

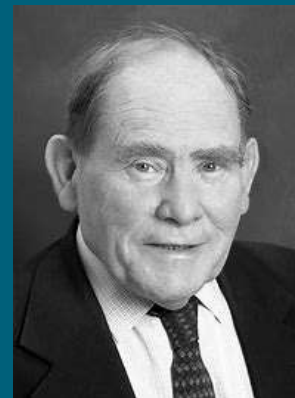
# *Human genome, genetic variation, genomic technologies*

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Faculty of Medical Sciences



“Progress in science depends on new techniques, new discoveries, and new ideas, probably in that order.”

- Sydney Brenner, 2002 Nobel Prize Winner





Disease

# Major challenges in medical genetics

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- Identifying genetic variation
- Interpreting genetic variation

In research: Large, longterm studies to identify genetic variation that increases/decreases risk of disease, and functional studies to confirm pathogenicity & unravel the mechanism

In clinic: Diagnosis in individual patients, who want reliable and useful answers fast and affordable....



1989  
Genetics is an art



2019  
Genetics is an industry

# Our genome: Full of variation

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- 6 billion nucleotides per genome
- 2 people vary at 4 million positions
- 1 variation (mutation) can cause a rare disease





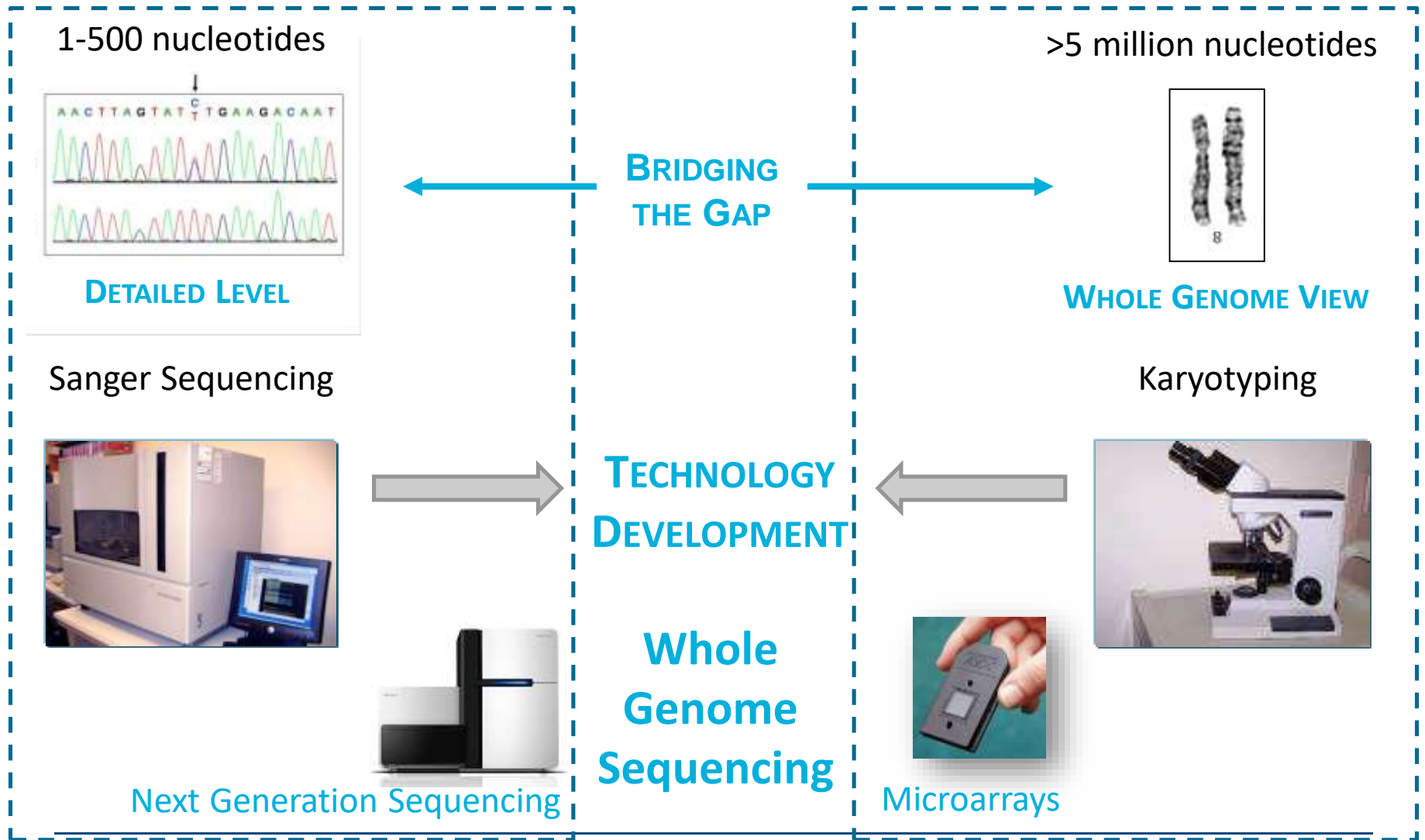


# Variation per genome

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- SNVs (single nucleotide variants):
  - ~ **3-3.5 Million SNVs**
    - **of which vast majority SNPs** – single nucleotide polymorphisms
    - ~ 500 private/rare coding variants
    - ~50-100 *de novo* mutations per genome (0-4 coding)
- Indels (insertions/deletions)
  - ~**300,000 indels**
  - Largest uncertainty, still difficult to detect
- CNVs (copy number variants)
  - **100bp-10Mb: ~1000 per genome**
  - >50kb: ~30/genome
  - *De novo*, >100kb: <1 per genome

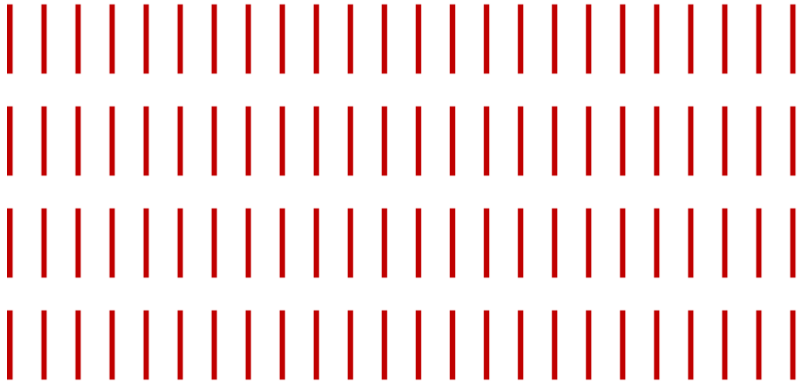
# Detection of genomic variation at all resolutions From nucleotides to chromosomes!



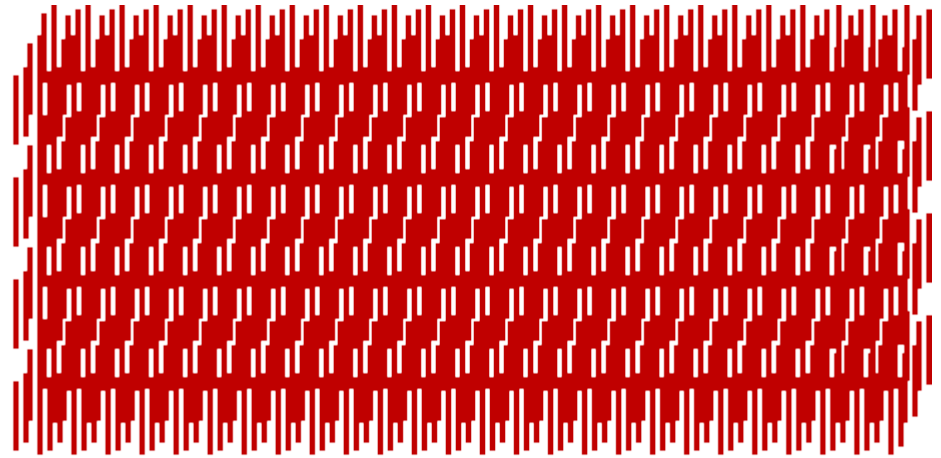
# Traditional vs. Next generation sequencing

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## Miniaturization and parallelization



96 DNA fragments  
sequenced simultaneously

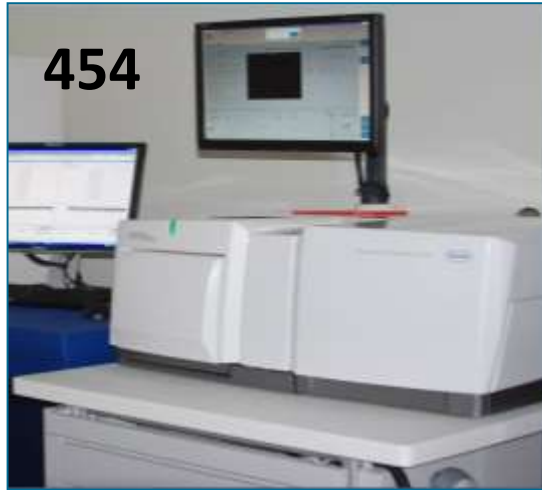


Millions of DNA fragments  
sequenced simultaneously



# Next generation sequencing equipment

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# Genome technology: Big and small scale

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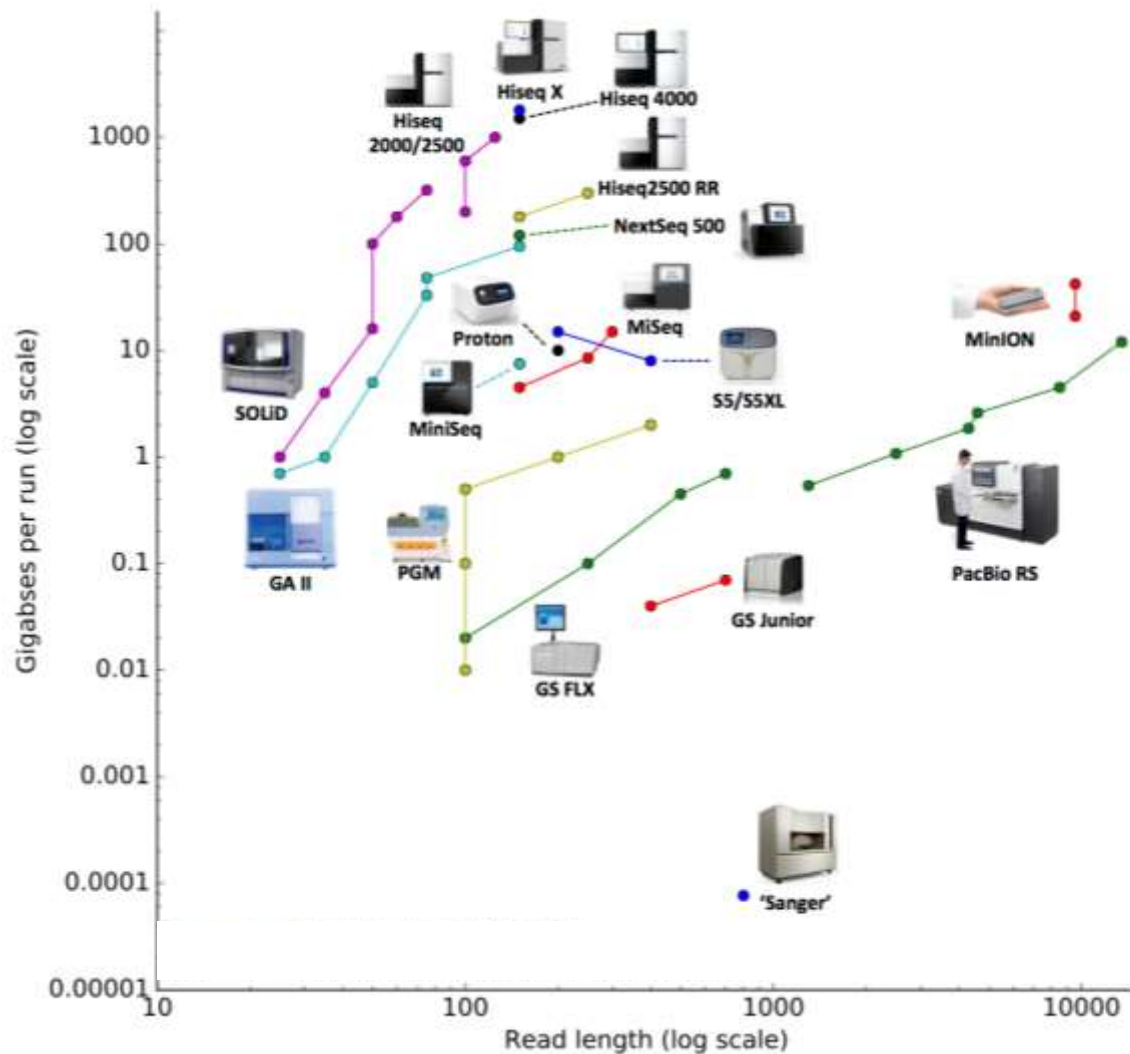
Illumina Novaseq



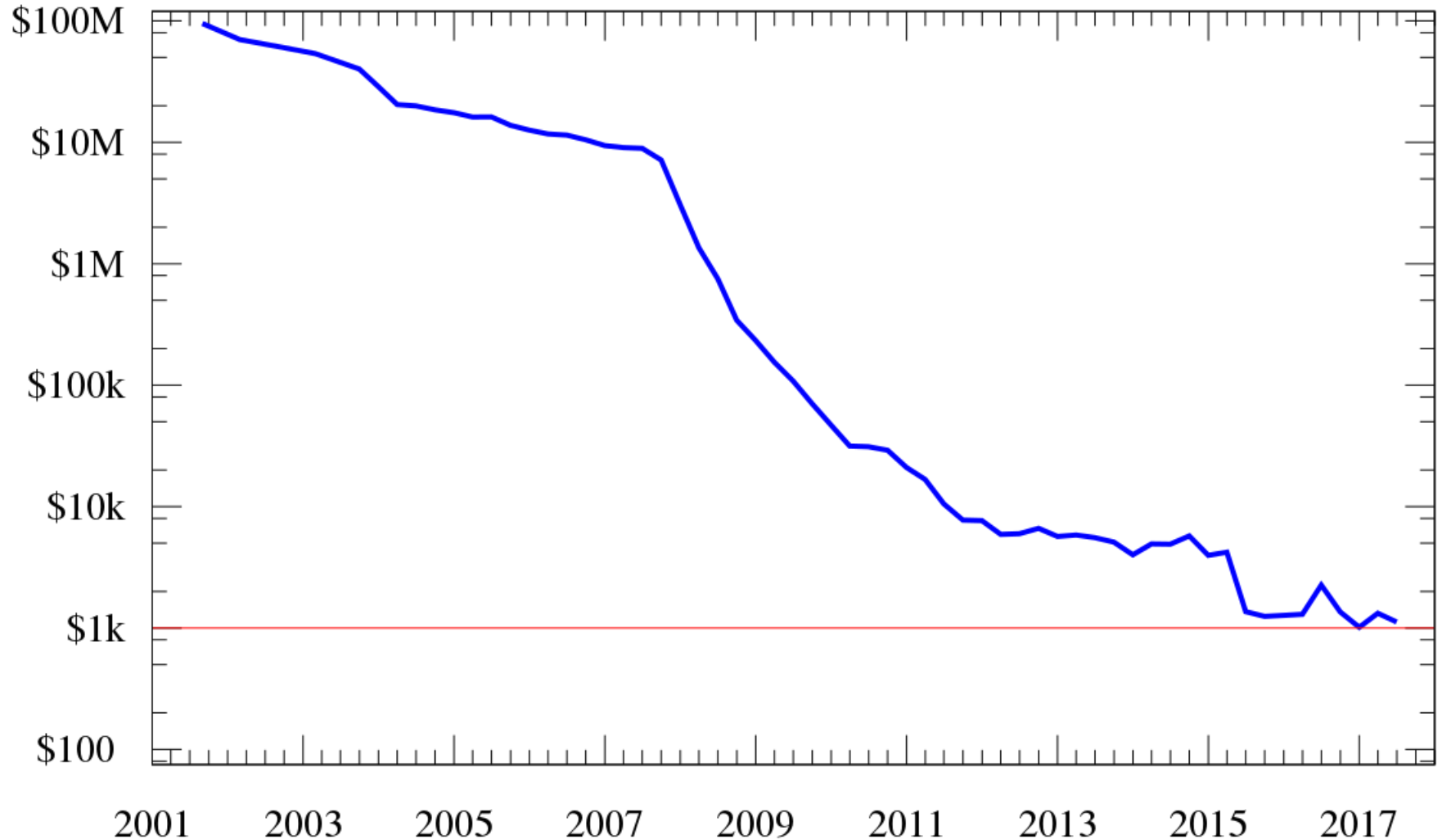
Oxford Nanopores MinION



# Reading the DNA: Throughput and length



# Cost of sequencing a human genome (with reasonable quality for variant identification)



**\$3,000,000,000**

**2003** Human Genome Project



**\$20,000,000**

**2006** 1<sup>st</sup> individual genome



**\$2,000,000**

**2007** 1<sup>st</sup> NGS Genome



**\$200,000**

**2008** 1<sup>st</sup> 30x genome



**\$10,000**

**2010** 1<sup>st</sup> sub-10K genome



**\$1,000**

**2014** 1<sup>st</sup> \$1,000 genome



**\$100**

**2017** 1<sup>st</sup> \$100 genome





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# Technology choice based on application

- All types of genetic variation or only single nucleotide variants?
- Gene panel, all genes (the exome) or the entire genome?
- Discovery science or diagnostics?
- Germline variant detection or also somatic (and in what tissue)?

**And on finances, expertise, bioinformatics capacity, turn-around-time, etc....**

# Next generation sequencing workflow



Sequencing

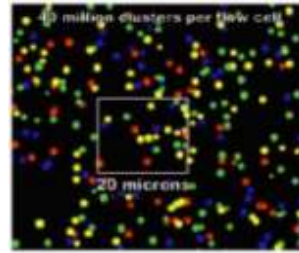


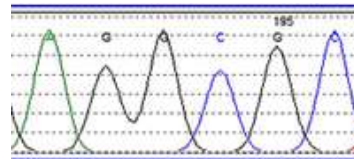
Image processing



Reads generation



Read alignment

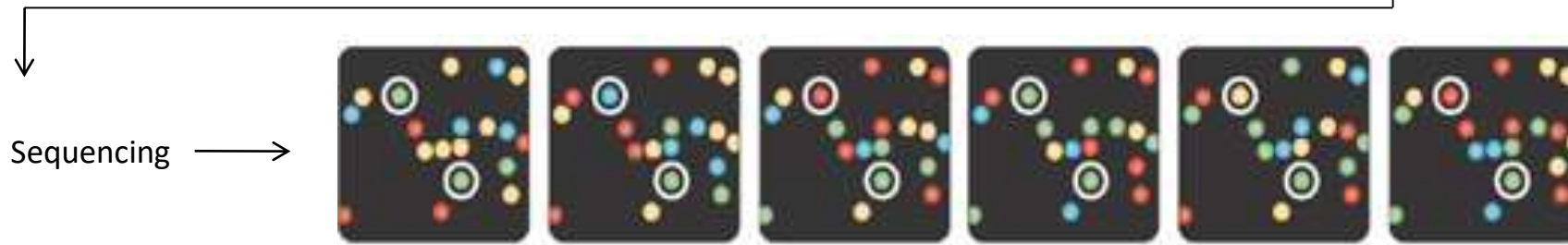
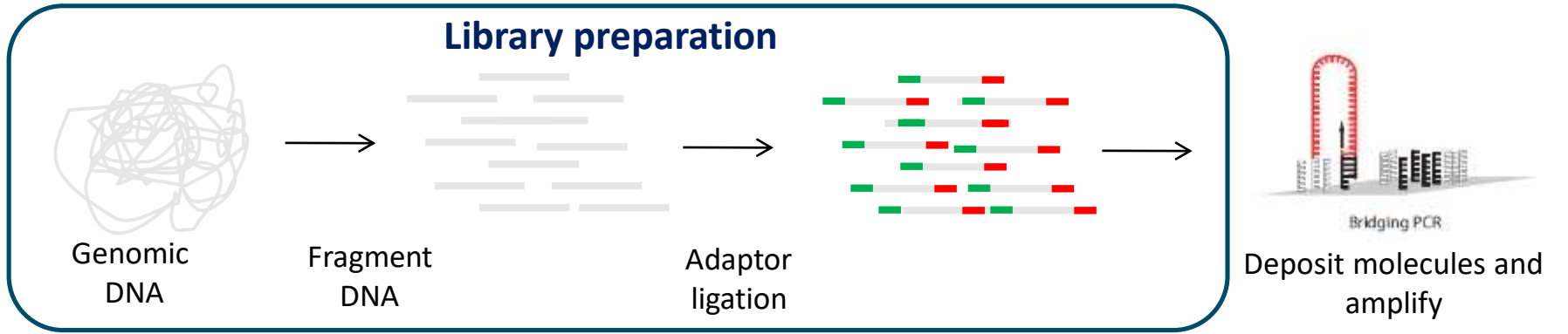


Variant Detection



Variant prioritization

# Next generation sequencing basics



Top: CATCGT  
Bottom: CCCCCC

→  
Translate into  
NGS reads

AAGTGTTGAGGCTTTGTGATGCTTATATTATATTAGCAAACCTTAGA

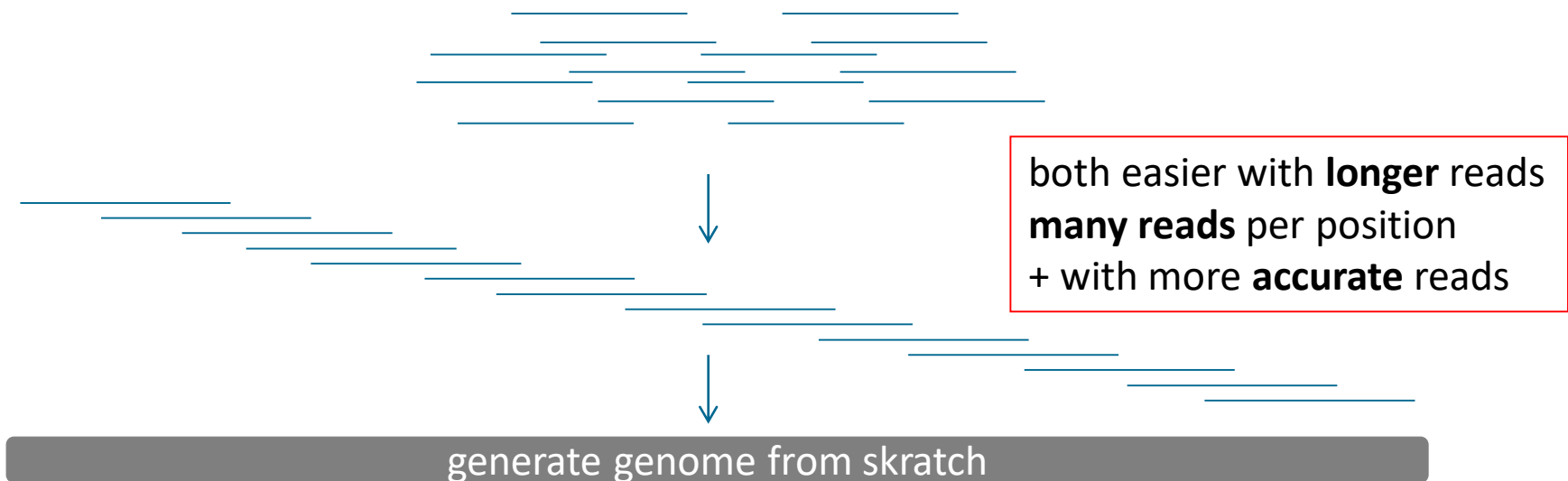
**~100 Million Single Reads per Patient!**

# Mapping sequencing reads

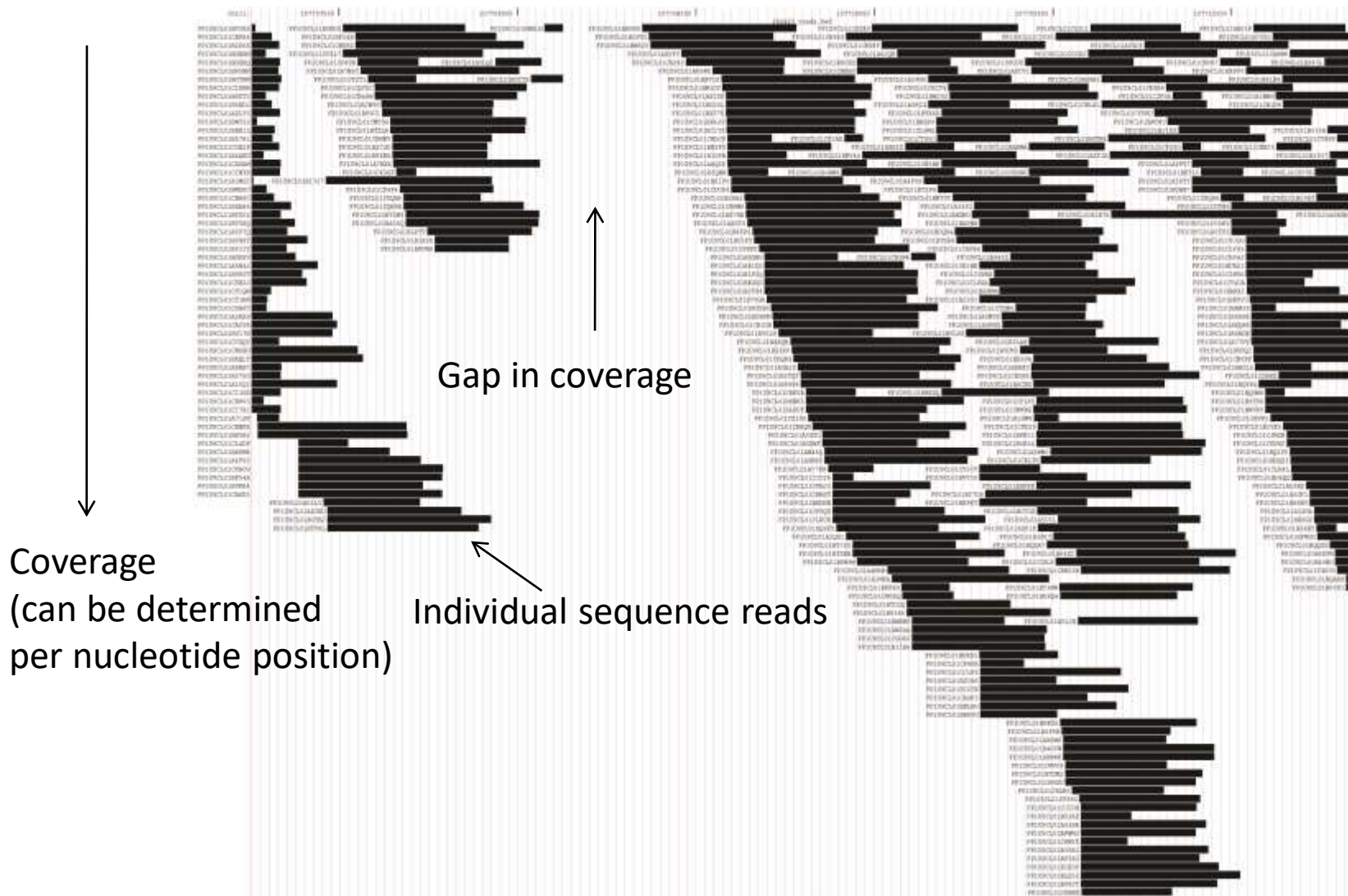
- Mapping the reads to a **reference genome**



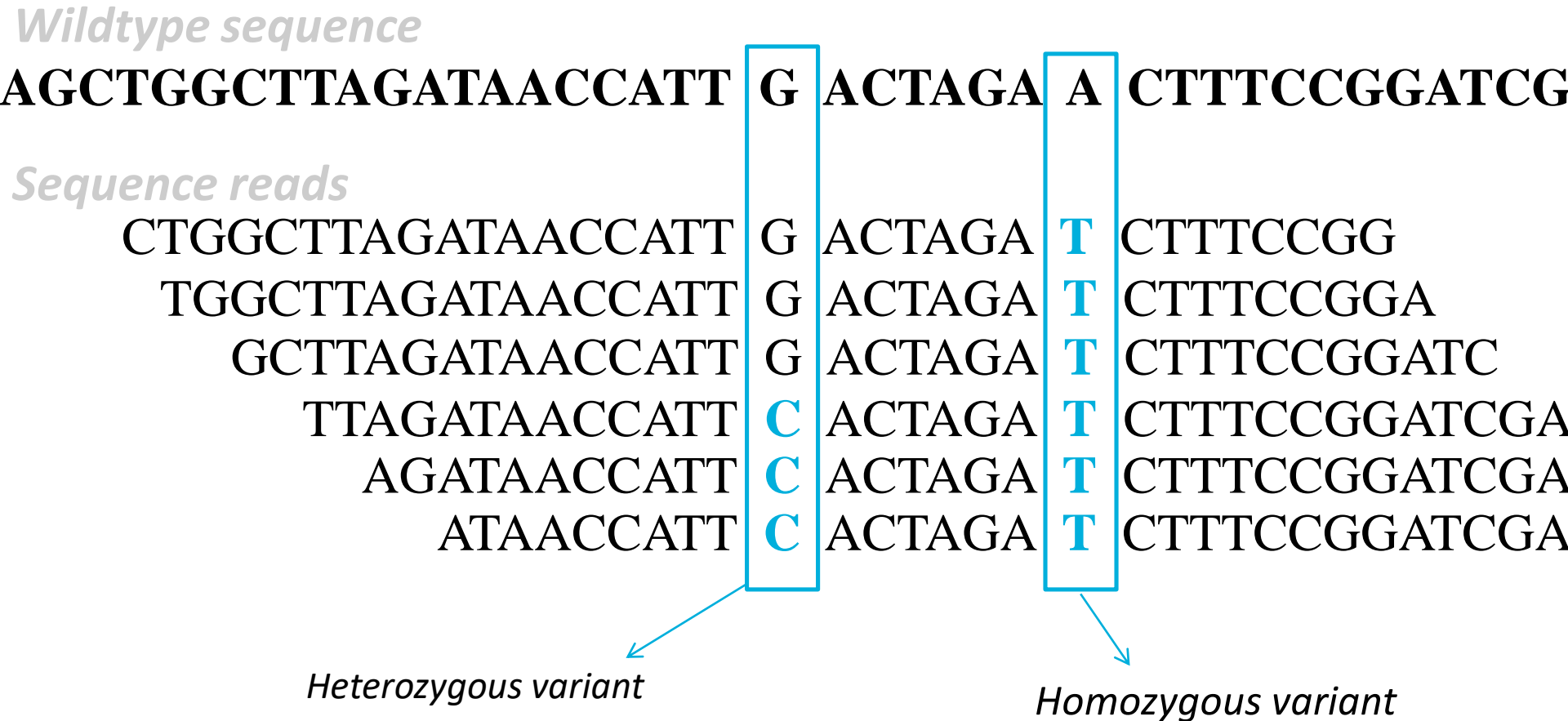
- Mapping the reads in a ***de novo* assembly**



# Aligning sequencing reads to the reference genome



# Variant detection - Theory



# The importance of coverage

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Reference genome

ATCAGAGTGAGATTGATTTATCTGGTGGTGGTGATCAGAGTGAGATTG

Sequence reads

GGTGGTGATCA

GGAGATCAGAG

GTGGTGGTGA

Interpretation:

3 reads coverage of nucleotide position (all unique)

1 variant read

2 reference reads

33% variation reads

} Very low coverage,  
no reliable call

# The importance of coverage

Reference genome

ATCAGAGTGAGATTGATTTATCTGGTGGTGGTGATCAGAGTGAGATTG

Sequence reads

GGTGGTGATCA

GGAGATCAGAG

GTGGTGGTGA

GTGGTGATCAGA

AGATCAGAGTGA

TGGAGATCAGAG

GAGATCAGAGTGAGTGAGATTT

GGTGATCAGAGTGAGAT

Interpretation:

8 reads coverage

4 variant read

4 reference reads

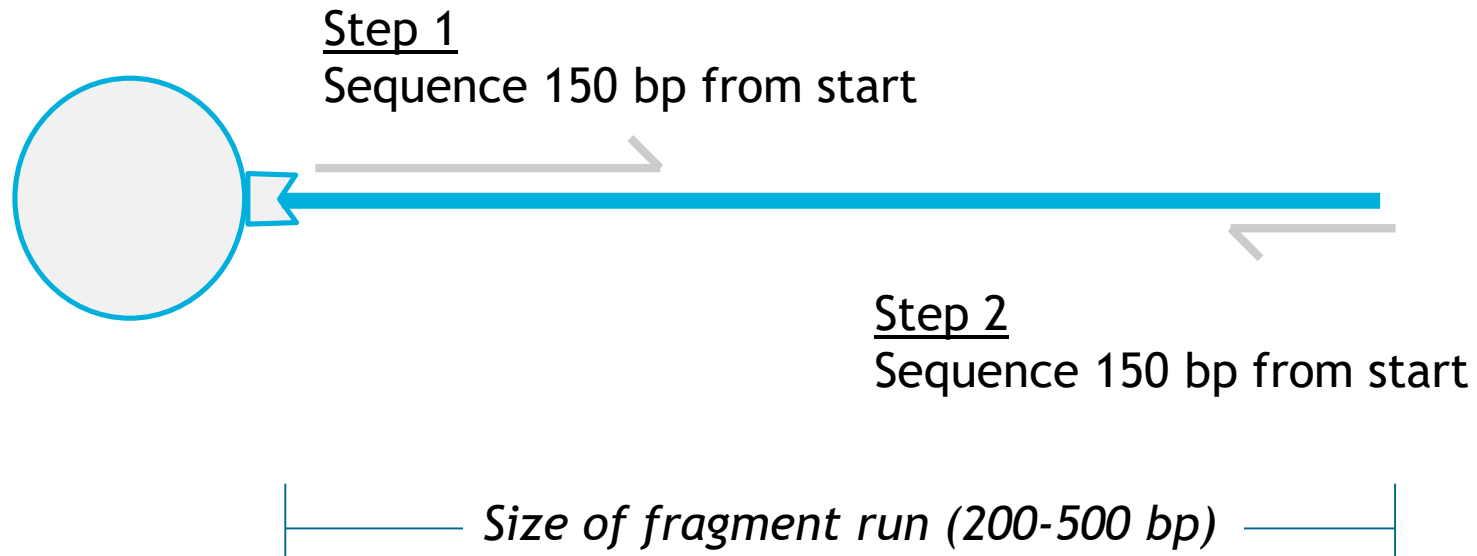
50% variation reads

Low coverage,  
More reliable call  
Heterozygous variant?



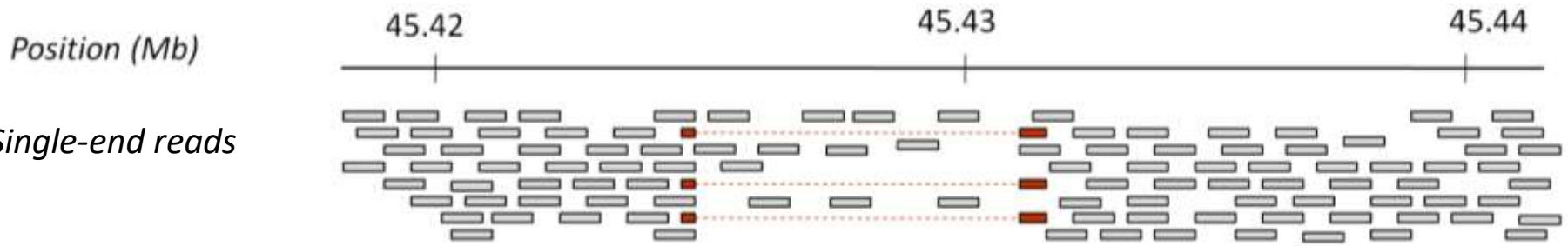
# Paired-End sequencing

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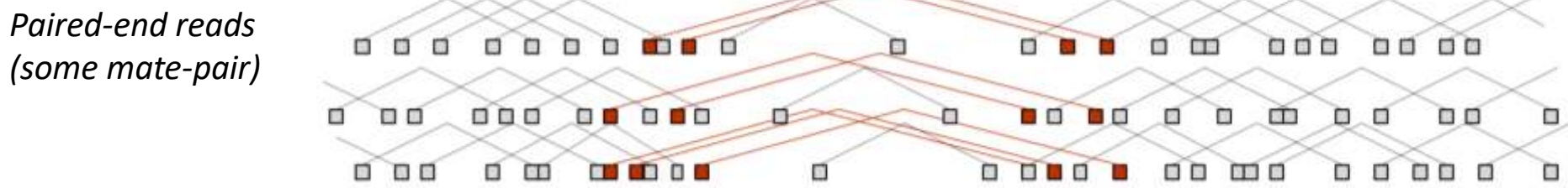


- More data from 1 sequence run (but also takes longer)
- Higher confidence mapping due to relation between sequences
- Useful for studying structural genomic variation

# Detecting structural genomic variation by NGS

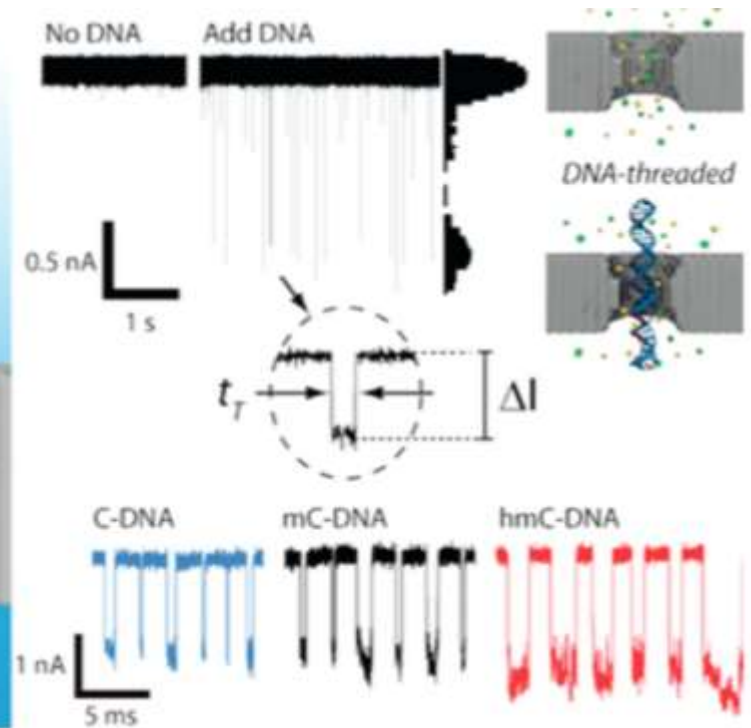
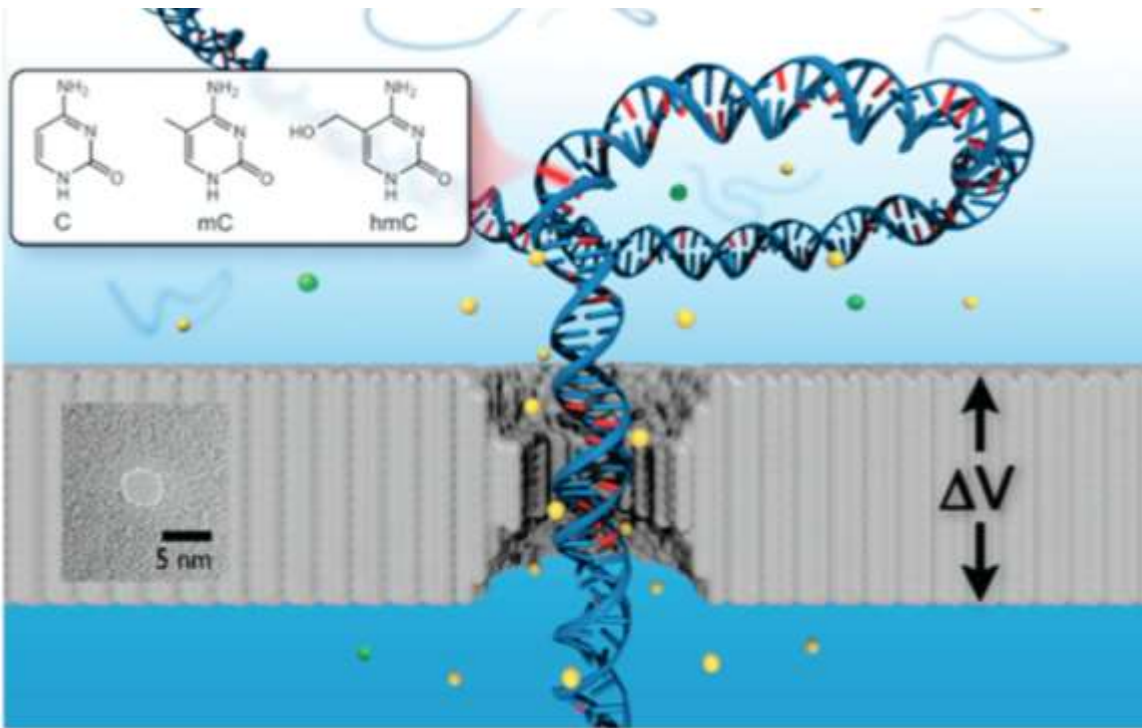


Detect CNVs by looking at **coverage of sequence reads** and at **split reads**



Detects also **balanced rearrangements!**

# Single molecule sequencing without amplification; the future?



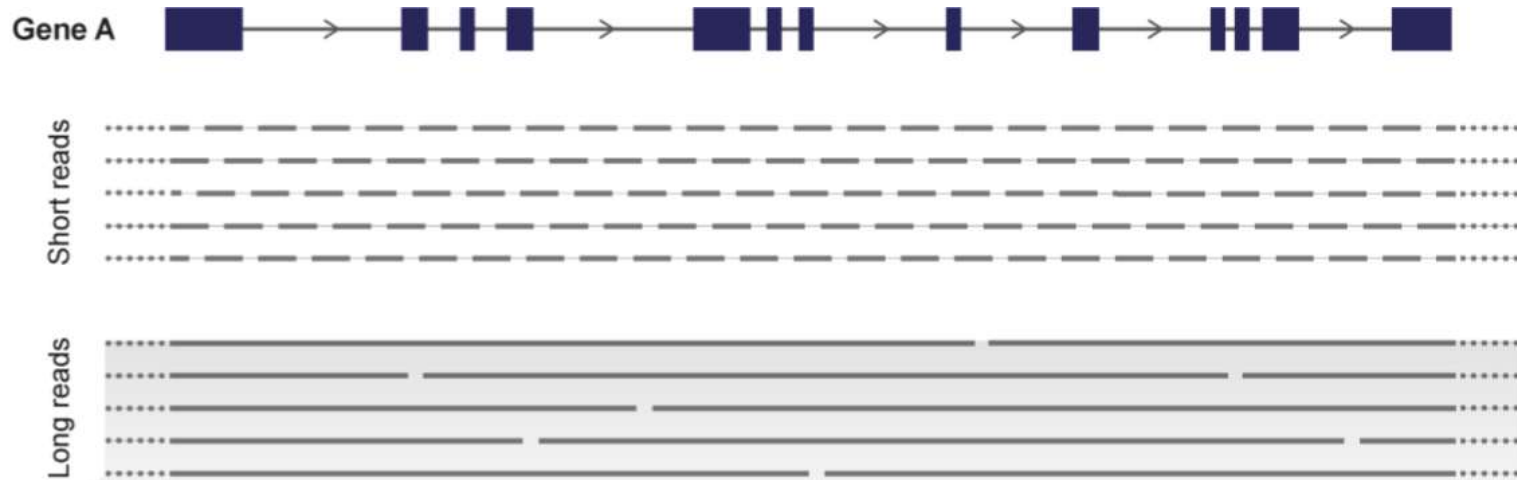
Feng et al. Genomics Proteomics Bioinformatics 2015;  
Wang et al. Frontiers in Genetics 2015

# The promise of single molecule sequencing

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- Amplification of DNA prior to sequencing introduces artefacts, DNA needs to be chopped in small fragments, it takes time and is expensive
- Sequencing of one molecule (chromosome) at the time is potentially ideal, especially for analyzing complex genomic regions (e.g. HLA)
- Major advantage: Long sequencing reads
- Major Challenge: Raw sequencing accuracy
- Major companies: Pacific Biosciences & Oxford Nanopores

# Advantages of long read sequencing



**1. Structural variation**  
e.g. *PRKAR1A*, *G6PC*, *BBS9*, *ARGHEF9*, *TAF1*

**2. Repeat expansion**  
e.g. *FMR1*, *DMPK*, *ATXN10*, *HTT*

**3. Phasing**  
e.g. Compound heterozygosity, Parental origin of de novo mutations, Mosaicism

**4. Pseudogenes**  
e.g. *PMS2*, *CYP2D6*, *CHEK2*, *SMN1*, *PKD1*

# Typical questions for which NGS can be used NOW!

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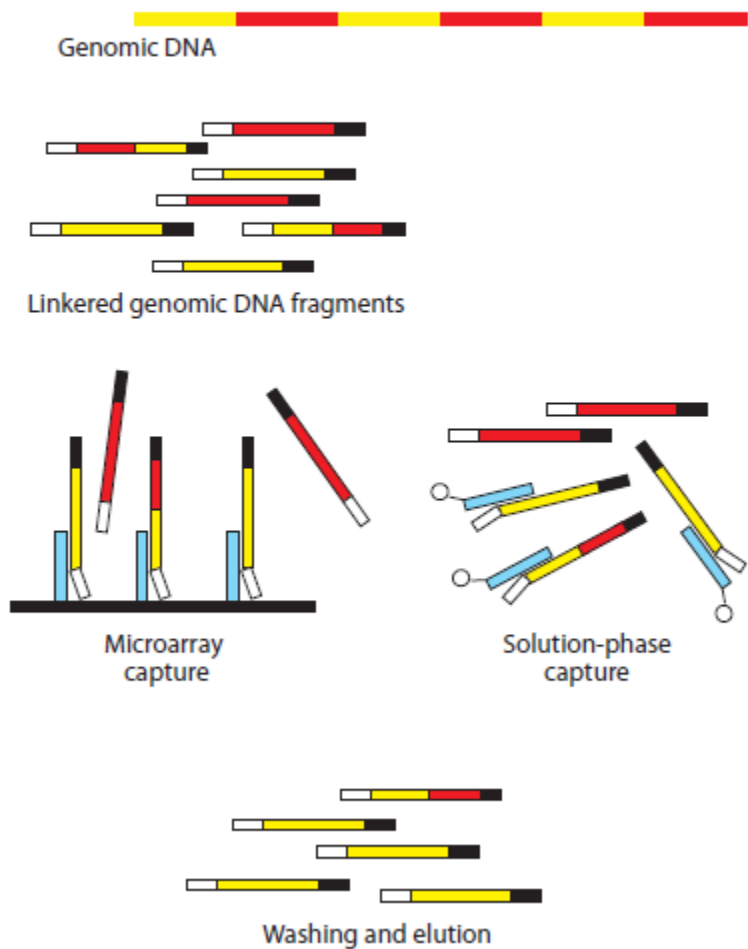
- Can we sequence all known disease genes of genetically heterogeneous diseases in parallel (*e.g.* hereditary breast cancer, ataxia, hereditary blindness)?
- Can we sequence entire candidate disease gene loci (*e.g.* from linkage studies/homozygosity mapping)?
- Can we sequence the whole exome (all **exons** of a **genome**) to decipher unknown syndromes/diseases?



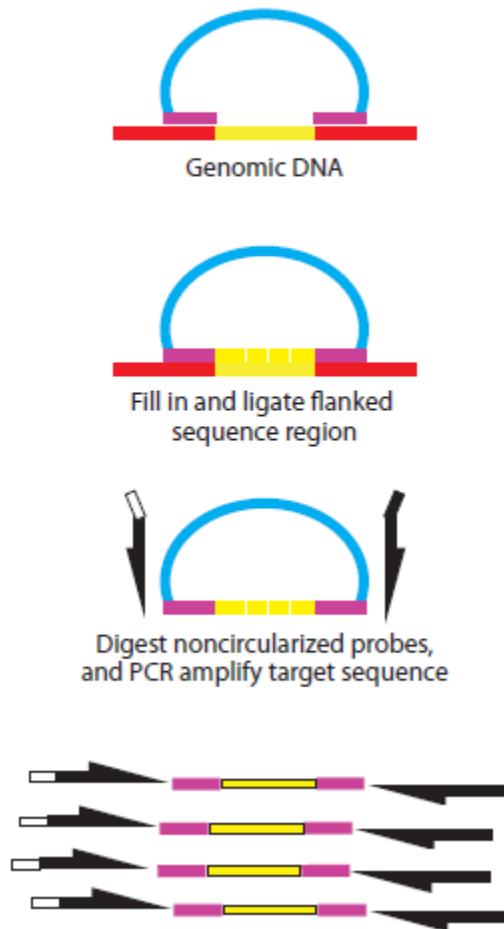
**Enrichment prior to sequencing required!**

# Enriching your DNA to be sequenced

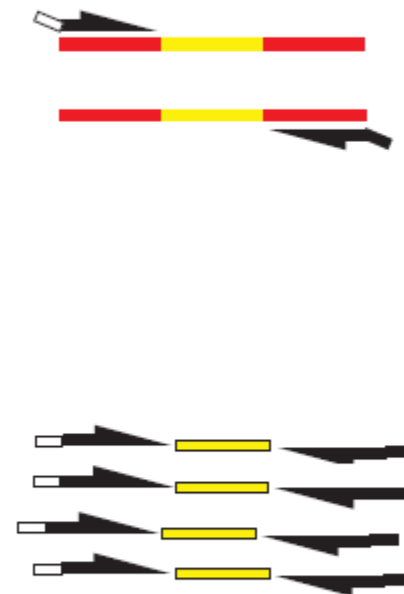
## Fractionation of whole-genome library (e.g., to isolate exome fragments)



## Molecular Inversion probes



## PCR amplicons



# Targeted next generation sequencing examples

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- **CFTR diagnostics**

Enrichment: Amplicon, Molecular inversion probes

Sequencing: Ion Torrent, Illumina Miseq & Nextseq

- **Sequencing of 100 candidate male infertility genes**

Enrichment: Amplicon, Molecular inversion probe, NimbleGen / Agilent in solution enrichment, Fluidigm, Raindance

Sequencing: Ion Torrent, Illumina Miseq & Nextseq

- **Exome sequencing (diagnostics/research)**

Enrichment options: NimbleGen/Agilent/Twist biosciences

Sequencing: Illumina Hiseq, Novaseq

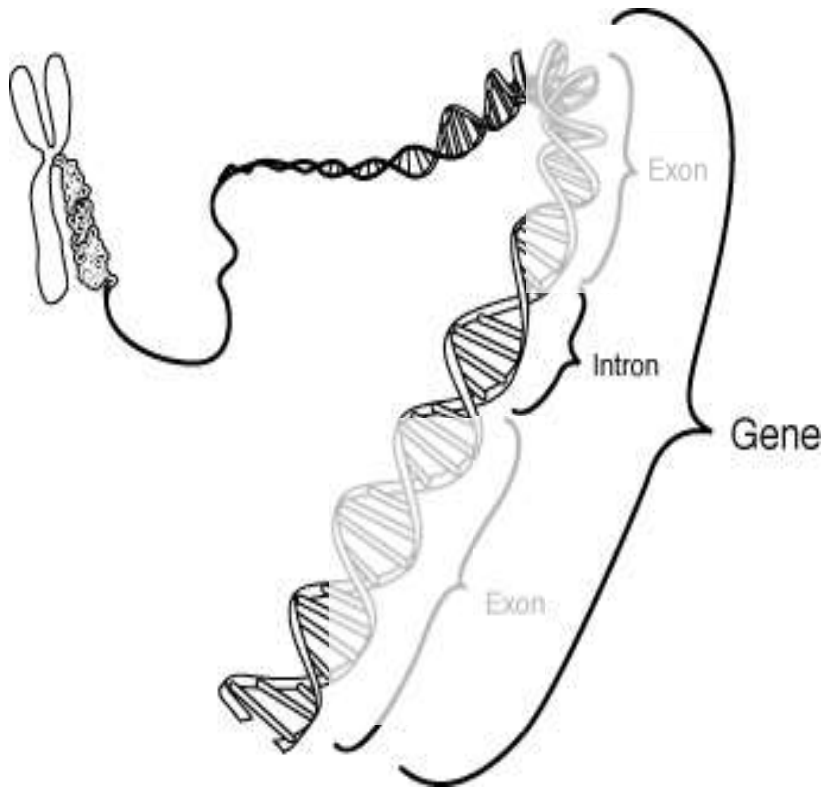


# Exome sequencing; Practicing for genomes

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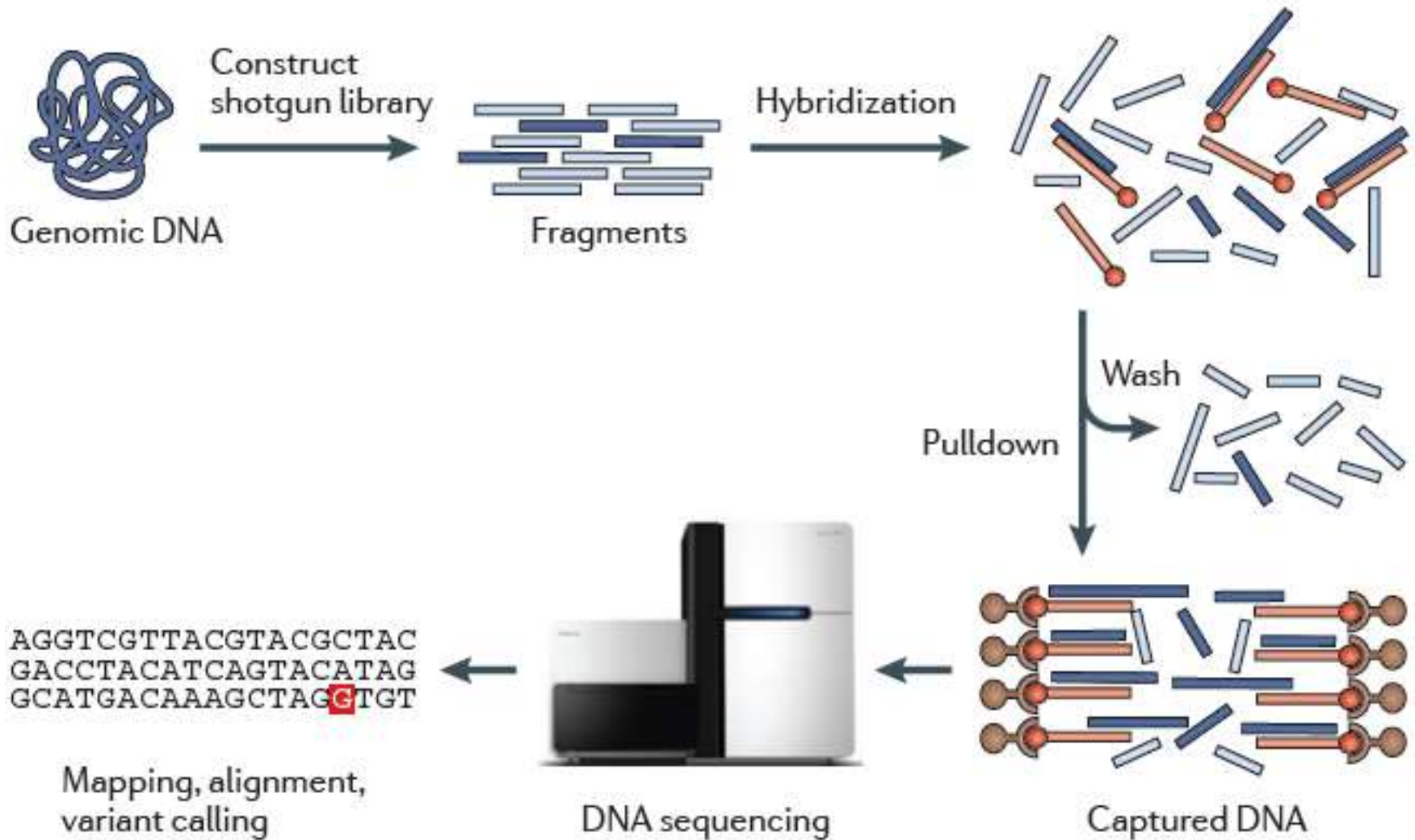
‘Exome’ (all **exons** of a genome)

~1% of the human genome



‘**All**’ coding sequences of a human genome (>200,000 exons), sequenced and analyzed in **one** experiment

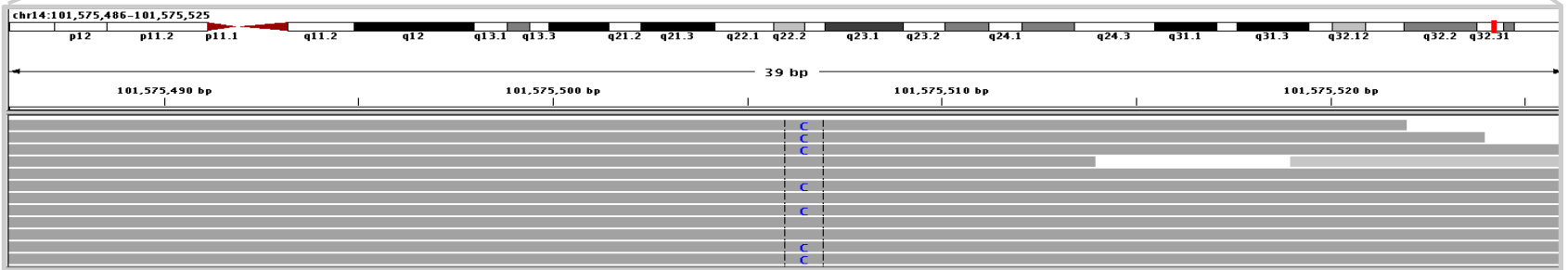
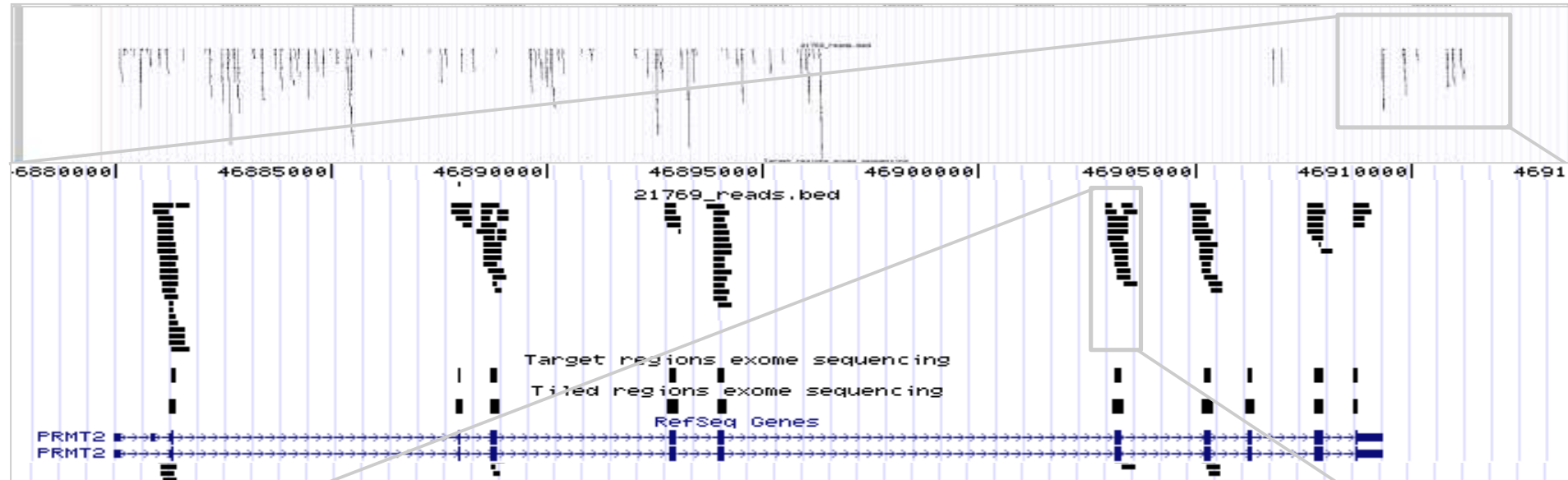
# Exome sequencing workflow



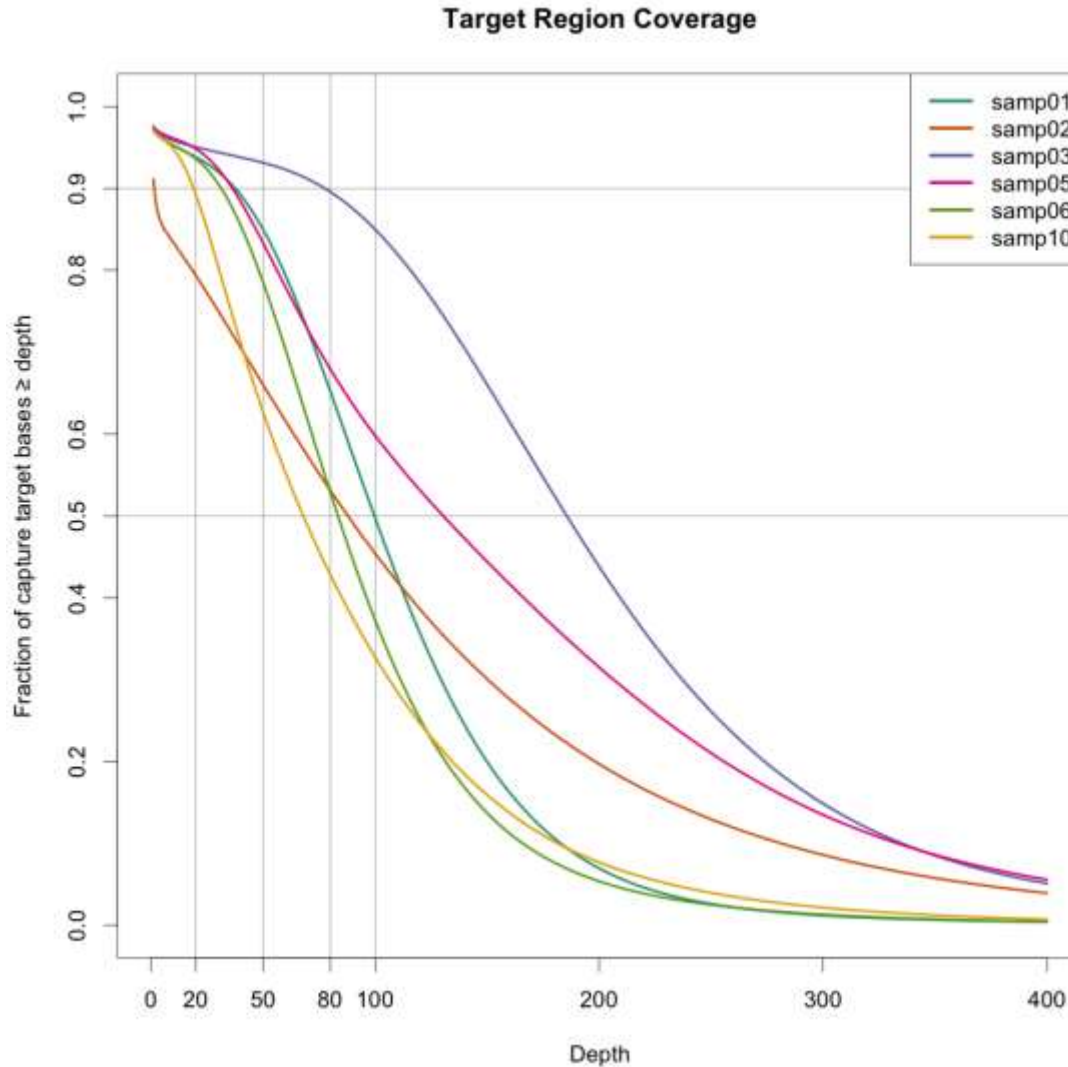
# Mapping and annotation of exome sequencing reads

terminal 500kb

chr21 (q22.3) 21p13 21p12 21p11.2 q11.2 21q21.1 21q21.2 21q21.3 21q22.1 22.12 21q22.2 21q22.3

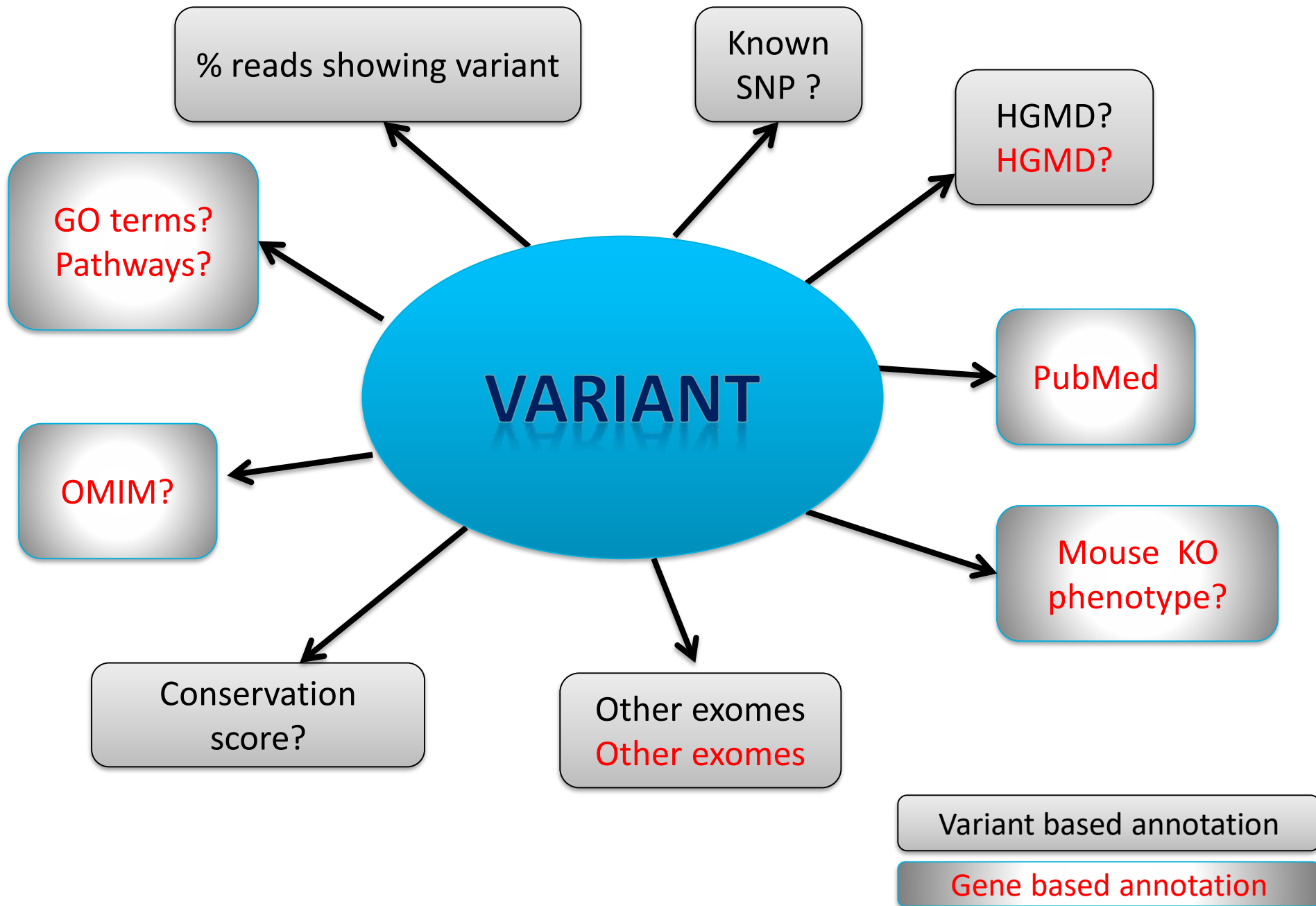


# Enrichment is imperfect, varies per sample





# What do we know about this position in the genome?



# Developments in next generation sequencing technology

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- Quality

Short read sequencing reliable for most applications

Average sequencing coverage reliable for detection of point mutations

Long read sequencing better for structural variation, repeat expansions, but high error rate for single nucleotide variation detection

- Throughput/Speed

Short read technology allows exome and genome sequencing in days

Thousands genomes can be sequenced on individual systems annually

Long read genomes still take more time and have less throughput

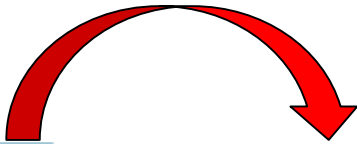
- Costs

Short read technology: 100x coverage exome < €300, 30x coverage genome < €1.200. Long-read genome 30x coverage ~ €10.000

Prices genomes below €1.000 in 1-2 year, below €200 in 5 years?

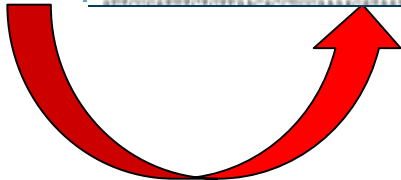
# Genome sequencing: All variation in one experiment!

DNA from blood/saliva



Genome with 'all' variation

```
TTAACCCCTTGGAAATGCTCATCAAATGCTATCCGGGAAAAATGGCTTTATG  
TATCTTACTTCACCCACATAACTACGAAACTATCAATGTTTTATGATGGTCAG  
GTTTTTAAACAAGTGATTTGAATCTGATACTCCAAAGAGTTGCTAAATAATGA  
GCAAAATACAAAAATCTTGGATTCTATCGATAACAGCCAGGTTGCCAATC  
TACAAATAAAAAGCTTACTTTGGATACTTGGACAGGTGGACACTCAAAGAA  
TGGGAATTAATTAATGGCAAAAGTAACTCCGAGACTGCCAAAGCTGTAAAT  
TCTAGAAATAAAATGGCTTATGAAAGTACCATCTTACATTTTAAACAAGT  
TGTTGCTTTTATAATCACTTACAAAGATAAACACTCTCAAAGGCTTCAA  
AAGCTTCTTAAACATATAACAAAAGTATCATAACTGTGAAAGCTTATAT  
GATTTAGCACAAGAAATGGATTTAAGCTTGGCTCCCAATTCGGTGATA  
AAAAAGAAAGGAAAGGTTGTTTTGTAACTATTCGACAGACATCCATCTATC  
CTAATAGCAATCTGGTATAAATAAAGATCAAGAGGTTACTATAACAT  
ACAAATTTGCACATCTTTTAACTTAACTAACTTAACTTAACTTAACTTAACT  
CAAAATCCATGTCGCAACTCCAAAGCTTTGATTATGAACTCACGAAAT  
AAAATCTATAAGCAAGCAATCCAAATGTTCCGCTTGGGCCAAAGTCAAATACC  
AATAGTATATAGACGACAAAATATACATATAAGCATGGTGGTGATTT  
ATCTGATGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT
```



Important:

- Accuracy
- Completeness (all genome, all variations)
- Speed
- Price



# Why perform whole genome sequencing?

If you consider genetics may play a role in your patient:

Why not read the entire book?

Why settle for studying what we now know?

**We still live in the dark ages of genetics!**

Key advantages of genome sequencing:

**Completeness**                      All variation

**Simplicity**                              One test

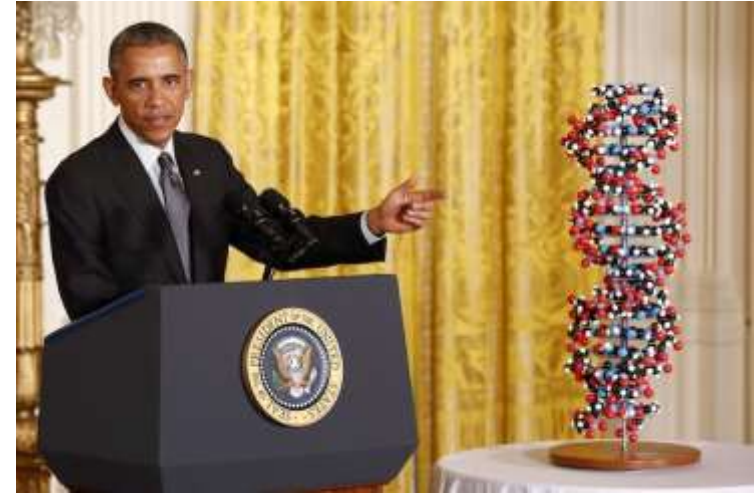
Price is dropping, quality will continue to improve,  
no enrichment, better for structural variation

# Genome sequencing centers established around the world

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Transformative Genomics: England Begins Daunting Task of Sequencing 100,000 Genomes by 2017



“Tonight, I’m launching a new Precision Medicine Initiative to bring us closer to curing diseases like cancer and diabetes — and to give all of us access to the personalized information we need to keep ourselves and our families healthier.”

— President Barack Obama, State of the Union Address, January 20, 2015

# The UK 100,000 Genomes Project (and beyond)



**100,000** genomes



**70,000** patients and family members

```
110001010101001010100101010000101  
110110111010101010001011101000101  
110101010001001101010001010100010  
001001001110010001000010101010100  
1001111011001010101110101111001101
```

**21** Petabytes of data.  
1 Petabyte of music would take 2,000 years to play on an MP3 player.



**13** Genomic Medicine Centres, and  
**85** NHS Trusts within them are involved in recruiting participants



**1,500** NHS staff  
(doctors, nurses, pathologists, laboratory staff, genetic counsellors)



**2,500** researchers and trainees from around the world



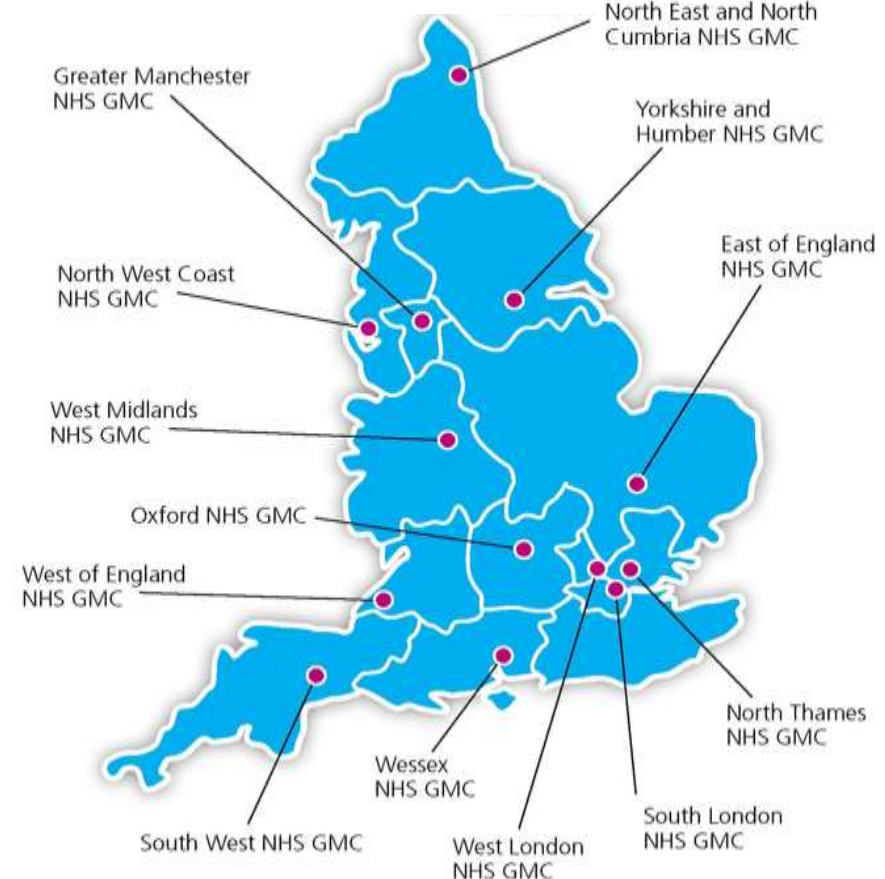
Illumina Partnership July 2014



Sequencing Centre January 2016



NHS GMCs December 2014



Data Centre November 2014



Biorepository



# What are we telling participants?

- Information about a patient's main condition
- Information about additional 'serious and actionable' conditions (optional)
- Carrier status for non affected parents of children with rare disease (optional)

Types of potential feedback to participants



#### Main findings

All participants agree to receive results about the main condition for which they were referred

#### Additional findings

Participants can opt in to receive feedback on a selection of known genetic alterations of high clinical significance

#### Carrier status

Eligible adults can opt in to find out their carrier status for certain genetic diseases

Image courtesy of Health Education England

# A new national diagnostic service

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- Increasing move towards exome and genome sequencing; further use of patient/parent trios
- Genomics England will provide data infrastructure for a new Genomics Laboratory Service for the NHS in England
- Central test request system with shared 'genomic test directory'
- Central WGS pipeline (lab and bioinformatics). Reporting by hubs
- Central shared genomic knowledgebase for NHS laboratories
- 7 genomics laboratory hubs for performing other/additional genetic tests, interpretation and reporting



[www.genomicsengland.co.uk](http://www.genomicsengland.co.uk)



Newcastle Fertility  
Centre @ **Life**



**Northern Genetics Service**

