



A CRISPR way to understand genetic disease

Andrew Bassett



Human genome project – 13 years (1990-2003), \$3 billion

Last year – 1 genome every 2 min (~5000 per week), ~\$500

Variation

1 in every 1500 bases differs between individuals
i.e. we are 99.93% identical in DNA sequence

- 96% identical to a chimp
- 60% of genes are shared with a banana

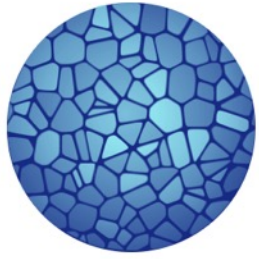
But 3,000,000,000 bases of DNA, so around 2 million differences between two people

Around 2 m per cell! Packaged in a $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ nucleus
Akin to trying to fit 24 miles of cotton into a tennis ball!



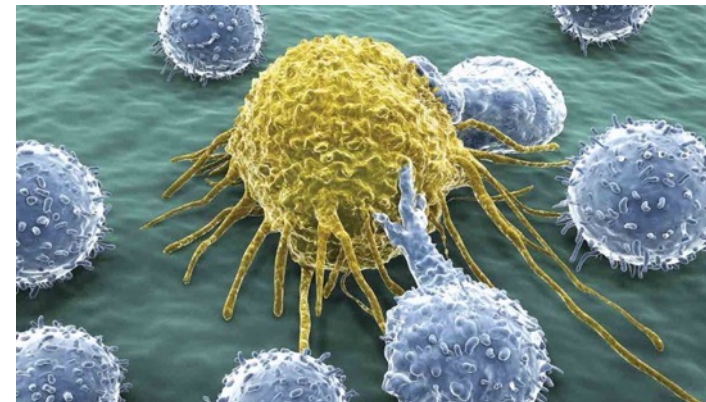
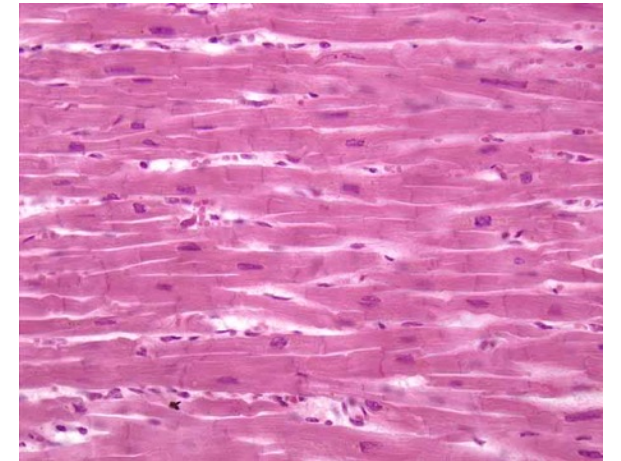
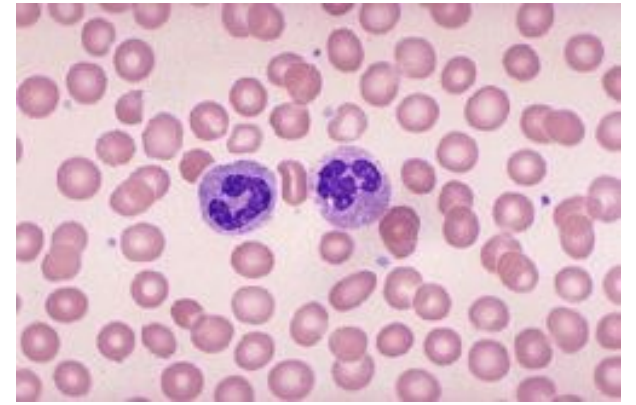
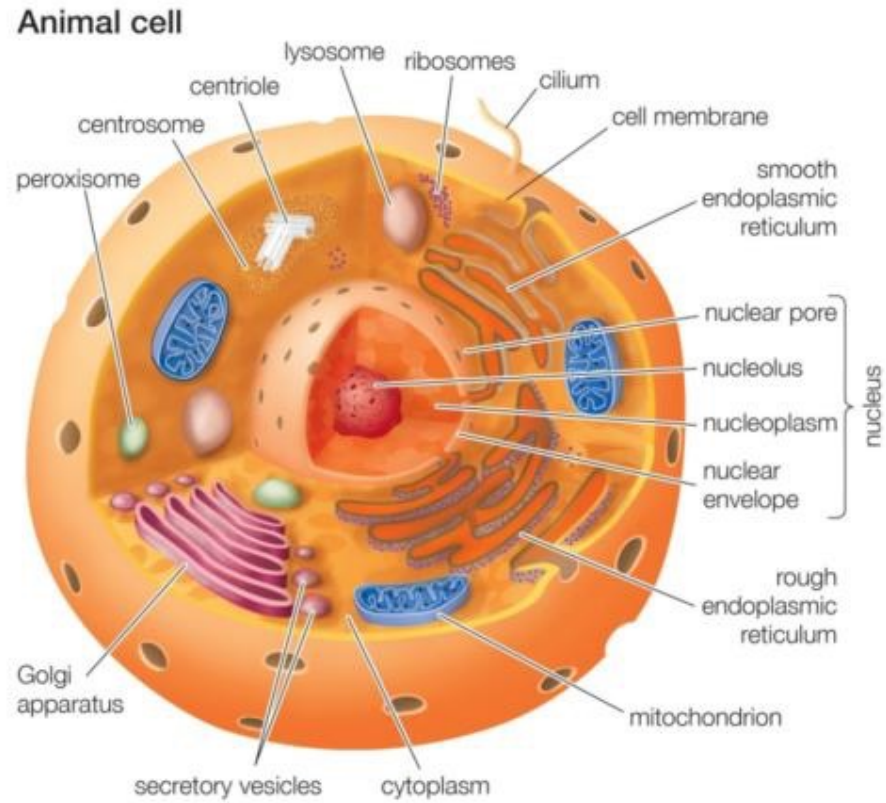
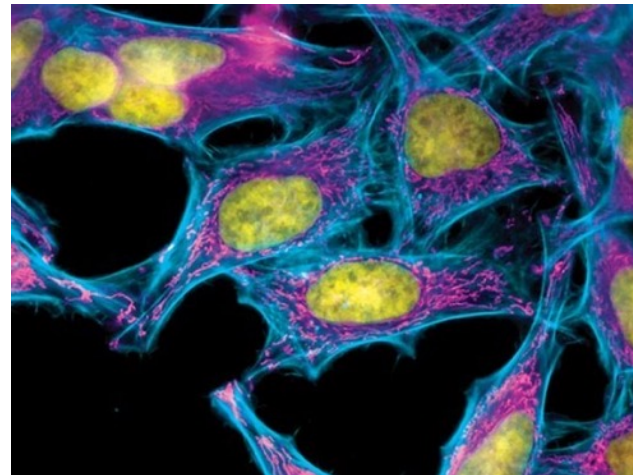
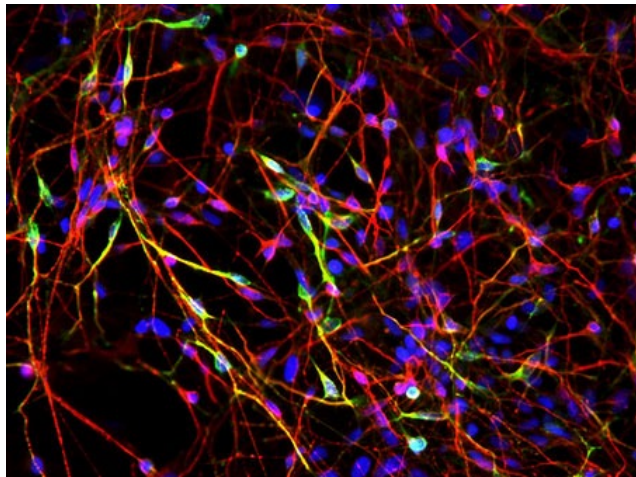
What do changes in the genome mean?





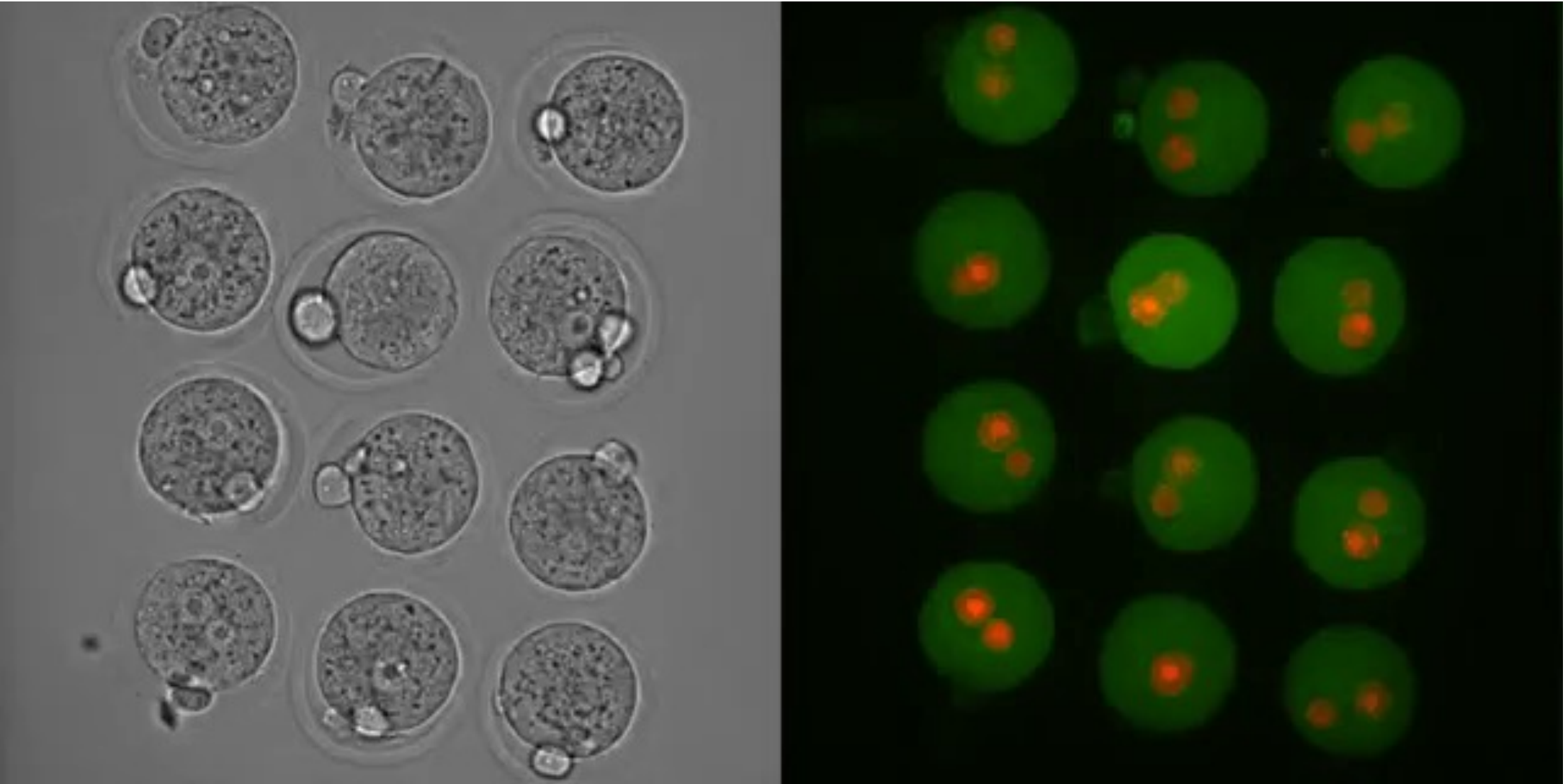
HUMAN CELL ATLAS

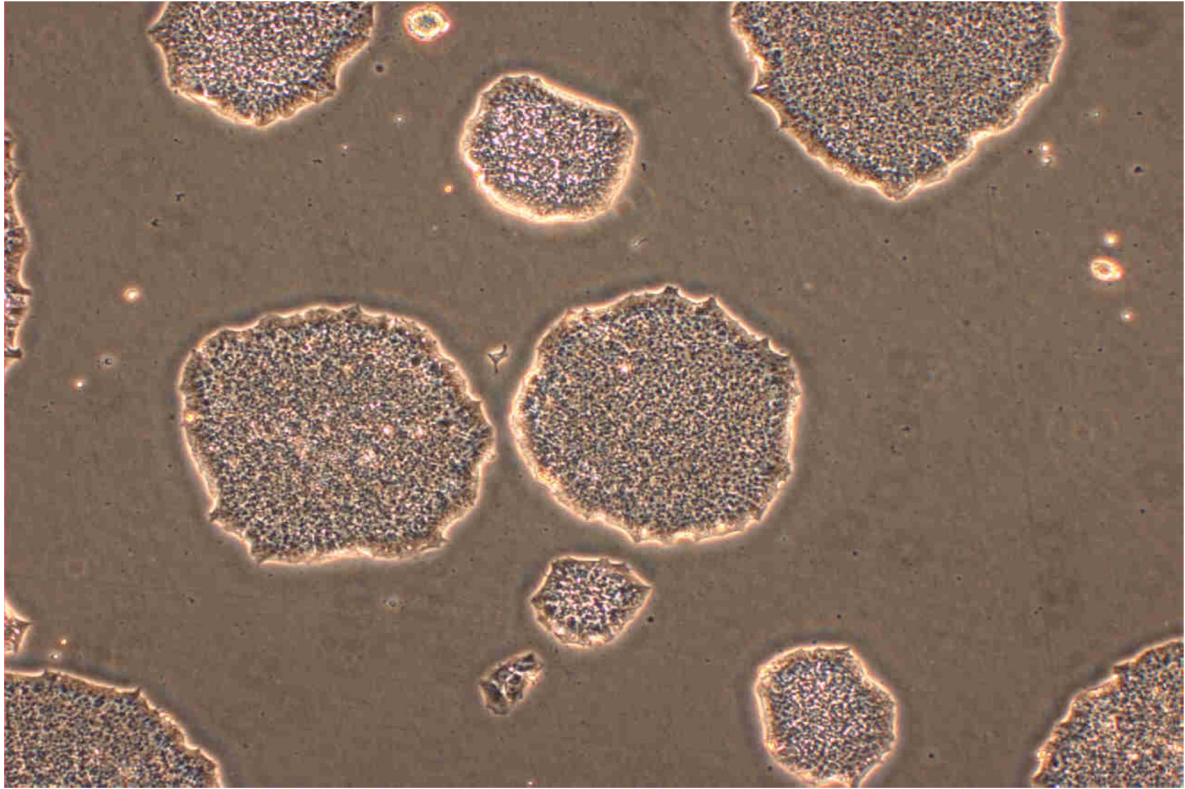
30,000,000,000,000 cells in a human
DNA is identical, but cells are
specialised

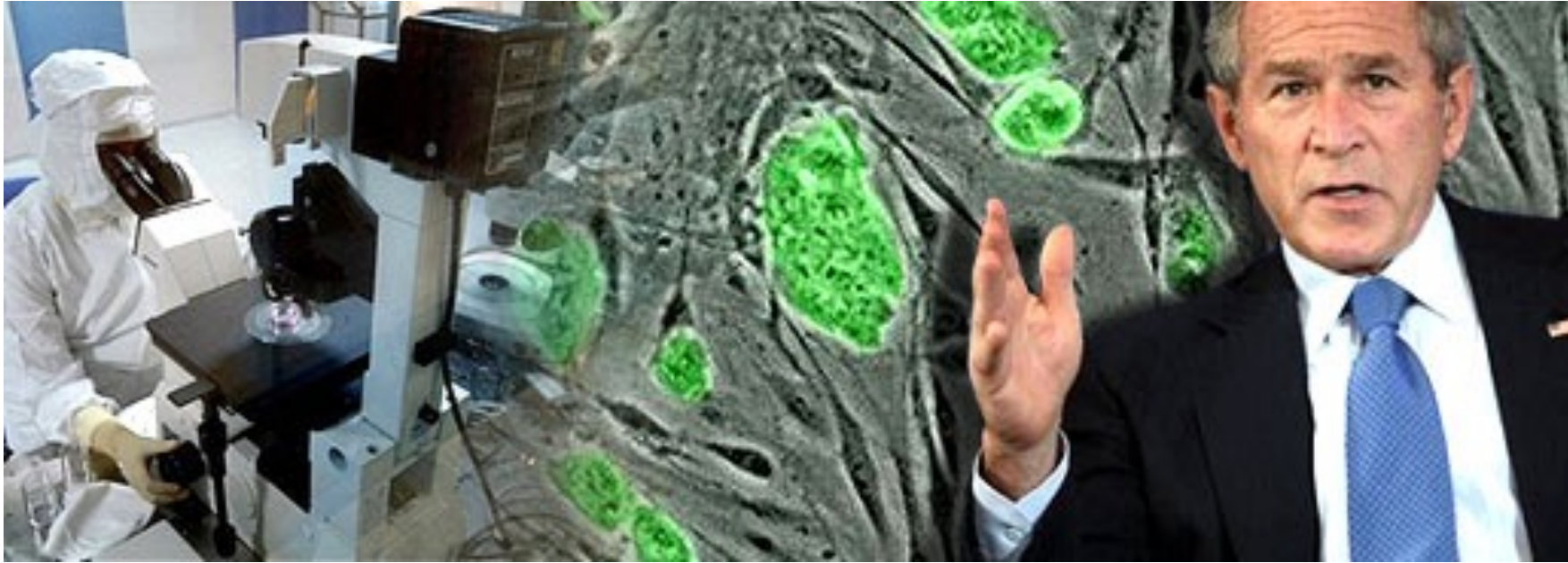


Pluripotent stem cells

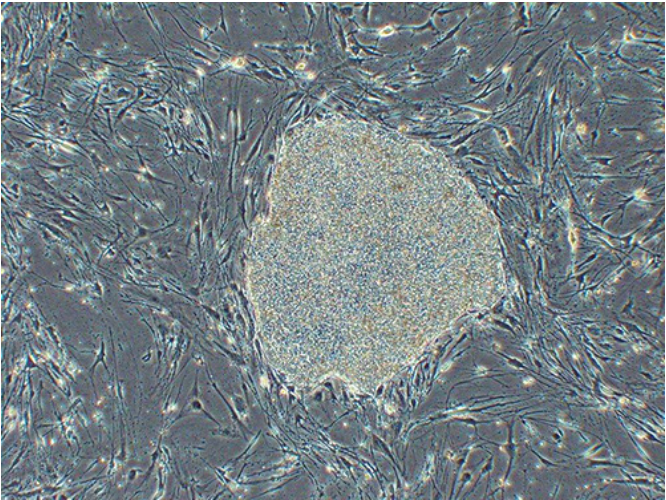
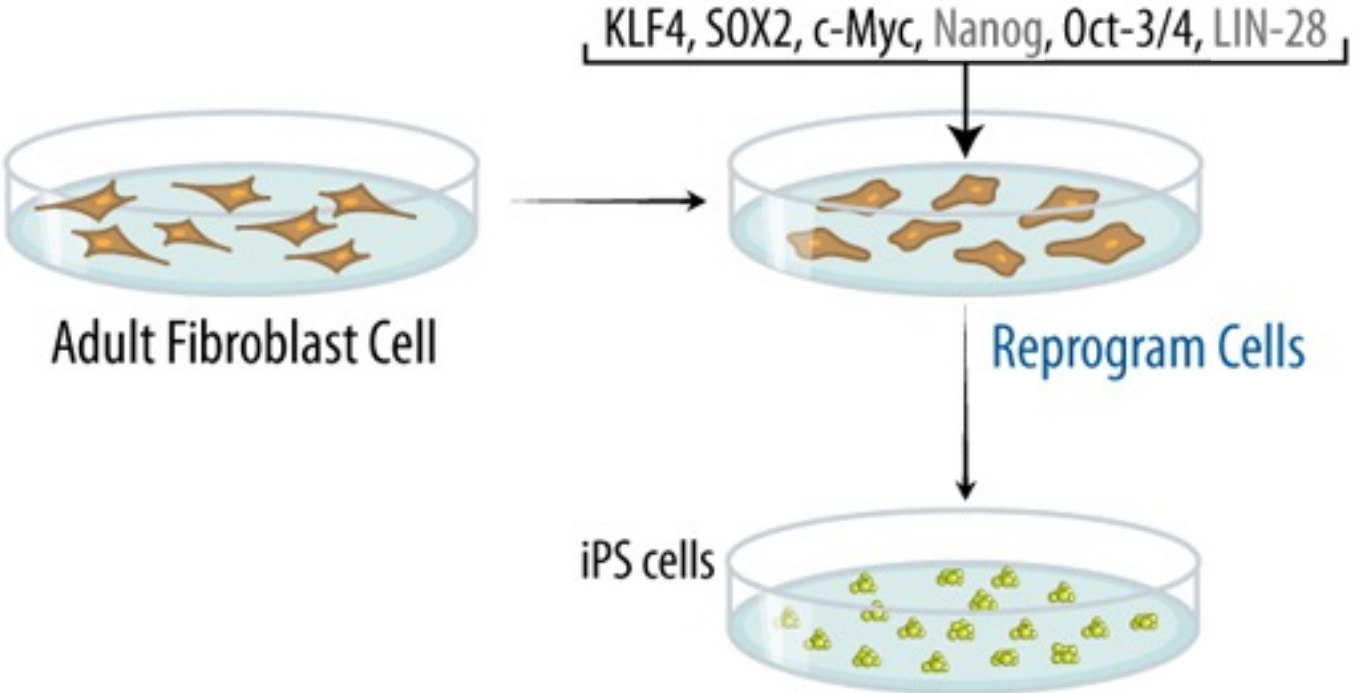
All cells derived from a single fertilised egg cell







Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) – Yamanaka 2007



www.hipsci.org

HUMAN INDUCED PLURIPOTENT STEM CELL INITIATIVE

HIPSCI BRINGS TOGETHER DIVERSE CONSTITUENTS IN GENOMICS, PROTEOMICS, CELL BIOLOGY AND CLINICAL GENETICS TO CREATE A GLOBAL IPS CELL RESOURCE

CELL LINES AND DATA BROWSER

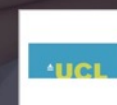
- Established in 2012 generate a large, well-characterized collection of iPSC cells (>800x) for use in research.
- Two or three candidate iPSC cell lines from each donor (healthy or diseased), and initial characterisation of them

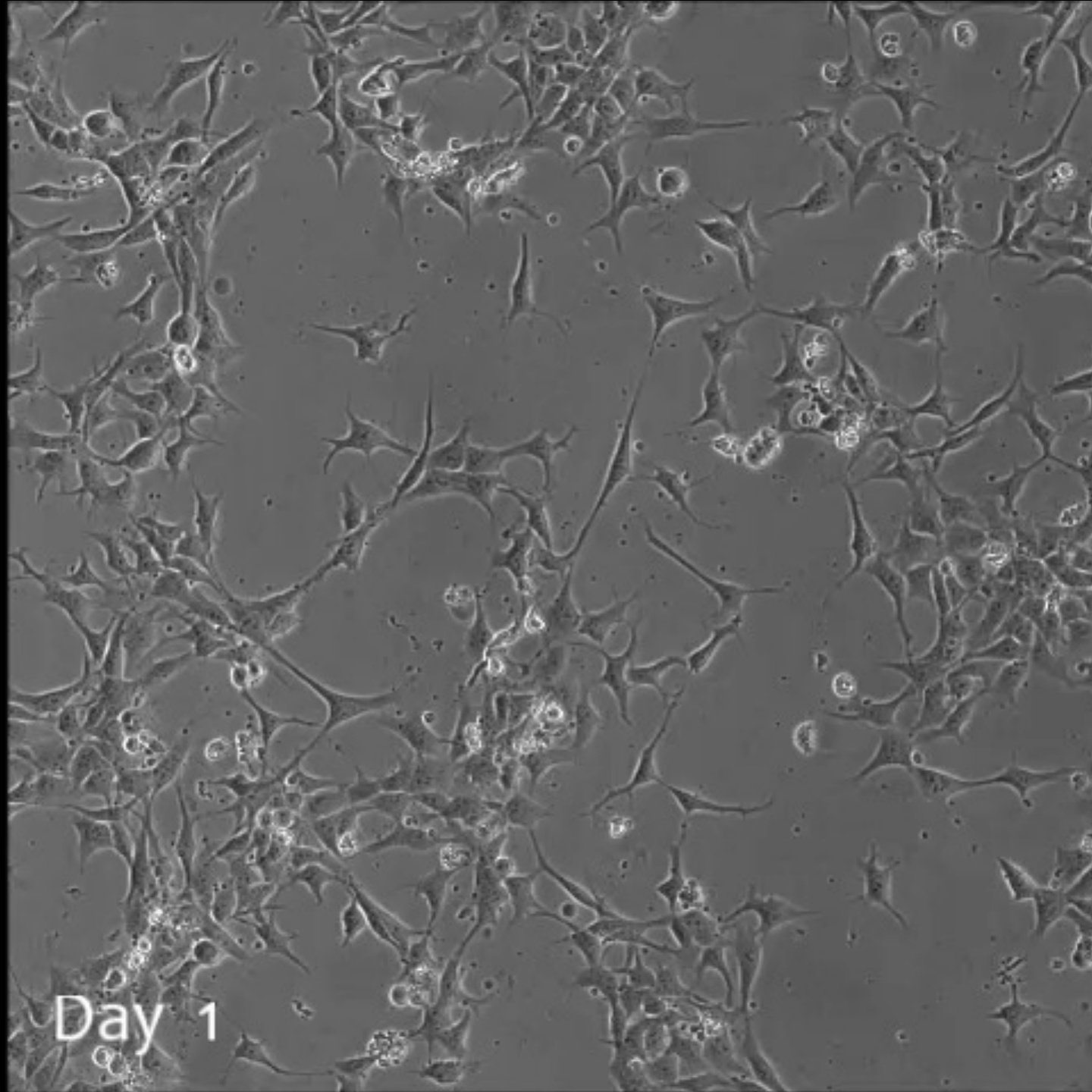


FUNDERS

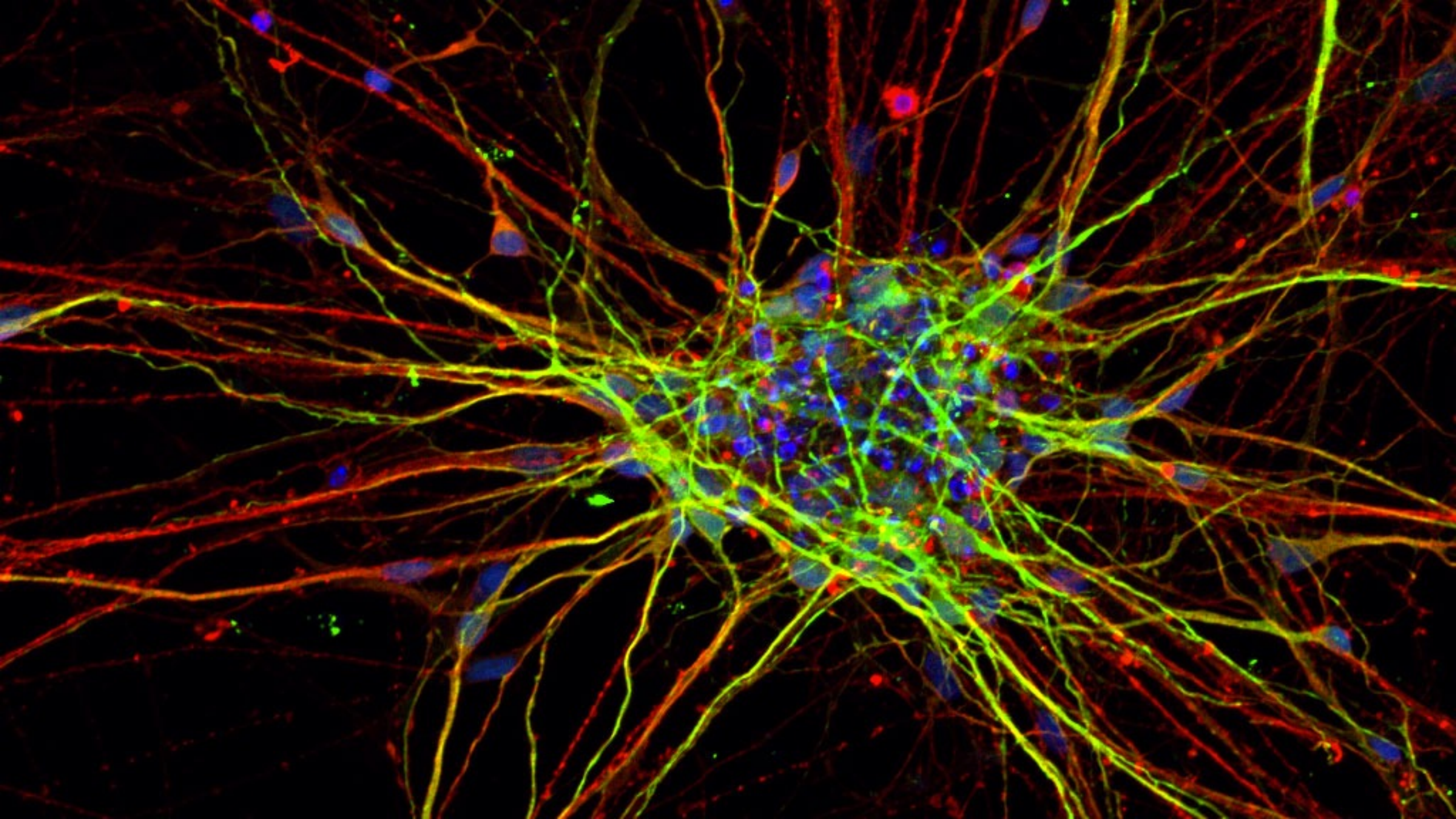


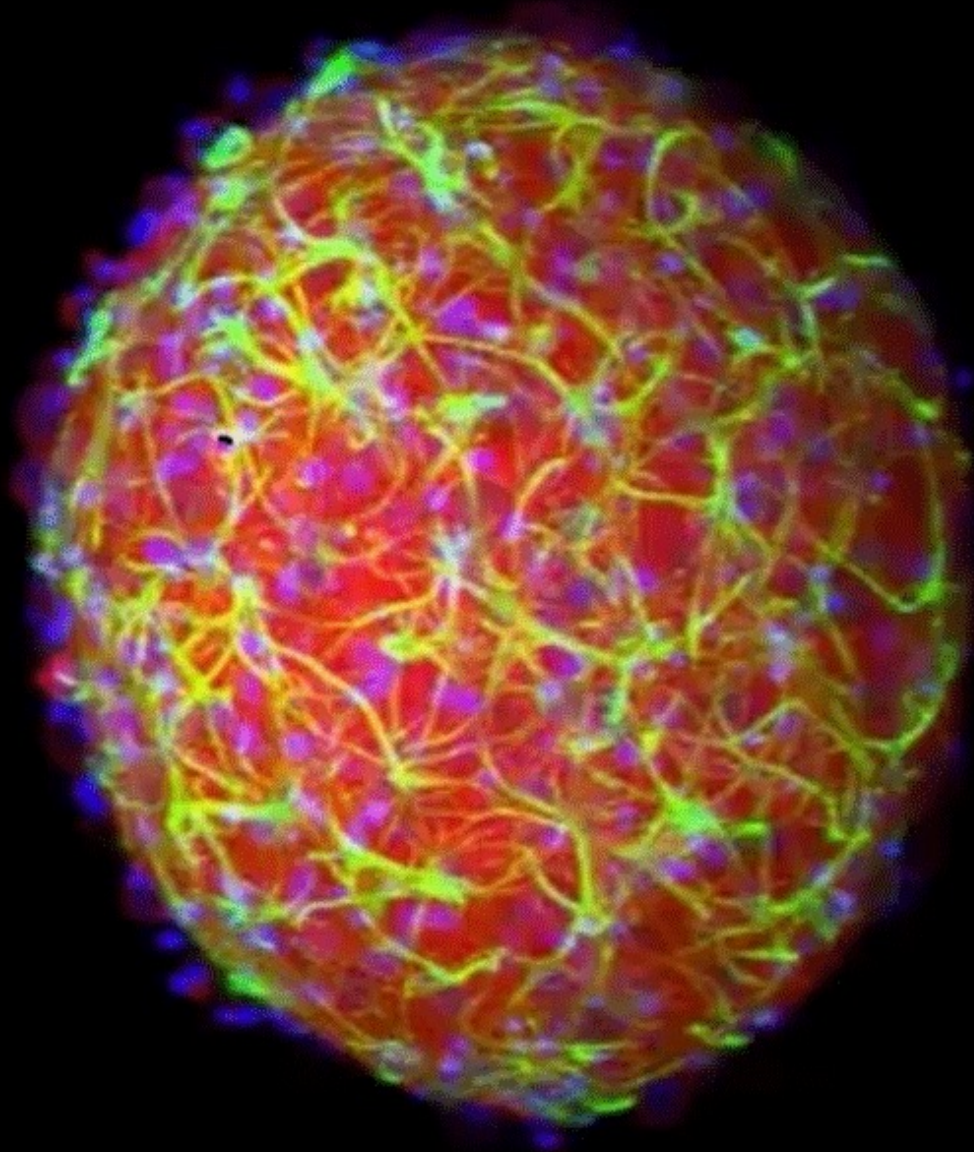
PARTNERS

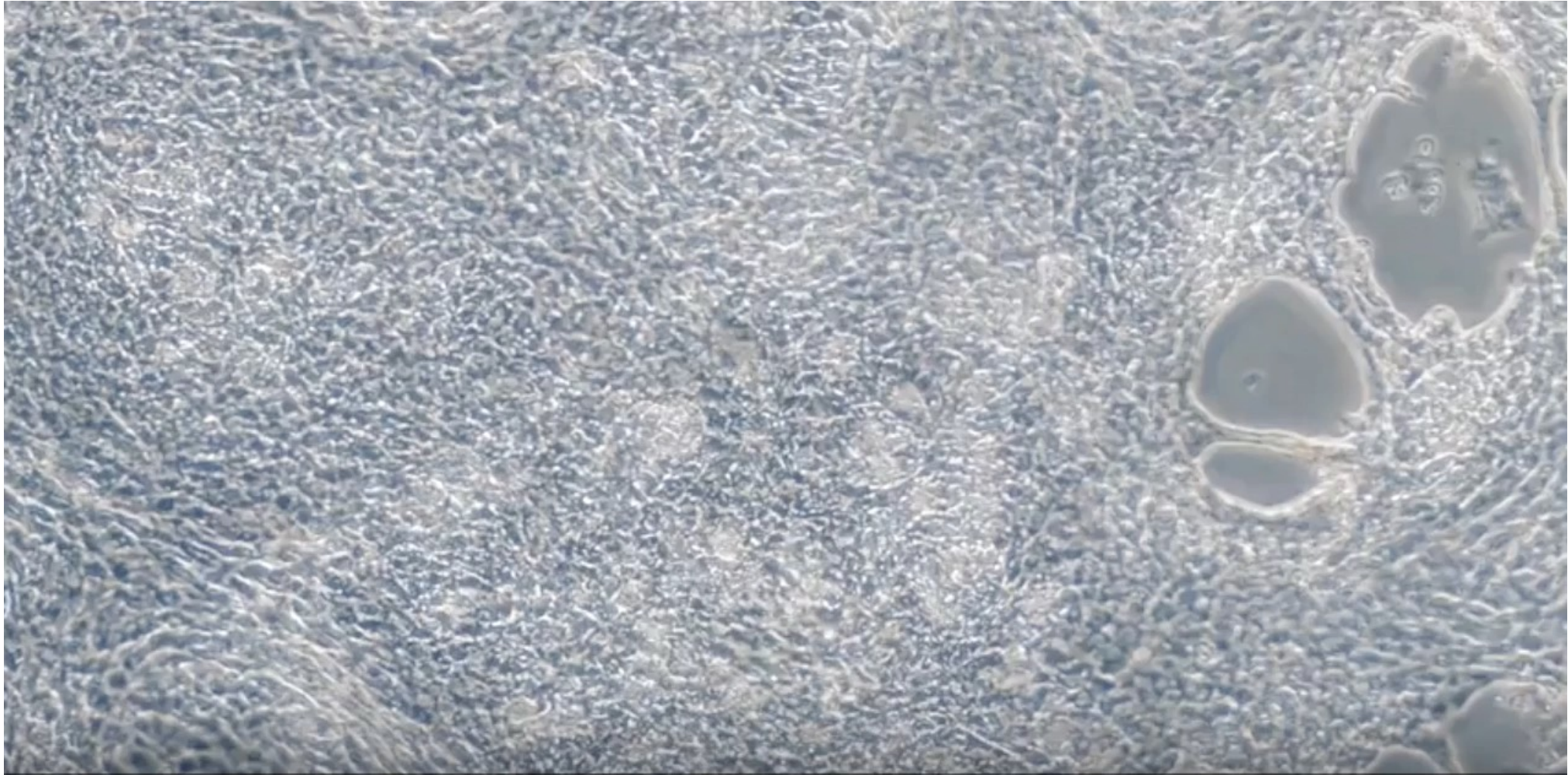




Day 1





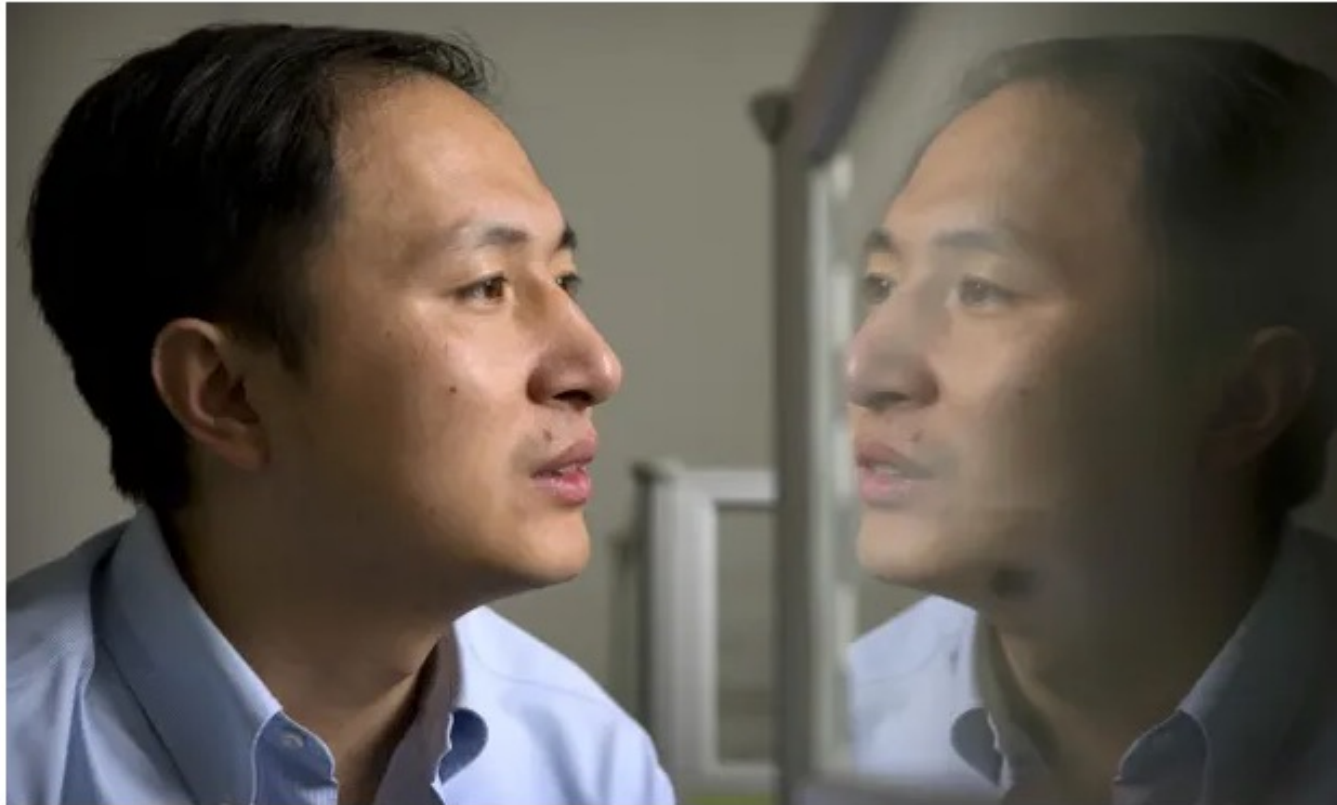




EVERYWHERE

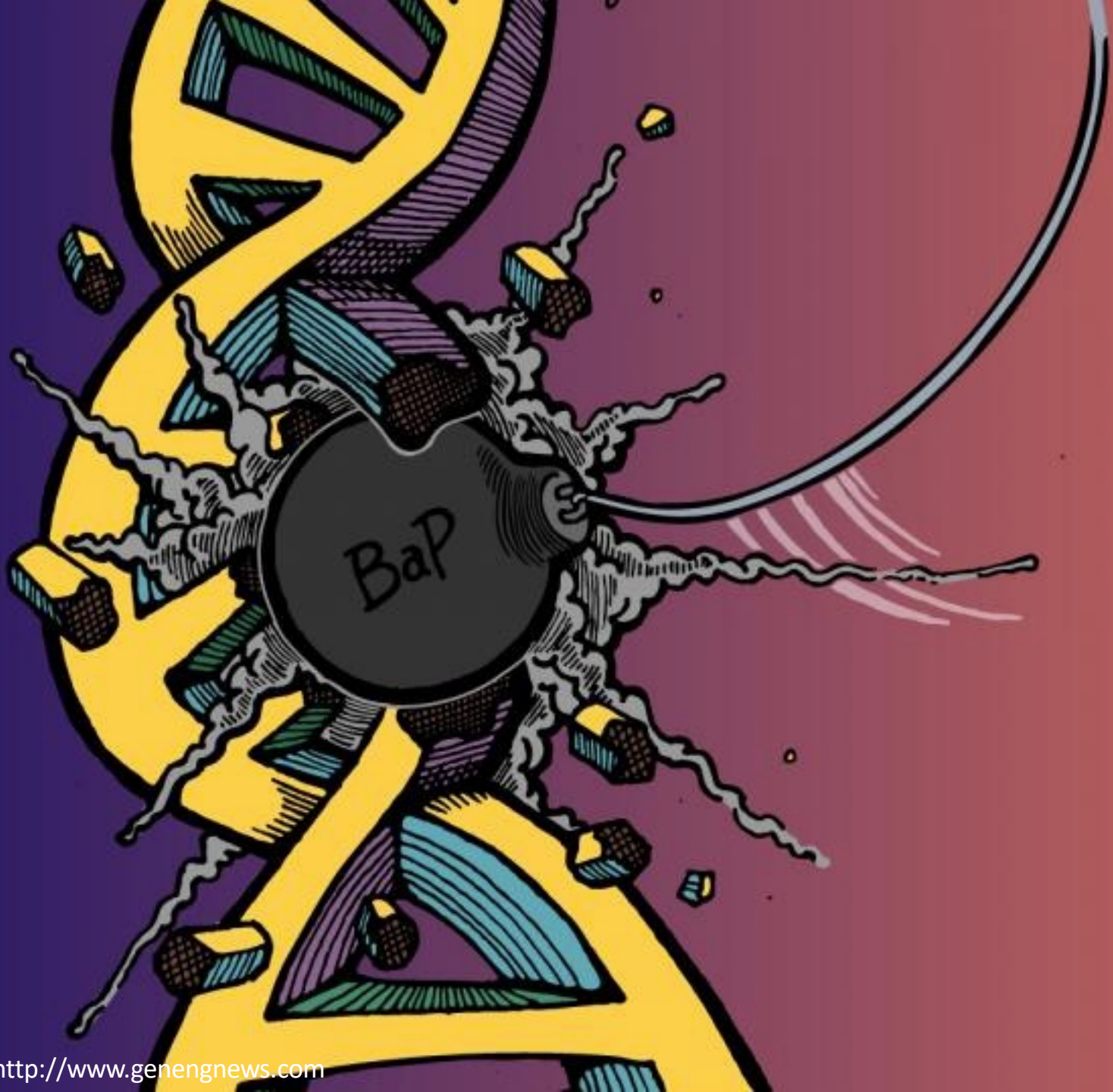
'Of course it's not ethical': shock at gene-edited baby claims

Chinese geneticist He Jiankui's claim to have altered embryos prompts outcry from scientists

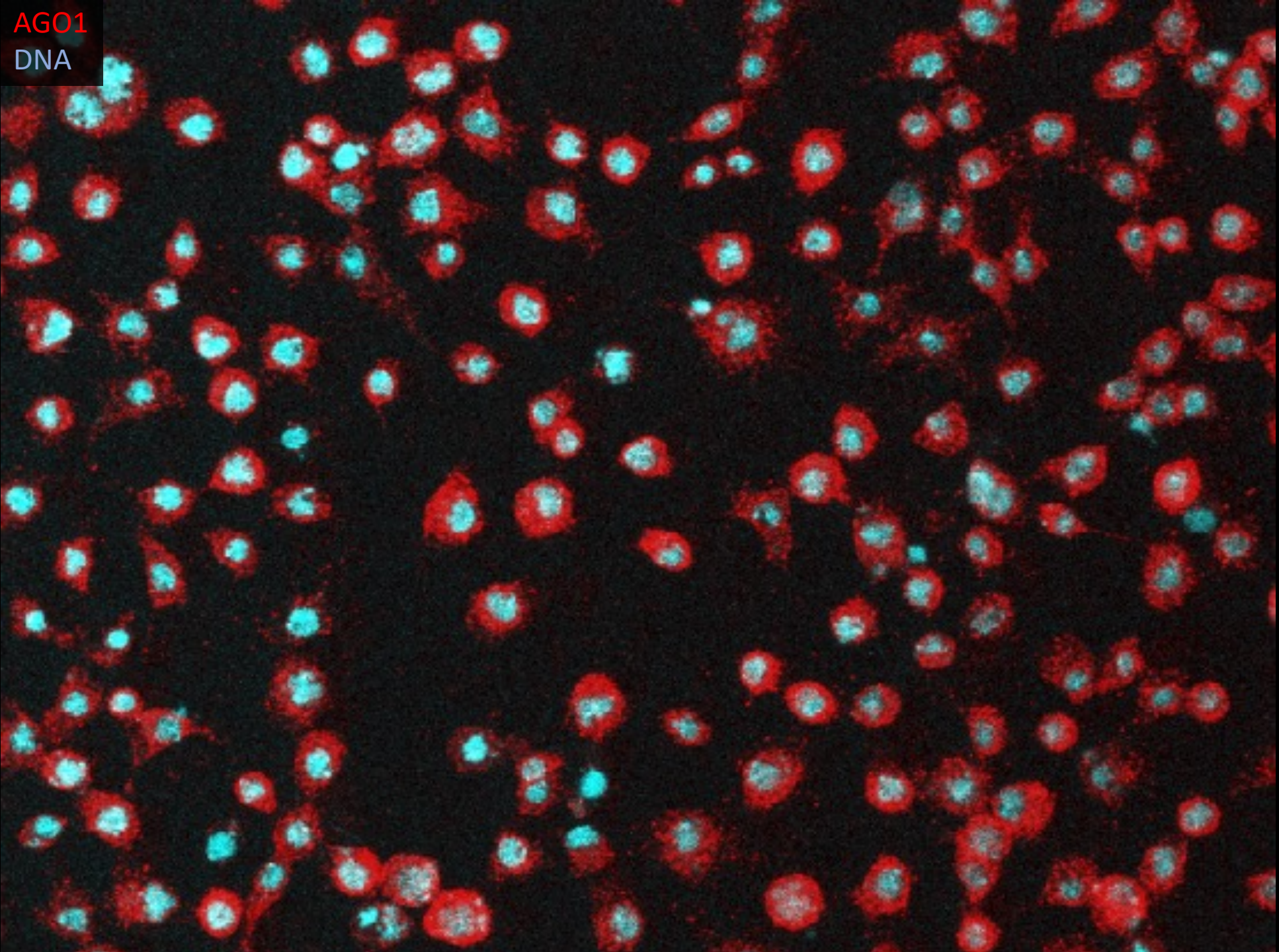


▲ He Jiankui. Chinese authorities have ordered an investigation to verify his claims. Photograph: Mark Schiefelbein/AP

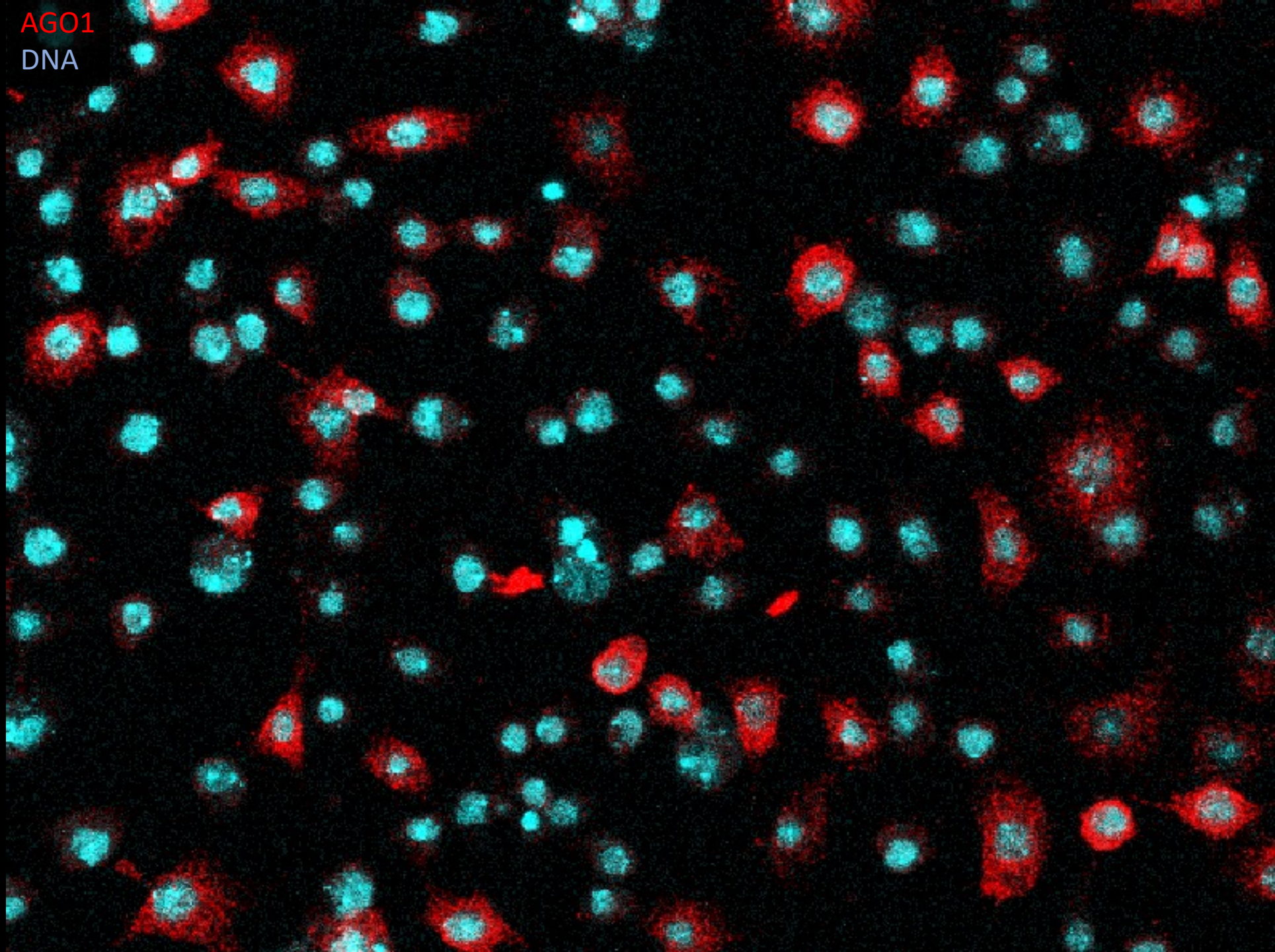


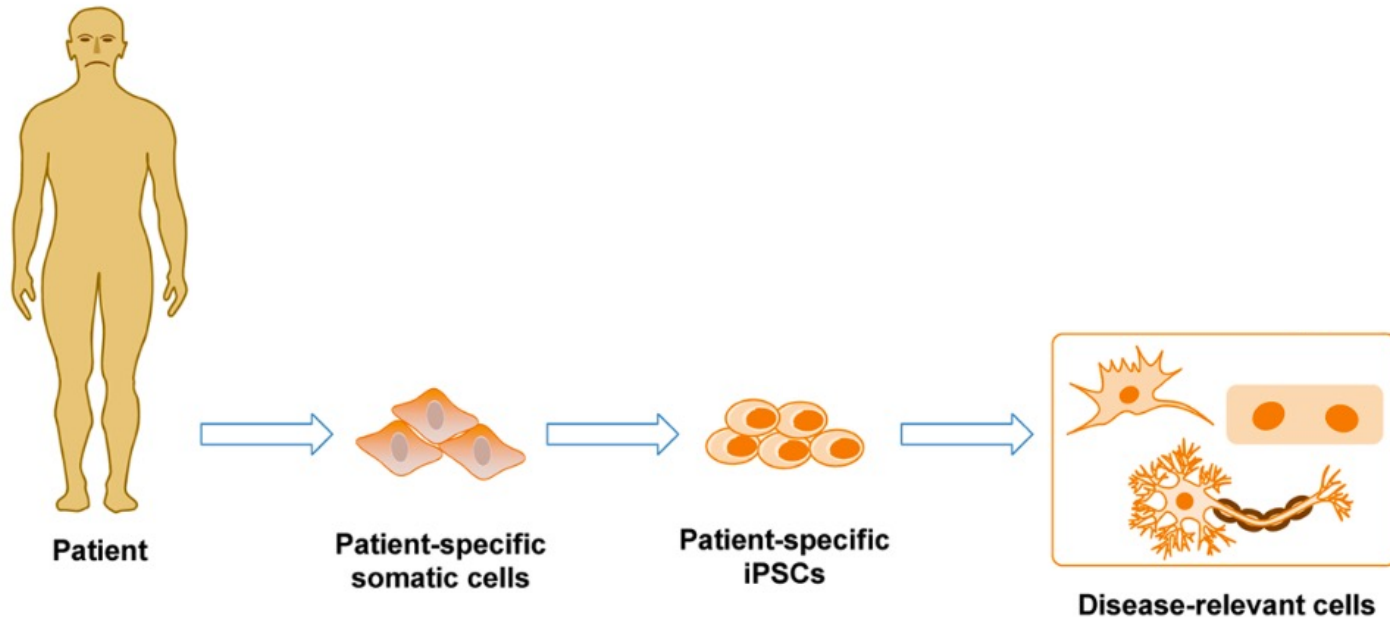


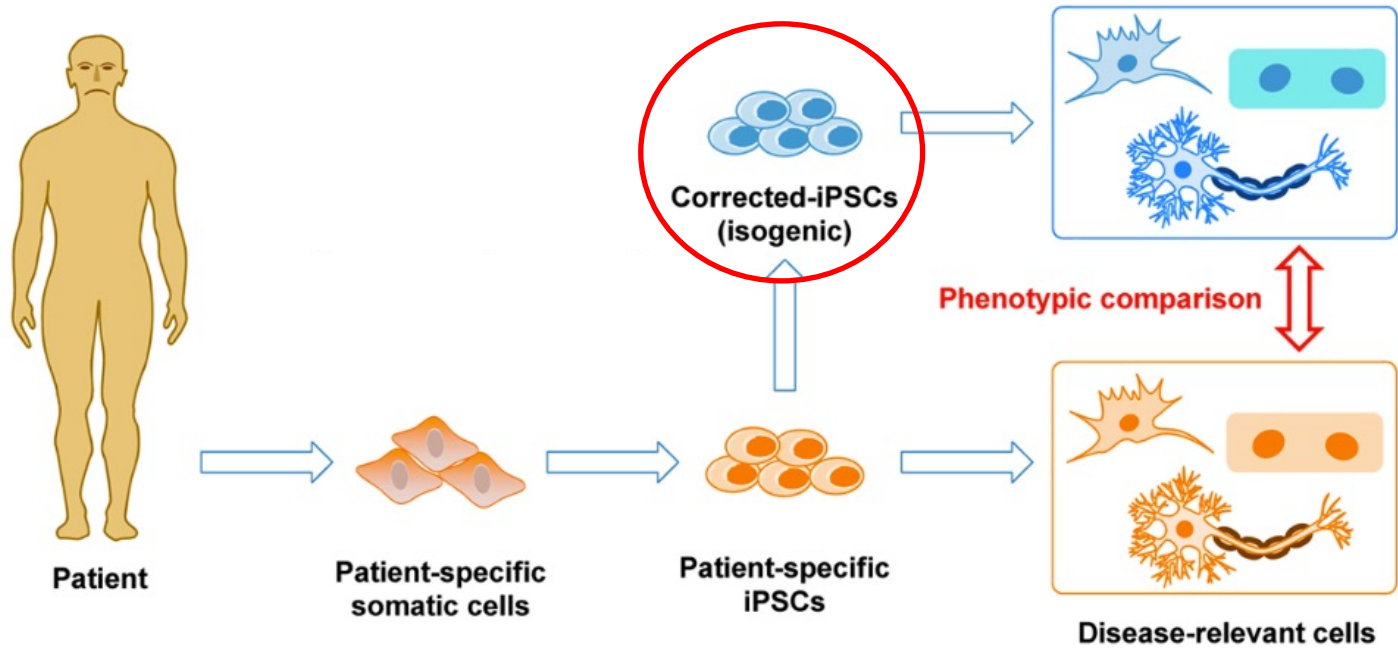
AGO1
DNA

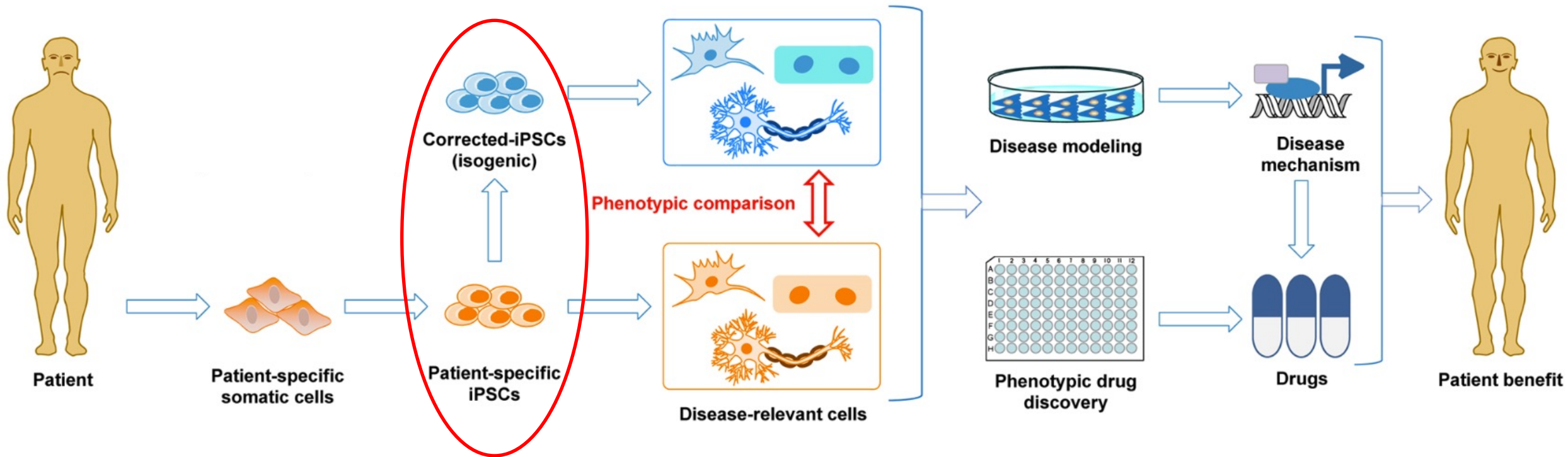


AGO1
DNA

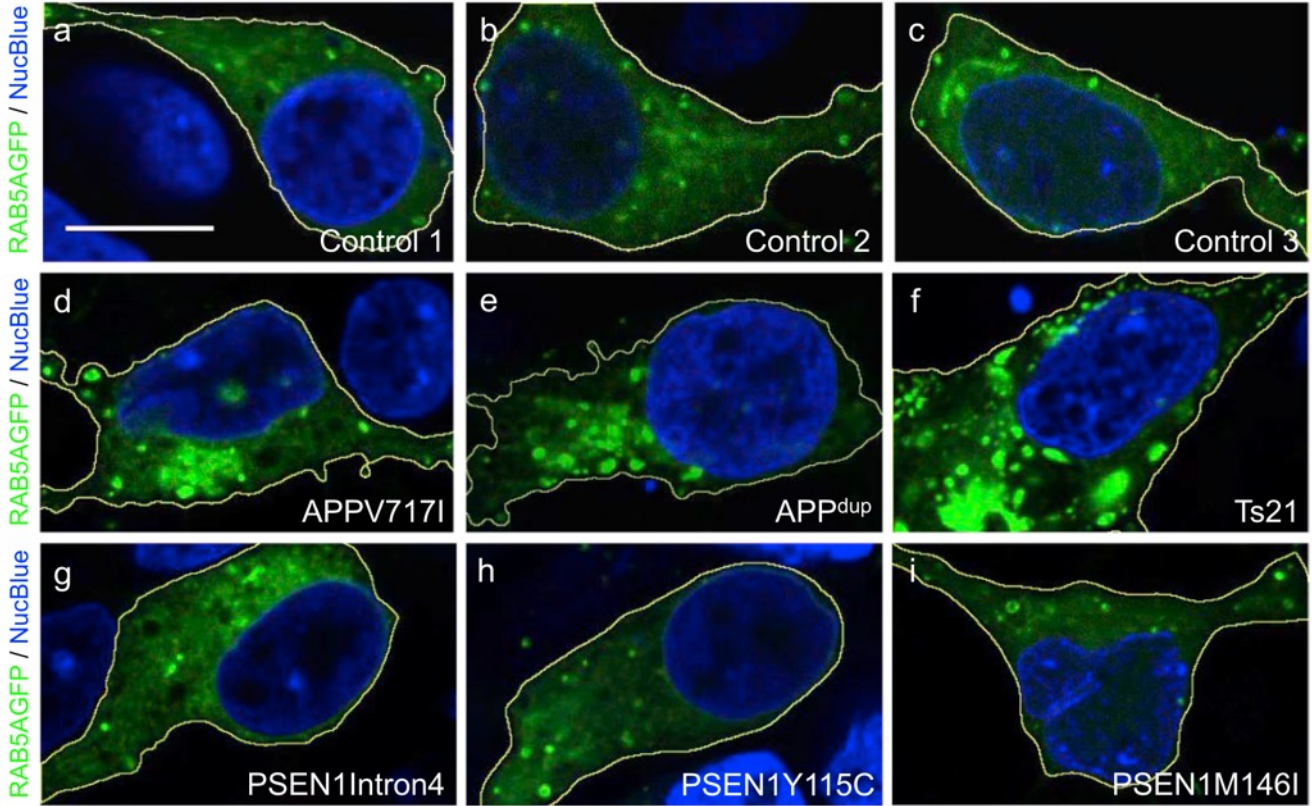
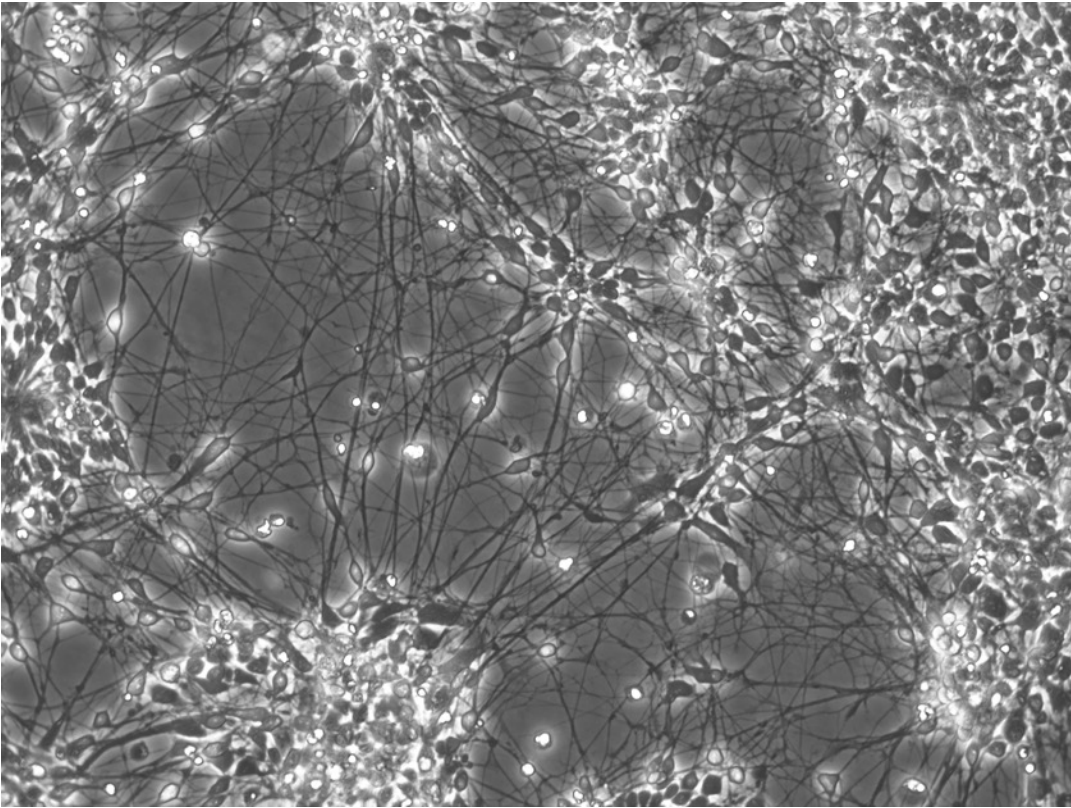






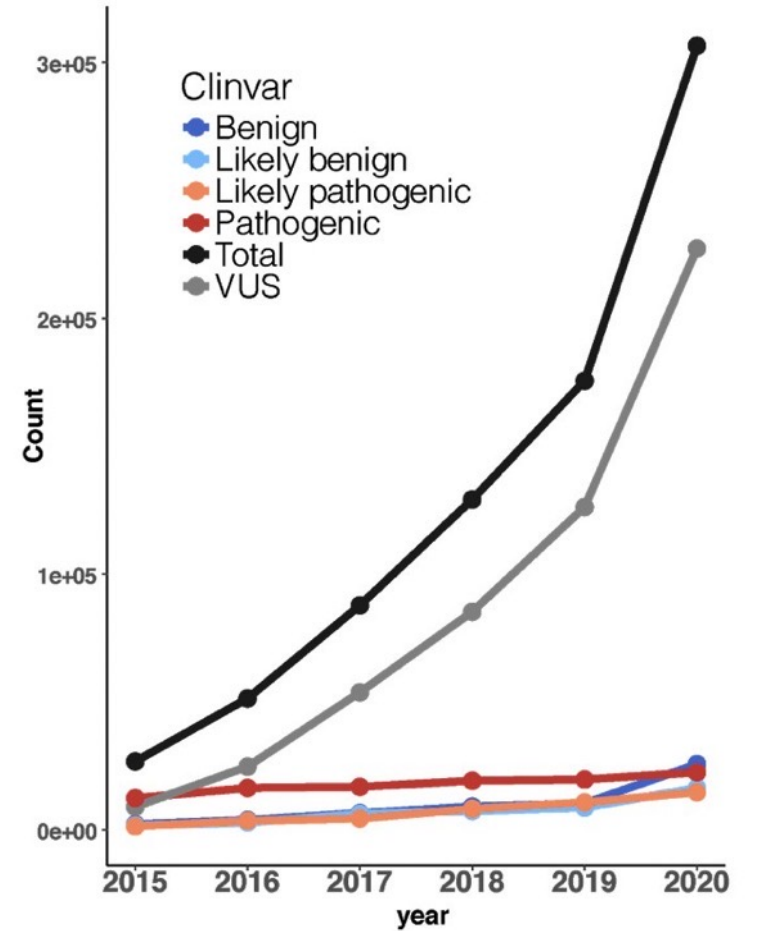


Alzheimer's disease

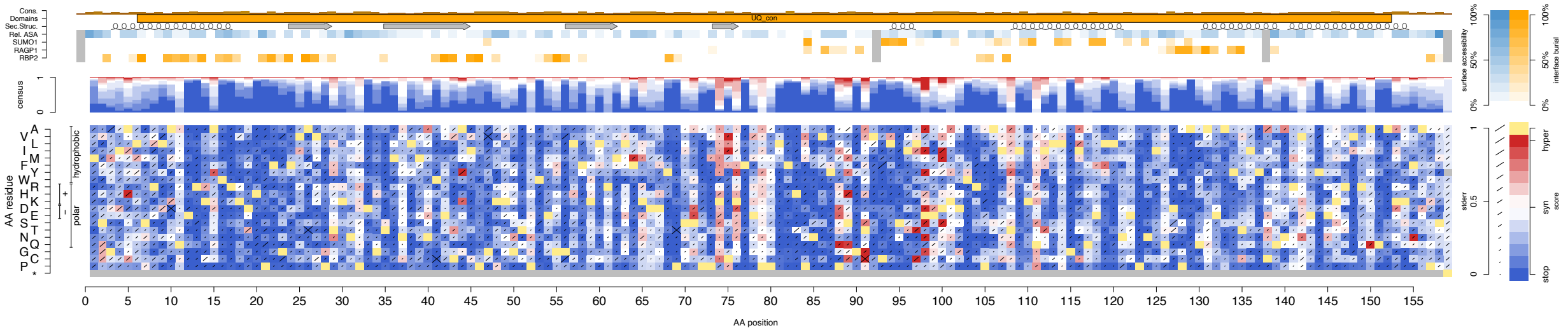




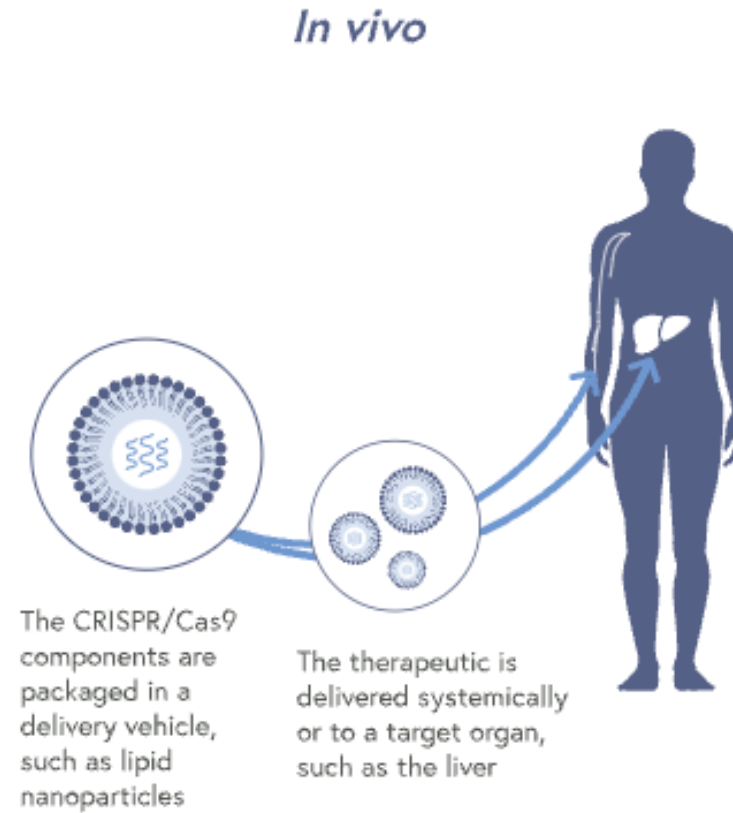
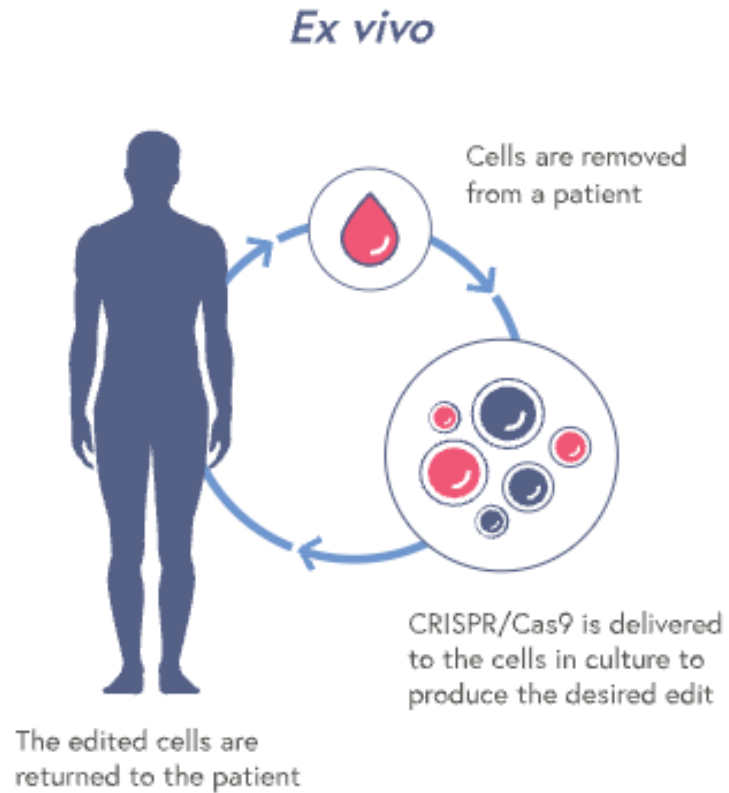
>500,000 disease-associated mutations
... expanding exponentially



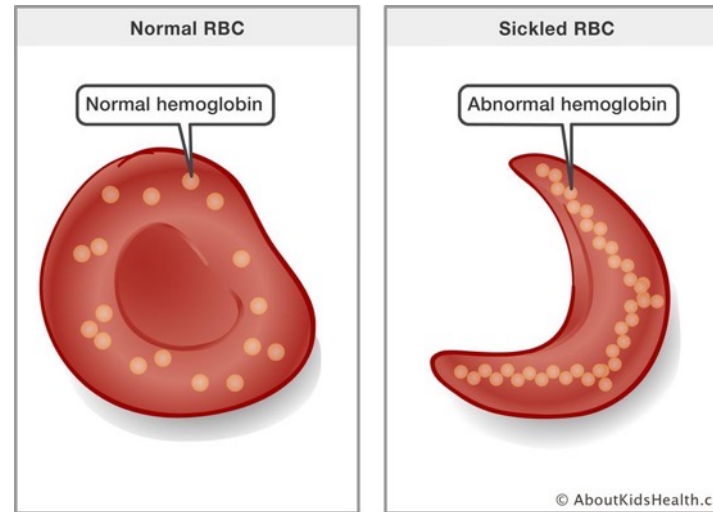
How do we understand these – one at a time is too slow
Working towards understanding all 3,000,000,000 bases in genome



CRISPR as a drug



Sickle Cell Anaemia



1 base change in genome causes aggregation of haemoglobin
Blockages (VOC) caused by sickled blood cells 5-15x per year – cause pain and strokes

Vertex and CRISPR Therapeutics Present New Data in 22 Patients With Greater Than 3 Months Follow-Up Post-Treatment With Investigational CRISPR/Cas9 Gene-Editing Therapy, CTX001™ at European Hematology Association Annual Meeting

- Beta thalassemia: All 15 patients were transfusion independent after CTX001 infusion -
- Sickle cell disease: All seven patients were free of vaso-occlusive crises after CTX001 infusion -

After treatment, 16/17 (94%) patients had no VOC in 12 months!

Cellular and Gene Editing Research



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HTSG / CellGen / CASM

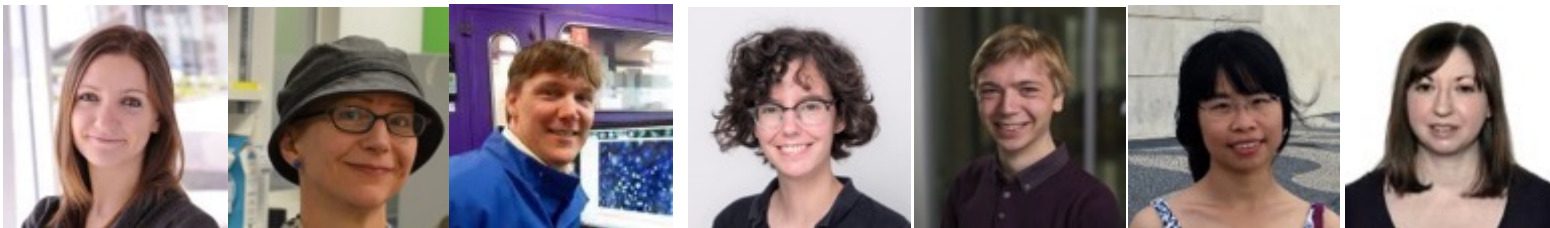


Kenny Roberts Tong Li Kwasi Kwakwa Omer Bayraktar Lucy Yates Mats Nilsson

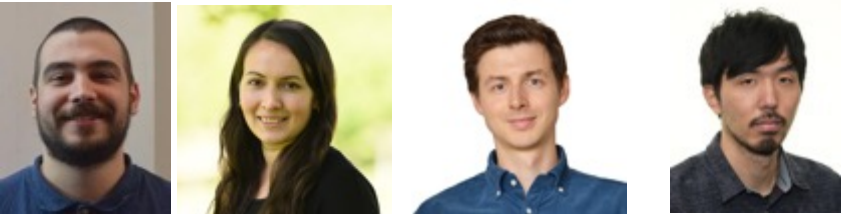
OpenTargets Neurodegeneration



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