

Psychiatric genetics 2025: the need to focus on childhood, adolescence, and life

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Outline

1. Where are we today?
2. Where would we like to be in 2025?
3. How can we get there? Think trajectories!

**Where are we
today?**

Genetics of psychiatric disorders: a story of complexity

- 20th century: family, twin, and adoption studies
- Psychiatric disorders are highly heritable (~40 % major depression, ~70 % schizophrenia, ~80 % bipolar disorder)
- Genetic linkage and association studies
- Inconsistency of findings
- 20st century: larger samples, genome-wide approaches

Genomic approaches

- 20th century: genetics
- 21st century: genomics
- Big data & novel, powerful molecular tools
- Case-control studies in thousands and tens of thousands of samples: genome-wide association studies (GWAS)
- Stringent significance thresholds: $p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$



Genomic approaches

International consortia for genomic approaches

Psychiatric Genomics Consortium

Home

Home

Twitter

Results

Results to date

ADHD

Bipolar disorder

Cross-disorder

MDD

Schizophrenia

Background papers

Data Sharing

Data visualization

Obtaining results

"Open-source" philosophy

Funder perspectives

Intellectual property

Scientific Plan

Scope

pgc1

pgc2

For Investigators

Uploading Information

What Is The PGC?

The purpose of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium (PGC) is to conduct meta-analyses of genome-wide genetic data for psychiatric disease. This website provides information about the organization, implementation, and results of the PGC.

The basic idea is that individual studies are generally too small to identify robust and replicable associations. Meta-analysis is a widely-used technique that can combine information across studies.

The PGC began in early 2007, and quickly became a confederation of most investigators in the field. PGC papers typically have over 200 authors. PGC scientists are from over 60 institutions in 19 countries. This is the largest consortium in the history of psychiatry, and the largest biological experiment in the field.

From 2007-11, the PGC has focused on five critically-important disorders: autism, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, and schizophrenia. In 2013, we added anorexia nervosa, OCD/Tourette's, and PTSD.

The initial intent of the PGC was to investigate the common single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) genotyped on commercial arrays. The focus has expanded to include structural variation (copy number variation) and uncommon or rare genetic variation.

The PGC has received funding from many sources. Before participation in the PGC, establishing and genotyping of the primary case-control collections were funded by a wide range of national, international, and commercial funders. Funding for the PGC was for data analytical efforts. The PGC has relied heavily on the goodwill of its members and their donated effort. We are deeply grateful to the [National Institute of Mental Health \(NIMH\)](#), the [Netherlands Genetic Cluster Computer](#), [Hersenstichting Nederland](#), and [One Mind for Research](#) for their sponsorship of the PGC.

Genomic approaches

Genome-wide association studies (GWAS) for the identification of common variants in large samples

ARTICLE

doi:10.1038/nature13595

Biological insights from 108 schizophrenia-associated genetic loci

Schizophrenia Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium*

Schizophrenia is a highly heritable disorder. Genetic risk is conferred by a large number of alleles, including common alleles of small effect that might be detected by genome-wide association studies. Here we report a multi-stage schizophrenia genome-wide association study of up to 36,989 cases and 113,075 controls. We identify 128 independent associations spanning 108 conservatively defined loci that meet genome-wide significance, 83 of which have not been previously reported. Associations were enriched among genes expressed in brain, providing biological plausibility for the findings. Many findings have the potential to provide entirely new insights into aetiology, but associations at *DRD2* and several genes involved in glutamatergic neurotransmission highlight molecules of known and potential therapeutic relevance to schizophrenia, and are consistent with leading pathophysiological hypotheses. Independent of genes expressed in brain, associations were enriched among genes expressed in tissues that have important roles in immunity, providing support for the speculated link between the immune system and schizophrenia.

Genomic approaches

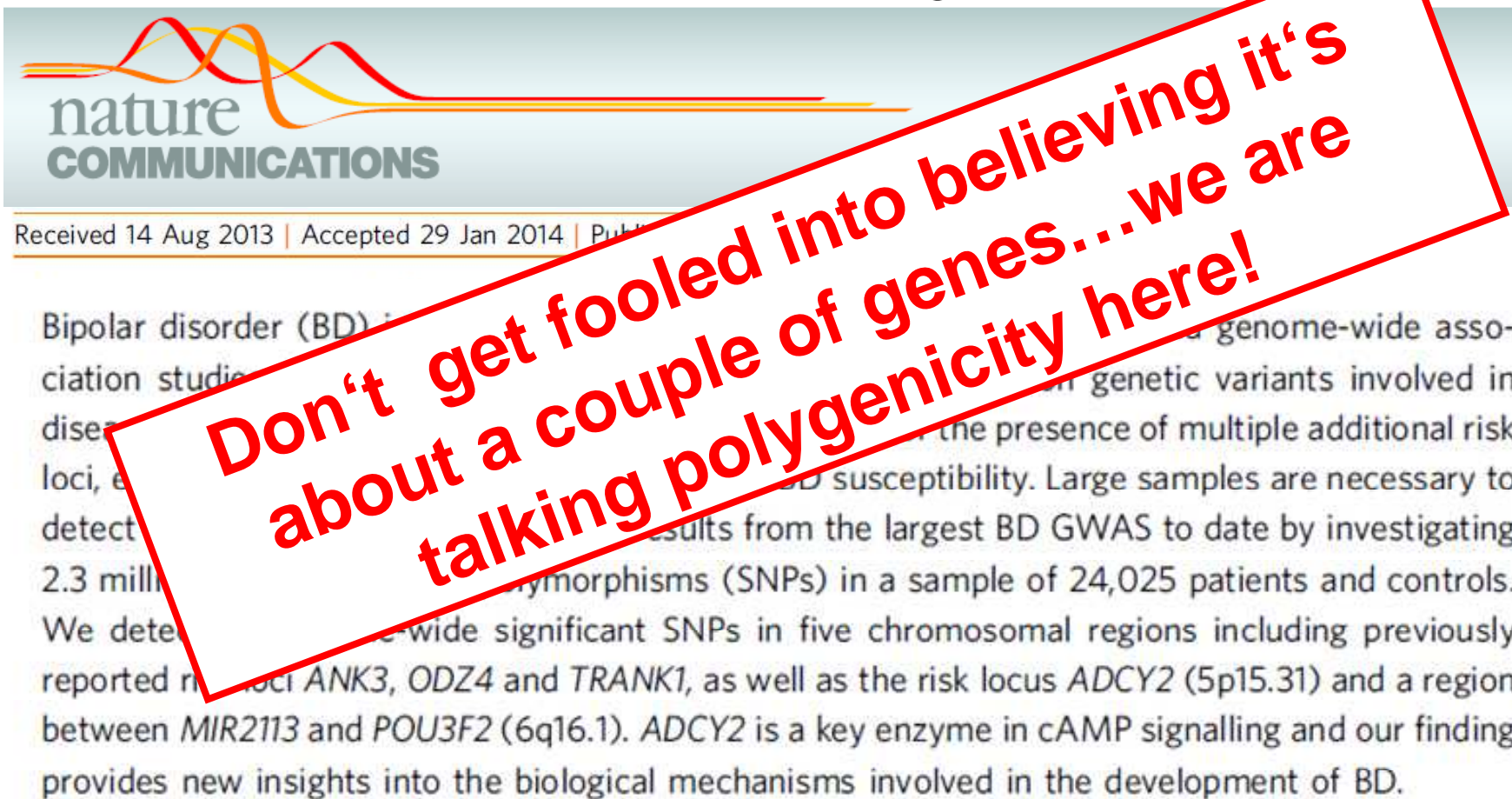
Genome-wide association studies (GWAS) for the identification of common variants in large samples

	Single nucleotide polymorphism	Study	p value	Odds ratio	Nearest gene(s)
BD	rs12576775	PGC-BD ³³	4.4×10^{-8}	1.14	<i>ODZ4</i>
BD	rs4765913	PGC-BD ³³	1.5×10^{-8}	1.14	<i>CACNA1C</i>
BD	rs1064395	Cichon et al ³⁰	2.1×10^{-9}	1.17	<i>NCAN</i>
BD	rs7296288	Green et al ³⁵	9.0×10^{-9}	0.90	<i>RHEBL1, DHH</i>
BD	rs3818253	Green et al ³⁵	3.9×10^{-8}	1.16	<i>TRPC4AP</i>
BD	rs9371601	Green et al ³⁸	2.9×10^{-8}	1.10	<i>SYNE1</i>
BD+SZ	rs1344706	O'Donovan et al ³⁹	4.1×10^{-13}	1.11	<i>ZNF804A</i>
BD+SZ	rs2239547	PGC SZ ⁴⁰	7.8×10^{-9}	1.12	<i>ITIH3-ITIH4</i>
BD+SZ	rs10994359	PGC SZ ⁴⁰	2.4×10^{-8}	1.22	<i>ANK3</i>
BD+SZ	rs4765905	PGC SZ ⁴⁰	7.0×10^{-9}	1.11	<i>CACNA1C</i>
BD+SZ	rs4583255	Steinberg et al ⁴¹	6.6×10^{-11}	1.08	<i>MAPK3</i>
BD+RUD	rs2251219	McMahon et al ⁴²	3.63×10^{-8}	0.87	<i>PBRM1</i>

Craddock & Sklar, The Lancet, 2013

Genomic approaches

Genome-wide association studies (GWAS) for the identification of common variants in large samples



GWAS complemented by approaches to identify rare variants

Vol 455 | 11 September 2008 | doi:10.1038/nature07239

nature

nature

Vol 455 | 11 Septeml

LETTERS

Large recurrent microdeletions associated with schizophrenia

Hreinn Stefansson^{1*}, Dan Rujescu^{2*}, Sven Cichon^{3,4*}, Olli P. H. Pietiläinen⁵, Andres In
Ragnheidur Fosdall¹, Engilbert Sigurdsson⁶, Thordur Sigmundsson⁶, Jacobine E. Buizer-vos
Thomas Hansen^{8,9}, Klaus D. Jakobsen^{8,9}, Pierandrea Muglia¹⁰, Clyde Francks¹⁰, Paul M
Arnaldur Gylfason¹, Bjarni V. Halldorsson¹, Daniel Gudbjartsson¹, Thorger F
Adalbjorg Jonasdottir¹, Aslaug Jonasdottir¹, Asgeir Bjornsson¹, Sigurb
Magnus Haraldsson⁶, Brynja B. Magnusdottir⁶, Ina Giegling², H
Kevin V. Shianna¹², Dongliang Ge¹², Anna C. Need¹², C
Jouko Lonnqvist¹⁵, Jaana Suvisaari¹⁵, Antoon
Elvira Bramon¹⁶, Marta Di Forti
Muriel Walshe¹⁶, Tao Li^{16,18}, C
Srđjan Djurovic^{21,22}, Ingrid
Chiara Sabatti²⁶, Nelson
Ole A. Andreassen^{21,22}, R
Hannes Petursson⁶, David
Clair¹³ & Kari Stefansson^{1,11}

**Rare chromosomal defects
increase risk of autism**

The Internati

Links to studies in autism, intellectual disability



High Frequencies of De Novo CNVs in Bipolar Disorder and Schizophrenia

Dheeraj Malhotra,^{1,2,22} Shane McCarthy,²² Jacob J. Michaelson,^{1,2} Vladimir Vacic,^{15,22} Katherine E. Burdick,²³ Seungtae Yoon,^{5,22} Sven Cichon,^{10,11,12} Aiden Corvin,¹⁷ Sydney Gary,²² Elliot S. Gershon,²¹ Michael Gill,¹⁷ Maria Karayiorgou,¹⁸ John R. Kelsoe,^{2,4,20} Olga Krastoshevsky,¹⁹ Verena Krause,¹⁹ Ellen Leibenluft,⁷ Deborah L. Levy,¹⁹ Vladimir Makarov,^{5,22} Abhishek Bhandari,^{1,2,22} Anil K. Malhotra,⁶ Francis J. McMahon,¹⁴ Markus M. Nöthen,^{10,11,16} James B. Potash,⁸ Marcella Rietschel,¹³ Thomas G. Schulze,⁹ and Jonathan Sebat^{1,2,3,4,22,*}

Pharmacogenetics

Studies in other fields of medicine that larger effect sizes can be expected for well-defined pharmacoresponse phenotypes.

As always, sample size is critical!

Pharmacogenetics: The *ConLiGen* experience

Neuropsychobiology

Neuropsychobiology 2010;62:72–78
DOI: 10.1159/000314708

Published online: May 8, 2010

The International Consortium on Lithium Genetics (ConLiGen): An Initiative by the NIMH and IGSLI to Study the Genetic Basis of Response to Lithium Treatment

Thomas G. Schulze^{a,g,e} Martin Alda^{m,e} Mazda Adli^{h,e} Nirmala Akula^a
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Maria Del Zompo^{t,u} Sevilla D. Detera-Wadleigh^a Paul Grof^{n,o,e} Oliver Gruber^j
Ryota Hashimoto^{x,δ} Joanna Hauser^v Rebecca Hoban^{b,c} Nakao Iwata^{y,δ} Layla Kassem^a
Tadafumi Kato^{z,δ} Sarah Kittel-Schneider^k Sebastian Kliwicz^w John R. Kelsoe^{b,c}
Ichiro Kusumi^{β,δ} Gonzalo Laje^a Susan G. Leckband^{b,d,e} Mirko Manchia^u Glenda MacQueen^p
Takuya Masui^{β,δ} Norio Ozaki^{γ,δ} Roy H. Perlis^f Andrea Pfennig^{l,e} Paola Piccardi^u
Sara Richardson^a Guy Rouleau^q Andreas Reif^k Janusz K. Rybakowski^{w,e} Johanna Sasse^{l,e}
Johannes Schumacher^{a,i} Giovanni Severino^u Jordan W. Smoller^f Alessio Squassina^u
Gustavo Turecki^r L. Trevor Young^{s,e} Takeo Yoshikawa^{α,δ} Michael Bauer^{l,e}
Francis J. McMahon^a

Pharmacogenetics: The *ConLiGen* experience

ConLi⁺Gen

The international Consortium on Lithium Genetics

Last update:
21.10.2013

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Primary goal

Genetic projects

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Australia



Austria



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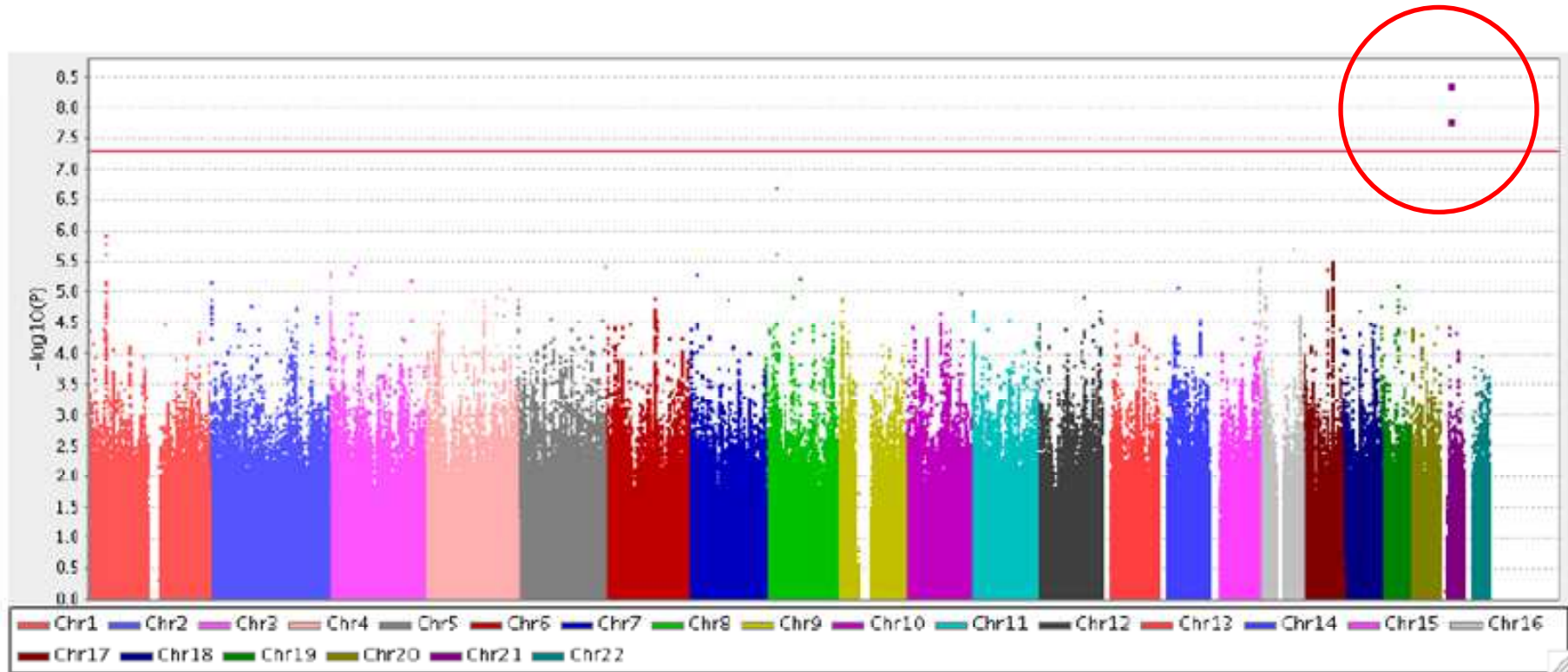


United Kingdom

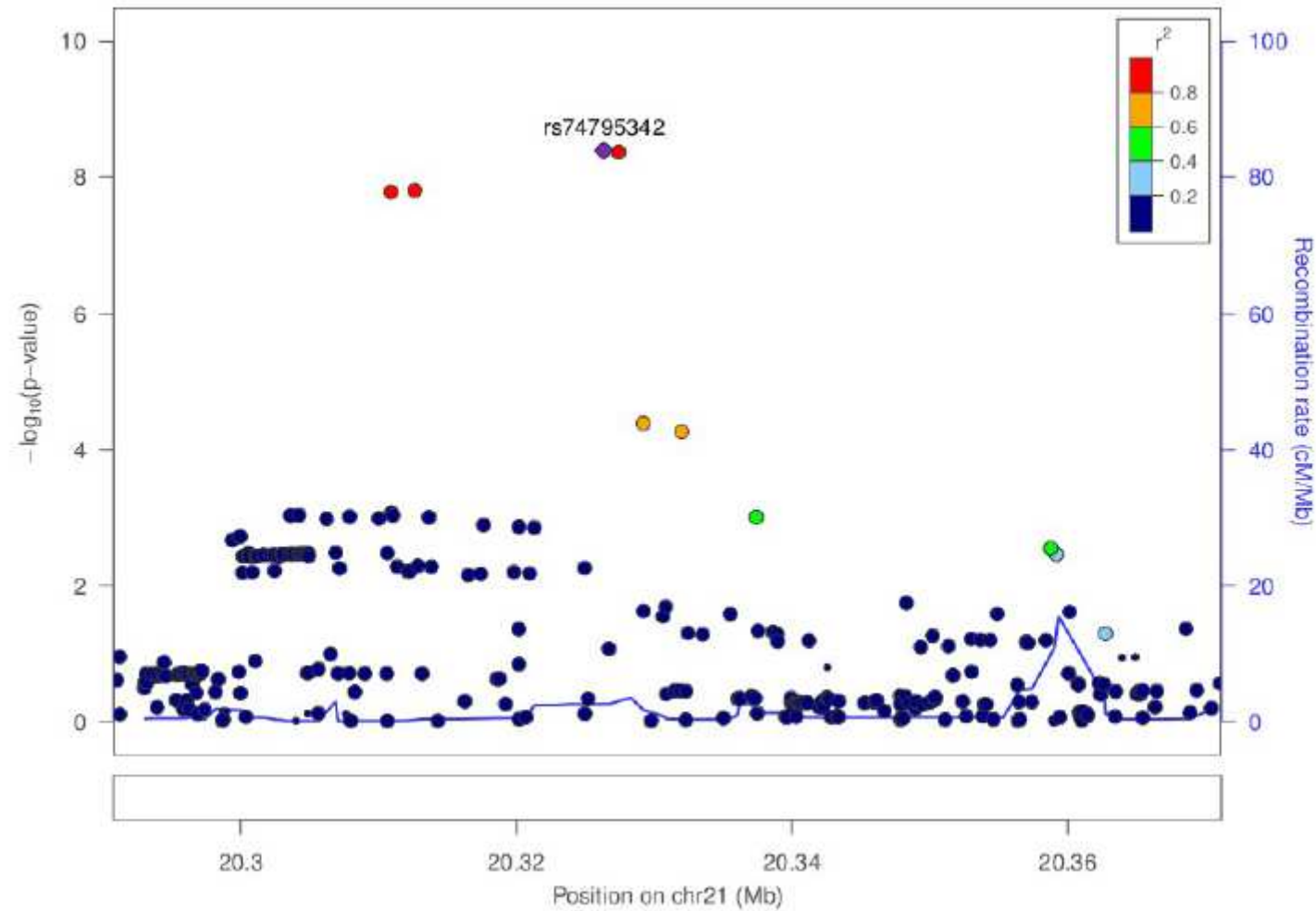


United States

Pharmacogenetics: The *ConLiGen* GWAS



Pharmacogenetics: The *ConLiGen* GWAS



Pharmacogenetics: The *ConLiGen* GWAS

- Our finding is genome-wide significant
- rs74795342 and rs75222709 lie in the intronic region of the *AL157359.3* gene
- rs79663003 and rs78015114 lie 13-15 kb downstream
- *AL157359.3* codes for a “long noncoding RNA” (lncRNA)
- lncRNA transcripts are longer than 200 nucleotides
- Involved in a multitude of cell regulatory processes

Subphenotype approaches

e.g. delusional content

Citation: *Transl Psychiatry* (2012) 2, e165; doi:10.1038/tp.2012.81
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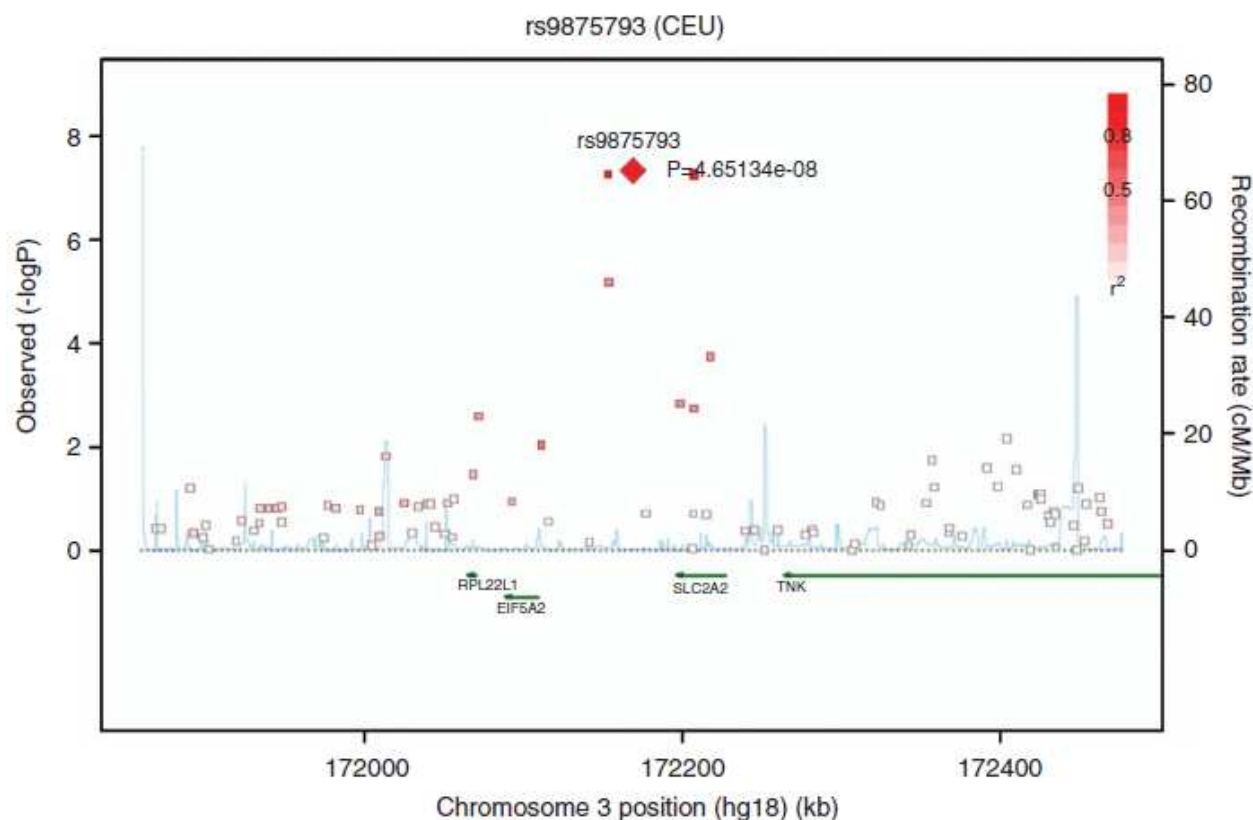


www.nature.com/tp

Genome-wide significant association between a 'negative mood delusions' dimension in bipolar disorder and genetic variation on chromosome 3q26.1

S Meier¹, M Mattheisen^{2,3,4}, E Vassos⁵,
B Müller-Myhsok⁷, M Steffens⁸, C Schme
S Cichon^{2,6,11}, TG Schulze^{12,14} and M R

Research suggests that clinical symptoms are more heterogeneous than standard diagnostic models. To capture this heterogeneity, we performed a GWAS of family-based data for 'negative mood delusions' ($n = 927$; $P = 4.65 \times 10^{-8}$), a dimension of delusions of poverty, delusions of guilt and nihilism. The lead SNP, rs9875793, was only observed in the subset of patients displaying 'negative mood delusions' in our sample (GAIN/TGEN), which included 100 patients. *Translational Psychiatry* (2012) 2, e165; doi:10.1038/tp.2012.81



Subphenotype approaches

e.g. attempted suicide

Molecular Psychiatry (2011), 1–12
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www.nature.com/mp



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

A genome-wide association study of attempted suicide

VL Willour¹, F Seifuddin¹, PB Mahon¹, D Jancic¹, M Pirooznia¹, J Steele², B Schweizer¹, FS Goes¹, FM Mondimore¹, DF MacKinnon¹, The Bipolar Genome Study (BiGS) Consortium, RH Perlis³, PH Lee³, J Huang³, JR Kelsoe⁴, PD Shilling⁴, M Rietschel^{5,6}, M Nöthen⁷, S Cichon^{8,9}, H Gurling¹⁰, S Purcell³, JW Smoller³, N Craddock¹¹, JR DePaulo Jr¹, TG Schulze^{2,12}, FJ McMahon², PP Zandi¹ and JB Potash¹

Chromosome Region	Best SNP in Region	RefSeq ¹ Gene	RefSeq Genes in LD	Initial Odds Ratio ²	Initial P-value	Replication Odds Ratio ²	Replication P-value	Combined P-value
2p25	rs300774	Intergenic	<i>SH3YL1</i> , <i>ACP1</i> , <i>FAM150B</i>	1.42	1.09 X 10 ⁻⁶	1.22	0.0036	5.07 X 10 ⁻⁸
11p13	rs10437629	<i>C11orf41</i>	None	1.62	8.56 X 10 ⁻⁵	1.34	0.0078	3.77 X 10 ⁻⁶
12q24	rs7296262	<i>TMEM132C</i>	None	1.43	9.08 X 10 ⁻⁶	1.22	0.011	1.09 X 10 ⁻⁶

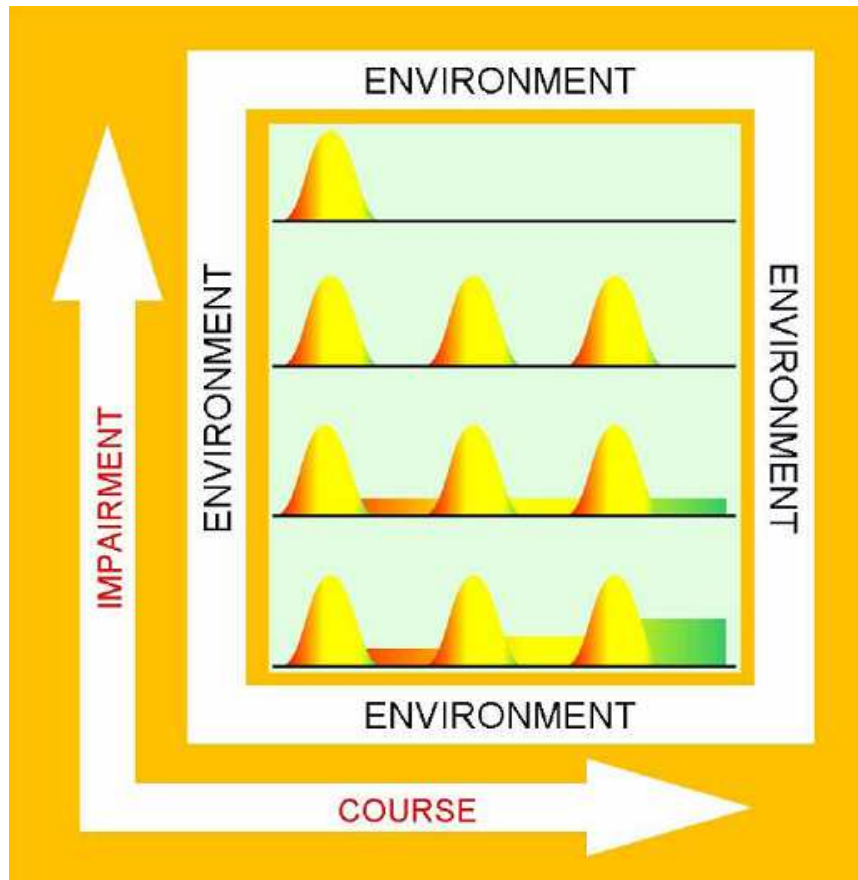
**Where would we
like to be in
2025?**

A wish list

1. A large set of validated risk genes for disease phenotypes (categorical, dimensional)
2. A large set of validated genes for personalized medicine approaches (pharmacogenetics)
3. Bidirectional translation: human model \leftrightarrow systems biology
4. Genetics as a tool to better understand all the above across life trajectories
5. Clinical applicability: predictive and prognostic use of genetics

**How can we get
there? Think
trajectories!**

Trajectorial thinking



- has gained some traction in biological psychiatry
- however, it's in its infancy at its best as most studies are still cross-sectional
- is still hampered by an (artificial) divide between adult and child & adolescent psychiatry
- is needed in order to develop clinical applicability: predictive and prognostic use of genetics

Mental illness doesn't suddenly develop at age 18

SCIENCE sciencemag.org 31 OCTOBER 2014 • VOL 346 ISSUE 6209 547

MENTAL HEALTH

Adolescent mental health— Opportunity and obligation

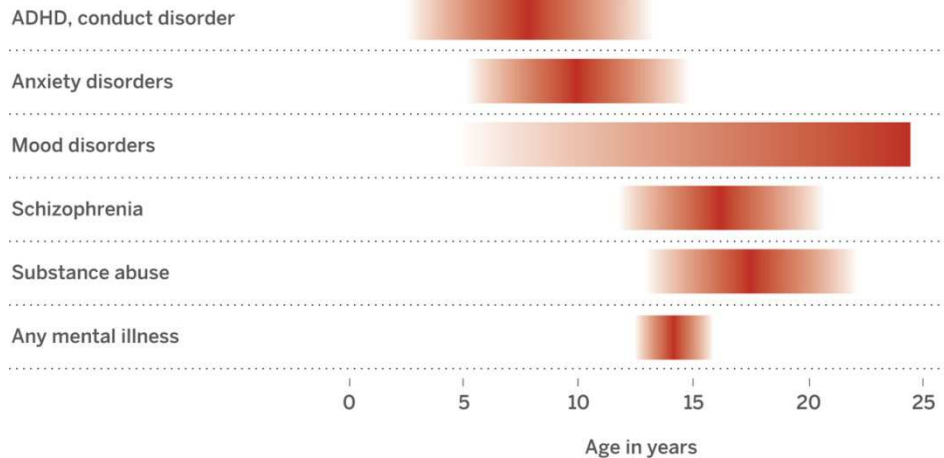
Emerging neuroscience offers hope for treatments

By Francis S. Lee,¹ Hakon Heimer,^{2,3} Jay N. Giedd,⁴ Edward S. Lein,⁵ Nenad Šestan,⁶ Daniel R. Weinberger,^{7,8} B. J. Casey^{1*}

of mental disorders and how they affect treatment efficacy is imperative. Yet, we estimate that less than 1% of the budget of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH)

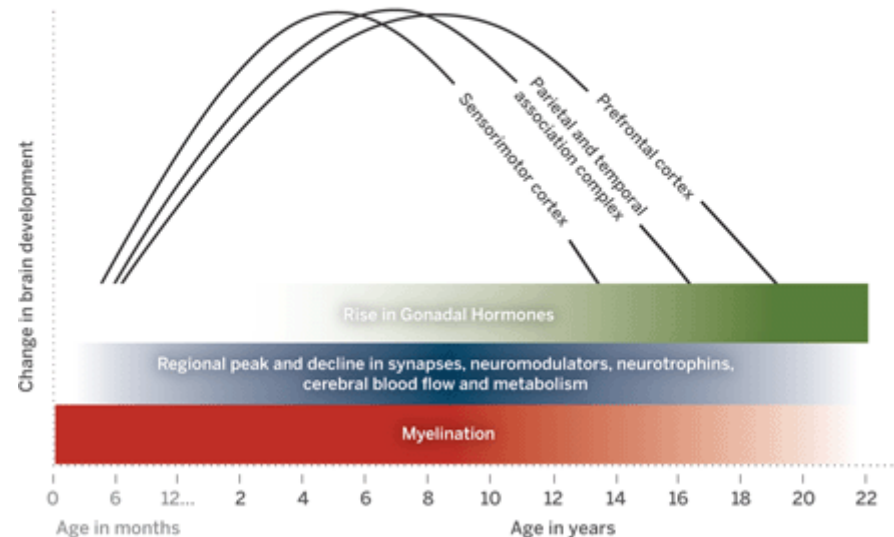
Emergence and peak in mental disorders during adolescence

One in five adolescents have a mental illness that will persist into adulthood

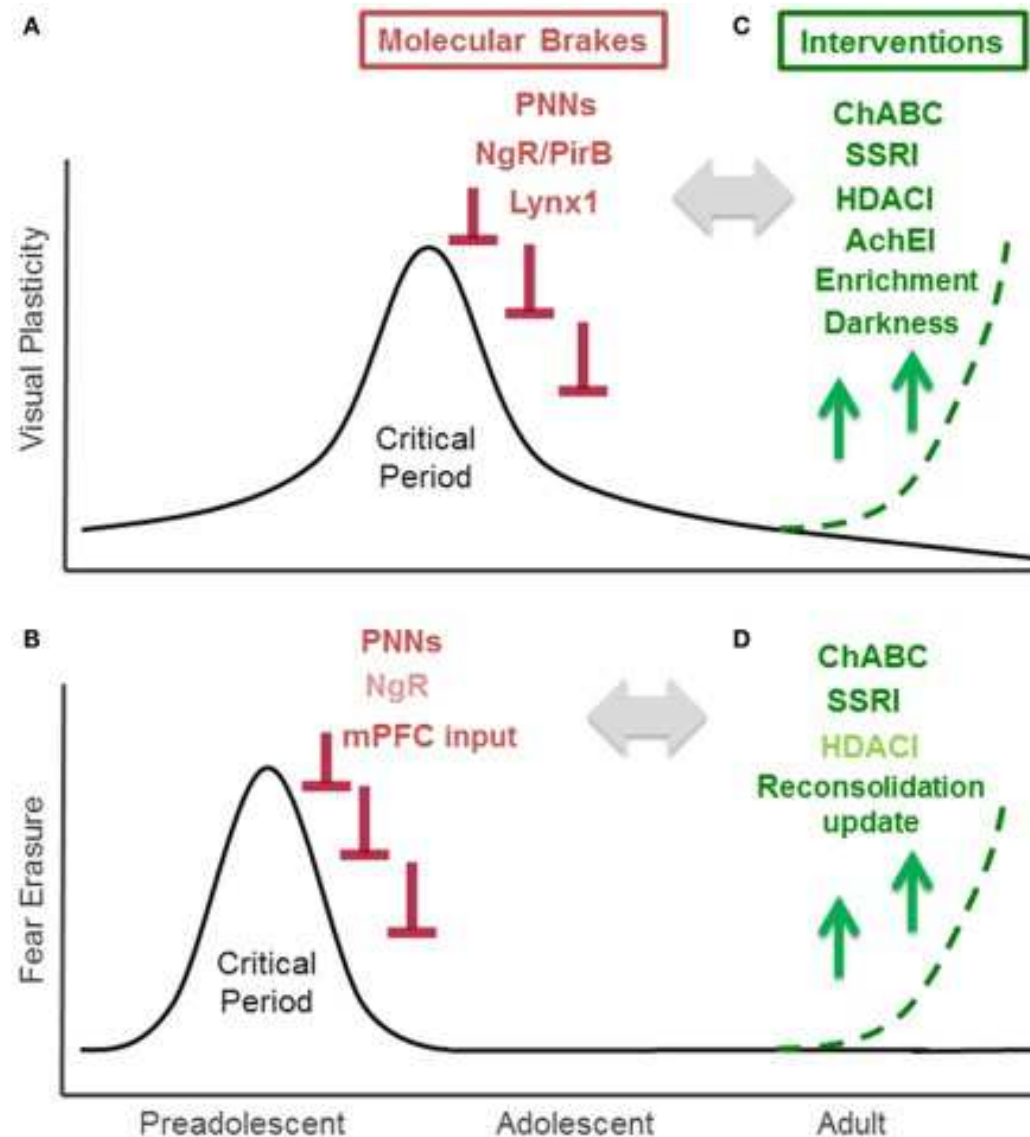


Developmental course of brain maturation during adolescence

Behavioral attributes are paralleled by hormonal and neurobiological changes that target specific brain regions and cell populations



Mental illness doesn't suddenly develop at age 18

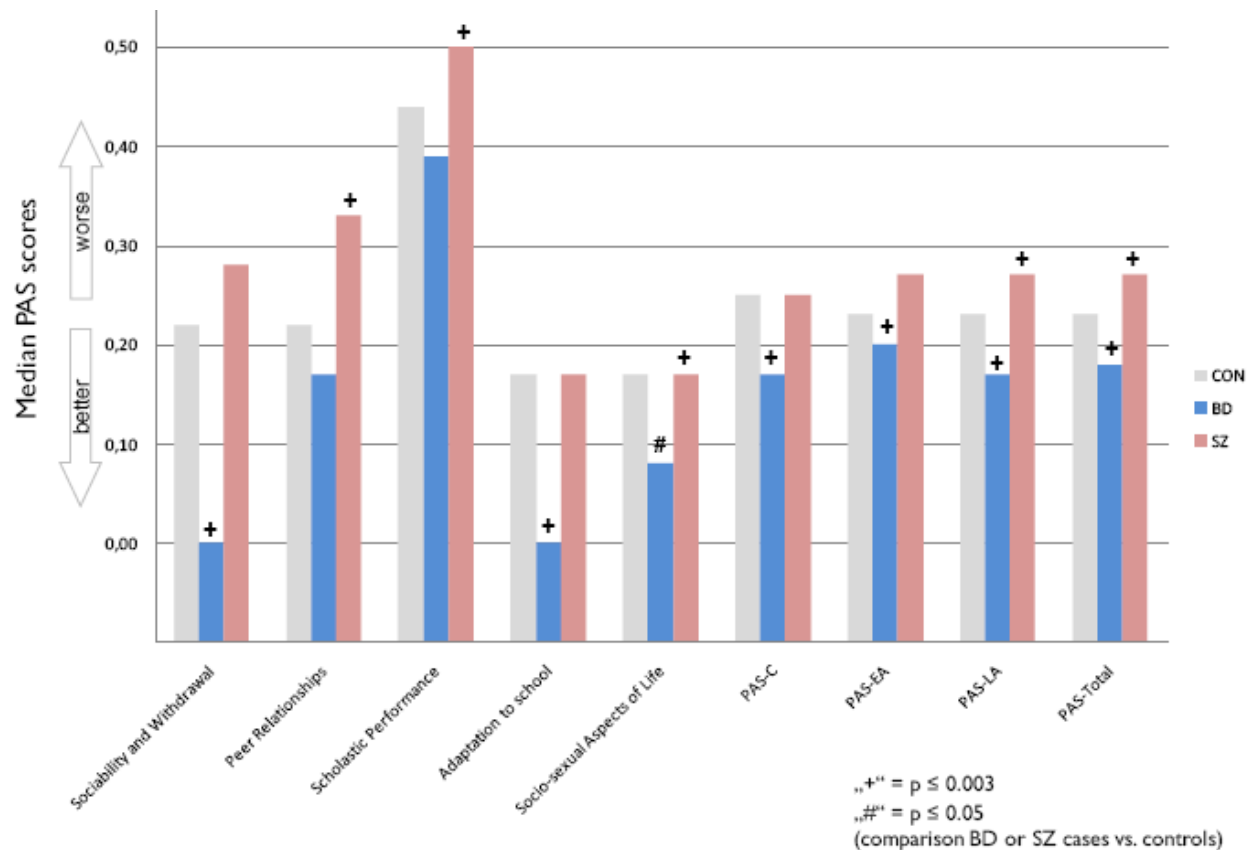


Premorbid aspects

Premorbid adjustment: A phenotype highlighting a distinction rather than an overlap between schizophrenia and bipolar disorder ☆,☆☆

Marcella Rietschel^a, Alexander Georgi^a, Christine Schmael^a, Frederike Schirmbeck^a,
Jana Strohmaier^a, Katja V. Boesshenz^a, Markus Schwarz^b,
Markus M. Nöthen^c, Thomas G. Schulze^{a,*}

Schizophrenia Research 110 (2009) 33–39



A case in point: genomic studies in the Amish

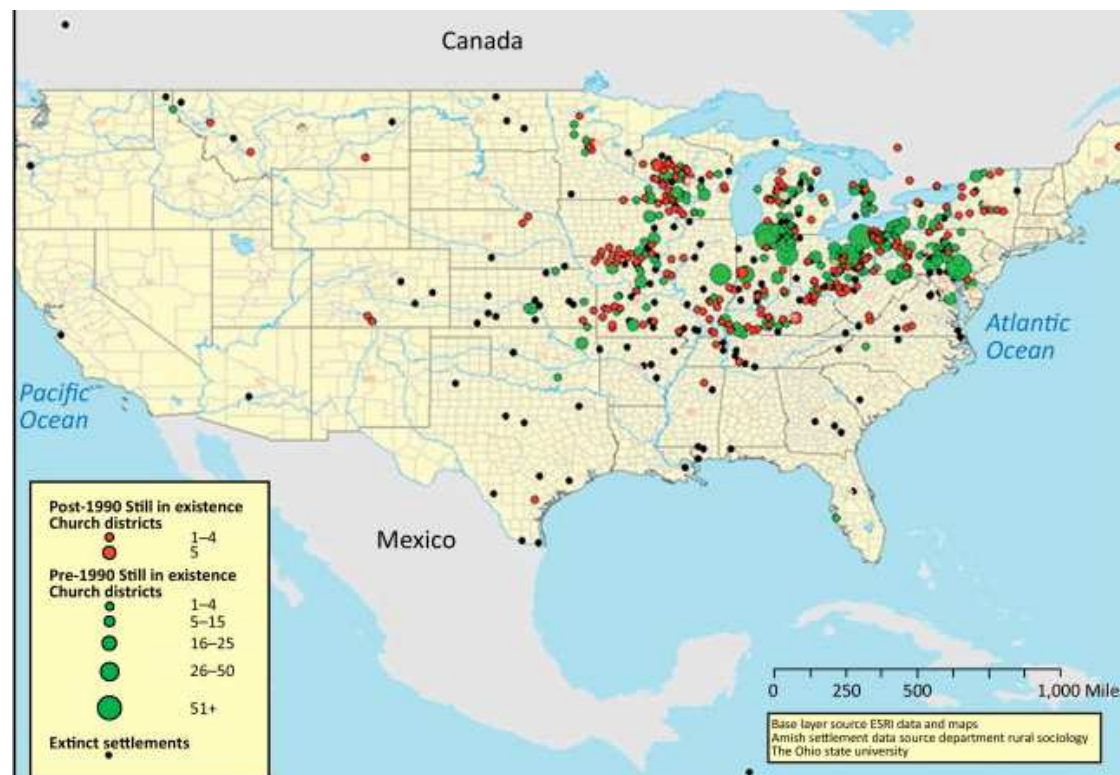
Review

Trends in Genetics, Feb 16, 2013

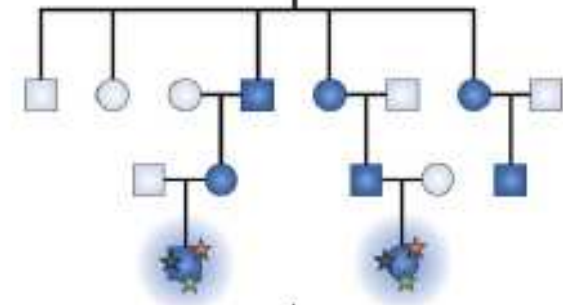
Cell
PRESS

Amish revisited: next-generation sequencing studies of psychiatric disorders among the Plain people

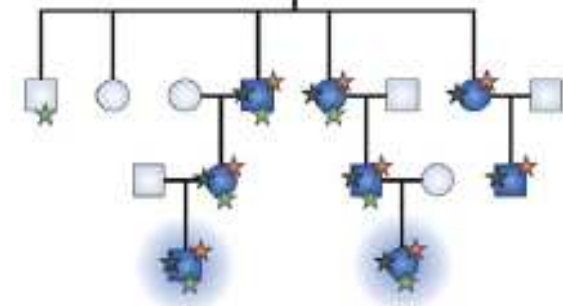
Liping Hou¹, Gloria Faraci¹, David T.W. Chen¹, Layla Kassem¹, Thomas G. Schulze², Yin Yao Shugart³, and Francis J. McMahon¹



Sequencing affected relatives
Identify shared variants
that are likely to
cause disease



Genotype candidate variants
Look for co-segregation
with disease in family

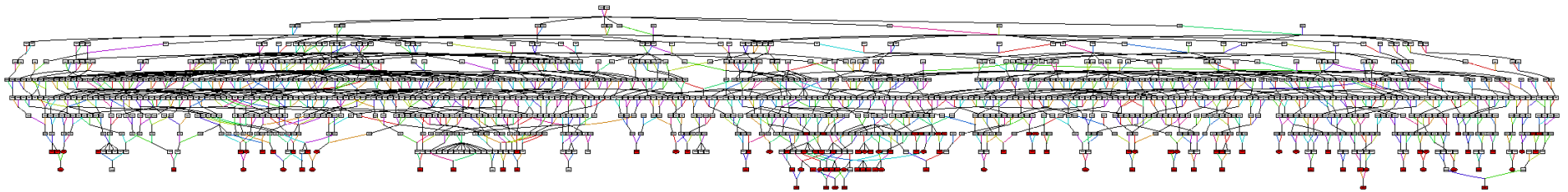


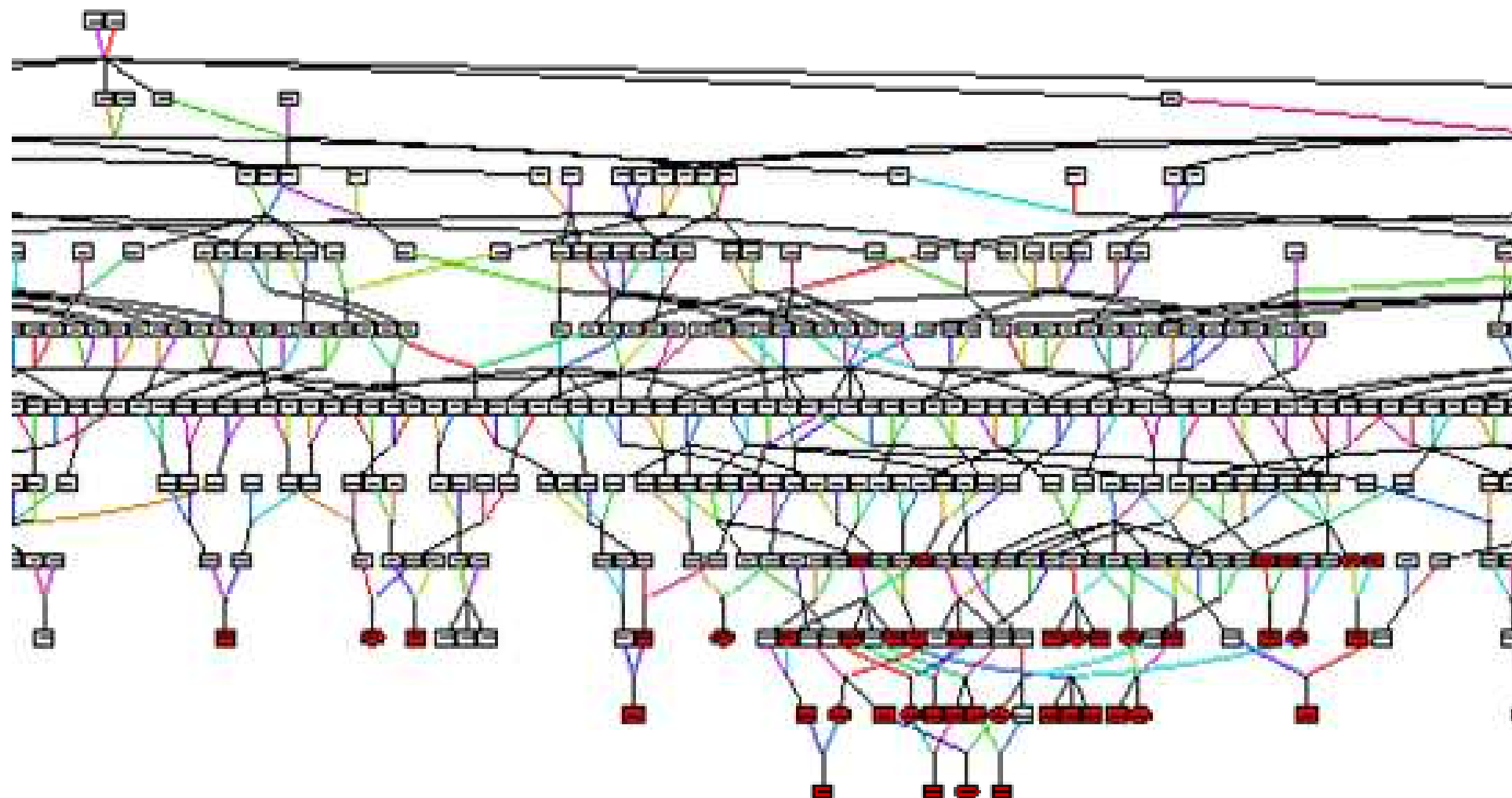
A case in point: genomic studies in the Amish



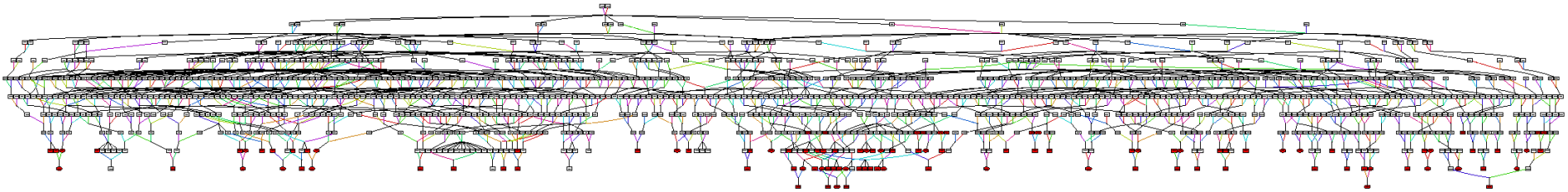
A case in point: genomic studies in the Amish

Amish study: most individuals belong to one large pedigree!





Joining forces



The power of genomics & comprehensive phenotyping in children at risk



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

European Psychiatry

journal homepage: <http://www.europsy-journal.com>

Short communication

An fMRI study of emotional face encoding in youth at risk for bipolar disorder

W.-L. Tseng^{a,*}, B.L. Bones^b, R.R. Kayser^b, A.K. Olsavsky^c, S.J. Fromm^a,
D.S. Pine^a, E. Leibenluft^a, M.A. Brotman^a

The infrastructure needed for trajectorial approaches

Molecular Psychiatry (2012), 1–6

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PERSPECTIVE

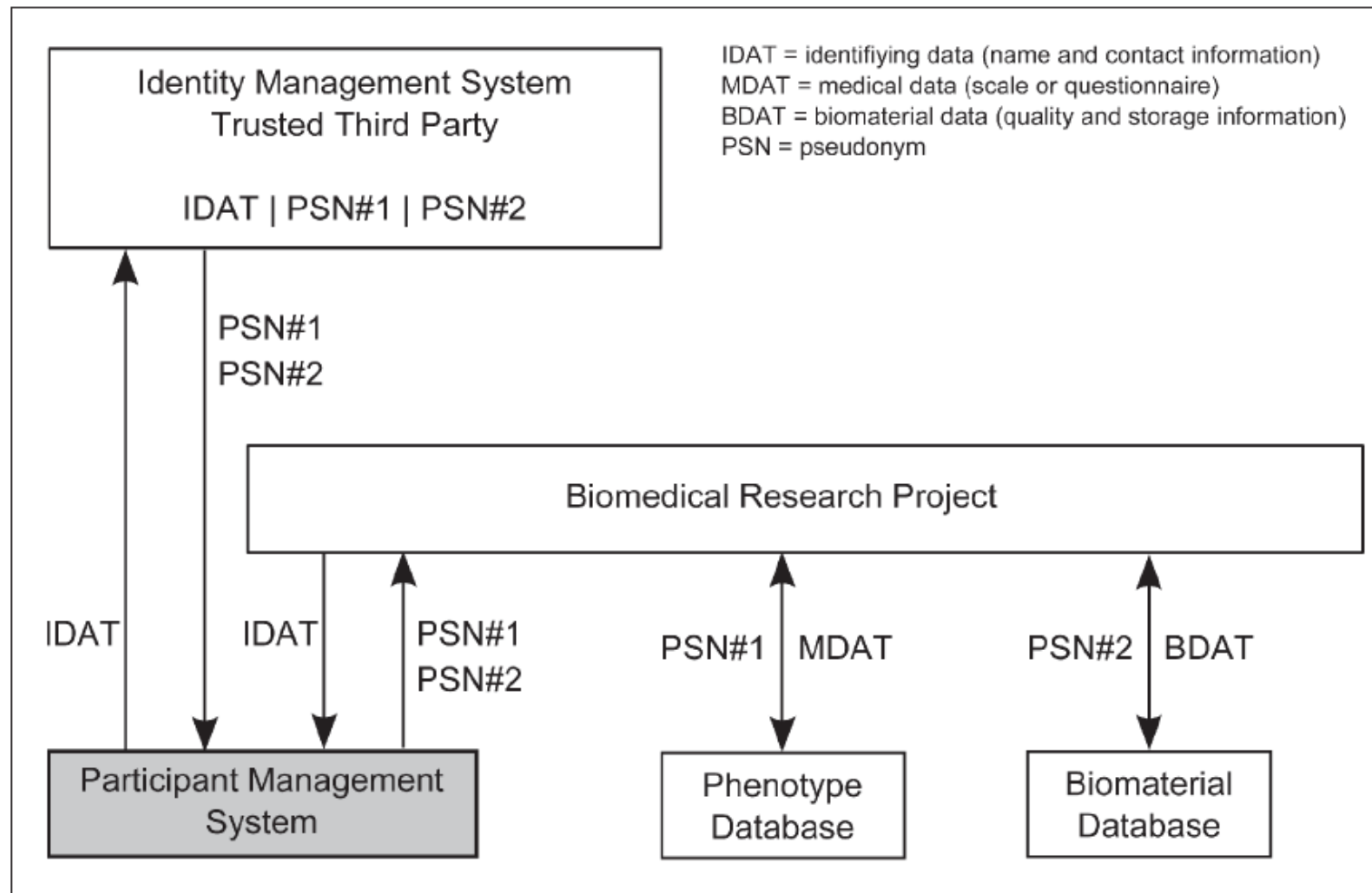
Managing sensitive phenotypic data and biomaterial in large-scale collaborative psychiatric genetic research projects: practical considerations

SY Demiroglu¹, D Skrowny¹, M Quade¹, J Schwanke¹, M Budde², V Gullatz², D Reich-Erkelenz², JJ Jakob¹, P Falkai^{2,3}, O Rienhoff¹, K Helbing¹, U Heilbronner² and TG Schulze²

¹*Department of Medical Informatics, University Medical Center Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany,* ²*Section on Psychiatric Genetics, Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, University Medical Center Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany and*

³*Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Ludwigs-Maximilians-University, München, Germany*

The infrastructure needed for trajectorial approaches



The infrastructure needed for trajectorial approaches

Eur Arch Psychiatry Clin Neurosci
DOI 10.1007/s00406-013-0401-8

SHORT COMMUNICATION

The “DGPPN-Cohort”: a national collaboration initiative by the German Association for Psychiatry and Psychotherapy (DGPPN) for establishing a large-scale cohort of psychiatric patients

Heike Anderson-Schmidt · Lothar Adler · Chadiga Aly · Ion-George Anghelescu · Michael Bauer · Jessica Baumgärtner · Joachim Becker · Roswitha Bianco · Thomas Becker · Cosima Bitter · Dominik Bock · Karoline Buckow · Monika Budde · Michael Dümpelmann · Uta Engelhardt · Christian Fehrmann · Here Folkerts · Michael Franz · Kai Gellerauer · Verena Gullatz · Linda Guský · Ursula Harbeck · Tilman Hensch · Christoph Hiemke · Wolfgang P. Kaschka · Tilo Kirchhoff · Axel Krug · Mahsa Lee · Markus Lenz · Moritz Mühlbacher · Matthias J. Müller · Vanessa Nieratschker · Barbara Nierste · Jacqueline Pfennig · Andrea Pfennig · Marlenna Pieper · Matthias Quade · Daniela Reich-Erkelenz · Andreas Reith · Bernd Reininghaus · Eva Z. Reininghaus · Matthias Riemenschneider · Otto Rienhoff · Patrik Rujescu · Rebecca Schennach · Harald Scherk · Max Schmauss · Frank Schneider · Alexander Schott · Björn H. Schott · Sybille G. Schwab · Jens Schwanke · Daniela Skowny · Carsten Spitzer · Sebastian Stöckel · Judith Stöckel · Susanne Stübner · Andreas Thiel · Hans-Peter Volz · Martin von Hagen · Henrik Walter · Stephanie H. Witt · Thomas Wobrock · Jürgen Zielasek · Jörg Zimmermann · Antje Zitzelsberger · Wolfgang Maier · Peter G. Falkai · Marcella Rietschel · Thomas G. Schulze



Concluding remarks

- We did not get what we hoped for three decades ago, i.e. a handful of major risk genes (oligogenic model)
- But still, psychiatric genetics has made tremendous progress over the last decade
- Over 100 genes identified for schizophrenia
- Similar developments expected for other disorders as sample sizes increase and subphenotype approaches are being applied
- Clear evidence for polygenicity

- There are many findings awaiting further vetting
- Out-of-the-box follow-up studies are warranted
- Most importantly, we have to think in trajectories: to better understand the continuity of psychopathology, genetic studies have to start before age 18!
- In particular, as genetic testing has already become a reality

The reality of genetic testing today

1. Commercial panels marketed to psychiatrists and psychologists

- Recurrent CNVs associated with development
- Cytochrome p450 markers
- SERT LPR

2. Direct marketing to consumers and their relatives

We cannot cede this field to commercial interest alone

Genetic testing for autism by private companies		
	Location	Tests offered
	Gaithersburg, Maryland	CNV microarray; selective gene sequencing
Athena Diagnostics	Worcester, Massachusetts	CNV microarray; selective gene sequencing
Ambry Genetics	Aliso Viejo, California	CNV microarray; selective gene sequencing
Lineagen	Salt Lake City, Utah	CNV microarray; selective gene sequencing
Signature Genomics	Spokane, Washington	CNV microarray
Combimatrix	Irvine, California	CNV microarray
Population Diagnostics*	Long Island, New York	CNV screening
IntegraGen*	Cambridge, Massachusetts	SNP panel

*test under development

Waters, *Nat Medicine* 2011

ISPG

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Genetic testing statement by the ISPG

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF
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Thanks to

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ZI, Mannheim

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Krister Helbing

Sara Nußbeck

Otto Rienhoff

Jens Schwanke

Daniela Skrowny

Matthias Quade

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NIMH, Bethesda, MD, USA*

Nirmala Akula

Sevilla Detera-Wadleigh

Liping Hou

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Sven Cichon

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J. Ray DePaulo

James B. Potash

Peter F. Zandi