



Braucht man heute noch Zwillingsforschung?

Olaf Riess
Andreas Dufke
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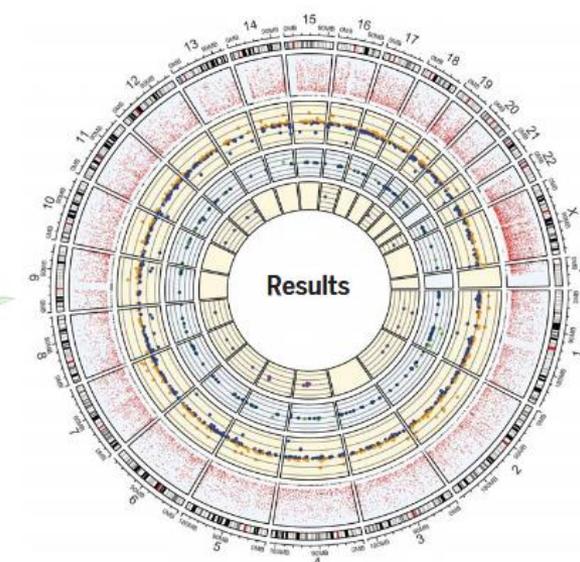
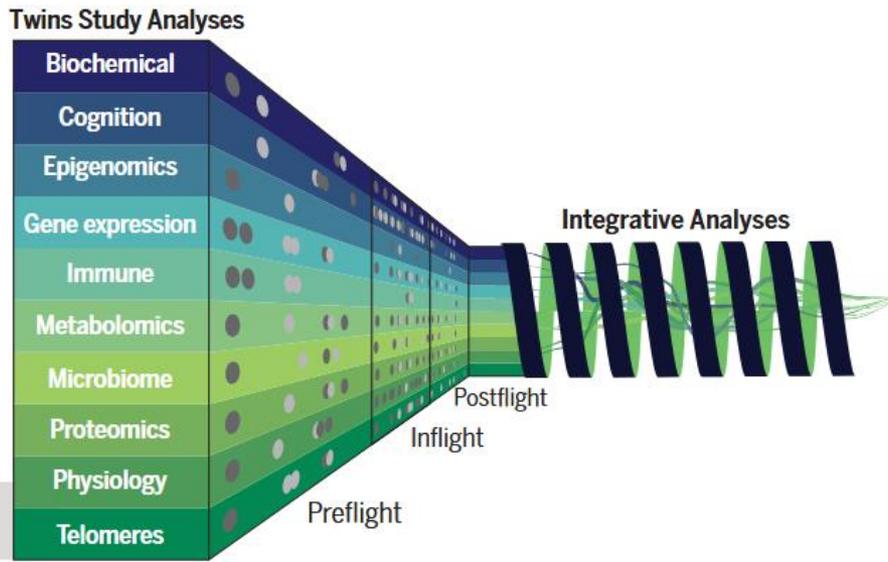


**Universitätsklinikum
Tübingen**

NASA's Twin Study

340 days on ISS

Pre-flight In-flight Post-flight



Garrett-Bakelman et al. Science 364:144 (2019)



NASA's Twin Study

Total study duration 25 month

Pre-flight In-flight Post-flight



Telomere length => telomere length increased during flight (14.5%),
shortened immediately after return to earth

Transcriptome => some changes remain even after 6 month on earth

Genome => increased DNA damage from chromosomal inversions

Epigenome

Immune system => **First vaccination in flight (influenza) !**

Cardiovascular

Metabolome

Gut microbiome

Physiology

Vision

Cognition

Health and safety in long term space missions

Garrett-Bakelman et al. Science 364:144 (2019)



Understanding Genetic and Environmental Influences Using Twin Studies



Monozygotic Twins

100% genes

100% home environment



Dizygotic Twins

50% genes

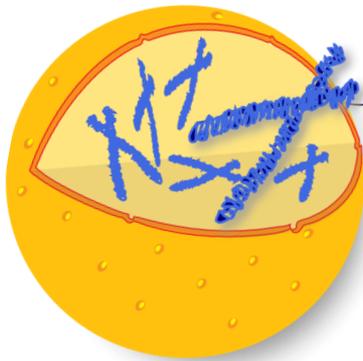
100% home environment

We are a combination of our genes and environment.

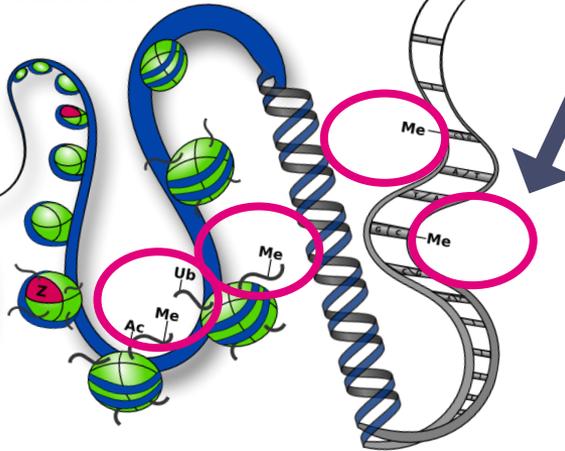
Epigenome Profiling using NGS

The human genome contains about **28 Mio CpG** sites that can be methylated and potentially affect gene expression.

Chromatin
-structure
-domains
-accessibility

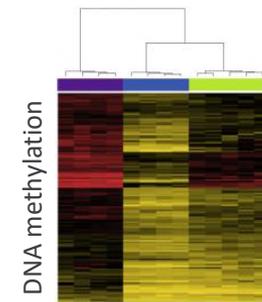


Histone
-modifications
-variants



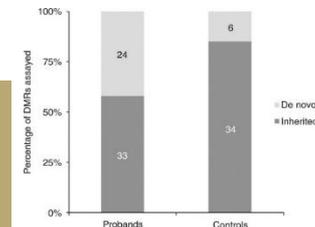
DNA
-modifications

Rare Diseases
Episignatures



Erfan Aref-Eshghi *et al* 2020

Epivariants



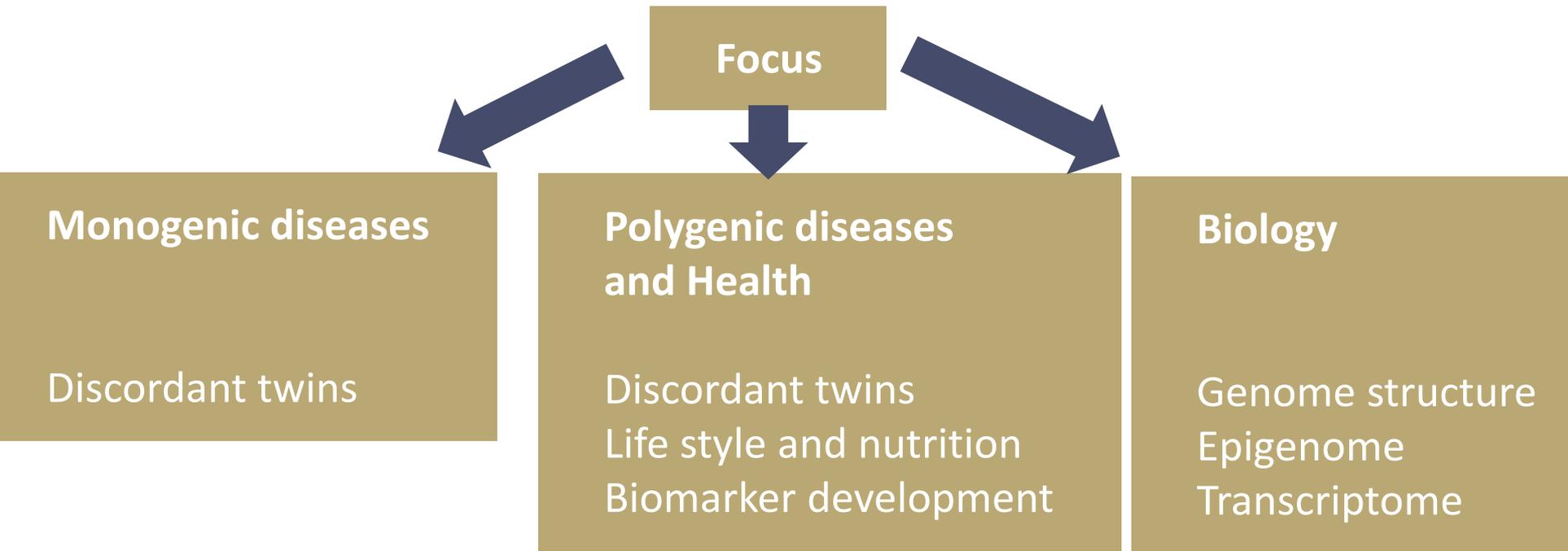
Mafalda Barbosa *et al* 2018

3C, 4C, 5C, Hi-C,
ChIA-PET, DNase-seq,
FAIRE-seq, ATAC-seq

ChIP-seq
Mnase-seq

WGBS, RRBS,
MeDIP-seq,
Methyl-seq

Genetic Twin Research across the world

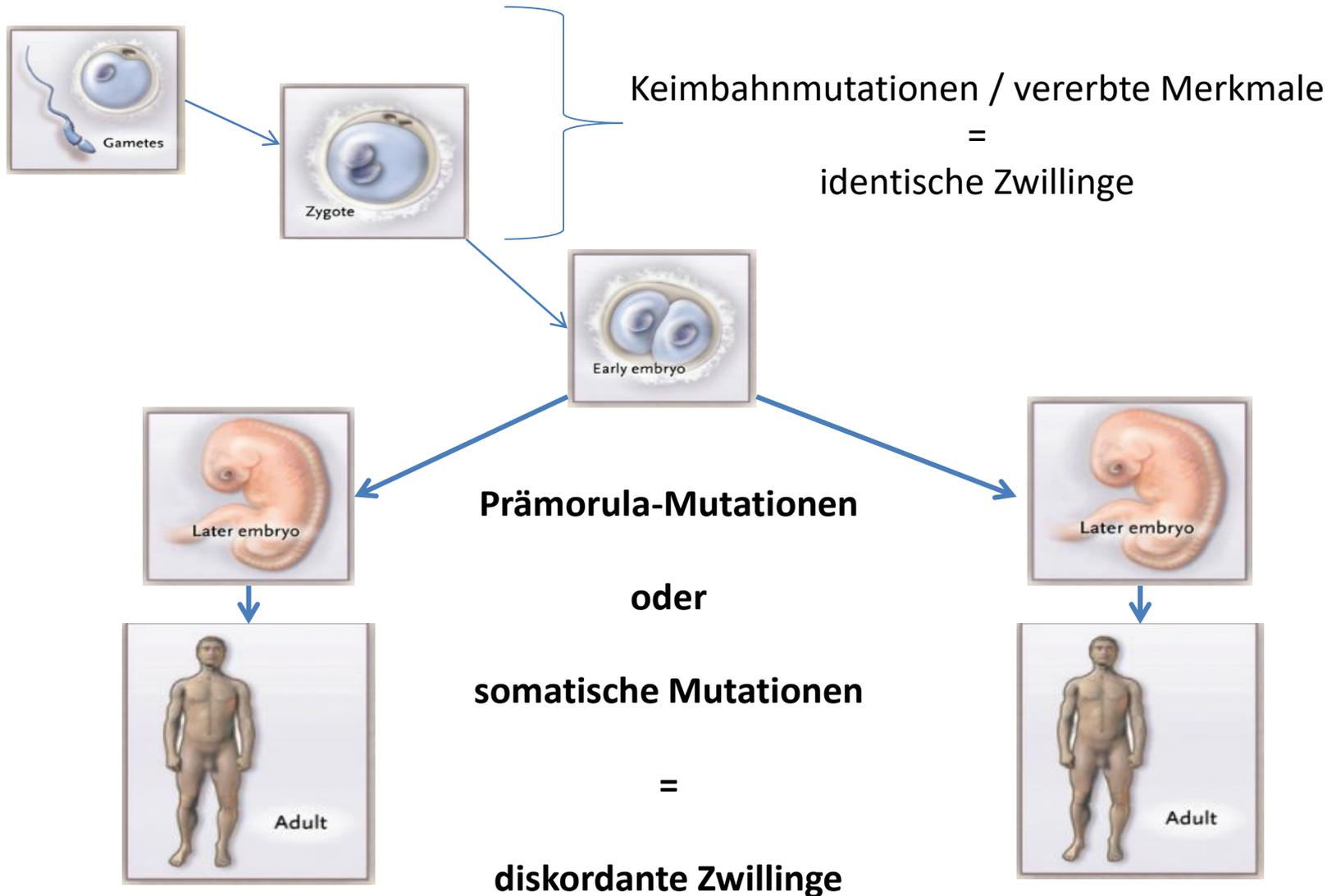


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Diskordante monozygote Zwillinge „Next-Level-Mosaikerkrankung“



Determining the incidence of a disease in twins helps delineate whether there are genetic and environmental components

Both genetic and environmental factors important

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Concordance</i>	
	<i>Identical (MZ)</i>	<i>Non-identical (DZ)</i>
Cleft lip and palate	38%	8%
Rheumatoid arthritis	34%	7%
Asthma	47%	24%
Coronary artery disease	19%	9%
Diabetes mellitus	56%	11%

Complexity of analysing genomes in the clinical context

TOPMed study (Trans-Omics for Precision Medicine)

53,831 Genomes analysed

>400 Mio variants

97% of the variants
less than 1%

53% present
in only 1 individual

-> 4,6 Mio protein-coding variants

Total 230,000 putative loss of function variants in 18.493 genes

-> 104,000 frameshift variants

-> 97,000 putative splice and truncation variants

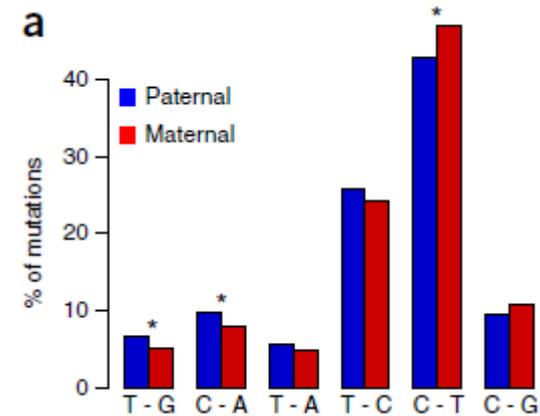
2.5 unique pLOF per individual

Additional read out needed !



<https://www.shutterstock.com/de/image-illustration/organic-chemistry-model-dna-molecule-illustration-93597241?id=93597241>

45 – 60 *de novo* mutations per child / genome



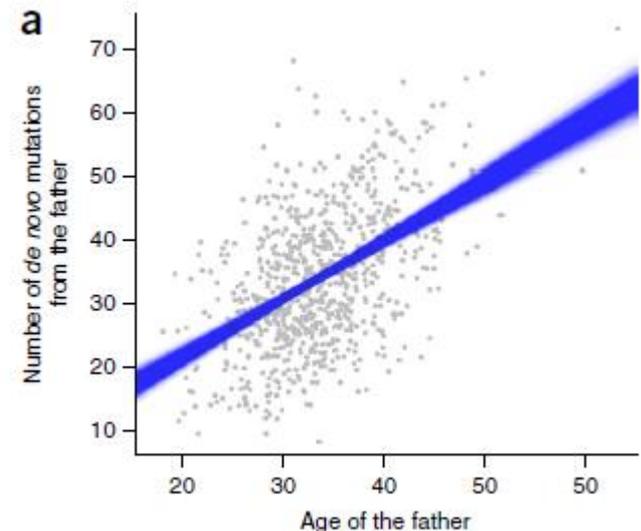
Parent-of-origin-specific signatures of *de novo* mutations

Jakob M Goldmann^{1,10}, Wendy S W Wong^{2,10}, Michele Pinelli³, Terry Farrah⁴, Dale Bodian², Anna B Stittrich⁴, Gustavo Glusman⁴, Lisenka E L M Vissers⁵, Alexander Hoischen⁵, Jared C Roach⁴, Joseph G Vockley^{2,6}, Joris A Veltman^{5,7}, Benjamin D Solomon^{2,8,9}, Christian Gilissen^{5,11} & John E Niederhuber^{2,9,11}

Table 1 Cohort description

Birth constellation	No. births	No. children	No. sequenced samp
Singletons	731	731	2,193
Dizygotic twins	35	70	140
Monozygotic twins	14	28	56
Triplet	1	3	5
Total	781	832	2,394

The cohort consists of 731 trios, 49 quartets, and one quintet, resulting in a total of 832 children.



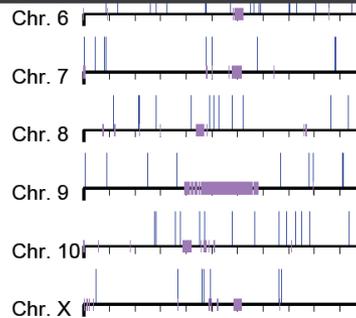
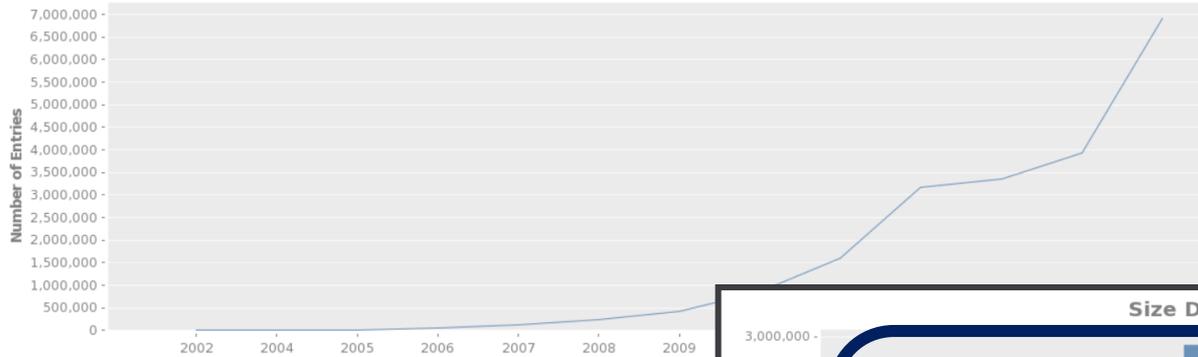
Characterization of missing human genome sequences and copy-number polymorphic insertions

Jeffrey M Kidd¹, Nick Sampas², Francesca Antonacci¹, Tina Graves³, Robert Fulton³, Hillary S Hayden¹, Can Alkan¹, Maika Malig¹, Mario Ventura⁴, Giuliana Giannuzzi⁴, Joelle Kallicki³, Paige Anderson², Anya Tsalenko², N Alice Yamada², Peter Tsang², Rajinder Kaul¹, Richard K Wilson³, Laurakay Bruhn² & Evan E Eichler^{1,5}

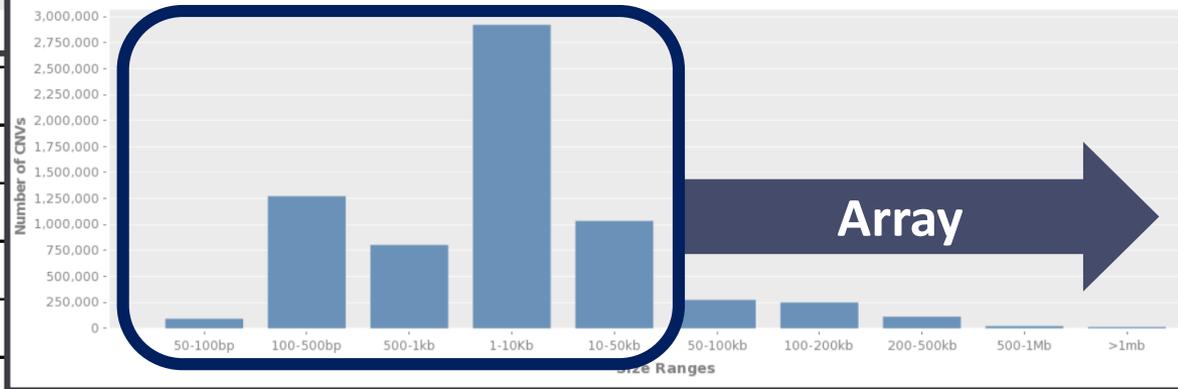
NATURE METHODS | VOL.7 | NO.5 | MAY 2010

2,363 new insertion sequences
corresponding to **720** genomic loci.

Increase in Variation Data



Size Distribution of CNVs in DGV2



Treatment studies in rare diseases

Han et al. *Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases* (2019) 14:232
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13023-019-1216-0>

Orphanet Journal of
Rare Diseases

RESEARCH

Open Access

A placebo-controlled trial of folic acid and betaine in identical syndrome

Ismaylova et al. *Translational Psychiatry* (2018)8:147
DOI 10.1038/s41398-018-0195-6



Translational Psychiatry

Julia Han¹, Terry Jo Bichell², Stephanie Golde
Lynne M. Bird^{7,8} and Virginia Kimonis^{1,2*} 

ARTICLE

Open Access

Serotonin transporter promoter methylation in peripheral cells and neural responses to negative stimuli: A study of adolescent monozygotic twins

Elmira Ismaylova^{1,2}, Melissa L. Lévesque^{1,2}, Florence B. Pomares^{1,3} , Moshe Szyf⁴, Zsofia Nemoda⁴, Cherine Fahim¹, Frank Vitaro^{1,5}, Mara Brendgen^{1,6}, Ginette Dionne⁷, Michel Boivin^{7,8}, Richard E. Tremblay^{1,9,10} and Linda Booij^{1,2,3}

15.07.2021

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Lessons learned from twins

Rare and common diseases

Control of one twin in biomarker and even for treatment studies

Variability of the human organism

- to respond to environment

- and how the organism responds

Human health and aging

New „Omics“ technologies lead to a **Renaissance of twin research**

From phenotype description to in depth Multi-Omics analysis





A. Dufke
Clinical Genetics

J. Hübener-Schmid
Senior Scientist

N. Casadei
NCCT

S. Ossowski
Bioinformatics

T. Haack
Molecular
Diagnostics



Olaf Riess

I declare to receive an explorative grant from Illumina for implementing WGS into clinical care.

<https://www.medicin.uni-tuebingen.de/de/das-klinikum/einrichtungen/institute/medizinische-genetik-und-angewandte-genomik>

