

Capturing and defining population descriptors in research and health systems

Public Workshop on Use of Race, Ethnicity, and Ancestry as Population Descriptors in Genomics Research - Session II

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Disclosures

Eimear Kenny has received personal fees from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, 23&Me, and Illumina, and serves on the advisory boards for Encompass Biosciences and Galateo Bio.

Use of population descriptors in academic research

International HapMap Project

**Population Architecture
Using Genomics and
Epidemiology (PAGE)
Consortium**

1000 Genomes Project

**Trans-Omics for Precision Medicine
(TOPMed) Program**

Project began

**Polygenic Risk Methods
in Diverse populations
(PRIMED) Consortium**



**Human Genome
Reference
Program**

**Clinical Sequencing
Evidence-Generating
Research (CSER)**

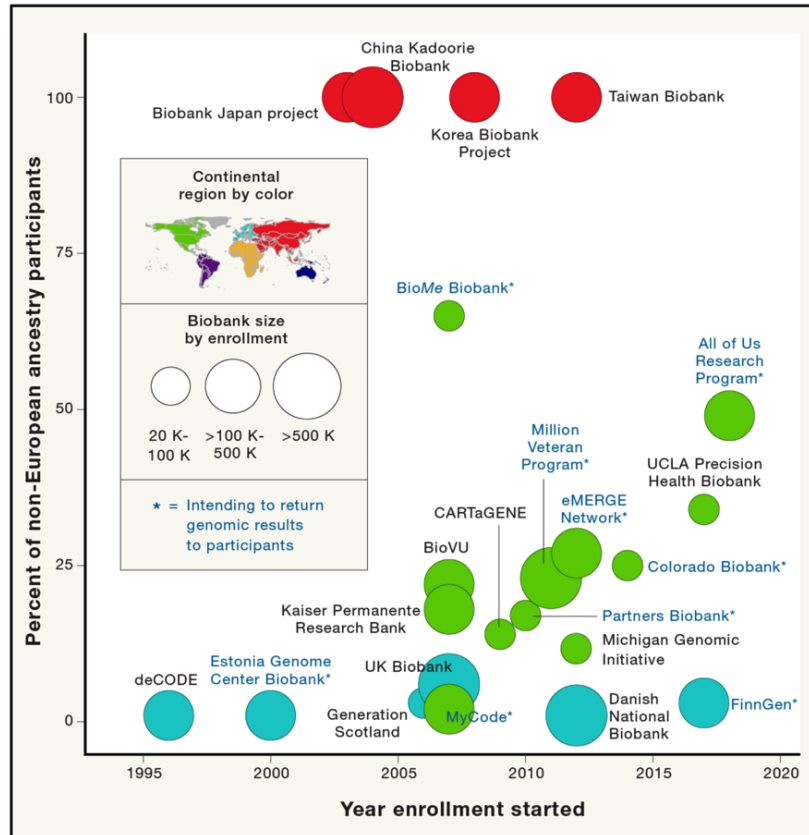
NHLBI Grand Opportunity Exome Sequencing Project (ESP)

Use of population descriptors in academic research

- Upfront sampling and assignation of population descriptor
- Interested in looking at differences within and between populations as a means to understand both genetic and environmental factors impacting disease
- Long term goal to translate findings to understand impact on real-world populations

NHLBI Grand Opportunity Exome Sequencing Project (ESP)

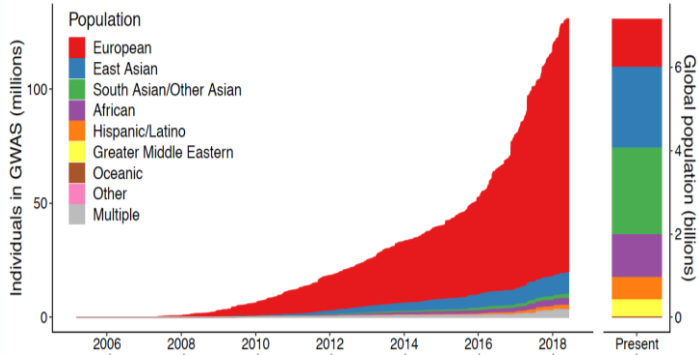
Population-based recruitment to biobanks as engines of translation



NS Abul-Husn, EE Kenny. *Cell* 2019; 177(1):58-69

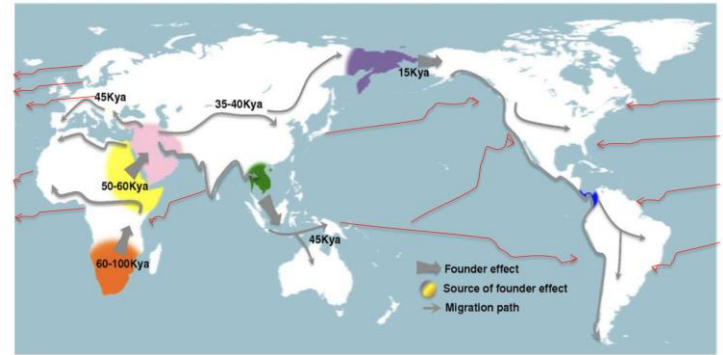


Challenges for understanding genetic risk at a population-level



Biases in representation in our genomic databases

.... complexity and admixture in our human demographic history...



Henn B M et al. PNAS 2012;109:17758-17764



.... and need to integrate **genomic information** with **clinical history**, **family history**, **lifestyle factors**, and **social determinants** of health

Impact of diversity on polygenic risk prediction

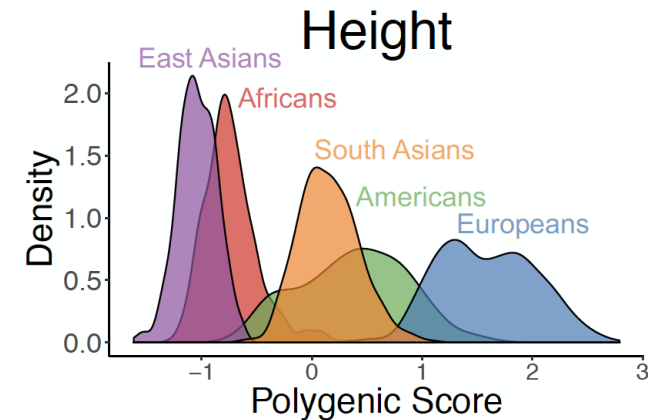
Please cite this article in press as: Martin et al., Human Demographic History Impacts Genetic Risk Prediction across Diverse Populations, The American Journal of Human Genetics (2017), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ajhg.2017.03.004>

ARTICLE

Human Demographic History Impacts Genetic Risk Prediction across Diverse Populations

Alicia R. Martin,^{1,2,3,4} Christopher R. Gignoux,⁴ Raymond K. Walters,^{1,2,3} Genevieve L. Wojcik,⁴ Benjamin M. Neale,^{1,2,3} Simon Gravel,^{5,6} Mark J. Daly,^{1,2,3} Carlos D. Bustamante,⁴ and Eimear E. Kenny^{7,8,9,10,*}

Genetic prediction accuracy decays with increasing divergence between the discovery populations and the target populations



Martin AR et. al. AJHG 2017

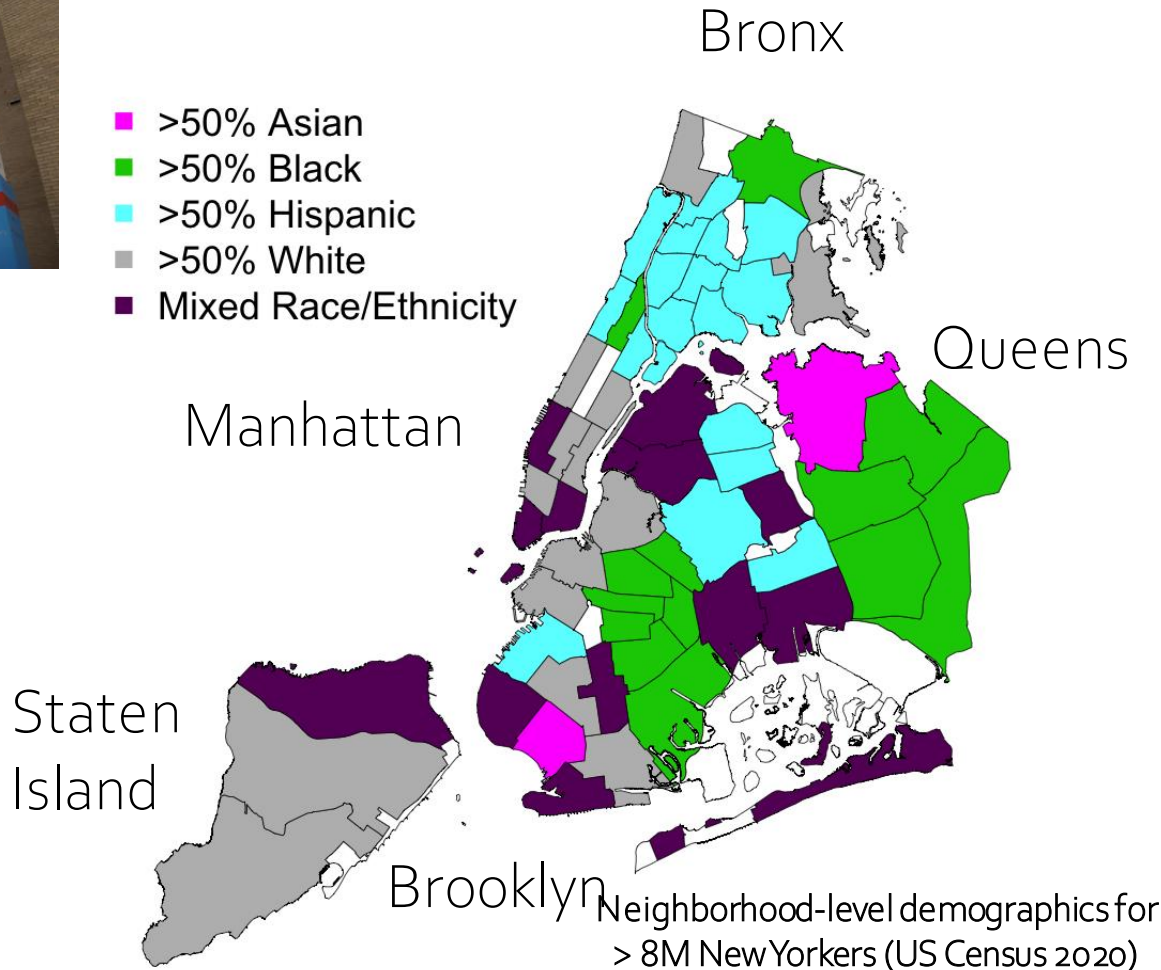
• • Correction: Martin AR et. al. AJHG 2020

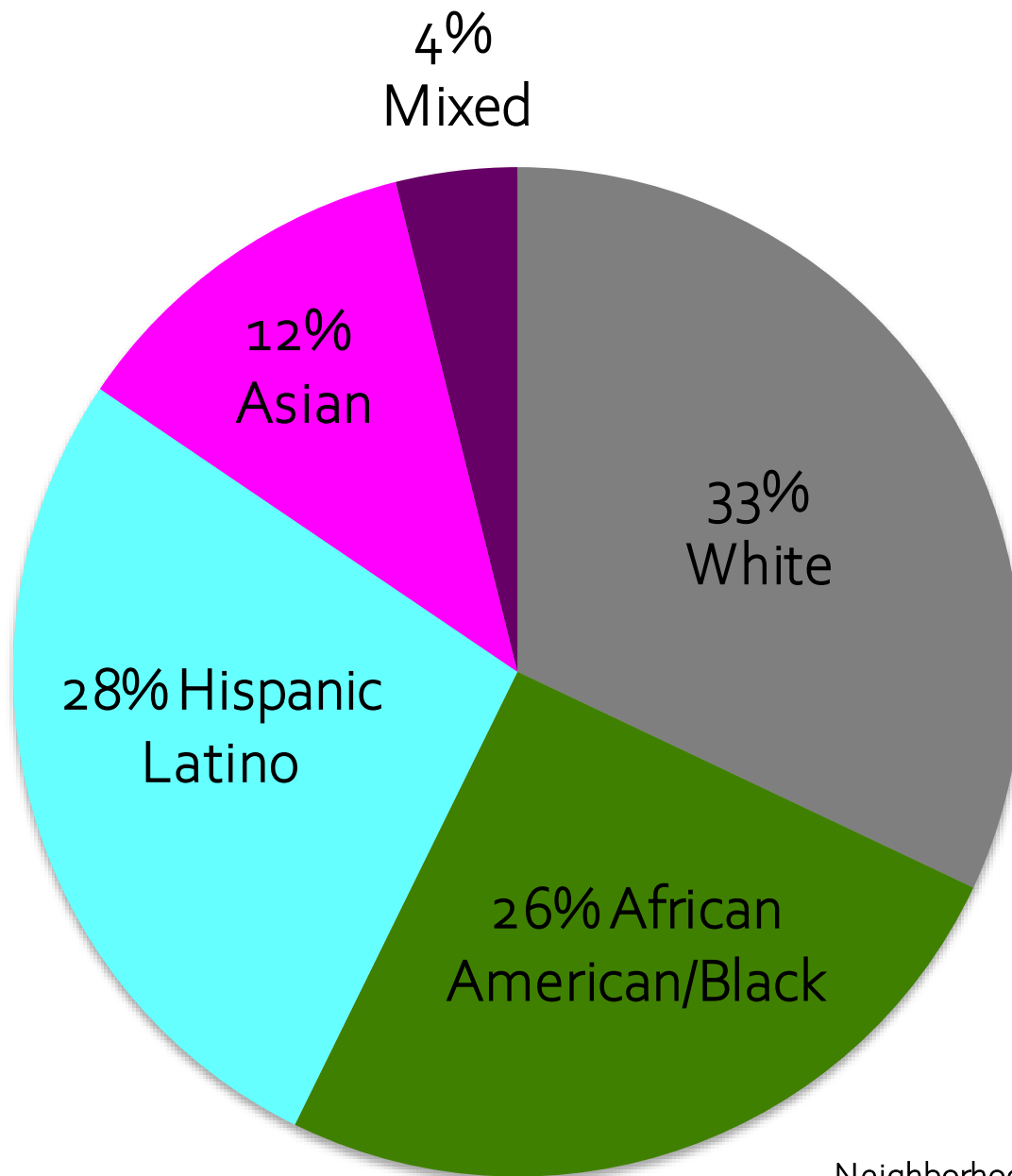
Mount Sinai Health System covers the lives of >3M New Yorkers



**Mount
Sinai
Hospital**

- >50% Asian
- >50% Black
- >50% Hispanic
- >50% White
- Mixed Race/Ethnicity

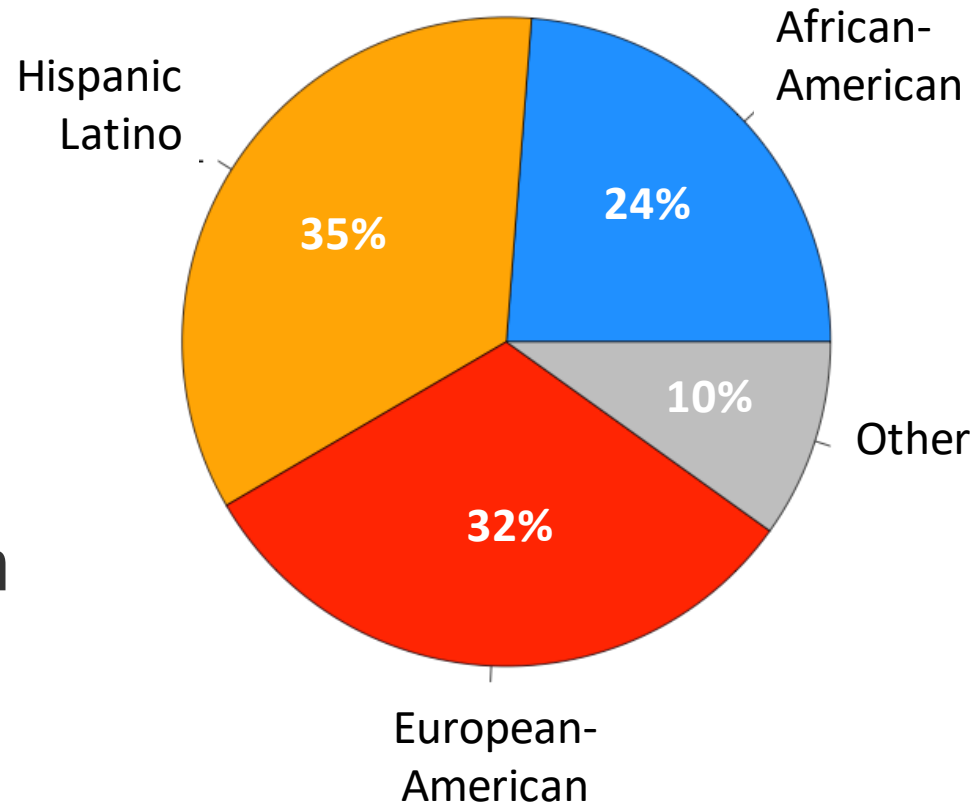




Neighborhood-level demographics for
> 8M New Yorkers (US Census 2020)

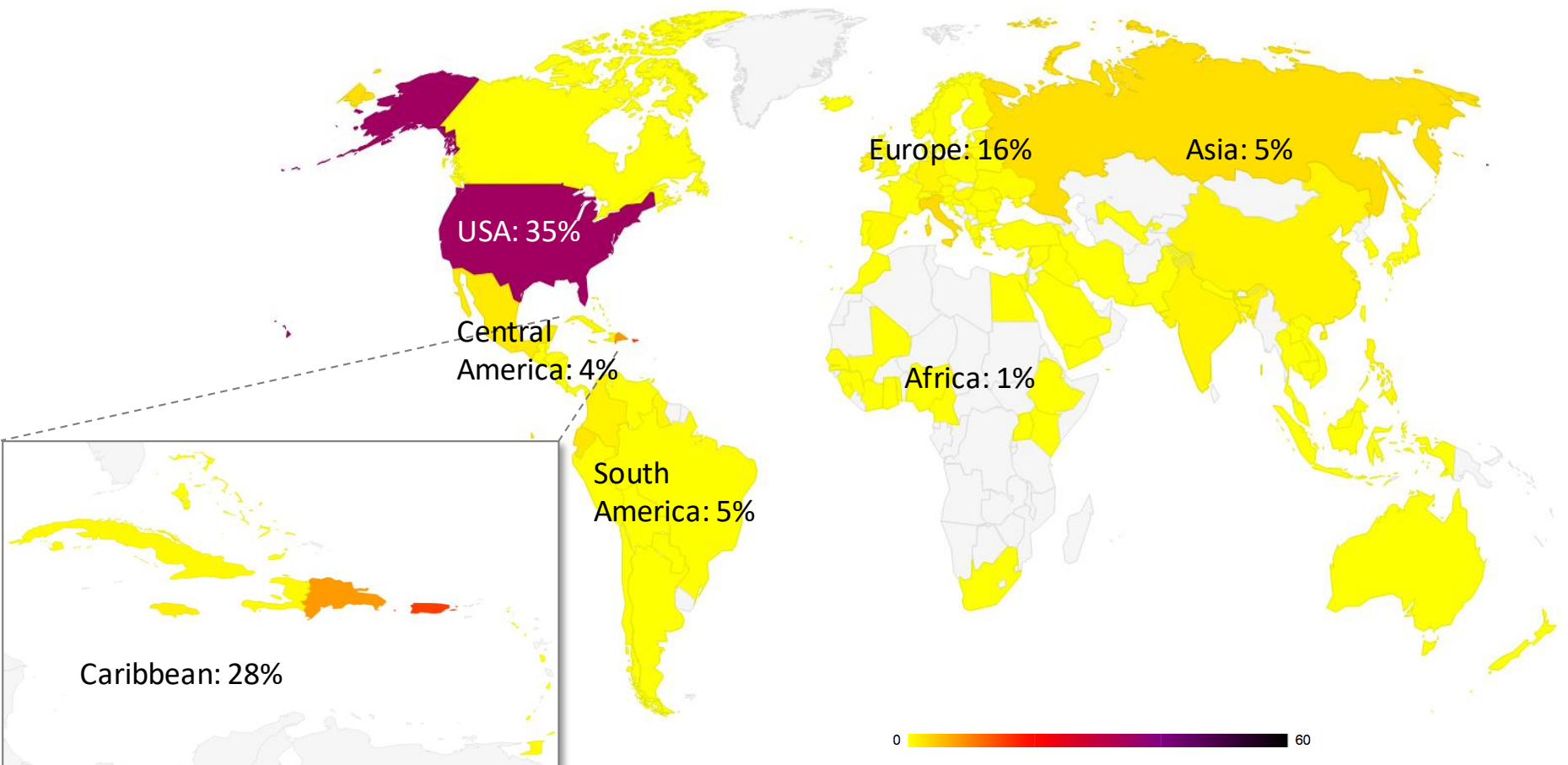
Genomic discovery and clinical genomics in a diverse patient population

- ▶ Research biobank recruiting since 2007
- ▶ >70,000 participants currently enrolled
- ▶ GS, ES, array data
- ▶ Rich survey information for those enrolled

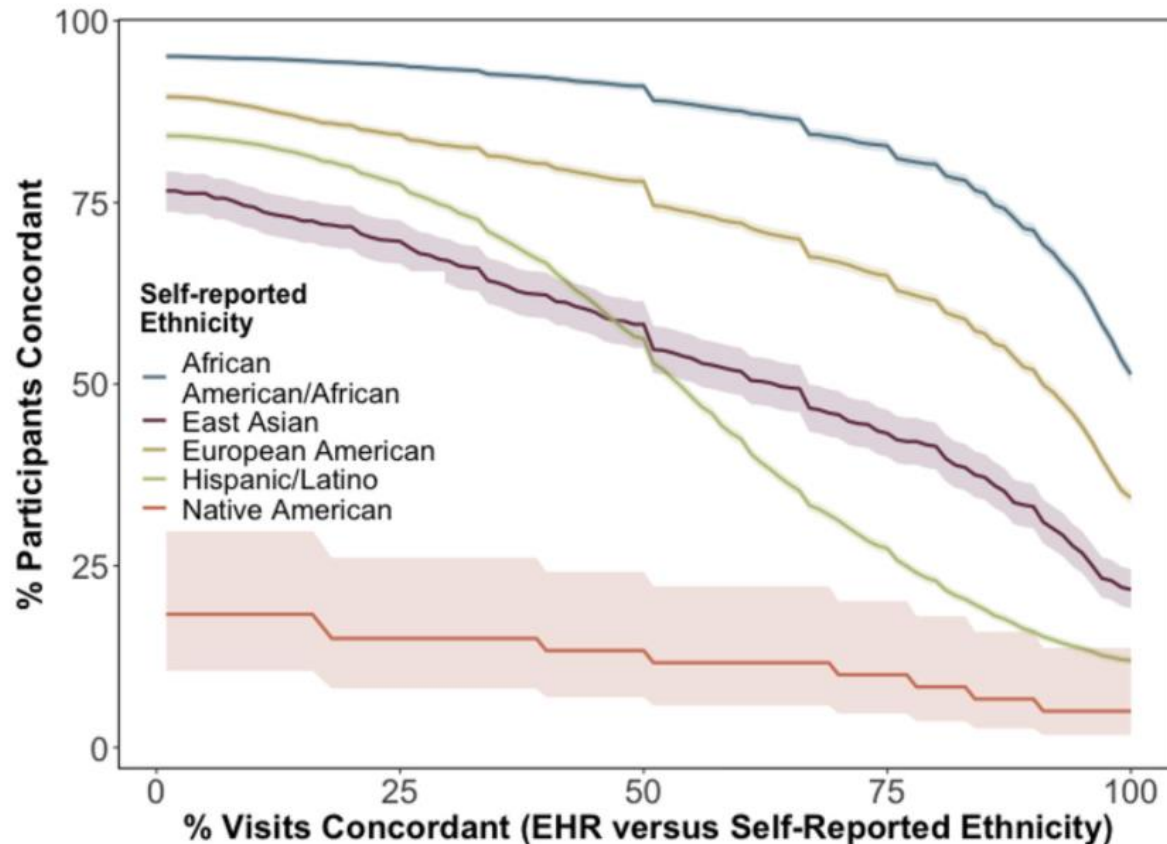


Diversity is deep and multidimensional

Grandparents Country of Birth



But diversity is poorly captured in a health system

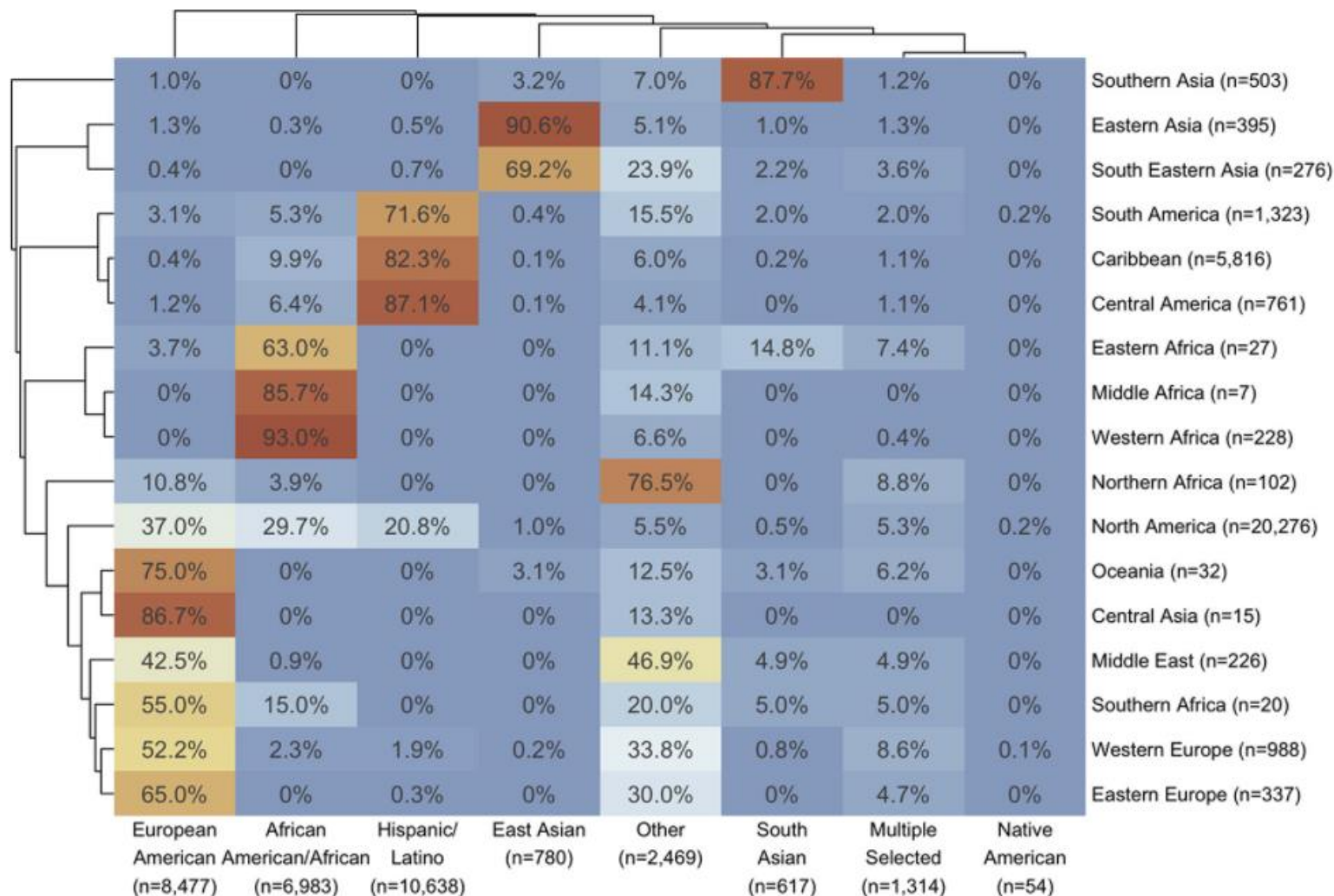


30,376 BioMe
participants

1,310,279 total health
system visits

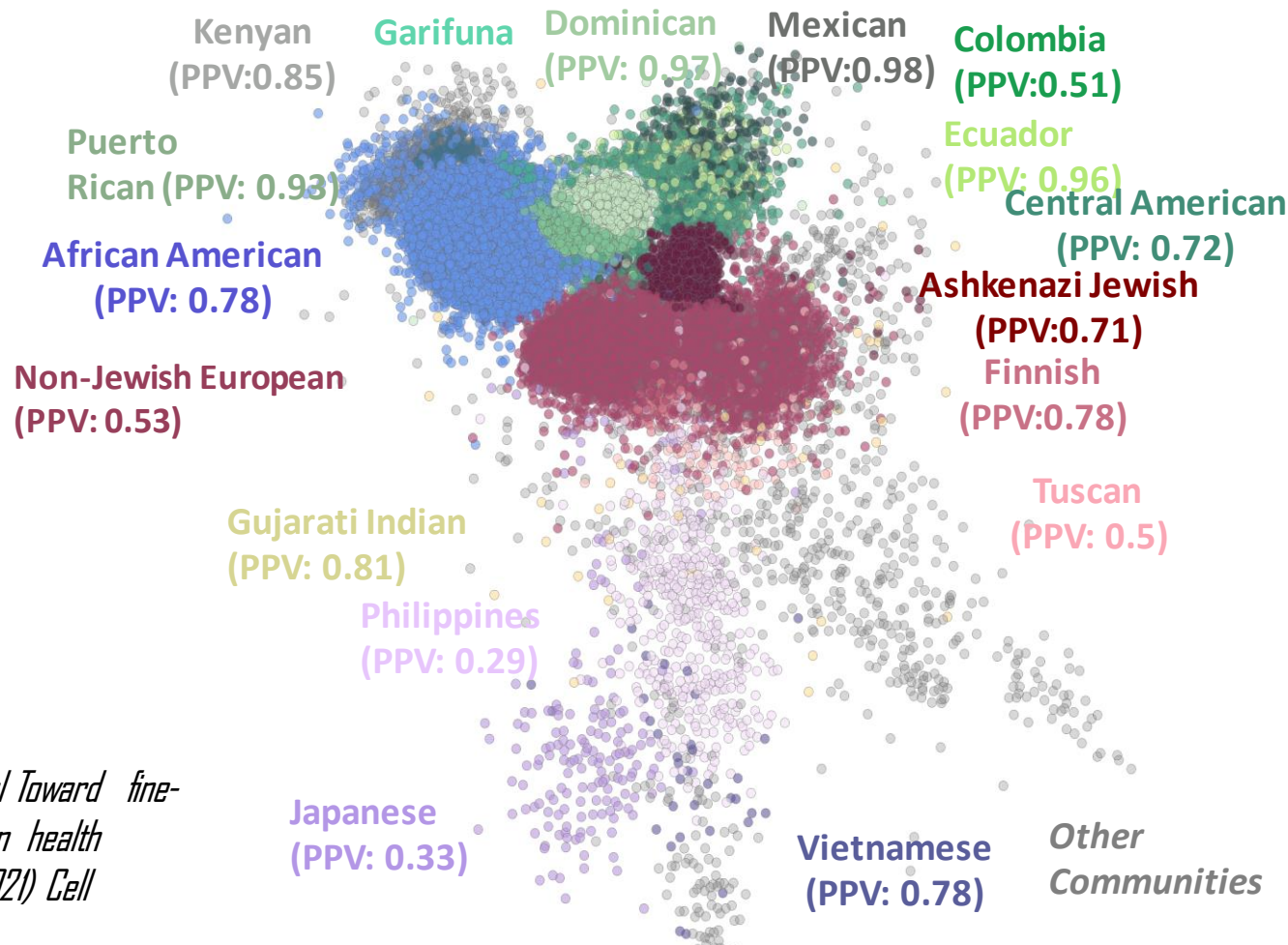
January 2007 and
December 2014

Nuance and complexity in self-identity



Self-reported Ethnicity (row-wise percent)

Genetic ancestry unlocks nuance and scale



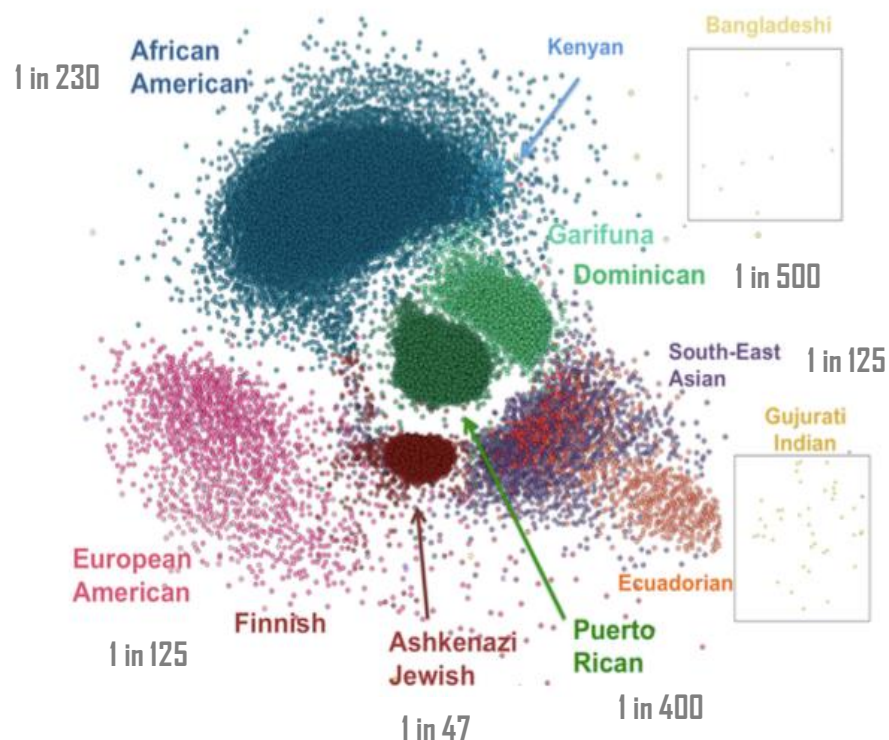
Belbin GM, et al Toward fine-scale population health monitoring (2021) Cell

$$\text{PPV} = \frac{\text{number of true positives}}{\text{number of true positives} + \text{number of false positives}} = \frac{\text{number of true positives}}{\text{number of positive calls}}$$

Some Populations Are at Higher Risk of Many Types of Cancers

Cancer type	Average lifetime risk	Risk by age 70 when <i>BRCA1</i> +	Risk by age 70 when <i>BRCA2</i> +
Female breast	12%	46 – 87%	38 – 84%
Male breast	<0.1%	1 – 2%	Up to 9%
Ovarian	1 – 2%	39 – 63%	16 – 27%
Prostate	11%	Elevated	15 – 20%
Pancreatic	<1%	1 – 3%	2 – 7%
Melanoma	1.6%	?	Elevated

Prevalence of *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* across populations



Exome sequencing reveals a high prevalence of *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* founder variants in a diverse population-based biobank

Noura S. Abul-Husn , Emily R. Soper, Jacqueline A. Odgis, Sinead Cullina, Dean Bobo, Arden Moscatti, Jessica E. Rodriguez, CBIPM Genomics Team, Regeneron Genetics Center, Ruth J. F. Loos, Judy H. Cho, Gillian M. Belbin, Sabrina A. Suckiel & Eimear E. Kenny

Genome Medicine 12, Article number: 2 (2019) | [Cite this article](#)

For inherited large effect risk variants, genetic ancestry may be a better tie to risk than population descriptors.....

Table 1. Continued

Gene	Mode of inheritance	Physical position (GRCh38)	c.DNA position	Protein modification	Self-reported ethnic group	Self-reported country of birth	IBD community	Condition	IBD community prevalence
DNAI2	AR	17: 74309345	c.1304G>A	p.Trp435Ter	AJ(5); C(9); B(4); O(1)	US(17); O(2)	AJ(19)	primary ciliary dyskinesia	1 in 216
CFAP298	AR	21: 32602299	c.735C>G	p.Tyr245Ter	AJ(5); C(6); B(1); O(2)	US(12); O(2)	AJ(15)	primary ciliary dyskinesia	1 in 293
DHDDS	AR	1: 26438228	c.124A>G	p.Lys42Glu	AJ(4); C(18); B(7); O(6)	US(31); O(4)	AJ(35)	retinitis pigmentosa, consanguineous	1 in 117
PCDH15	AR	10: 54317414	c.733C>T	p.Arg245Ter	AJ(5); C(10); B(1); O(1)	US(15); O(2)	AJ(17)	usher syndrome type 1	1 in 241
CLRN1	AR	3: 150972565	c.144T>G	p.Asn48Lys	AJ(8); C(29); B(5); O(3)	US(41); O(4)	AJ(44); O(1)	usher syndrome type 3A	1 in 93
PR founder variants (N = 3)									
BRCA2	AD	13: 32338277	c.3922G>T	p.Glu1308Ter	HL(7)	US(3); PR(4)	PR(7)	hereditary breast cancer	1 in 729
COL27A1	AR	9: 114195977	c.2089G>C	p.Gly697Arg	HL(82); B(1); O(4)	US(47); PR(38); O(2)	PR(87); O(2)	steely syndrome	1 in 60
SGCG	AR	13: 23324452	c.787G>A	p.Glu263Lys	HL(49); O(6)	US(31); PR(22); O(2)	PR(54); O(2)	omb girdle dystrophy	1 in 96

Belbin GM, et al Toward fine-scale population health monitoring Cell (2021)

Population Characteristics	All <i>BRCA1/2</i> -Associated Cancers	Evidence of clinical genetic testing N (%)
	Personal History N (%)	
All Variant Positive (N = 217)	54 (24.9)	57 (26.3)
By Gender		
Female (N = 134)	48 (35.8)	52 (38.8)
Male (N = 83)	6 (7.2)	5 (6.0)
P-value (chisq test)	3.4x10 ⁻⁷	3.1x10 ⁻⁷
By Founder Variants		
With AJ Founder Variant (N = 80)	22 (27.5)	31 (38.8)
Without AJ Founder Variant (N = 137)	32 (23.4)	26 (19.0)
P-value (chisq test)	0.18	1.5x10 ⁻⁴

.... but knowledge of population risk may improve health outcomes

Thoughts for the future

- Population labels are labile, nuanced, and tied to social and political forces -> but are an important anchor to understand the gene x environment impact on disease
- Genetic ancestry can be an excellent biomarker for the environment factors and social determinants impacting disease -> an additional way to incorporate population information into genomic research
- Genomic information will be increasingly centered in routine clinical care, but many questions remain about how to translate and implement genomic medicine -> need better approaches to reconciling individual and population-based risk

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