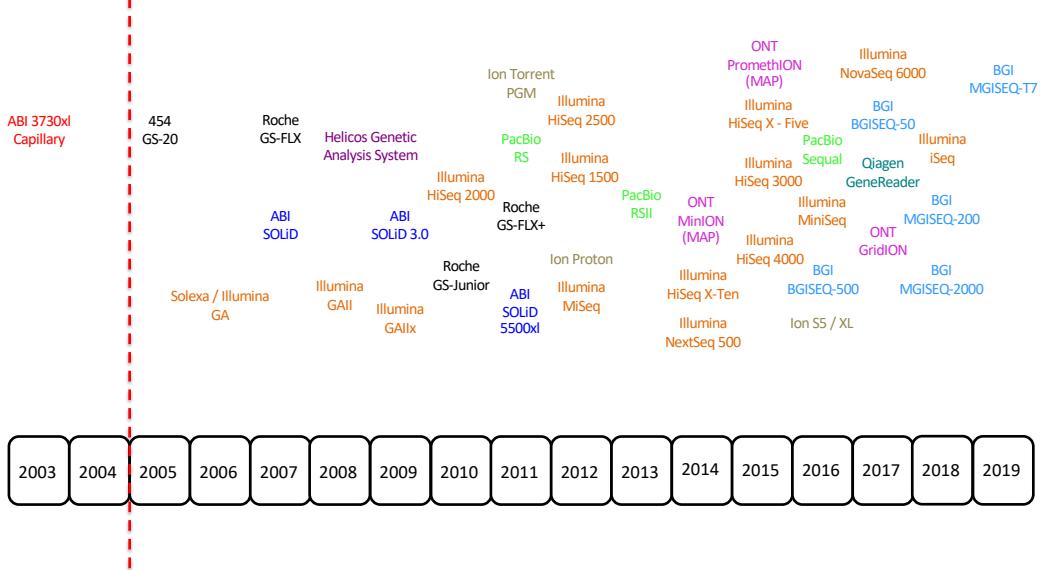
*12<sup>th</sup> November 2018*

## Overview

- NGS glossary and terms
- Importance of sample QC
- Commercially available NGS technologies
- Massively parallel sequencing is here to stay – keeping up to date

[Use of images in this presentation – unless otherwise stated, the images related to the technologies described in this presentation have been taken from publicly available marketing material associated with the relevant technology manufacturer]

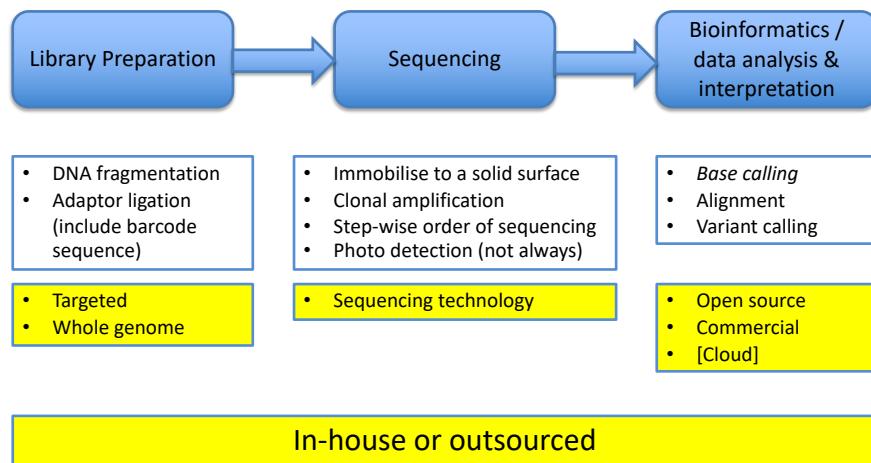
## Technology >10 years of NGS



## Technology - commercial platforms

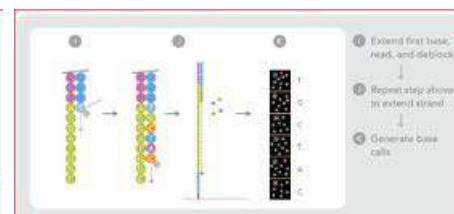
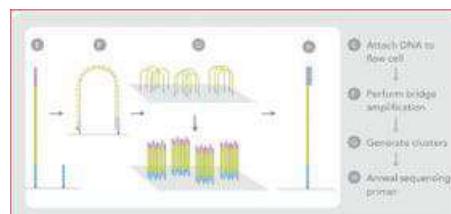
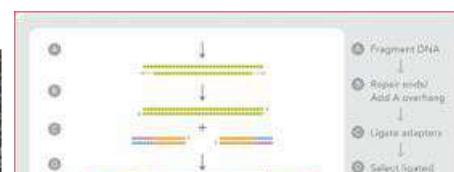
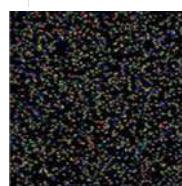


# Sequencing pipeline - broken down



## Illumina sequencing chemistry

- Fragment DNA
- Adaptor ligation
- Cluster formation
- Sequencing



<http://youtu.be/womKfikWlxM>

## Illumina throughput specifications

Instrument / Format	Read Length (bp)	No. Reads	Output	Run time	Fluorophore chemistry	Flow cell Architecture
iSeq 100	2 x 150	4 million	1.2 Gb	17.5 hours	2 colour	Patterned
MiniSeq High	2 x 150	25 million	7.5 Gb	24 hours	2 colour	Random
MiniSeq Mid	2 x 150	8 million	2.4 Gb	17 hours	2 colour	Random
MiSeq v3	2 x 300	25 million	15 Gb	65 hours	4 colour	Random
NextSeq 500 High	2 x 150	400 million	100 Gb	29 hours	2 colour	Random
NextSeq 500 Mid	2 x 150	130 million	36 Gb	26 hours	2 colour	Random
HiSeq 2500 v4 High	2 x 125	4 billion	1 Tb	6 days	4 colour	Random
HiSeq 2500 v4 Rapid	2 x 250	600 million	300 Gb	60 hours	4 colour	Random
HiSeq 3000	2 x 150	2.5 billion	750 Gb	3.5 days	4 colour	Patterned
HiSeq 4000	2 x 150	5 billion	1.5 Tb	3.5 days	4 colour	Patterned
HiSeq X * (x5 or x10)	2 x 150	6 billion	1.8 Tb	3 days	4 colour	Patterned
NovaSeq S1	2 x 150	1.6 billion	1 Tb	25 hours	2 colour	Patterned
NovaSeq S2	2 x 150	4.1 billion	3 Tb	36 hours	2 colour	Patterned
NovaSeq S4	2 x 150	10 billion	6 Tb	45 hours	2 colour	Patterned

## Illumina sequencing capacity



MiniSeq and MiSeq v4

- Amplicon
- Gene panels
- Microbial genomes
- Metagenomics
- mtDNA sequencing



NextSeq 500 Mid Output / High Output

- 40 Gene Expression
- 3 - 10 mRNA-Seq
- 20 Gene panels
- 3 - 9 exomes
- 1 genome



HiSeq 2500 Rapid Run / High Output

- 40 - 260 ChIP-Seq
- 15 - 100 mRNA-Seq
- 20 - 150 exomes
- 1 - 10 genomes



HiSeq 3000/4000

- 50 - 100 transcriptomes
- 90 - 180 exomes
- 6 - 12 human genomes



### Pros / Cons

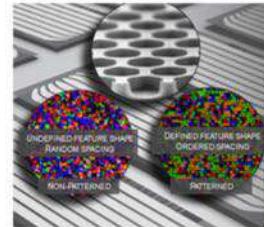
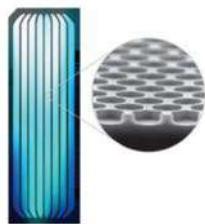
- Range of platform options
- Widely adopted (USA colleges etc.)
- Where's the competition?
- Poor for amplicons
- Substitution error

HiSeq X

- 16 human genomes / per instrument

## Illumina – \$1000 genome and population scale sequencing

- 18k genomes / year
- Patterned flow cell



- “Genomics England machine”

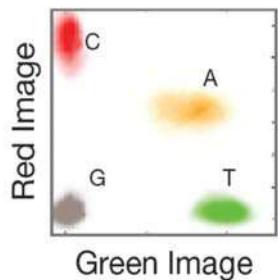


- Exclusion amplification chemistry
- Up-graded camera and lasers

**Only cost effective if run consistently!**

## Illumina – Flexible affordable platforms

- Whole genome bench-top sequencing

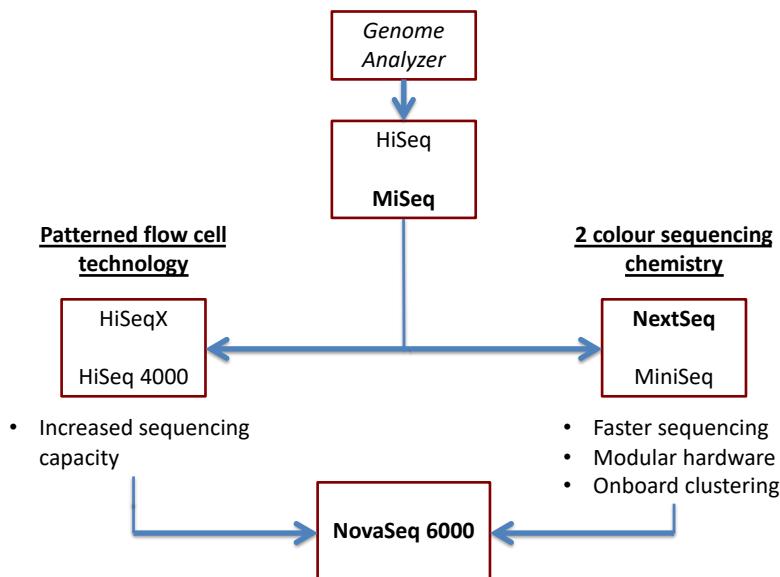


- Budget bench-top sequencing



- Tumour profiling
- Germline testing
- Expression profiling

## Illumina instrument evolution



## Illumina NovaSeq 6000



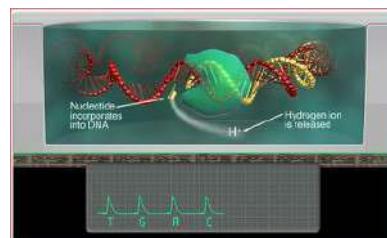
†48 human genomes per run at 30x

- Launched January 2017
- Large dataset applications –†WGS, Ultra-deep WES and Tumour-Normal profiling
- Large sample projects - WES, RNA-Seq and Single Cell studies
- Single or dual flow cells; 3 flow cell sizes S1, S2 and S4; 1.6 – 10 billion reads or max output 0.5 – 3 Tb per flow cell.
- Read length 2 x 50 bp, 100 bp or 150 bp

## Ion Torrent & Proton sequencing chemistry (Life Technologies)



- Fragment DNA
- Adaptor ligation
- Bead Capture
- emPCR
- Semi-conductor sequencing



<http://youtu.be/WYBzbxIfuKs>

## Ion Torrent throughput specifications

Instrument / Format	Read Length (bp)	No. Reads	Output	Run time
PGM 314	400	600 thousand	100 Mb	4 hours
PGM 316	400	3 million	1 Gb	5 hours
PGM 318	400	5 million	2 Gb	7 hours
Proton PI	200	82 million	10 Gb	4 hours
Ion S5 510	400	3 million	1 Gb	4 hours
Ion S5 520	400	6 million	2 Gb	4 hours
Ion S5 530	400	20 million	8 Gb	4 hours
Ion S5 540	200	80 million	15 Gb	2.5 hours

## Ion Torrent sequencing capacity



- Amplicon
- Small genomes
- Small gene panels
- Gene expression (targeted RNA)

- Amplicons
- Gene panels
- 2 exomes
- 48 – 384 16S metagenomics

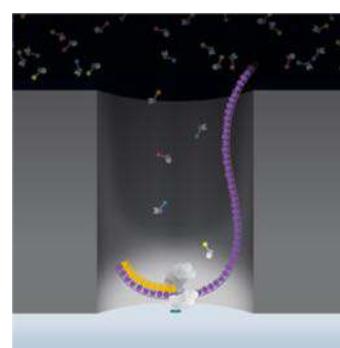
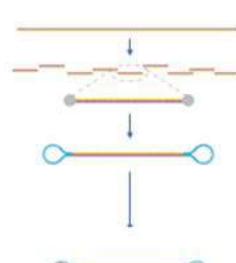
- Gene expression (targeted RNA)
- 1 – 3 exomes
- 1 – 4 transcriptomes
- 2 – 4 ChIP-Seq

### Pros / Cons

- Fast run time (doesn't take into account prep)
- Main instrument relatively simple – no expensive optics
- Diagnostic market
- Small user base – bioinformatics & technical expertise
- Homopolymer error
- At the moment limited for human WGS

## PacBio sequencing chemistry – SMRT (single molecule real-time)

DNA sample  
Fragmentation  
End Repair  
Adaptor Ligation



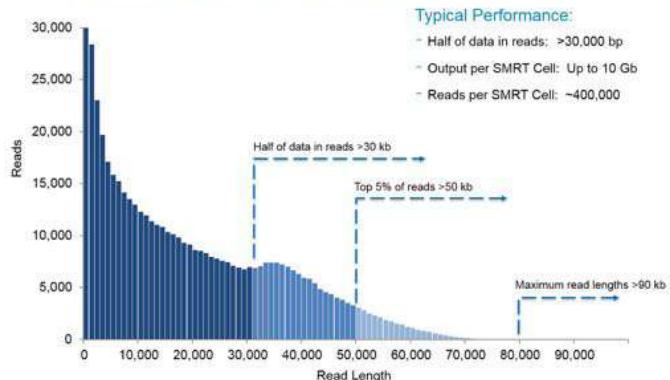
<http://youtu.be/NHCJ8PtYCFc>



Primer Annealing and Polymerase Binding to SMRTbell Template

## PacBio throughput specifications

### SEQUEL SYSTEM PERFORMANCE: GENOMIC LIBRARY



- V2 Chemistry 30 min – 20 hour run time, 1 – 12 SMRT Cells per run
- Continuous Long Read (CLR) 85-89% accuracy
- **Stochastic error rate**
- Circular Consensus Sequence (CCS) >99.999% accuracy (at 30x)

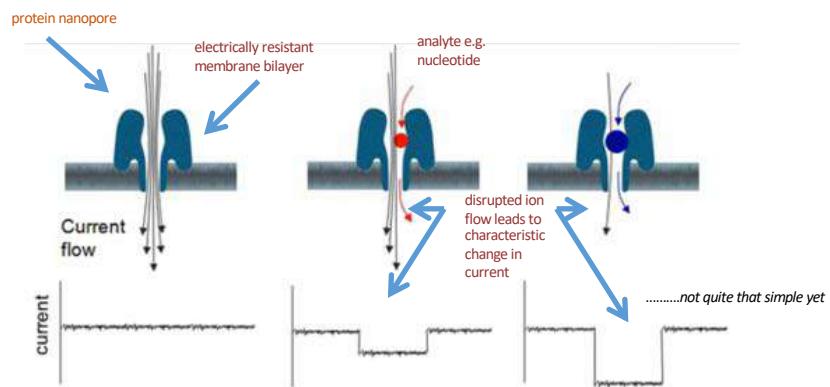
## PacBio (RSII and Sequel) - applications



Modest number of long reads (as opposed to a large number of short reads)

- **De Novo Assembly**
  - genome finishing
- **Targeted Sequencing**
  - Haplotype phasing
  - Full length transcripts
- **Base Modification detection**
  - epigenetics
- **Microbial genomes**
- **Emerging technology in cancer genomics**
- **...human WGS?**

# Oxford Nanopore Technologies



- Biological nanopores in the form of pore-forming proteins, similar to those found in nature that transport ions and molecules through cell membranes
- Each nanopore embedded in a polymer membrane across the top of a microwell with its own electrode
- Multiple microwells per array chip – each nanopore sequencing independently
- Technology designed so that data analysis is simultaneous - sequencing can be stopped when enough data has been collected
- <https://nanoporetech.com/applications/dna-nanopore-sequencing>

## Nanopore sequencing technologies



MinION

- Run time 1 min - 48 hrs
- Output 10-20 Gb
- Up to 512 channels



GridION

- Run time 1 min - 48 hrs
- Output 50-100 Gb
- Up to 2560 channels



PromethION

- Run time 1 min - 64 hrs
- Output 4.3-6 Tb
- Up to 144k channels



Human Molecular Genetics, 2017, Vol. 26, No. 82 3010-3029  
doi:10.1093/hmg/ddw367  
Advance Access Publication Date: 26 July 2017  
Received 20 June 2017  
Accepted 10 July 2017  
Editorial handling: Mark A. Jobling

INVITED REVIEW

### The potential impact of nanopore sequencing on human genetics

Matthew W. Loose\*

School of Life Sciences, University of Nottingham, Nottingham NG7 2UH, UK

**Necessary to evaluate based on personal experience with relevant application / sample, for instance accuracy could be 85%-95% (or lower)**

- Sample input 10 pg – 1 µg
- Min sample prep time = 10 mins
- Time to first usable read = 2 mins
- Read length = fragment length
- Raw read accuracy = up to 99%

## End-to-end solution



DNA extraction >>> Candidate gene list



## Technology - keeping up to date

- Press releases - news outlets - social media

**GEN** Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News

Biotechnology from bench to business

<http://www.genengnews.com/>

@Genbio

**Bio-IT World**  
Next-Gen Technology • Big Data • Personalized Medicine

<http://www.bio-itworld.com/>

@bioitworld

genomeweb

<https://www.genomeweb.com/>

@DailyNewsGW

- Journals

**nature biotechnology**

**nature methods**  
Techniques for life scientists and chemists

News story

## **Matt Hancock announces ambition to map 5 million genomes**

The NHS Genomic Medicine Service is the first national genomic healthcare service in the world and will allow faster diagnosis and personalised care.

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Published 2 October 2018  
From: [Department of Health and Social Care](#)

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/matt-hancock-announces-ambition-to-map-5-million-genomes>

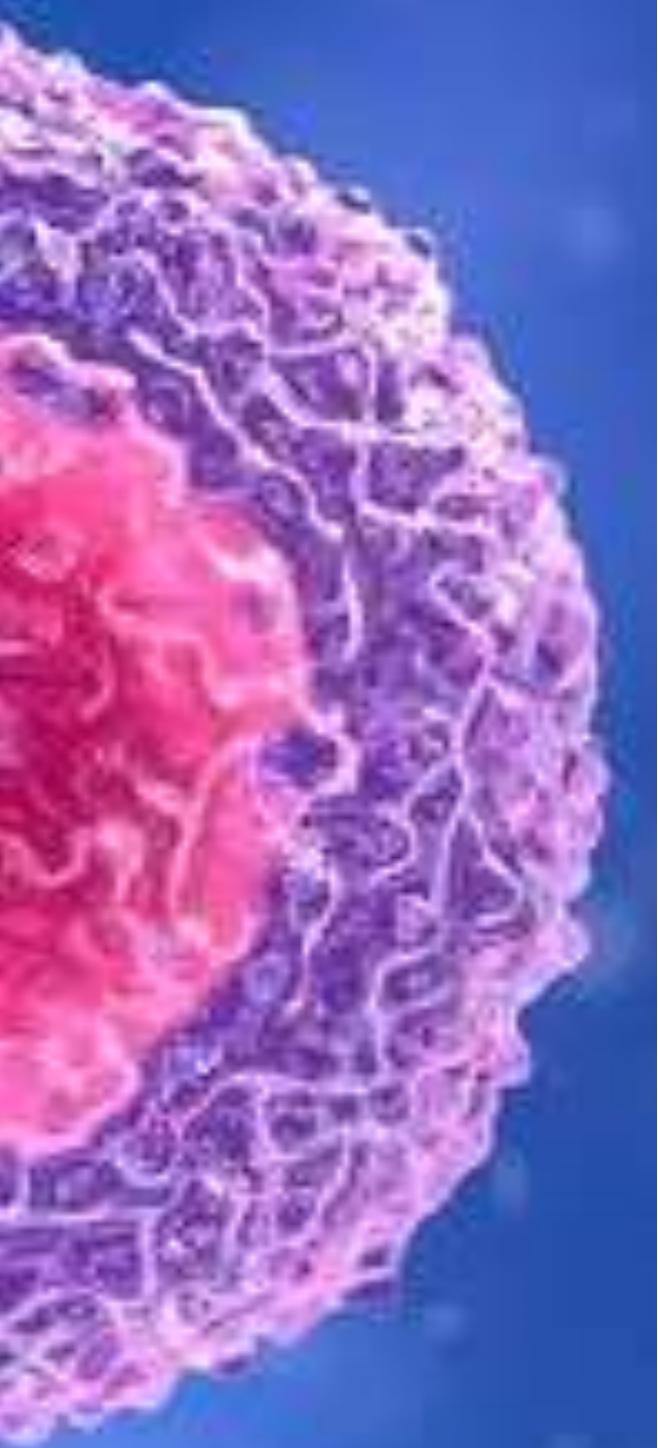




RESEARCH TECHNIQUES COURSE 2018

# BIOINFORMATICS

## Simon Cockell



# Research Techniques Course 2018

*Simon Cockell*

*08 November, 2018*

## Introduction to R

R is a programming language and environment for statistical analysis and data visualisation. It is used extensively in bioinformatics because it enables the manipulation and analysis of very large data sets.

R is an extensible environment and new functionality can be added to the core language via installation of packages. There are large existing repositories of these packages for R, including the Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN)<sup>1</sup> which includes thousands of packages covering many use-cases, and Bioconductor<sup>2</sup> which caters specifically for the analysis of biological data.

## Bioconductor

Bioconductor is an open source software project for R. It is a collection related R packages, which you can install and use in your code. These packages are tailored to perform a set of specific tasks based around a particular type of analysis.

As well as packages, the Bioconductor site also provides documentation for each package, often a brief vignette and a more comprehensive user guide.

## Tidyverse

Tidyverse<sup>3</sup> is set of packages available through CRAN. It describes itself as “an opinionated collection of R packages designed for data science”. Components of the Tidyverse provide convenient methods for reading, writing, visualising and organising data.

## RStudio

RStudio<sup>4</sup> is an Integrated Development Environment (IDE) which supports the development and running of R programs. It has a number of convenience features that make developing R code much more user-friendly.

The RStudio interface is split into four panes as shown:

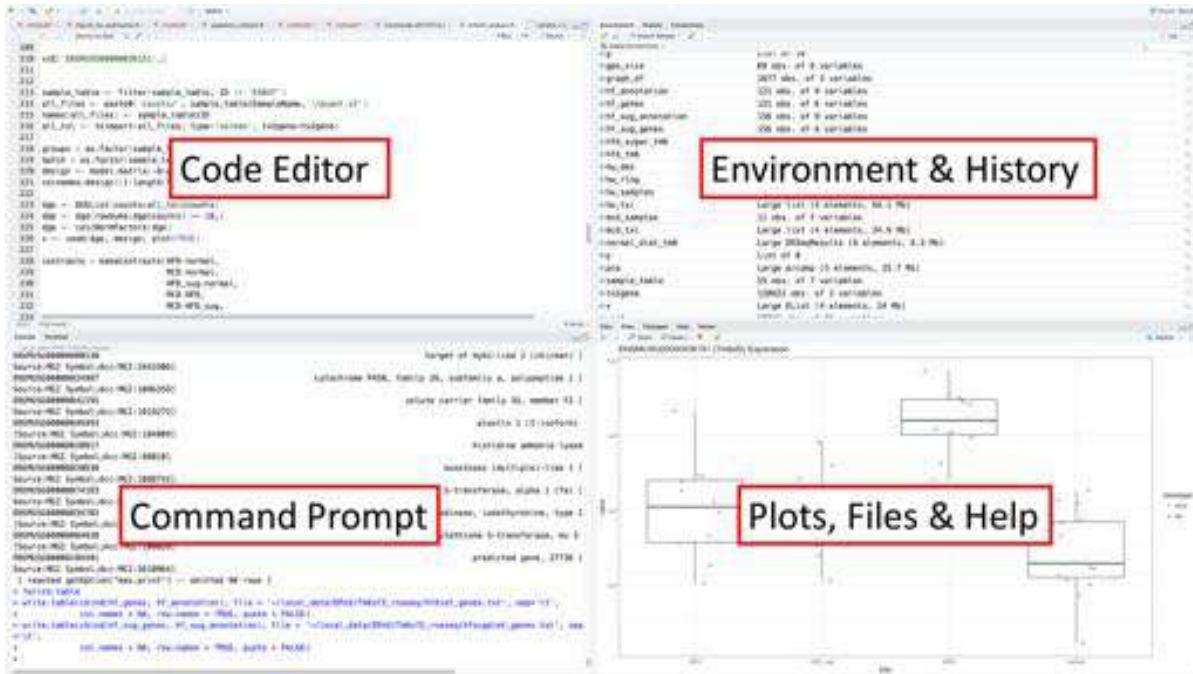
---

<sup>1</sup><https://cran.r-project.org>

<sup>2</sup><https://bioconductor.org>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.tidyverse.org>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.rstudio.com>



## Using R

We will be using R as a command-driven data analysis environment. R is a Turing-complete<sup>5</sup> programming language capable of much more than will be demonstrated today, but that is beyond the scope of this course.

The commands we will use in R take a general form:

`command(arguments)`

The name of the command to be executed is followed by a parenthetical, comma-separated list of arguments that provide input, or modify the behaviour of that command. The results of a command can be stored as a *variable* by using the assignment operator (=):

`x = command(arguments)`

Help on a command, and the arguments it takes, can be found using the ? operator before the name of the command:

`?command`

This help will open in the bottom right-hand pane of RStudio.

## Installing Packages

Packages provide vital extensibility to the core functionality of R. We will be using Bioconductor's package installer as a universal interface to a large number of package repositories (including Bioconductor, CRAN and Github). To install the installer, simply execute the following command in the R Console (bottom left pane of RStudio).

```
install.packages('BiocManager')
library(BiocManager)
```

<sup>5</sup>[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turing\\_completeness](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turing_completeness)

Now we have the `BiocManager` package, we can use this to install all of the other packages we need for today's exercises.

```
install(c('devtools', 'pheatmap',
         'Bioinformatics-Support-Unit/bsudata',
         'DESeq2', 'tidyverse'))
```

In order to make use of these packages, they must be included in our session with the `library()` command.

```
library(tidyverse)
library(DESeq2)
library(pheatmap)
library(bsudata)
```

## Introduction to RNA-Seq

RNA-Seq, or Whole Transcriptome Shotgun Sequencing (WTSS) refers to the sequencing of cDNA in order to profile the RNA content of a sample. The technique takes advantage of a simple assumption – that the number of reads that map to a particular gene in a sequencing experiment is in direct proportion to both its length, and the amount of that molecule that is present in the sample. So if two RNAs of equal length are present at a ratio of 2:1 in the sample, then we will retrieve twice as many reads for one as we will for the other when we sequence the sample. So, given two samples we can normalise for transcript lengths and total number of reads, and work out which species are differentially expressed between the two samples.

RNA-Seq is often seen as a replacement for the very popular microarray approach to studying gene expression, and while the two approaches have different strengths and weaknesses, it is generally true that the data from RNA-Seq correlates better with qPCR data (the “gold standard” for measuring gene expression data) and the sheer depth of the data generated makes RNA-Seq the better choice in many circumstances - assuming the budget allows.

This also means that many of the mistakes, with regards to experimental design, that were made in the early days of microarrays are being repeated in earnest with RNA-Seq experiments. Good experimental design is out of the scope of this course, but come and speak to the BSU – as we can help you with experimental design. One of the most common false assumptions is that with RNA-Seq you don't need replicates. This is simply untrue, we still need to model the variance of the population in order to return meaningful statistics and consequently it's advisable to do at least 4 biological replicates per condition minimum for cell lines, more for mice/rats and many more for humans. Unlike with microarray analysis however technical replicates are seldom required, as despite the stochastic nature of sequencing runs they tend to be highly reproducible.

## TPM

TPM stands for Transcripts per Million (mapped reads), and it is a way of expressing the normalised read counts for each transcript in an RNA-Seq experiment. In order to calculate TPMs for a sample, you do the following:

1. Divide the read counts by the length of each gene in kilobases. This gives you reads per kilobase (RPK).
2. Count up all the RPK values in a sample and divide this number by 1,000,000. This is your “per million” scaling factor.
3. Divide the RPK values by the “per million” scaling factor. This gives you TPM.

In practice, however, we rarely need to compare the expression levels of different genes to one another, we are usually comparing the expression of Gene A in sample 1 to Gene A in sample 2 and so on. Therefore, normalisation based on gene length as well as total number of reads is unnecessary. Most packages in Bioconductor normalise based on read count across samples.

## The Dataset

For this session we will be working with a human cell line RNA-Seq dataset in R. The dataset has six conditions, 3 treatments at each of 2 timepoints. For each of these we have four replicates (except one condition, with only 3). The sequencing used in this experiment is 100-bp paired-end data from an Illumina sequencer (the HiSeq 2500).

## Quantification of RNA-Seq Data

Modern RNA-Seq analysis procedures tend to avoid an alignment step, which is computationally costly, slow, and results in very large output files. These output files are largely redundant, given that they replicate the contents of the raw FASTQ files.

Rather than alignment, we have used Salmon<sup>6</sup>, a tool which performs ‘quasi-alignment’ to quantify transcript expression via read abundances. For completeness, the commands used to generate the quantification data are included below, as a BASH script.

```
#!/bin/bash
wget ftp://ftp.ebi.ac.uk/pub/databases/gencode/Gencode_human/release_27/gencode.v27.transcripts.fa.gz
salmon index -i salmon.idx -t gencode.v27.transcripts.fa
vals=(${seq 1 1 23})
for i in ${vals[@]}; do
    salmon quant -i /data/rna-seq-course/salmon.idx -l A \
        -1 fastq/Sample${i}_R1_001.fastq.gz \
        -2 fastq/Sample${i}_R2_001.fastq.gz \
        -o ~/rna-seq/counts/Sample${i}
done
```

This raw count data is then imported into R as a gene-level count matrix, via the Bioconductor package `tximport`.

```
library(tximport)
# where count_files is a named vector of file names:
quant_table = tximport(count_files,
                        type="salmon",
                        tx2gene=gene_map,
                        ignoreTxVersion=TRUE)
```

To analyse the count data for differentially expressed genes, we use the `DESeq2` package<sup>7</sup>. `DESeq2` uses a model based on the negative binomial distribution for testing differential expression among RNA-Seq expression data.

Again, we provide a reference implementation here, for information.

```
library(DESeq2)
deseq_data = DESeqDataSetFromTximport(txr=quant_table,
                                         colData=sample_table, design = ~ treatment)
deseq_data = DESeq(deseq_data)
```

## Principal Component Analysis

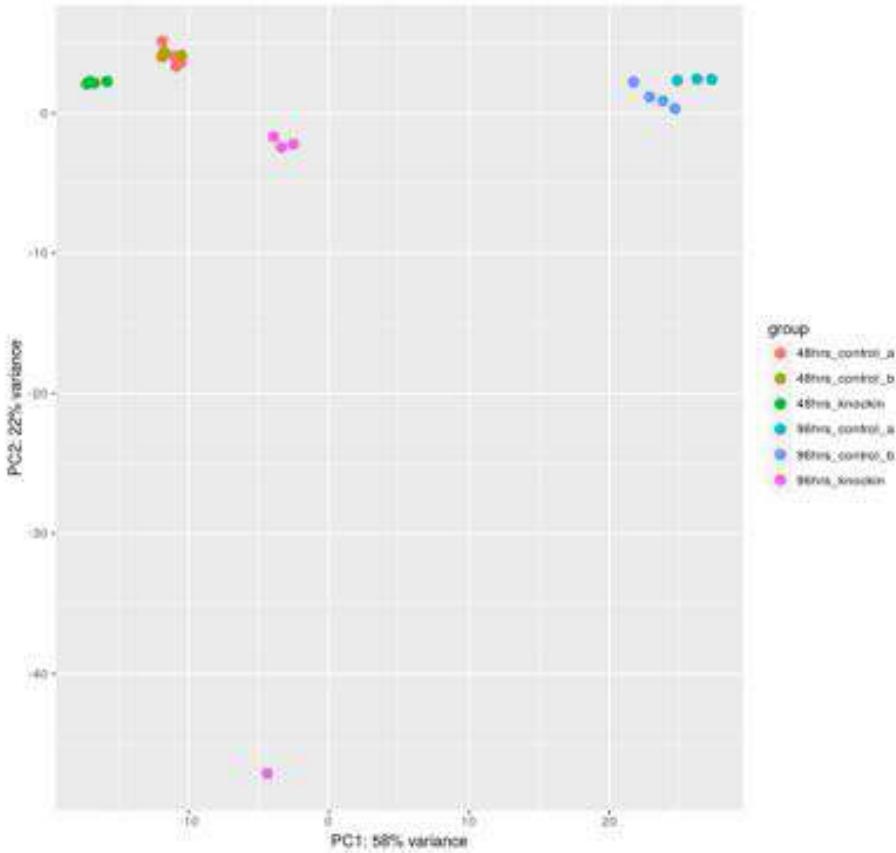
At this point we can examine the ordination of the samples, to get some idea of how similar samples are to one another, and whether any need to be excluded as outliers. In general, dimensionality reduction techniques

<sup>6</sup><https://www.nature.com/articles/nmeth.4197>

<sup>7</sup><https://genomebiology.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13059-014-0550-8>

such as Principal Component Analysis (PCA) are used for this<sup>8</sup>.

```
rlog_data = rlogTransformation(deseq_data, blind=TRUE)
plotPCA(rlog_data, intgroup=c("treatment"))
```



The PCA plot above demonstrates that we have a clear outlier among our samples - the magenta point at the bottom of the plot is almost entirely responsible for the variation we see in the second principal component (22% of the variation in the entire dataset), and clusters nowhere near the other samples with which it belongs in a group. For all analysis going forward, we will remove this sample from the raw data, and re-process.

## Determining Differentially Expressed Genes

DESeq2 includes a `results` function, which we can use to extract differentially expressed genes for the comparisons defined by our experimental design. The primary use of this function involves 2 arguments:

1. The dataset you want to analyse (created as per the above)
2. A list of the conditions you want to analyse - in the simplest form this consists of 3 things:
  - i. The column of the sample table containing the conditions you care about
  - ii. The numerator condition for calculating differential expression
  - iii. The denominator condition for calculating differential expression (by convention the control)

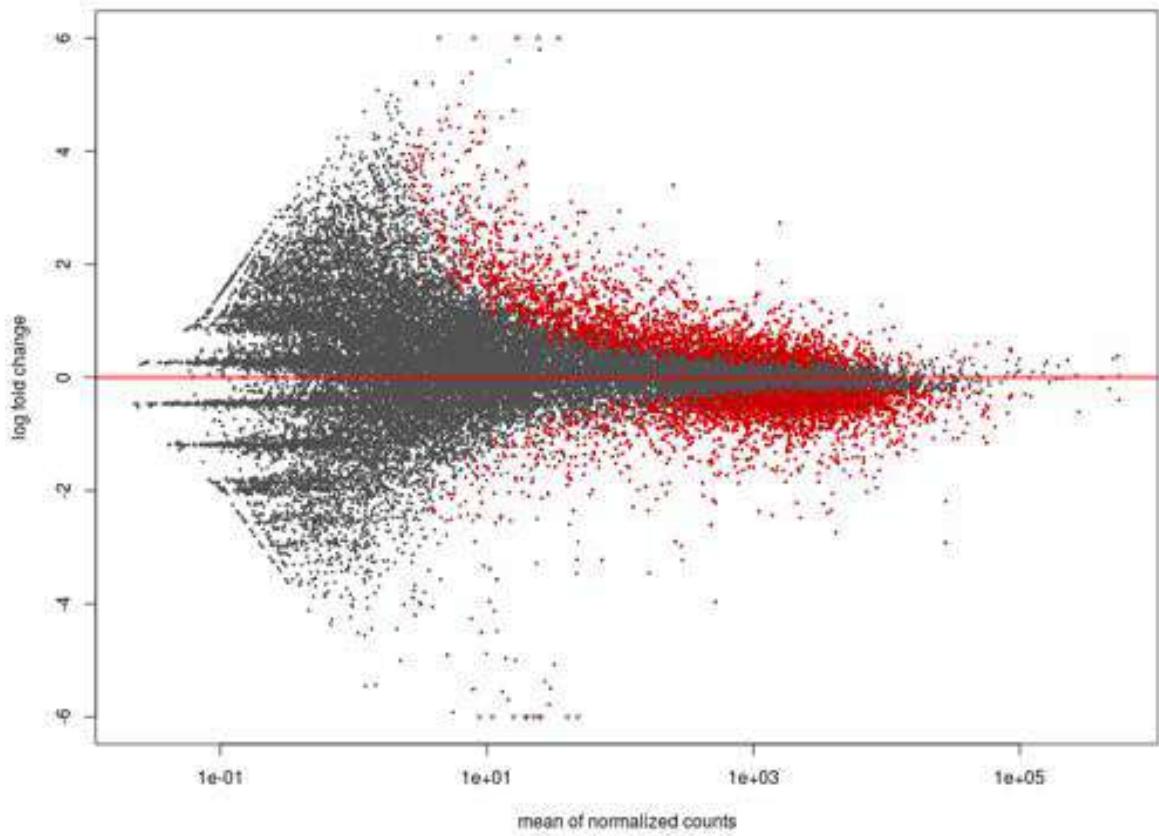
```
result_table = results(deseq_data,
                      contrast = c("treatment", "96hrs_knockin", "96hrs_control_b"))
```

Finally for this introduction, an MA plot provides a useful overview of a two-group comparison (such as we have here). The MA plot has mean normalised count on the x-axis, and log2 fold change on the y, with

<sup>8</sup><https://www.nature.com/articles/nbt0308-303>

points coloured according to whether they are significantly differentially expressed (depending on defined cut-offs). `plotMA` is a handy `DESeq2` function for producing the plot:

```
plotMA(result_table, alpha=0.05, ylim=c(-6,6))
```



## Making Heatmaps from RNA-Seq data

### The Data

All the data we will need for today's exercise is provided in the `bsudata` package you installed above. You can list, attach, and take a look at any of the data in the package:

```
library(bsudata)
# list available data
data(package="bsudata")
# attach specific dataset
data("count_table")
# take a peek at this data
head(count_table)
```

## Gene Expression Heatmap

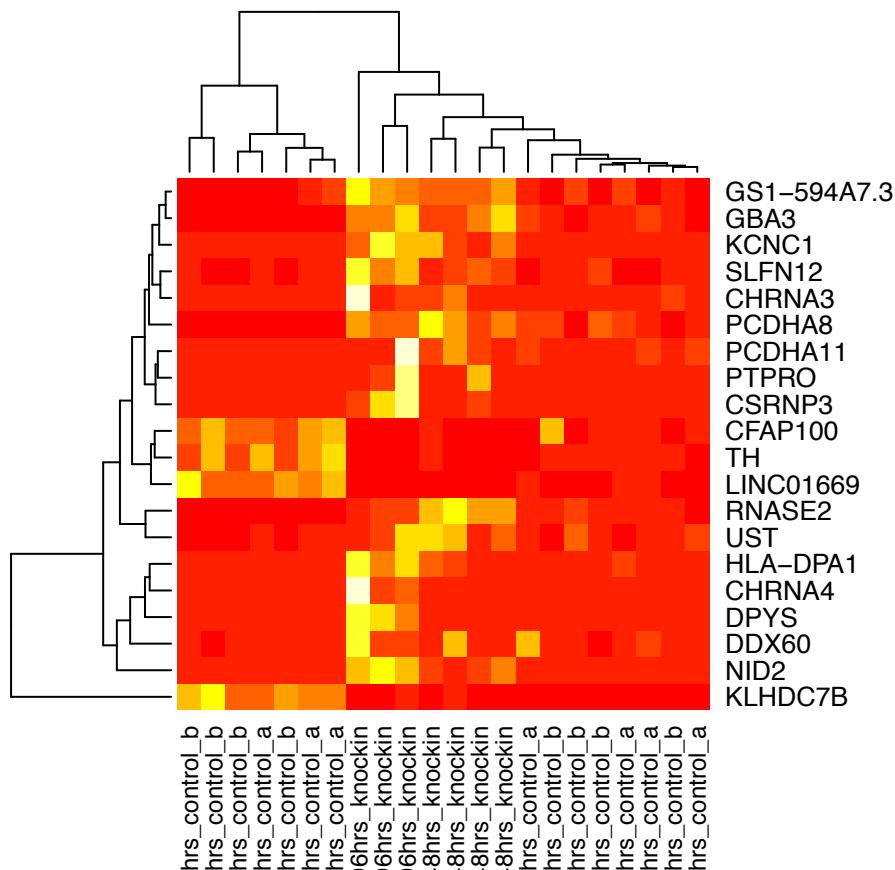
We're going to use data, analysed according to the workflow detailed above, to make heatmaps of gene expression values and fold changes for the top 20 differentially expressed genes for one comparison (96 hrs knock-in vs control B). All the data we need for producing these heatmaps is provided in the `bsudata` package. Briefly, this is how these objects are prepared:

```
# Get the normalised count table
data("count_table")
# Get the full list of differentially expressed genes
data("T96_vs_B_sig")
# Select the 'top 20' - the genes are ordered by fold change
top20_genes = slice(T96_vs_B_sig, 1:20)
# Extract the counts for the top 20 genes
top20_ensembl = pull(top20_genes, ensembl_geneid)
top20_counts = slice(count_table, match(top20_ensembl, count_table$ensembl_geneid))
# Transform these counts into a matrix, for making heatmaps
top20_matrix = select(top20_counts, -starts_with("ensembl")) %>% as.matrix
rownames(top20_matrix) = pull(top20_genes, symbol)
```

This matrix is available in the `bsudata` package as the object `top20_matrix`. We can use this directly for drawing heatmaps.

To begin with, use R's built in `heatmap` function to produce a default plot.

```
data("top20_matrix")
heatmap(top20_matrix)
```

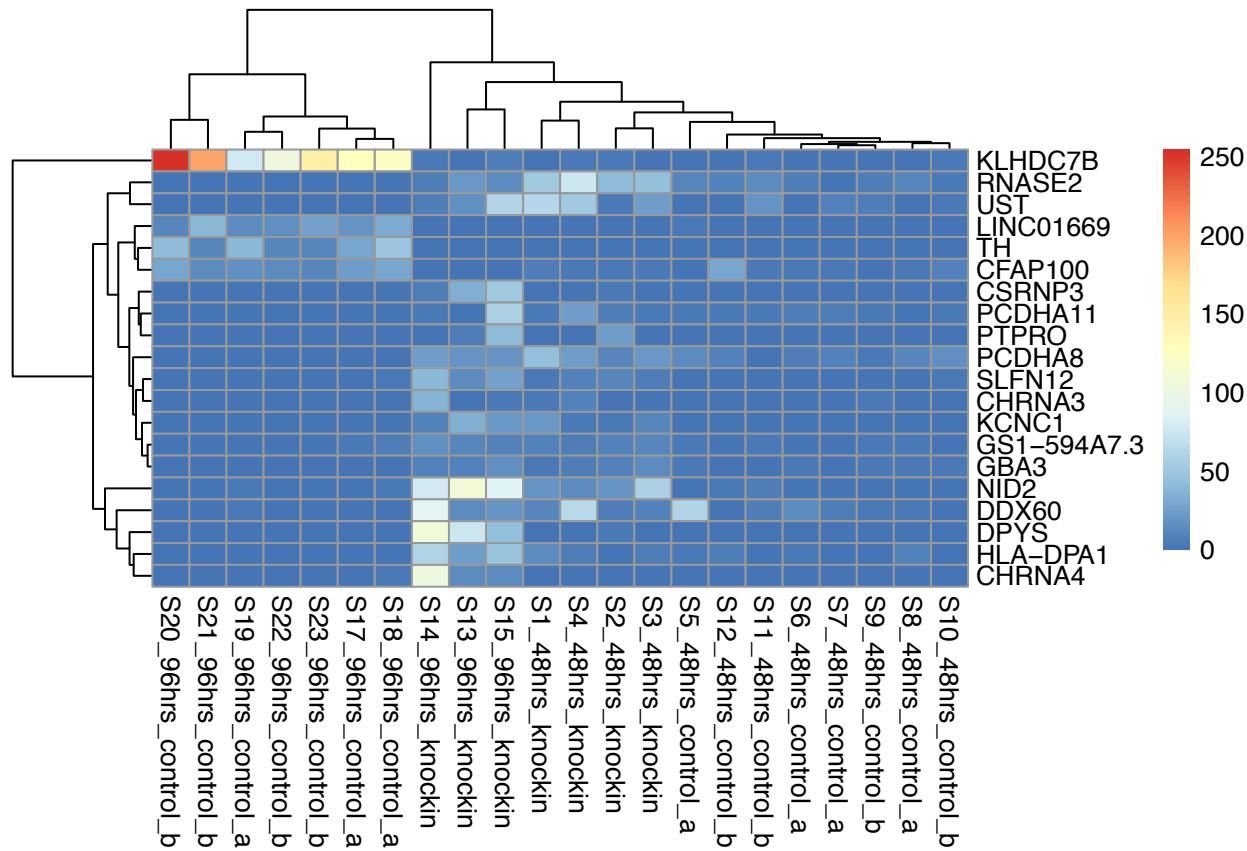


This default function has several problems that it would be good to resolve.

1. Every row is scaled to its own minimum and maximum, making comparisons between rows impossible
2. There is no colour scale provided. How do we know what each colour in the plot represents?
3. The `heatmap` function doesn't provide us with easy ways of resolving these issues (it is difficult to configure)

For these reasons, we will use an alternative heatmap implementation for the remainder of the session. There are many of these available to R users, including `heatmap.2` (in the `gplots` package)<sup>9</sup>, `ComplexHeatmap`<sup>10</sup> and `superheat`<sup>11</sup>. For the purposes of this tutorial, we're going to use the `pheatmap` package<sup>12</sup>, which you should have already installed.

```
library(pheatmap)
pheatmap(top20_matrix)
```



The defaults of `pheatmap` are preferable to base `heatmap`, but we still have a couple of issues to address here. Primarily:

1. The range of the data is very skewed - 1 gene (KLHDC7B) has some very large expression values compared to the rest and this dominates the colour scale
2. `pheatmap` uses a diverging colour scale by default - this is good if the data centres around an inflection point and has 'up' and 'down' directionality, but not so good for this kind of numerically sequential data.

To address the first of these issues, we can apply a simple transformation to the data. We are going to use a logarithmic transform (`log2`). In order that this doesn't create problems where we have zeros in our data we

<sup>9</sup><https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/gplots/index.html>

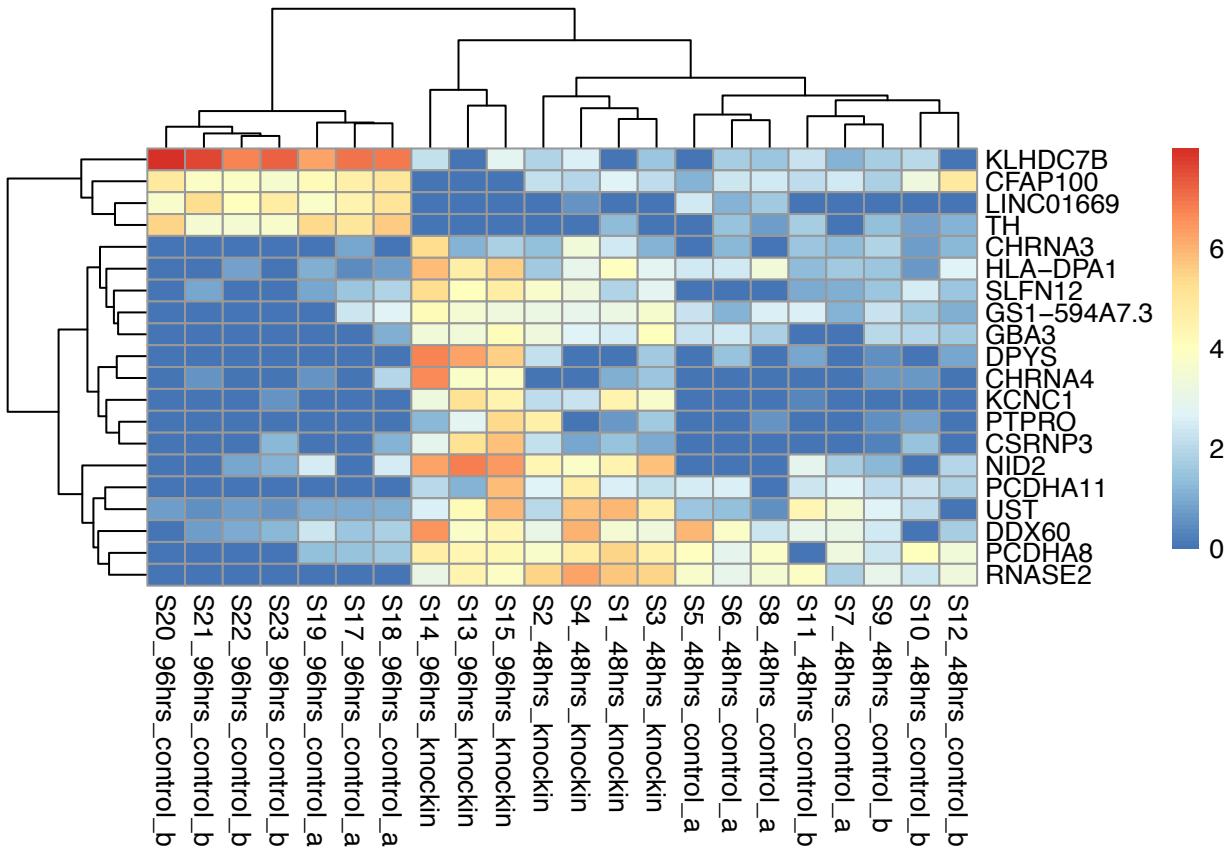
<sup>10</sup><https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/ComplexHeatmap.html>

<sup>11</sup><https://rlbarter.github.io/superheat/index.html>

<sup>12</sup><https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/pheatmap/index.html>

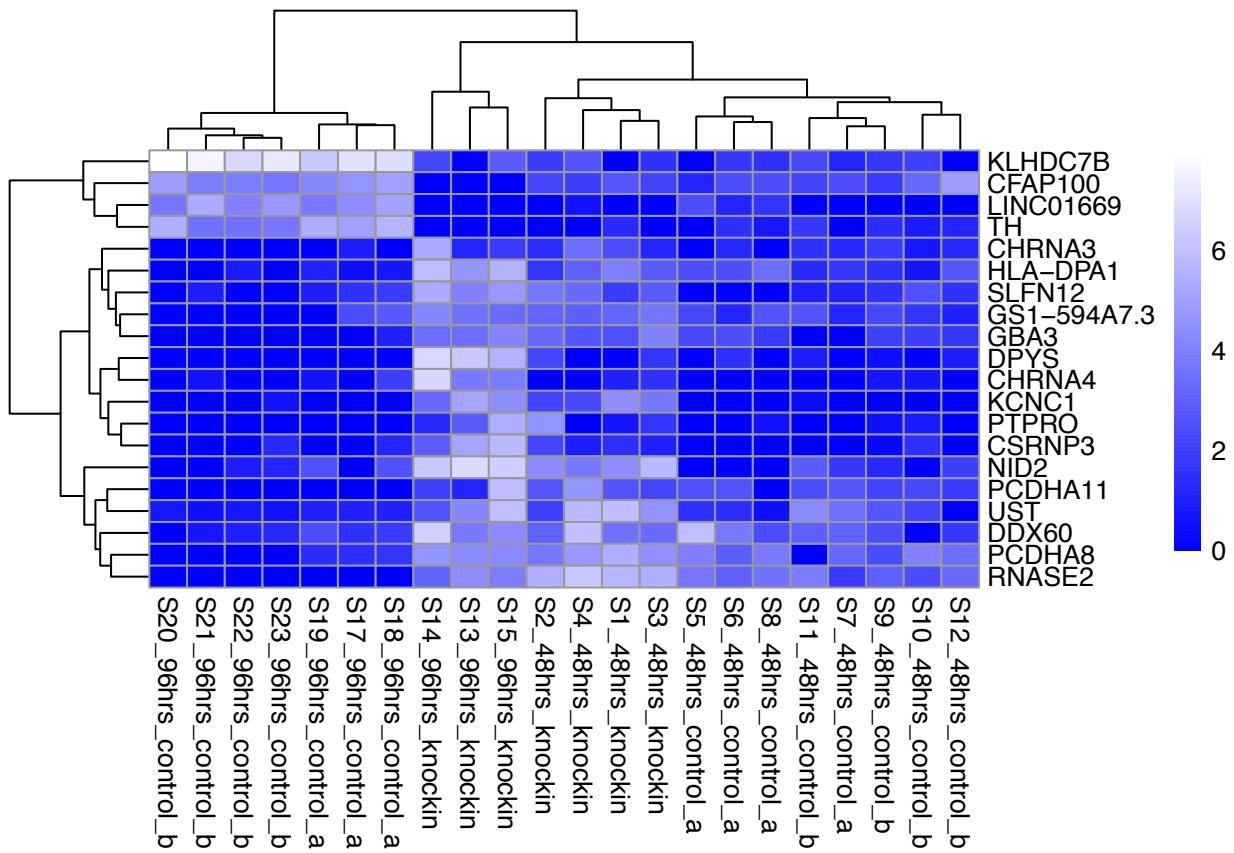
will add 1 to every observation:

```
transformed_counts = log2(top20_matrix + 1)
pheatmap(transformed_counts)
```



This transformation reveals more detail in our data. Now, in order to address the colour scheme, we must create a new list of colours, using the `colorpanel` function from the `gplots` package. This lets us rapidly create simple colour schemes from 2 or three named colours ('low', 'mid' and 'high' - mid is optional). R has a large number of named colours, you can get a list of them using the `colors()` function.

```
library(gplots)
mycolours = colorpanel(n=100, low='blue', high='white')
pheatmap(transformed_counts, color = mycolours)
```

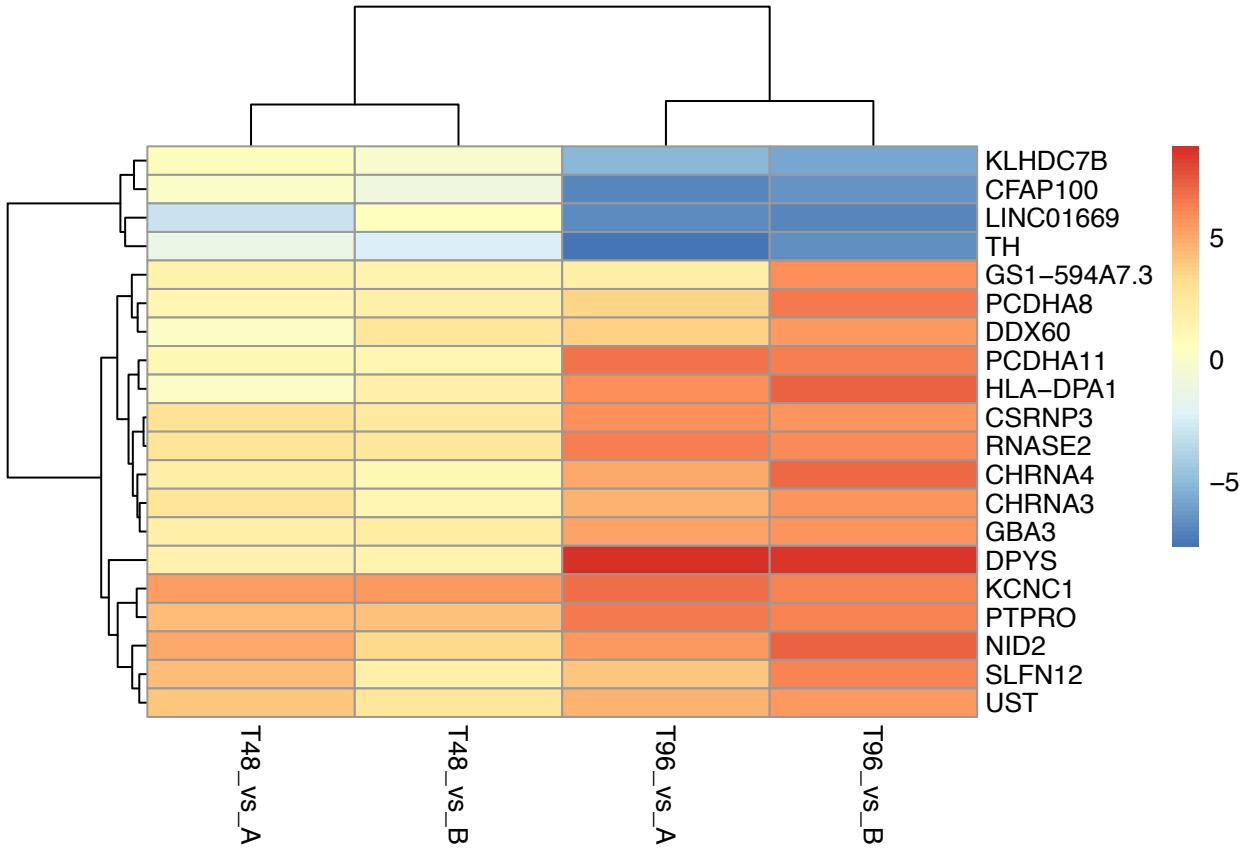


### Fold Change Heatmap

In an experiment with many comparisons, it can be useful and informative to see how a set of genes are varying across all the analyses. For this, a fold change heatmap can be very useful. In the `bsudata` package, there is a matrix that contains the fold changes for the top 20 genes plotted above, across 4 comparisons in the experiment (knock-in vs control A and control B at 48 and 96 hours).

To plot a basic heatmap from this data:

```
data("fc_matrix")
pheatmap(fc_matrix)
```

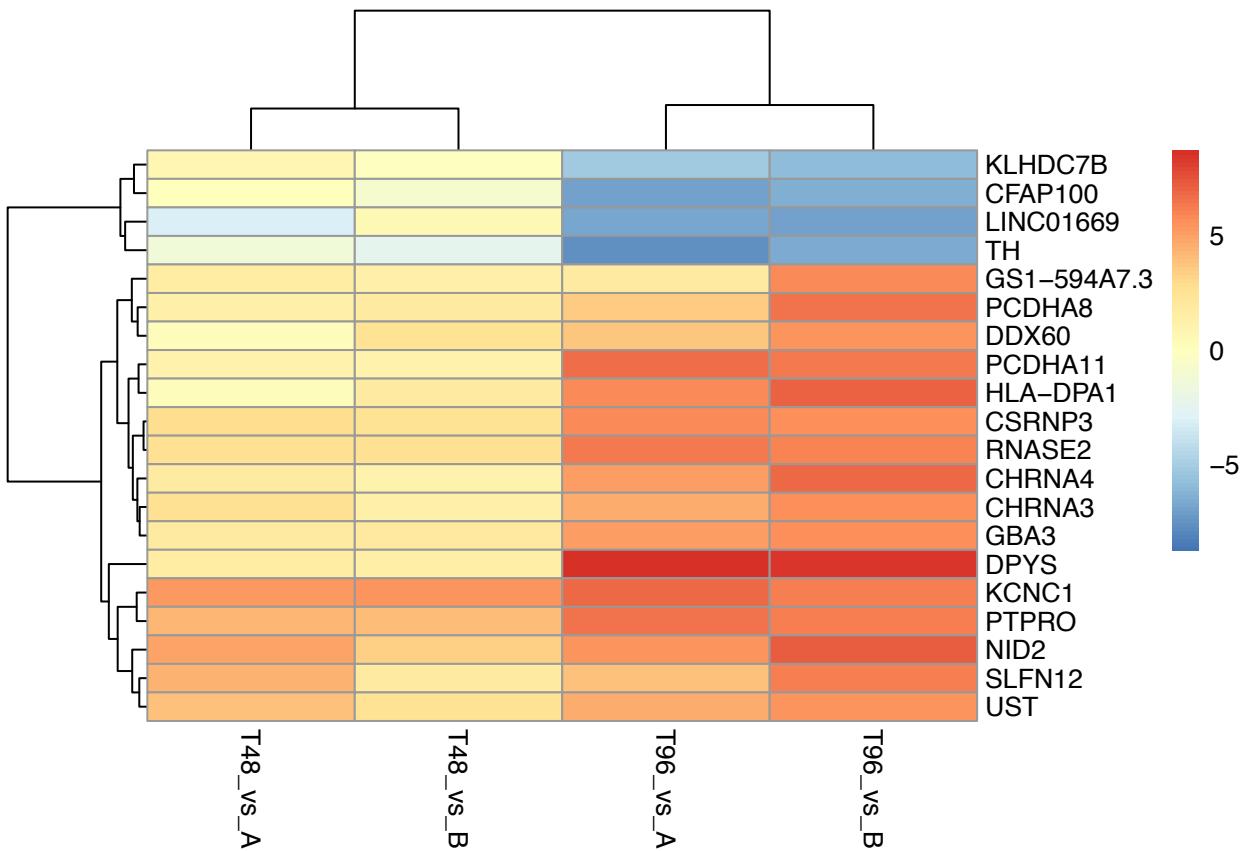


Again, this requires some configuration to improve it. There are two main things we will address:

1. The ‘inflection point’ - the scale is not symmetrical about 0, so the midpoint of the colour scale is also not falling at 0.
2. The colour scheme - the default is OK, but it can be useful to know how to change it.

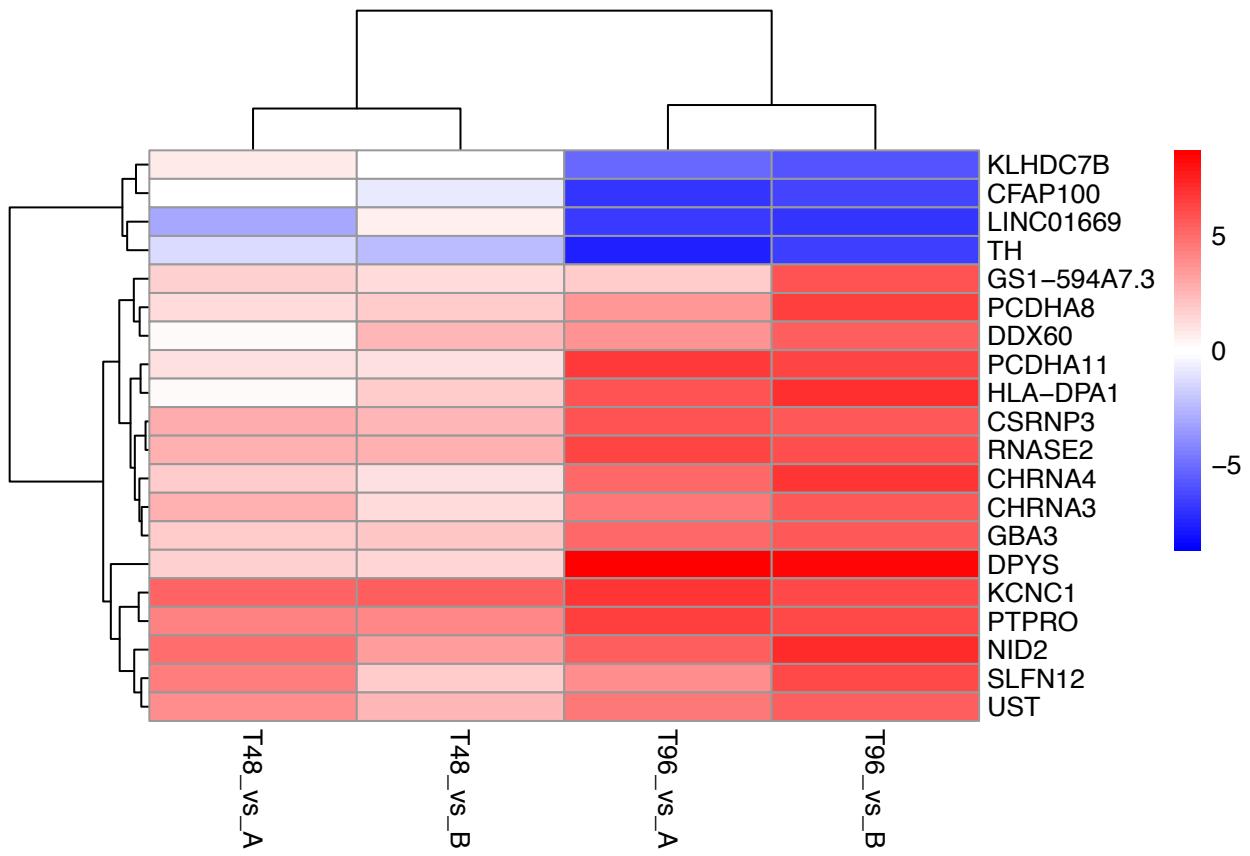
To address the first point, we have to set what’s known as the ‘breaks’ - this sets the breakpoints in a scale, in the case of a heatmap, the breaks are the point along the numerical scale at which the colour being used changes. By default, `pheatmap` uses 100 colours, so we need 101 breaks:

```
# get the largest number in the fold change matrix
big_fc = max(abs(fc_matrix))
# set the breaks to move evenly between
# the negative and positive versions of this number
hm_breaks = seq(-big_fc, big_fc, length.out = 101)
# now use these breaks to draw the heatmap
pheatmap(fc_matrix, breaks=hm_breaks)
```



Finally, we'll set a bolder colour scheme, running from blue for negative fold change to red for positive.

```
mycolours2 = colorpanel(n=100, low='blue', mid='white', high='red')
pheatmap(fc_matrix, breaks=hm_breaks, color = bluered(100))
```

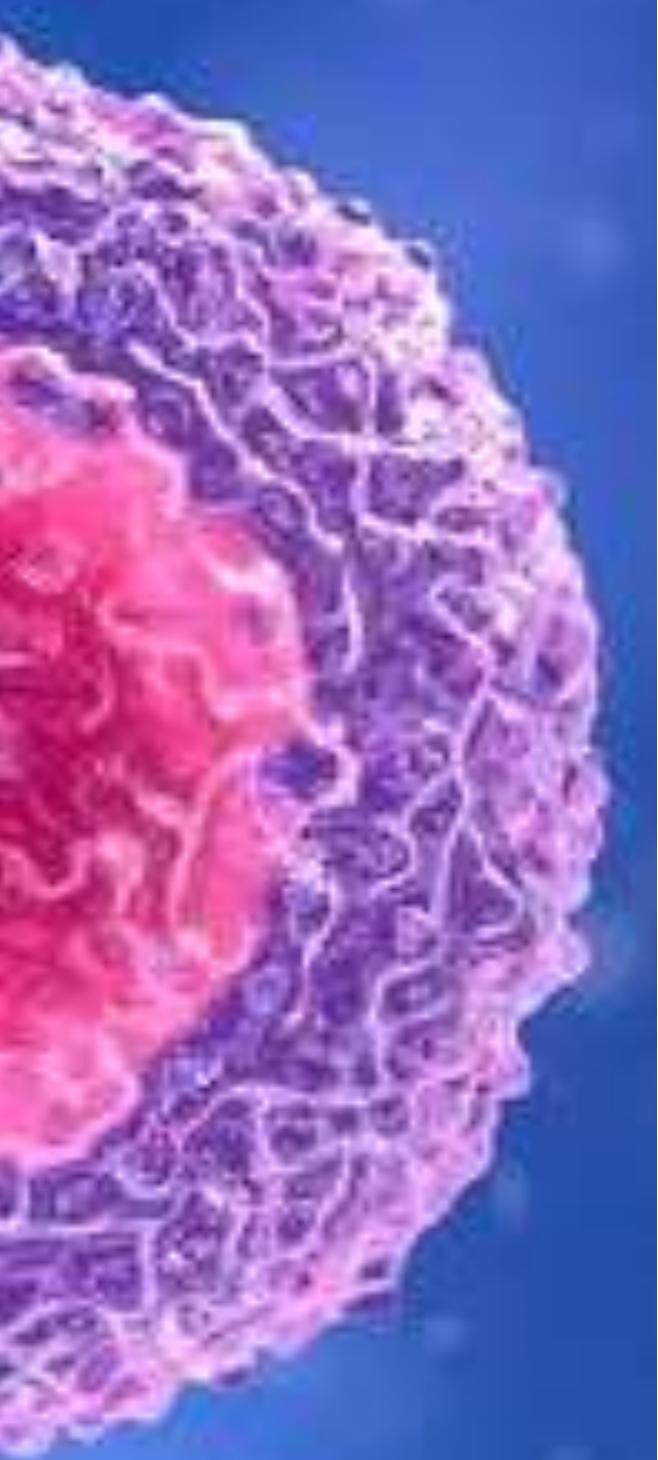




RESEARCH TECHNIQUES COURSE 2018

# SKIN AGEING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Mark Birch-  
Machin





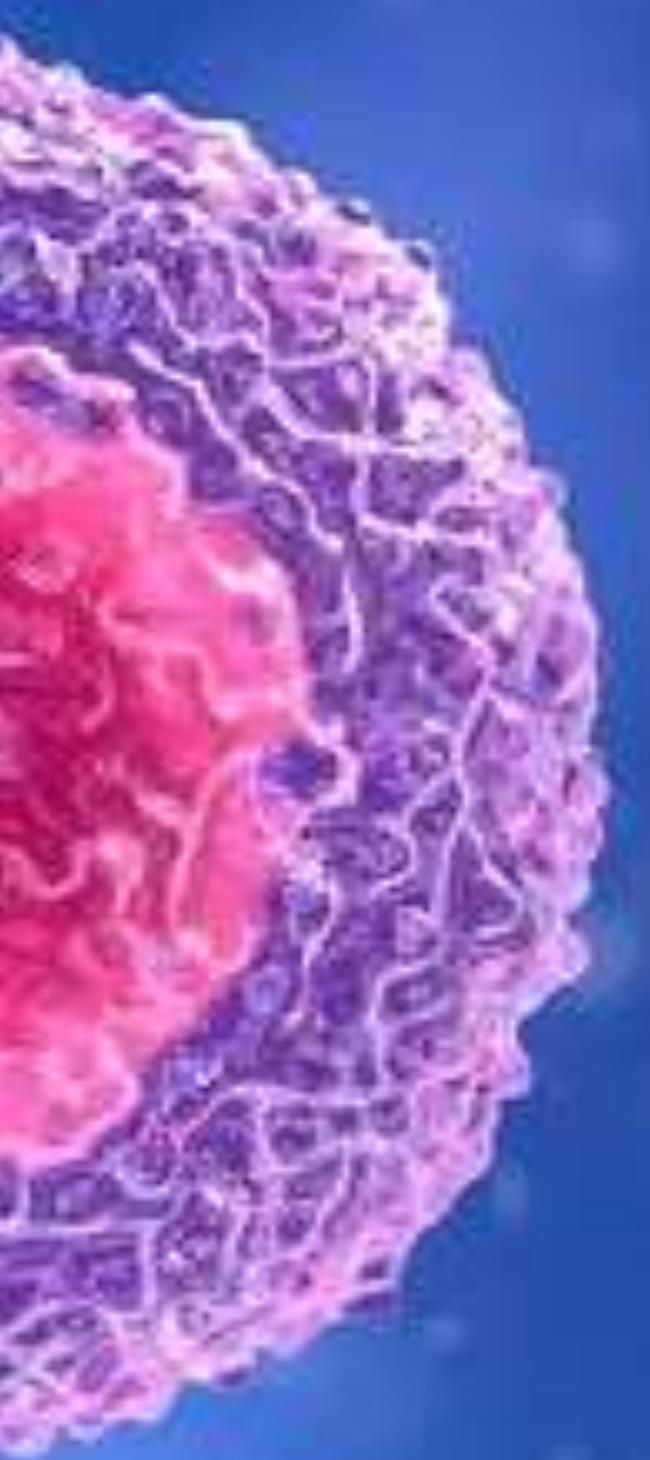


# BIMARKERS FOR MELANOMA

Rob Ellis

Penny Lovat

Ashleigh  
McConnell



# Biomarkers in Melanoma

**Dr Rob Ellis**

Consultant Dermatologist, County Durham and Darlington NHS FT  
Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer, Newcastle University  
Chief Medical Officer, AMLo Biosciences Ltd.

**Nov 2018**

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## What is a biomarker?

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- Portmanteau of “biological marker”
- National Institutes of Health Biomarkers Definitions Working Group defined a biomarker as “a characteristic that is objectively measured and evaluated as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or pharmacologic responses to a therapeutic intervention.
- Objective, quantifiable characteristics of biological processes.

---

# What is a biomarker?

---

- **Diagnostic**
  - Blood Sugar in diabetes



---

# What is a biomarker?

---

- **Diagnostic**
  - Blood Sugar in diabetes
- **Prognostic**
  - PSA in prostate cancer



---

# What is a biomarker?

---

- **Diagnostic**
  - Blood Sugar in diabetes
- **Prognostic**
  - PSA in prostate cancer
- **Predictive**
  - ER positive breast cancer

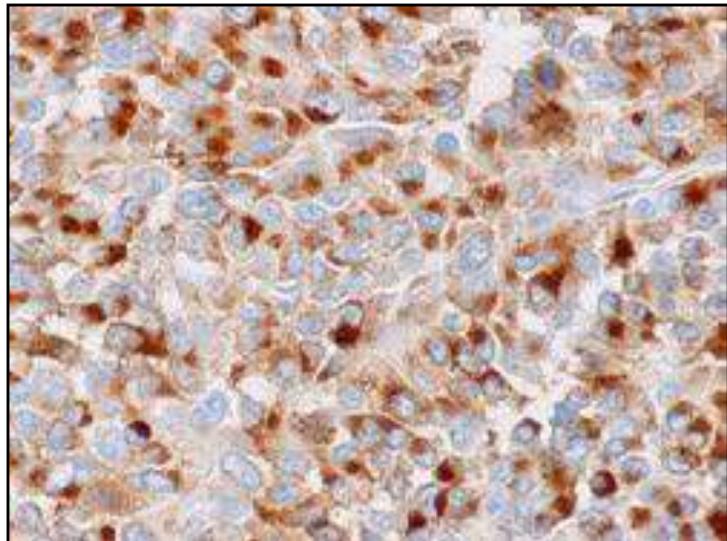


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## Melanoma examples

---

- **Diagnostic**
  - HMB45

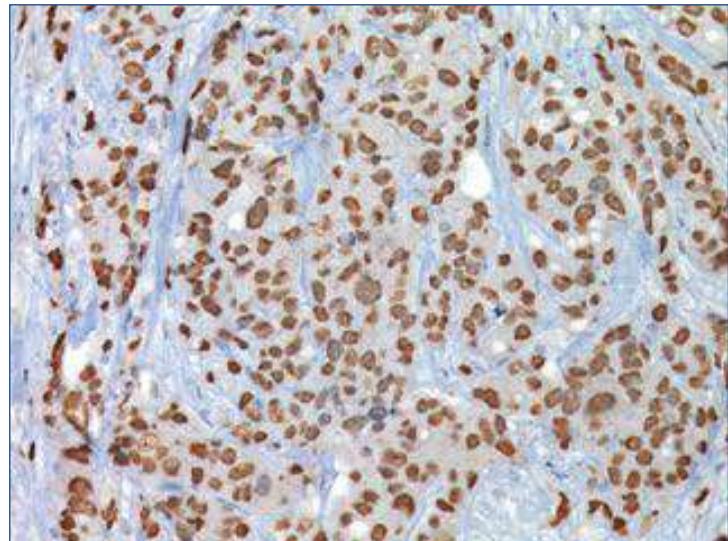


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## Melanoma examples

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- **Diagnostic**
  - HMB45
- **Prognostic**
  - Ki-67

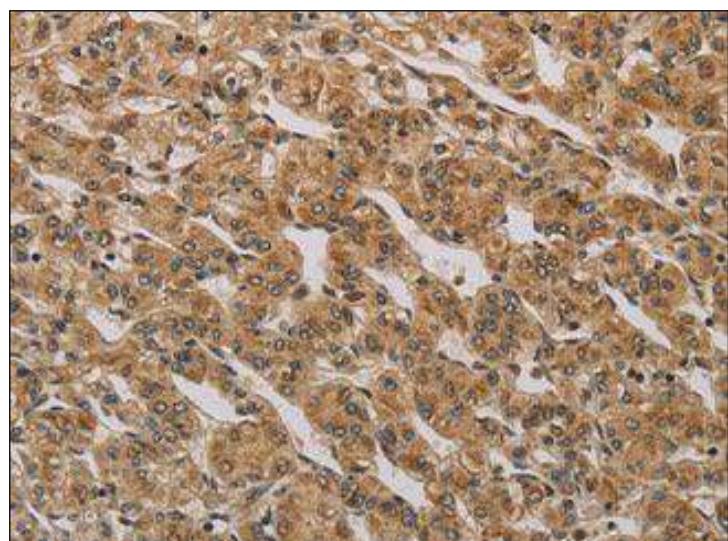


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## Melanoma examples

---

- **Diagnostic**
  - HMB45
- **Prognostic**
  - Ki-67
- **Predictive**
  - BRAF



# Current role of Biomarkers in Melanoma

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- Currently very limited
- Diagnostics performed by Pathologist
- Prognostics incorporated in AJCC staging (SLNB?)
- Predictive only BRAF at present
- Most have either been shown to be surrogate markers of Breslow Depth, or studies not undertaken rigorously enough



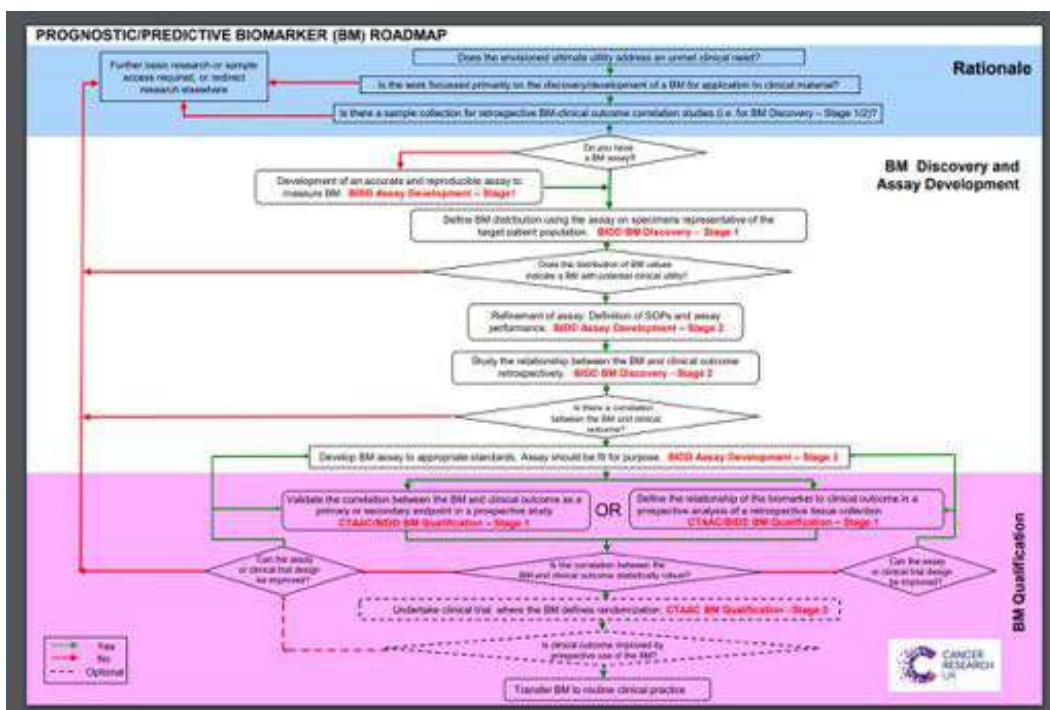
## Which type of biomarker is most useful?

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- **Diagnostic?**
  - Pathologists' eyes are very good
  - MLUMPs/Spitzoid tumours?
- **Prognostic**
  - "Is my melanoma going to spread?"
  - Help design further management
- **Predictive**
  - Which is the best drug to give to this patient?



# Cancer Research UK Biomarker Roadmap



## REMARK Guidelines

British Journal of Cancer (2005) 93, 387–391  
© 2005 Cancer Research UK. All rights reserved 0007-0920/05 \$30.00  
[www.bjccancer.com](http://www.bjccancer.com)



### Guidelines

REporting recommendations for tumour MARKer prognostic studies (REMARK)

LM McShane<sup>1</sup>, DG Altman<sup>2</sup>, W Sauerbrei<sup>3</sup>, SE Taube<sup>4</sup>, M Gion<sup>5</sup> and GM Clark<sup>6</sup> for the Statistics Subcommittee of the NCI-EORTC Working Group on Cancer Diagnostics<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>US National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA; <sup>2</sup>Cancer Research UK Medical Statistics Group, Centre for Statistics in Medicine, Wolfson College, Oxford OX2 6UD, UK; <sup>3</sup>Institut für Medizinische Biometrie und Medizinische Informatik, Universitätsklinikum Freiburg, 79104 Freiburg, Germany; <sup>4</sup>Centro Regionale Indicatori Biologici di Tumore, Dipartimento Clinico, 30122 Venezia, Italy; <sup>5</sup>OSI Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Boulder, CO 80301, USA

Despite years of research and hundreds of reports on tumour markers in oncology, the number of markers that have emerged as clinically useful is pitifully small. Often initially reported studies of a marker show great promise, but subsequent studies on the same or related markers yield inconsistent conclusions or stand in direct contradiction to the promising results. It is imperative that we attempt to understand the reasons that multiple studies of the same marker lead to differing conclusions. A variety of methodological problems have been cited to explain these discrepancies. Unfortunately, many tumour marker studies have not been reported in a rigorous fashion, and published articles often lack sufficient information to allow adequate assessment of the quality of the study or the generalisability of the study results. The development of guidelines for the reporting of tumour marker studies was a major recommendation of the US National Cancer Institute and the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (NCI-EORTC) First International Meeting on Cancer Diagnostics in 2000. Similar to the successful CONSORT initiative for randomised trials and the STARD statement for diagnostic studies, we present guidelines to promote publication of high quality studies of tumour markers.



# Current situation

## Diagnostic and Prognostic Biomarkers in Melanoma

**DAVID WEINSTEIN, MD; <sup>1</sup>JENNIFER LEININGER, MD; <sup>1</sup>CARL HAMBY, PhD; <sup>2</sup>BIJAN SAFAI, MD**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Dermatology, <sup>2</sup>Department of Microbiology and Immunology, New York Medical College, New York and Valhalla, New York

(*J Clin Aesthet Dermatol*. 2014;7(6):13–24.)

### CONCLUSION

Currently most diagnostic biomarkers of melanoma rely on detection of melanocytes rather than melanoma itself. Newer biomarkers depend on cytogenetic markers of carcinogenesis and signatures of mutations utilizing panels of biomarkers. There are no current serologic markers for the early detection of melanoma, and there may never be. Such evidence may be possible only in advanced stage disease that has metastasized from the primary site. As such, current serologic biomarkers detect circulating melanoma cells or secondary evidence of advanced disease, such as LDH.

Future research into serological and histological methods to detect early stages of melanoma hopefully will improve prognosis through earlier intervention. Such research might investigate markers of melanoma stem cells or markers of melanoblast differentiation that indicate a survival advantage and progression toward neoplasia.<sup>194</sup> Microarrays could be utilized to screen for similarities between melanoma and stem cells. Genes in common among melanoma and stem cells could be investigated to design better diagnostic and prognostic assays, perhaps using FISH, as well as to suggest new therapeutic targets.



## New Prognostic Biomarkers in Melanoma



31-gene expression profile



AJCC I - III



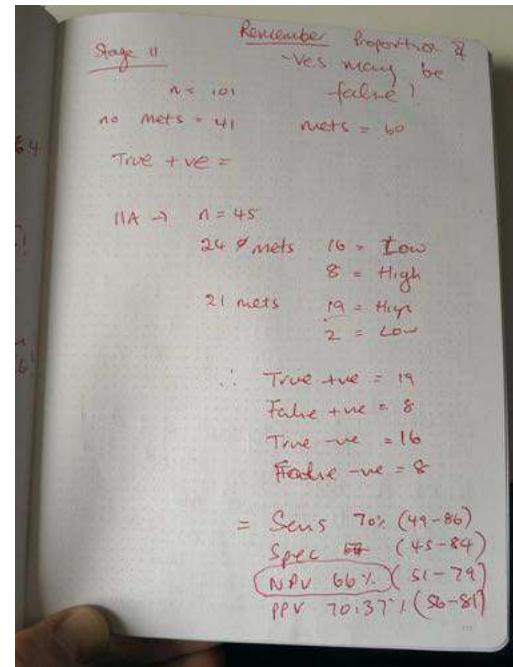
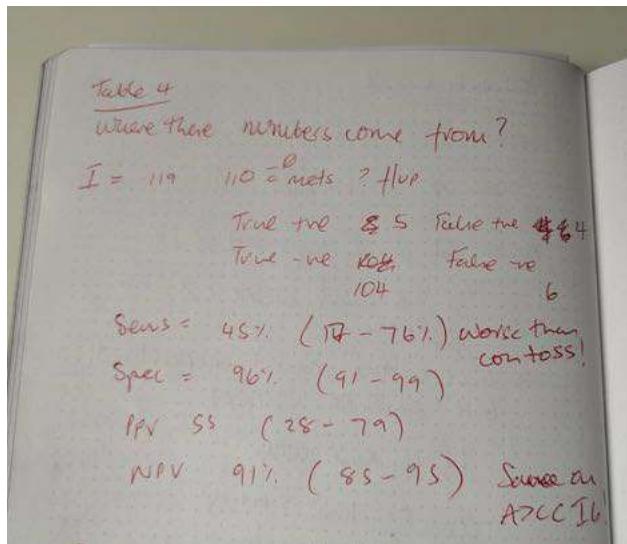
8-gene expression profile



AJCC II+



# New Prognostic Biomarkers in Melanoma

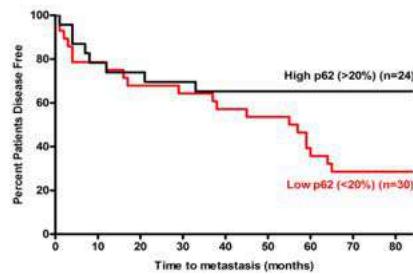
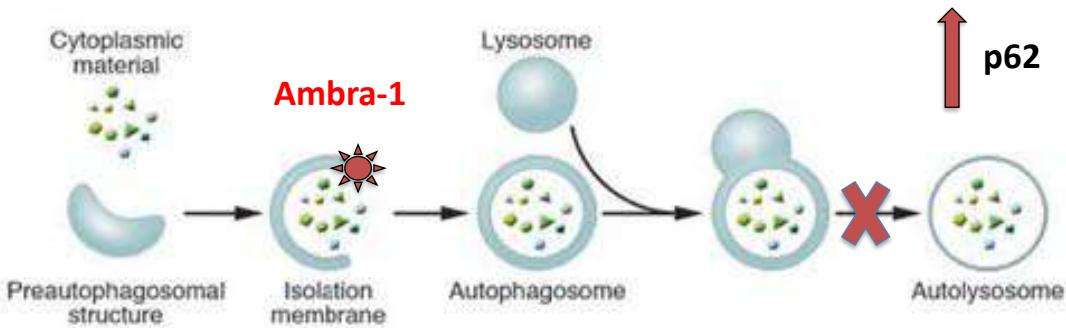


## Ideal Prognostic Biomarker

- Accurate
- Reproducible
- Fits into current pathway
- Cheap
- Quick
- Health Economic Assessment



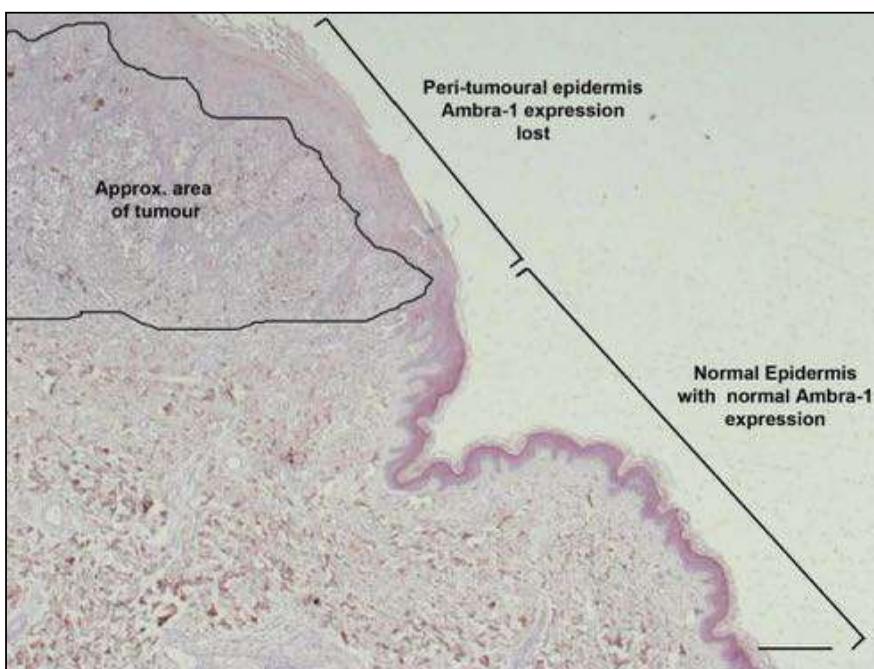
# Autophagy and Melanoma



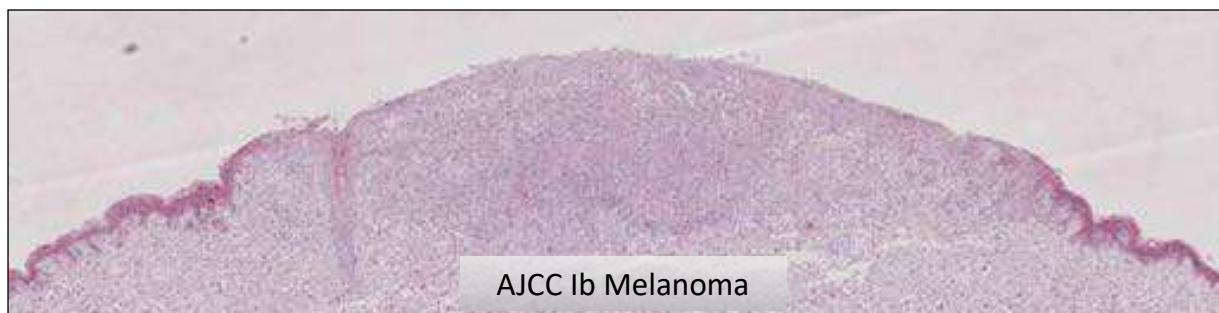
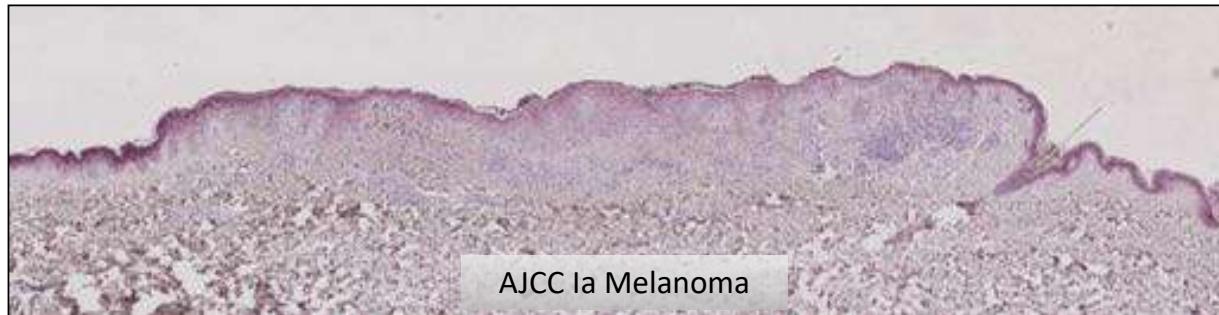
Ellis et al. J Invest Dermatol 2014



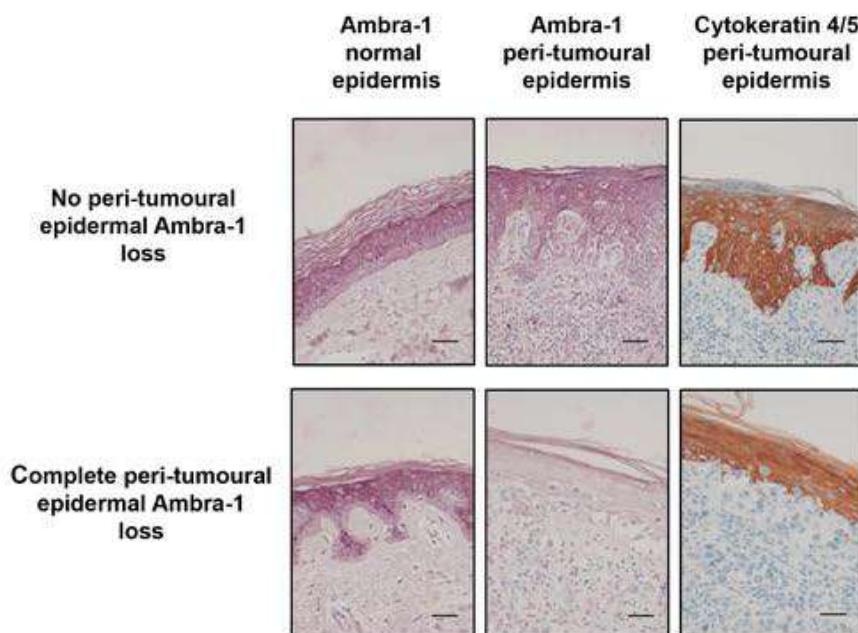
## Epidermal AMBRA1



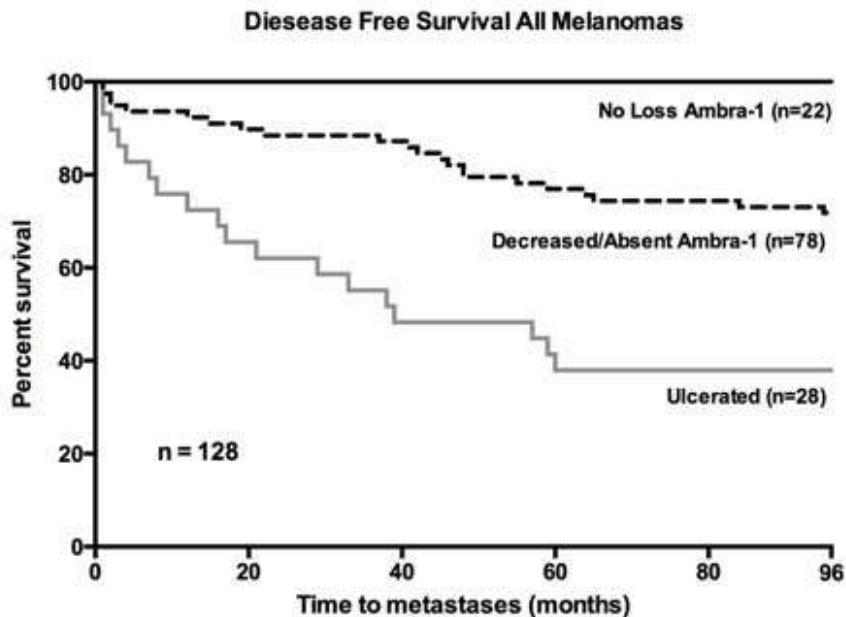
# Epidermal AMBRA1



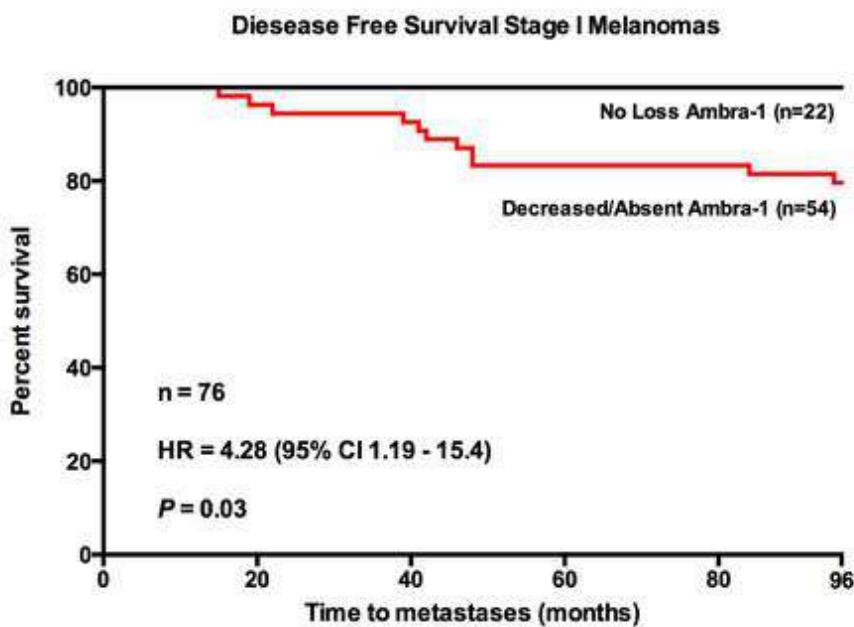
## Epidermal AMBRA1 does not correlate with degree of melanoma invasion



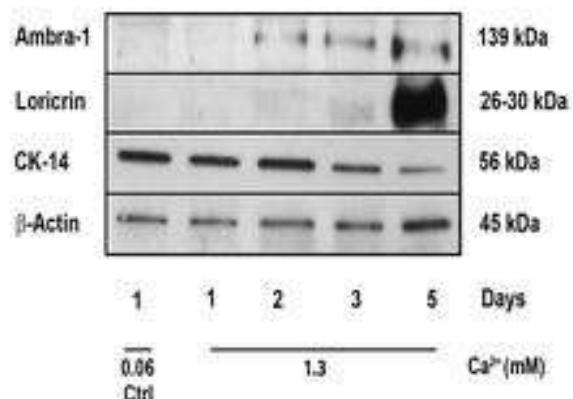
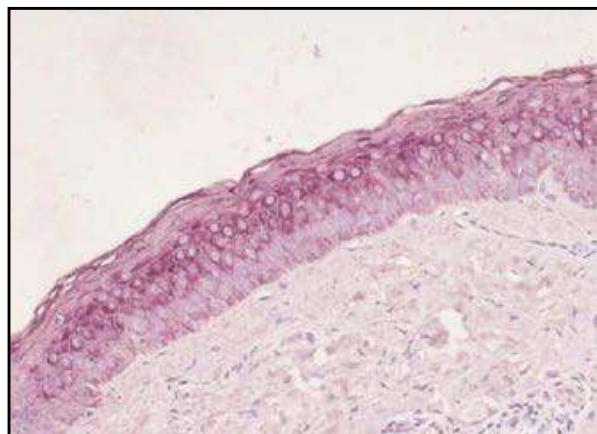
# AMBRA1 as a Prognostic Biomarker



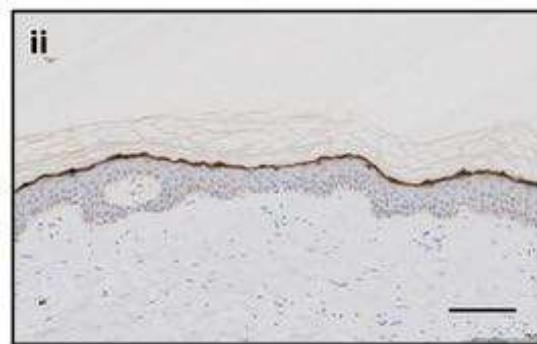
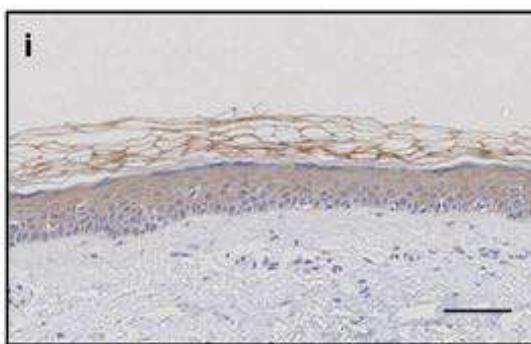
# AMBRA1 as a Prognostic Biomarker



# Epidermal differentiation is associated with increased AMBRA1



## The AMLo Biomarker



AMBRA1 and loricrin optimized on James Cook Hospital clinical platform with DAB counterstaining

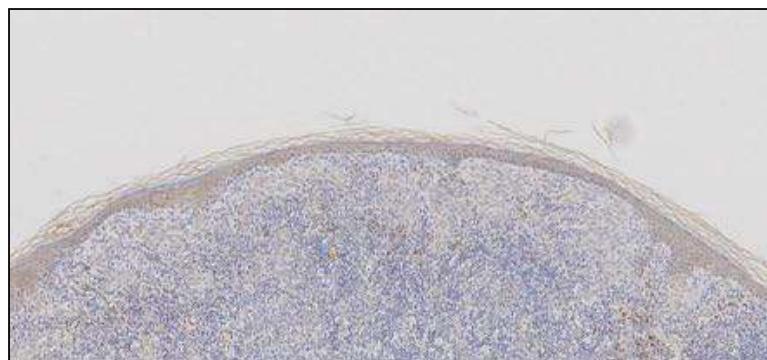


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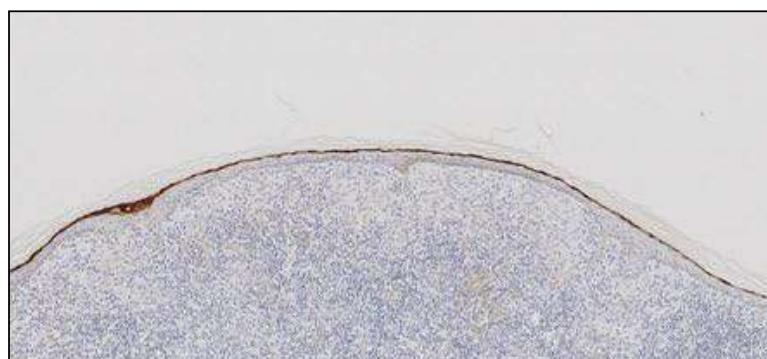
## The AMLo Biomarker – Low Risk

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AMBRA1



Loricrin

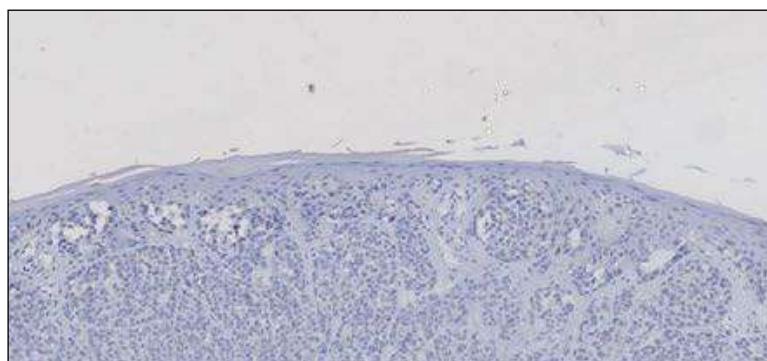


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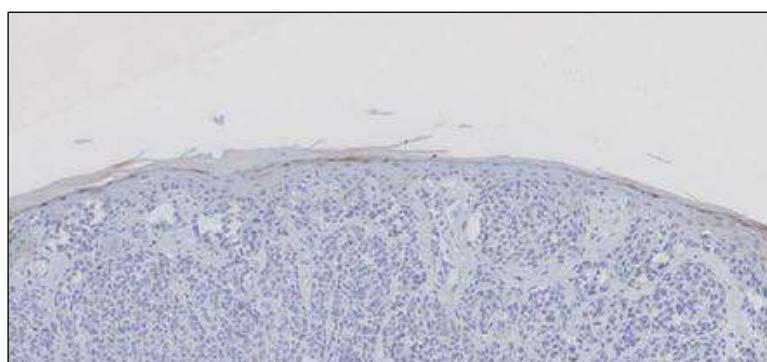
## The AMLo Biomarker – High Risk

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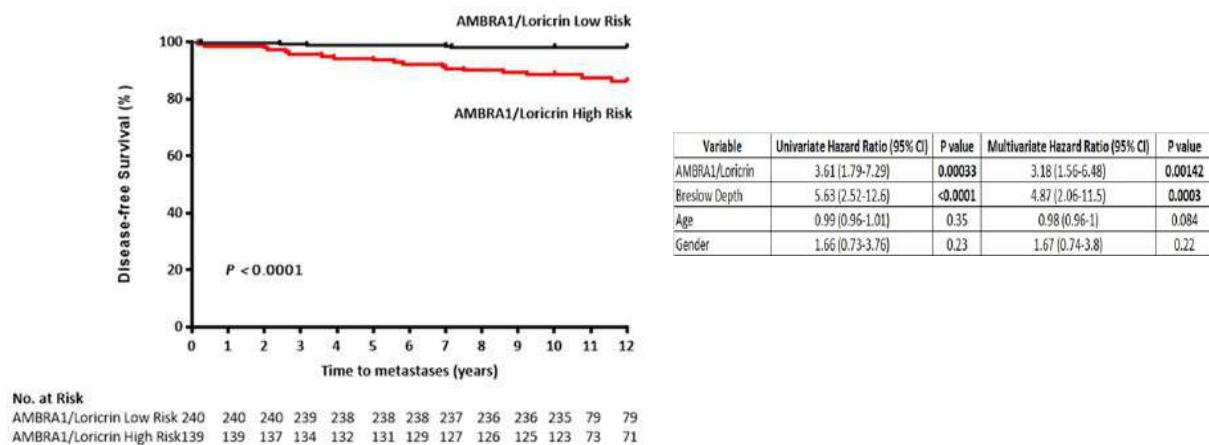
AMBRA1



Loricrin



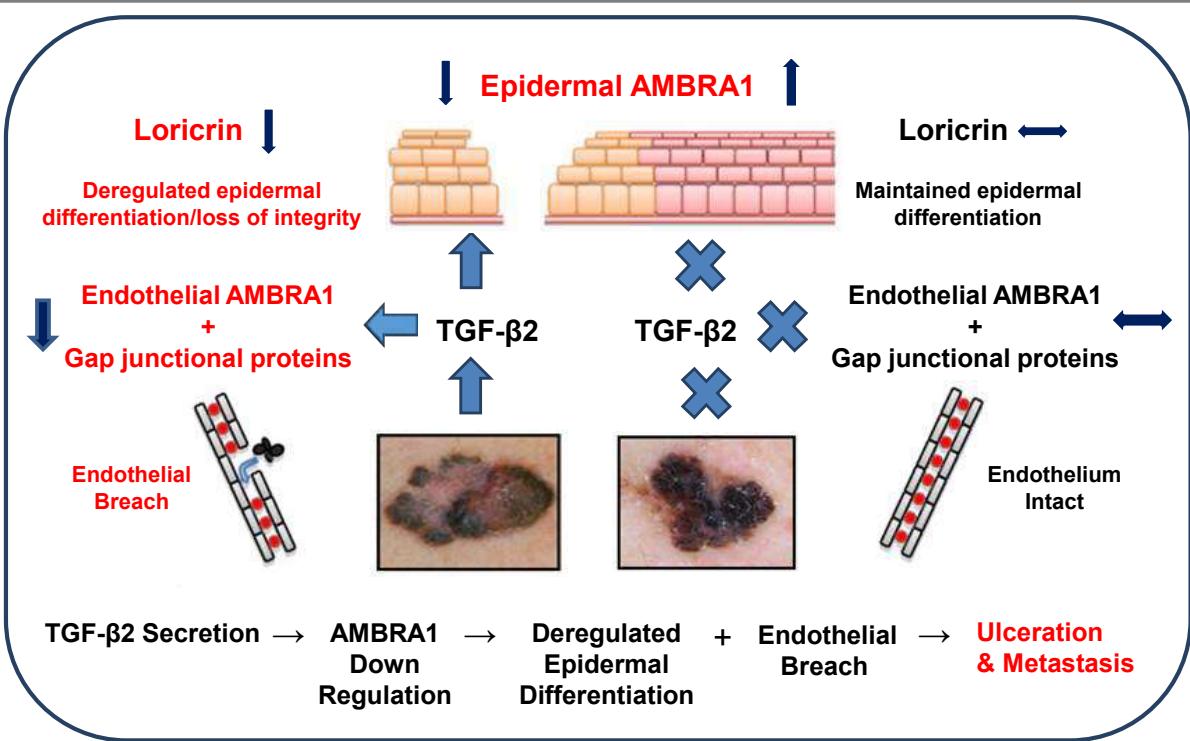
## The AMLo Biomarker – Combined Cohort



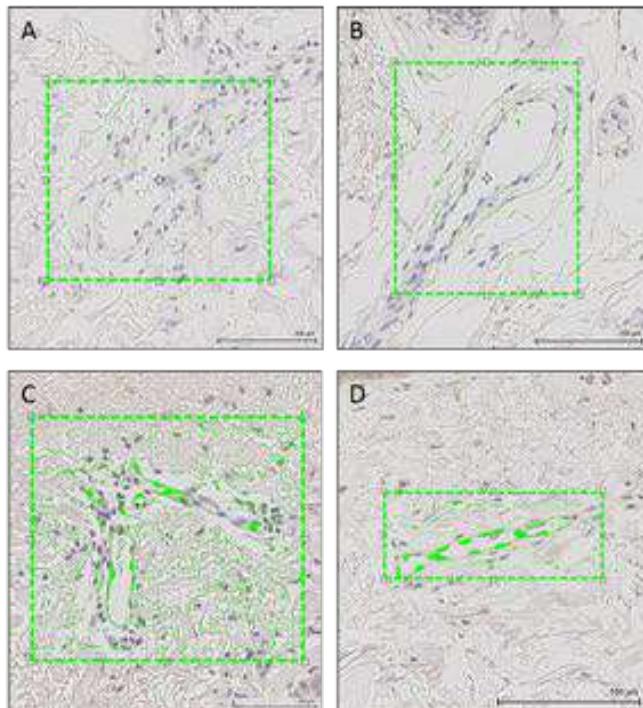
Sensitivity	Specificity	Positive Predictive Value	Negative Predictive Value
78.3%	66.0%	12.9%	97.9%



## How does TGFB2 influence metastasis



# The AMLo Biomarker – Endothelial involvement



## What next?

### Previous Funding Streams



Melanoma Focus Group - £100 000 Patient Impact Programme



iCURE Programme – £40 000

Innovate UK

Innovate UK - £210 000

### Current Funding

NIHR Health Technology Assessment – Evidence based assessment of AJCC I melanoma  
£215 000



NIHR i4i – Development of AMLo Biomarker  
£1.2 million



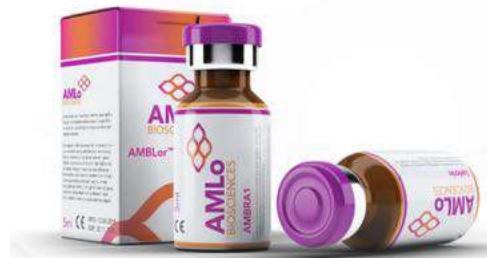
NICE AdviseMe Prize winners 2018



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## AMLo Biosciences Ltd

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[www.amlo-biosciences.com](http://www.amlo-biosciences.com)



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## The future

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### Academic

- Further AJCC I/II cohorts from Buffalo, Tauranga, Barcelona, Kyoto
- Links with Brisbane, Berlin, Turin, Brazil, Sweden, Russia
- Prospective trials for SLNB stratification and WLE margins
- Finalise role of AMLo in melanoma management
- Drug development work

### Commercial

- CE Marking of clinical grade antibody
- NICE Guidelines
- CLEA labs in US



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## Acknowledgements

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**Dermatological Sciences, Newcastle University**

**Prof Penny Lovat**

Dr Marialena Anagnostou

Dr Dalvir Bajwa

Dr Batoul Nasr

Dr Diana Tang

**Dr Ashleigh McConnell**

**Dr Marie Labus**



**Histopathology, The James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough**

Dr Ed Carling

Mrs Alison Greenwood

Dr Graeme Watson



**Cancer Research UK, London Research Institute**

Mr Stuart Horswell



# Biomarkers in Melanoma Practical Session

**Dr Ashleigh McConnell, Professor Penny Lovat & Dr Rob Ellis**

Newcastle University  
AMLo Biosciences Ltd.

**Nov 2018**

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## Outline

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- **Immunohistochemistry**
- **The AMLo Biomarker**
- **Practical Examples: Your turn to be the pathologist**
- **Statistical Analysis**

# Immunohistochemistry

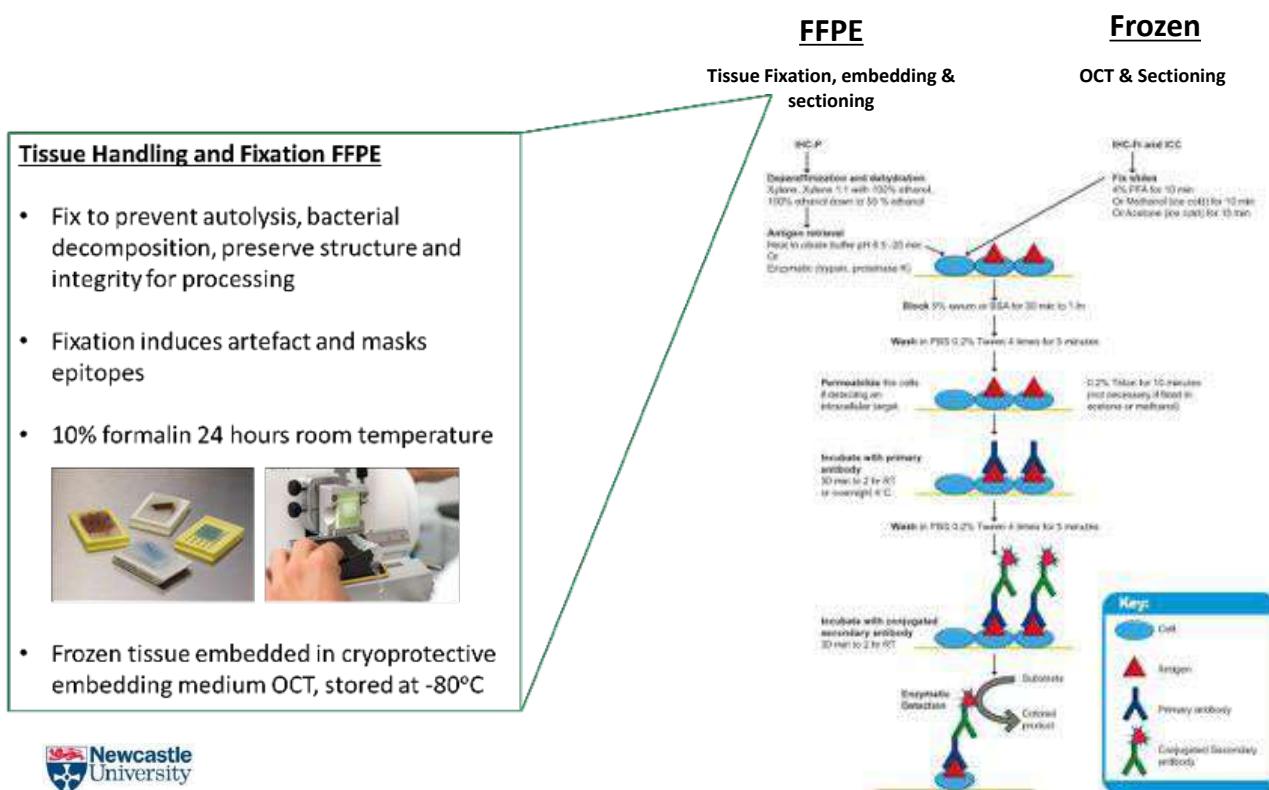
- Visualises distribution and amount of antigens or proteins (Nucleic acids/lipids/carbohydrates) in tissue sections
- Uses a specific antigen-antibody reaction tagged with a visible label
- Doesn't destroy tissue architecture, assess expression of antigen in the microenvironment
- Can be performed on formalin fixed paraffin embedded (FFPE) and frozen tissue, smears, cytospins
- Label antibodies with a chromogen that produces a visible colour, fluorochrome, radioactive element, colloidal gold



## Pathology Lab IHC Workflow



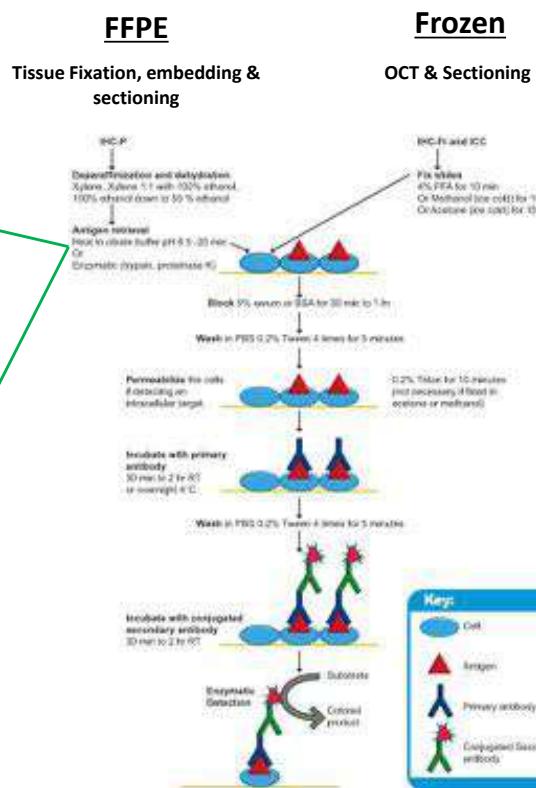
# Immunohistochemistry Protocol: Tissue Fixation



# Immunohistochemistry Protocol: Antigen retrieval

## Antigen Retrieval

- Antigen/epitopes of interest can be masked by fixation or 'over fixation'.
- Common buffers: Sodium citrate pH6, Tris/EDTA pH9
- Various methods of applying heat, microwave, pressure cooker, water baths



# Immunohistochemistry Protocol: Primary antibody binding to selected antigen

## Primary Antibody

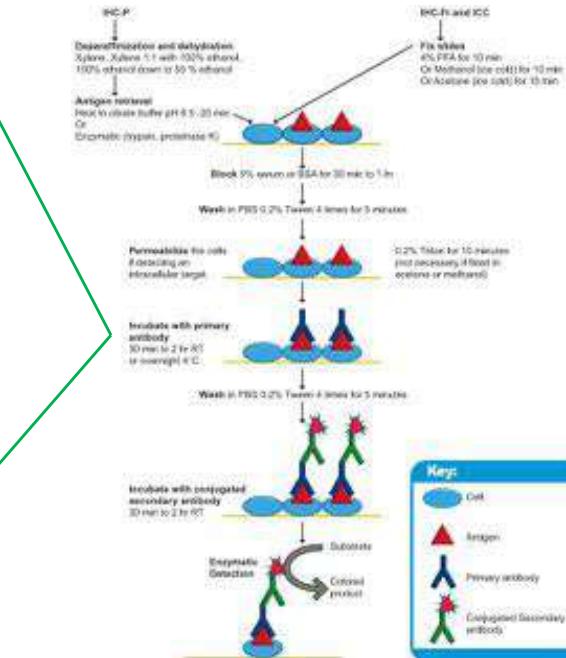
- Do your research
- Optimise the antibody dilution and incubation times
- Include a 'null primary' – no primary antibody slide
- Good positive and negative controls, FFPE cell pellets over expressing protein, or KD
- **Good antibody, protein highly expressed**
- **Poor antibody, low expression in tissue**



## FFPE

## Frozen

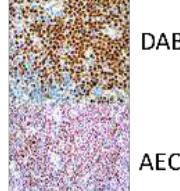
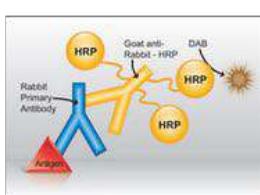
Tissue Fixation, embedding & sectioning



# Immunohistochemistry Protocol: primary antibody binding detection and visualization

## Detection System

- Peroxidase (Horse radish peroxidase HRP) most common.



- Streptavidin

- Alkaline phosphatase

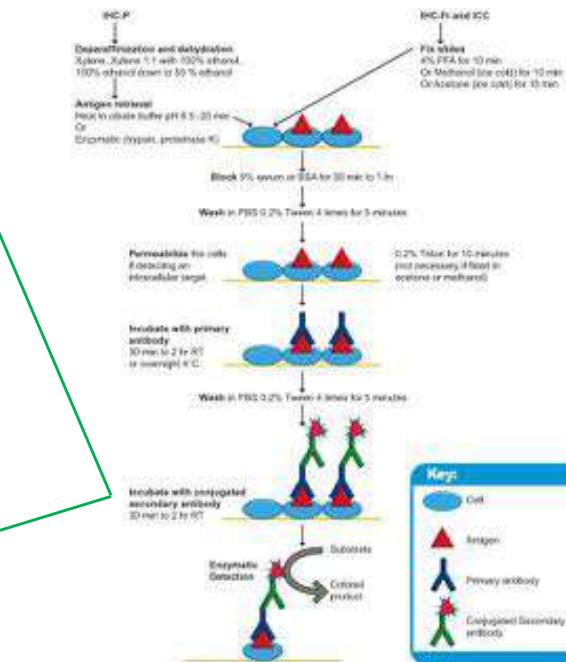


- Counterstain with Hematoxylin

## FFPE

## Frozen

Tissue Fixation, embedding & sectioning

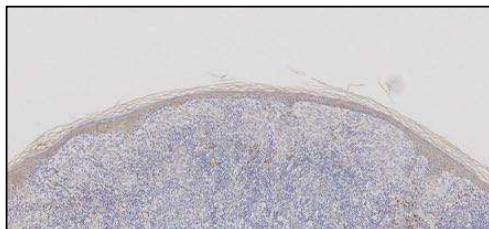


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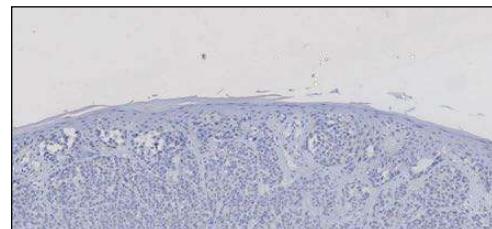
## The AMBLor Biomarker - Practical

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**AMBRA1 maintained**



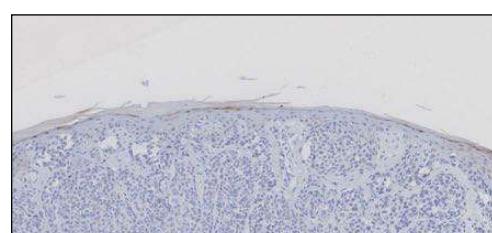
**AMBRA1 lost**



**Loricrin maintained**



**Loricrin lost**



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## The AMBLor Biomarker - Scoring

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	Maintained	Decreased/Lost
AMBRA1	1	0
Loricrin	1	0

	High Risk	Low Risk
AMBLor Score	1 or 2	0







# “CYTOMETRY”: HOW TO BECOME A CELL DETECTIVE

Andrew Filby

# “Cytometry”: How to become a cell detective

Dr Andrew Filby

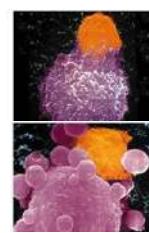
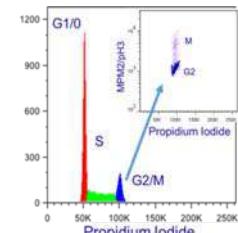
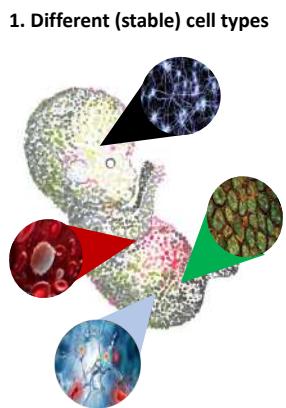
Director of Newcastle Cytometry Platform and Single Cell Unit

Dermatology: Research techniques course

Newcastle: 13/11/2018



## Heterogeneity: The biggest challenge to ALL cellular research



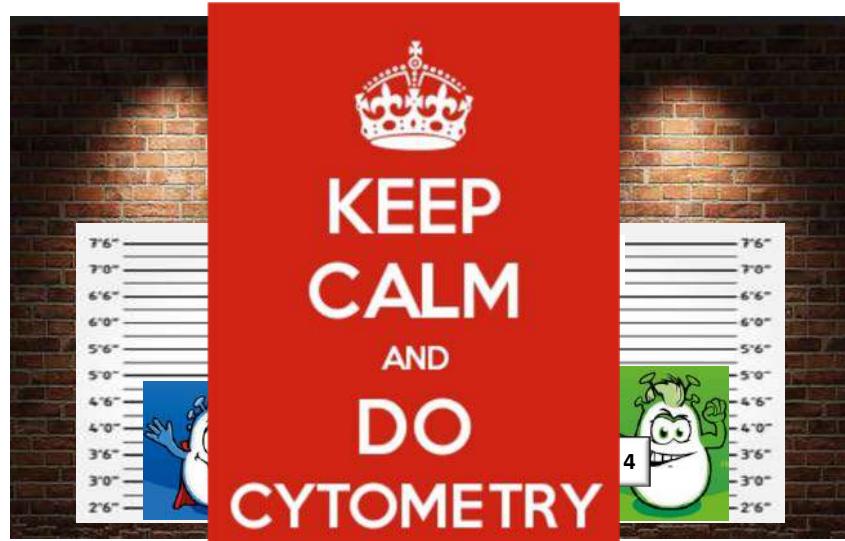
Cells doing a “job” such as killing others



4. Location

- Establishing cellular identity is a fundamental question to understanding health and disease

How do we begin to prove Cellular Identity?



nUSCU  THE Flow Cytometry Core Facility

The talk in 3 words...

Cytometry  
Cytometer  
Cytometrist

# Cytometry



**Greek = “Kytos”**  
“hollow basket”  
Relates to CELL

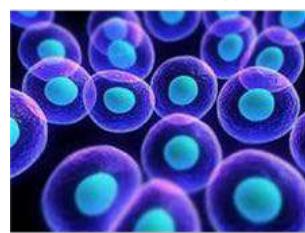


**Greek = “Metria”**  
“Process of Measuring”



**Cytometry: We turn cells into numbers.....**

Cell Biology



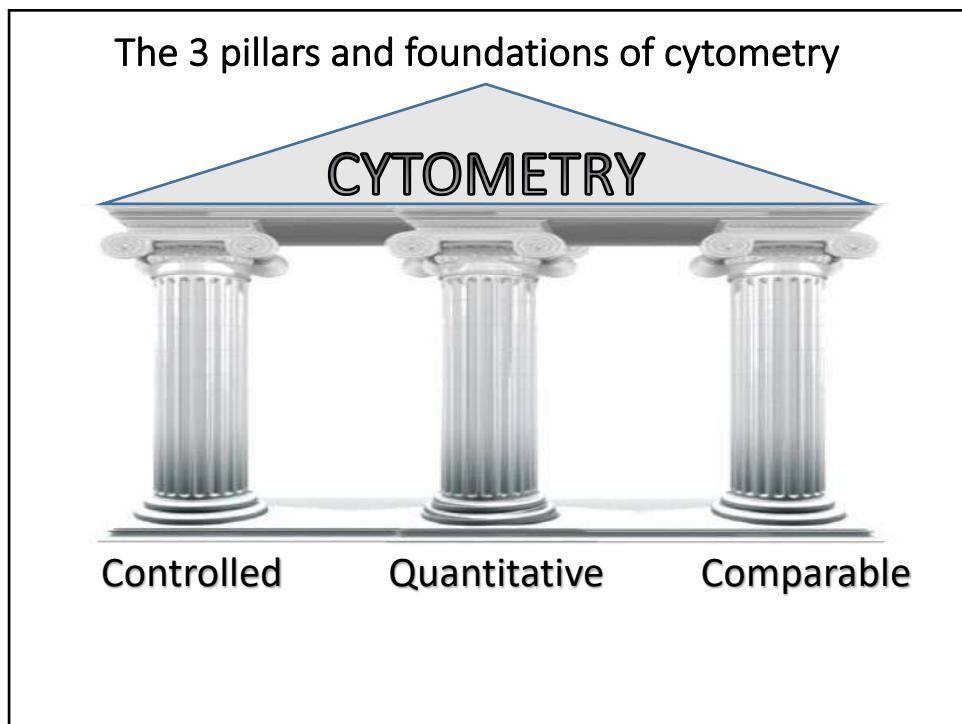
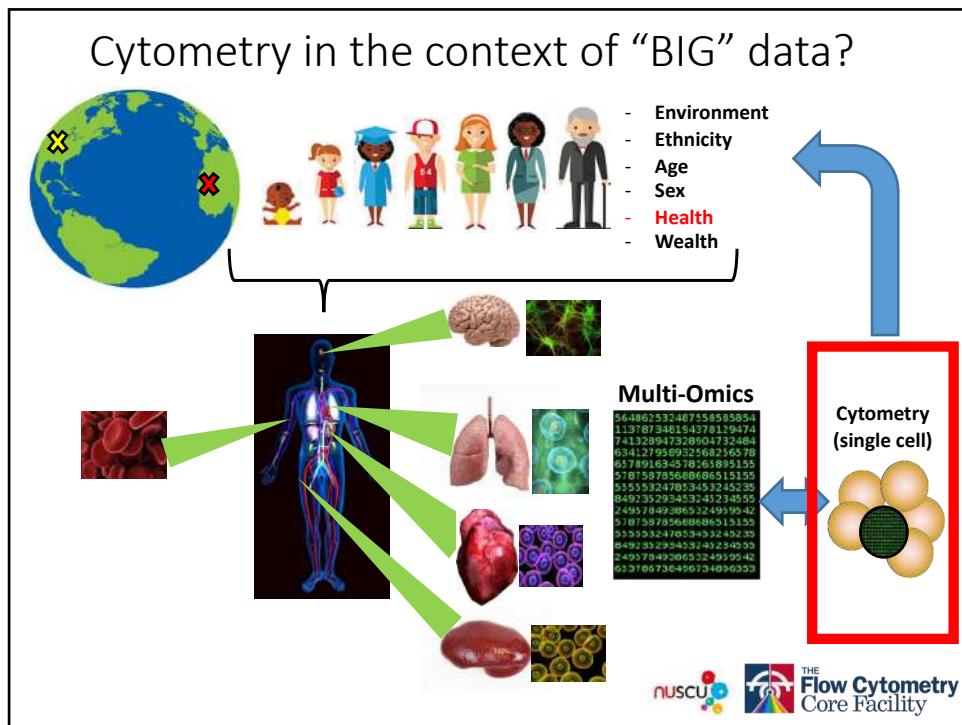
Numbers



Questions we want to ask/answer with these numbers:

- What types of cells are there?
- How many are there?
- What do they do normally/abnormally?
- Can cell A become cell B?
- What role in development/disease?





The talk in 3 words...

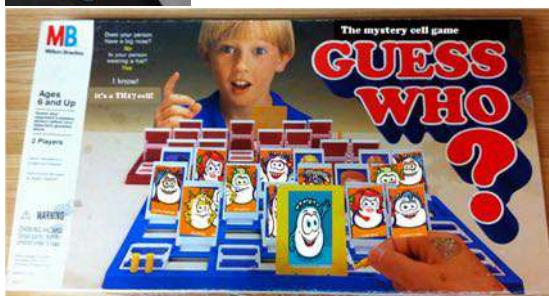
# Cytometry Cytometer Cytometrist

A cytometrists asks as many informative questions to cells as we can

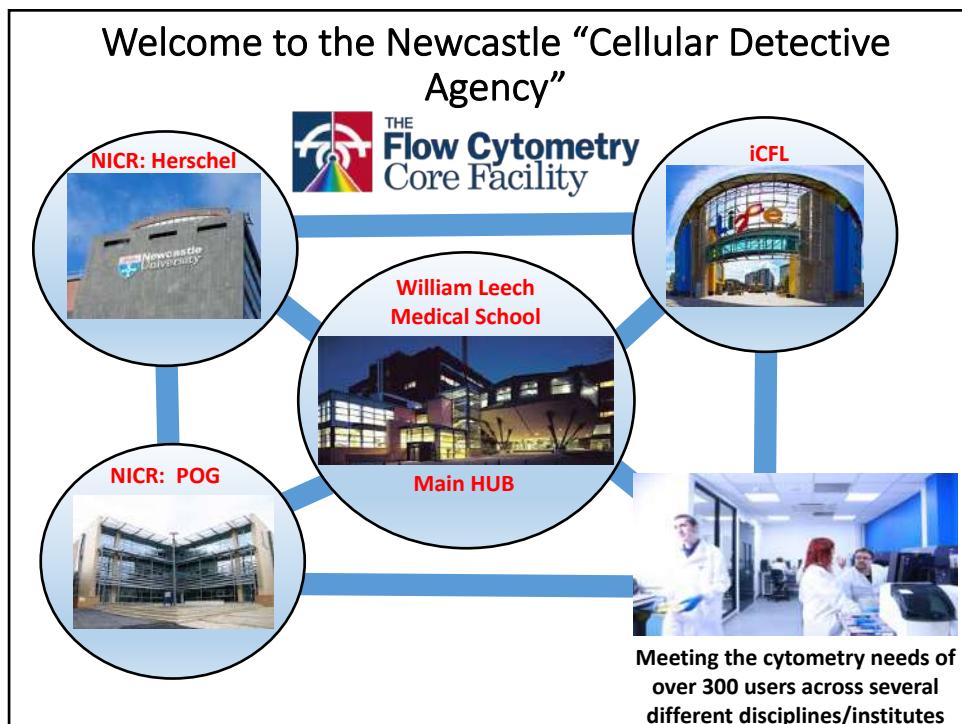


Daddy...what  
do you  
actually do?

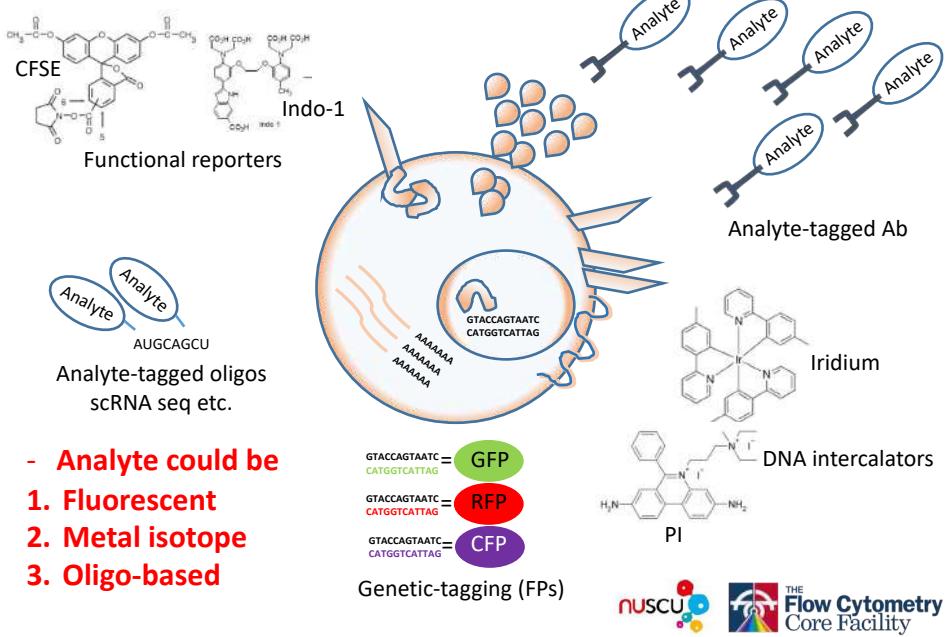
**Cytometrists are “cellular  
detectives”**



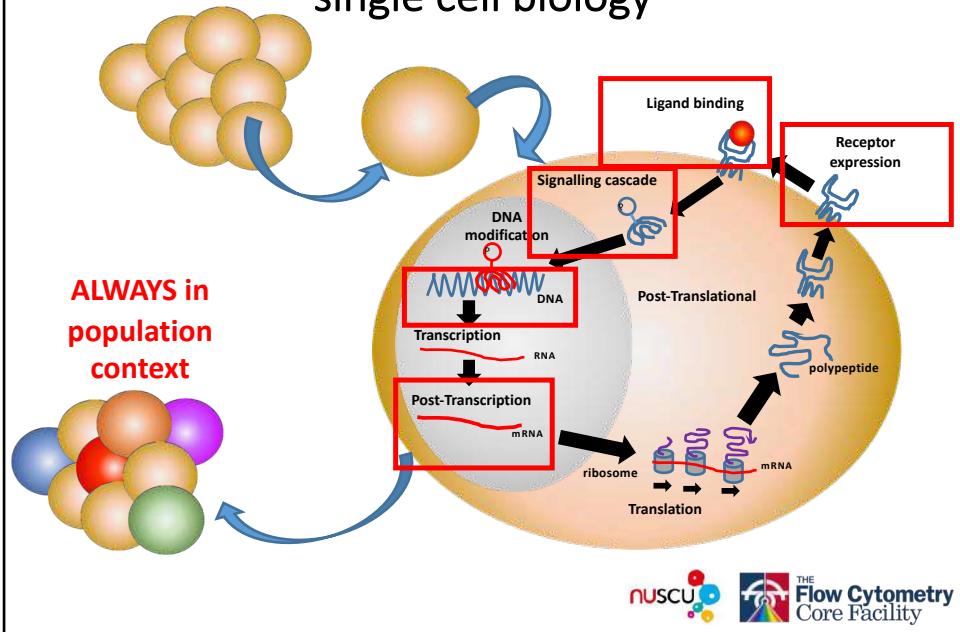
- Does it express CD4? Yes
- Does it express IL-4? No
- Does it express IL-17? Yes
- Does it express FoxP3? No
- Does it express RORyt? Yes
- Is it a TH17 cell?
- Yes!



## How do we ask these questions? With labels



## We can ask our questions in many aspects of single cell biology



## The talk in 3 words...

# Cytometry

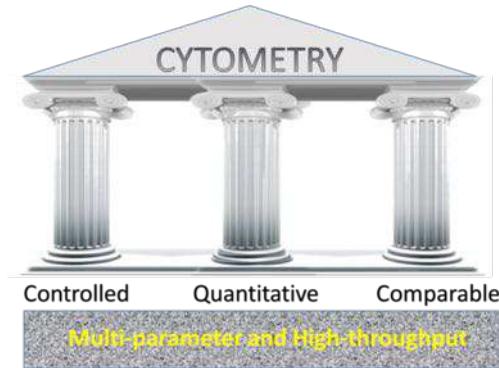
## Cytometer

### Cytometrist

## So many cytometers and so many ways to do cytometry

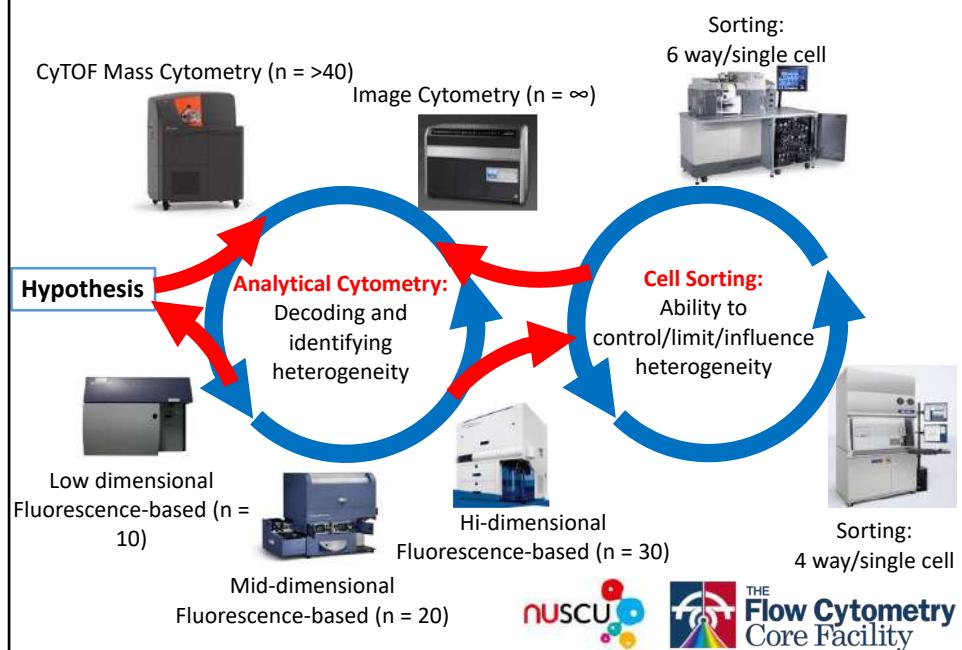


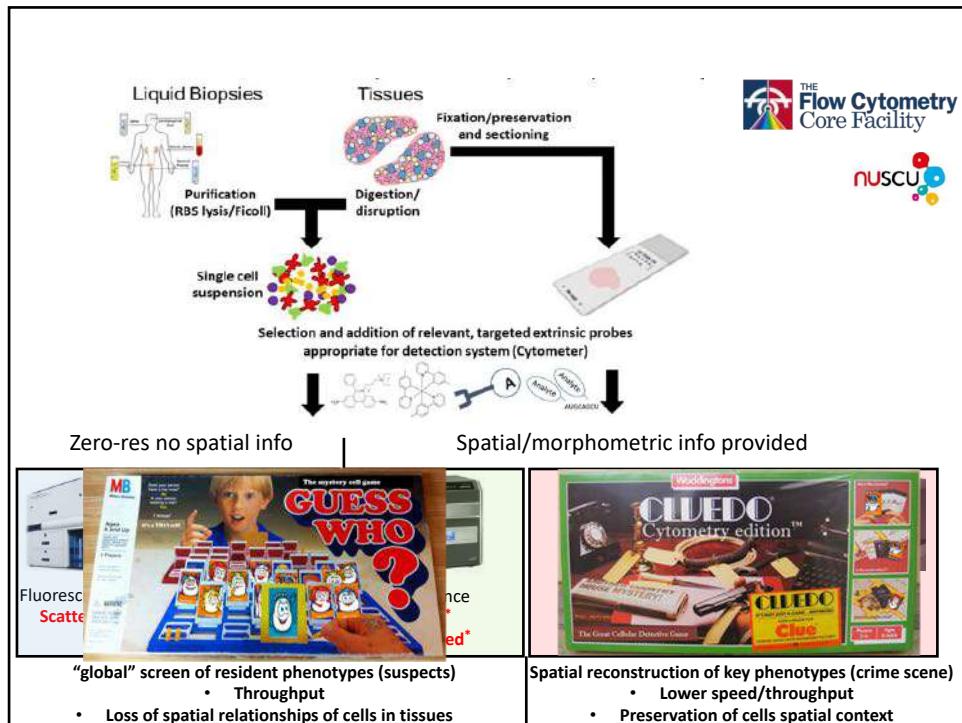
## The 3 pillars and foundations of CYTOMETERS



**A CYTOMETER generates and measures signals from single cells in a high-throughput, (semi) quantitative, multi-parameter fashion**

## Know and master your cellular heterogeneity @ FCCF





## Summary

- Heterogeneity pervades **ALL** cellular systems
- Cytometry helps us to **APPRECIATE** and **DECODE**
- We do this using specialised systems called **Cytometers**
- People who do this are **Cytometrists aka “Cell Detectives”**
- Cytometry is always single cell and usually multiparameter
- It is **ALWAYS** controlled and quantitative
- It allows us to measure and master cellular heterogeneity



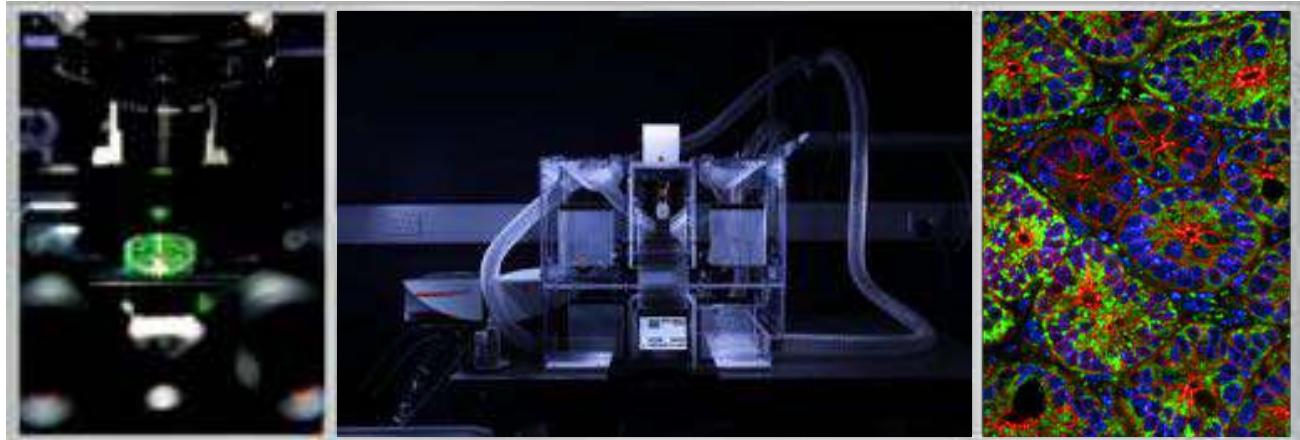


# MULTI-MODAL MICROSCOPE BASED IMAGING: FROM THE ORGANELLE TO THE ORGAN

Alex Laude

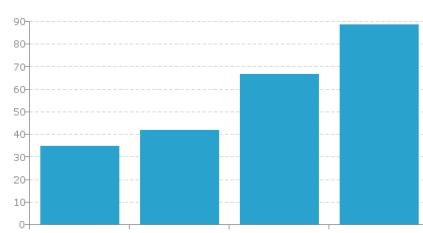
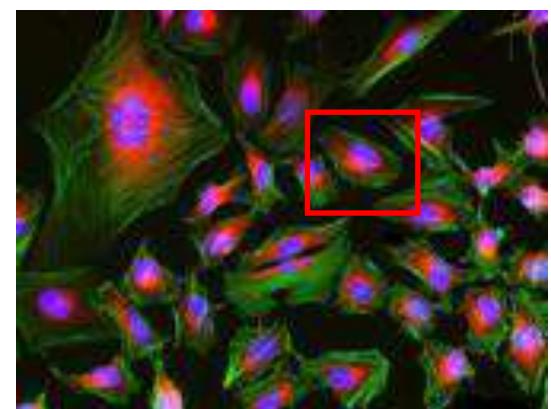
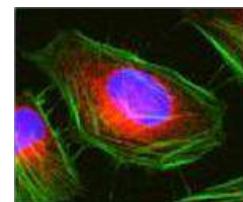
# Multi-modal microscope based imaging: From the organelle to the organ

Alex Laude  
The BioImaging Unit



## Bias.....

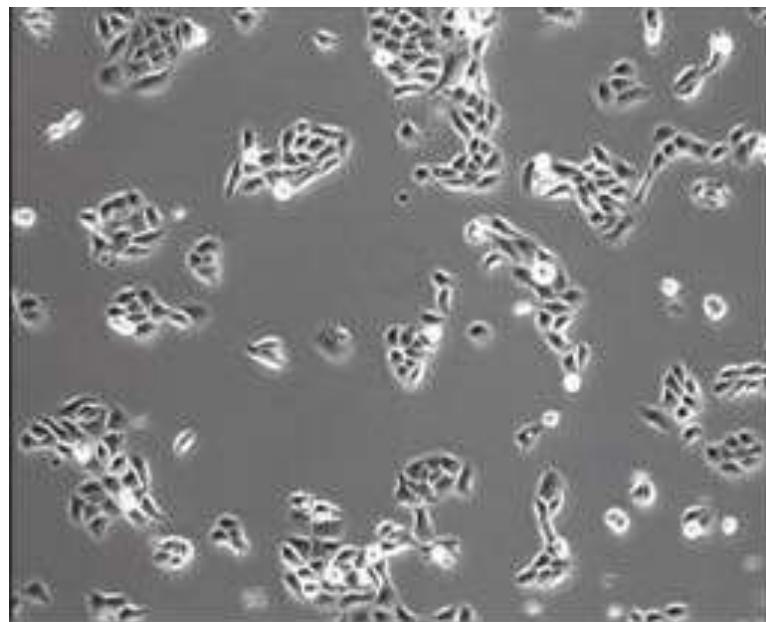
- **Everybody publishes the best image...right?**
  - They may only report what they want to see
- **But is that image representative of the population?**
- **There is a need to quantify our observations.**



- **But what features can we quantify and how do we go about it?**



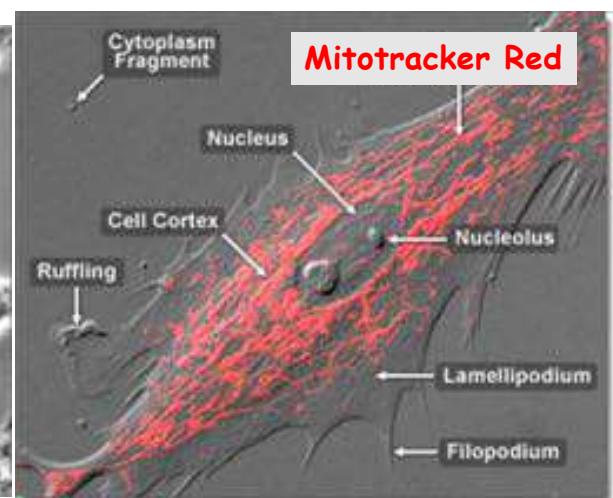
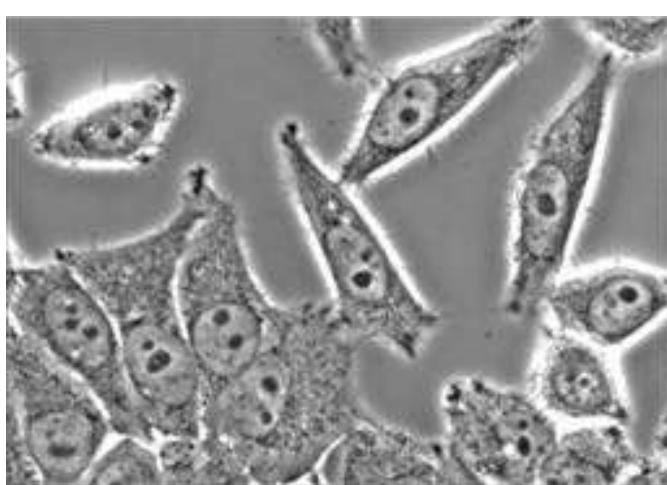
# Contrast



**HeLa cells (epithelial)**  
**Phase contrast time lapse**  
(5min/frame, 18hrs)  
Playback x 3600



## Use of fluorescence - increase contrast



**Brightfield imaging:** limited ability to make out intracellular organelles  
Impossible to identify individual proteins / processes  
we need to make them standout from the background



# Typical research microscope

X-Y-Z- $\lambda$ -position- $t$  (6D)



## Multi-dimensional, multi-modal imaging *at the sub-cellular level*

X-Y  
2D



X-Y-Z  
3D



X-Y-Z- $\lambda$   
4D



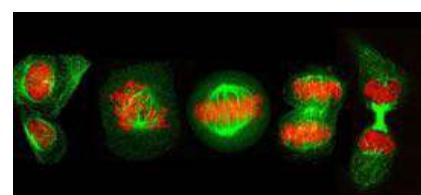
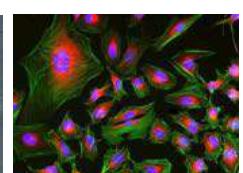
X-Y-Z- $\lambda$ -position  
5D



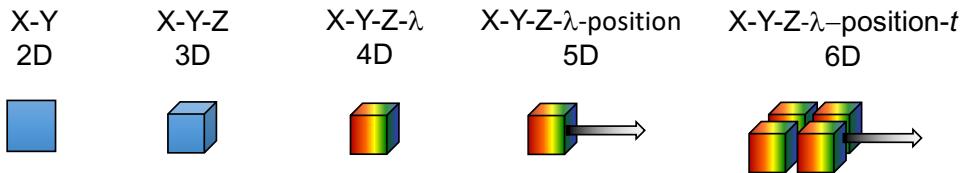
X-Y-Z- $\lambda$ -position- $t$   
6D



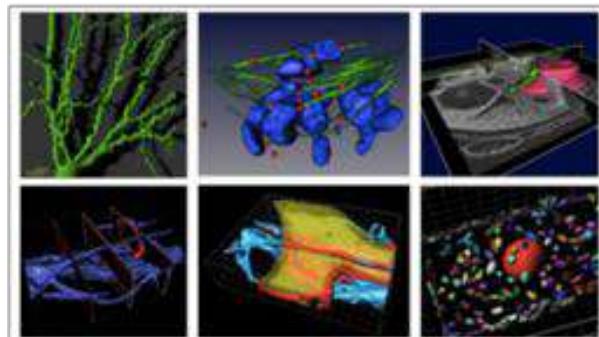
- Brightfield, phase and DIC microscopy
- Wide field fluorescence microscopy
  - multi-parametric ( $\times 5$ ) analysis
- Confocal & Multi-photon microscopy
- Live-Cell imaging
  - Fast dynamic processes ( $> 10\text{fps}$ )
  - Longer lasting (days / weeks)



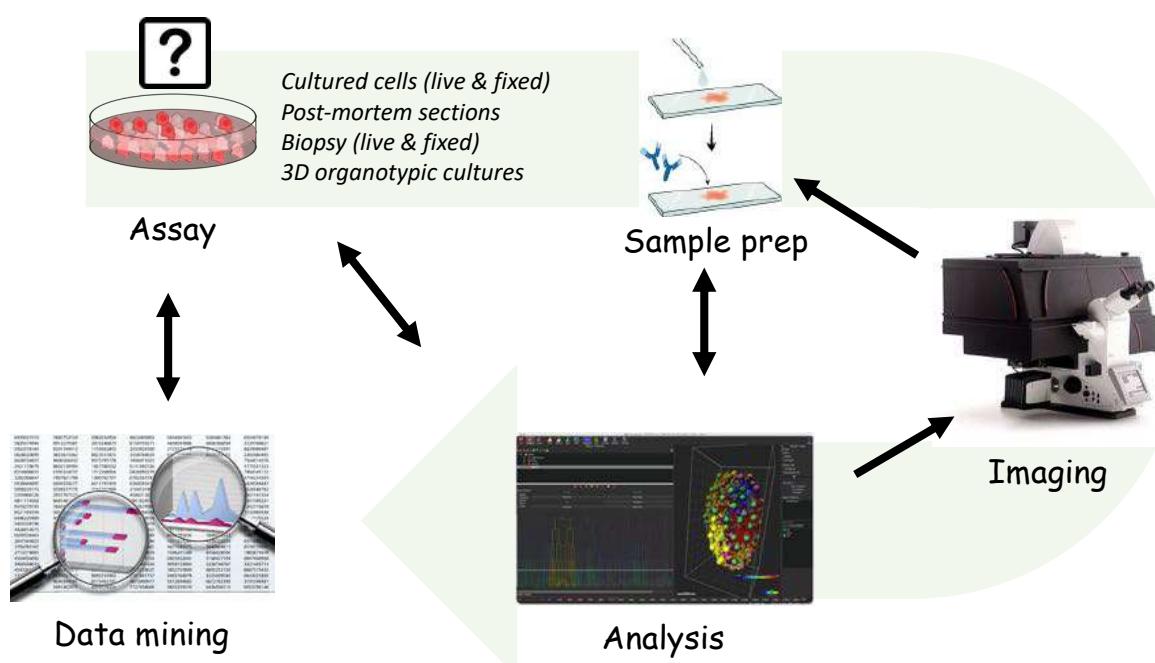
## .....and analysis



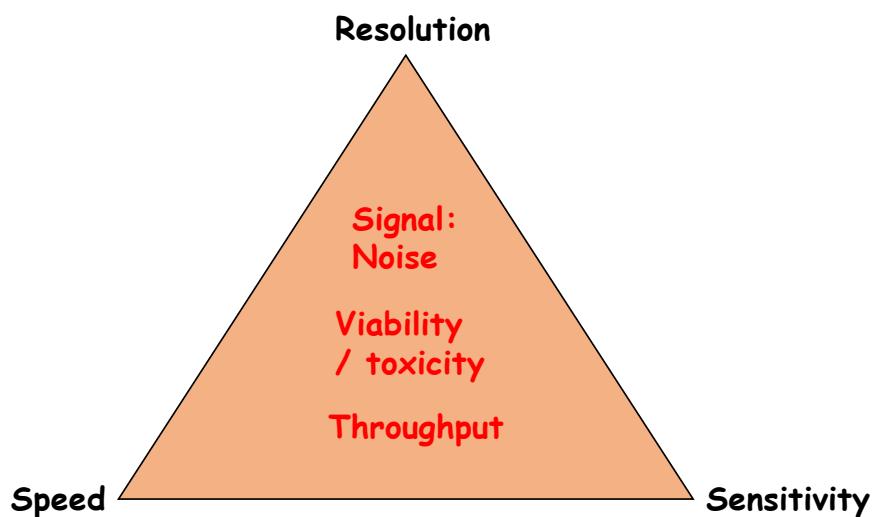
- Segmentation
- Intensity analysis
- Colocalisation
- 2D & 3D tracking
- 3D visualisation
- Deconvolution



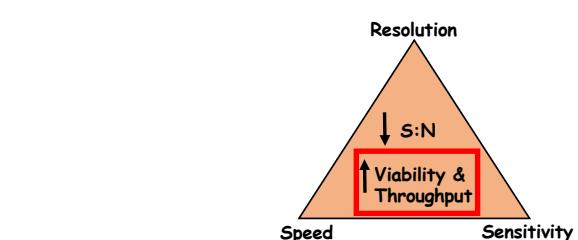
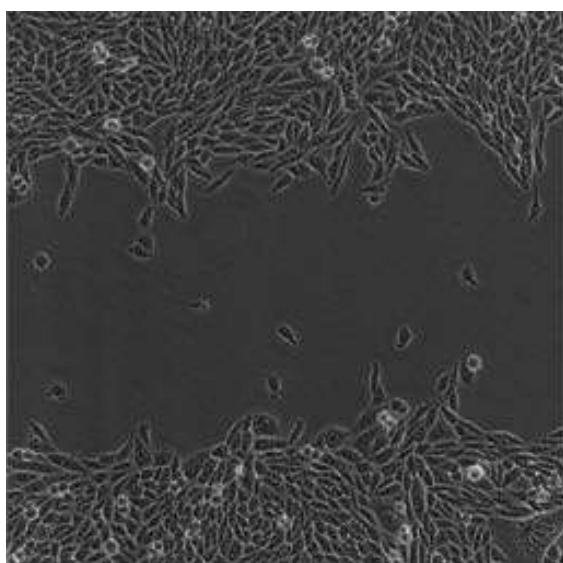
## Imaging workflow



## Choosing the right imaging modality: *The 'Triangle of Compromise'*



## Choosing the right imaging modality: *brightfield time-lapse*

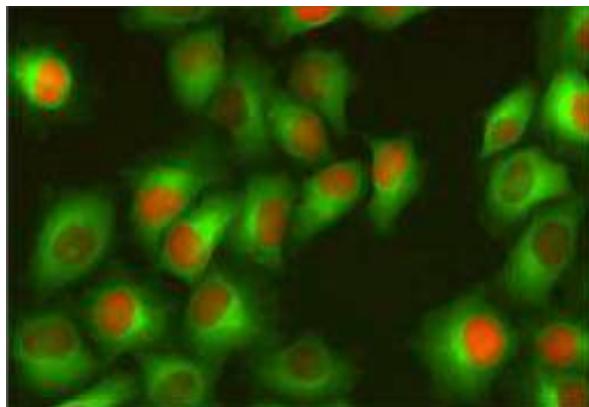


- **Cultured fibroblasts**
  - Monitored using Nikon BioStation

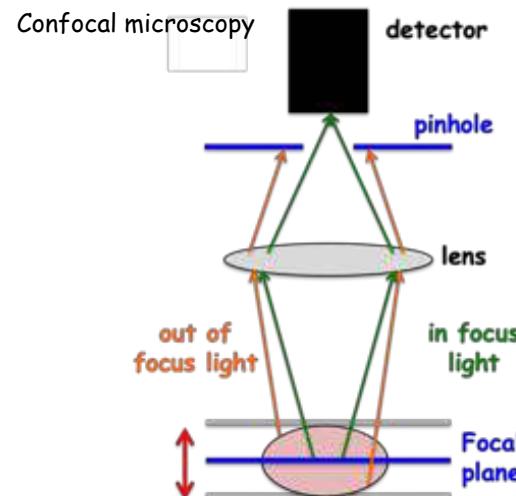
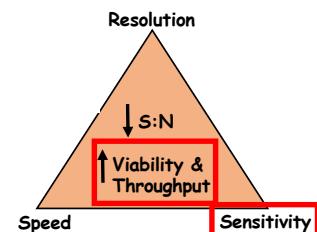
Capture @ 1fph  
Playback x25k



## Choosing the right imaging modality: 3D confocal time-lapse

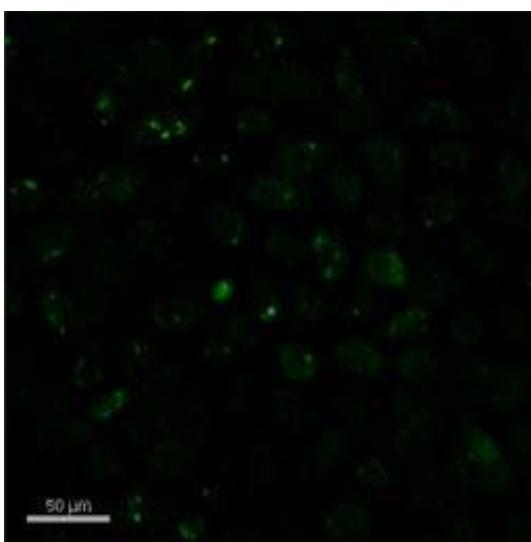


Capture @ 12fps  
Playback x300

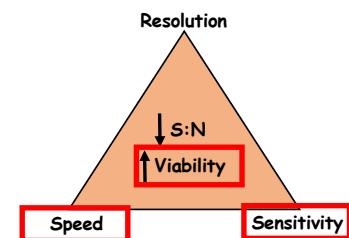


 THE Biolimaging Unit

## Choosing the right imaging modality: resonant confocal or spinning disk



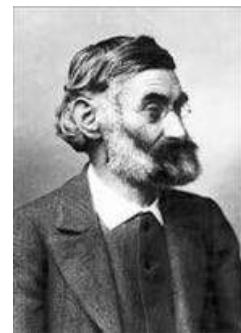
Capture @ 5fps  
Playback x4



- Skin cell monolayer loaded with Fluo  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  indicator
  - Monolayer 'wounded' - intercellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  signalling

 THE Biolimaging Unit

## Super resolution imaging: *resolving structures*



Ernst Abbe

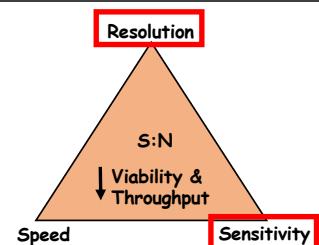
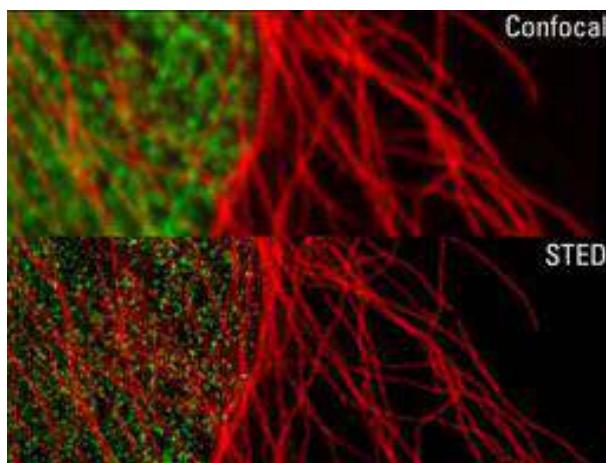
$$d \text{ (resolving power)} = \frac{\text{Wavelength of light}}{2 \times \text{Numerical aperture of lens}}$$

$$d_{\text{GFP}} = \frac{500 \text{ nm}}{2 \times 1.4} \quad d = 179 \text{ nm}$$

13

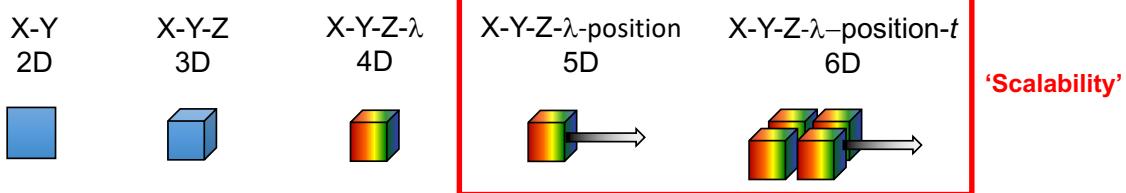


## Choosing the right imaging modality: **STED** super resolution



- Leica SP8 STED super resolution
  - Up to 60 nm X-Y resolution
  - Up to 130 nm Z resolution
  - Fixed samples
  - White light laser - 200 excitation possibilities
  - Hybrid detectors - sensitive
  - Live-cell capability

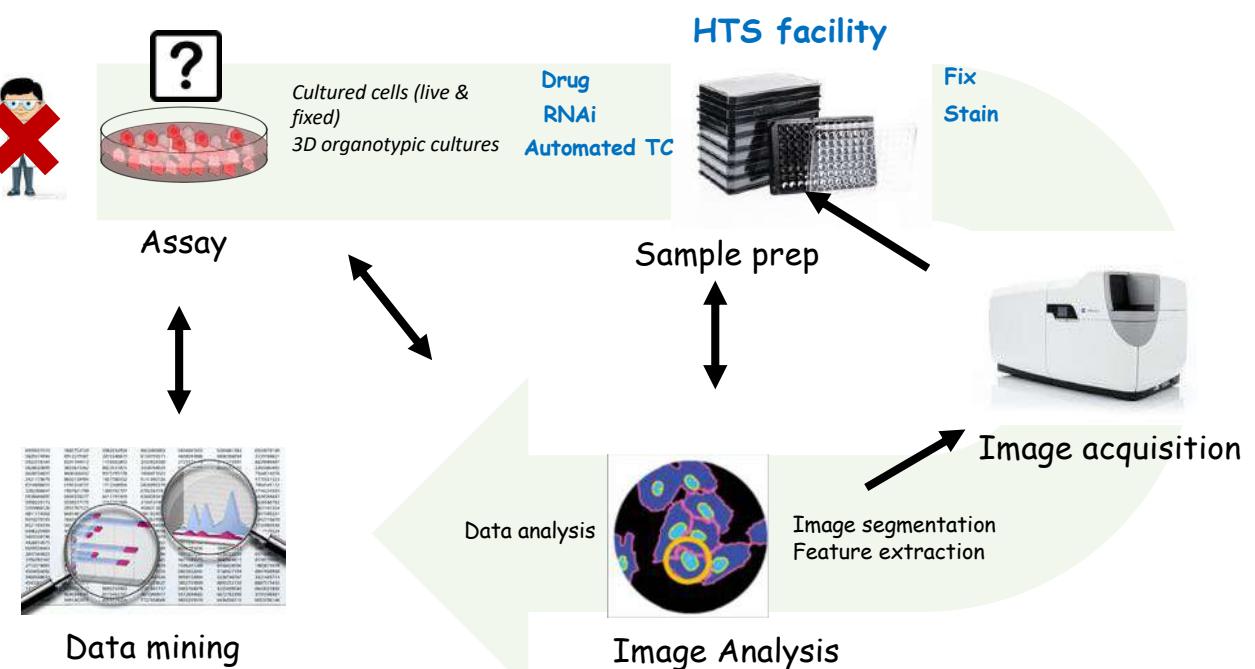
# Multi-dimensional, multi-modal imaging *at the sub-cellular level*



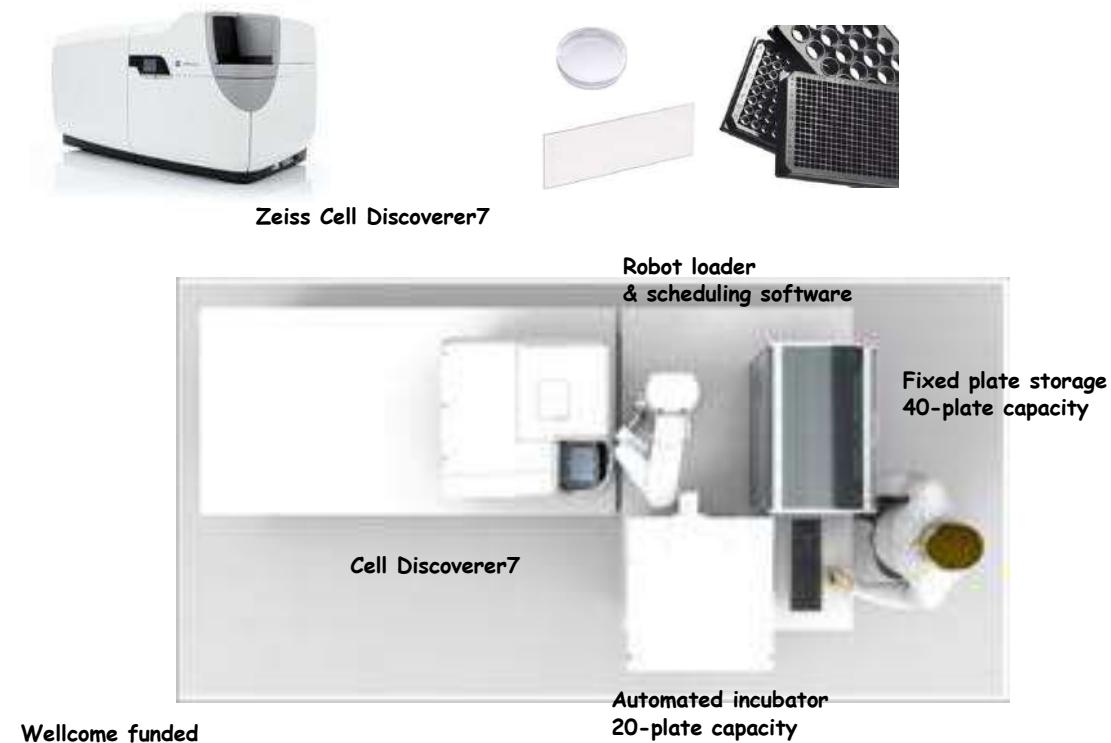
- Brightfield, phase and DIC microscopy
- Wide field fluorescence microscopy
  - multi-parametric ( $\times 5$ ) analysis
- Confocal microscopy
- Super resolution microscopy (live & fixed)
- Live-Cell imaging
  - Fast dynamic processes ( $>10\text{fps}$ )
  - Longer lasting (days / weeks)
- Automated high-content imaging / screening (live & fixed)
  - population data at the sub-cellular level



## High-content imaging / screening / analysis - typical workflow

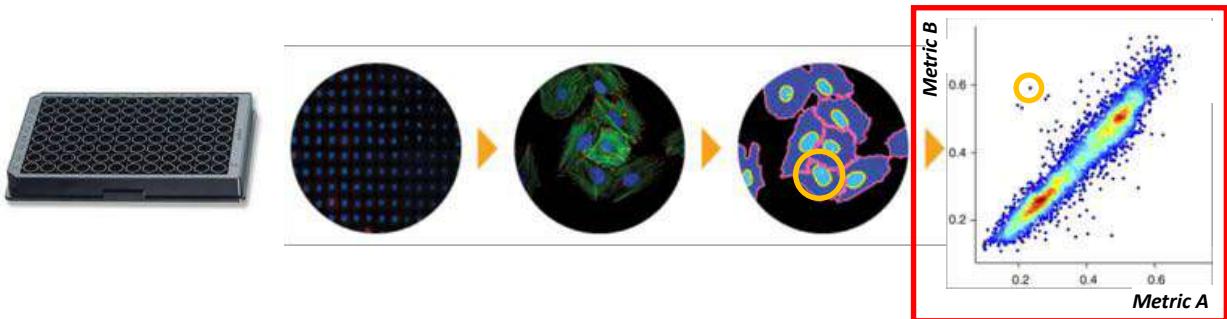
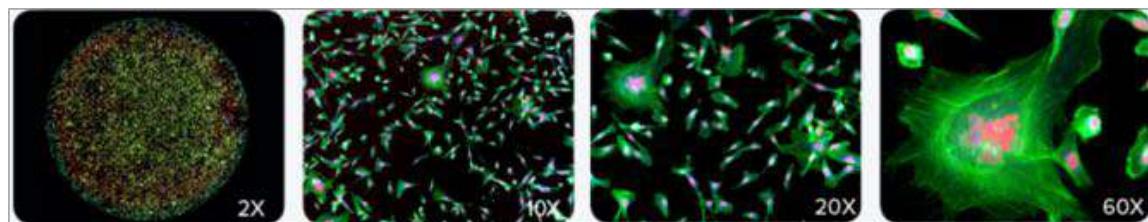


## Automated, live-cell microscope - Zeiss Cell Discoverer7



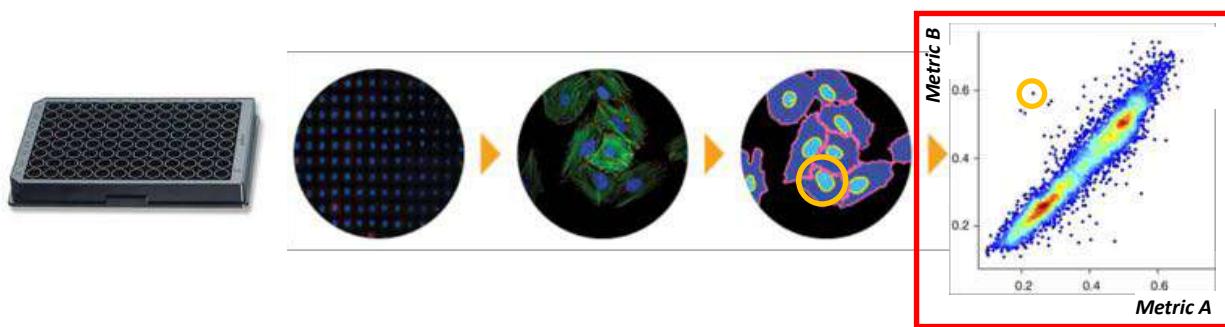
## High-Content / Throughput Imaging Automated 'smart' multi-colour imaging & analysis

*...one cell at a time*



# High-Content / Throughput Imaging

## Data analysis

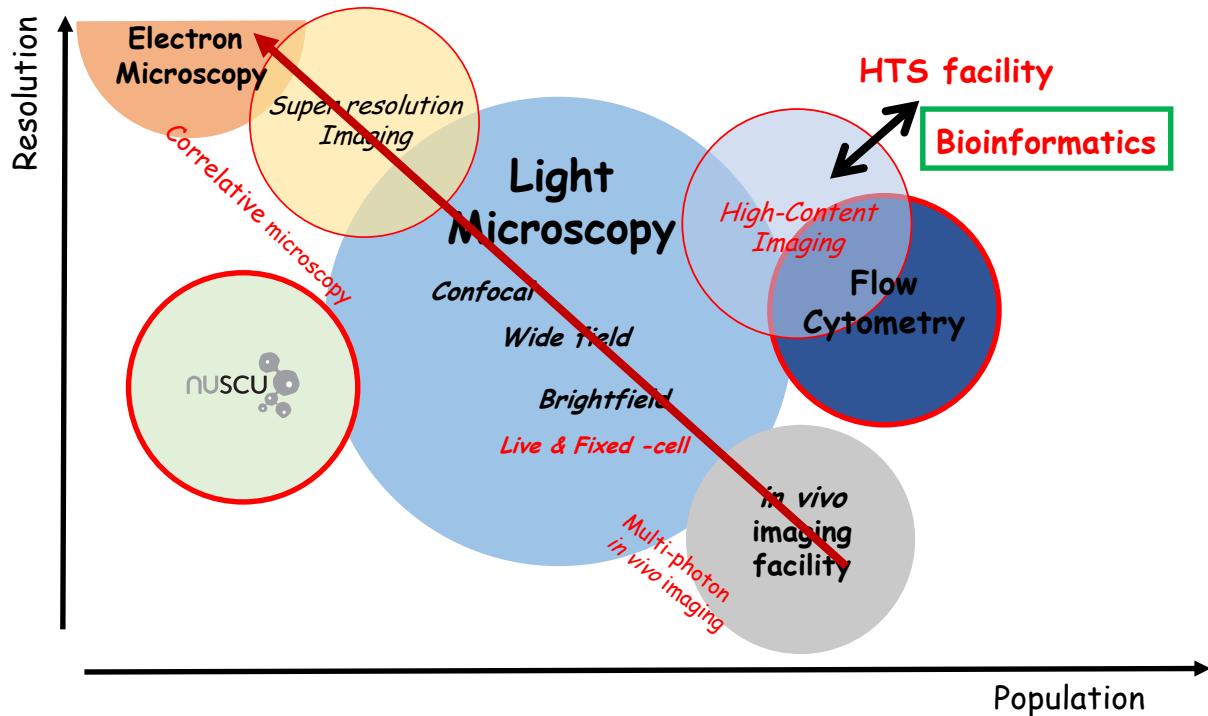


### Statistical Analysis (pooling data from well and plates)

- Cell count (live / dead)
- Segmentation (requires cell surface / cytoplasm marker)
- Spot count (per cell)
- Intensity of protein (per cell or population)
- Morphology



## The BioImaging network





# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This course is funded by the BAD. We are grateful to the Institute of Genetic Medicine and Newcastle University for hosting this event. We are grateful for the laboratory support from Debra Jones and Julie Taggart, and administrative support from teams led by Karen Myers and Alexander Lyons. The speakers contributing to this course have received funding for research from the following funders. This list is not exhaustive.

- The Wellcome Trust
- Medical Research Council
- National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)
- North East Skin Research Fund
- Barbour Foundation
- Newcastle Hospital Healthcare Charity
- EPSRC
- BBSRC
- Melanoma Focus
- BBSRC- Strategic Training and Research Skills (STARS) programme
- Biomedical Research Council
- AmLo Biosciences Ltd.
- Innovate UK
- 4ward North
- The NIHR Newcastle Biomedical Research Centre based at Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Newcastle University.