

Families Managing Kleefstra: Genetics beyond the EHM1 gene variant

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Background:

Professor, University of Minnesota

Research Laboratory in UMn Cancer Center

Focus on genetic variations leading to drug resistance in cancer

Step-parent to Andy, age 29

Autism

Scoliosis

Cognitive delays

Intellectual disability (functionally ~8 year old)

Physical: 6 ft, 205 lbs.

Low muscle tone

At age 25 identified EHMT1 mutation - Kleefstra

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, Aske
M. Nillesen^a, Alex Magee^c, David Geneviève^b, Valérie Cormier^b,
Jean-Pierre Fryns^d, Ben C.J. Hamel^a, Erik A. Sijm^a, Ben C.J. Hamel^a, Erik A. Sijm^a, Ben
van Bokhoven^a

KLEEFSTRA SYNDROME



Therapeutic interventions to treat behaviors (including regression):

- Anxiety
- Obsessiveness
- Anger management
- Sleep disorder
- Catatonia
- Apathy
- Social interactions
- Focus / Attention

Our challenge:

Andy regression at age ~23

- Limb and whole-body jerking
- Decline in memory and auditory processing
- Dramatic insomnia - 4 hours tops
- Loss of daily living skills
- Non-communicative - eventually catatonic
- Dramatic weight loss
- Apathetic - no interest in any social engagement
- Life-altering separation anxiety

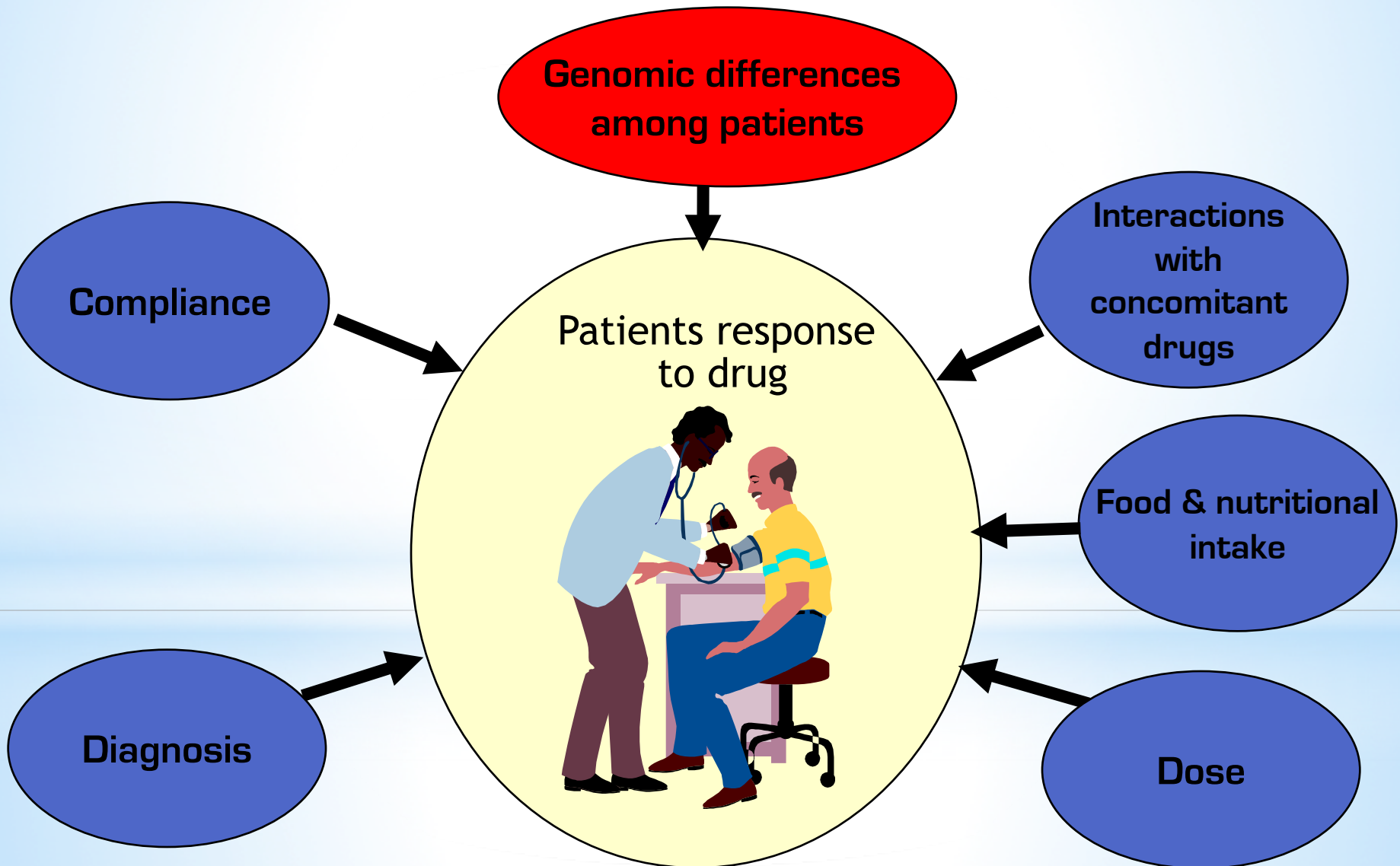
Can we identify variations in a genome that may contribute to how each person responds to drugs?



Consider issues in Personalized Medicine:

- ◆ The DNA codes for proteins that can activate, absorb, distribute, metabolize, and excrete drugs.
- ◆ There is a lot of population *variation* in the DNA coding of drug metabolizing genes.
- ◆ **PERSONALIZED MEDICINE** initiative is directed at identifying and understanding personal DNA variation impact on drugs, revealing:
 - ✧ Why some people do not benefit.
 - ✧ Why some people have bad side effects.
 - ✧ How choices for the right drug, for the right patient, at the right dose can be made based on a **DNA sequence!**



Many factors influence drug response





Original Article | [Open Access](#)  

A de novo splice site mutation in EHMT1 resulting in Kleefstra syndrome with pharmacogenomics screening and behavior therapy for regressive behaviors

Amit Kumar Mitra, Jessica Dodge, Jody Van Ness, Israel Sokeye, Brian Van Ness 

First published: 26 December 2016 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/mgg3.265> | Cited by: 1

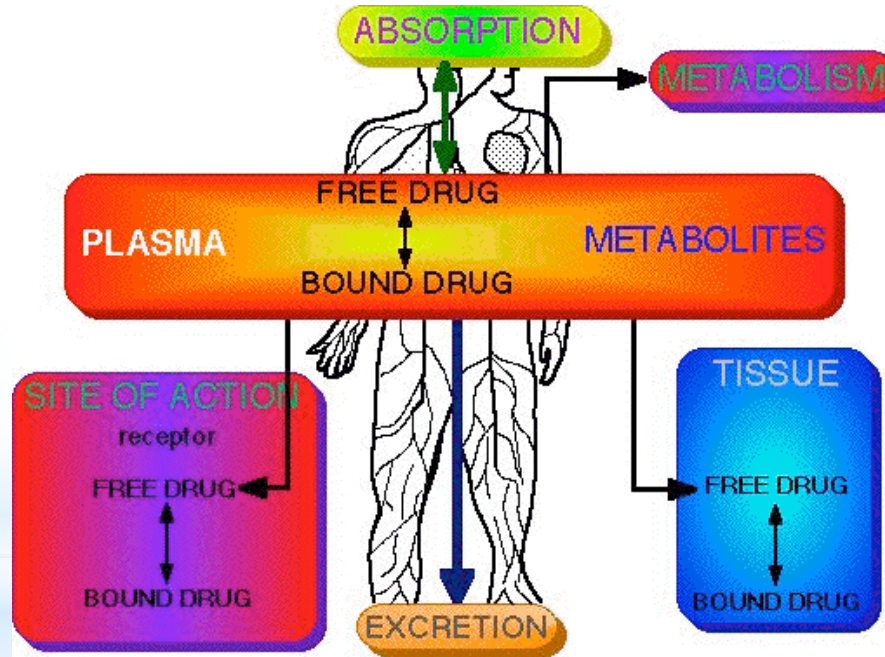
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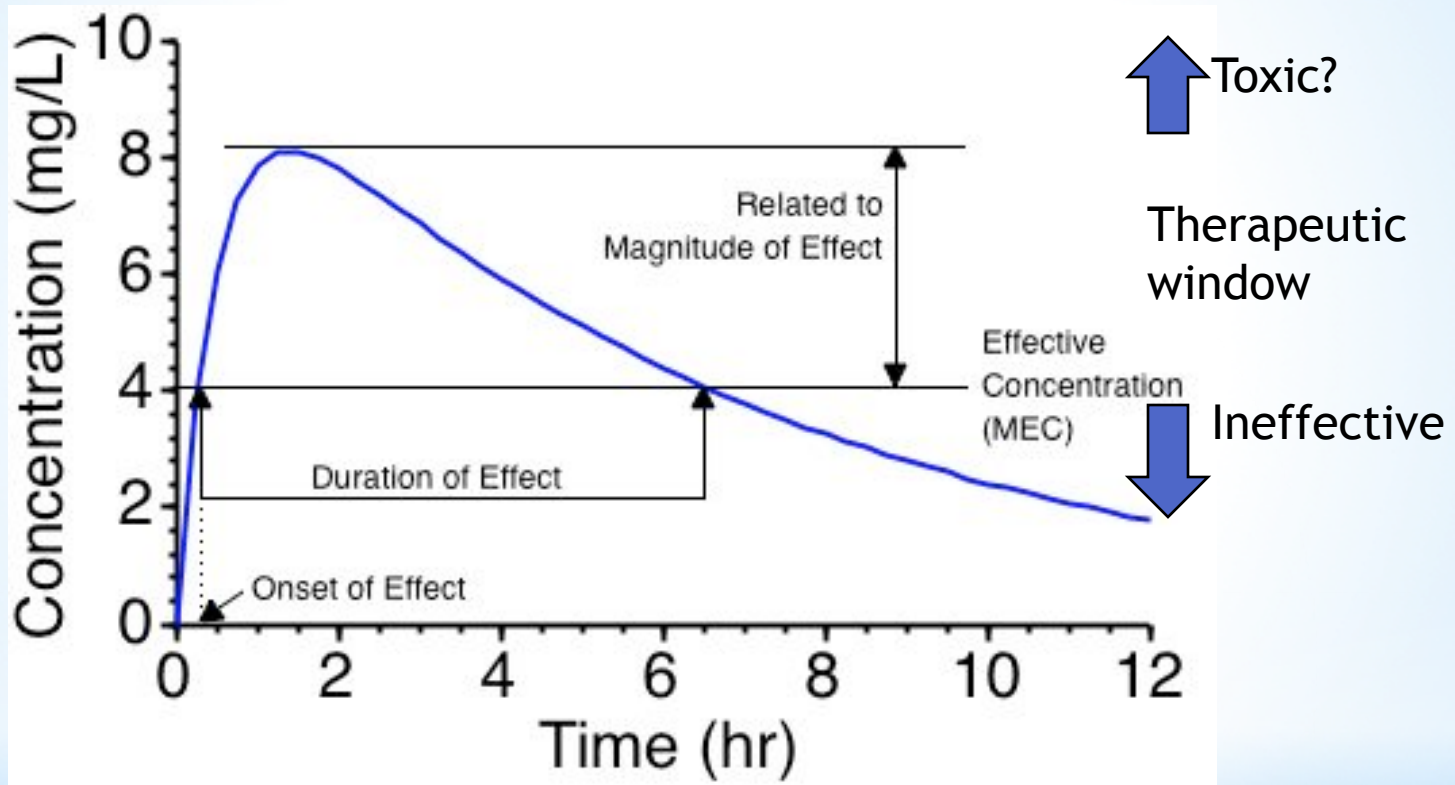
What happens to a drug after it enters the body?



The ADME process



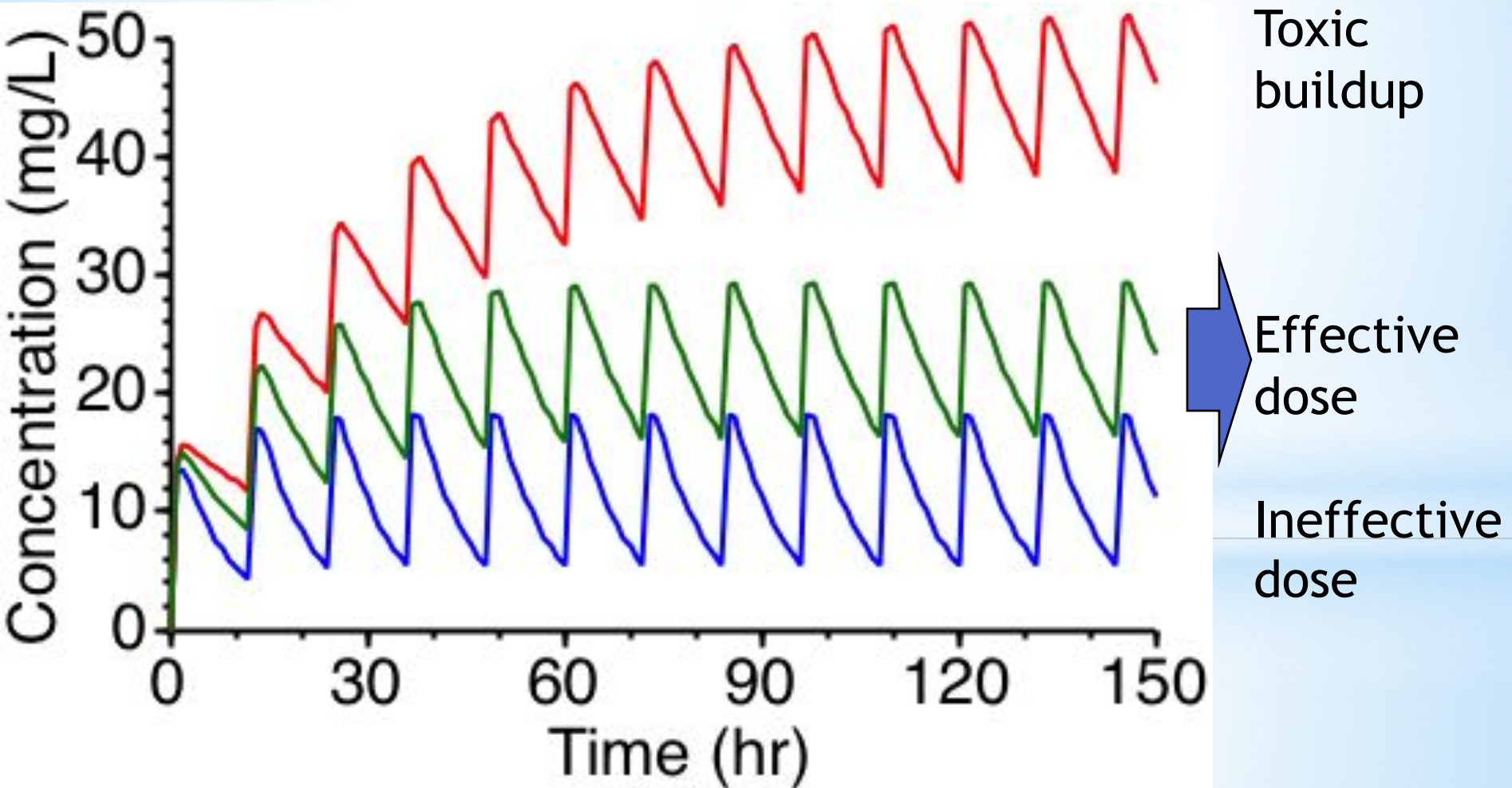
Drug dosing effects over time



Slide showing effect as a function of time. From a graph such as this we can see the **relationship between drug concentration and drug effect**. If a drug has to reach an effective concentration at a receptor site this will be reflected as a required blood concentration.

GENE VARIATION: DRUG METABLOLISM

Consider repeat doses in 3 scenarios



A medicine's absorption, distribution, metabolism, and elimination (ADME**) depends on genetically programmed cellular functions, including:**

- Receptors
- Ion channels
- Transport molecules
- Signaling pathways
- Metabolic pathways

**All part of the
GENETIC
PROGRAM**

**(Does Andy have a
different program?)**

Genetic variation in the population

DNA sequence
(Genotype)



Biological trait
(Phenotype)

Environment

ATTCGCATGGACC (3 billion)

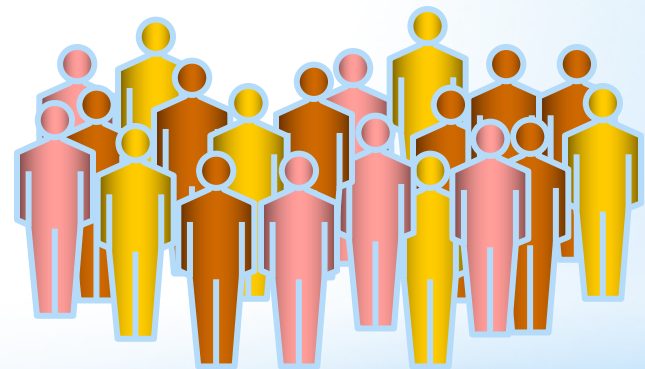
_____ C _____

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SNPs

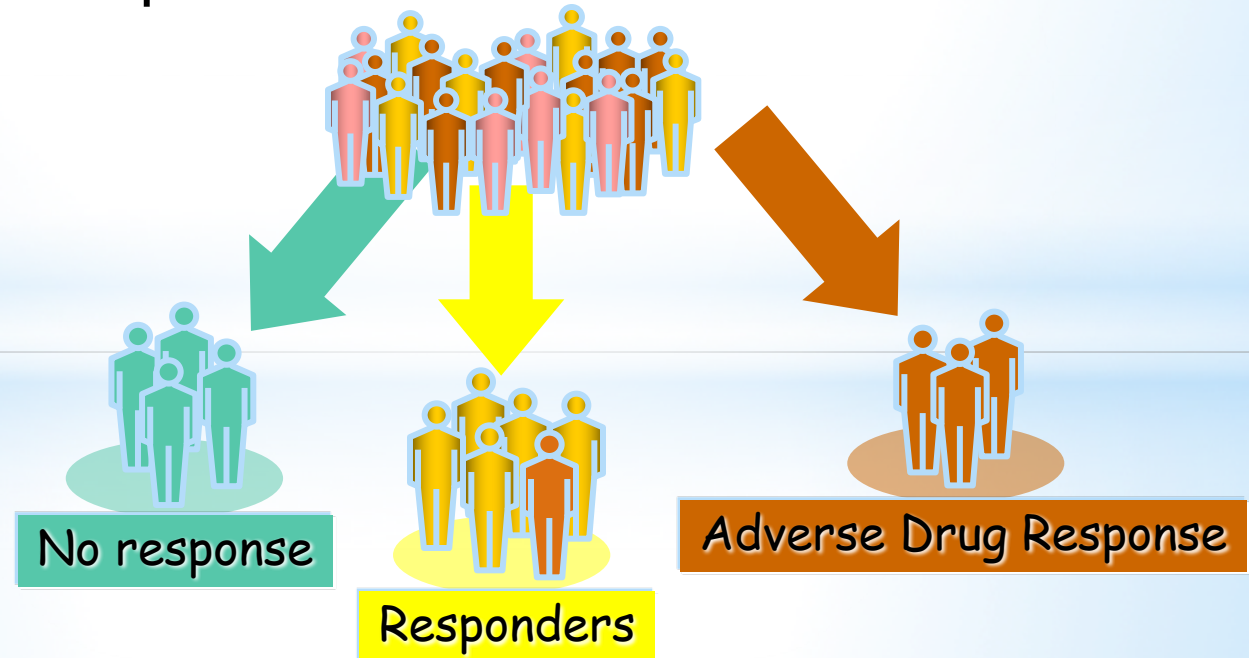
Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms

~ 1/1000 bp



} Response to a drug is
an individual trait that
varies in a population

Pharmacogenomics is a science that examines the inherited variations in genes that dictate drug response and explores the ways these variations can be used to predict whether a patient will have a good response to a drug, a bad response to a drug, or no response at all.



Adverse Drug Events (ADE's)

- Yearly: over 2.5 billion outpatient prescriptions (2/ 3 of office visits) and 2 million serious ADEs
- 4th leading cause of death, ahead of pulmonary disease, diabetes, AIDS, pneumonia--100,000 deaths yearly
- Costs USA \$136 billion/ yr.
- ADE's are a big Public Health problem!

Most of the drug metabolism happens in the liver, by a group of enzymes encoded by the cytochrome p450 (CYP) genes.

A valuable resource



www.cpicpgx.org

CPIC provides peer-reviewed and published guidelines that enable the translation of genotypes into actionable prescribing decisions for specific drugs.

Journal Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics

Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium (CPIC) Guideline for CYP2D6 and CYP2C19 Genotypes and Dosing of Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors.

Hicks JK¹, Bishop JR², Sangkuhl K³, Müller DJ⁴, Ji Y⁵, Leckband SG⁶, Leeder JS⁷, Graham RL⁸, Chiulli DL⁹, LLerena A¹⁰, Skaar TC¹¹, Scott SA¹², Stingl JC¹³, Klein TE³, Caudle KE¹⁴, Gaedigk A⁷; Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium.

Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) are primary treatment options for major depressive and anxiety disorders. CYP2D6 and CYP2C19 polymorphisms can influence the metabolism of SSRIs, thereby affecting drug efficacy and safety.

We summarize evidence from the published literature supporting these associations and provide dosing recommendations for fluvoxamine, paroxetine, citalopram, escitalopram, and sertraline based on CYP2D6 and/or CYP2C19 genotype (updates at www.pharmgkb.org).

Our journey continued with Andy's Personal Pharmacogenomics Profile



- ◆ Pharmacogenomic targeted gene panel done at AssureX (Cincinnati, OH)



8 genes that can influence >80% drugs on the market

- Key result:

ANDY

CYP2D6 *4 / *4 genotype (a sequence variation in ~7%)

People with this genetics cannot metabolize a variety of drugs, including Luvox*.

May result in *adverse events* (behavior, physical)

* Andy was taking Luvox!

Andy's personalized management

◆ Medical:

Recommendation from Dr. Kleefstra and colleagues:

- An atypical anti-psychotic (Olanzapine), which also improves sleep

Recommended by Andy's local psychiatrist:

- Off Luvox - On a different SSRI not metabolized by CYP2D6

◆ Behavior and Cognitive:

Fraser Institute (Minneapolis, MN autism center) behavior therapies
Brain training with Fast Forward (from www.scilearn.com/products)

◆ Diet:

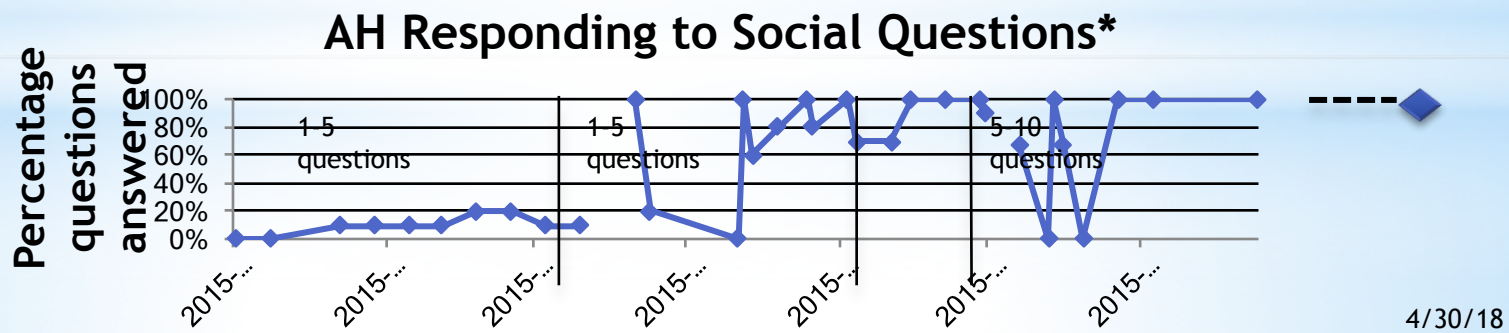
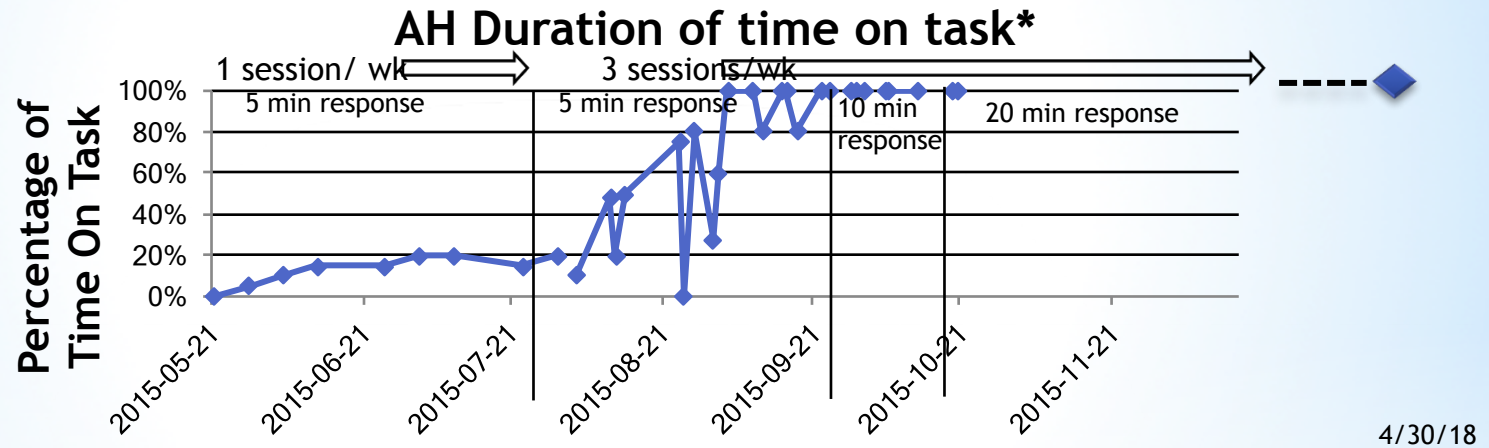
Adjustments needed because drugs have risk of weight gain.

◆ Exercise:

Minimal 3 times a week at the local YMCA gym and pool.

NOTE: This is a personalized recommendation based on Andy's genetics, individual features and behaviors, and still some experimentation in doses that are most effective for him. This is NOT generalizable to others.

Andy showed major improvements in behavior measures



- Quetiapine
- Fluvoxamine
- Desvenlafaxine
- Olanzapine

*Study conducted by Dr. Jessica Dodge, clinical psychologist (Fraser Institute)

The impact of genetics on our journey

For Andy:

Autism still present

Sleep issues better

Anxieties reduced

Interactions greatly improved

Social engagement greatly improved

Cognitive function greatly improved

Employed 5 days a week

Living in a supported group home

Was an active best man at his brother's wedding

Employed, with new opportunities being explored

A happy guy with a bright future!



For the family:

Reduced anxiety and exhaustion

Pleasure of seeing independence grow,
a new future Family planning

Andy's sister has a very healthy baby boy

Since parents do not carry the mutation,
and siblings not affected, genetic risk is
not increased relative to population.



Goals of pharmacogenomics

- ✧ Identify effective / ineffective treatments
- ✧ Reduce the time to achieve effective therapeutic window
- ✧ Identify proper dosage (i.e. SSRI's)
- ✧ Identify potential ADRs
- ✧ Reduce likelihood of harmful side effects
- ✧ Aid in new medication research and development

Pharmacogenomic PGx testing

Typically, the test is ordered by physician

Test cost \$150-300 - currently not covered by all insurance (case by case)

CPIC guidelines continue to be issued - updates

Barriers:

- Many physicians unfamiliar with PGx testing results
- Not covered by all insurance providers
- Need to consider other factors
 - Drug-drug interactions
 - Environment (food)
- PGx guidelines not available for many drugs

Considerations of pharmacogenomic testing:

- Are there known genetic variations that impact medications being taken?
- Will insurance cover cost?
Some do, some don't.
- Do you have genetic support professional to help interpret test results?
- Can you order the testing yourself, or only through physician?
Some companies will do direct to customer.
- If you want more information:



<https://assurexhealth.com>



<https://oneome.com>

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