

# Genetic Counseling

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# **Medical Genetics: a new discipline**

**1 / Increase in congenital diseases  
v/s infectious diseases as a cause of  
infant morbidity and mortality.**

**2 / birth control → quality for small  
number of children.**

# When we say genetics

- **CARRIER HOPE**
  - \* new knowledge,
  - \* new therapies
- **And DESPAIR**
  - \* Today serious incurable diseases

# When we say genetics

- TRANSMISSION to the OTHER GENERATION

\* resemblance

in what is common  
between parents and children

\* difference

through gene flow  
sexual reproduction

# **Different types of genetic diseases**

**1) Chromosomal**

**2) Monogenic**

**3) Multigenic/Multifactorial**

**4) Mitochondrial**

# Chromosomal disorders (1/200)



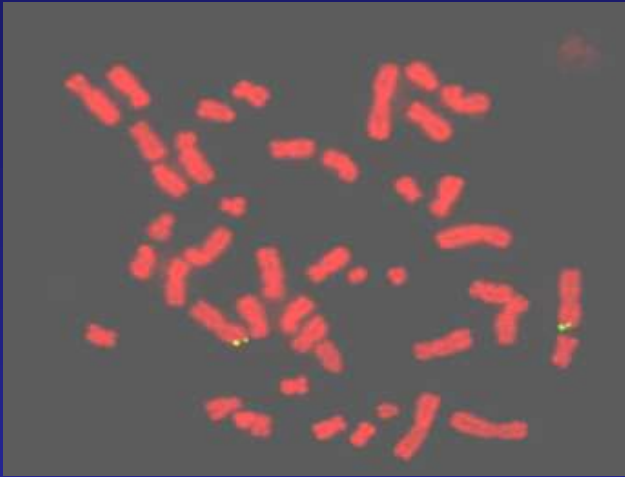
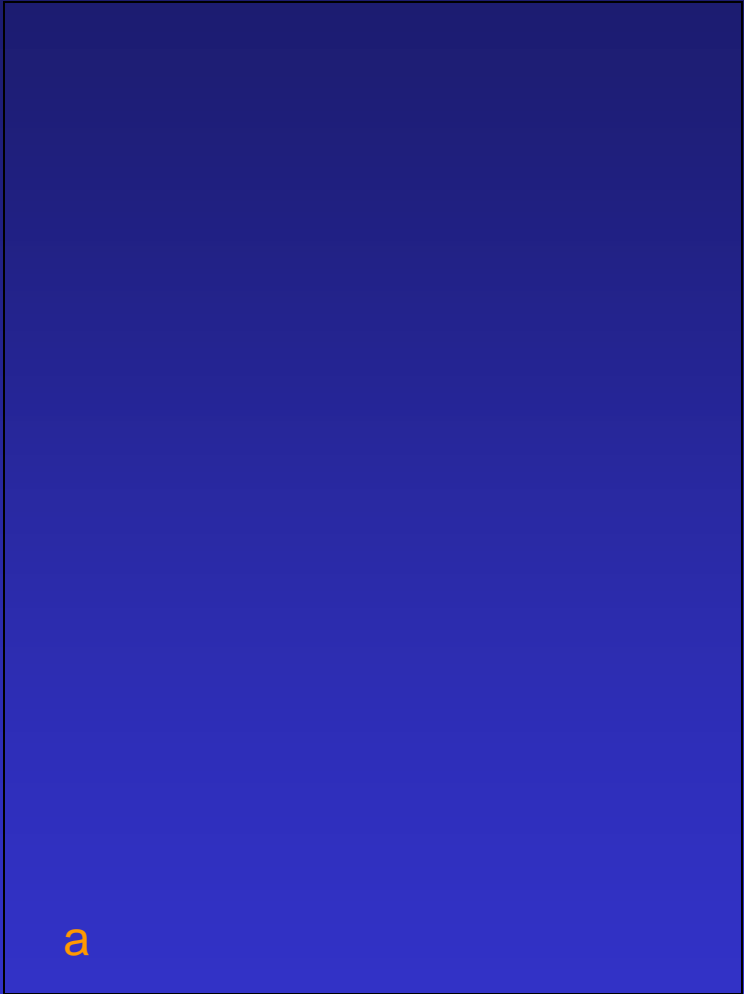
# Pader-Willi syndrome



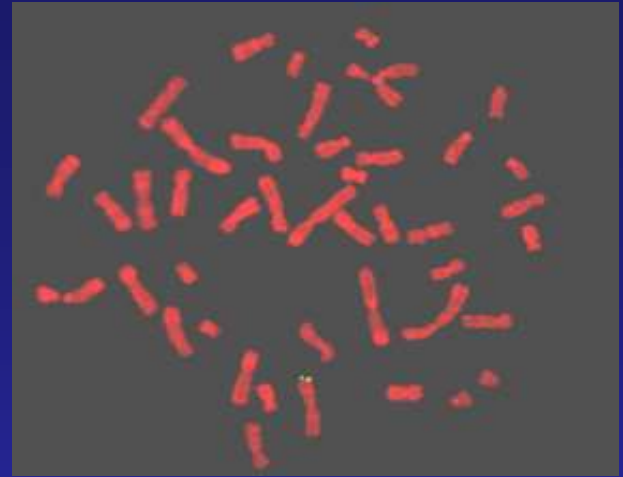
Angelman



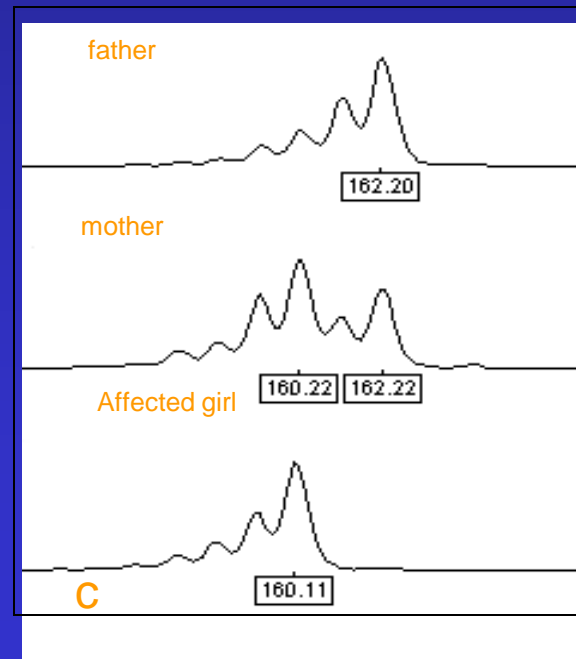




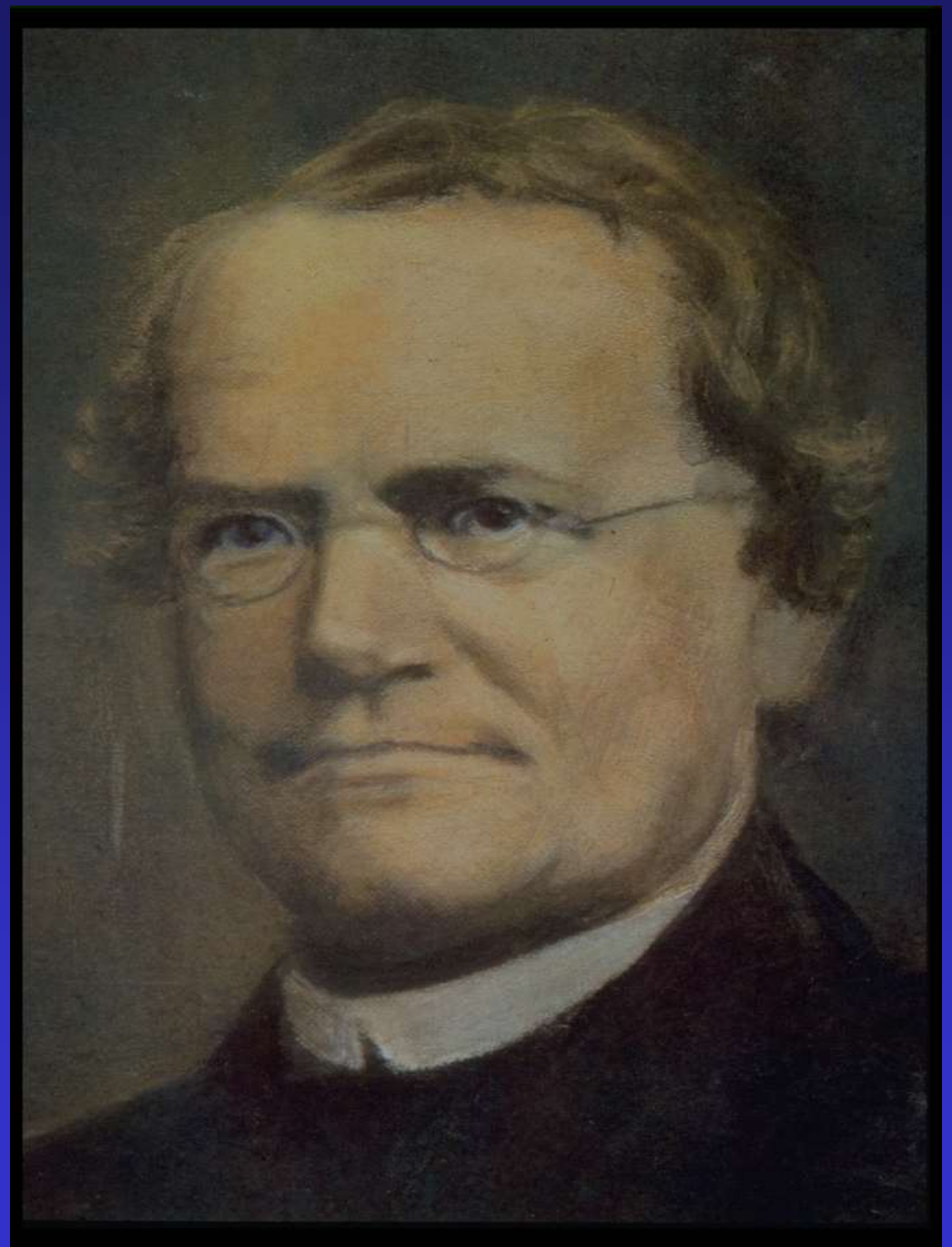
b(1)



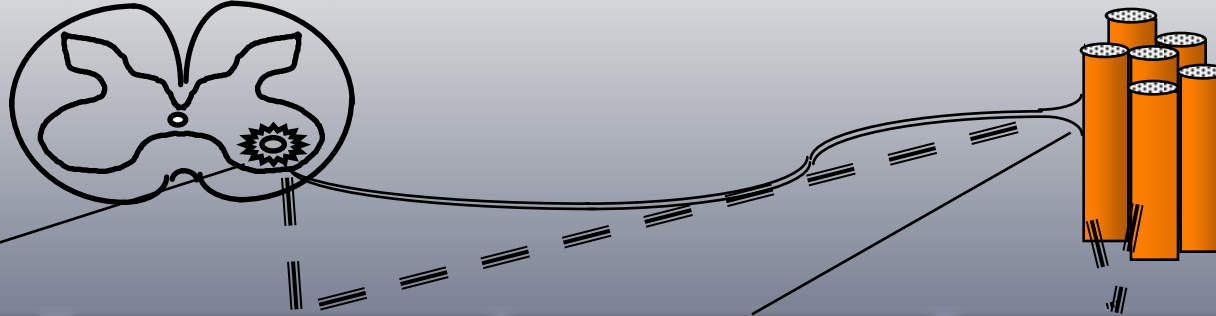
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Mendelian inheritance/  
Single gene defects (1/100)



# MAIN DISORDERS OF THE MOTOR UNIT



## ANTERIOR HORN

### SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHIES (SMA)

Types 1-4

(Werdnig-Hoffman)  
(Kugelberg-Welander)

**A.L.S.**

## NERVE

### NEUROPATHIES

**H.S.M.N.**

(Charcot-  
Marie-Tooth,  
Déjerine-Sotas,  
others)

**H.M.N.**  
**H.N.A.**

## NM JUNCTION

### MYASTHENIAS

**Myasthenia  
gravis**

**Congenital  
myasthenic  
syndromes**

## MUSCLE FIBER

### DYSTROPHIES

**Duchenne / Becker**  
**Limb girdle (LGMD)**  
**sarcoglycanopathies**  
**Emery-Dreifuss / FSH**

**MYOTONIC Sd**  
**Steinert / Thomsen**

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
**Mitochondrial**  
**Congenital**  
**Metabolic**  
**Dysimmune**

# Autosomal Dominant (AD) - NMD

## **Dystrophic**

LGMD 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E

FSHD : Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy

AD-EDMD : AD-Emery-Dreifuss MD

## **Congenital**

Central Core disease (CCD)

Nemaline myopathy

## **Myotonic**

Thomsen myotonia

Myotonic dystrophy (DM1)

P.R.O.M.M. (DM2)

## **Neuropathic**

AD Charcot-Marie-Tooth

## **Miscellaneous**

hereditary Inclusion Body Myopathy (h-IBM)

FOP : Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva

# Autosomal recessive (AR) - NMD

## Dystrophic

sarcoglycanopathies ( $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\delta$ )  
Calpainopathy (LGMD 2A)  
LGMD 2B - Miyoshi  
LGMD 2G, 2H, 2I  
Congenital Muscular Dystrophies (CMD)

## Congenital

multiminicore disease  
selenopathy, nemaline myopathy, AR CCD

## Myotonic

Becker (!) myotonia  
Schwartz-Jampel syndrome

## Neuropathic

Spinal muscular atrophies (SMA)  
AR Charcot-Marie-Tooth

## Miscellaneous

hereditary Inclusion Body Myopathy (h-IBM)

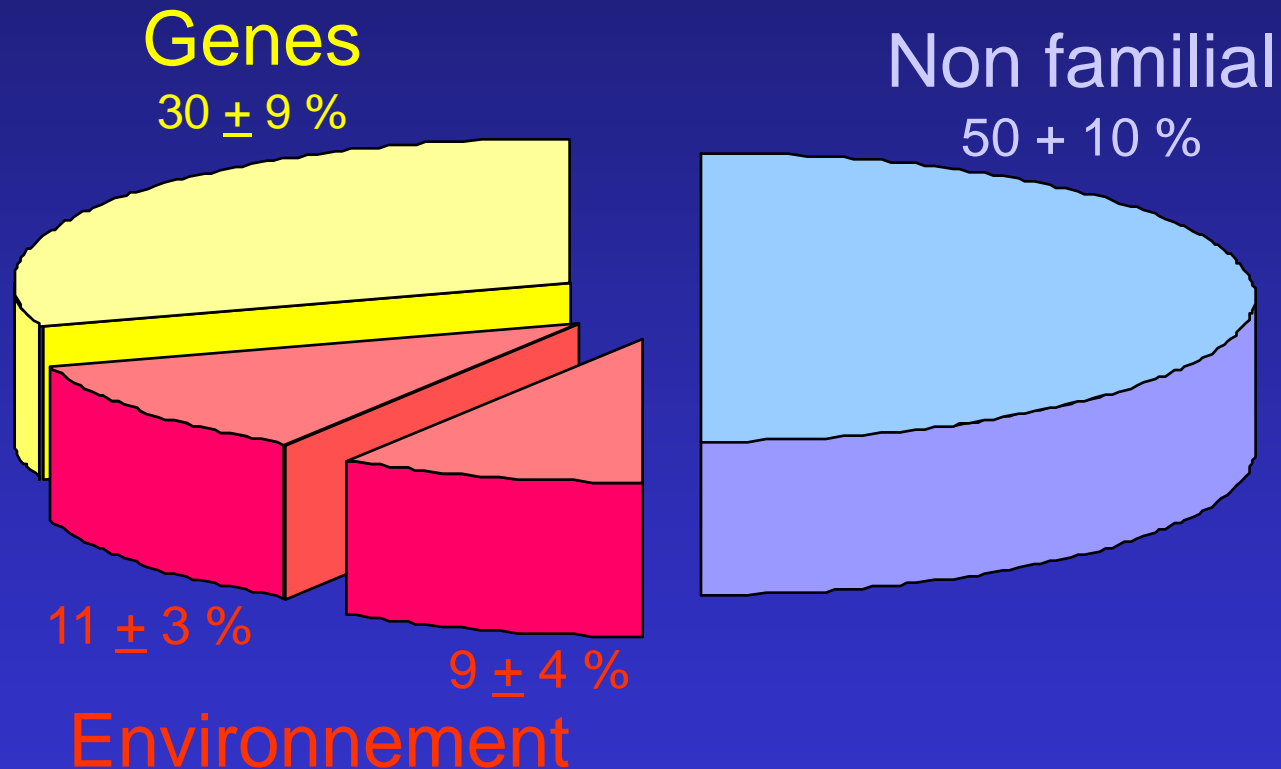
# MODE OF INHERITANCE & NMD

## X-linked recessive (XL)

<b>Dystrophic</b>	DMD : Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy BMD : Becker Muscular Dystrophy XL-EDMD : XL-Emery-Dreifuss m.d.
<b>Congenital</b>	Myotubular myopathy
<b>Neuropathic</b>	Charcot-Marie-Tooth (Cx 32) Kennedy syndrome
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	XMEA (myopathy + excessive autophagy)

# Multifactorial diseases

## Blood pressure



- **Mitochondrial (rare)**

- **MERRF**
- **MELAS**
- **Kearns-Sayre**
- **LHON.....**



# **What is a genetic counseling**

- **Assess the risk for a couple to have a child with a genetic disease.**
- **To evaluate a person's risk of developing genetic disease.**

**All in reference to a family history**

# **Genetic Counseling**

- **an original medical approach**

**It is not directed to a sick person**

**but:**

**a couple**

**a family**

**a "healthy" individual**

# **Genetic counseling**

**it concerns another person**

**the unborn child**

**or**

**the future**

**(a risk of developing the disease)**

# **Genetic counseling**

- **It often results in any preventive or curative treatment**
- **It can lead to important life choices: renunciation (not having children), decision of death (abortion), adoption**

# Genetic counseling

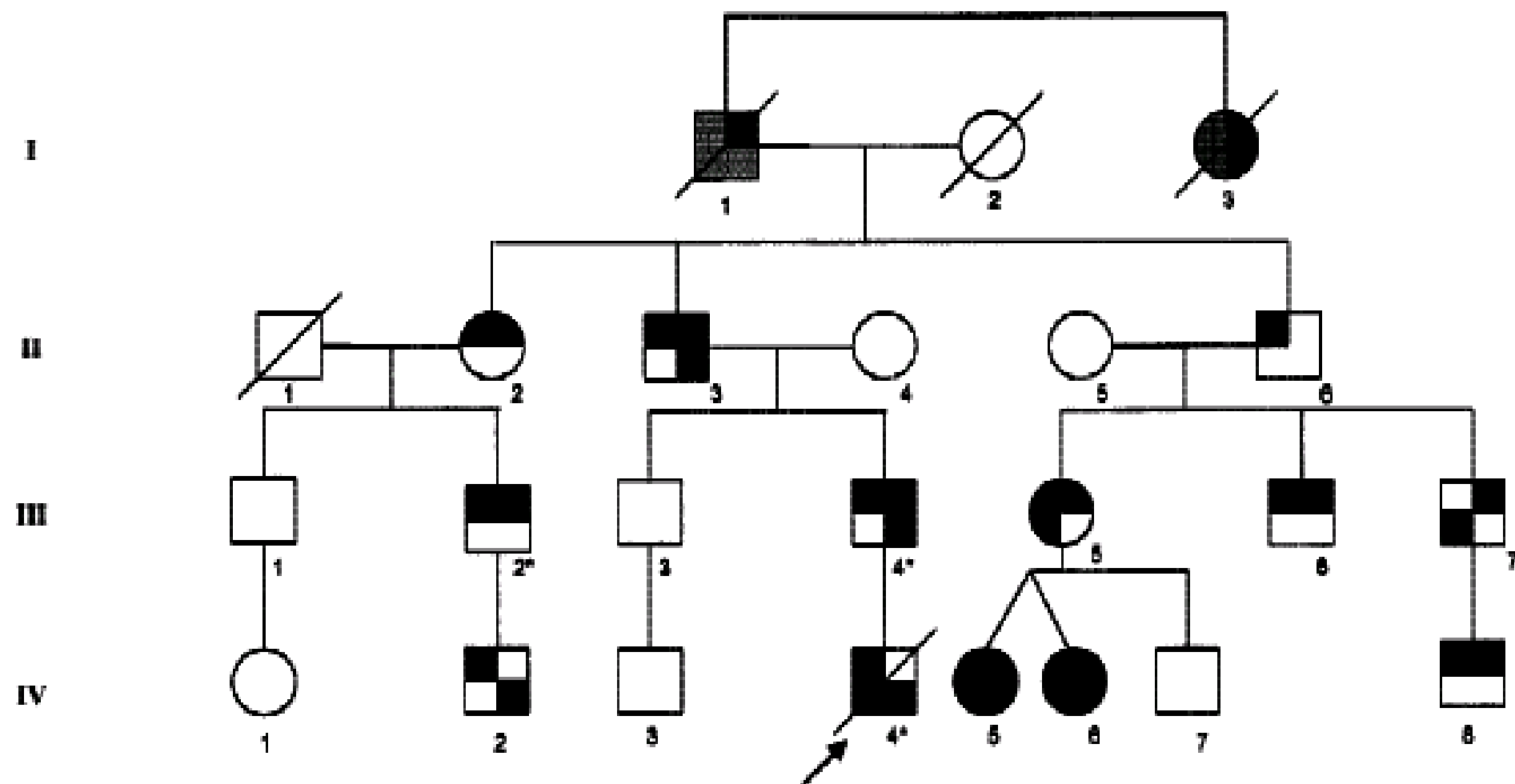
- The circumstances that lead a couple genetic counseling are highly variable:
  - Parents or children with hereditary disease: assessing the risk of recurrence
  - Parents who have had a stillborn child, abnormal child, disabled, without accurate diagnosis
  - Parents with a child with a chromosomal abnormality or genetic disease and fear of recurrence in a subsequent pregnancy.

# Genetic counseling

- Infertile couple or couples who have had repeated miscarriages
- Young couples facing a problem of inbreeding...

# Bases for Genetic Counseling

- 1) the construction of the family tree:
  - Known information
  - Misinformation
  - The forgotten or unknown information (strained family relationships, family conflict)
  - Hidden informations (family secret; taboos around genetic disease)

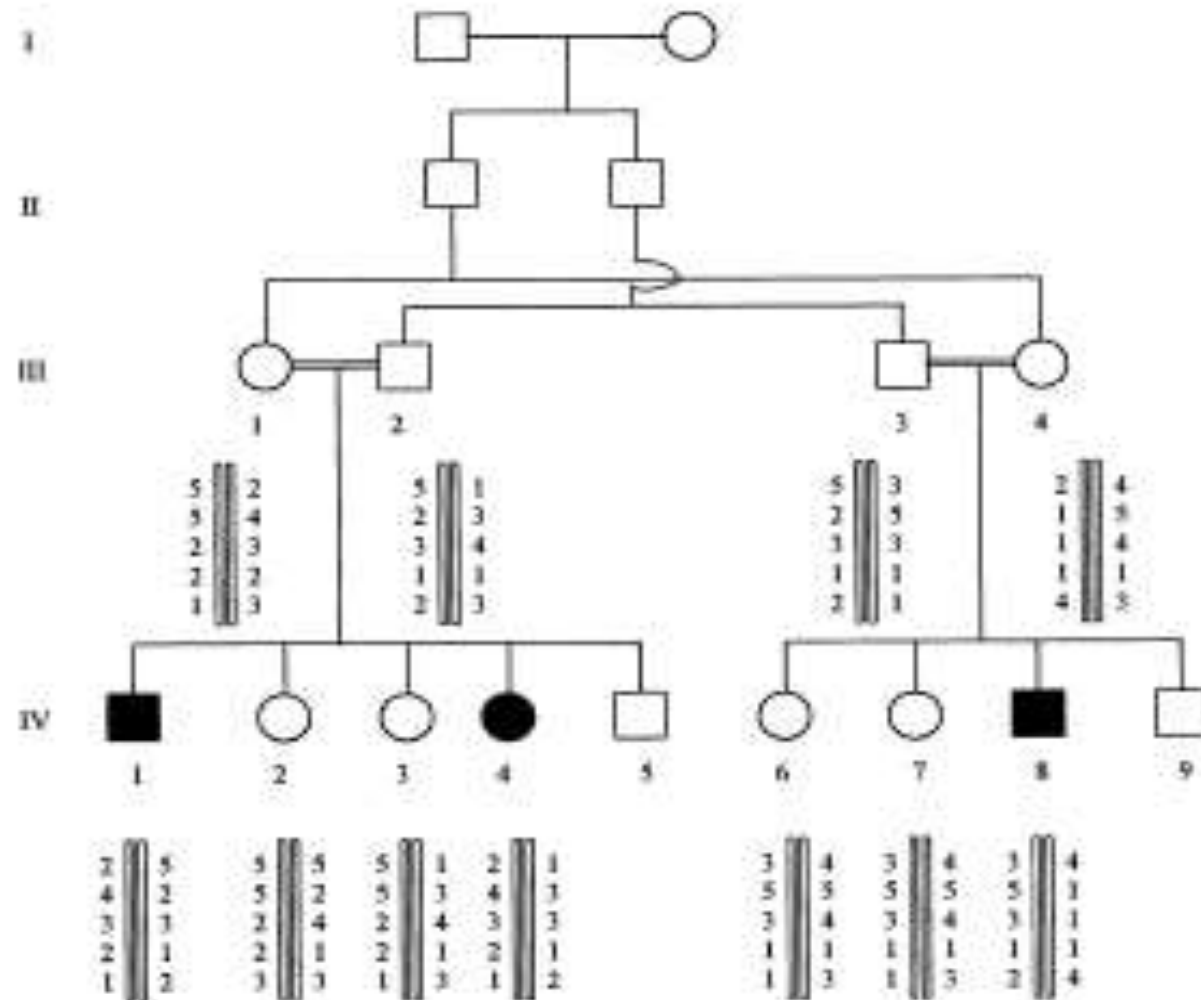


SASD      Functional  
Other heart defects      Body defects

Fig. 1. Pedigree of the family. Propositus is indicated by an arrow and SASD surgically repaired by an asterisk. Various associated anomalies are represented within the four divided square or circle and detailed in the text. Dotted symbols represent nondocumented cases.



# Autosomal recessive



## X Linked

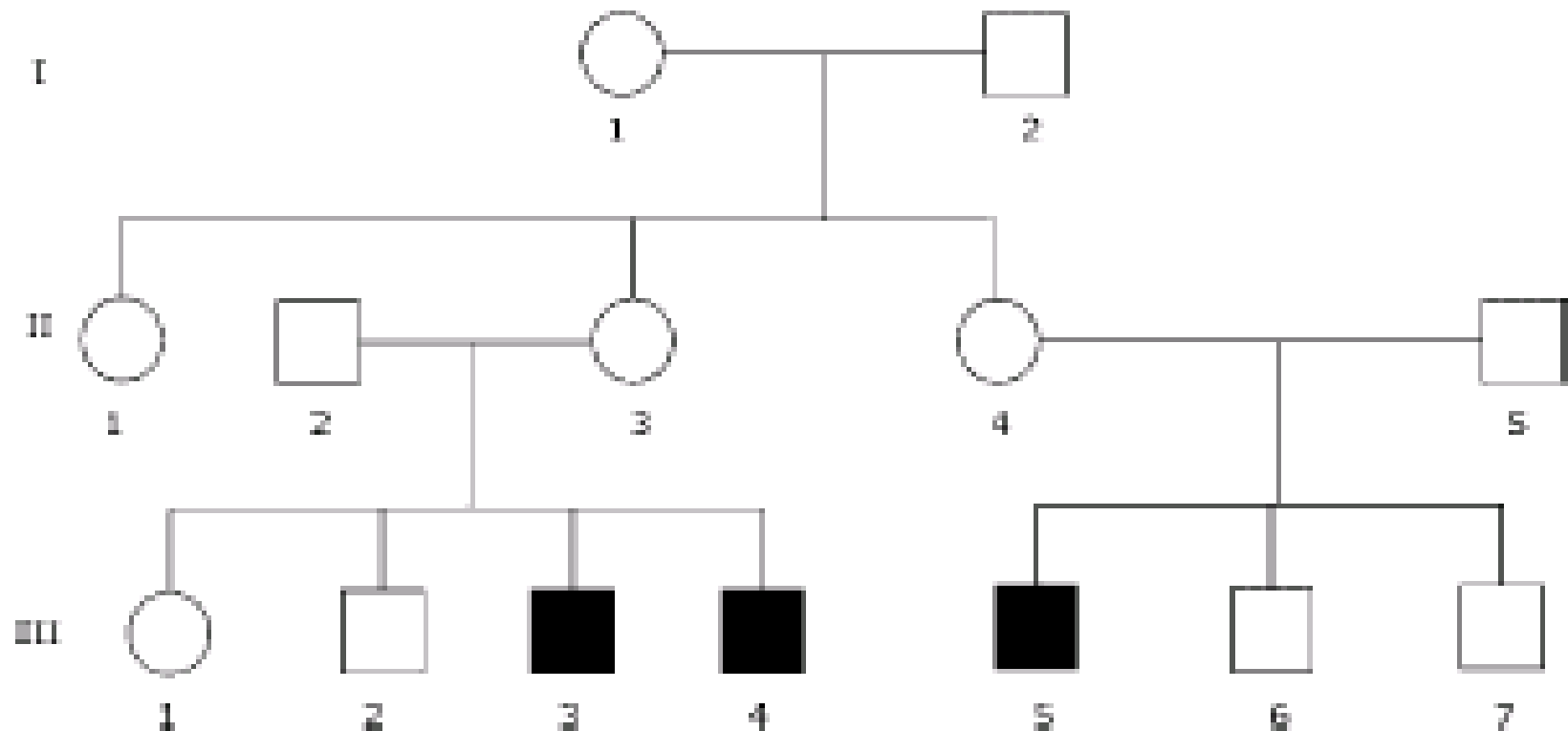
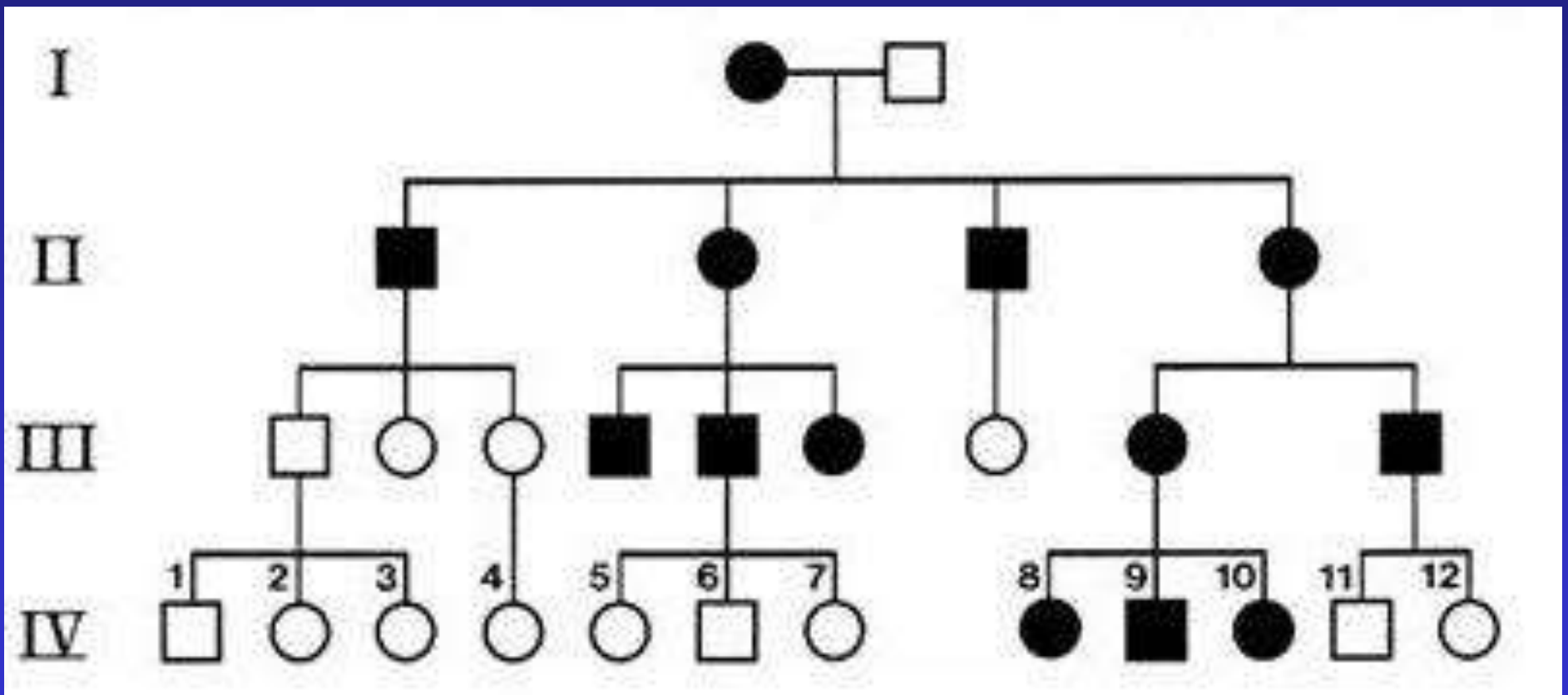


Fig. 1. Pedigree of the present family. Squares with solid dark color indicate the affected individuals.

# Mitochondrial



# Bases for genetic counseling

- 2) risk assessment:

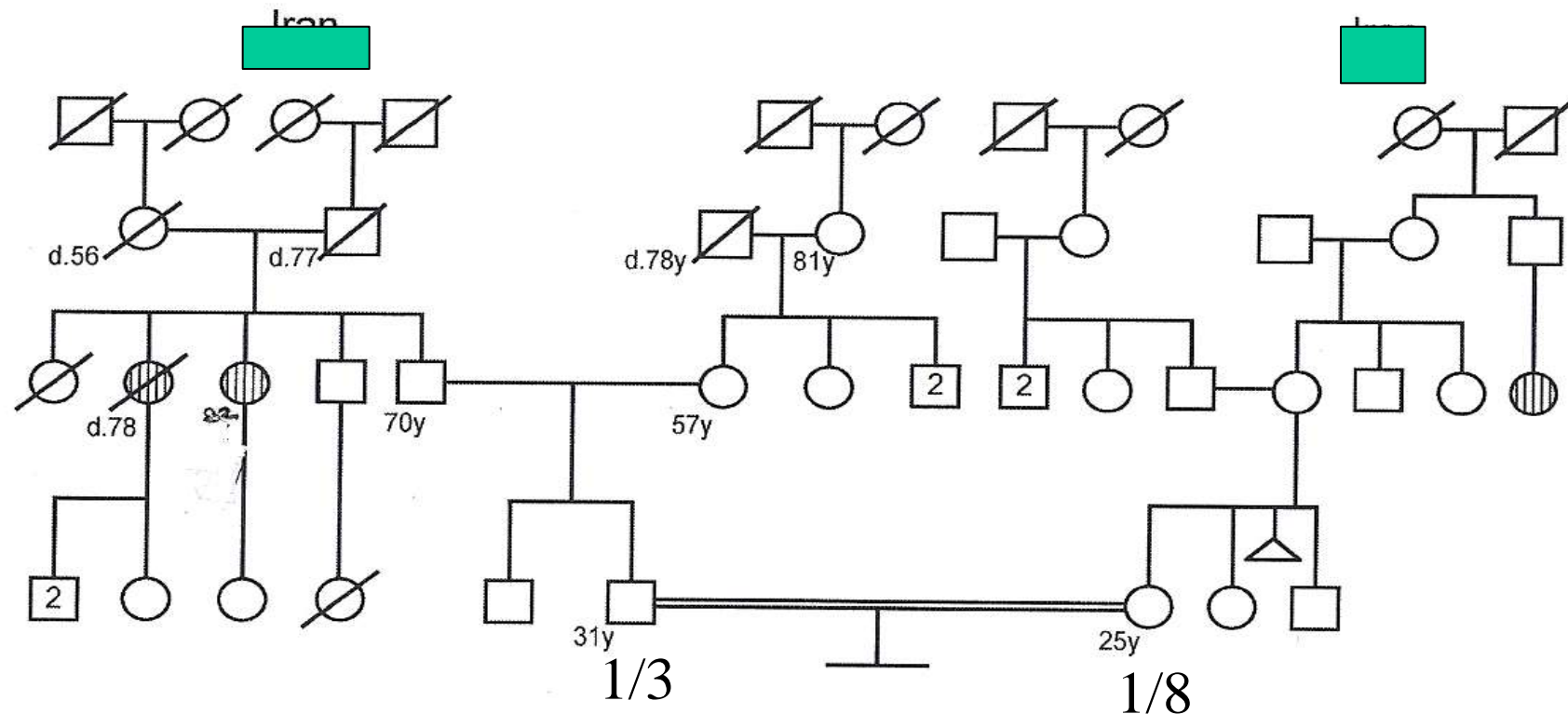
expressed as a percentage (%)

or

in relative risk (RR)

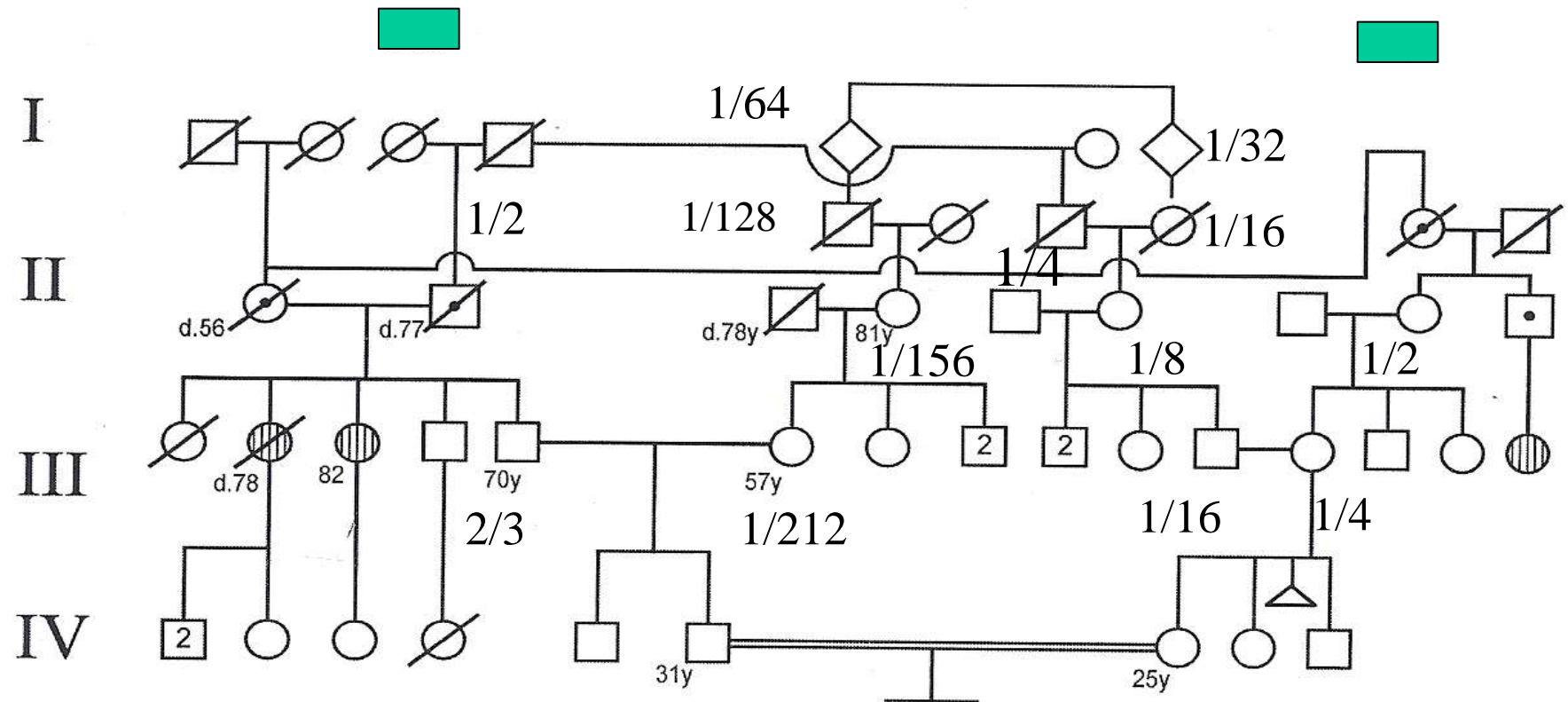
Acceptable or unacceptable risk?

# Family History Recessive Disorder



$$1/3 \times 1/8 \times 1/4 = 1/96$$

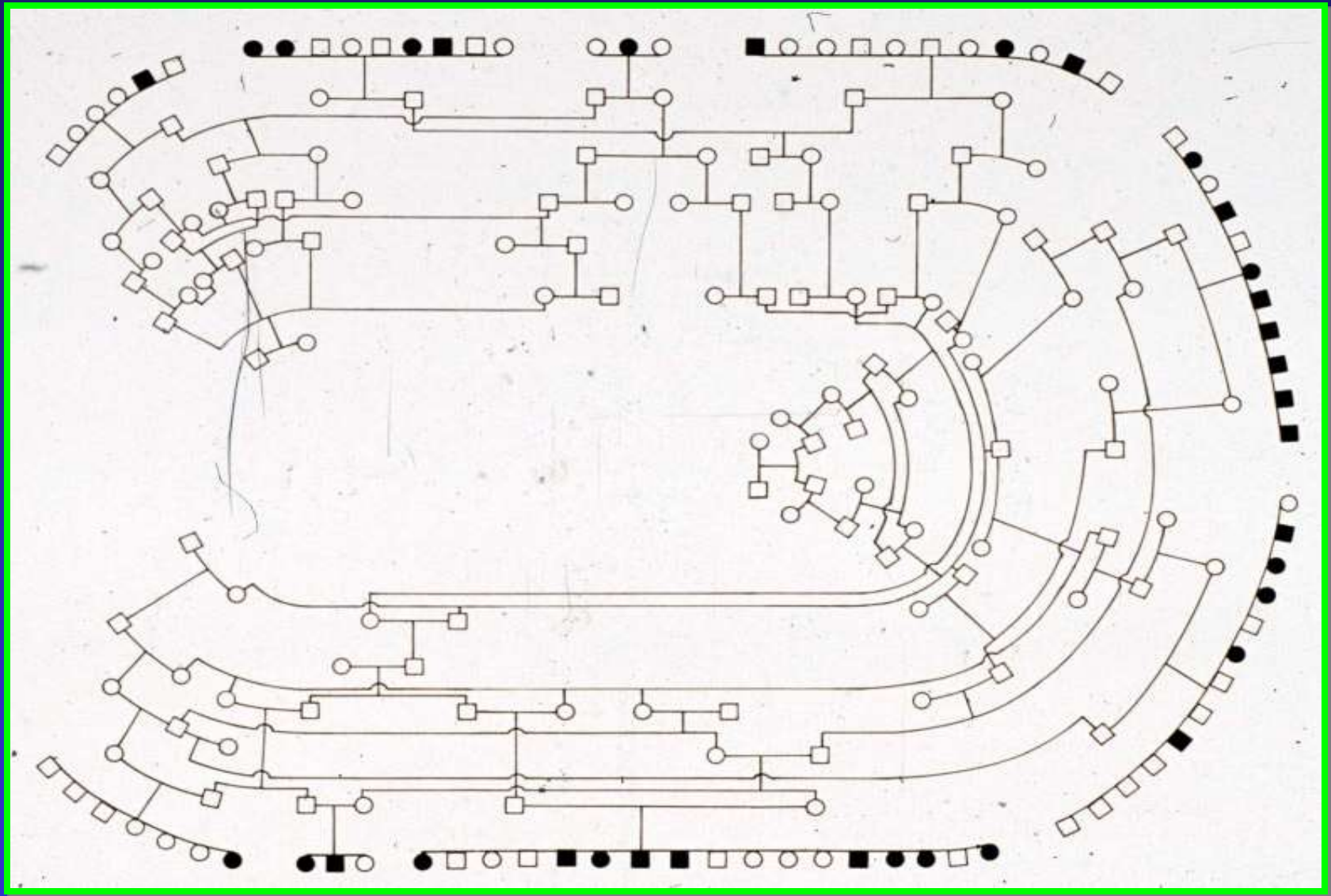
# Multiple Loops of Consanguinity



$$(2/3 \times 2) + (1/212 \times 2) = 1/3 + 1/424 \approx 1/3 \quad (1/16 \times 2) + (1/4 \times 1/2) = 5/32$$

**Chance affected child:  $1/3 \times 5/32 \times 1/4 = 1/77$**

# TAKING TIME TO ESTABLISH FAMILY HISTORY AND PEDIGREE



Limb Girdle Muscular Dystrophy in the Amish Community

# Bases for Genetic Counseling

- **3) the use of genetic tests:**

- \*Availability of genetic tests:  
inequality**

- \* The prevalence of the disease  
the complexity of the gene in question  
and mutations.....**

- \* the scientific interest of the gene**



# Genes

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- 25 000 genes
- 12.000: identified diseases
- 8000: localized genes
- 5000: cloned

# Identification de gènes responsables

# OMIM<sup>®</sup>

**Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man<sup>®</sup>**

An Online Catalog of Human Genes and Genetic Disorders

## OMIM Gene Map Statistics:

### OMIM Morbid Map Scorecard (Updated 31 January 2014) :

Number of phenotypes* for which the molecular basis is known	5,123
Number of genes with phenotype-causing mutation	3,131

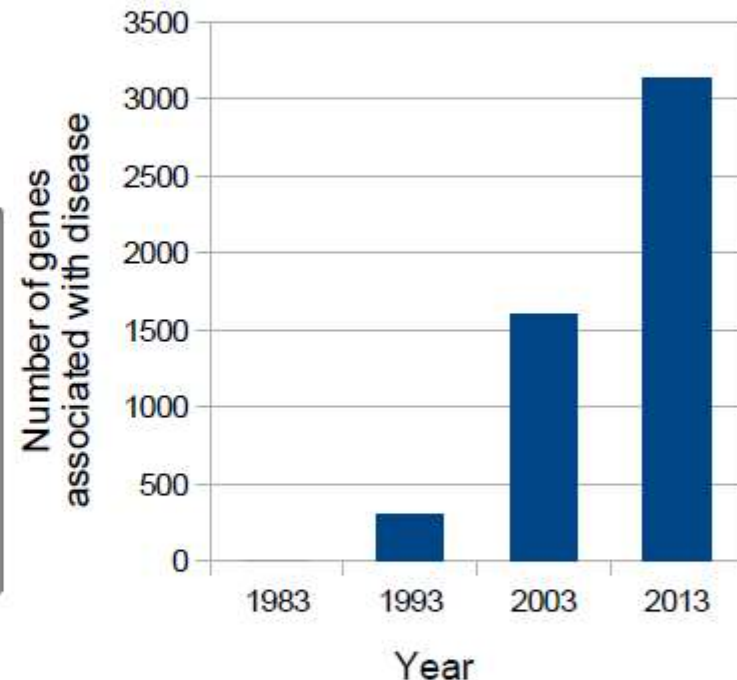
\* Phenotypes include single-gene mendelian disorders, traits, some susceptibilities to complex disease (e.g., CFH and macular degeneration, [134370.0006](#)), and some somatic cell genetic disease (e.g., FGFR3 and bladder cancer, [134934.0013](#))

## OMIM Entry Statistics:

### Number of Entries in OMIM (Updated 31 January 2014) :

Prefix	Autosomal	X Linked	Y Linked	Mitochondrial	Totals
* Gene description	13,723	670	48	35	14,476
+ Gene and phenotype, combined	101	2	0	2	105
# Phenotype description, molecular basis known	3,712	282	4	28	4,026
% Phenotype description or locus, molecular basis unknown	1,579	135	5	0	1,719
Other, mainly phenotypes with suspected mendelian basis	1,747	116	2	0	1,865
Totals	20,862	1,205	59	65	22,191

## Cumulative pace of disease gene discovery



# Maintenant un outil de diagnostic

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Diagnostic Exome Sequencing in Persons with Severe Intellectual Disability

Joep de Ligt, M.Sc., Marjolein H. Willemsen, M.D., Bregje W.M. van Bon, M.D., Ph.D.

Radboudumc  
university medical center



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

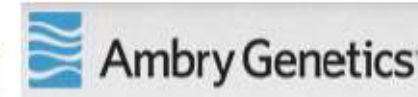
## Clinical Whole-Exome Sequencing for the Diagnosis of Mendelian Disorders

Yaping Yang, Ph.D., Donna M. Muzny, M.Sc., Jeffrey G. Reid, Ph.D.,

UCLA Health



Special Report: Exome Sequencing for Clinical Diagnosis of Patients with Suspected Genetic Disorders

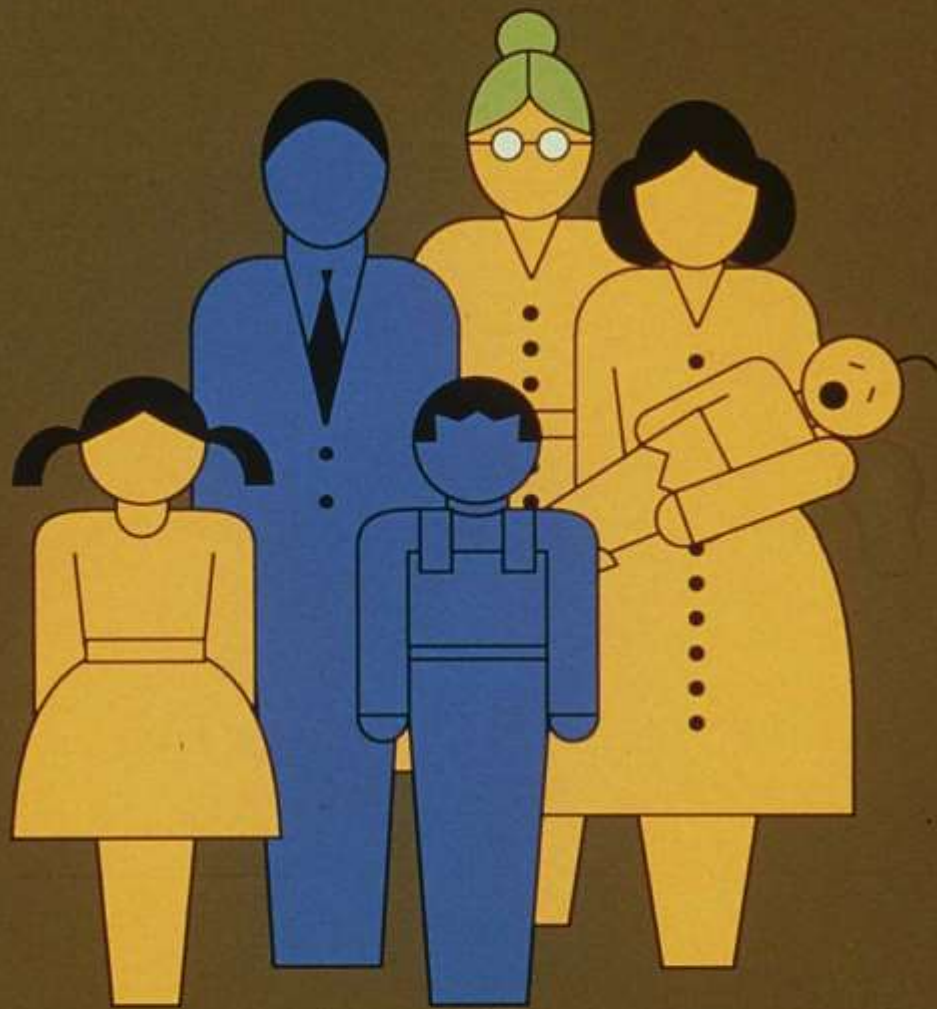


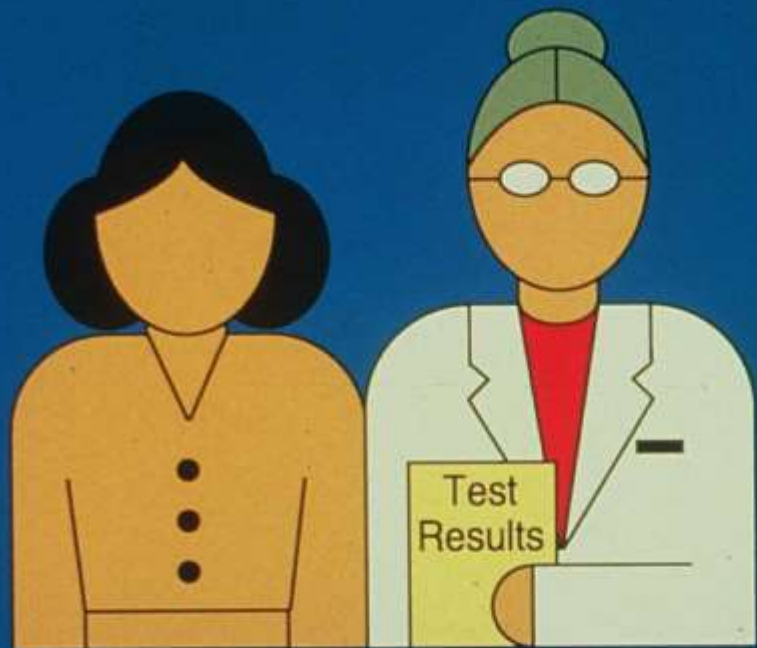


# Genetic Tests Serve Many Purposes



# Candidates for Testing





# Benefits of Gene Testing

- Relief
- Fewer Checkups
- Informed Decisions
- Intervention





## Limitations of Gene Testing

Mutation Present But:

- May Be Acquired, Not Inherited
- May Never Lead to Disease
- May Go Undetected

# Bases for Genetic Counseling

## 4) genetic information:

- \* Flow of information?
- \* Who should inform relatives at risk?  
Consultants / The doctor?
- \* conflict
- \* confidentiality  
and  
failure to assist a person in danger

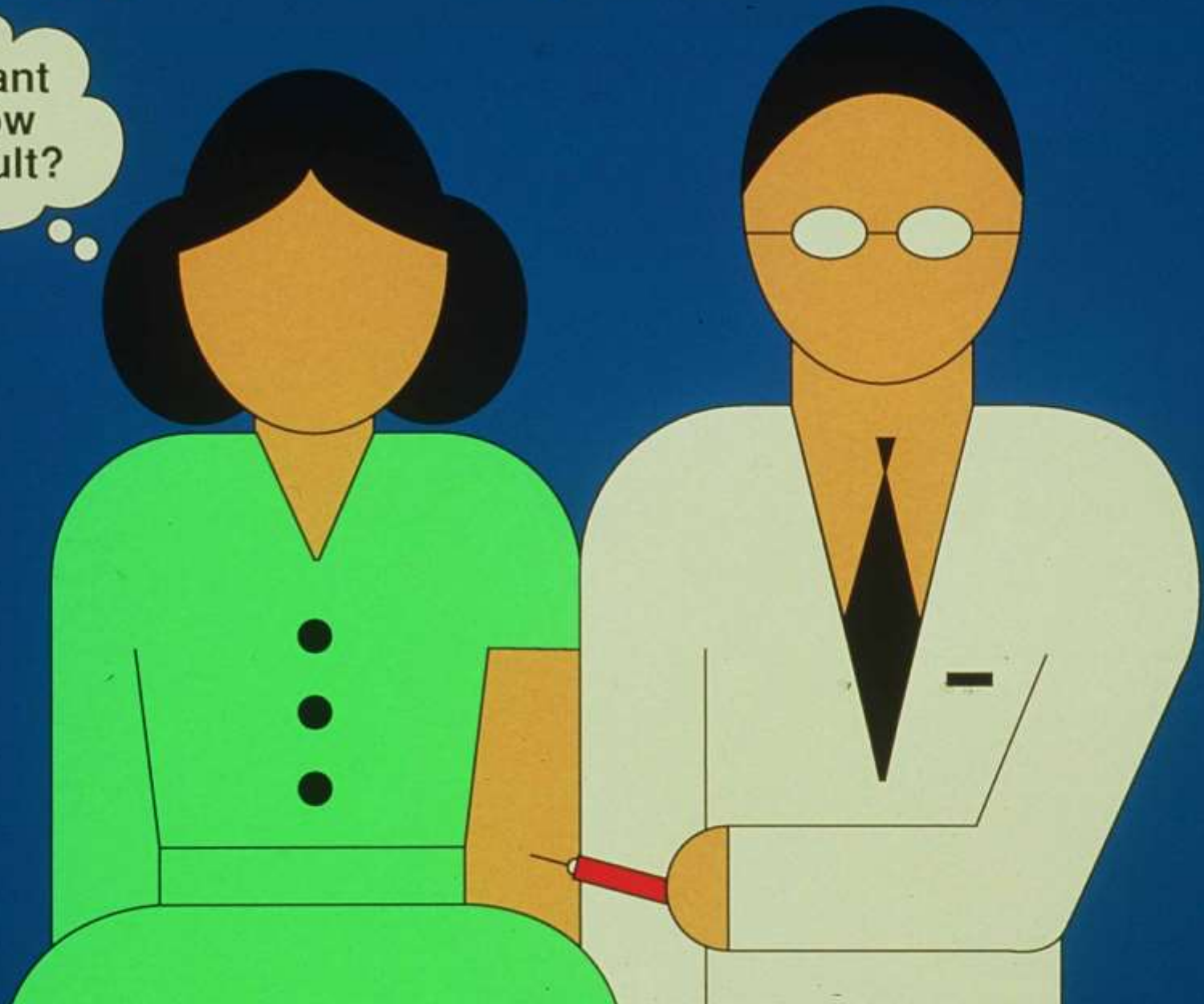


Qui voudrait savoir?

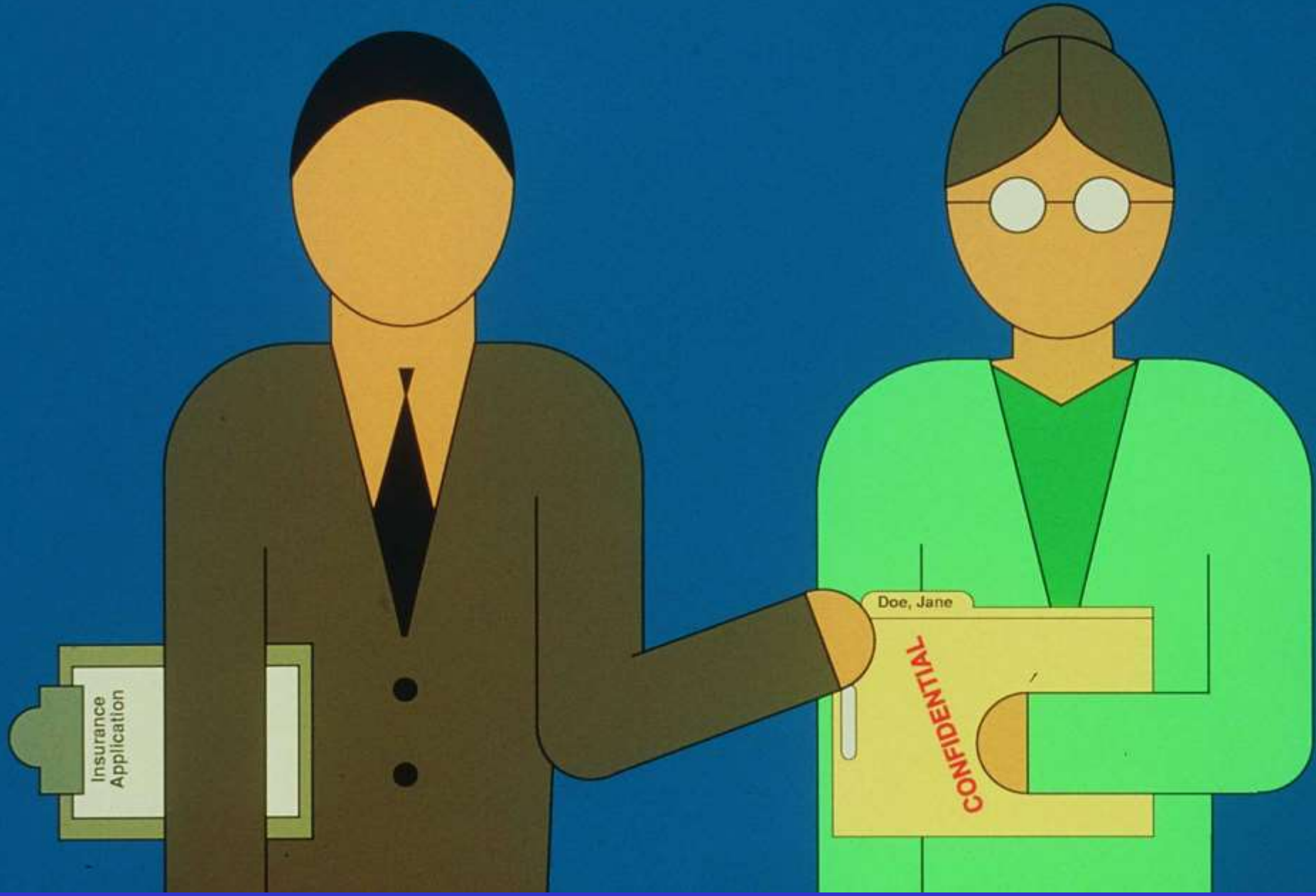


# Psychological Consequences

Do I want  
to know  
the result?



# Confidentiality Concerns



# Personal Decision





# Key Role of Genetic Counseling

- **Non-directive, non-judgmental supportive counseling**
- **Ascertain client's perceived notion of the nature and magnitude of genetic risks**
- **Discuss fears & attitudes of families and friends**
- **Follow-up letter can help clarify patient/family misconceptions (& health care providers!)**
- **"I told you so"/Feelings of parental guilt**
- **Blame and shame**

# **Client factors & risk perception**

**Coping styles**

**Seekers, avoiders,  
dependent decision makers,  
Minimizers**

**Perceived “burden”**

**Gender differences**

**Cultural differences**

**Religious differences**

# **Stigma associated with carrier status**

- **Potential damage to self-concept**
  - **Component of self observed by others**
  - **Component of self that is internal, private, reflective**
- **Altered perception of genetic identity/inherited “endowment”**
- **Diminished social identity**
- **Altered perception of health**

# Threatened parental role

- Carrier status challenge “wished-for” parental role
- May differ based on age
- Carrier believe marriage plans might change for other carriers
- Carriers believed that other carriers might have negative response



# Treatment

- Treatment of genetic disease by conventional means requires identification of the gene product and an understanding of the pathophysiology of the disease process.
- Very rare: lack of treatment strategies for many genetic disorders.

**Take everywhere you like  
message...**

## **Genetic counseling**

- **takes time and availability (see possibly partner separately if it is suspected misinformation, hidden secrets).**
- **Require psychology**
- **Require an understanding of genetic diseases: specific diagnosis (hereditary v / s acquired disorder ...)**