

# *An Introduction to Genomic Sequencing in Newborn Screening: Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications*

Presented to the Advisory Committee on Heritable  
Disorders in Newborns and Children  
November 2, 2018

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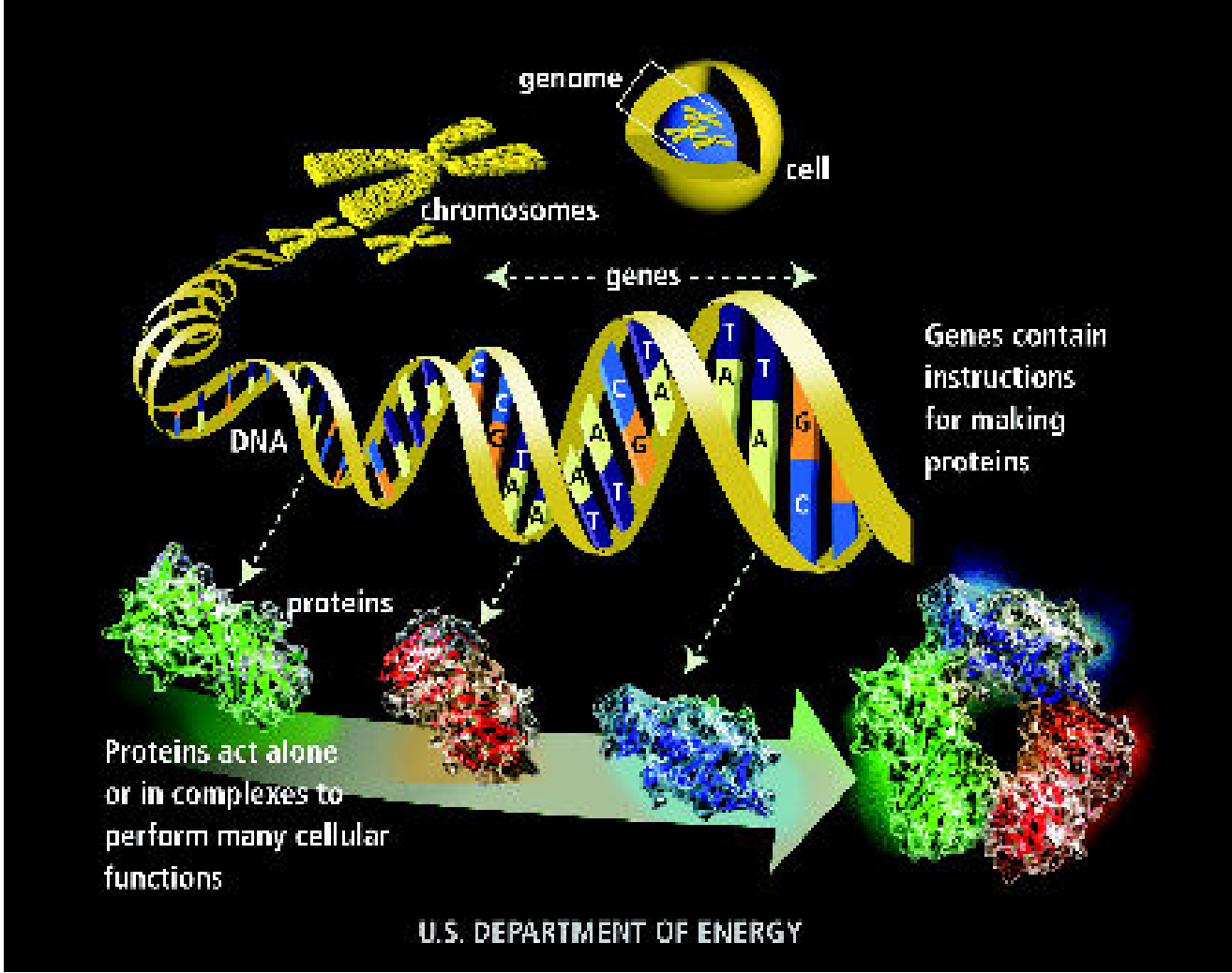
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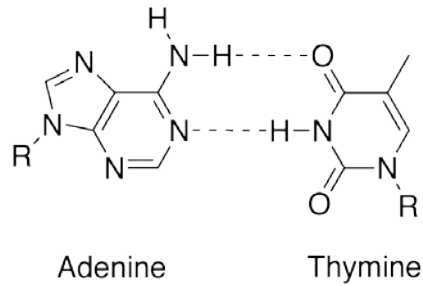
# Newborn Sequencing In Genomic medicine and public Health (NSIGHT)

- What is genomic sequencing?
- Background of NSIGHT program
- Overview of the four NSIGHT projects
- Introduction of speakers

*This research was supported by the National Institutes of health Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development and the National Human Genome Research Institute under awards: U19HD077627; U19HD077632; U19HD07767; U19HD077693.*

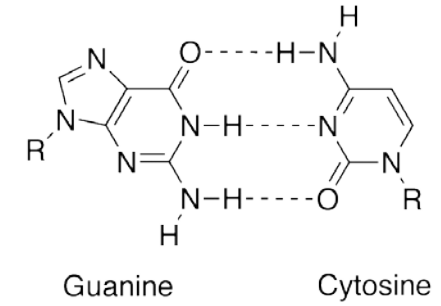


## DNA is made up of molecules called nucleotides

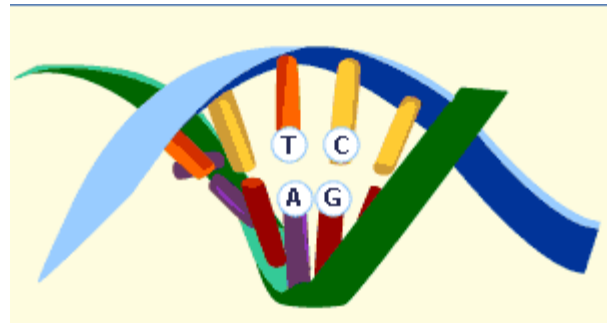


**A: Adenine**  
**T: Thymine**

**C: Cytosine**  
**G: Guanine**



**Each nucleotide has a corresponding partner making up a “base pair”**



# GENE

**Made up of thousands of nucleotides (base pairs)**

ATGCCCTTTAGGTTACCTTTAGCCCTTAGCCCATCGGGTTACCCTTCCCCCTTACGGGCTCTT  
TTATATATCCGGGCGCGCGTTAAAATATACCCATTTATATCGGACGTTTACTACCTACGGATAC  
TGGGCTAGGATACTAGACTTAAACGATTAATCGGCCCTTACGCAGGTTACTACTTAGCAGTT  
AATCGGGCGTTATACGGCCTAC.....

Range in size from 250 base pairs to 2,500,000 base pairs

# GENE

ATGCCCTTTAGGTTACCTTTAGCCCTTAGCCCATCGGGTTACCCTTCCCCCTTACGGGCTCTT  
TTATATATCCGGGCGCGCGTTAAAATATACCCATTTATATCGGACGTTTACTACCTACGGATAC  
TGGGCTAGGATACTAGACTTAAACGATTAATCGGCCCTTACGCAGGTTACTACTTAGCAGTT  
AATCGGGCGTTATACGGCCTAC.....

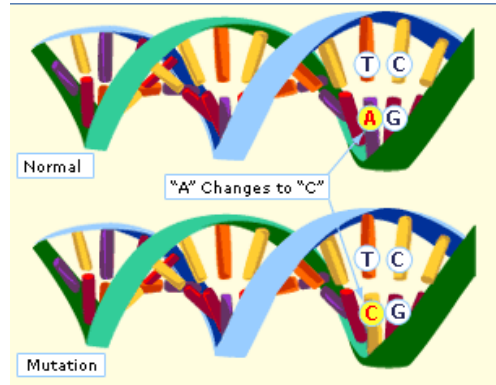
# GENE VARIANT

## Pathogenic “mutation” or Benign?

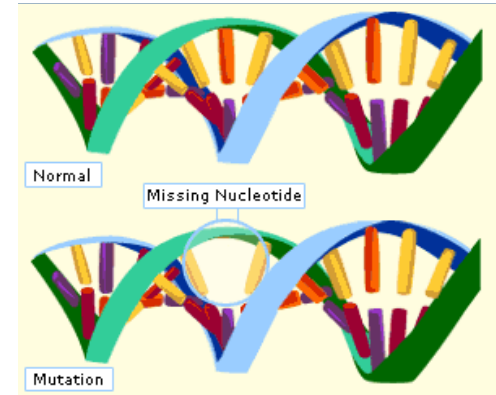
ATGCCCTTTAGGTTACCTTTAGCCCTTAGC**TC**CATCGGGTTACCCTTCCCCCTTACGGGCTCTTT  
TATATATCCGGGCGCGCGTTAAAATATACCCATTTATATCGGACGTTTACTACCTACGGATACT  
GGGCTAGGATACTAGACTTAAACGATTAATCGGCCCTTACGCAGGTTACTACTTAGCAGTTA  
ATCGGGCGTTATACGGCCTAC...

# TYPES OF VARIANTS

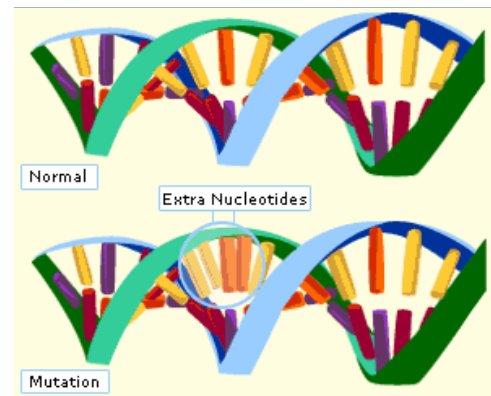
## POINT



## DELETION



## INSERTION

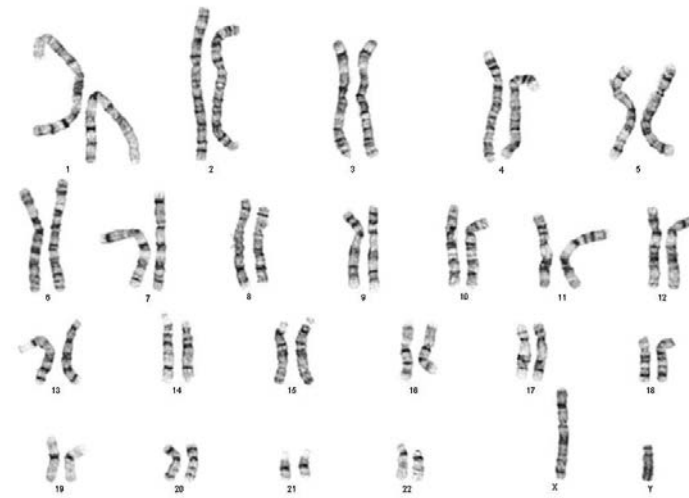
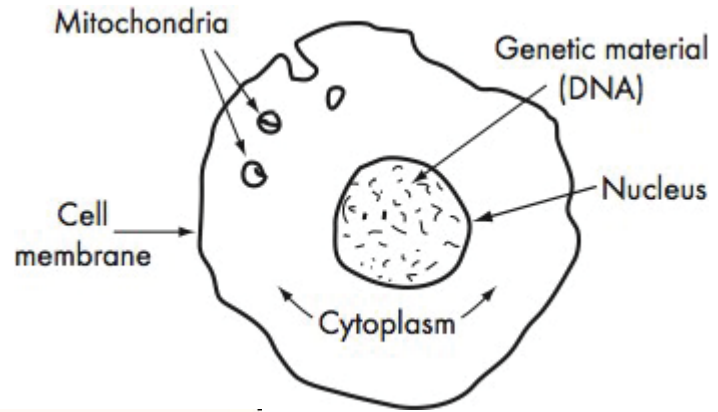




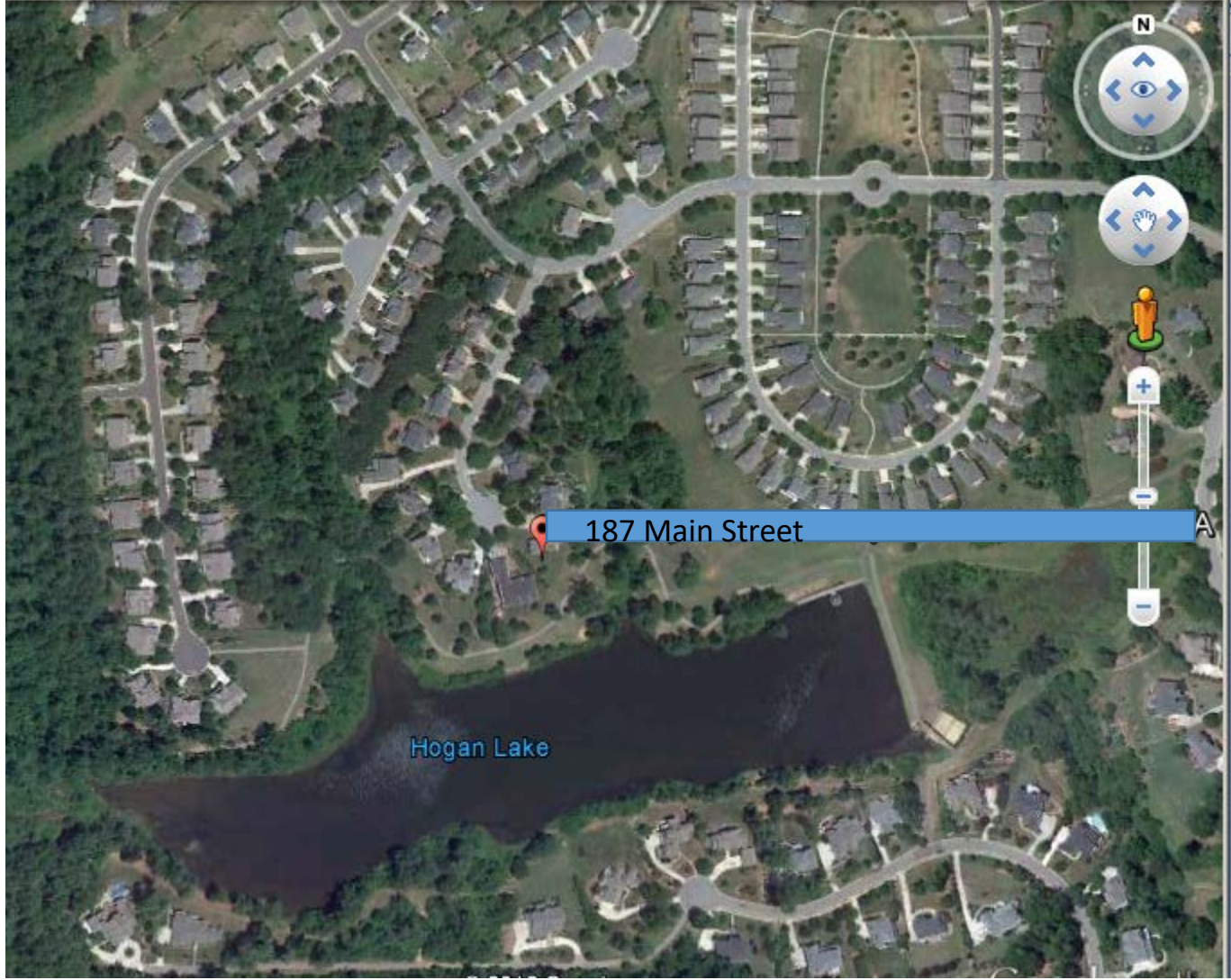
# TYPES OF VARIANTS

NORMAL:	THE CAT SAW THE DOG
POINT:	THE <b>B</b> AT SAW THE DOG
DELETION:	THE CAT THE DOG
INSERTION:	THE <b>C</b> ART SAW THE DOG
TRIPLET EXPANSION:	THE CAT SAW SAW SAW SAW THE DOG

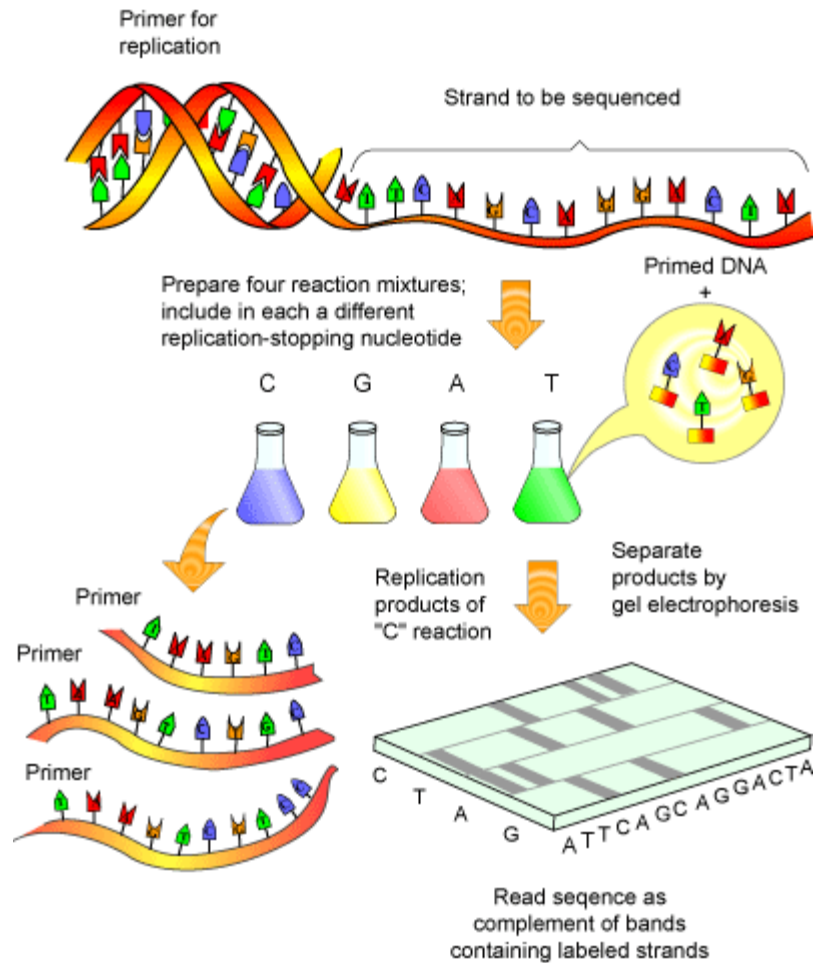
How can we look at the genome?



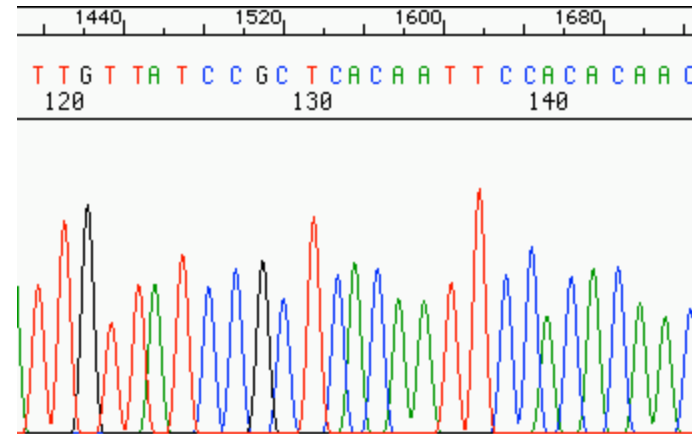
Each chromosome contains from 50 – 250 million nucleotides and from 200 – 800 protein coding genes



# What is sequencing?



[http://www.eisenlab.org/FunFly/?page\\_id=24#sanger](http://www.eisenlab.org/FunFly/?page_id=24#sanger)



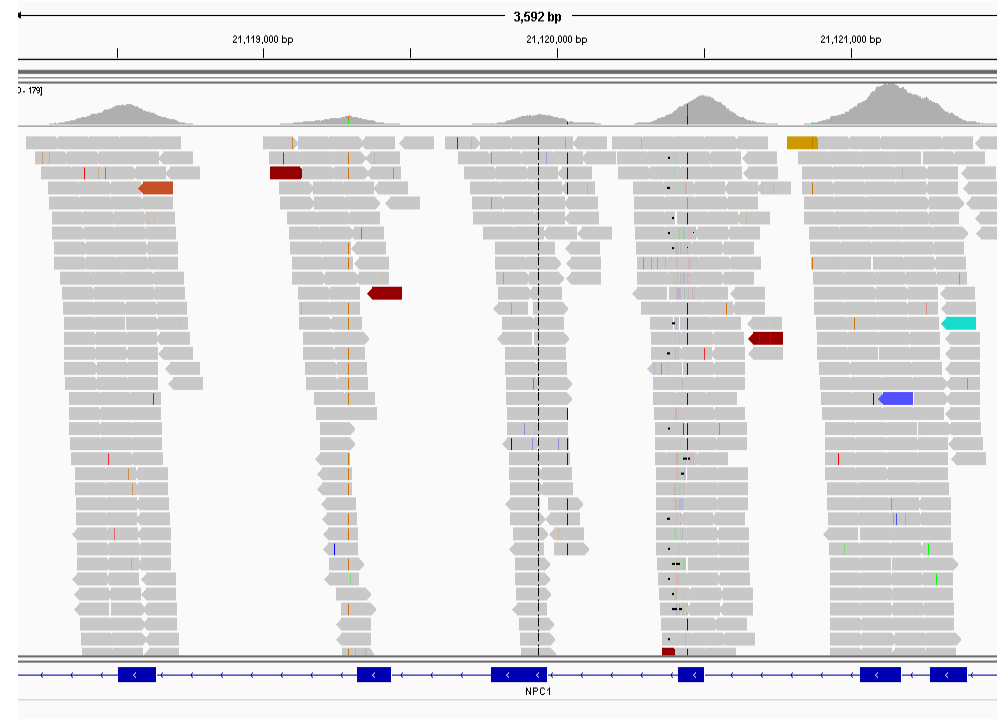
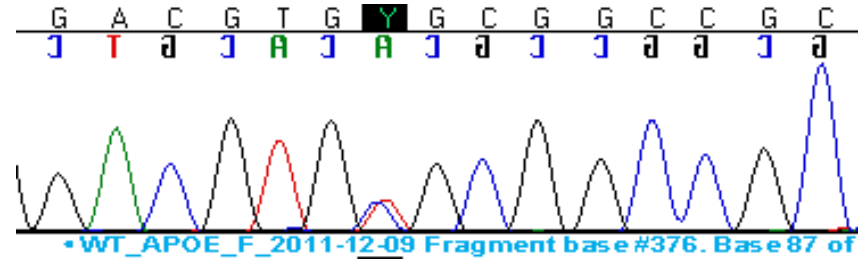
- Each peak on chromatogram corresponds to one base pair. Typically can read 1000 bases (1 kb) per read
- This is known as Sanger sequencing after its inventor
- Also known as 1<sup>st</sup> Generation sequencing



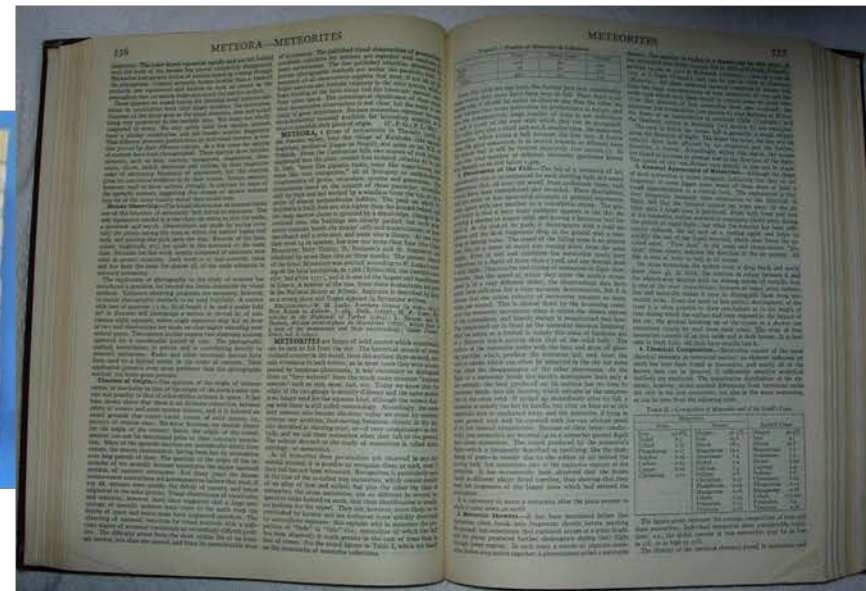


# Sanger vs. Whole-Exome Sequencing: Technical Considerations

- Sanger
  - 100-800+ bp
  - Targeted mutation analysis
  - Complete coverage
  - “Gold standard”
- WES
  - 30 Mb in exome (3 billion in entire genome)
  - Mutation fishing in many targets
  - Interpretation difficulties



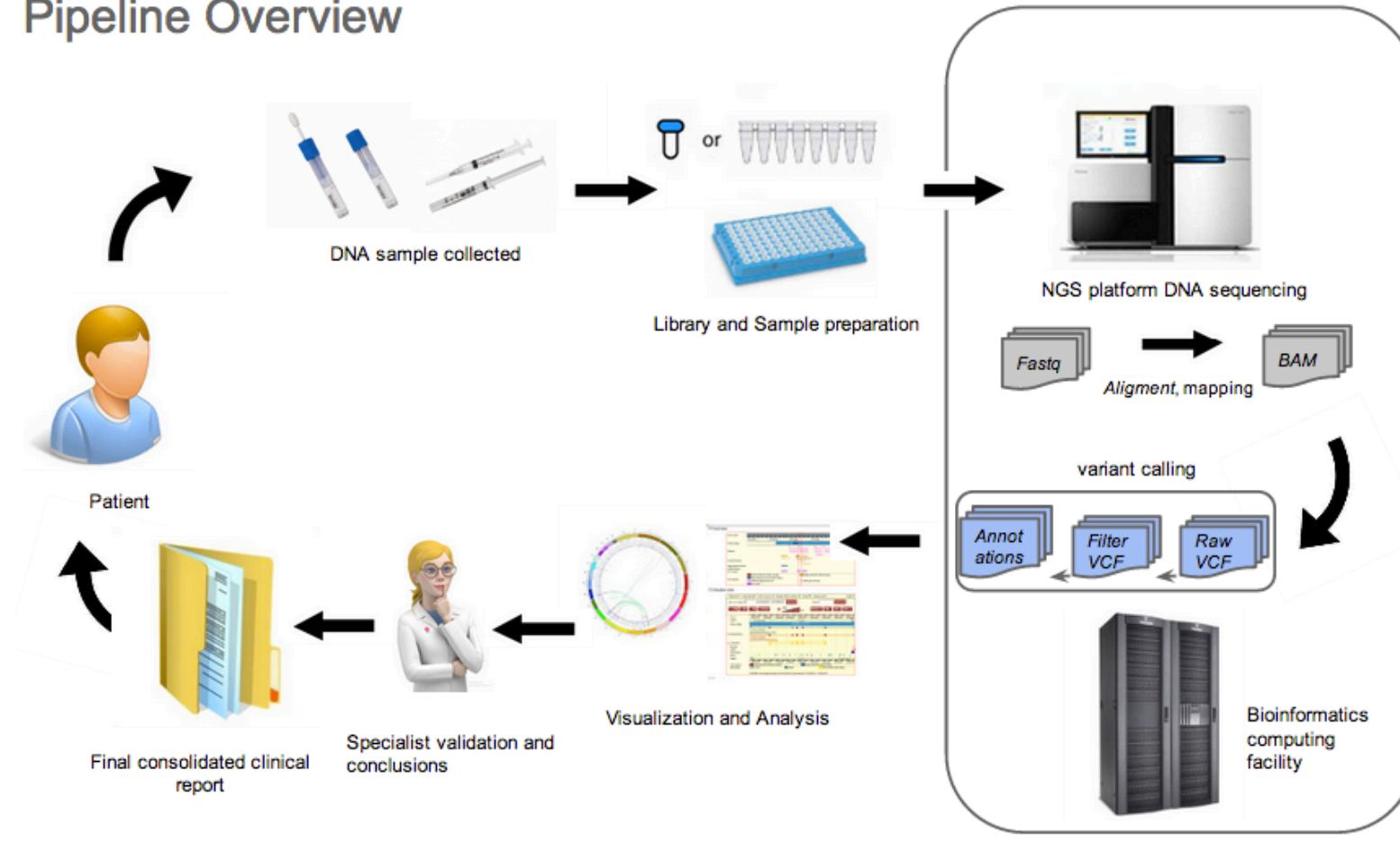
# Next Generation Sequencing





# Next Generation Sequencing (Whole Exome or Whole Genome Sequencing)

## Pipeline Overview



# Next Gen Sequencing

- Can search for mutations in all genes (~20,000)
- Whole exome: just coding parts of genes (exons)
- Whole genome: everything (exons and introns)
- Analysis is complex – our understanding of what is a significant mutation and what is a benign polymorphism has a long way to go
- Ethical issues about what genes should be analyzed and what information should be returned to patients

# Workshop Held in 2010

## NICHD, NHGRI, ORDR

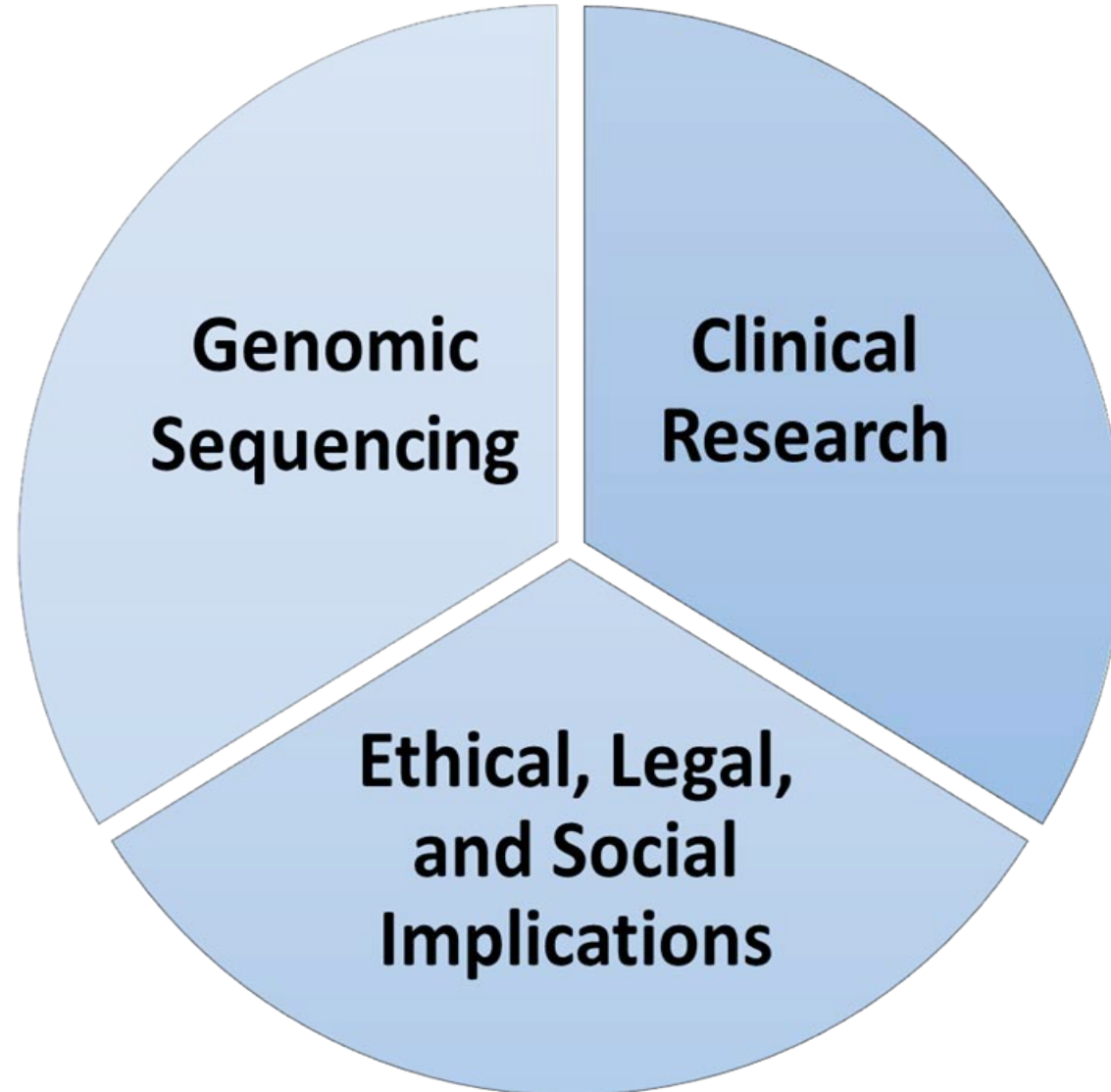
- New, sophisticated and increasingly cost-effective techniques for DNA-based sequencing and analysis may make it possible to expand newborn screening in the future and substantially expand its clinical and public health value.
- To identify elements of a trans-NIH research agenda that could inform the possible application of new genomic concepts and technologies to newborn screening and child health.
- [https://www.genome.gov/pages/policyethics/staffarticles/newborn\\_screening\\_meeting\\_summary.pdf](https://www.genome.gov/pages/policyethics/staffarticles/newborn_screening_meeting_summary.pdf)

# U-19 RFA NIH: Genomic Sequencing and Newborn Screening Disorders NHGRI and NICHD

## August 2012

- **Question A)** For **disorders currently screened for in newborns**, how can genomic sequencing replicate or augment (e.g., make more accurate, comprehensive or inexpensive) known newborn screening results?
- **Question B)** What knowledge about **conditions not currently screened for in newborns** could genomic sequencing of newborns provide?
- **Question C)** What **additional clinical information** could be learned from genomic sequencing **relevant to the clinical care of newborns**?
- In order to be considered responsive to the FOA, each applicant must also propose a research plan that includes **each of the following three component projects**:
- **Research Component 1) acquisition and analysis of genomic datasets** that expand considerably the scale of data available for analysis in the newborn period;
- **Research Component 2) clinical research** that will advance understanding of **specific disorders identifiable via newborn screening through promising new DNA-based analysis**; and
- **Research Component 3)** research related to the **ethical, legal and social implications (ELSI)** of the possible implementation of genomic sequencing of newborns.
- The methods and scope of the research in all three of these component projects should be tailored to **focus on the newborn period** and the **research context** in which the sequencing is performed.

# 3 Components Required



## NEWS & EVENTS

- News & Events**
- [News Releases](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Videos](#)

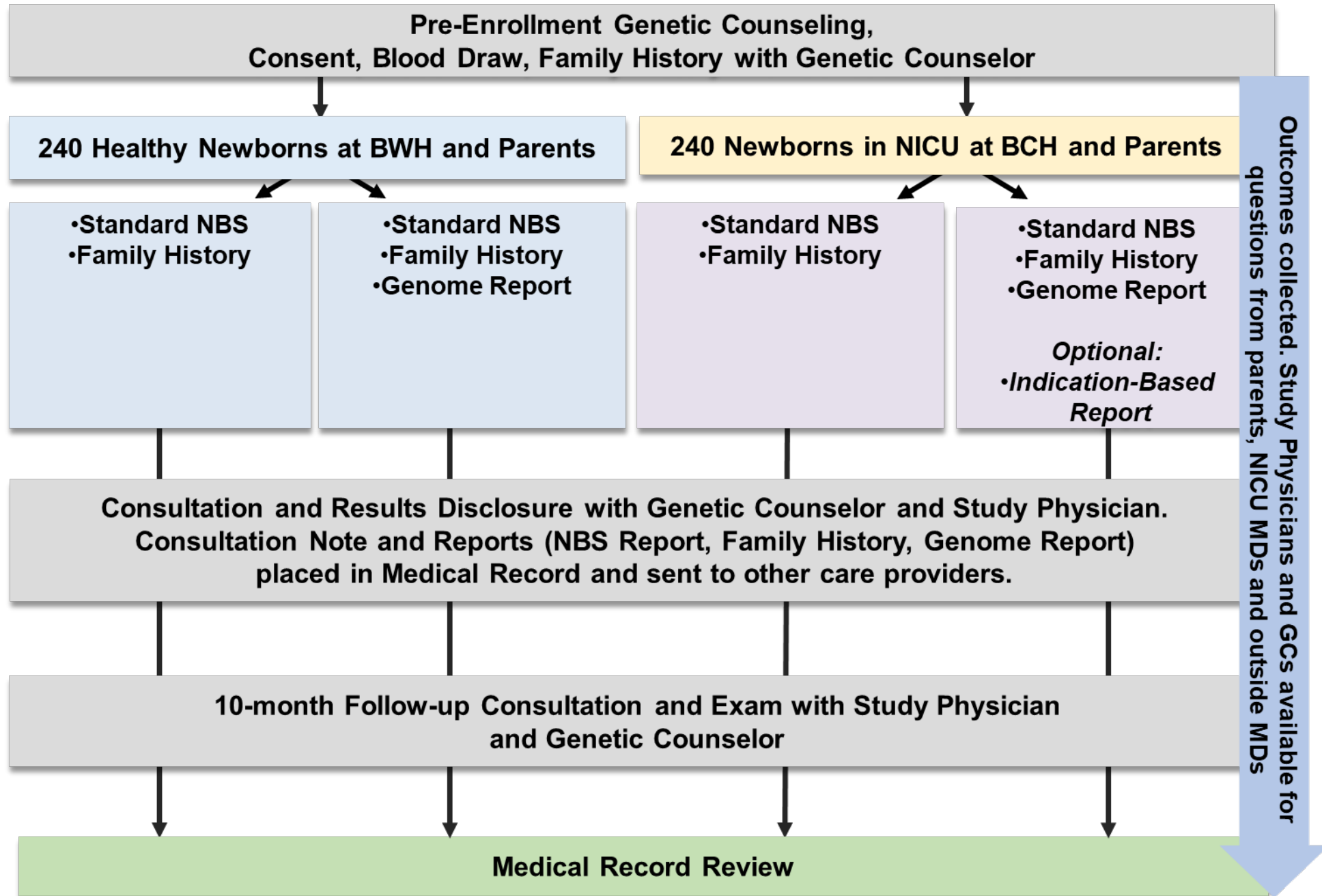
Embargoed for Release: Wednesday, September 4, 2013, 10 a.m. EDT

**NIH program explores the use of genomic sequencing in newborn healthcare**

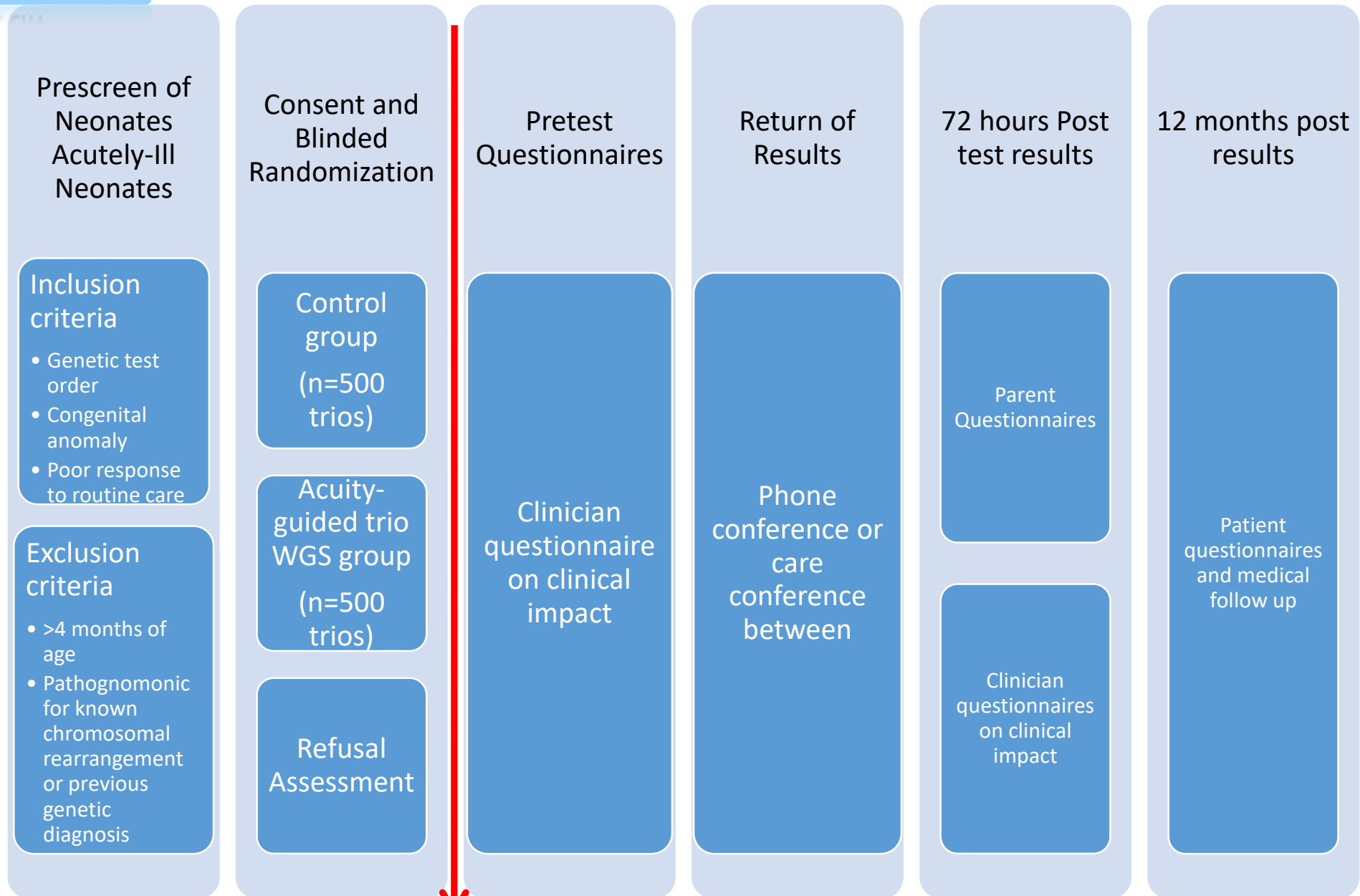
**Institute/Center**  
[National Human Genome Research Institute \(NHGRI\)](#)  
[Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development \(NICHD\)](#)

Principal Investigators	Institutions	Title
Robert Green Alan Beggs	Brigham and Women's Hospital Boston Children's Hospital	BabySeq: Genome Sequence-Based Screening for Childhood Risk and Newborn Illness
Stephen Kingsmore	Rady Children's Hospital, San Diego Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City	Clinical and Social Implications of 2-day Genome Results in Acutely Ill Newborns
Jennifer Puck Barbara Koenig Pui-Yan Kwok	University of California San Francisco	NBSeq: Sequencing of Newborn Blood Spot DNA to Improve and Expand Newborn Screening
Cynthia Powell Jonathan Berg	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	NC NEXUS: North Carolina Newborn Exome Sequencing for Universal Screening

# Brigham & Women's Hospital–Boston Children's Hospital (BWH-BCH) Project Overview



# Children's Mercy-Rady Children's



Unblinding/Potential crossover to WGS.

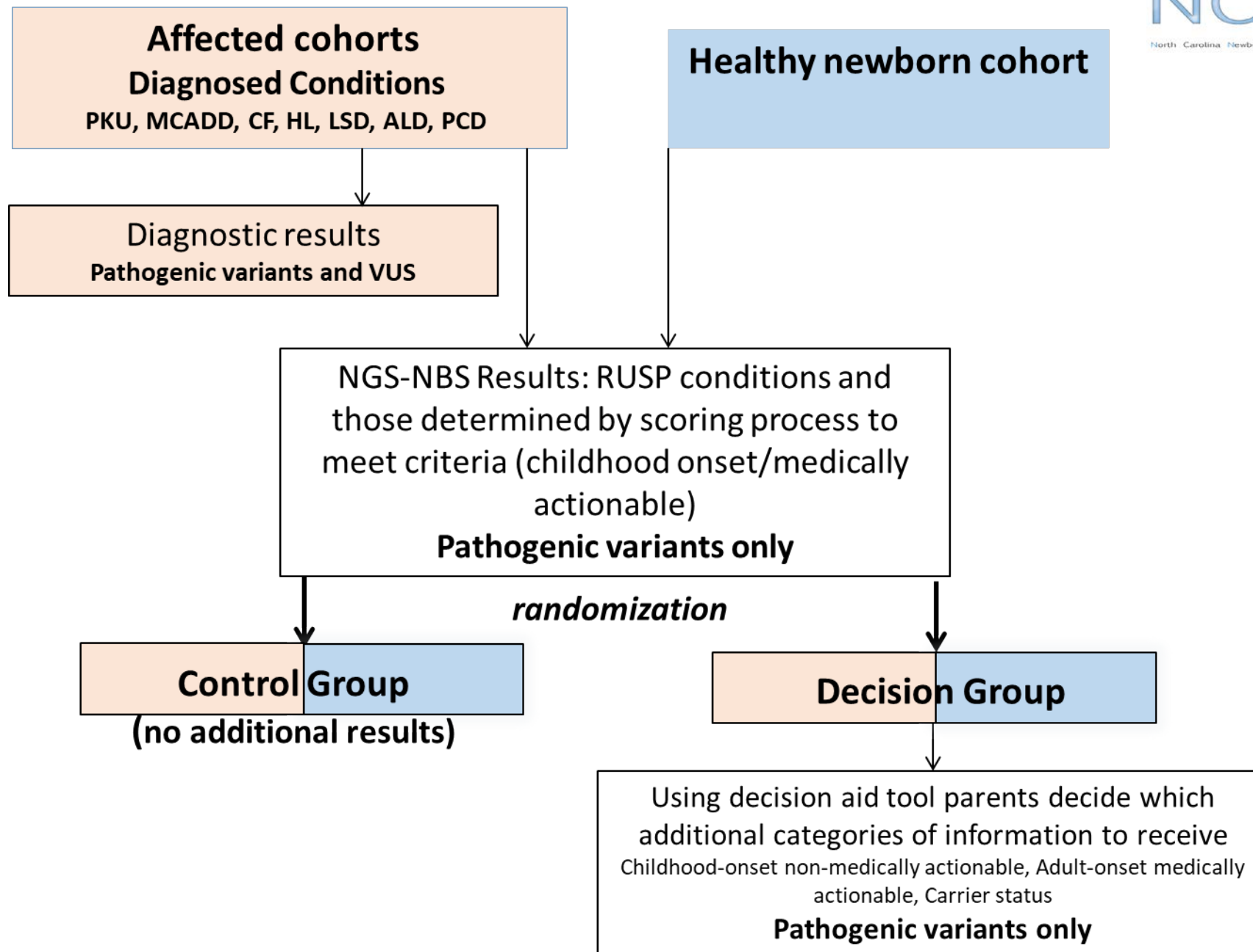


# University of California- San Francisco (UCSF) Project Overview

- Whole exome sequencing of dried blood spots from CDPH biobank from infants with known conditions identified through standard newborn screening
  - Annotate variants in a set of ~90 primary metabolic genes and additional genes identified through pathway analysis
- Examination of variants in selected immunodeficiency genes obtained by Whole Exome Sequencing of newborn blood spots from patients who are suspected of having primary immunodeficiencies not identified by TREC newborn screening.
- How will next-generation sequencing enhance, challenge, or transform traditional state-mandated NBS?



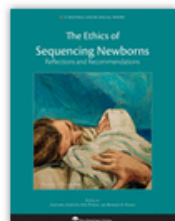
# University of North Carolina (UNC) Project Overview



Wall Street Journal July 7, 2014: “Over the course of the next few decades, the availability of cheap, efficient DNA sequencing technology will lead to a medical landscape in which each baby’s genome is sequenced, and that information is used to shape a lifetime of personalized strategies for disease prevention, detection and treatment.”



**Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D**  
**Director, National Institutes of Health**



## Volume 48, Issue S2

### The Ethics of Sequencing Newborns: *Reflections and Recommendations*

Pages: S2-outside back cover  
July/August 2018

☰ GO TO SECTION

#### Special Report

##### Article

 [Free Access](#)

#### *Sequencing Newborns: A Call for Nuanced Use of Genomic Technologies*

Josephine Johnston, John D. Lantos, Aaron Goldenberg, Flavia Chen, Erik Parens, Barbara A. Koenig, members of the NSIGHT Ethics and Policy Advisory Board

Pages: S2-S6 | First Published: 14 August 2018

[Abstract](#) | [Full text](#) | [PDF](#) | [References](#) | [Request permissions](#) | [Find at UNC](#)

**JOSEPHINE JOHNSTON** is the director of research and a research scholar at The Hastings Center. She works on a range of ethical, legal, and policy issues in science and medicine, including issues in reproduction and parenting, genetics and gene editing, psychiatry and neuroscience, and the conduct of biomedical research. She is co-leading projects on the ethics of next-generation prenatal testing and the use of gene-editing technologies in humans.

**JOHN D. LANTOS** is a professor of pediatrics at University of Missouri at Kansas City and the director of the Children's Mercy Hospital Bioethics Center. His most recent book, *Pre-term Babies, Fetal Patients, and Childbearing Choices*, explores the changing nature of prenatal care and fetal medicine.

**BARBARA A. KOENIG** is a professor of bioethics and medical anthropology at UCSF. She is the director of the UCSF Program in Bioethics, which spans ethics research, clinical ethics, and education across the university's four professional schools. Her current research interests include emerging genomic technologies and the use of deliberative democracy to engage communities about research governance.

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