

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide featuring a stylized DNA double helix in orange and blue, with various colored circles (yellow, blue, pink, orange) representing nucleotides. There are also light blue hexagonal patterns and white medical crosses scattered throughout the background.

# **Genomics: From Niche to Normality**

**Philandra Costello  
Lead Genomics Nurse**

**Charlotte Hitchcock  
Ass. Director N&M**

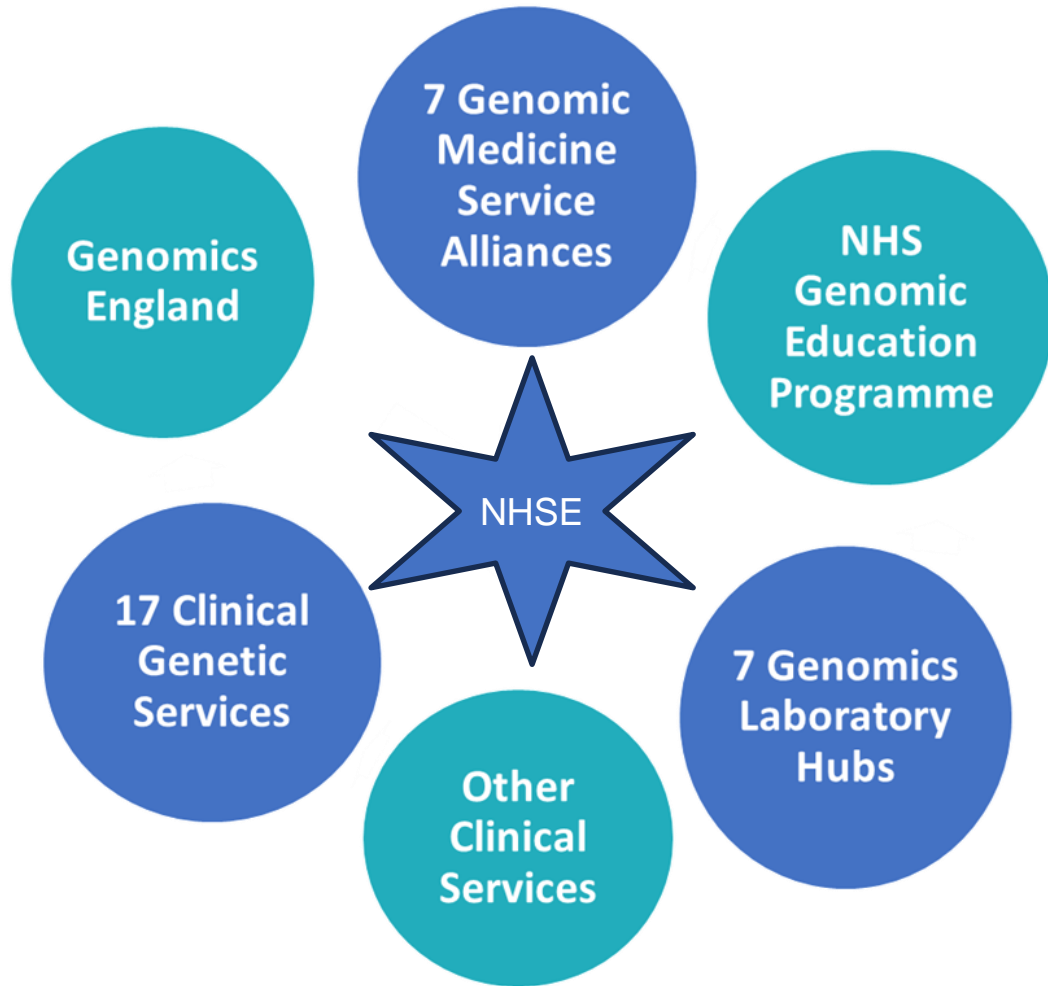
<https://centralsouthgenomics.nhs.uk/>  
[@CaS\\_Genomics](#)

# Outline

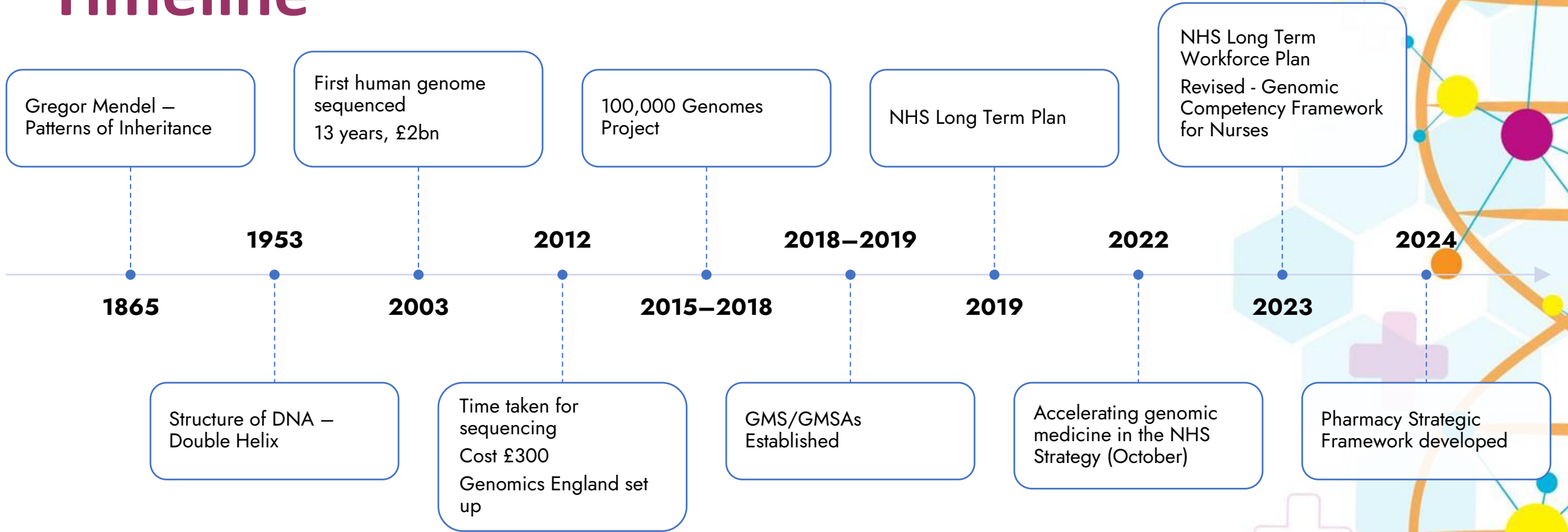
- GMS
- Basics
- In the News
- Why is genomics relevant
- Cancer
- Genomic Tests
- EDI
- Education and Resources
- Support



# Components of the NHS Genomic Medicine Service



# Timeline





## Genomics

- The study of an organism's complete set of genetic information.
- The genome includes both genes (coding) and non-coding DNA.
- 'Genome': the complete genetic information of an organism.

VS



## Genetics

- The study of heredity
- The study of the function and composition of single genes.
- 'Gene': specific sequence of DNA that codes for a functional molecule.



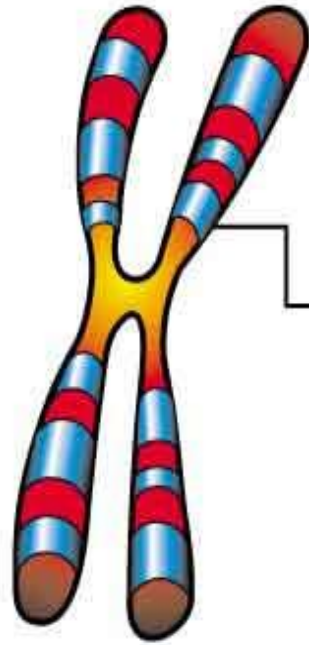


Your **GENOME** contains all the instructions for you to grow throughout your lifetime.  
These instructions are passed down from your mother and father.

Genomics Education  
Programme



Human



Chromosome



DNA

Gene 1

Gene 2

Nucleotide  
Sequence

G	T	C	A	G	T	C	G	T	C	A	G	T	C	G
C	A	G	T	C	A	G	T	C	G	T	C	A	G	T
T	C	A	G	T	C	A	G	T	C	A	G	T	C	G
A	C	T	A	A	T	T	G	A	C	T	T	A	T	G
C	A	T	T	A	T	T	G	A	C	T	T	A	T	G



Not all variation in the  
genome is pathogenic

**HANDLE  
WITH CARE**



- Some differences in our DNA determine physical characteristics, such as eye colour. Others can influence our susceptibility to develop a disease.





# What effect do variants have?

- No effect at all
- Effect on appearance - eye colour
- Slight effect on health – slight increased risk of glaucoma
- Severe effect on health - single gene disorder ('pathogenic' or 'disease causing')



Human genome  
3 - 4 million variants

**Benign or likely benign**



**Unknown significance**



**Pathogenic or likely pathogenic**



## Genomics Fun Facts

## Genetic differences

Your genome is only around

**0.1%**

different from any  
other person's,

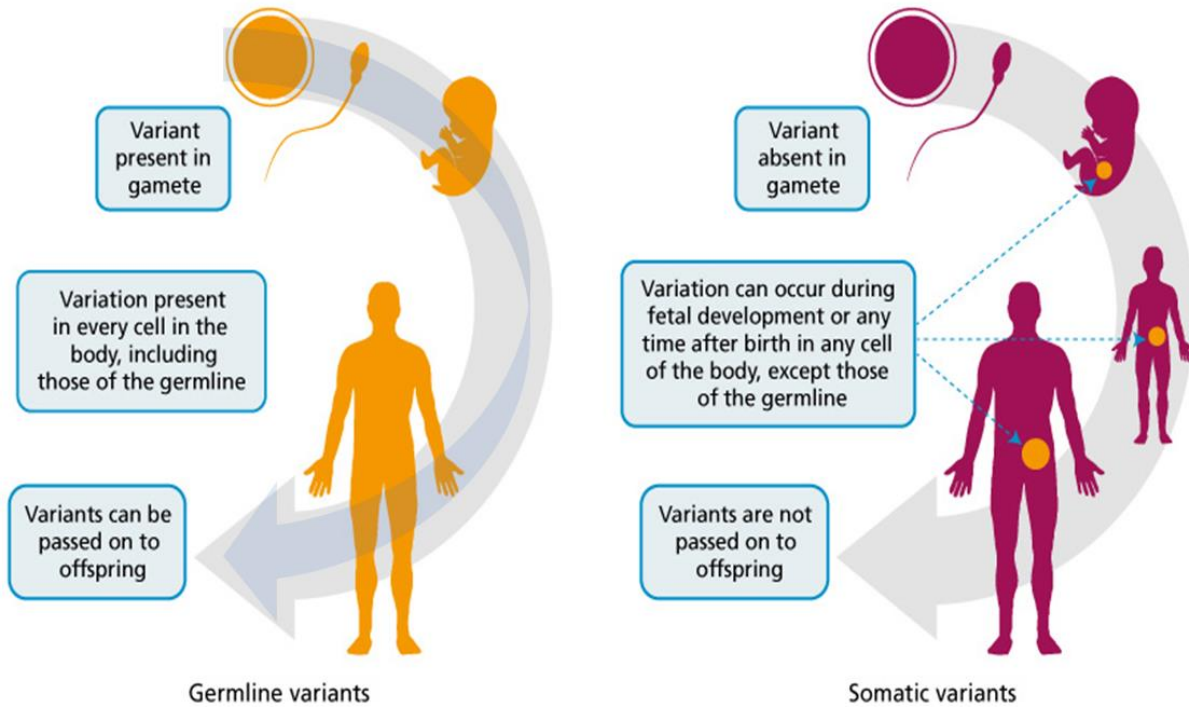
but that equates to

**3 million**

differences in your DNA



# Cancer

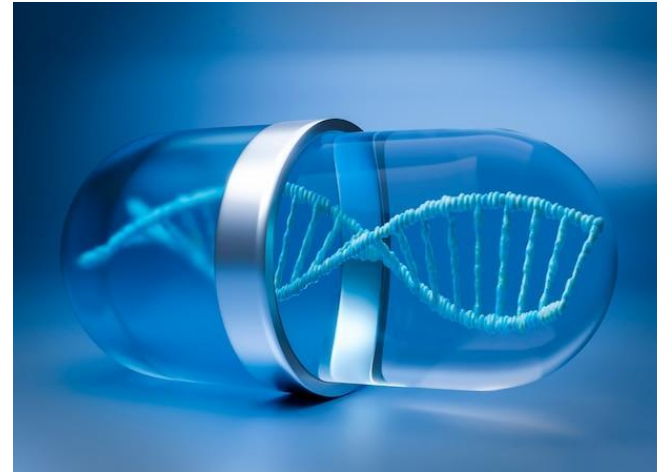


- Genomics and precision medicine is changing practice rapidly
- Advances have led to an increased variety of testing to categorise cancer and create targeted treatments

# Pharmacogenomics

The study of how genes affect a person's response to drugs.

It can be used to help develop effective, safe medications and doses that will be tailored to a person's genetic makeup.







**Broad diagnosis**  
symptom driven



Everybody receives  
the same medicine -  
30-60% effective



**Individual  
characterisation**  
of underlying cause

Informed by genomics and  
other clinical information



Tailored treatment to  
match an individual's  
makeup and response  
- more effective and  
and fewer side-effects





Royal College of Physicians



BRITISH PHARMACOLOGICAL SOCIETY

# Personalised prescribing

## Using pharmacogenomics to improve patient outcomes

A report from the Royal College of Physicians and British Pharmacological Society joint working party

**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

Search NICE...



Sign in

Guidance

Standards and indicators

Life sciences

British National Formulary (BNF)

British National Formulary for Children (BNFC)

Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS)

About

[Home](#) > [News](#)

## NICE launches second consultation on genetic testing to guide treatment after a stroke

People could be offered a genetic test in the immediate period after having a stroke to help identify the most suitable treatment to reduce their risk of further strokes.

03 April 2024

### NEWS

[Home](#) | [Cost of Living](#) | [War in Ukraine](#) | [Coronavirus](#) | [Climate](#) | [UK](#) | [World](#) | [Business](#) | [Politics](#) | [Tech](#)

[Health](#)

## NHS to use test that prevents babies going deaf

9 hours ago



GETTY IMAGES

**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

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Guidance

Standards and indicators

Life sciences

British National Formulary (BNF)

British National Formulary for Children (BNFC)

Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS)

[Home](#) > [News](#)

## NICE final draft guidance recommends olaparib for early breast cancer and metastatic prostate cancer following new commercial deals

# Awareness, Knowledge and Education

## Why genomic education for nurses?

- Minimal genetics/genomics education
- Do not feel comfortable talking about genomics, fear of genomics

- ***Without genomics knowledge how do you know what is important?***



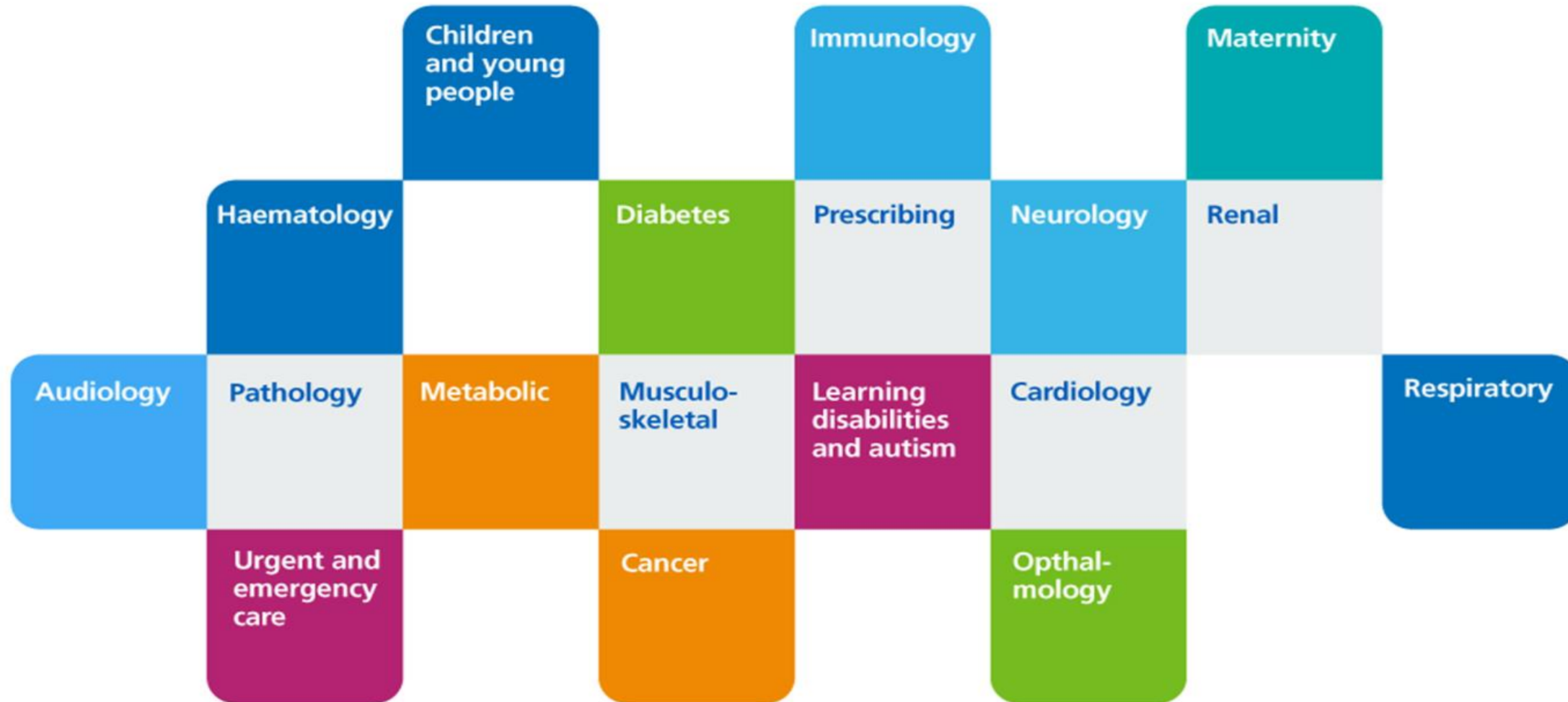


- Widened and more equitable access to genetic testing
  - Better patient treatment outcomes
- Identification of more genetically “at-risk” individuals; screening, prevention and early detection





# Clinical services impacted by genomics





## TRANSFORM TRIAL

Biggest prostate cancer screening trial in 20 years, could save the lives of thousands of men each year

**This research will transform how prostate cancer is diagnosed.**

Men over 50 – or over 45 if you are Black or have a family history of prostate cancer



# Lung Cancer – ctDNA

- Identify genetic variants in a tumour through a blood test
- Faster diagnosis
- Targeted treatment earlier



Kat Robinson, 33, Dorset



[Our initiatives](#) > [Newborn Genomes Programme](#)

# Newborn Genomes Programme

We are co-designing and running an NHS-embedded research study to explore the benefits, challenges, and practicalities of sequencing and analysing the genomes of newborns.

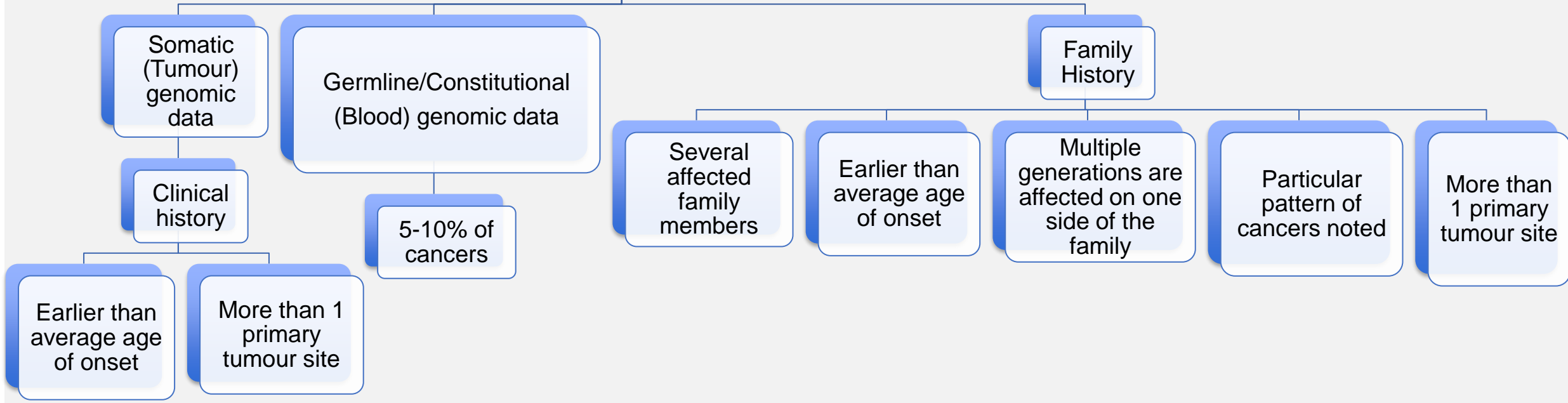




**Somatic**  
*ESR1, HER2, PTEN,  
BRAF, KRAS, NRAS,  
NTRK1, NTRK2*

**Cancer**  
Breast  
Colorectal  
Ovarian  
Prostate

**Germline**  
*BRCA1, BRCA2, PALB2,  
RAD51C, RAD51D, MSH2,  
MSH6, PMS2, MLH1, BRIP1*



## Rare Disease

Familial Hypercholesterolaemia  
Monogenic Diabetes /MODY  
Cardiovascular  
Neurodevelopmental

FH

AD - LDLR, APOB, PCSK9 or  
APOE  
AR - LDLRAP1, ABCG5, ABCG8  
and LIPA

MD

HNF1A , HNF4A, HNF1B

Phenotype  
Clinical History

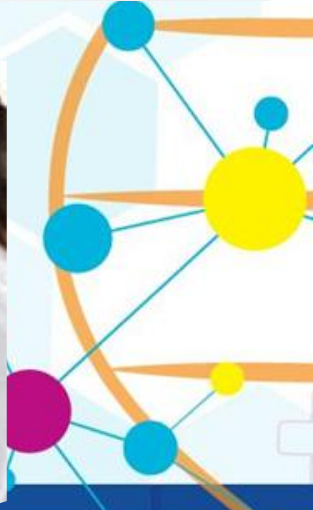
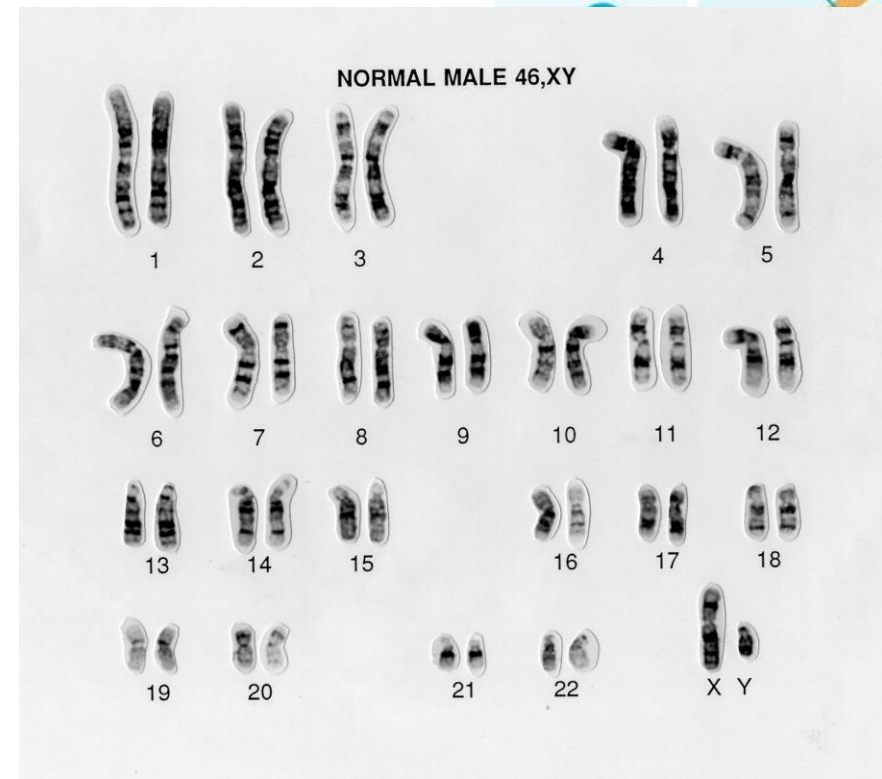
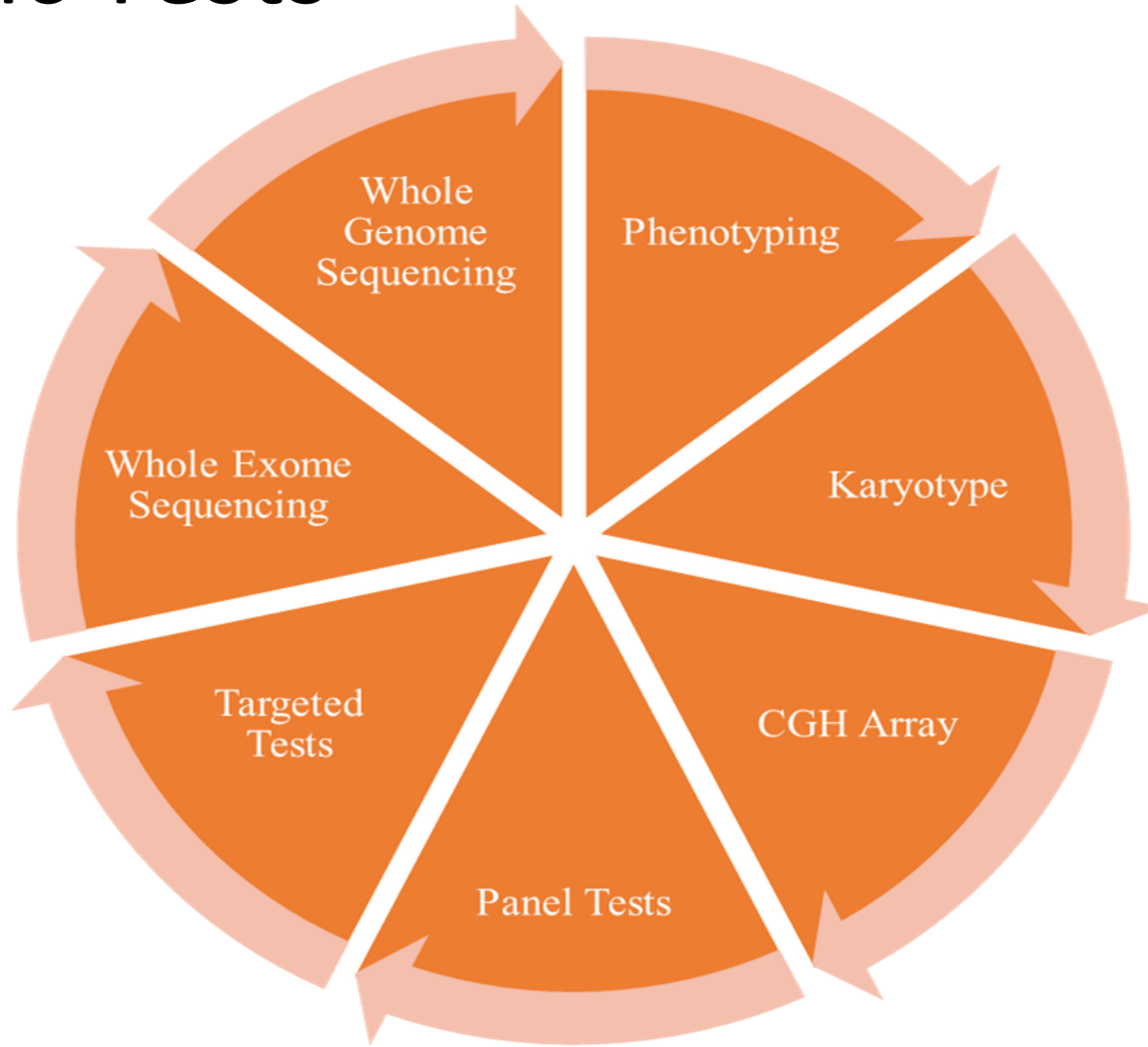
Clinical  
Blood Tests  
Imaging

Family History

Germline genomic test and  
data

Treatment/Management

# Genomic Tests



# National Genomic Test Directory

- <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/national-genomic-test-directories/>

## Part I. Acutely unwell children

R14	Acutely unwell children with a likely monogenic disorder .....	23
-----	----------------------------------------------------------------	----

## Part II. Cardiology

R137	Congenital heart disease - microarray .....	24
R125	Thoracic aortic aneurysm or dissection .....	25
R127	Long QT syndrome .....	26
R128	Brugada syndrome and cardiac sodium channel disease .....	27
R129	Catecholaminergic polymorphic VT .....	28
R130	Short QT syndrome .....	29
R131	Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy .....	30
R132	Dilated and arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy .....	31
R391	Barth syndrome .....	33
R133	Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy .....	34
R135	Paediatric or syndromic cardiomyopathy .....	35
R136	Primary lymphoedema .....	36
R138	Sudden unexplained death or survivors of a cardiac event .....	37
R328	Progressive cardiac conduction disease .....	38
R384	Generalised arterial calcification in infancy .....	39
R140	Elastin-related phenotypes .....	40

## Part III. Developmental disorders

R26	Likely common aneuploidy .....	41
R27	Congenital malformation and dysmorphism syndromes - microarray and sequencing .....	42
R28	Congenital malformation and dysmorphism syndromes - microarray only .....	43
R29	Intellectual disability - microarray, and sequencing .....	44
R377	Intellectual disability - microarray only .....	45
R47	Angelman syndrome .....	46
R48	Prader-Willi syndrome .....	47
R53	Fragile X .....	48
R69	Hypotonic infant .....	49
R312	Parental sequencing for lethal autosomal recessive disorders .....	50

## Part IV. Endocrinology

R402	Premature ovarian insufficiency .....	51
R344	Androgen insensitivity syndrome .....	52

The 2022/2023 National Genomic Test Directory comprises a full list of clinical indications for genetic testing, mapped to one or more tests to be performed using a specified technological approach.

For further information on the fields in the National Genomic Test Directory, please see the help notes by clicking on each column header.

**Test Ordering**

Clinicians wishing to request genomic tests can do so by:

- Requesting the clinical indication (name and unique code of the clinical indication), in instances where the clinical indication to be tested is known
- If the clinician is aware that some of the constituent tests which are offered as part of the clinical indication are not needed, they can specify to the laboratory which constituent tests are required and which aren't

Clinicians should follow local process to request genomic tests. All referrals for testing will be triaged by the local Genomic Laboratory Hub to ensure the most appropriate test is performed. In instances where testing is in clinical indication, the Genomic Laboratory Hub will ensure the test request and relevant clinical information and select the most appropriate constituent test(s) to return the test request. Testing should be targeted at the genomic diagnosis will guide management for the proband or family.

Please refer to the rare and inherited disease Test Directories for germline tests for clinical indications where germline testing may be indicated.

1 National Genomic Test Directory Cancer 2021-22 v1.0 published 4th October 2021

2 National Genomic Test Directory Cancer 2021-22 v2.0 published 22nd December 2021

3 National Genomic Test Directory Cancer 2021-22 v3.0 published 21 April 2022

Clinical ID	Clinical Indication	Target/Gene
9b/7	9b/7.1 Monogenic hearing loss	Hearing loss (2b)
4	9b/7 9b/7.2 Monogenic hearing loss	Hearing loss (2b)
3	R125 R125.1 Thoracic aortic aneurysm or dissection	(thoracic aortic aneurysm or dissection) (A0)
6	R125 R125.2 Thoracic aortic aneurysm or dissection	(thoracic aortic aneurysm or dissection) (A0)
7	R127 R127.1 Long QT syndrome	Long QT syndrome (A)
8	R127 R127.2 Long QT syndrome	Long QT syndrome (A)
9	R128 R128.1 Brugada syndrome and cardiac sodium channel disease	Brugada syndrome (13)
10	R128 R128.2 Brugada syndrome and cardiac sodium channel disease	Brugada syndrome (13)
11	R129 R129.1 Catecholaminergic polymorphic VT	Catecholaminergic polymorphic VT (214)
12	R129 R129.2 Catecholaminergic polymorphic VT	Catecholaminergic polymorphic VT (214)
13	R130 R130.1 Short QT syndrome	Short QT syndrome (214)
14	R130 R130.2 Short QT syndrome	Short QT syndrome (214)
15	R131 R131.1 Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy	Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy - teen and adult (43)
16	R131 R131.2 Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy	Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy - teen and adult (43)
17	R132 R132.1 Dilated and Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy	Dilated cardiomyopathy - teen and adult (45)
18	R132 R132.2 Dilated and Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy	Dilated cardiomyopathy - teen and adult (45)



# Order WGS Test



## • Test Order Form

- Complete all sections
- Common sections not completed
  - Family Test
  - Age of Onset
  - Disease Penetrance
  - Parents Details
- Phenotype for all – absent/present to be ticked

# Patient Information Leaflets



- Can be given to patient at any point
- Easy read version available
- 10 Different Translations available

<https://www.genomicseducation.hee.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Guide-to-requesting-WGS-RD-Nov-20.pdf>

# Record Of Discussion



- Confirmation that a discussion has occurred and all the relevant information has been given to patient
- A place to document the research offer choice of the patient
- Remote consent permitted – no patient signature required
- All sections to be completed
- Once signed and saved electronically – cannot be edited
- Must have a HCP signature

# Genomic Test Results

The results from a genomic test may show:

- A change in genes which are known to cause a health condition
- No change in genes which are known to cause a health condition
- Variant of Unknown significance - it's not clear what the results mean for health (but doctors may have a better understanding of the results in the future)





Validation of DTC results is not funded by the NHS unless the patient would otherwise meet criteria for germline genomic testing.



Why do you want the test?

Imagine receiving a result you are concerned about

Have you read all the information and small print about the test?

Could your decision to have a test affect your family?

Have you told your family that you are thinking about having a genetic test?

Are you happy with what the DTC company might do with your data?





# Equality

# Diversity

# Inclusion

# Equity of Access

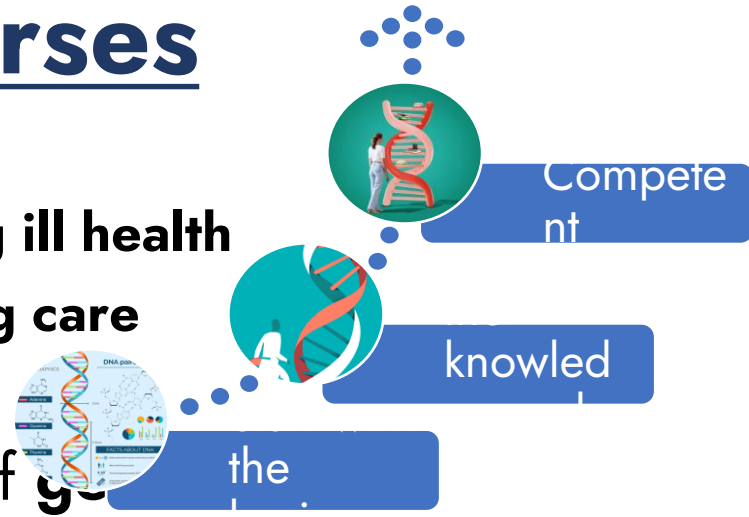
- Trust
- Understanding (Translation/Literacy) Research (NGRL)

# NMC Standards of Proficiency for Registered Nurses

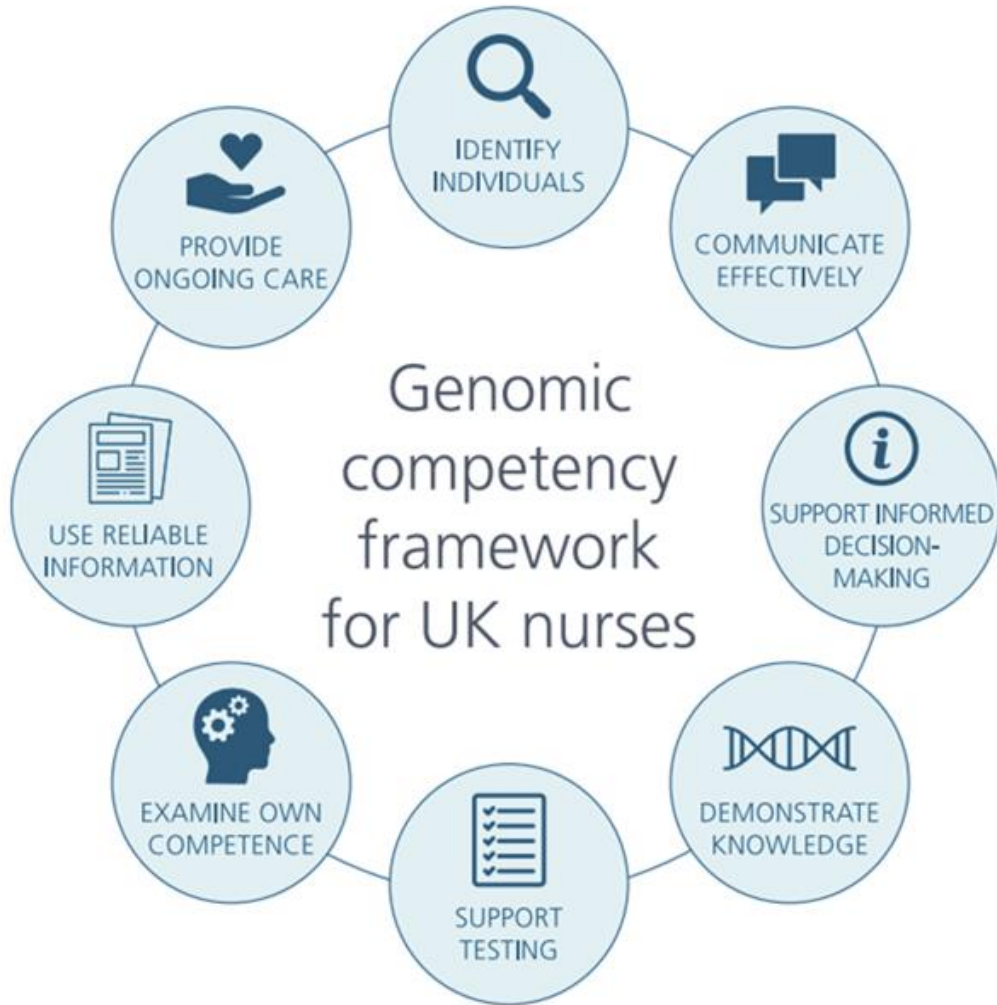
**2.2 Promoting Health and preventing ill health**

**3.2 Assessing needs and planning care**

Demonstrate and apply knowledge of



# Competency Frameworks



# Education Resources

Create networks —  
share experience  
and knowledge





Public beta This website is in [public beta](#) – please [give your feedback](#).

GeNotes  
Genomic notes for clinicians

Public beta This website is in [public beta](#) – please [give your feedback](#).

[Home](#) > [In the Clinic](#)

## In the Clinic

Focused on the point of patient care, these short scenarios look at when to consider genomic testing and what you need to do.

### Endocrinology

Key information for clinicians accessing genomic testing for their patients

### Fetal and Women's Health

Clinical presentations from pre-pregnancy to antenatal care

### Neurology

Clear, concise guides to genomic testing in patients presenting with neurological symptoms

### Oncology

Short, useful summaries to support your clinical decisions when considering genomic testing

### Paediatrics

Built around patient scenarios, these articles outline key information about testing and results

### Pharmacogenomics

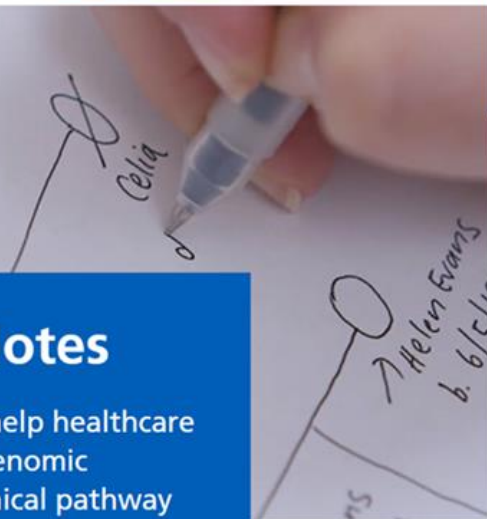
A handy guide to when and why genomic testing is of relevance when prescribing and dispensing

### Primary Care

From first presentation to receiving results, these step-by-step summaries help support your practice

# Welcome to GeNotes

Quick, concise information to help healthcare professionals make the right genomic decisions at each stage of a clinical pathway



## Navigate



### In the Clinic

Focused on the point of patient care, these short scenarios look at when to consider genomic testing and what you need to do.

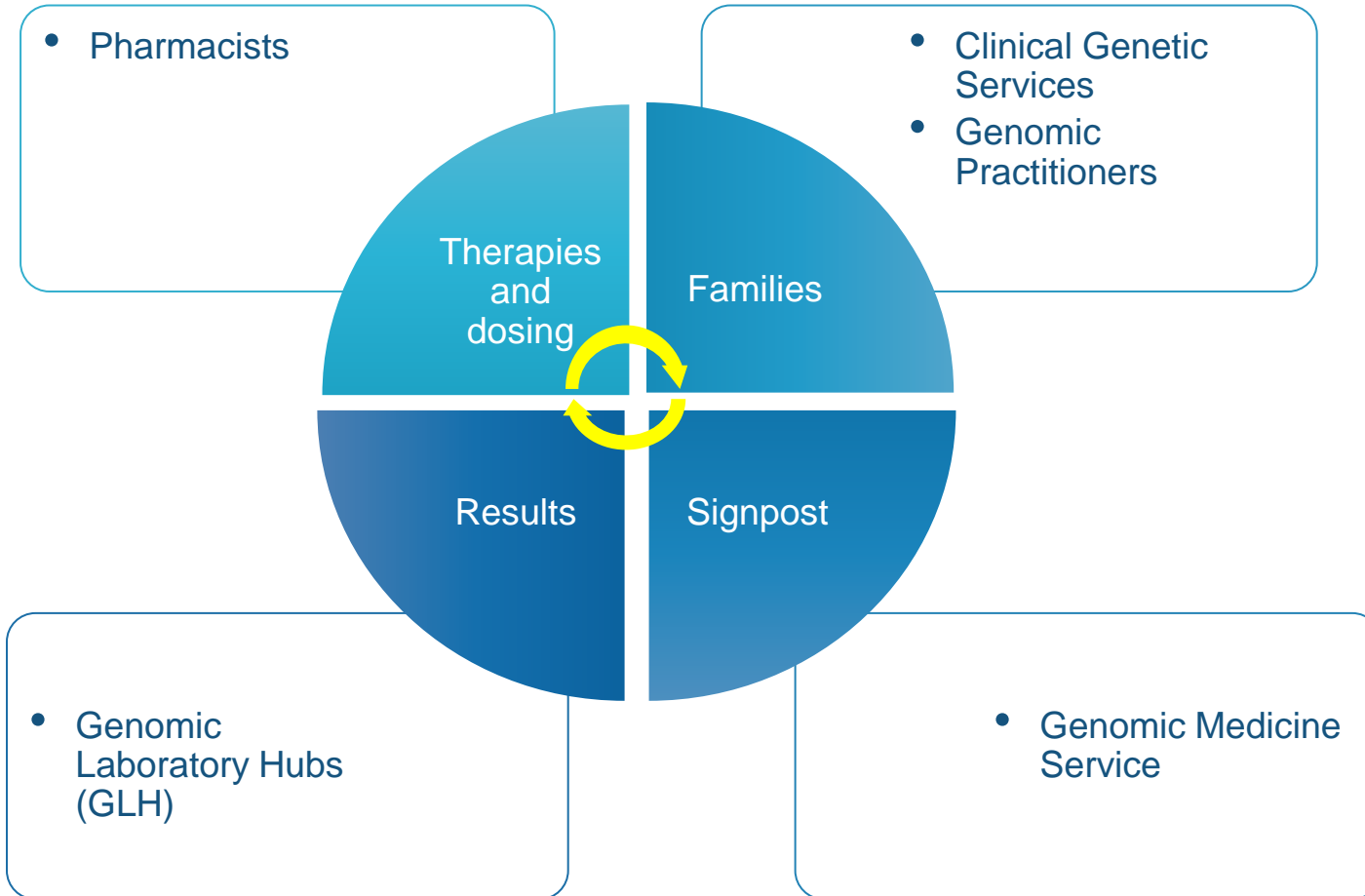


### Knowledge Hub

Extend your learning with this encyclopaedia of resources, designed to support your understanding of genomics in medicine



# Support



Clinical requests for whole genome sequencing should be sent to [bwc.centralsouthglh@nhs.net](mailto:bwc.centralsouthglh@nhs.net)

For Central and South Genomic Medicine Service enquiries, [GMSAAdmin@uhb.nhs.uk](mailto:GMSAAdmin@uhb.nhs.uk).

West Midlands Clinical Genetics Service  
For general enquiries: [genetics.info@nhs.net](mailto:genetics.info@nhs.net)  
Telephone: 0121 335 8024

Oxford Clinical Genetics Service  
For general enquiries: [orh-tr.churchill-clinicalgenetics@nhs.net](mailto:orh-tr.churchill-clinicalgenetics@nhs.net)  
Telephone: 01865 225931

Wessex Clinical Genetics Service  
For general enquiries: [UHS.GeneticsTeam@nhs.net](mailto:UHS.GeneticsTeam@nhs.net)  
Telephone: 023 8120 6170



Genomics  
Learning  
Passport



**Genomics Learning Passport for Editing**

Your personal record of your genomics learning.

Genomics plays a fundamental role in nursing practice. The ever-evolving field of genomics is transforming patient care across various aspects, including diagnosing illnesses, predicting disease risks, and tailoring treatments to enhance efficacy while minimizing adverse effects. It is imperative that all nurses possess a solid understanding of genomics, enabling them to confidently integrate genomics into patient care, as outlined in the [NMC Standards of proficiency for registered nurses](#). The NHS recognises the significance of genomics education for healthcare professionals and there are many strategies<sup>2,3,4</sup> addressing this importance.

However, embarking on this genomics journey can sometimes be overwhelming. To assist you on this path, we have developed a genomics learning passport as a guide and evidence of your learning. It is not a competency document however it can help you to acquire the necessary knowledge to meet the competencies outlined in the [nurses competency framework \(the updated framework is due for publication soon\)](#). This tool is designed to navigate you through the wealth of available resources while also documenting your genomics learning journey and can also support your revalidation process.

Whether you are just starting to explore the core concepts or are ready to delve into master's level studies, there are education and training resources available to suit your needs. Towards the end of this log, we've provided a list of websites and additional sources of information to facilitate your self-directed learning, including the links to the national strategies

Should you have any inquiries or require further guidance, please feel free to contact : Philandra Costello, Lead Genomic Nurse, Central & South Genomic Medicine Service Alliance, [Philandra.costello@uhhs.nhs.uk](mailto:Philandra.costello@uhhs.nhs.uk)

**Guide to completing log:**

The following table lists the available online genomic learning resources relevant to nursing. Not all modules will be relevant to your current sphere of practice at this time, however all nurses should be aware of the basic concepts covered in the Genomics 101 modules.

The log is based on the NMC CPD activity log so that you can use this record of learning for your revalidation. See also [www.revalidation.nmc.org.uk/download-resources/guidance-and-information](http://www.revalidation.nmc.org.uk/download-resources/guidance-and-information).

Name		NMC number	
Job Title		Date revalidation next due	
Place of work			

Date completed	Learning Resource  [Including method of study]	Overview of resource content / subject area	Topic(s):	Link to Code:	Link to Standards of proficiency:	Number of hours:	Number of participatory hours:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online learning</li> <li>Course attendance</li> <li>Independent learning</li> </ul>		Provide an overview of the learning activity, its relevance to your scope of practice, the knowledge gained and how you have integrated this into your practice. Alternatively reflect on the connection between the learning activity and your practice and your ability to apply what you have learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritise people</li> <li>Practise effectively</li> <li>Preserve safety</li> <li>Promote professionalism and trust</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Align to Genomic Nursing Competency Framework</li> <li>To ensure that the knowledge you gain is targeted, relevant and effective in your practice</li> </ul>		

The [Genomic Education](#) website has a wide range of resources from short films on core concepts to information about studying at master's level. There are too many courses to list below so we have just included some of the key resources that are most relevant to nursing practice to get you started on your genomics learning journey. You can also add any additional learning at the end of the log.

Where to begin? A good place to start is the resource developed specifically for nurses at [Genomics in Nursing \(hee.nhs.uk\)](#). We suggest that you start by reviewing this content and record that you have completed this activity for your revalidation below.



Date Completed	Learning Resource and method of study	Overview of resource content / subject area	Topic(s):	Link to Code:	Link to Standards of proficiency Genomics Competency Framework	Number of hours:	Number of participatory hours:
	<a href="#">Genomics in Nursing – Genomics Education Programme (hee.nhs.uk)</a>  Online /independent learning						
Not sure of the difference between genomics and genetics? The following module revisits the basics.							
	<a href="#">What is genomics?</a>  Online learning						
Need more help with terms or words - the following glossaries might help							
<a href="#">Glossary</a>  <a href="#">Talking Glossary</a>							

**Genomics Education Programme: Genomics in the NHS**

The [Genomics in the NHS - eLearning for healthcare \(e-lfh.org.uk\)](#) programme is a collection of online courses developed by NHS educational teams to support and educate healthcare professionals about genomic medicine and the benefit it will bring to patient care.

The following modules are available at E-Learning for Health and are free to NHS staff once registered onsite at [Home - eLearning for healthcare \(e-lfh.org.uk\)](#)

**Genomics 101:** A series of 9 short 30–40-minute online modules explaining the core concepts of genomics and how to apply these in your clinical practice. Certificate of completion available for each module. All nurses should be aware of the content covered in these modules. Access via links below or via E-LFH.

Module Name	Competency						
<a href="#">Genomics in healthcare</a>							
<a href="#">From Genes to Genome</a> (Nursing competency 1,4,6)							
<a href="#">From gene to protein</a> (Nursing competency 1,4,6)							
<a href="#">Inheriting genomic information</a> (Nursing competency 1)							





<https://forms.gle/EdS8GsV2TWn33wYeA>

Thank you!  
Phil & Charlotte

[Charlotte.Hitchcock@uhb.nhs.uk](mailto:Charlotte.Hitchcock@uhb.nhs.uk)