

The Doctor



Luke Fildes

The Undiagnosed Diseases Network: National and International

ITINERARE

***Rare Disease Initiative Zurich Radiz Symposium
Kinderspital Zurich***

November 12, 2021

William A. Gahl, MD, PhD

Director, NIH Undiagnosed Diseases Program

Acknowledgments

Director of Pediatric UDP: Cynthia Tifft, MD, PhD

Director of Bioinformatics: David Adams, MD, PhD

UDP Chief Neurologist: Camilo Toro, MD

Support from NHGRI, the NIH Office of Rare Diseases Research, the NIH Clinical Center, and the NIH Common Fund, Office of the Director

50-100 dedicated support personnel and volunteer consultants at NIH.

Kind and collaborative patients and families!

UDP

(May 19, 2008)

- **Goals:**
 - **To assist patients with unknown disorders reach an accurate diagnosis**
 - **To discover new diseases that provide insight into human physiology and genetics**

Intramural UDP Operations

- Applicants submit medical records**
- Referring physician sends summary letter**
- UDP Director triages submitted records**
- Intramural NIH consultants review records**
- UDP Director makes final disposition**
- Patients/physicians receive a standard letter; advice conferred in ~25% of cases**
- If accepted, 1-week inpatient CC admission**

UDP Numbers

- **Medical Records:** >4000
- **Admitted & Evaluated:** >1500
- **Children:** ~40%
- **Neurological:** ~50%
- **Some diagnosis:** ~30%
- **Publications** ~190

UDP Investigations

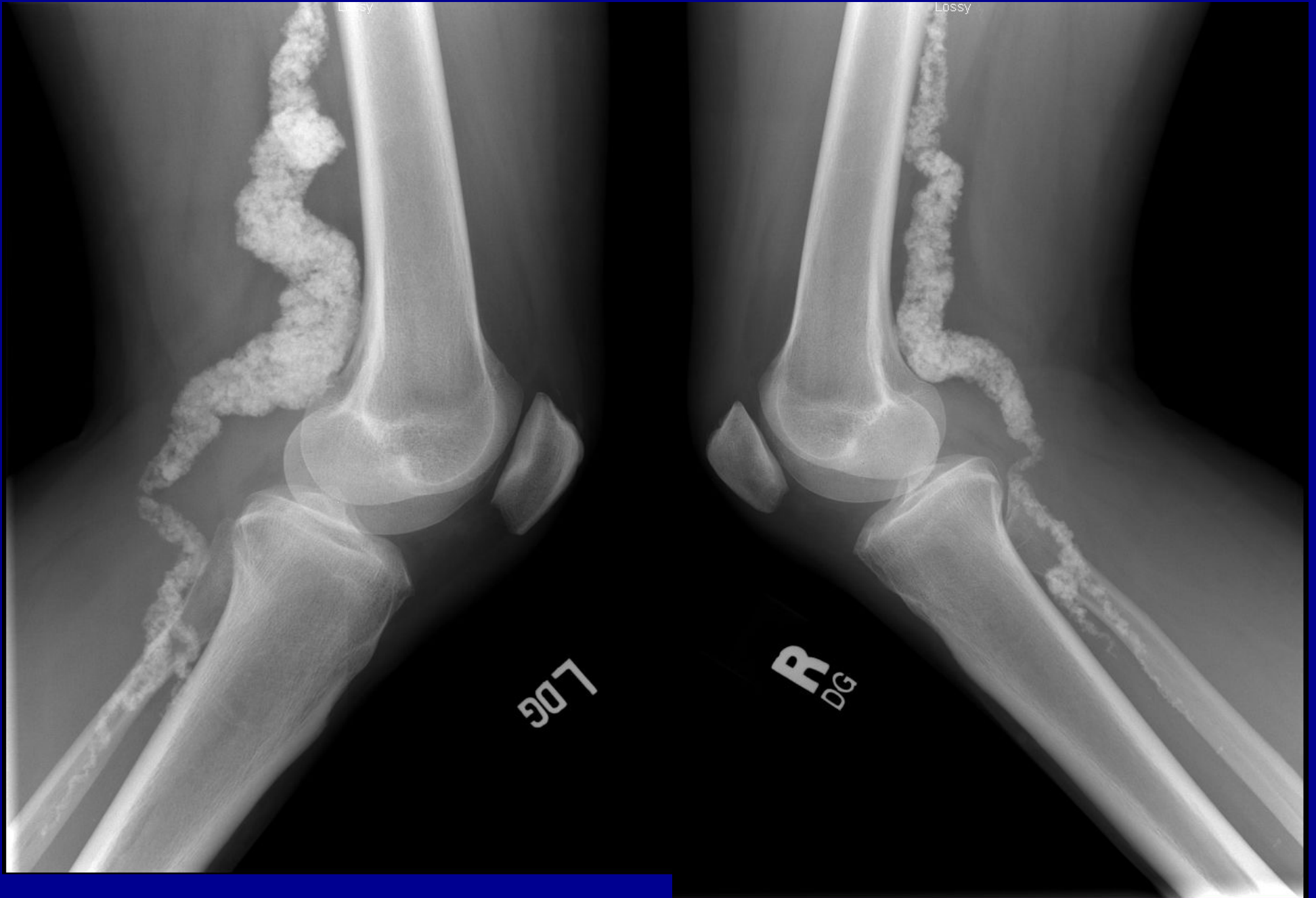
- 1. Customized (Personalized) patient phenotyping to rule out known diseases.**
- 2. Genetic studies**
 - a. Commercial testing**
 - b. SNP arrays**
 - c. Exome and genome sequencing**
- 3. Functional studies (assays, model systems)**

Discovery

5 Adult Siblings with these Clinical Symptoms and Signs:

- Intermittent **claudication** of calves, thighs, buttocks
- Chronic ischemic pain of the feet
- Joint pain in the hands
- Arterial calcification of lower extremities
- Spared coronary arteries

Femoral-Popliteal Artery Calcification



Lassy

L
DG



Lassy

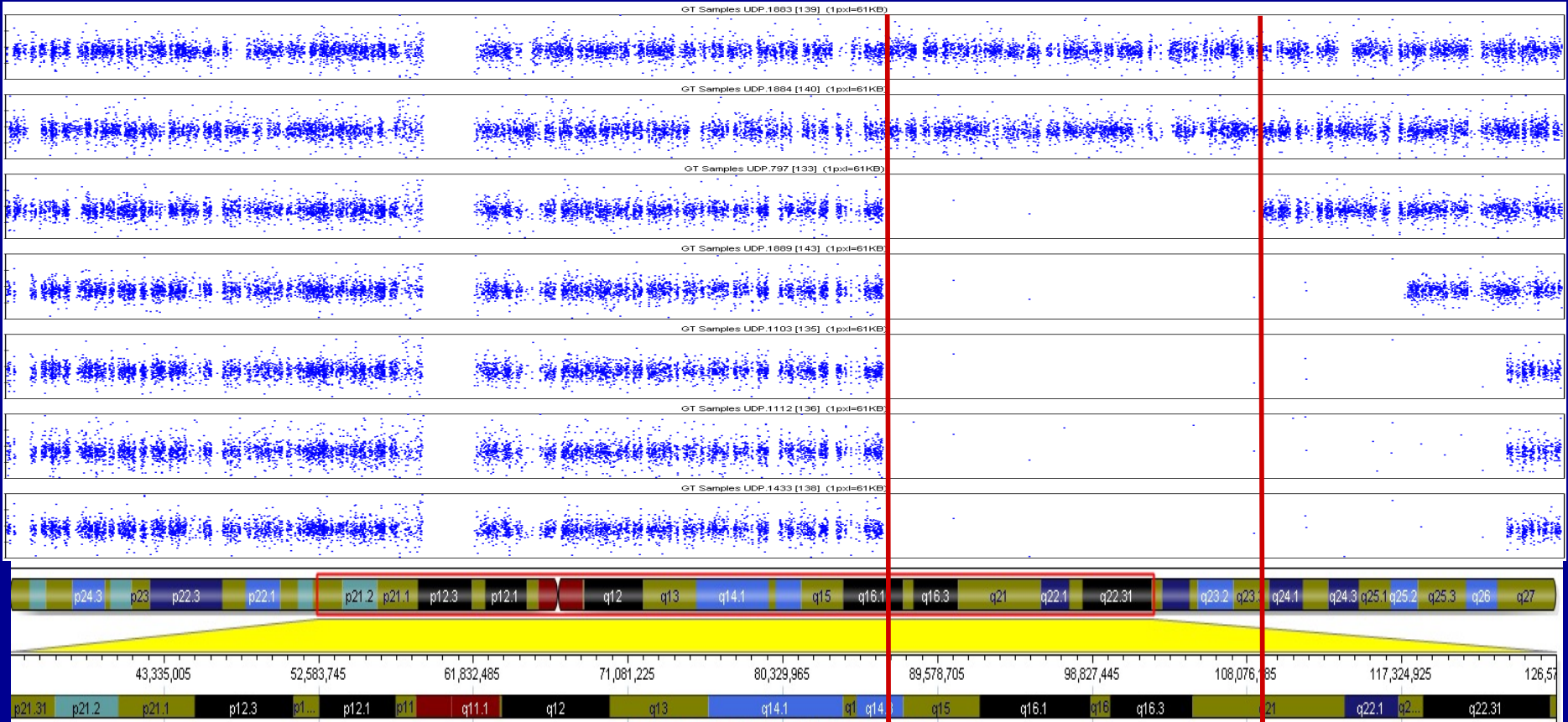
R
DG



Parents were 3rd Cousins

SNP Array: Chromosome 6q14.3-6q21

Affected Parents



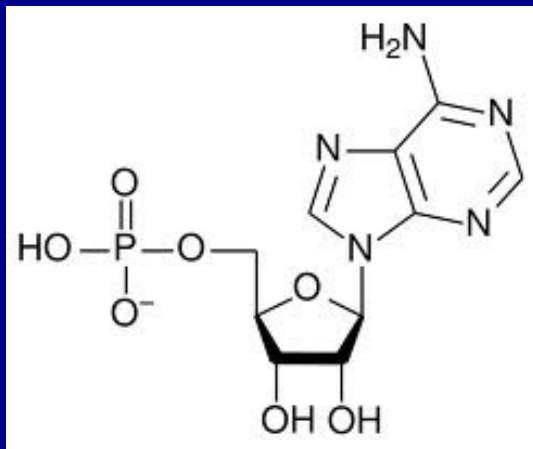
Region of Identical Homozygosity

Dr. Tom Markello

Linkage Region

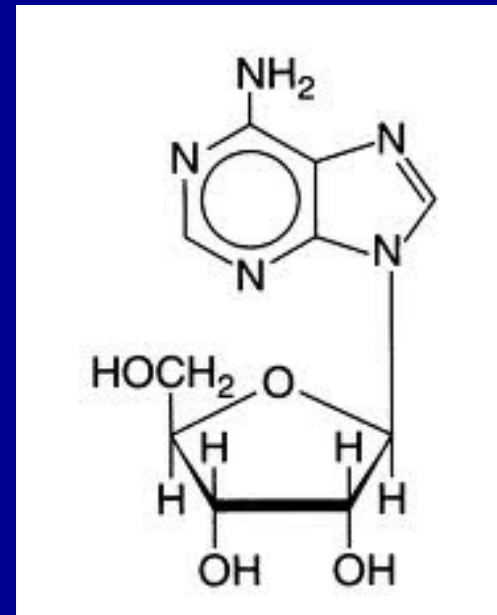
- Region of homozygosity: **22.4MB**
- 7977 total SNPs without a single A/B genotype in any locus
- 92 genes, about 902 exons
- No structural genes of the extracellular matrix
- One good candidate gene: **NT5E**, encoding CD73, an ecto-5'-nucleotidase

NT5E Encodes CD73



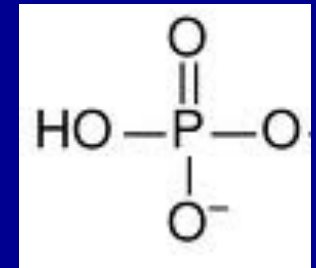
AMP

CD73



Adenosine

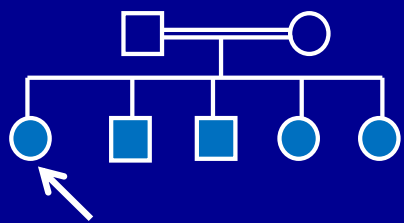
+



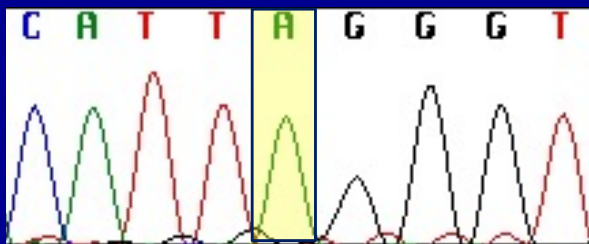
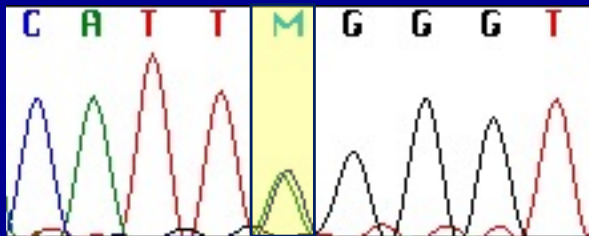
Pi

NT5E Sequencing Analysis

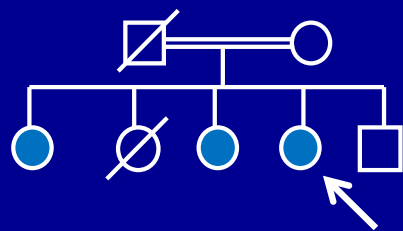
Family 1 (UDP)



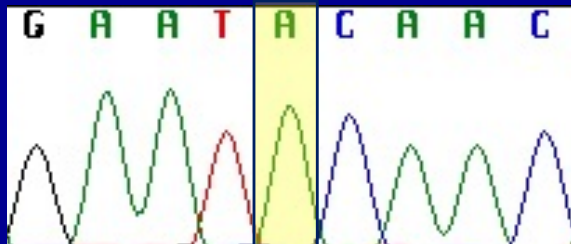
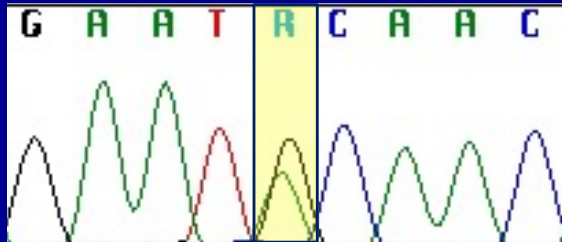
c.662C>A, S>X



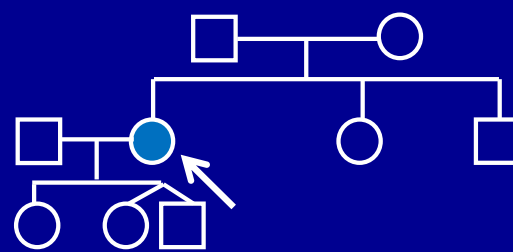
Family 2 (Kleta)



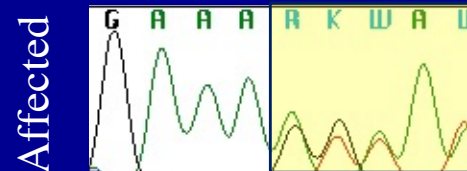
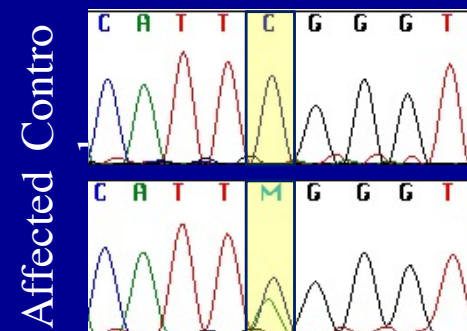
c.1073G>A, C>Y



Family 3 (Nussbaum)

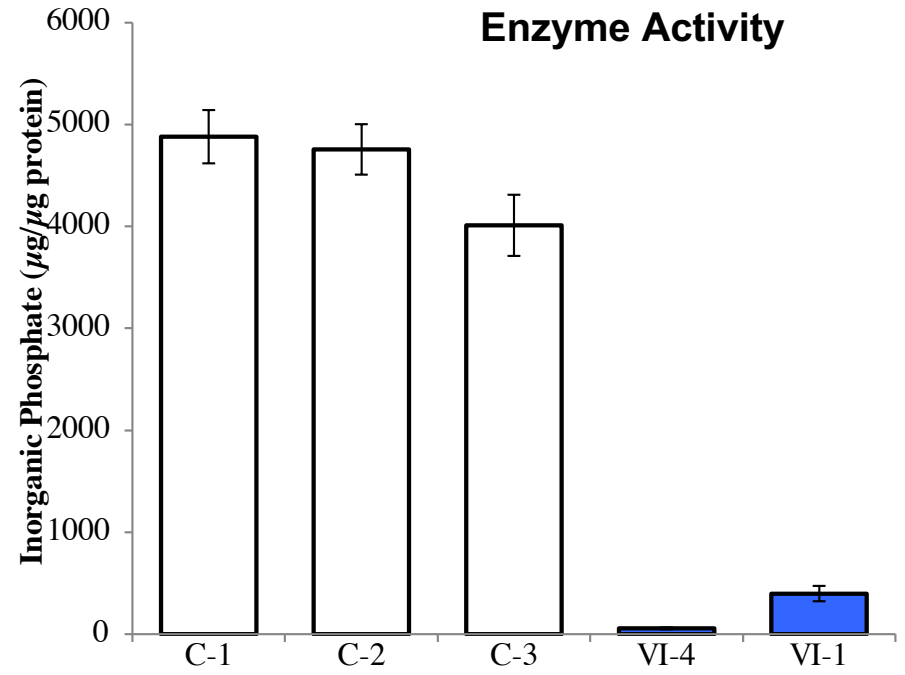
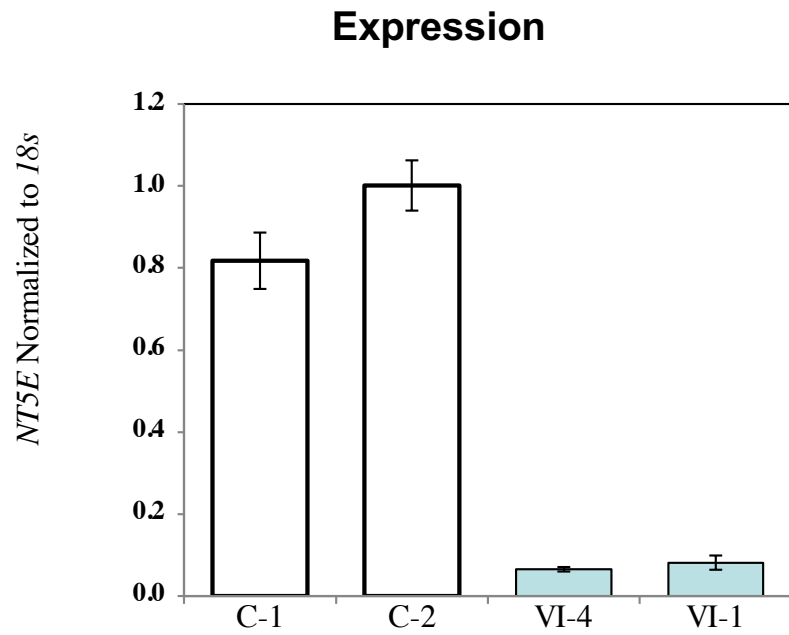


c.1069dupA/c.662C>A

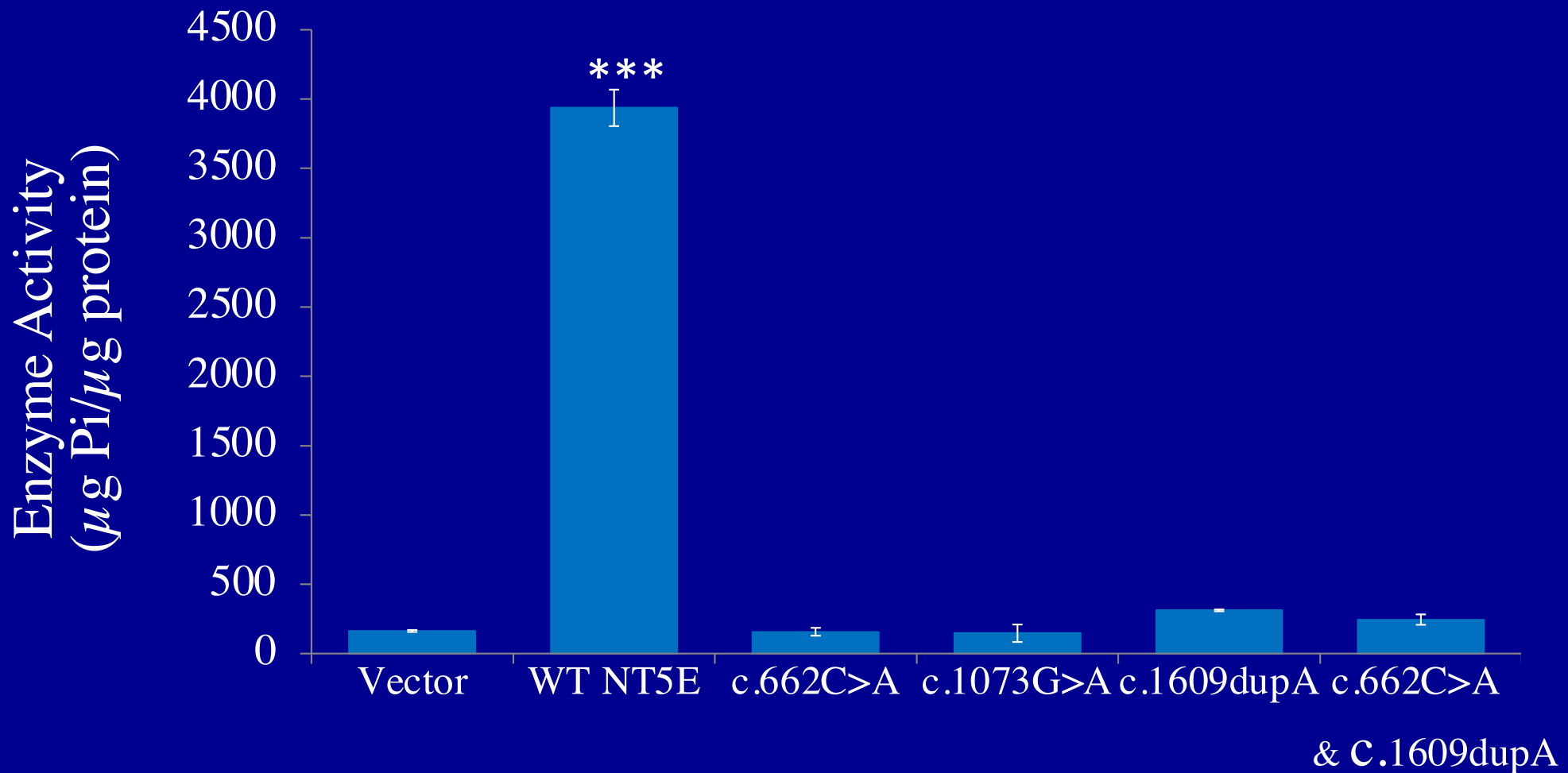


Affected Parent

Affected Control Control Affected



Enzyme Activity in Mutagenized Constructs



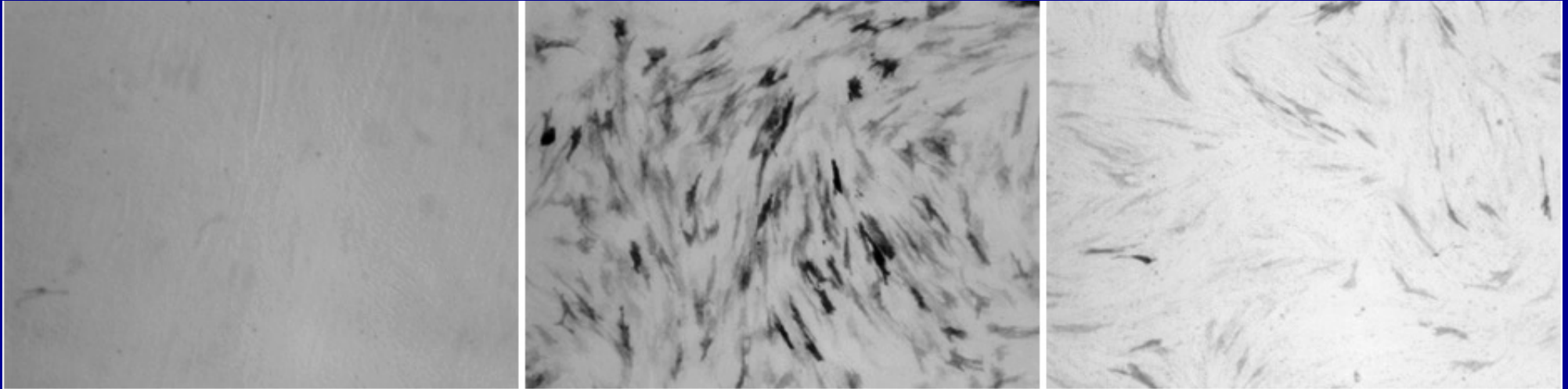
Vectors containing patient *NT5E* mutations transfected into HEK293 cells

Increased Fibroblast Staining for Alkaline Phosphatase

Control

Affected

Affected + Adenosine



Adenosine treatment of cells reduces alkaline phosphatase staining.

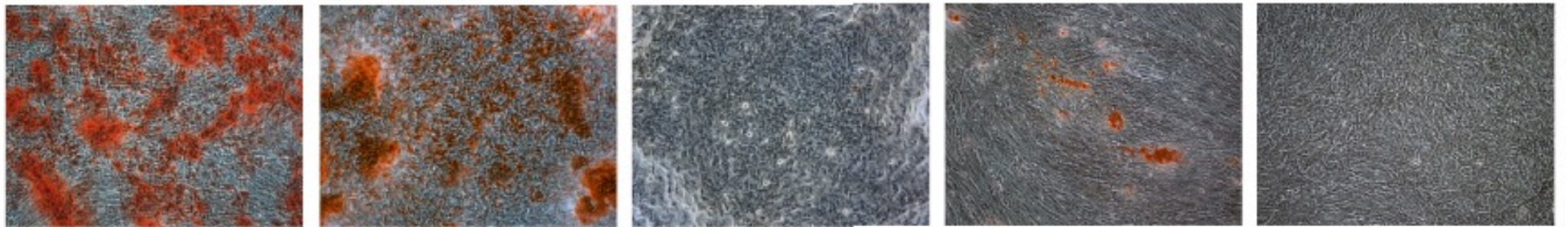
Rescue of Cell Calcification by a CD73 Lentivirus, Adenosine, or an Alkaline Phosphatase Inhibitor (Levamisole)

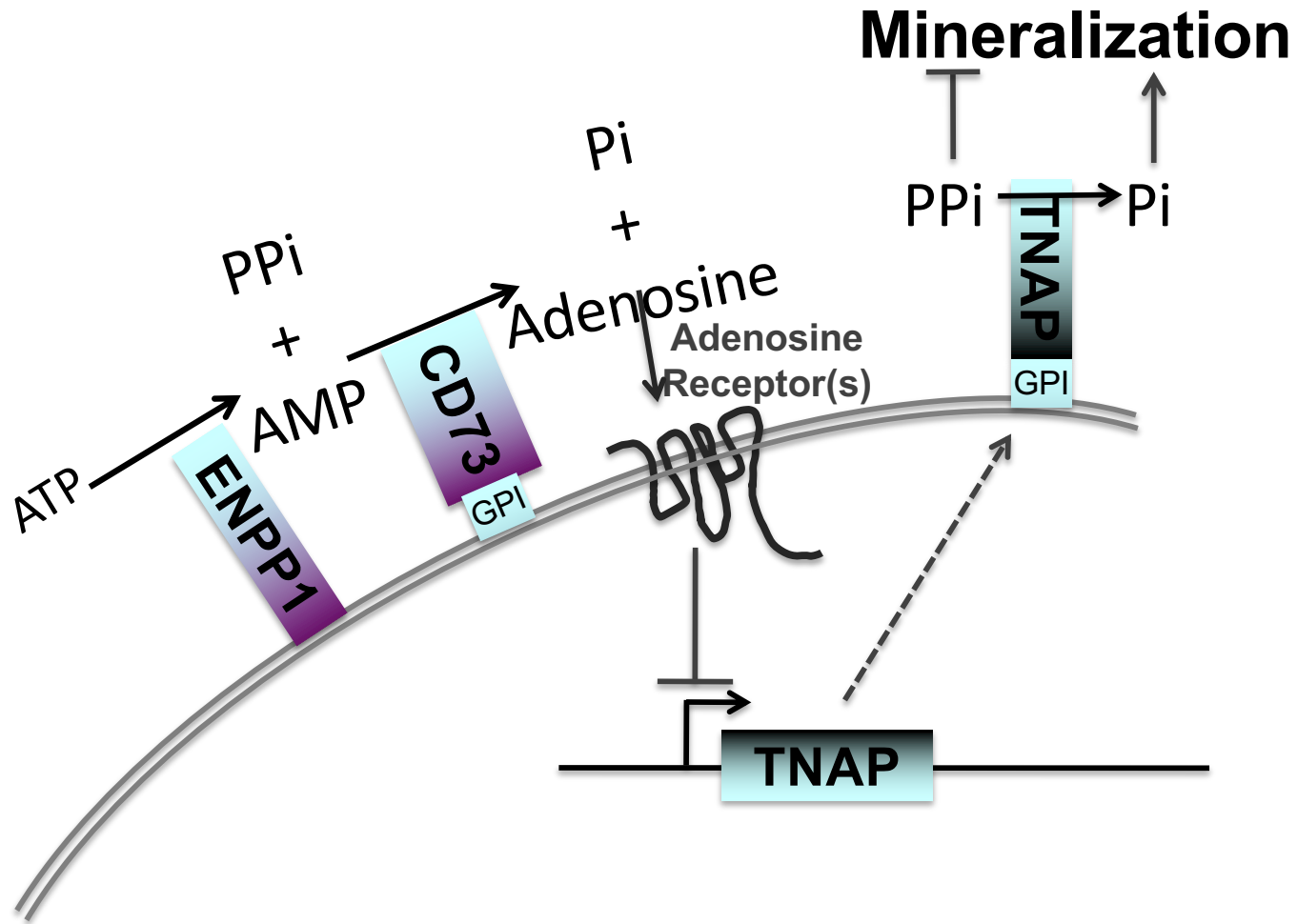
| No Treatment | Control Lentivirus | CD73 Lentivirus | Adenosine | Levamisole |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|

Control



Affected: VI-4





New Disease-Gene Associations as of 2019

| | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Arterial calcifications | NT5E |
| 2. Spastic paraplegia, spinocerebellar ataxia | AFG3L2 |
| 3. Skin/skeletal lesions, FGF23 abnormal | NRAS |
| 4. Upregulated interferon signaling | IFIH1 |
| 5. Stroke and vasculopathy | ADA2 |
| 6. Epileptic encephalopathy | AARS |
| 7. Ablepharon macrostomia | TWIST2 |
| 8. York Platelet Syndrome | STIM1 |
| 9. Developmental delays | CAD |
| 10. Cirrhosis, developmental delays | PP1R15B |
| 11. Dystonia | KMT2B |
| 12. Neurodevelopmental disorder | EBF3 |
| 13. Mitochondrial encephalopathy | TIMM50 |
| 14. Developmental and growth delays | GARS |
| 15. Infantile parkinsonism | WARS |
| 16. Developmental neuroregression | UBTF |
| 17. Saul-Wilson syndrome | COG4 |
| 18. Microcephaly, seizures, cerebral atrophy | VARs |
| 19. Developmental delays, dysmorphisms | TRAF7 |
| 20. Delays, cardiac defects, dysmorphisms | TMEM94 |
| 21. Delays, hair & liver defects, dysmorphisms | CCDC47 |
| 22. Neuropathy, ataxia, dystonia | COX20 |
| 23. Delays, microcephaly, brittle hair & nails | CARS |

Diagnoses

Rare Diagnoses

- Kearns-Sayre with cerebral folate deficiency
- Neuroaxonal dystrophy with spheroids
- Call-Fleming syndrome (vascular strokes)
- CSF tetrahydrobiopterin deficiency
- Spastic paraplegia due to *SPG7* mutations
- Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia with *SPG4* muts
- Stargardt's due to *ABCA4* mutations
- Noonan syndrome due to *PTEN* mutation
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis with *SOD1* mut
- GM1 gangliosidosis due to *GLB1* mutations
- Progressive supranuclear palsy
- Joubert syndrome

Very Rare Diagnoses

- **Telomerase deficiency**
- **IgG4 sclerosing fibrosis**
- **Anti-synthetase syndrome**
- ***NOD2* mutations (father & child)**
- ***FOXP1* mutation in 2 year old**
- **Dejerine-Sottas syndrome/hypertrophic neuro**
- ***POLG1* in late-onset ataxia**
- ***DNAH1* ciliopathy**
- **SLE with cerebellar ataxia and anti-GWB Abs**
- **Smith-Magenis syndrome with *RAI1* mutation**
- **Pitt-Hopkins syndrome with *TCF4* mutation**
- **Amyloid myopathy**
- **Dystonia, dysarthria due to *ND3* mito mut**

Very Very Rare Diagnoses

- Myoclonus epilepsy without renal failure – due to *SCARB2* mutations (5 in world)
- Ichthyosis Follicularis with Atrichia and Photophobia (IFAP) with *MBTPS2* mutations (6 families in world)
- Neurodegeneration with brain iron due to *c19orf12* mutations (20 families)
- ALS-Frontotemporal Dementia due to *c9orf72* expansion
- Cytosolic PEPCK deficiency due to *PCK1* muts
- *KDCT7* in two sibs with ataxia, Sz (2 families)
- Nephrolithiasis & 24-hydroxylase deficiency (few families)

Very Very Rare Diagnoses

- Congenital Disorder of Glycosylation type 2b
(2nd and 3rd cases in world then)
- Adducted Thumb-Clubfoot Syndrome &
CHST14 mutations (1st case in U.S.)
- Spinocerebellar ataxia, myoclonic epilepsy &
AFG3L2 muts (1st AR case)
- Autosomal Dominant Leukodystrophy &
LMNB1 duplication (~10 in world then)
- Adenylosuccinate lyase def. (~60 cases)
- Hereditary Muscular Neuropathy type 6 due to
IGHMBP2 muts (oldest pt. known)
- Fatty acid 2-hydroxylase def. (~50 cases)

More Diagnoses - 1

- Spermine synthetase mutations with developmental delays (Snyder-Robinson)
- XP with dementia due to ERCC1 mutation
- Delays and seizures due to PIGT mutations and GPI anchor deficiency
- Stargardt syndrome, Pelger-Huet anomaly, and others with chromosome 1 isodisomy
- Movement disorder due to *PLA2G6* mutations
- Osteopetrosis due to *LRP5* mutation
- Mowat-Wilson syndrome due to *ZEB2* mut
- Fahr's disease due to *PDGFRB* mutations
- Spasticity & leucodystrophy due to *DARS* mut
- Leucodystrophy due to *AARS2* mut

More Diagnoses - 2

- EMARRD (Early myopathy, AReflexia, Respiratory distress, Dysphagia) due to *MEGF10* mutations
- Neurodegeneration due to *BTK* mutation
- Cognitive & motor decline with *C19orf12* muts
- Waardenburg type 2 due to *SOX10* deletion
- SLE with cerebellar ataxia and anti-GWB Abs
- GM2 gangliosidosis and Sanfilippo disease
- TEMPI syndrome with erythrocytosis muts
- Chorea-acanthocytosis due to *VPS13A*
- Aicardi-Goutieres due to *RNASEH2B*, A muts
- SPG11, NPC1, STIM1, GARS, A-T, NGLY1, MNGIE, CAV3

More Diagnoses - 3

- Kohlschutter-Tonz syndrome (Sz, neurological regression) due to *ROGDI* mutations
- Delays, hypotonia, strabismus due to biallelic *UNC80* mutations
- CVID, aplastic anemia due to a *CTLA4* mut
- Myofibrillar myopathy with de novo *BAG3* mut
- X-linked intellectual disability, facial dysmorphisms due to *RLIM* mutation
- Desminopathy
- Fatal Creutzfeldt-Jacob; PrPSc/PrP27-30
- Oculodentodigital Dysplasia due to *GJA1* (connexin 43) mutations
- Chorea, hypomyelination-de novo *TUBB4A* mut

More Diagnoses - 4

- Spasticity, dementia, leukoencephalopathy due to homozygous *POLR1C* (RNA Pol III) muts
- Dementia, dystonia, brain atrophy due to chromosome 19 telomere fraying
- Microcephaly, delays, dysmorphisms with de novo *SPTAN1* mutations
- Brain atrophy, delays, visual defects, seizures with an X-linked *MED12* mutation
- Hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis due to perforin defect
- Chorea, hypomyelination with *TUBB4A* mut
- Hemiplegic migraine, cerebellar ataxia, myopathy with *CACNA1A* mutation

More Diagnoses - 5

- **Leukodystrophy & spheroids with CSFR1 muts**
- **Leucoencephalopathy, Calcifications, and Cysts due to SNORD118 mutations**
- **Oculodentodigital Dysplasia due to GJA1 mutation**
- **Dysmorphisms & delays due to TRAF7 mutation**
- **Microcephaly, dysmorphisms, autism spectrum due to CTNNB1 de novo mutation**
- **Dysmorphisms & delays due to KMT5B de novo**
- **Vomiting, ITP, delays due to DDX3X mutation**
- **Neu-Laxova Syndrome 2 due to PSAT1 muts.**

More Diagnoses - 6

- Tremor and spasticity due to *GAN* de novo mutation
- Connective tissue and GI disorder due to *TUBB2B* de novo
- Mitochondrial disorder due to *MTATP6* mutation
- Kleefstra Syndrome due to *EHMT1* de novo
- Fahr's due to *SLC20A2* mutations
- XMEN (X-linked immunodef, EBV infection, neoplasia due to *MAGT1* mutation
- Relapsing polychondritis
- Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia 76 & *CAPN1* muts
- AR Limb-Girdle MD 2Z due to *POGLUT1* muts

More Diagnoses - 7

- Leigh syndrome and mitochondrial complex I deficiency due to biallelic *NDUFAF6* mutations
- SMA type II-III with no *SMN1* and 3 copies of *SMN2*
- VEXAS (Vacuoles, E1 enzyme, X-linked, Autoinflammatory, Somatic) in several patients with somatic mutations in *UBA1*
- Dysmorphisms, hepatitis, bruising, lipodystrophy due to *C1r* (complement subcomponent) mutation
- Late-onset metachromatic leukodystrophy
- 15 year old boy with ataxia, dysarthria, weakness due to a de novo *IRF2BPL* mutation
- Sanfilippo C with only neurodegeneration

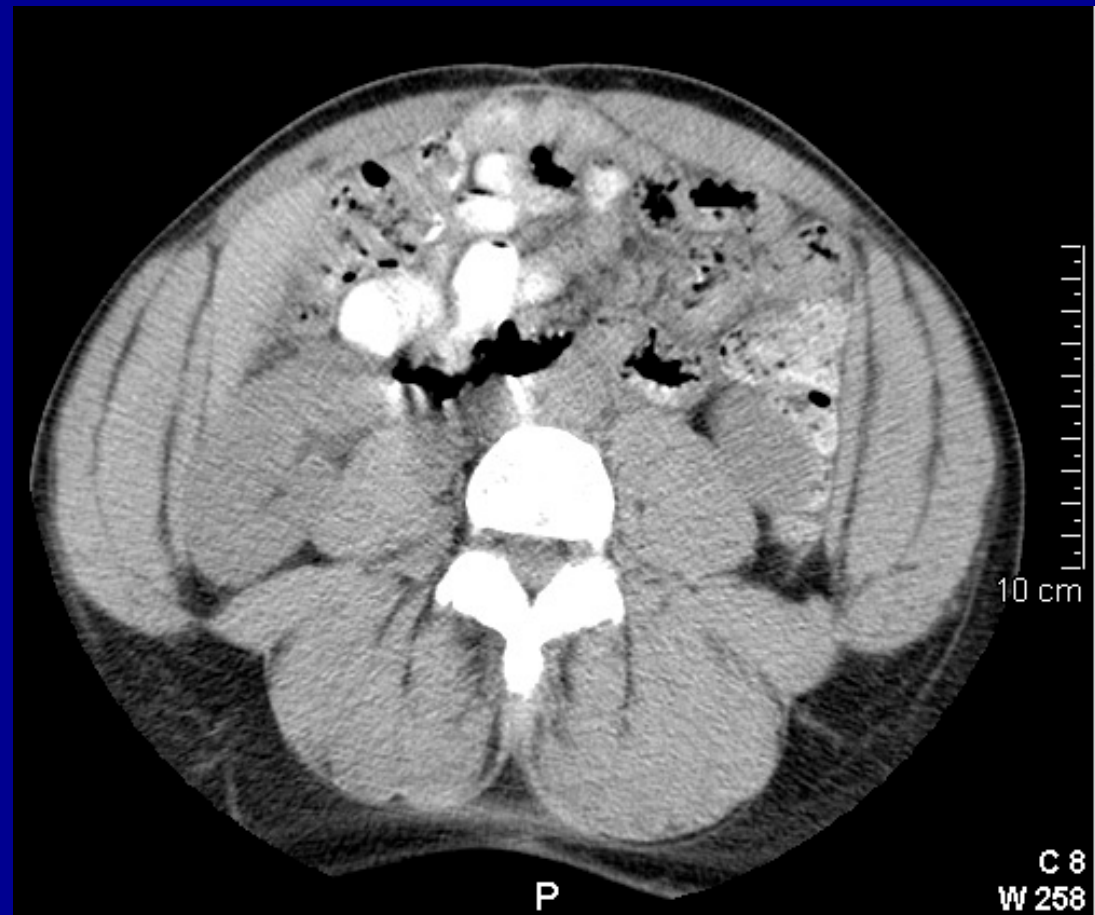
More Diagnoses - 8

- Neurodegeneration due to bariatric surgery and methotrexate treatment causing folate deficiency
- Demyelinating peripheral neuropathy, CMT-like, due to a de novo *POLR3B* mutation
- Cardiac abnormalities and dysmorphisms due to iduronidase deficiency (mild Hurler syndrome)
- Sensorimotor neuropathy due to AAGGG expansions in the *RFC1* gene
- Developmental and intellectual delays, ataxia, dysarthria, seizures due to a *DNML1* mutation
- Autoimmune polyglandular syndrome type 2 due to a de novo *BACH2* mutation

Diagnoses/Treatments

52 Year old woman with increased muscle without increased strength

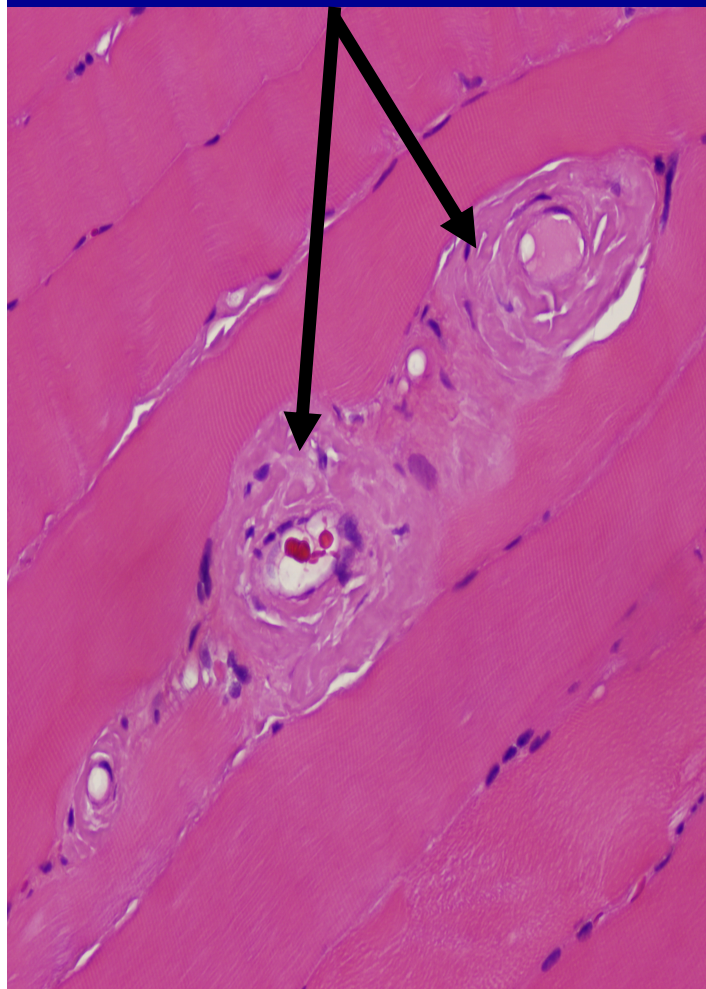
- No drugs; normal growth hormone
- EMG myopathic; normal initial muscle biopsy



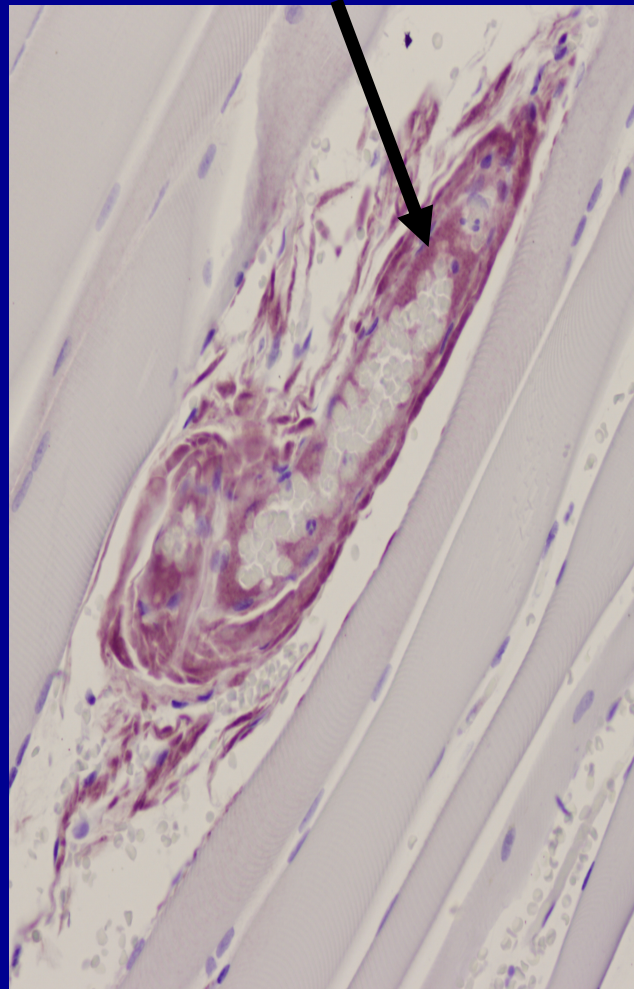
**52 Year old woman with increased muscle:
Amyloid Myopathy**

Bone marrow: 10% plasma cells

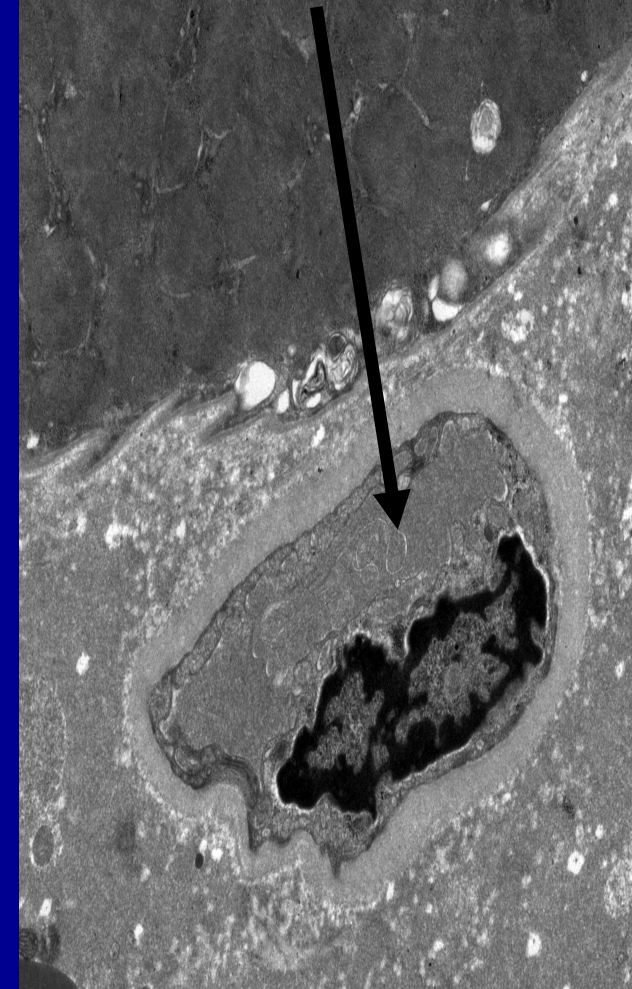
Thick vessel wall



Congo Red Stain



Protein aggregate



Outcome (Dr. Iriini Manoli)

- Became short of breath, fatigued.**
- Referred to country's amyloidosis experts at the Mayo Clinic.**
- Underwent stem cell transplant in June, 2009; slightly rocky course.**
- Began feeling better within weeks.**
- Gradually recovering, with normalization of muscle mass.**

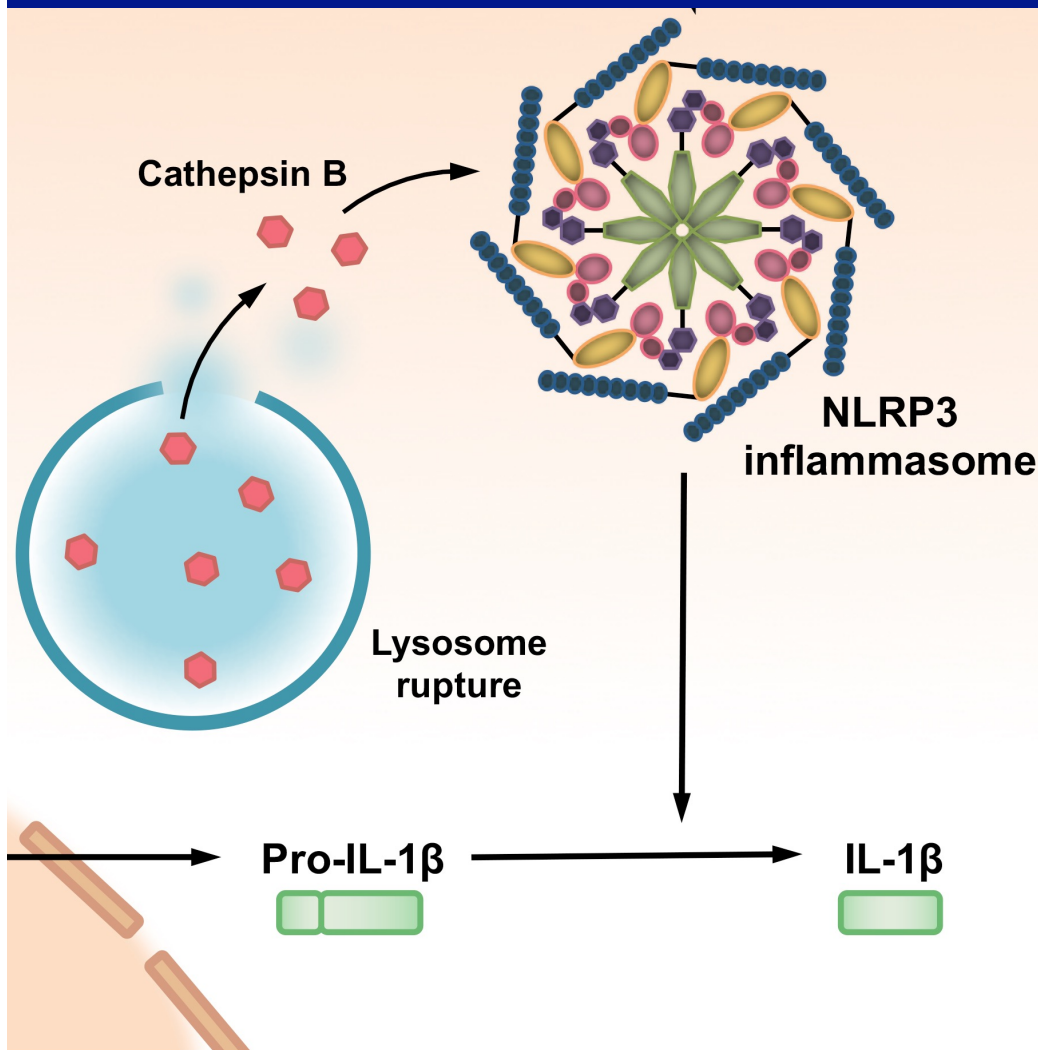
65 Year-old Man with Recurrent Meningitis

- **Age 59 - First episode of meningitis; followed by autoimmune sensorineural hearing loss**
- **Acute: Headache, unsteady gait**
- **Chronic: Uses wheelchair, memory decline**
- **Age 59-65 – 27 more episodes**
- **LPs: Lymphocytic pleocytosis**
- **Aseptic; steroid responsive**
- **Negative imaging & rheumatology evaluation**
- **Normal labs, including CRP, ESR**

65 Year-old Man with Recurrent Meningitis

- **Exomes: Thr915Met in NLRP3**
- **NLRP3: Familial cold autoinflammatory syndrome or Muckle-Wells syndrome**
- **Heterozygous; gain of function**

- **NLRP3 is part of the Inflammasome.**
- **A gain of function mutation will increase IL-1 activity.**



- **We treated with the IL-1 receptor inhibitor, anakinra**
- **In 4 hours, he walked and talked normally**

22 year old woman with dystonia

- ✓ Abnormal pen gripping
- ✓ Right foot deformity and twisting with gait
- ✓ Involuntary tongue movements
 - ✓ Speech
 - ✓ Swallowing
 - ✓ Nutrition
- ✓ Monoallelic *KMT2B* mutation
- ✓ Histone lysine methyltransferase deficiency

Dr. Manju Kurian, director of a Dystonia Clinic in London, sees *KMT2B* on the UDP's list of candidate disease-causing genes and calls Dr. Gahl. She has >20 dystonia patients with *KMT2B* mutations, is writing it up as a new disease gene, and says that several patients responded well to deep brain stimulation (DBS). She publishes a paper in Nature Genetics, including our patient, and another paper in Brain, showing the benefit of DBS.

Nature Genetics 49:223-37, 2016.

Meyer E, Kurian Manju A

**Mutations in the histone
methyltransferase gene KMT2B cause
complex early-onset dystonia**

Brain 143:3242-61, 2020

Cif L, Kurian Manju A

**KMT2B-related disorders; expansion of
the phenotypic spectrum and long-term
efficacy of deep brain stimulation**

Ariane Soldatos, MD, sees a 20 year old with progressive dystonia in the UDP

- 3y: Toe-walking**
- 4y: Hypernasal and declining speech**
- 5-6y: Left foot drag; “clumsy”**
- 11y: Impaired gait, wheelchair for long distances, dystonia, choreoathetoid movements of upper extremities; started oral baclofen**
- 14y: Intrathecal baclofen pump; non-ambulatory**
- 15y: Lost ability to write; anarthria**
- 20y: Spells letters with fingers to communicate; opisthotonic posturing; IT and oral baclofen, trihexyphenidyl, tizanidine, diazepam, clonazepam**



Ariane Soldatos, MD

Diagnostic testing

Negative testing for:

- *DYT1* GAG946 deletion
- *PKAN* gene
- Mitochondrial DNA (MELAS, NARP)
- Exome sequencing
- CSF neurotransmitters and pterins
- Muscle biopsy: Not nemaline rod myopathy

Research genome positive for:

- **De novo *KMT2B* mutation:**
c.12_24dup13:
p.Ser9GlyfsX111
- 13bp duplication in exon 1 introducing a premature stop codon

Ariane Soldatos, MD

Post-Deep Brain Stimulator



Ariane Soldatos, MD

Conclusions

- ***KMT2B* (DYT-28) is a relatively common cause of monogenic dystonia .**
- **Oromotor involvement is prominent.**
- **Some cases are reminiscent of NBIA.**
- **It is very responsive to DBS.**
- **Sharing to find similar cases is critical for new gene/disease discovery and treatment!**

Sharing by the NIH UDP to find second cases of new diseases

1. UDPICS Database

- Phenotypes - Phenotips ontology
- Exome sequences, variant analyses

2. Search UDPICS for variants in your gene.

3. List variants & phenotypes on web.

4. Provide limited access to UDPICS.

Expansion

The Undiagnosed Diseases Network (UDN); Phase I (2014-18)

- **UDP, 7 Clinical Sites, Coordinating Center, 2 Sequencing Cores, Metabolomics Core, Model Organisms Screening Center, Central Repository**
- **Formal data sharing agreements**
- **Consent: PII to be shared within UDN, de-identified data with others.**
- **First patients: August 2015.**

UDN: 8/15-4/21

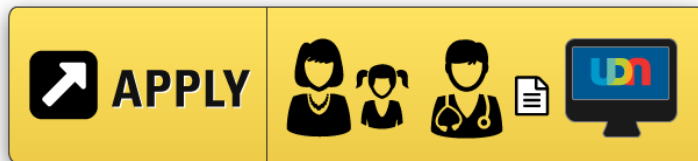
| | |
|-------------------|------|
| • Applications | 4923 |
| • Accepted | 1956 |
| • Evaluated | 1525 |
| • Diagnosed | 467 |
| • Patient exomes | 457 |
| • Patient genomes | 1059 |

The UDN: Phase II-2018-2022

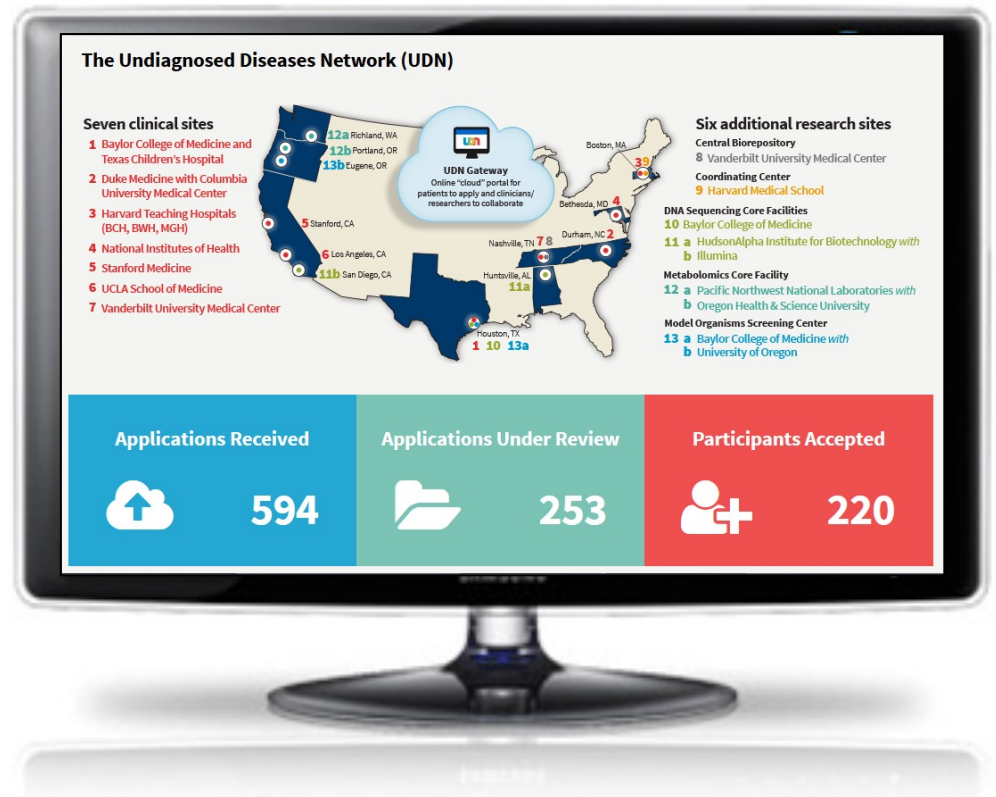
- **11 Extramural Clinical Sites (Harvard, Vanderbilt, Duke, Baylor, Stanford, UCLA, Wash U, U. Washington, CHOP-Penn, Miami, Utah)**
- **Coordinating Center, Sequencing Core, Metabolomics, Model Organisms, Repository**



The UDN Gateway



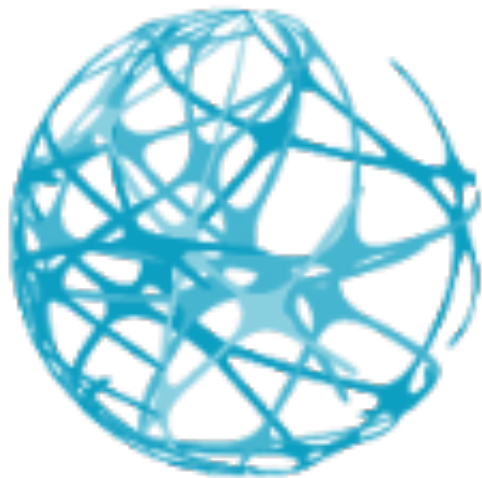
Click “Apply” button
on any UDN website
for more information



<http://undiagnosed.hms.harvard.edu/apply/>

Worldwide Access: UDNI

**Undiagnosed Diseases Network International(UDNI):
White Paper for Global Actions to Meet Patient Needs
*Molecular Genetics and Metabolism 116:223-5, 2015.***



Undiagnosed
Diseases Network
INTERNATIONAL

Website:

<http://www.udninternational.org/>

UDNI Meetings

(NIH Common Fund, Wilhelm Foundation, Local Sponsors)

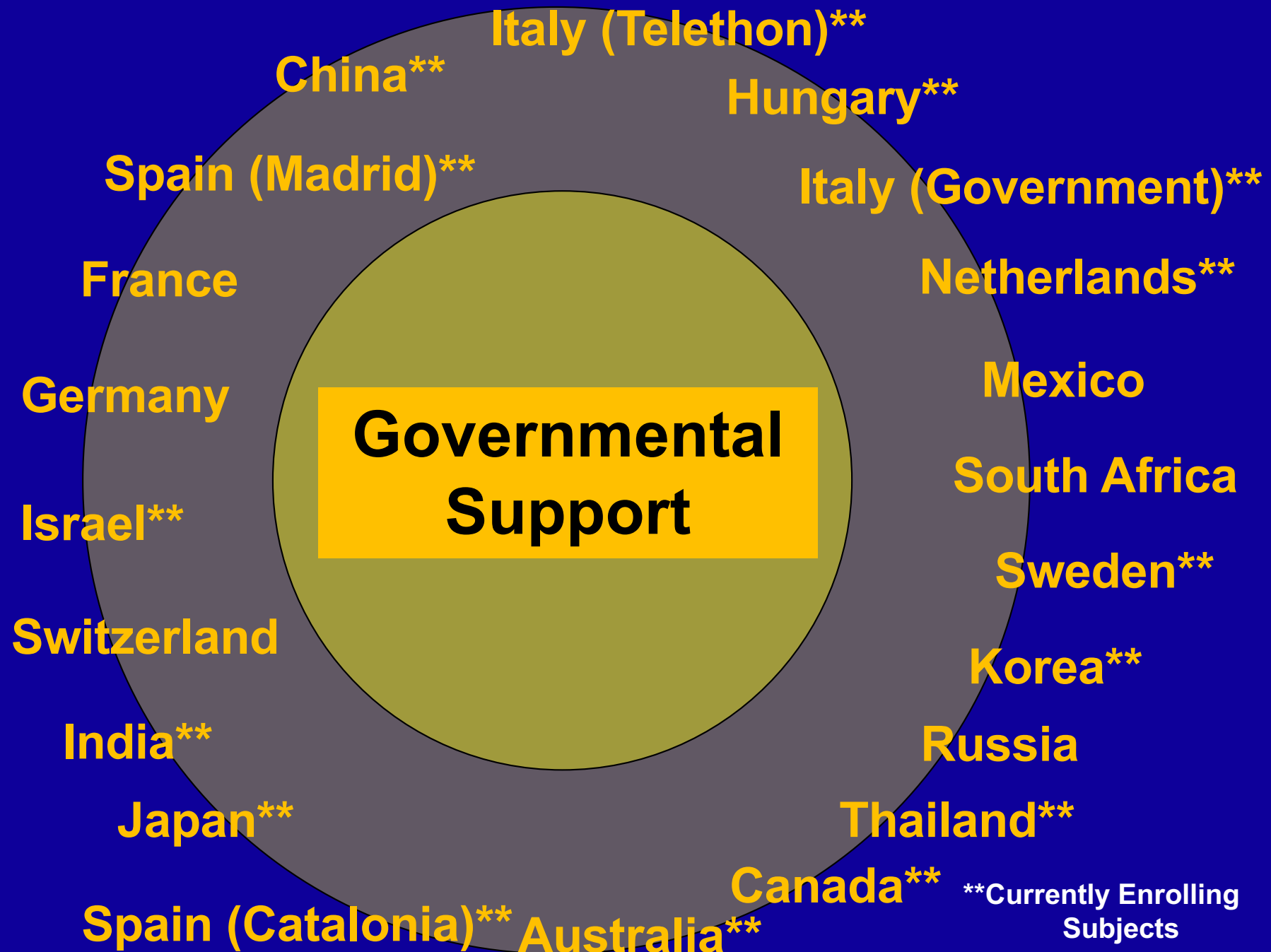
- Rome September 2014
- Budapest – June 2015
- Vienna – February 2016
- Tokyo – November 2016
- Stockholm – August 2017
- Naples – June 2018
- New Delhi – April 2019
- Nijmegen – February 2020
- Mayo Clinic, Minnesota - April 2021
- Torino, Italy – Jan/Feb 2022

UDNI Charter, Committees, Data Sharing Policy,
Best Practices

New UDNI Initiatives

- Website facilities for datasharing**
- Developing Nations Working Group**
- Diagnostic Working Group**
 - Reviews case records**
 - Refers when possible**
 - Young investigator involvement**

The UDNI is a Global Network



CONCLUSIONS: Rare and Undiagnosed Diseases Programs

- **Require strong phenotyping of patients**
- **Foster new disease discovery**
- **Lead to insights into common diseases**
- **Help desperate patients**
- **Often require functional studies**
- **Sometimes do not need NGS**
- **Hugely benefit from data sharing**
- **Are needed throughout the world**

