

Ljubljana Scientific meeting, June 1-2 2023

The Journey of Kleefstra syndrome and the EHMT1 gene

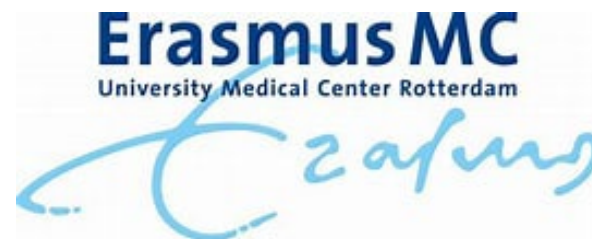
Tjitske Kleefstra

Clinical Geneticist

ErasmusMC Rotterdam and Radboudumc Nijmegen, The Netherlands



**Clinical
Genetics**
Department
Erasmus MC



Radboudumc

Disclosure

Center of excellence in neuropsychiatry Vincent van Gogh



Starting 2002...



Radboudumc
university medical center

Intranet Patient

Radboudumc Center of Expertise
Rare congenital developmental disorders

> Centers of clinical expertise > Centers of clinical expertise > Rare congenital development

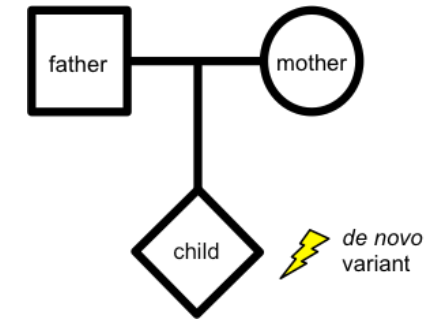
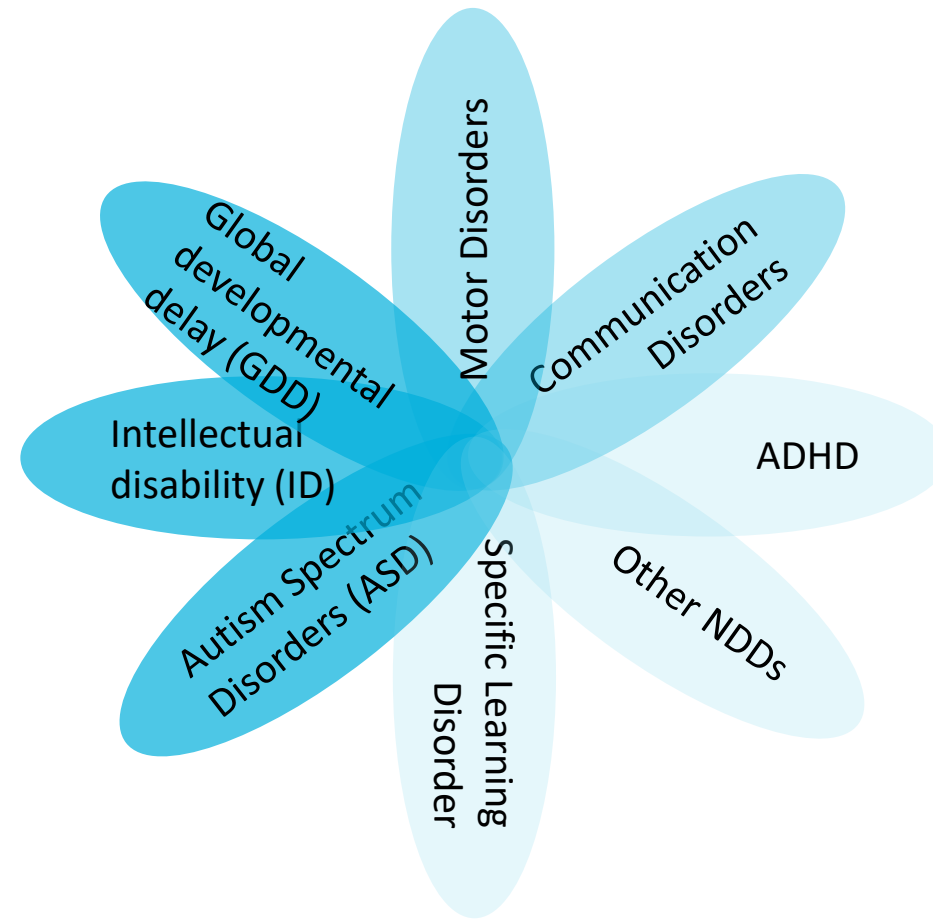


About
the Radboudumc center of expertise

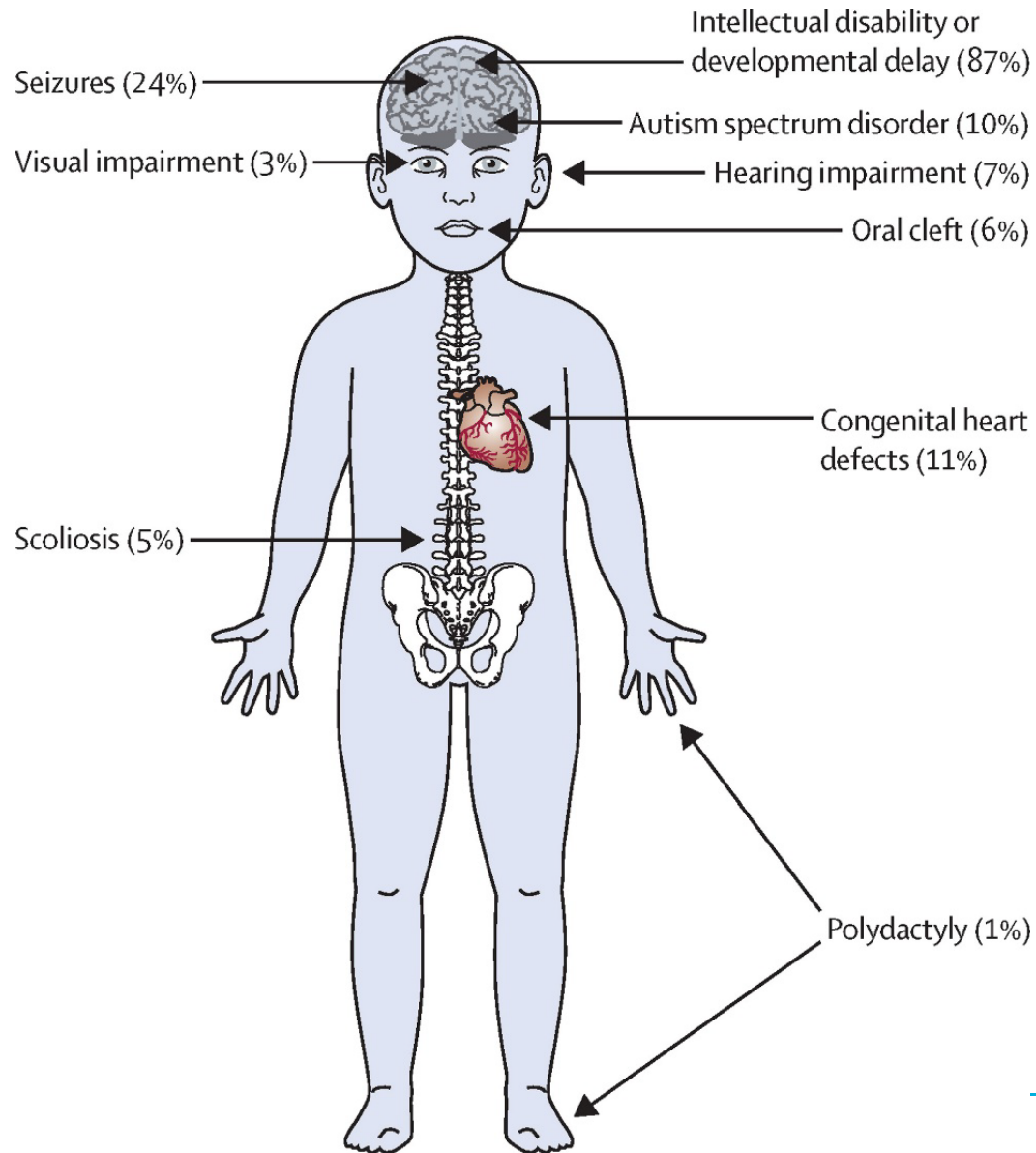


Monogenic Neurodevelopmental disorders NDDs

- The neurodevelopmental disorders are a group of conditions with onset in the developmental period



Typical NDD patient we see



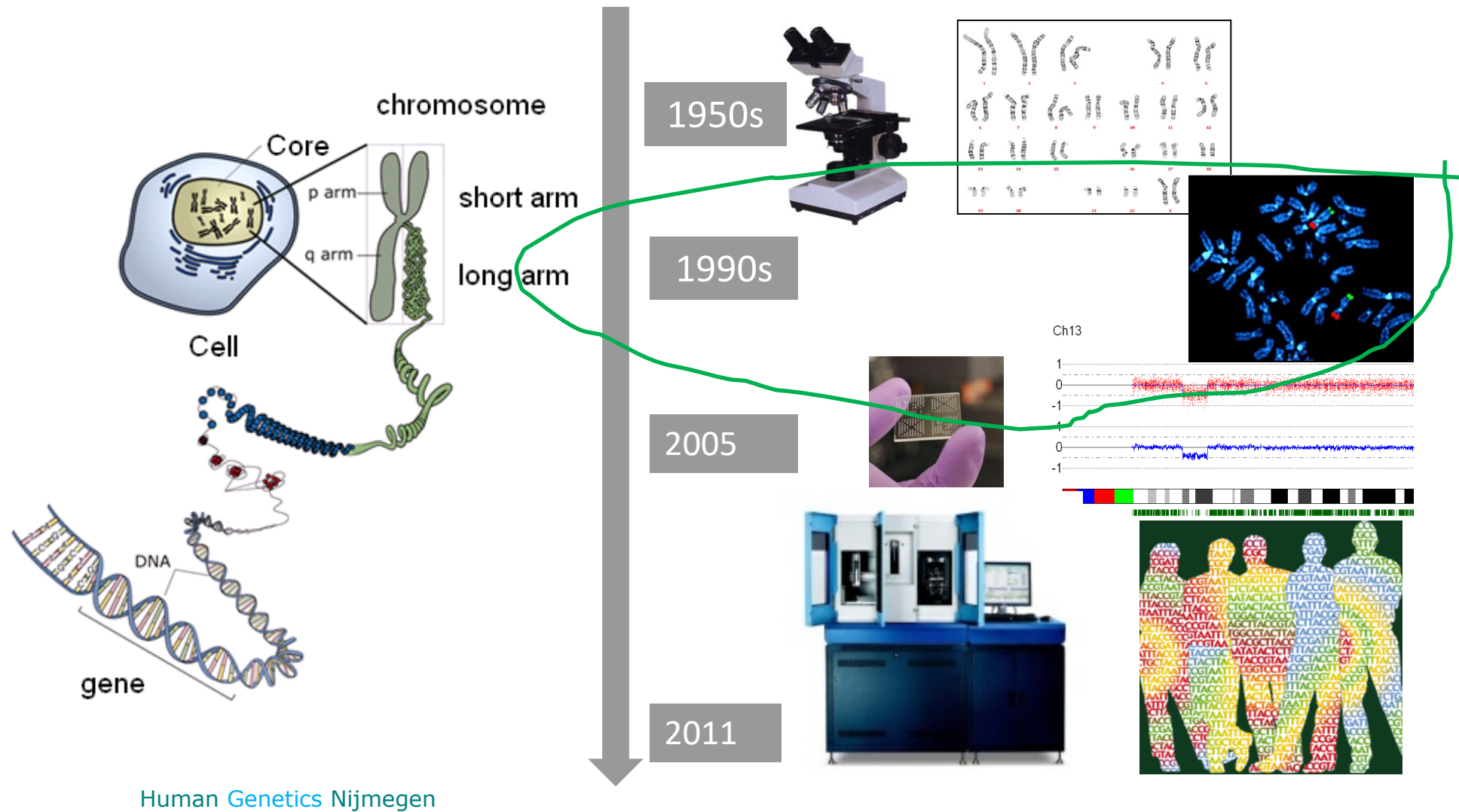
- Prevalence 2% population
- Over 1600 different 'Mendelian' genes

Deciphering Developmental Disorders study

Wright C. et al, 2015

Radboudumc

The humane genome: chromosomes and genes



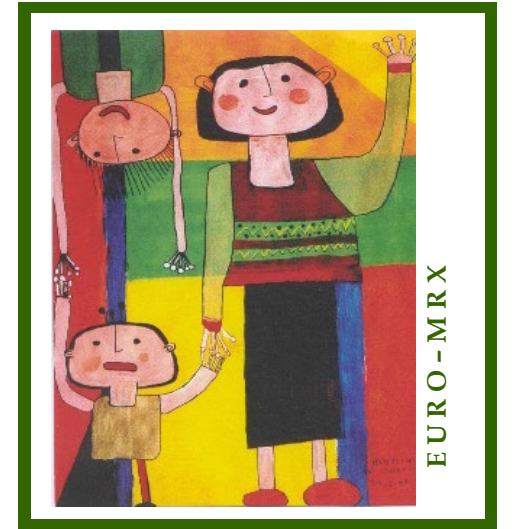
ARTICLES | [VOLUME 354, ISSUE 9191, P1676-1681, NOVEMBER 13, 1999](#)

Subtle chromosomal rearrangements in children with unexplained mental retardation

[Samantha JL Knight, PhD](#) • [Regina Regan, MSc](#) • [Alison Nicod, BSc](#) • [Sharon W Horsley, BSc](#) • [Lyndal Kearney, PhD](#) • [Tessa Homfray, MD](#) • et al. [Show all authors](#)

Published: November 13, 1999 • DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(99\)03070-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(99)03070-6)

Nijmegen XLMR team



**Genotypes and Phenotypes
in X-linked Mental Retardation:
from families to genes and back**

2002

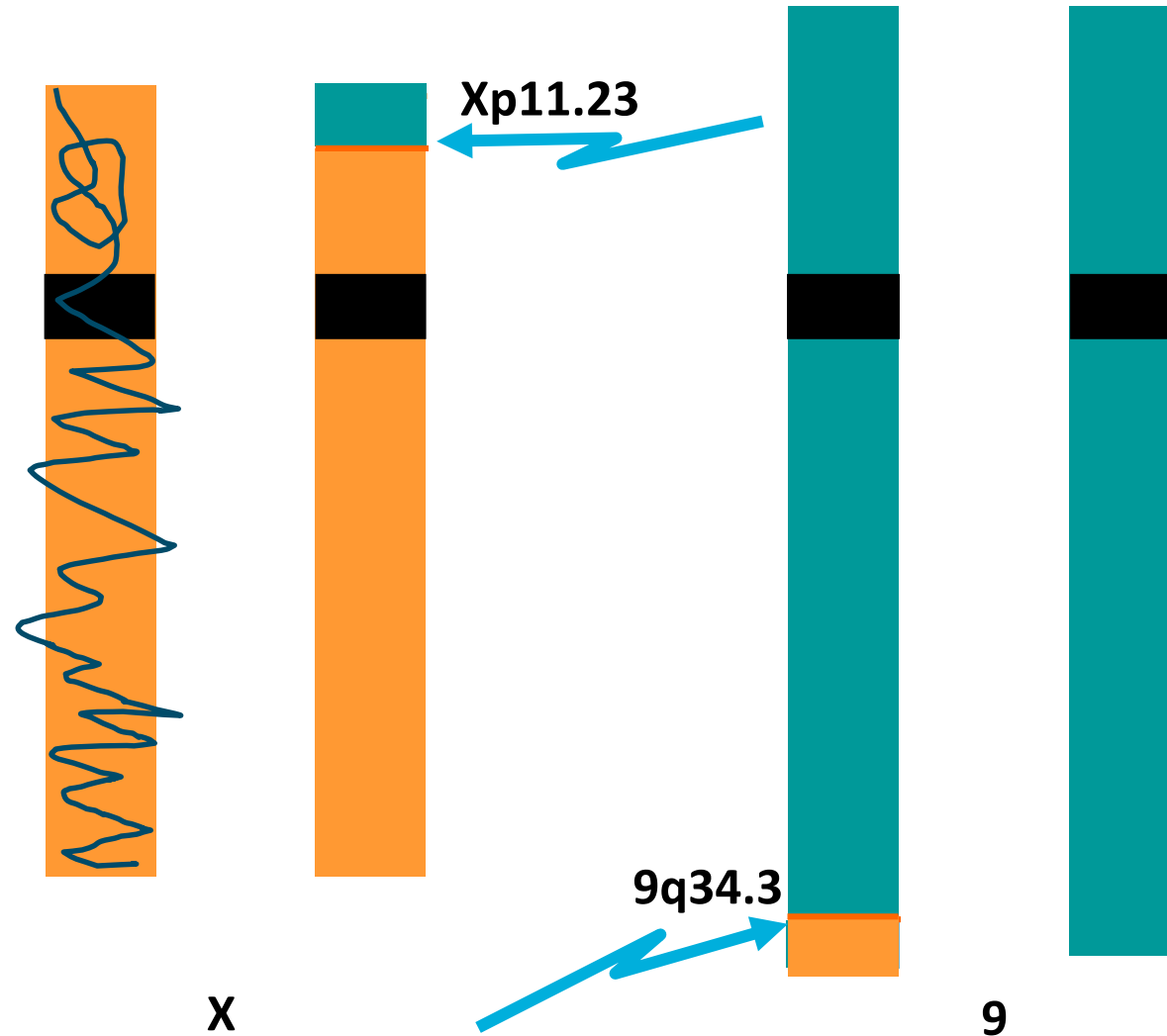
2005



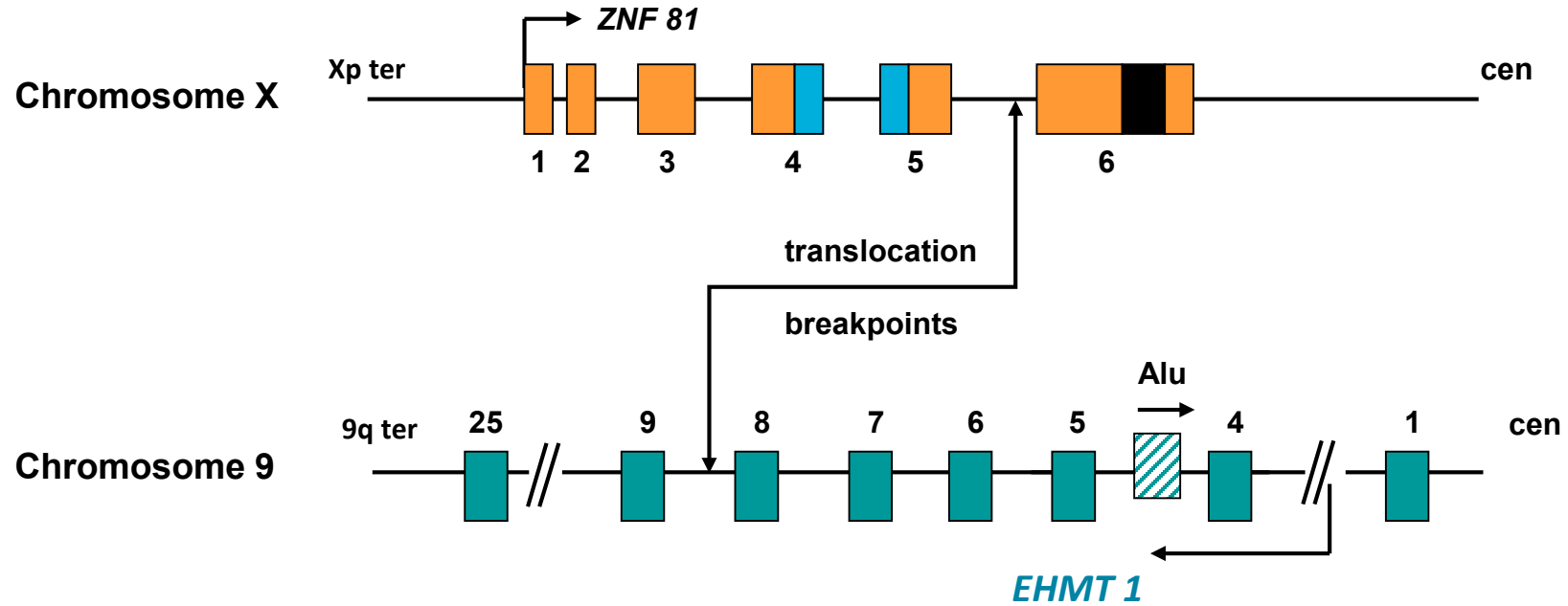
Tjitske Kleefstra

Radboudumc

Translocation t(X;9)(p11.23;q34.3)



Breakpoints *ZNF81* and *EHMT1*



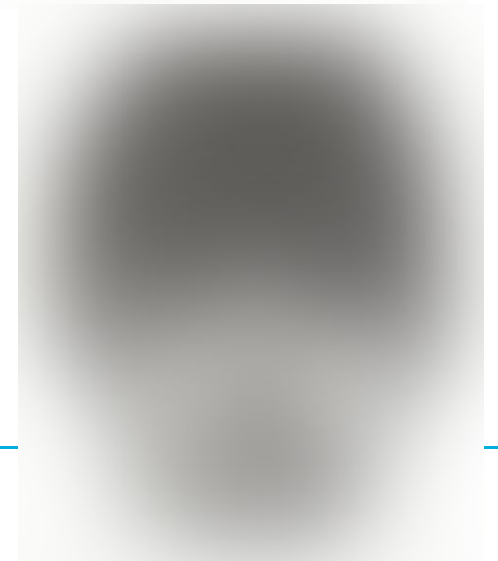
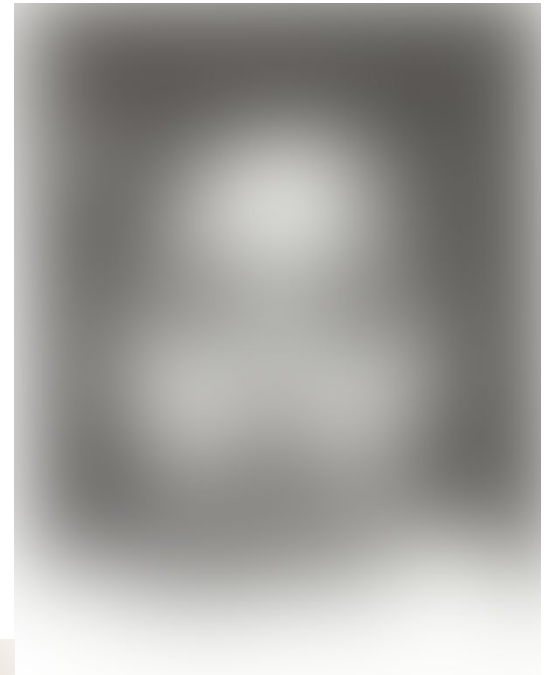
Eu-chromatin Histon Methyl Transferase 1

Subtelomere 9q deletion by FISH

Knight *et al*, Lancet 1999

Dawson *et al*, Clin Genet 2002

Cormier-Daire *et al*, J Med Genet 2003



Report

Loss-of-Function Mutations in *Euchromatin Histone Methyltransferase 1 (EHMT1)* Cause the 9q34 Subtelomeric Deletion Syndrome

Tjitske Kleefstra^a, Han G. Brunner^a, Jeanne Amiel^b, Astrid R. Oudakker^a, Willy M. Nillesen^a, Alex Magee^c, David Geneviève^b, Valérie Cormier-Daire^b, Hilde van Esch^d, Jean-Pierre Fryns^d, Ben C.J. Hamel^a, Erik A. Siermans^a, Bert B.A. de Vries^a, Hans van Bokhoven^a

MIM #610253

Text
Clinical Features
Cytogenetics
Molecular Genetics
References
Contributors
Creation Date
Edit History

◆ Clinical Synopsis
◆ Gene map

Entrez Gene

N Nomenclature
R RefSeq
G GenBank
P Protein
U UniGene

LinkOut

komp

NDROME

OMIM
e Mendelian Inheritance in Man



Johns
Hopkins
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#610253

KLEEFSTRA SYNDROME

GeneTests, Links

Alternative titles; symbols

CHROMOSOME 9q34.3 DELETION SYNDROME
9q- SYNDROME
9q SUBTELOMERIC DELETION SYNDROME

Gene map locus [9q34.3](#)

TEXT

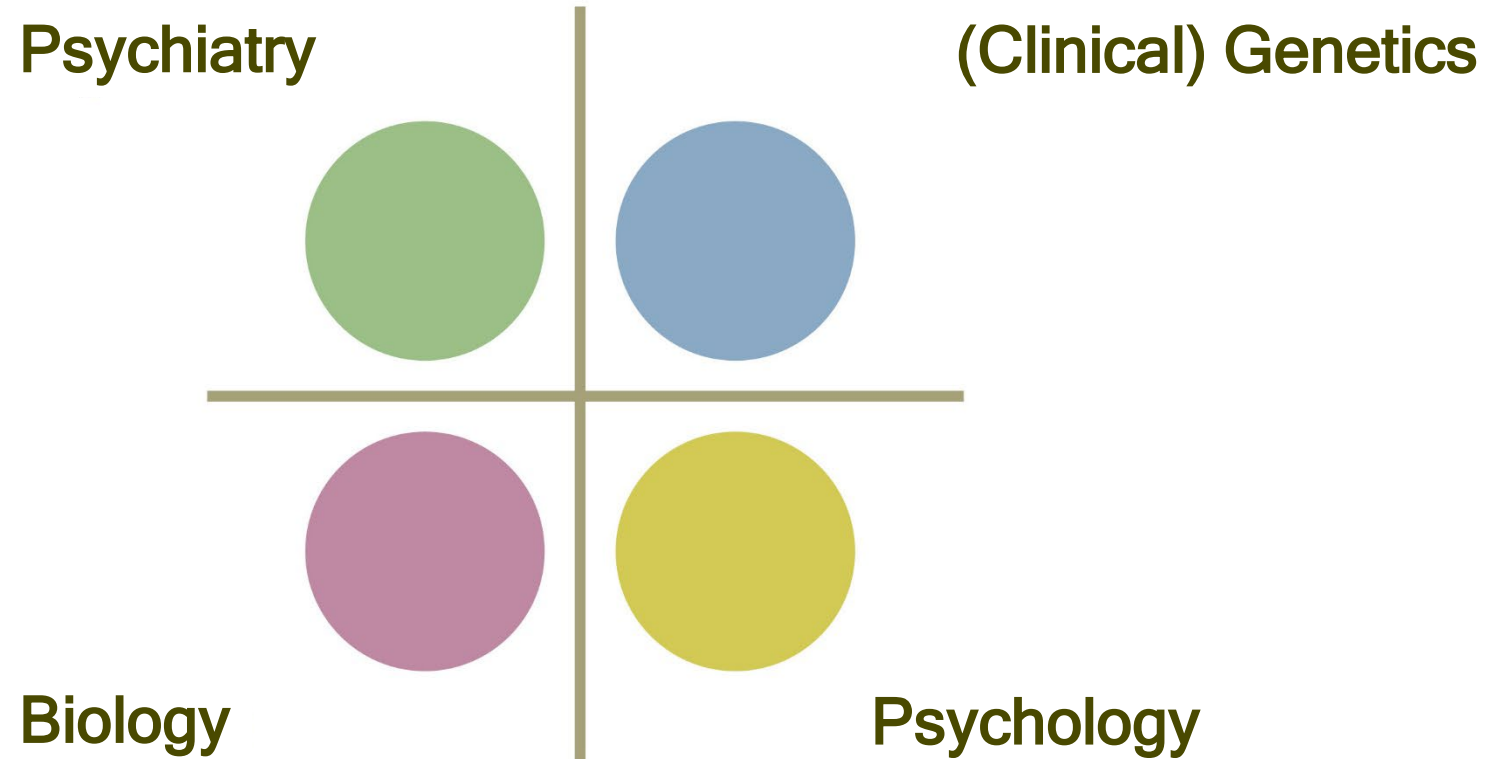
A number sign (#) is used with this entry because of evidence that Kleefstra syndrome is caused by mutation in the EHMT1 gene ([607001](#)), which is located within the region of the chromosome 9q34.3 deletion syndrome.



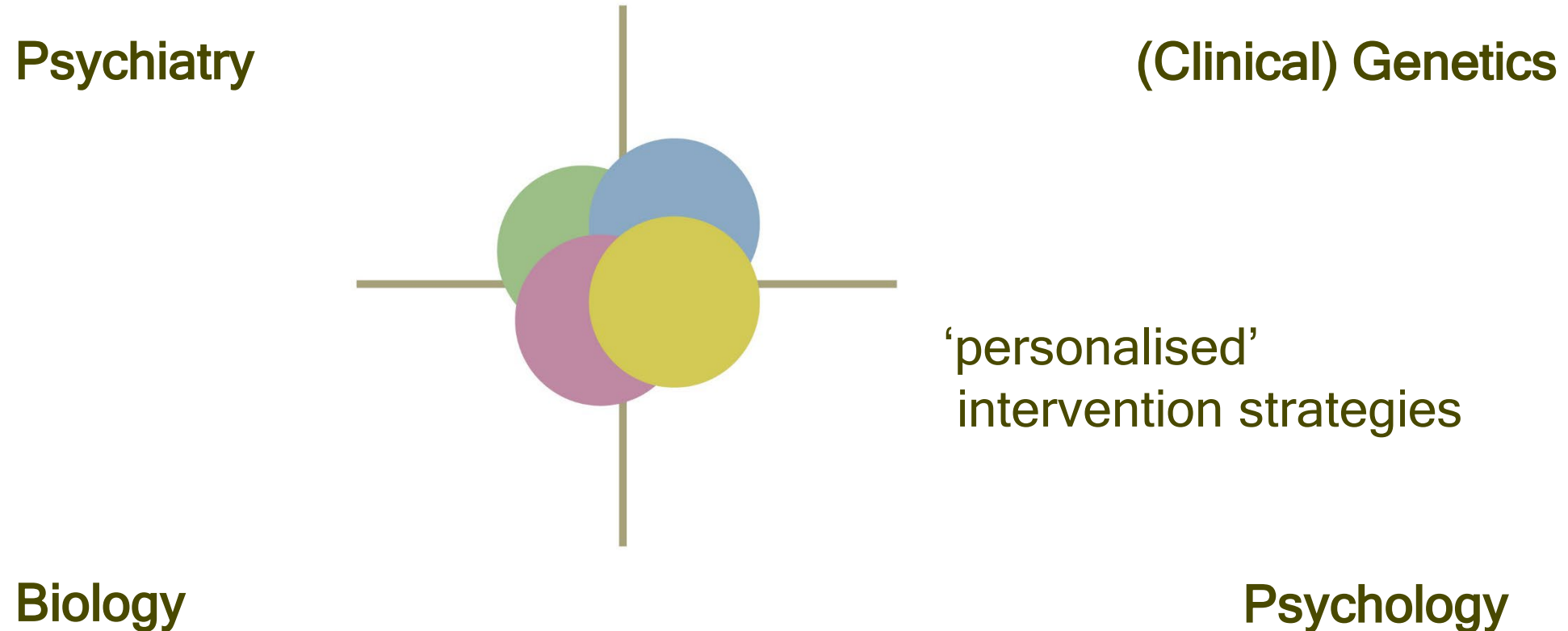
EHMT1 after 2006....

- Genome First: broadening molecular and clinical spectra
- Clinical follow up/natural history
- Pre-clinical studies
- “Kleefstra syndrome type 2”

Rare genetic syndromes



Aim: optimal treatment through knowledge integration



Neuropsychiatric deterioration



Research Article |  Full Access |

Kleefstra syndrome in three adult patients: Further delineation of the behavioral and neurological phenotype shows aspects of a neurodegenerative course*

Willem M.A. Verhoeven, Jos I.M. Egger, Karlijn Vermeulen, Bart P.C. van de Warrenburg, Tjitske Kleefstra

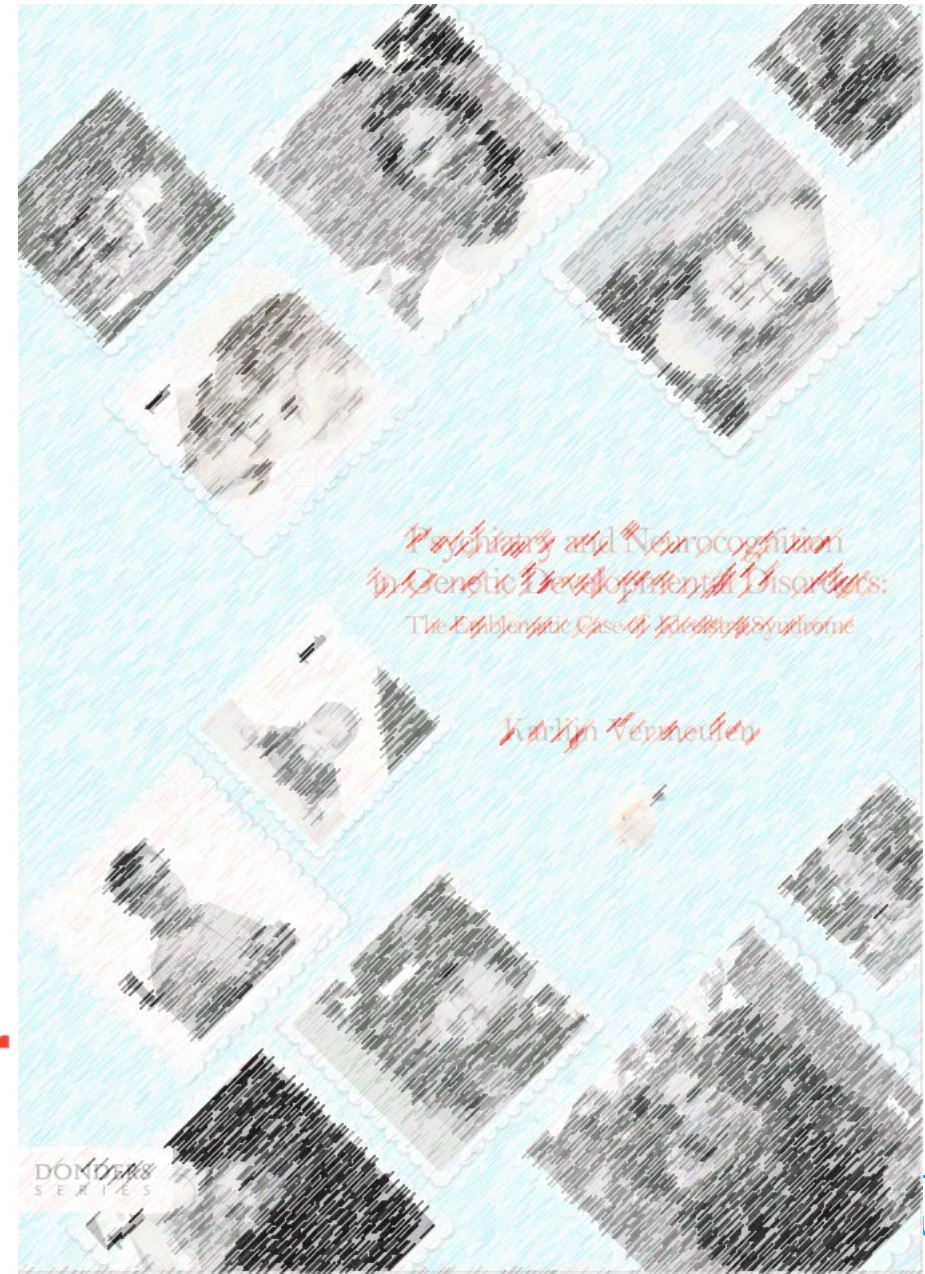
AMJG 2011; 155(10):2409-2415



Psychiatry in Kleefstra syndrome

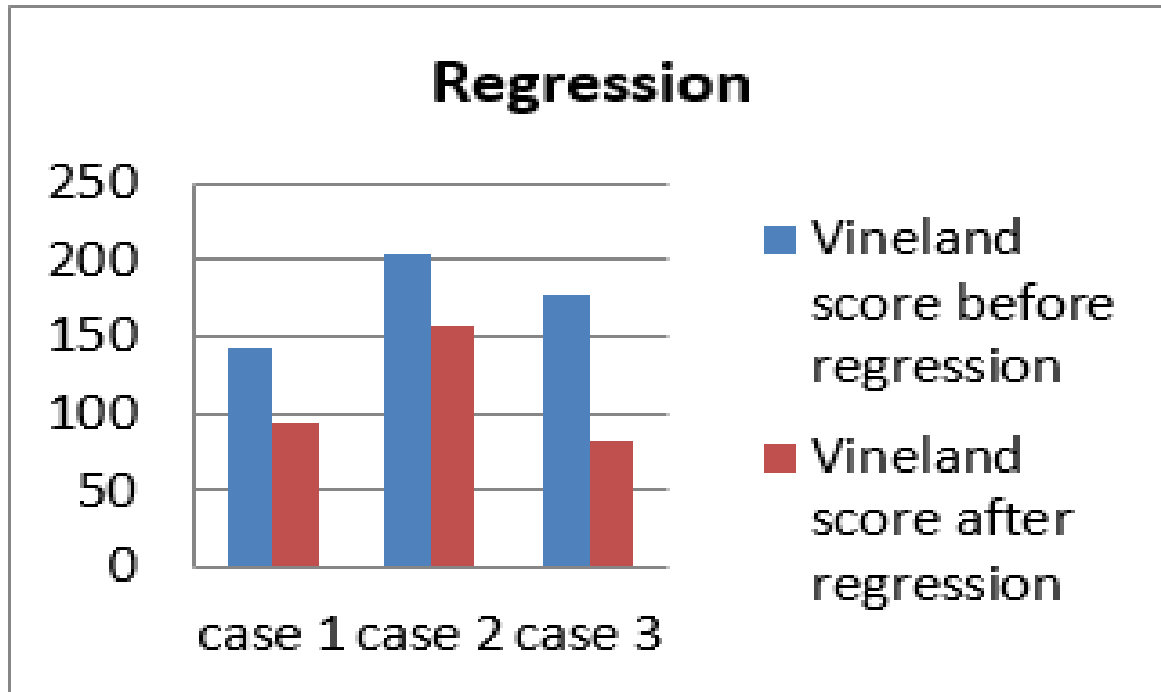


kinder- en jeugdpsychiatrie
karakter



Severe loss of function post-puberty!

Adaptive functioning: Vineland-Z: Clinical interview



Vineland-Z Adaptive Behavior Domains		
Communication (Com)	Daily living skills (Day)	Socialization (Soc)
Receptive	Personal	Interpersonal Relationships
Expressive	Domestic	Play and Leisure
Written Language	Community	Social skills

225 items, maximum 450 points (0,1,2 points per item)

Natural History



Joost Kummeling

To develop and implement intervention strategies for Kleefstra syndrome

Objective 1: to develop a **follow-up strategy** for KS patients with special attention to behavioral development changes

Objective 2: to perform an **international clinical effect study** to prevent general regression in patients with KS syndrome

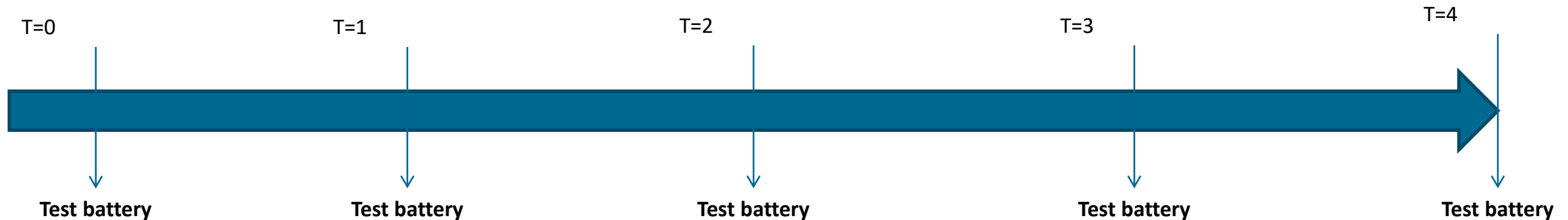
Objective 3: to **understand the pathophysiology** of the regression observed in KS and the mechanism of olanzapine using patient-derived induced neurons

Sequential design

Sequential designs with small samples: Evaluation and recommendations for normal responses

Stavros Nikolakopoulos, Kit CB Roes and Ingeborg van der Tweel

- *Treatment starts when symptoms of psychosis/regression occur*
- *Early Detection Cohort with psychosis and Late Detection Cohort will be treated*





Help Us Investigate the Natural History of Kleefstra Syndrome

At Boston Children's Hospital, we are conducting a research study for individuals ages 13 years and older who have been diagnosed with Kleefstra Syndrome. The goals of this research are to study the natural history of Kleefstra Syndrome and determine best practices for treating the mental health challenges such as psychosis and behavioral regression that can be associated with Kleefstra Syndrome.

Who can participate in this study?

Anyone genetically diagnosed with Kleefstra Syndrome (EHMT1 deletion or pathogenic variant) that is 13 years of age or older.

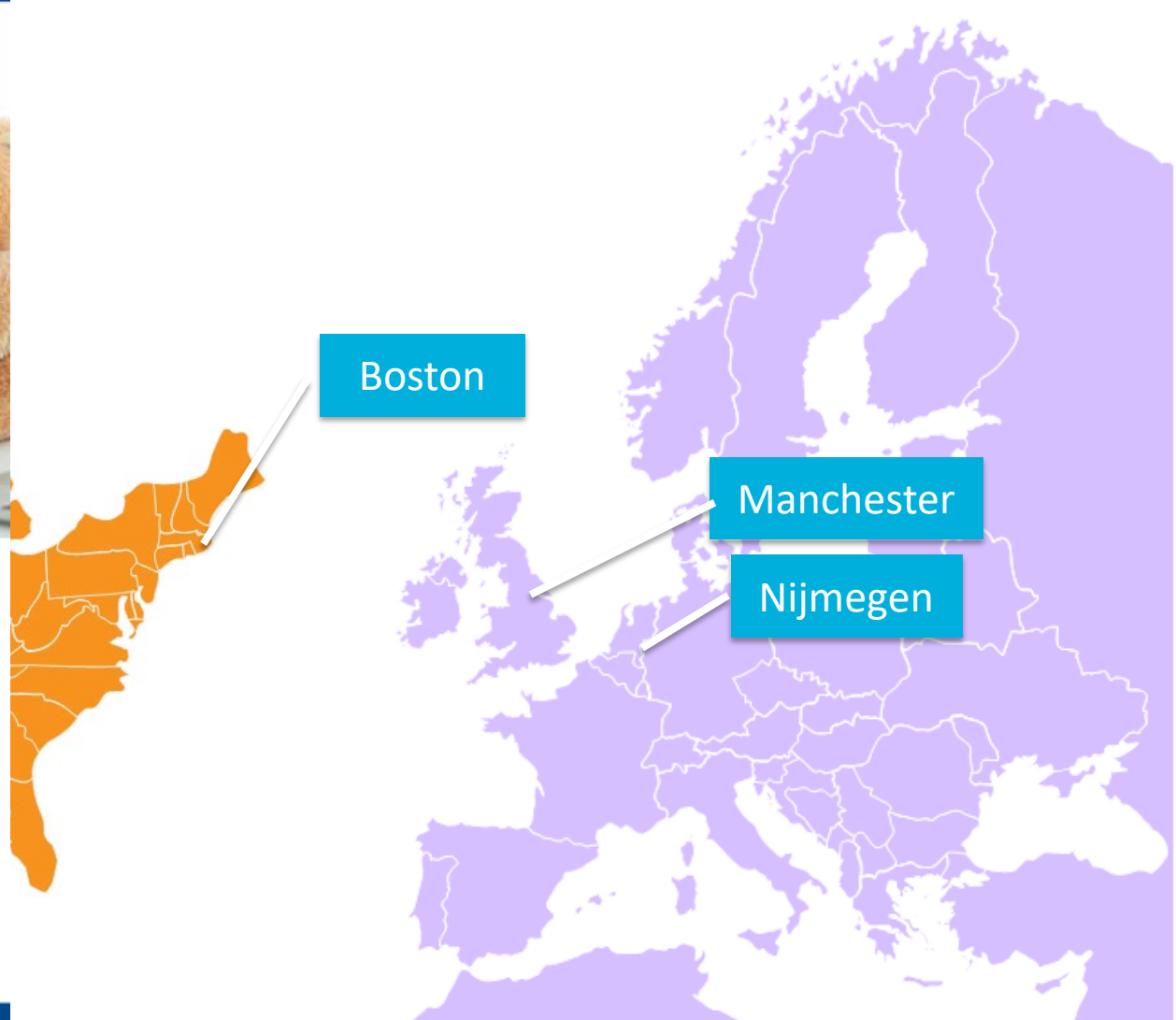
How long will the study last?

This will be a four-year natural history, observational study. You will be asked to visit Boston Children's Hospital at least four times during the study or you may participate through a yearly virtual study visit.

What will participants do during this study?

- Participant/caregiver will need to sign our informed consent form which will provide details of the study and ensure everyone's understanding.
- Participants will have behavioral and cognitive testing, physical exams, and blood tests (for safety).
- Parents/caregivers will answer questions about the participant's behavior and medical history.
- If a participant shows clear signs of psychosis or a deterioration in behavioral functions, we may ask the participant to come in additional times.

This is an international study. Patients and their caregivers will be seen at the Radboud University Medical Center, Manchester Centre for Genomic Medicine, or Boston Children's Hospital. If you are interested in participating in this important study, please contact Jacqueline.Drew@childrens.harvard.edu.



“Kleefstra syndrome type 2”

What about Kleefstra syndrome type 2.....

#617768

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Phenotypic Series

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617768

KLEEFSTRA SYNDROME 2; KLEFS2

Phenotype-Gene Relationships

Location	Phenotype	Phenotype MIM number	Inheritance	Phenotype mapping key	Gene/Locus	Gene/Locus MIM number
7q36.1	Kleefstra syndrome 2	617768	AD	3	KMT2C	606833

Clinical Synopsis

Phenotypic Series

PheneGene Graphics



▼ TEXT

A number sign (#) is used with this entry because of evidence that Kleefstra syndrome-2 (KLEFS2) is caused by heterozygous mutation in the **KMT2C** gene (606833) on chromosome 7q36.

ICD+

▼ External Links

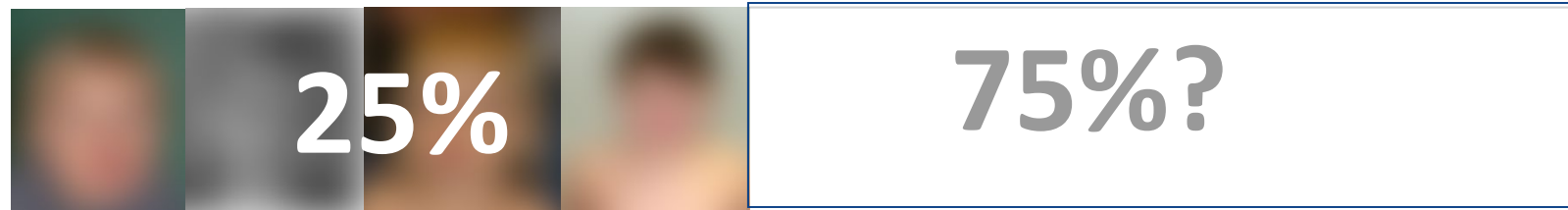
▶ Protein

▼ Clinical Resources

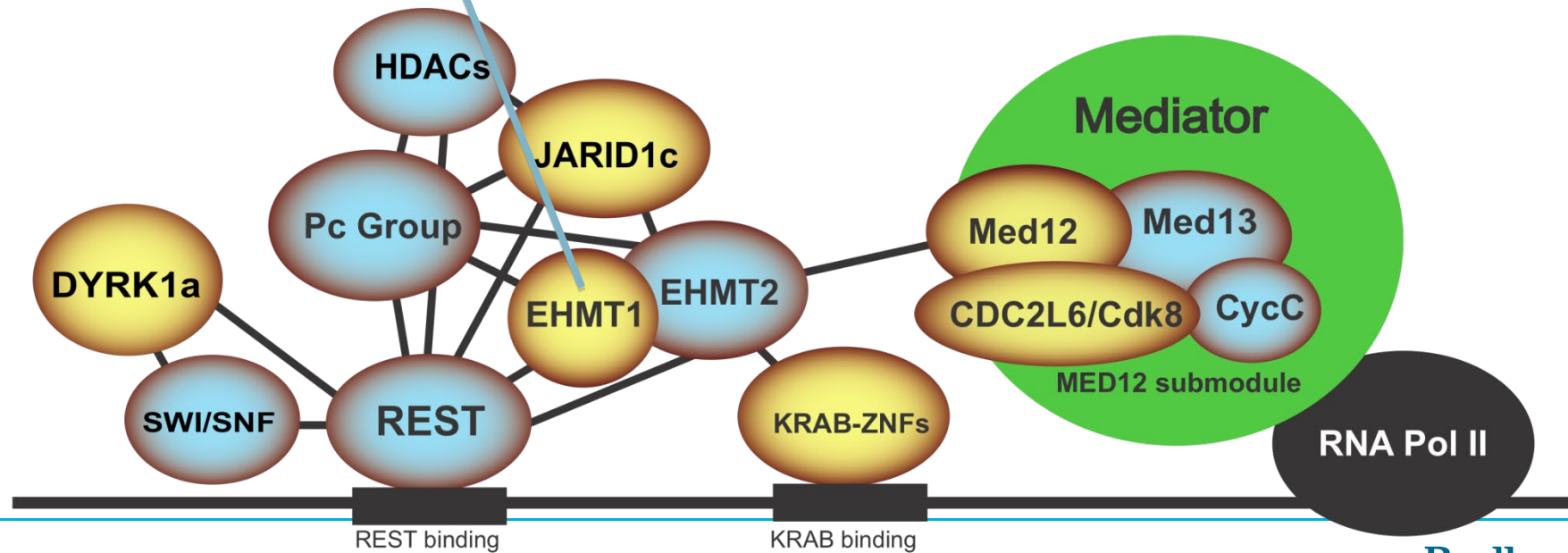
[Clinical Trials](#)
[EuroGentest](#)
[GTR](#)
[OrphaNet](#)
[POSSUM](#)

▶ Animal Models

2011: Module: Chromatin modification



Kleefstra syndrome



Finding the other causes

10 cases:

- **Targeted: 5 cases**

Gene Ontology (GO) term: 'chromatin modification'

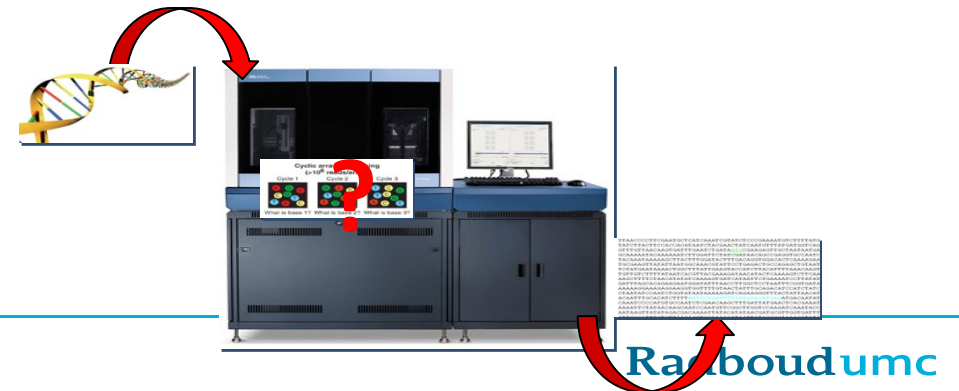
String database/Known EHMT1 interactors

Total \approx 400 genes

- **Whole Exome: 5 cases**

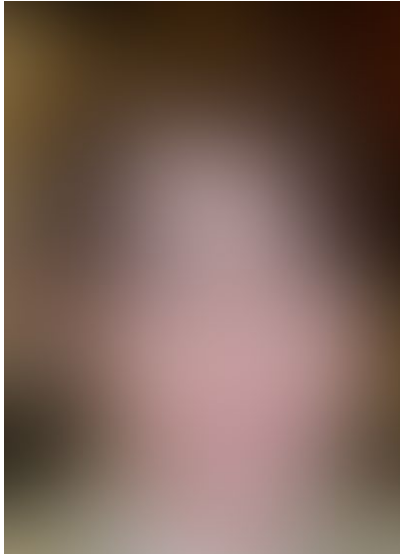
\approx 18000 genes

'Trio screening'

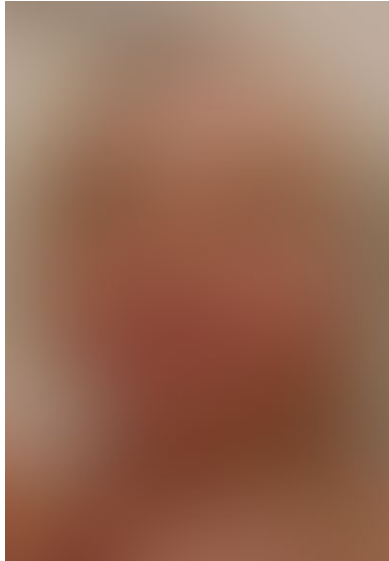


Genetic causes in 'EHMT1-negative' patients

Whole Exome

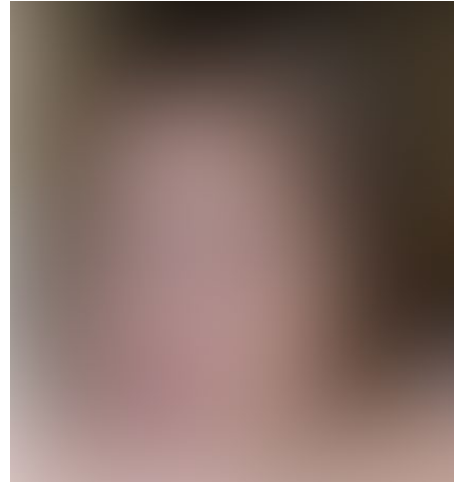


MBD5

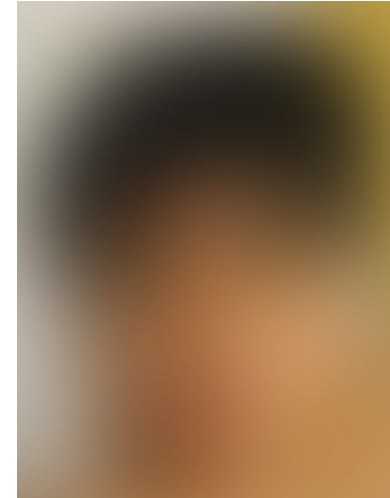


NR1I3

Targeted



SMARCB1

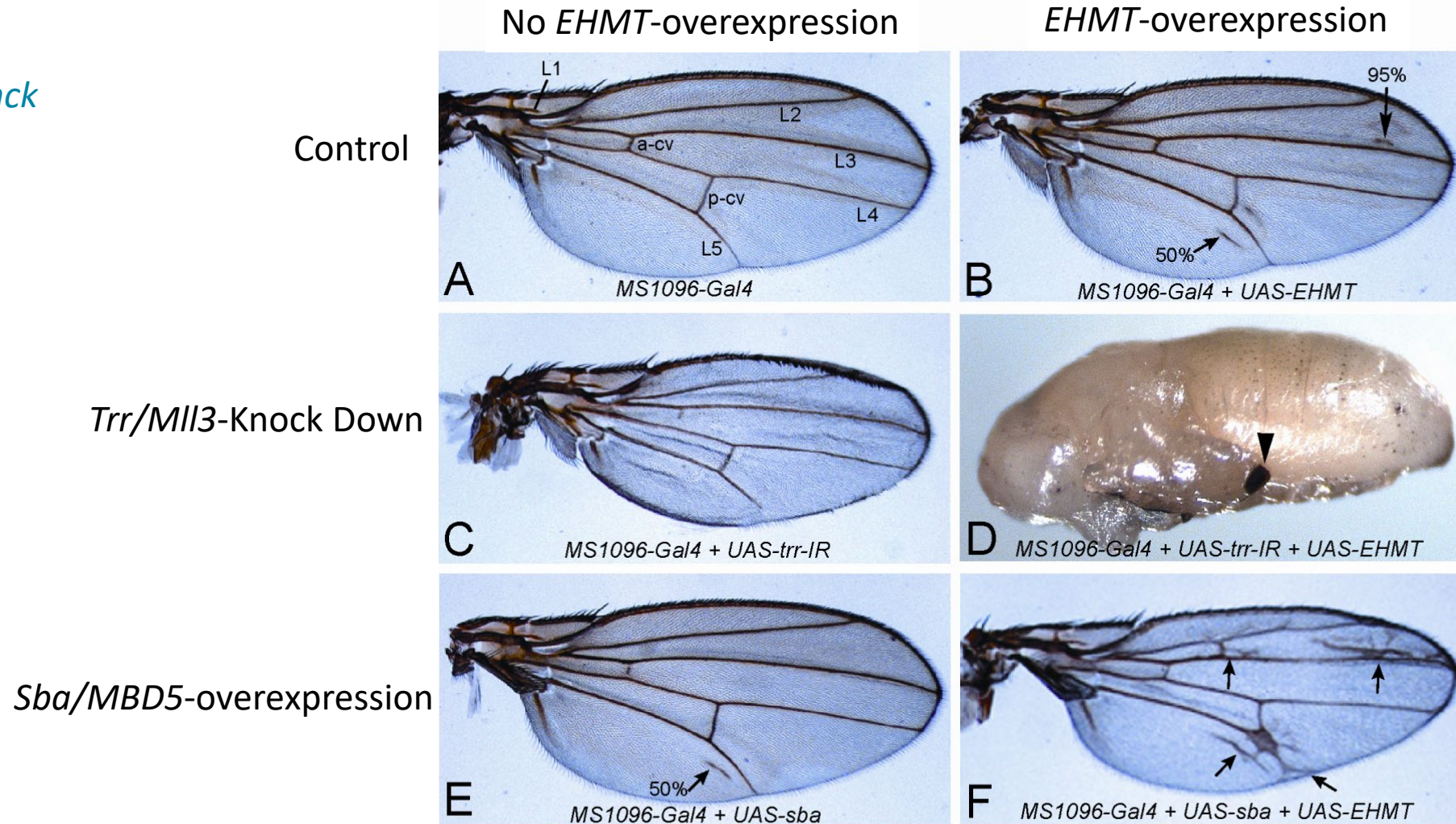


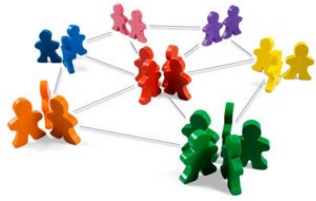
MLL3

Any interactions of these genes/proteins known?

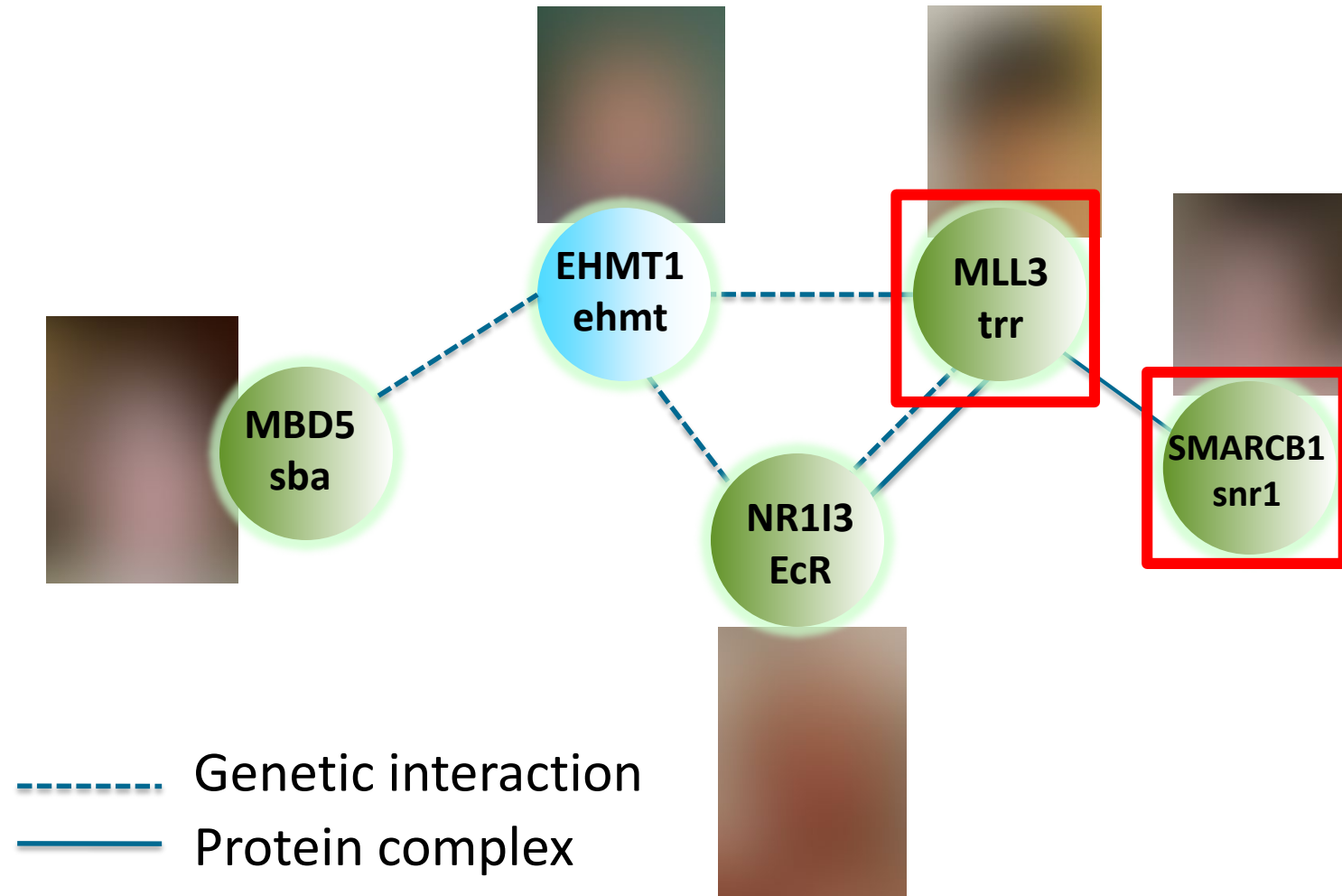
Kleefstra et al., AJHG 2012

Collaboration
Jamie Kramer
Annette Schenck
Radboudumc

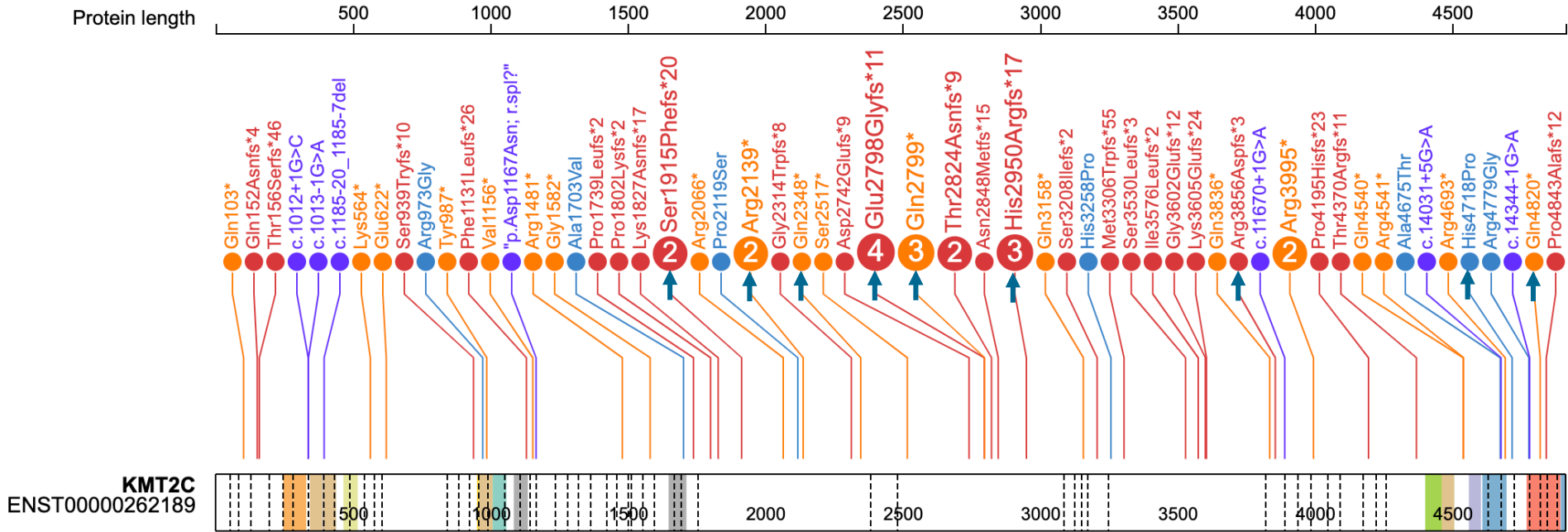




Establishment of *EHMT1* associated genotype and phenotype networks



Ongoing collection: *KMT2C*-related NDD cohort n=90



- ePHD1_KMT2C** Extended PHD finger 1 found in histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 2C (*KMT2C*)
- RING** Ring finger
- PHD2_KMT2C** PHD finger 2 found in Histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 2C (*KMT2C*)
- PHD3_KMT2C** PHD finger 3 found in Histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 2C (*KMT2C*)
- PHD4_KMT2C** PHD finger 4 found in Histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 2C (*KMT2C*)
- PHD5_KMT2C_like** PHD finger 5 found in Histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 2C (*KMT2C*) an ...
- PHD6_KMT2C** PHD finger 6 found in Histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 2C (*KMT2C*)
- HMG** high mobility group
- ePHD2_KMT2C** Extended PHD finger 2 found in histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 2C (*KMT2C*)
- FYRN** FY-rich domain
- FYRC** FY-rich domain
- SET** SET (Su(var)3-9)
- PostSET** Cysteine-rich motif following a subset of SET domains

- NONSENSE, n=23**
- FRAMESHIFT, n=31**
- MISSENSE, n=7**
- SPLICE, n=7**
- Inherited**

KMT2C variants compared to EHMT1 and KMT2D

Collaboration

Rosanna Weksberg Sick Kids, Toronto

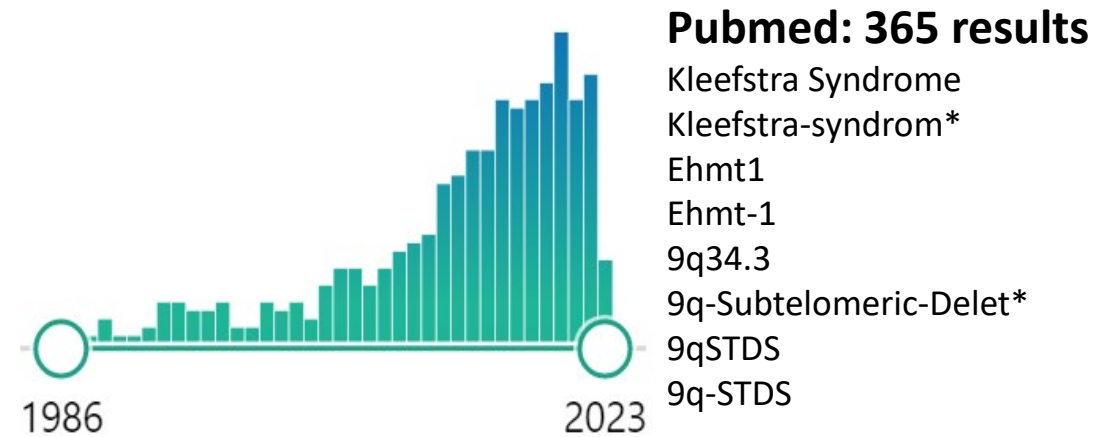
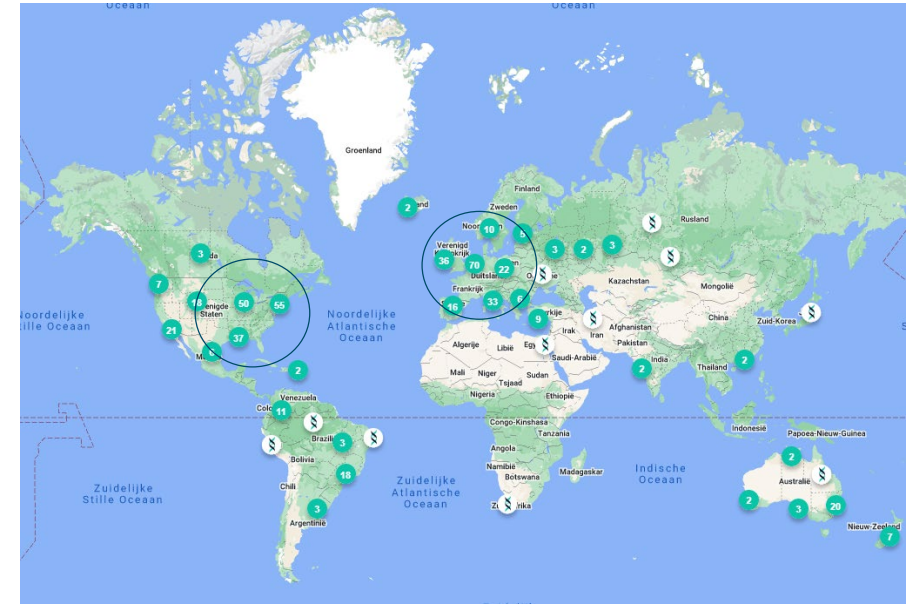
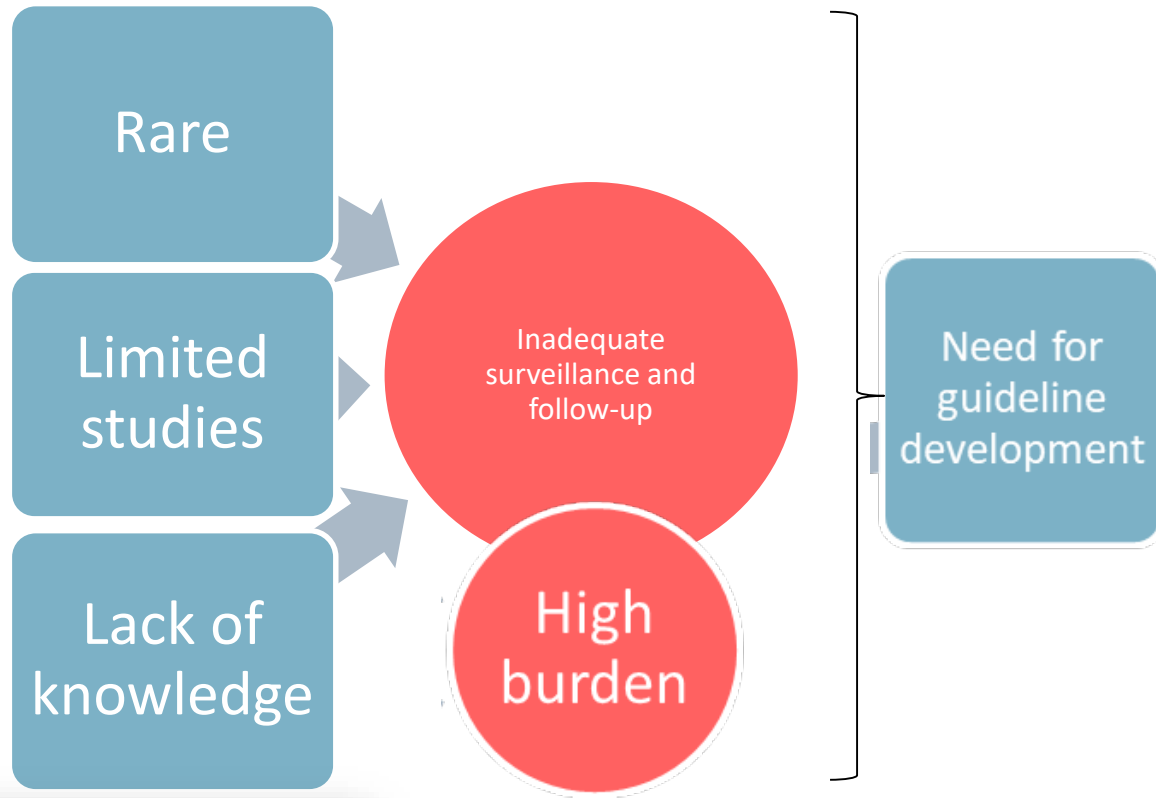
Sid Banka, Genomic Medicine, Manchester

Conclusion: Cohort differences on all levels

- Distinctive methylation signatures
- HPO terms + facial symptoms

guideline

Kleefstra syndrome



Consortium aim

To develop a clinical consensus guideline

- achieve an uniform, minimum standard of care
- support clinical decision making

- *Clinical*

Based on clinical questions

- *Consensus*

Evidence-based



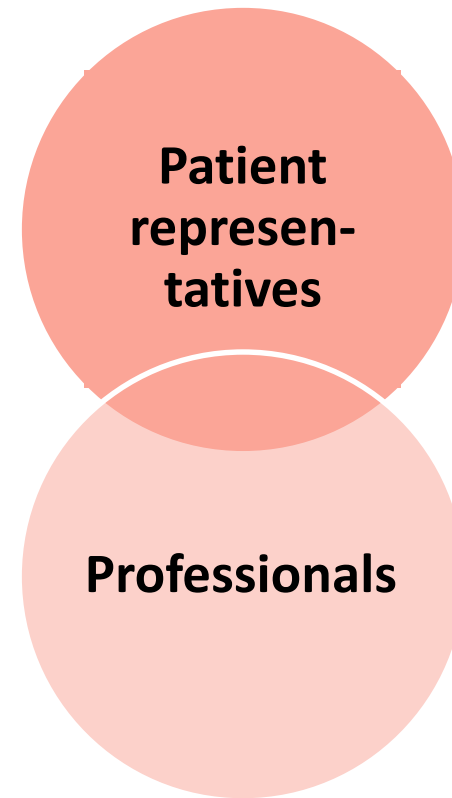
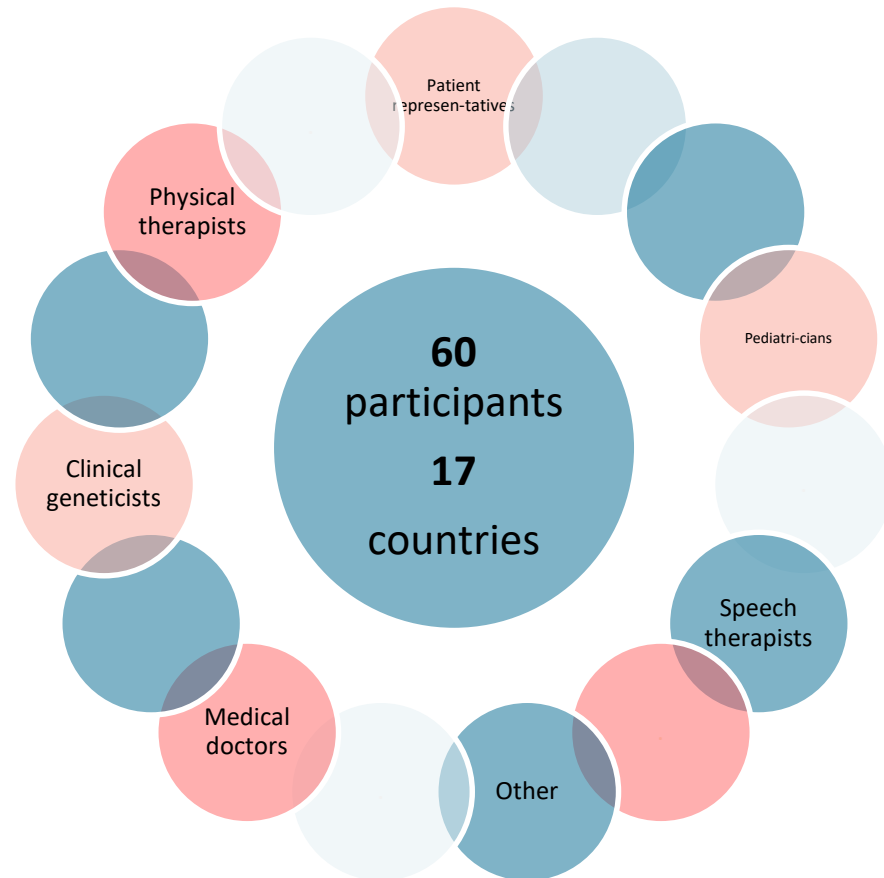
Consensus-based

- *Guideline*

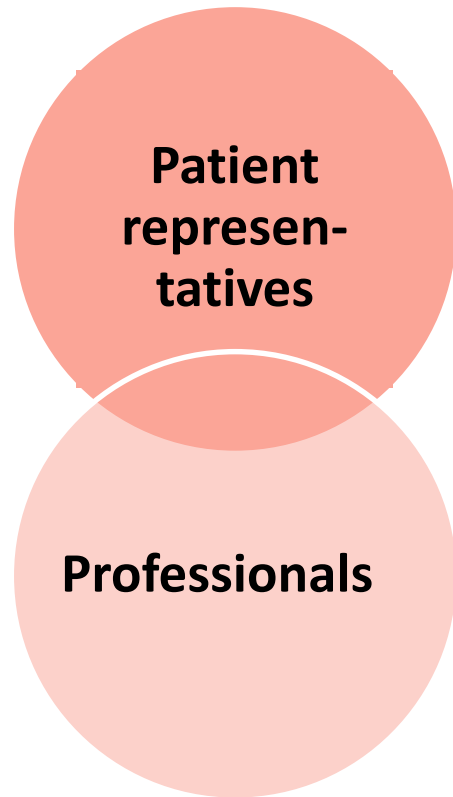
Recommendations to use in clinical practice



Guideline process



Survey and consortium meeting



Working groups (WG)

1. General care: patients and families
2. Development, Speech, Communication
3. Behavior, Sleep, Neurology
4. Cardiology, Digestive tract
5. Genetic testing and counseling

Final product

- 12 chapters
 - Including 12 clinical topics + recommendations: prenatal period -> adulthood
- Clinical synopsis
- Lay version in different languages

- Guideline update plan
- Research agenda

- Planning: November 2023: Consensus meeting



Acknowledgements

Human Genetics Nijmegen

Arianne Bouwman

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Prof Lisenka Vissers

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Prof Han Brunner

Prof Hans van Bokhoven

Prof Nael Nadif Kasri

Prof Annette Schenck

Amalia Children Hospital

Dr Joyce Geelen

(Child)psychiatry Nijmegen

Dr Joost Janzing

Dr Monica Pop

Prof Nanda Lambregts

Clinical Neuropsychology,

Vincent van Gogh, Venray

Prof Jos Egger

Dr Karlijn Vermeulen



Kleefstra syndrome France



Guideline committee

