



# Pharmacogenomics of Chemotherapy induced nausea & vomiting

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## MASCC/ISOO

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# Dr Sandip Mukhopadhyay



- **MBBS, Burdwan University (1995) Gold medal in Pharmacology**
  - **MD in Pharmacology, Christian Medical College-Ludhiana**
  - **Fellowship in Palliative Medicine – IPM-Calicut**
- *Assistant Professor of Pharmacology & Coordinator of Pharmacovigilance at Burdwan Medical College*
- ***Research interest of supportive Oncology***
- ***Received 8 international awards in last five years***
- ***“Young Investigator” 2017 by the “Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC)” in Washington DC, USA to receive his award***
- ***“MASCC Ambassador” for India 2017-18 for Supportive care***



# Conflict of interest

- None



# Overview

- Introduction
- Pharmacogenomic angles in CINV
  - Background sensitivity
  - PGx of antiemetics
  - PGx of chemotherapy drugs
  - PGx of Opioids
- Implementing PGx strategies
  - Success of PGx in CINV
  - The grey areas
  - Barriers in implementation
- Future direction
- Conclusions



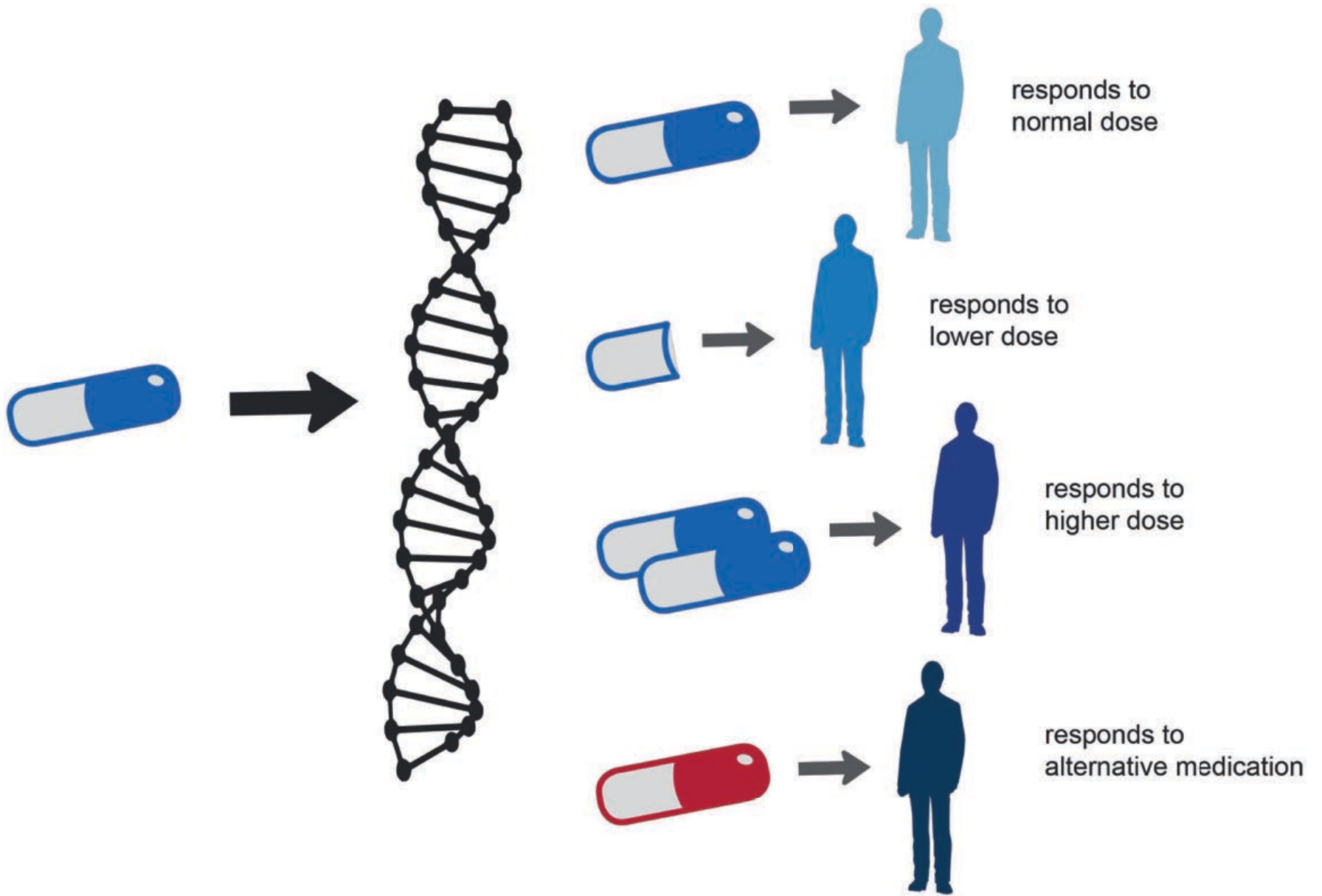




"Here's my  
sequence..."

*New Yorker, 2000*

- **Pharmacogenetics** - alteration of drug action due to single gene
- **Pharmacogenomics** - alteration of drug action due to effect of number of genes (genome)
- Because drug responses - determined by multiple proteins, rather than single proteins
  - Recent trends - ***shifted from pharmacogenetics to pharmacogenomics.***



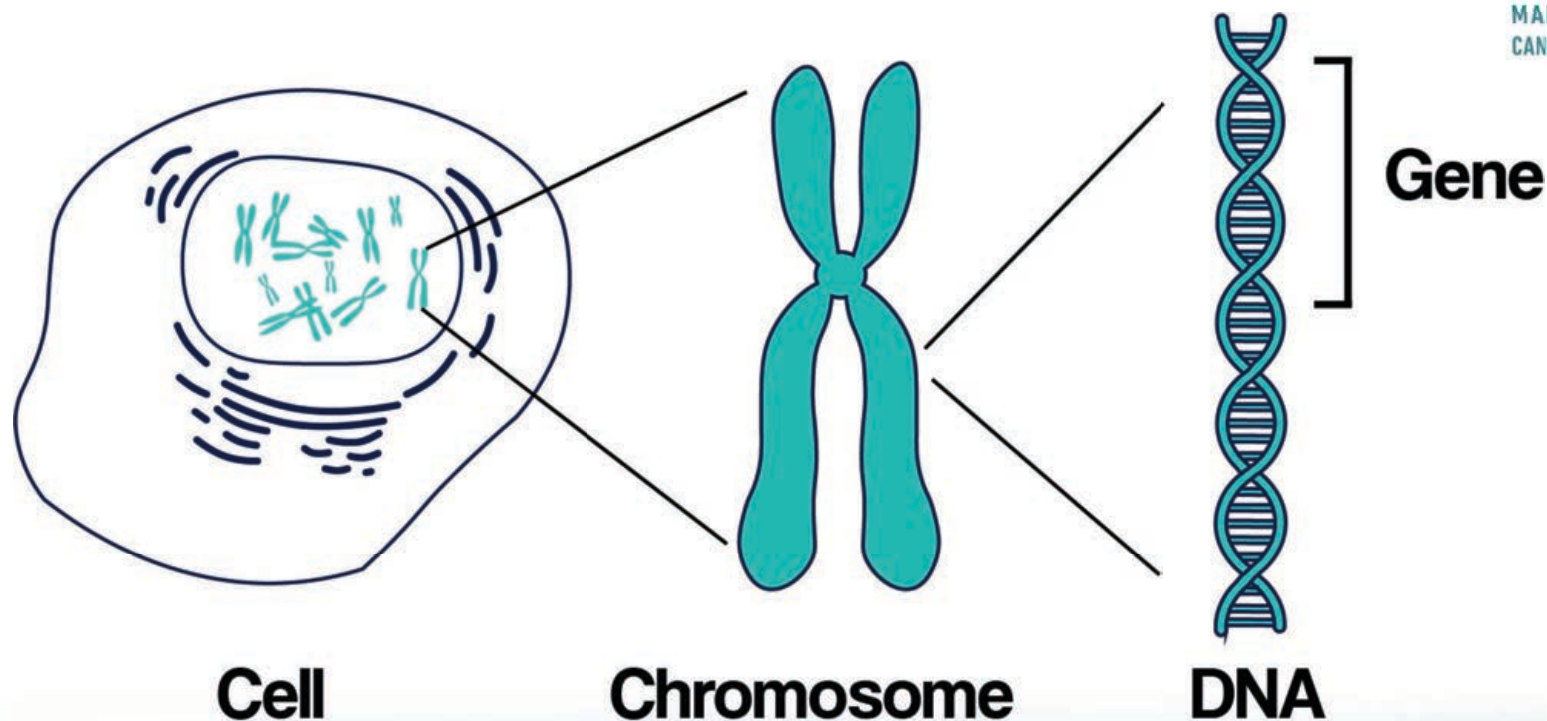


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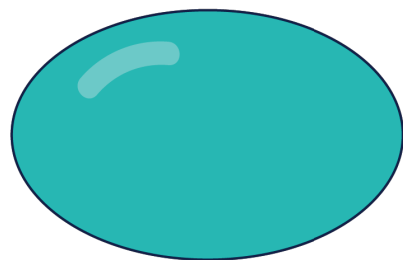
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<https://kintalk.org/genetics-101/>

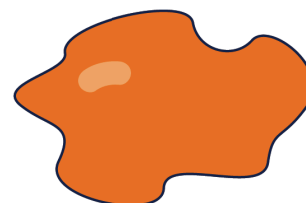
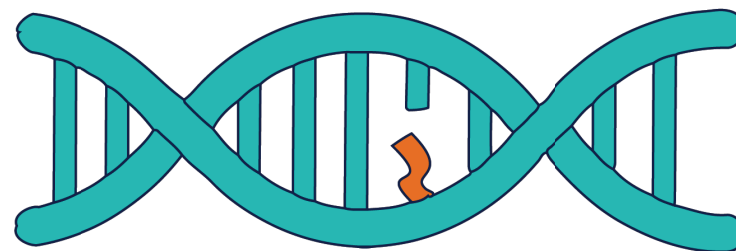


**Normal Gene**



**Normal Protein**

**Mutated Gene**



**Abnormal Protein**

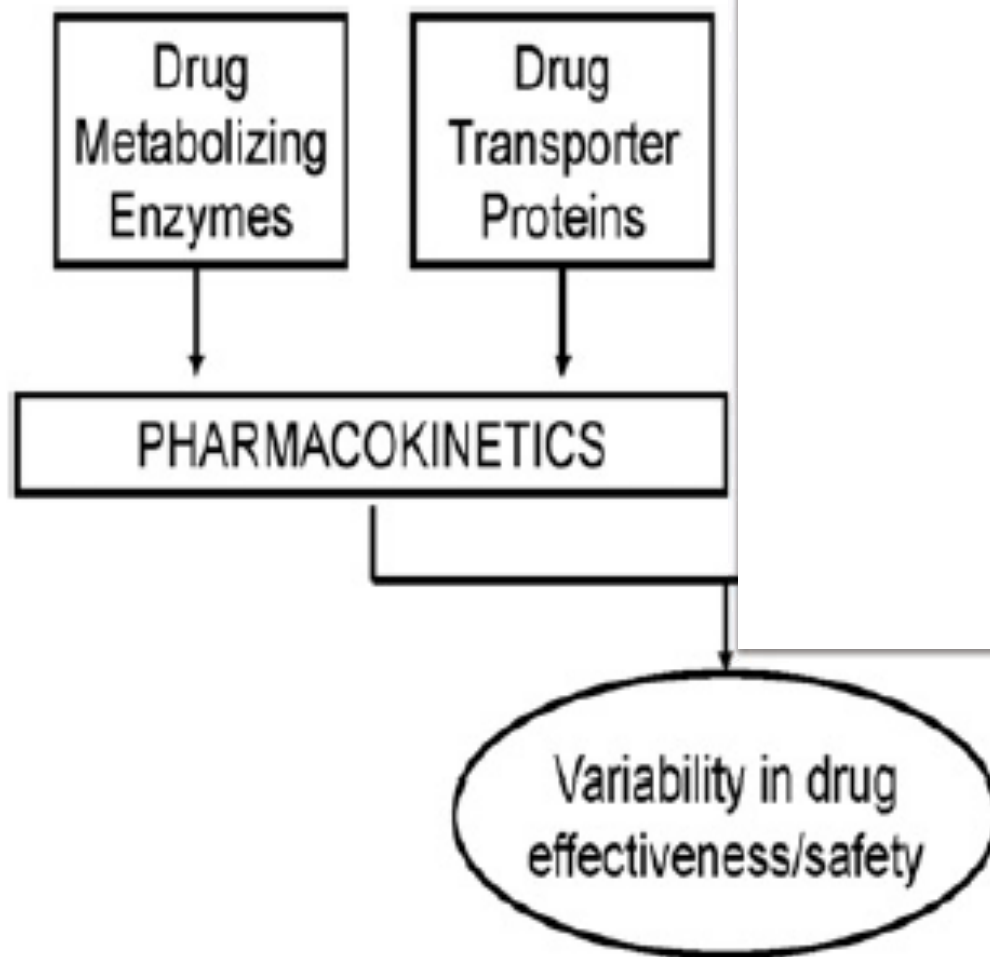
or



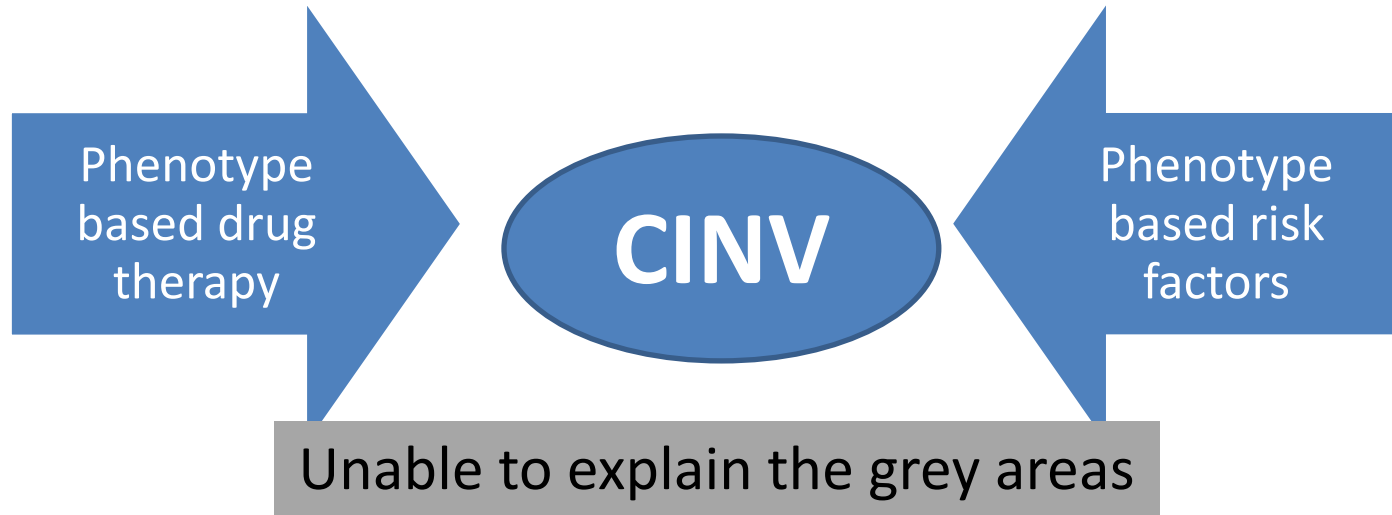
**No Protein**

<https://kintalk.org/genetics-101/>





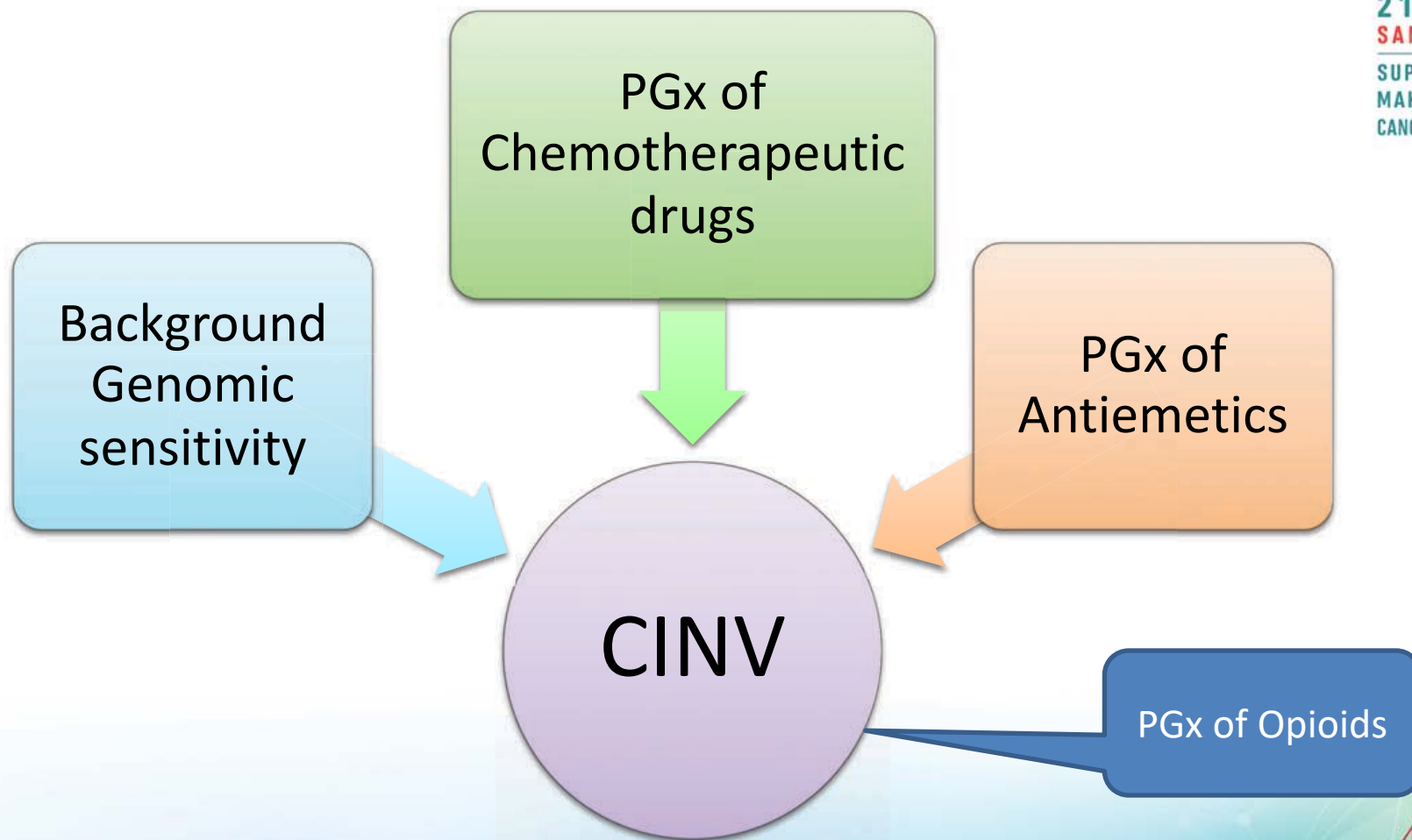
# Why?



- Growing research in genomics - now explained many areas in the health including cancer treatment
- Genomic input - **possible** in supportive care/ **CINV**



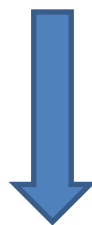
# Pharmacogenetic angles in CINV





# Background genomic sensitivity

- BRCA gene mutation
- Low expression of BRCA gene protein



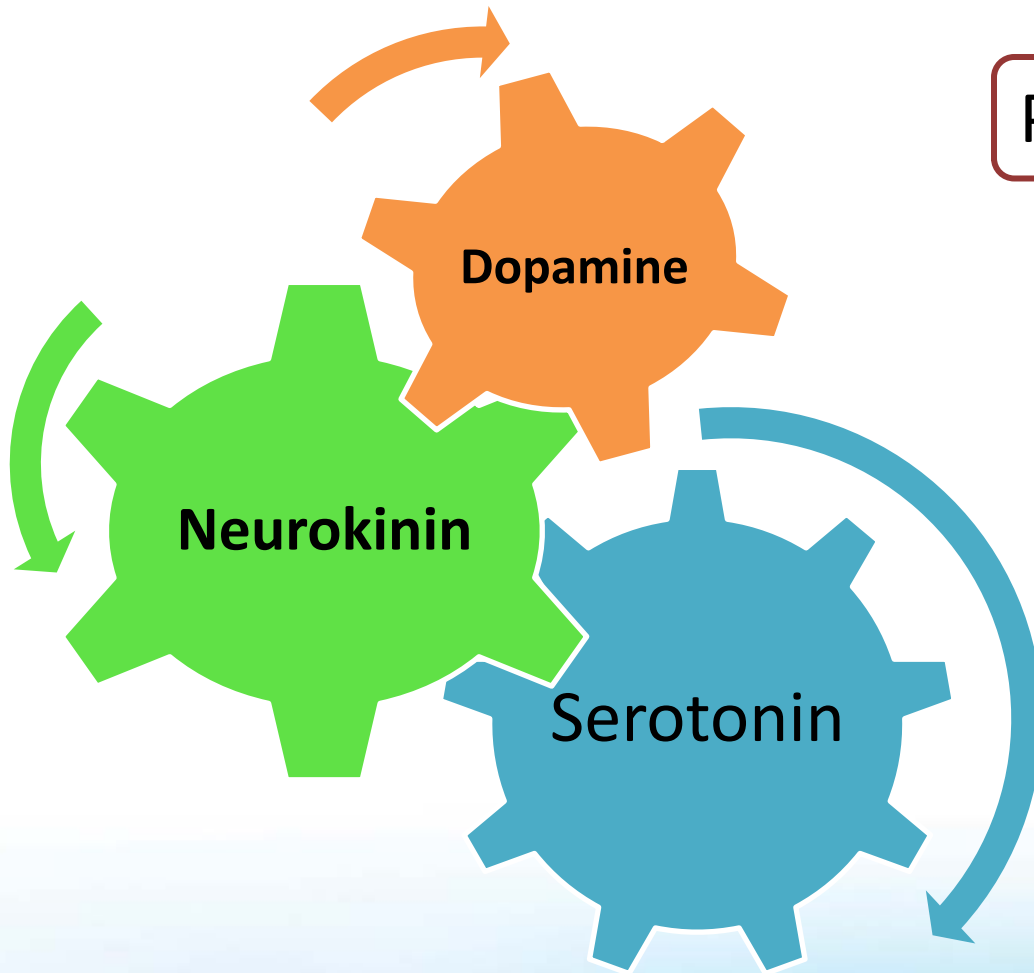
Less CINV



# Pharmacogenomics of Antiemetic drugs



# Antiemetic drugs acts commonly on



Possible PGx angles

- Receptors
- Transporters
- Metabolizing enzymes



# A. Pharmacogenetic prediction from metabolizing enzyme





# Biotransformation

**Inactive drug** → **Active drug**

**Active drug** → **Inactive drug**

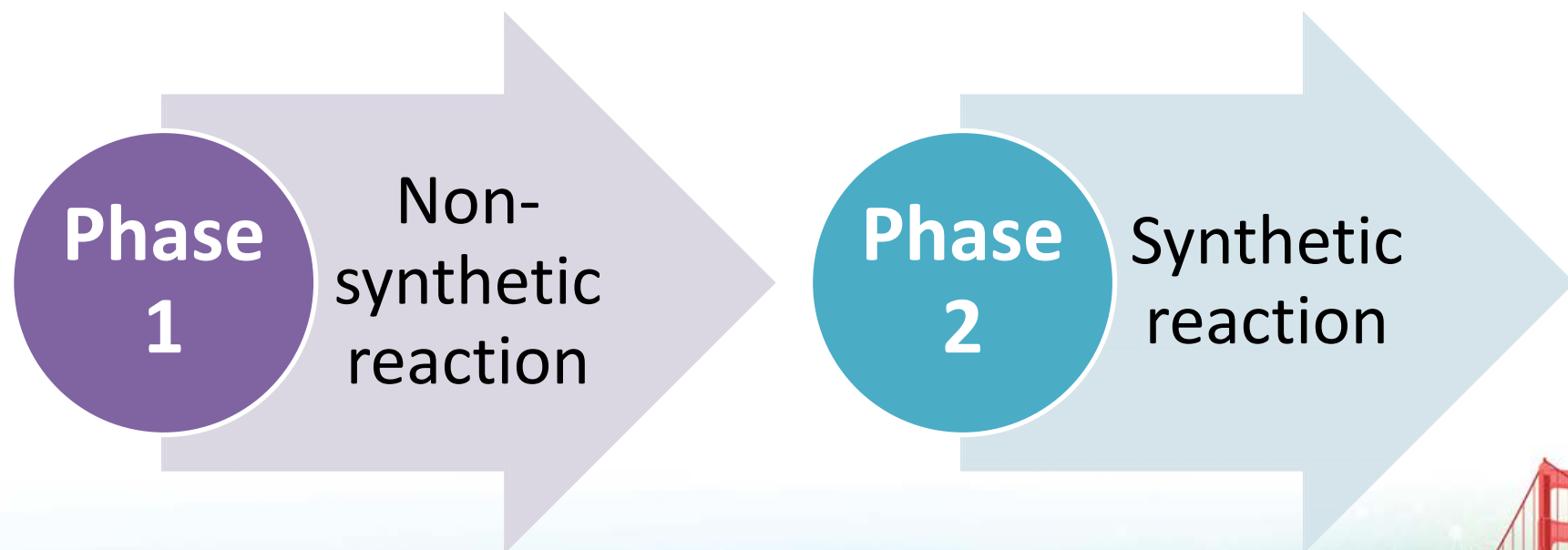
**Active drug** → **Active metabolite**



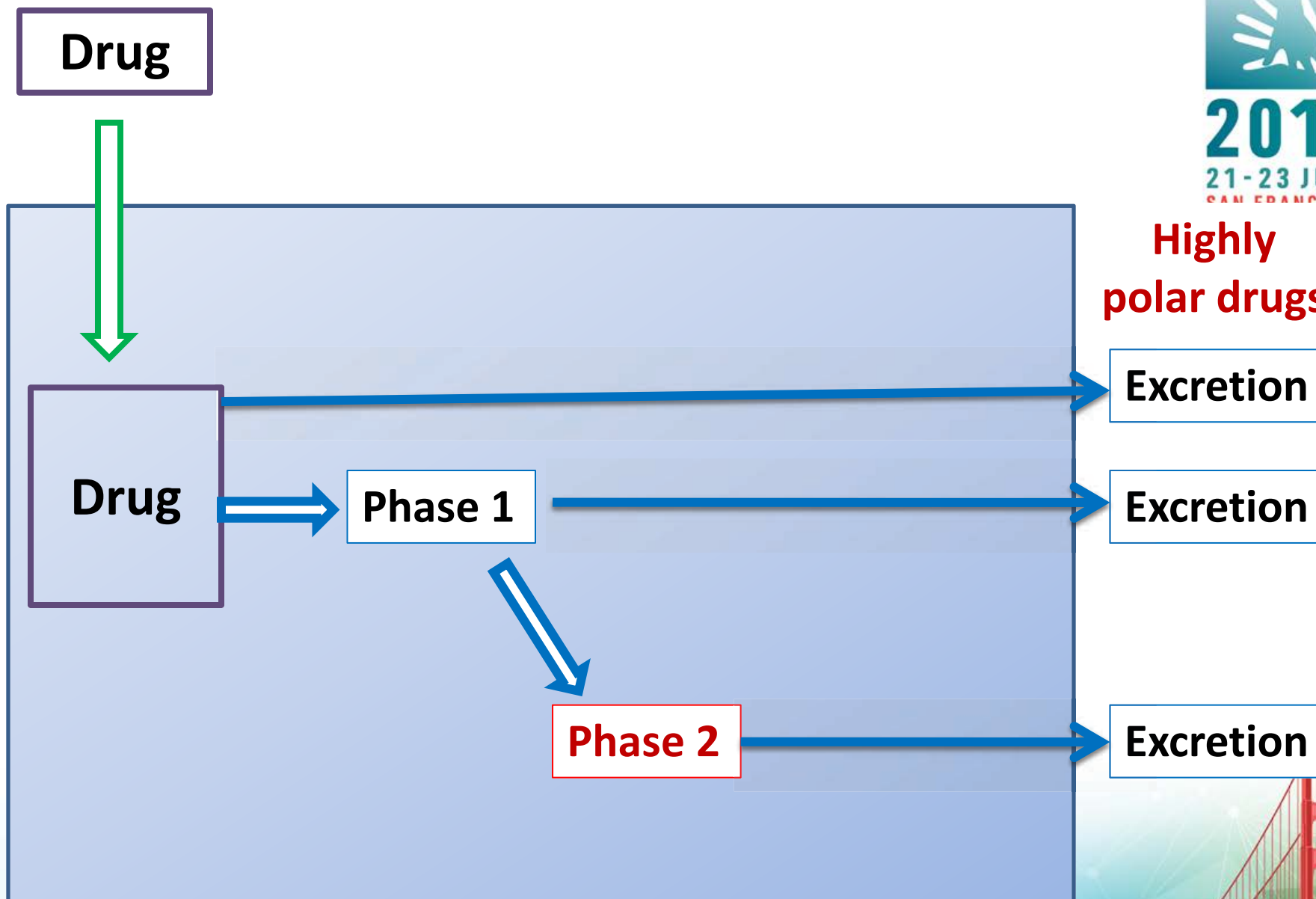
## .....*Biotransformation*

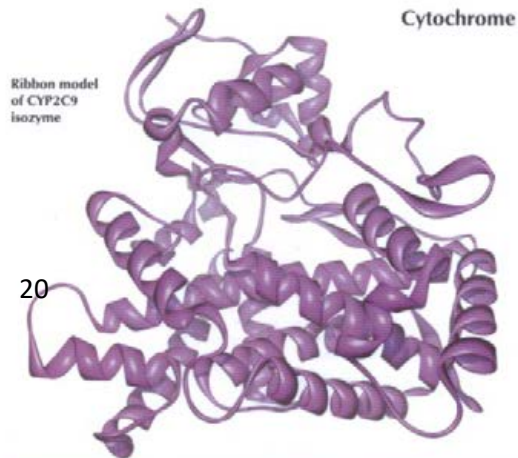
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### Phases of biotransformation



**Highly  
polar drugs**

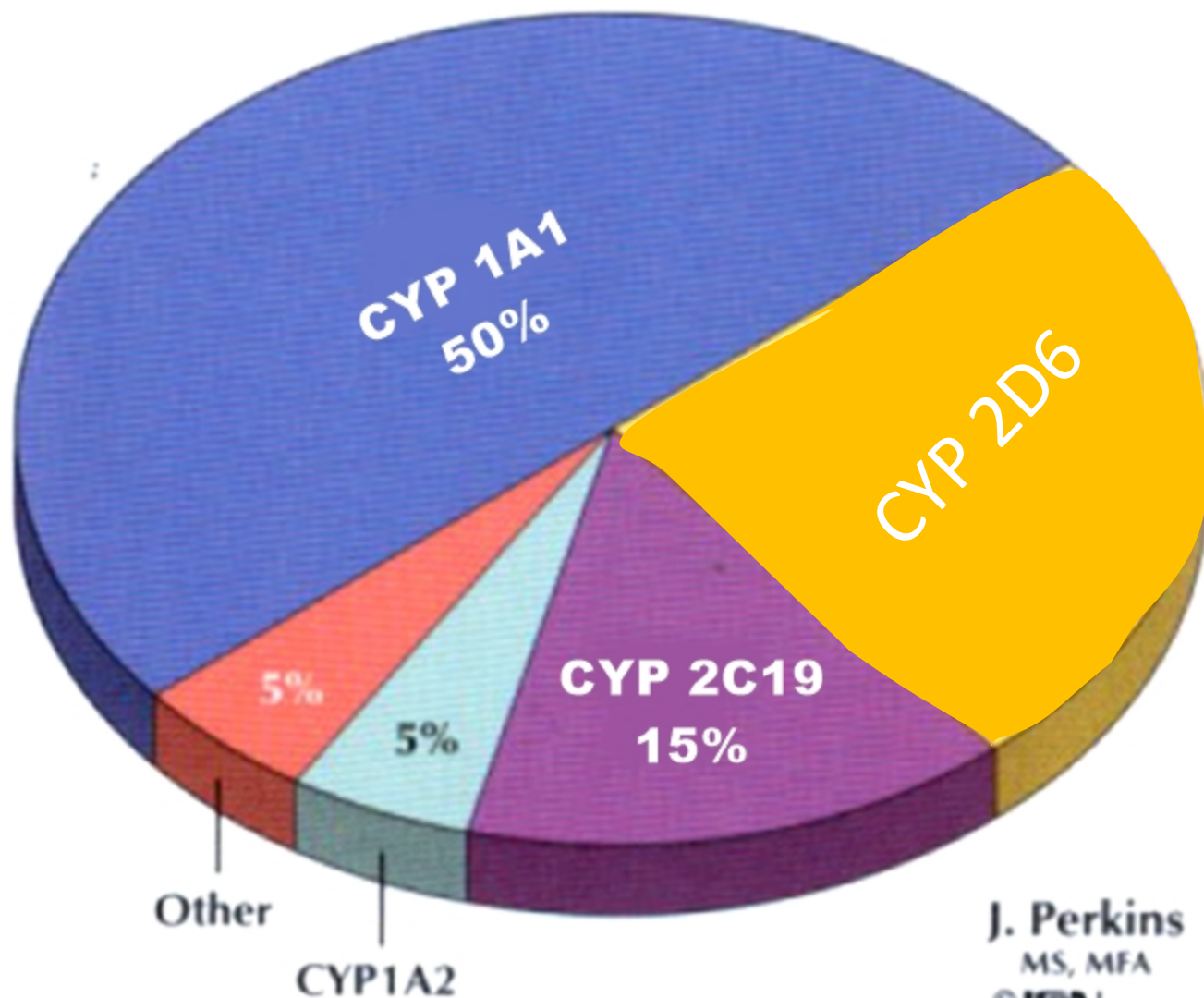




# CYP isoenzymes



- CYP 3A4
- CYP 1A1
- CYP2D6
- CYP2C9
- CYP 2C19
- CYP2E1





# 5HT<sub>3</sub>RA metabolism by CYP



5HT <sub>3</sub> -RA	Major P450(s)	Minor P450(s)
Dolasetron (a prodrug, must be converted to reduced dolasetron by carbonyl reductase)	CYP2D6	CYP3A4
Granisetron	CYP3A	
Ondansetron	No dominant P450	CYP1A1, CYP1A2, CYP2D6, CYP2E1, CYP3A4
Palonosetron	CYP2D6	CYP3A, CYP1A2
Ramosectron	CYP1A2, CYP2D6	
Tropisetron	CYP2D6	

Trammel, et al, 2013

# CYP 2D6 genetic variation

- 100+ documented alleles
- number of variants more common in different ethnicities
- Duplications, deletions, or rearrangement constitutes a major source of interindividual variation in the human genome
- Normal Function- CYP2D6\*1, \*2

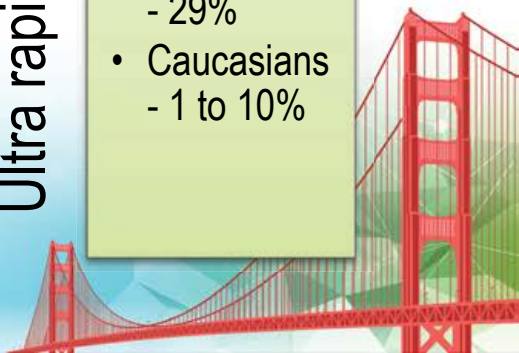


CYP2D6  
activity



CYP2D6  
phenotype

<p><b>Poor metabolizer (PM)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *3</li> <li>• <b>*4, *5 (deletion)</b></li> <li>• <b>*6</b></li> <li>• *7, *8, *11, *12, *13, *14, *15, *16, *18, *19, *20, *21, *38, *40, *42, *44</li> <li>• <b>Non functioning allele</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Intermediate metabolizer (IM)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *9, *10, *17, *36, *41</li> <li>• *29</li> <li>• <b>Decreased activity</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Extensive metabolizer (EM)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *1</li> <li>• *2</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ultra rapid metabolizer (UM)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northeast Africa, Oceania, including the Saudi Arabian- 20%</li> <li>• Black Ethiopian populations - 29%</li> <li>• Caucasians - 1 to 10%</li> </ul>
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# Patient-Tailored Antiemetic Treatment With 5-Hydroxytryptamine Type 3 Receptor Antagonists According to Cytochrome P-450 2D6 Genotypes

[Rolf Kaiser](#) , [Orhan Sezer](#) , [Anja Papies](#) , [Steffen Bauer](#) , [Claudia Schelenz](#) , [Pierre-Benoit Tremblay](#)...

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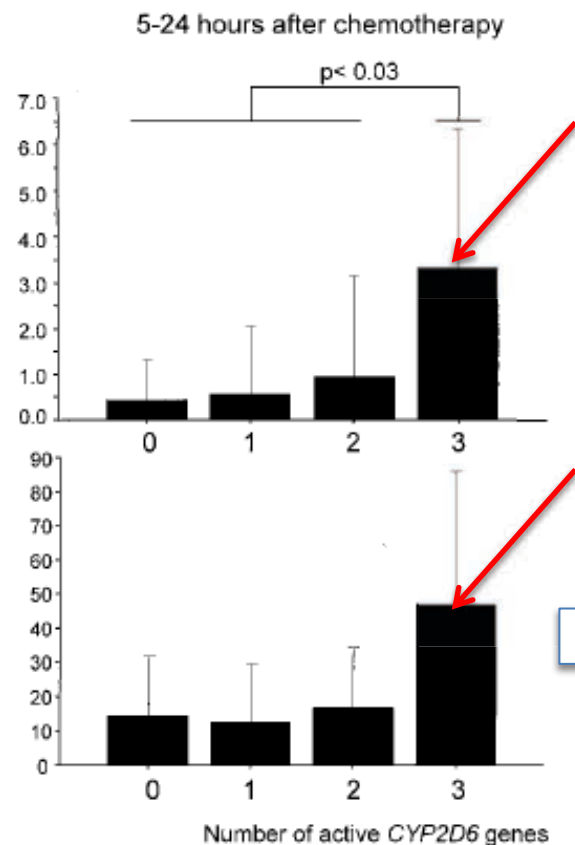
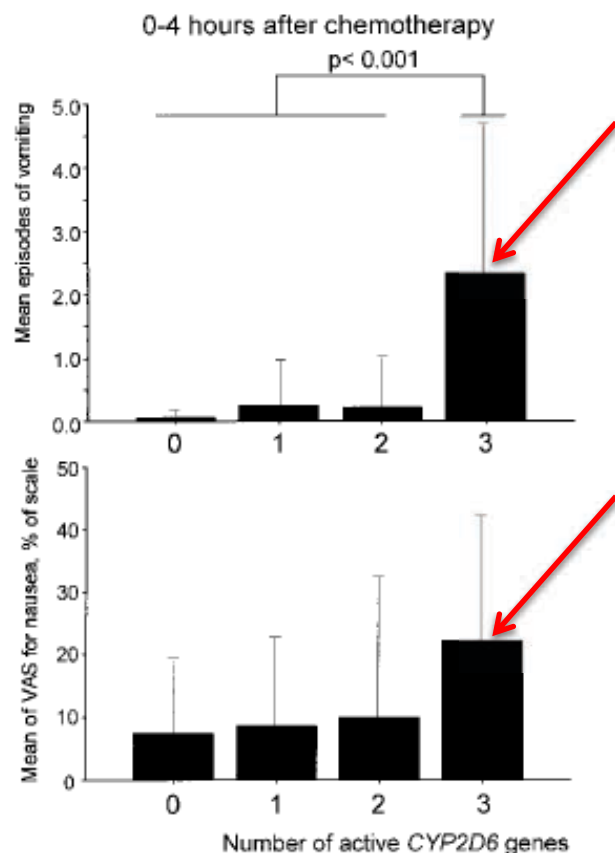
- Prospective cohort study
  - N= 270, five emetogenic level
  - CINV prophylaxis with Ondansetron & tropisetron
  - CYP2D6 genotyping
  - Plasma tropisetron concentration
  - Acute emesis (0-24 hours)
    - Two time frames
- | Time Frame | Level 1, (n 2) | Level 2 (n 55) | Level 3 (n 22) | Level 4 (n 95) | Level 5 (n 96) |
|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 0-4 hr     |                |                |                |                |                |
| 5-24 hr    |                |                |                |                |                |





- ***CYP2D6* genotyping**
  - Poor metabolizer - (7.8%)- No functional allele
    - ***Tropisetron* serum conc.** (6 hours after administration) ↑↑
  - Extensive metabolizers – (58.1%)- two active alleles
  - Ultra rapid metabolizer- (1.58%) - **3 alleles**

# Mean values (SD) of vomiting as function of number of active *CYP2D6* genes



Vomiting

Nausea

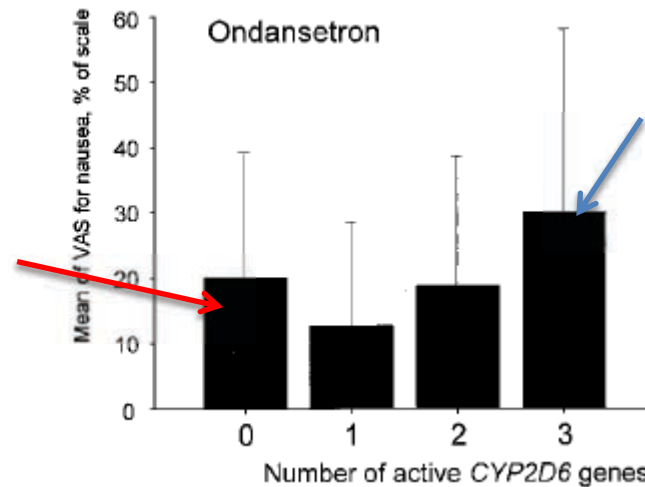
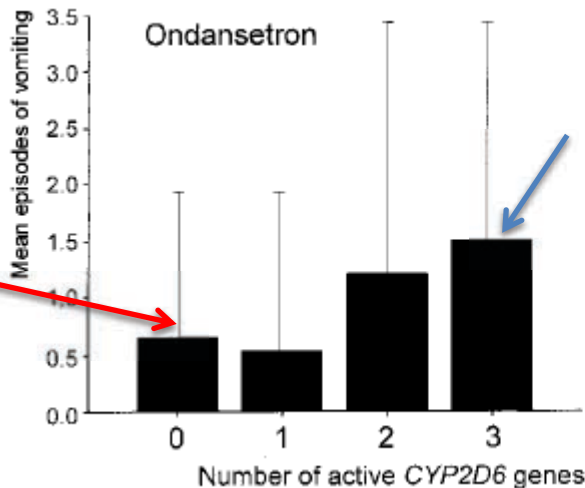
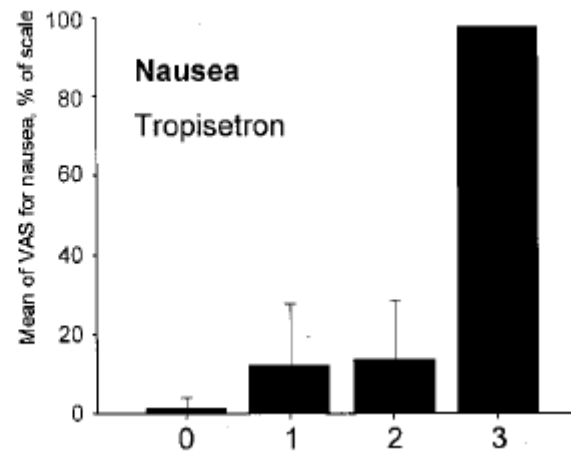
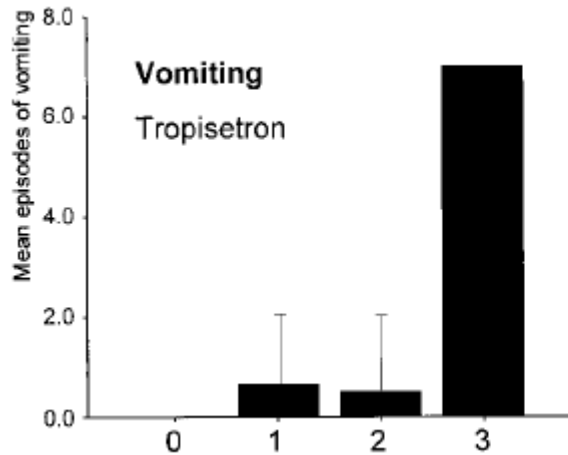
**Patients with three active genes had significantly more vomiting at both observation periods than all other patients ( $P < .001$ ,  $P < .03$ )**

# Tropisetron Vs. Ondansetron

## (Number of functional gene with & N & V)

Tropisetron

Ondansetron



- Ondansetron
- Partly metabolized by CYP3A4
  - CYP 3A4 - relatively more stable

- “Because of the **low frequency** (1.5% to 2%) of genetically defined **UM** in the **German population**, it would be necessary to **genotype approximately 50 patients** for CYP2D6 **to prevent one case** of severe vomiting or nausea”





- Higher proportion of UM other regions - may influence the efficacy of antiemetic treatment in cancer patients
- **Genotyping for CYP2D6**
- *before start of the chemotherapy or*
- use of **alternative** antiemetic drugs not metabolized by CYP2D6
  - may further ↓ CINV





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# CYP3A4 pharmacogenetics



Asian Pac J Cancer Prev. 2011;12(1):185-91.

## Genetic polymorphisms in the three malaysian races effect granisetron clinical antiemetic actions in breast cancer patients receiving chemotherapy.

Hassan BA<sup>1</sup>, Yusoff ZB.

- **Aim:** to clarify **genetic polymorphism effects** in the three main races in Malaysia i.e., **Malay, Chinese and Indian**, on the clinical **antiemetic effects** of **granisetron**
- prospective observational study, breast cancer patients
- n-=158
- CINV in the first 24 hours after chemotherapy administration
- **High CINV in Chinese- linked to CYP3A4 polymorphism**

Penang, Malaysia



## .....CYP3A4 pharmacogenetics



“...**Chinese patients** with breast cancer should be ***treated with a different type of 5-HT3RA***

*such as tropisetron and dolasetron,*

since they are predominantly metabolized by CYP2D6 only”  
(Hassan et al, 2011)





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## B. Pharmacogenetic prediction from transport proteins





# ABCB1 transporter

Author	Gene	Findings
Babaoglu et al., 2005	ABCB1 transporter	3435C > T associated with treatment efficacy
He et al., 2014	ABCB1 transporter	3435C > T associated with <b>higher risk for CINV</b>
Perwitasari et al., 2011	ABCB1 transporter	CTG haplotype associated with <b>higher delayed phase CINV</b>
Zoto et al., 2015	ABCB1 transporter	3435TT variant with <b>significantly less CINV</b>



# OCT1

Author	Gene	Findings	
Tzvetkov et al., 2012	OCT1	May increase efficacy of tropisetron (Navoban®) by limiting hepatic uptake	

## Present status:

No validated chip available for routine clinical use for transporters



## C. Pharmacogenetic prediction from CINV- the Pharmacodynamic angle





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Genetic  
variation  
of receptor

Natural  
chemical

Agonist

Receptor site

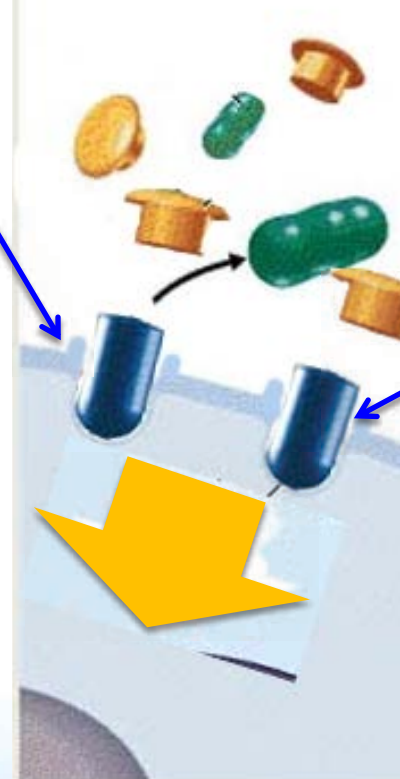
**Antagonist Drug**

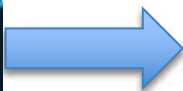
Antagonist  
drug

Receptor site

Blocked  
cellular  
activity

**Antagonist Drug**





Codes for 5HT  
receptors



Normal  
receptor  
function

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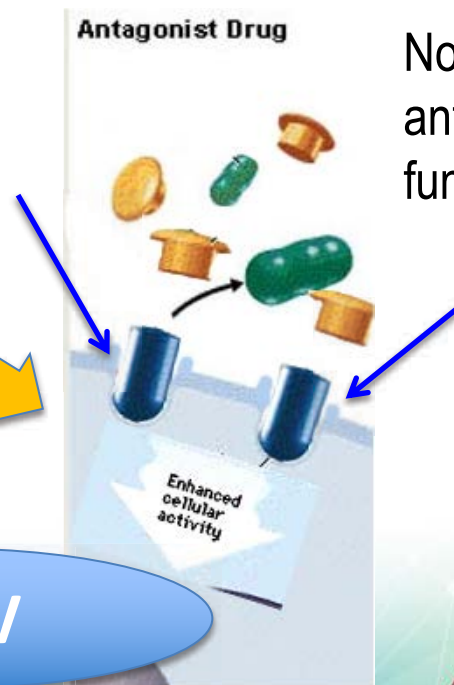


Abnormal  
5HT  
receptors



Antagonist Drug

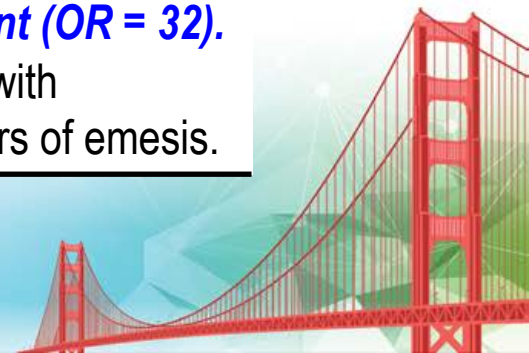
No  
antagonist  
function



CINV



Author	Drug	Gene	Findings
Kaiser et al. (2004)	Tropisetron (n=242)	5-HT3A receptor	21 polymorphism No significant association with CINV
	Same	<b>5-HT3B gene</b>	13 polymorphism <b>30% of the patients suffered from CINV</b>
Fasching et al. (2008),	Ondansetron (n=120)	<b>5-HT3C receptor</b>	Variant genotype of K163 N was associated with vomiting (RR = 2.62)
Tremblay et al. (2003)	Ondansetron & tropisetron (n=286)	<b>5-HT3B gene</b>	<b>5-HT3B receptor gene may serve as genetic predictor</b> for anti-emetic therapy with <b>the _AAG deletion variant (OR = 32).</b> after adjusted with other risk factors of emesis.



Author	Drug	Gene	Finding
Hammer et al. (2010)	Ondansetron n=110 Ca Breast (EC/ E chemo-Rx)	HTR3A, HTR3B, HTR3D and HTR3E	Along with previously identified HTR3 polymorphisms, the <b>HTR3D polymorphism</b> may be a <b>predictor of CINV</b> . <b>G allele of HTR3D p.G36A - over-represented in nonresponders</b> - individual risk predictions
Ward et al., 2008	Dolasetron or tropisetron (n=70)	5-HT3C 5-HT3B  CYP 2D6	<b>No SNPs significant</b> One patient with polymorphism and higher CINV



# NK1 receptor gene

- *TACR1* gene
  - tachykinin receptor 1 (also known as neurokinin 1 receptor or substance P receptor )
- ***Not been examined in relation to CINV***
- Laugsand *et al.*
  - genotyped ten SNPs However, **none** of the investigated SNPs was significantly **associated with nausea and vomiting**



**Pharmacogenetics of anticancer drugs- partial linkage**

**Pharmacogenetics of opioid-induced nausea &  
vomiting during chemotherapy  
: Needs further evaluation**



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# Implementing PGx strategies in CINV





- The clinical implementation process has 3 distinct phases:
  - pre-implementation,
  - developmental, and
  - clinical implementation stage.
- **Research and finding solutions** to challenges:
  - required within each phase
- In addition, suitable and feasible solutions are required to overcome education, ELSI, reimbursement, and scientific barriers

# Success



- Acute emesis link
  - 5HT3B gene – Pharmacodynamic modulation
  - CYP2D6 – Metabolism modulation
  - CYP3A4 – Metabolism modulation
  - ABCB1 (Pgp) - Transporter
- Data about all 1<sup>st</sup> generation 5HT3RA (ondansetron, tropisetron, dolasetron, granisetron)



# The grey areas

- Little or no data
  - Delayed emesis
  - Dopamine receptor & CINV
  - Palonosetron
  - NK1 antagonist
  - Olanzapine
- Studies- mostly on candidate gene approach
- Small study population
- Isolated patients (e.g. breast cancer)
- Animal models- difficult pre-clinical research



# Barriers for Clinical Implementation of PGx



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## IT infrastructure

(infrastructure,  
IT PGx  
integration)

## Scientific

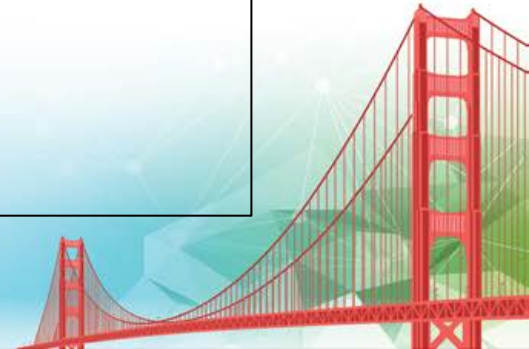
(e.g.  
turnaround  
time of PGx  
test, gene-  
drug pair  
selection)

## Educational (awareness)

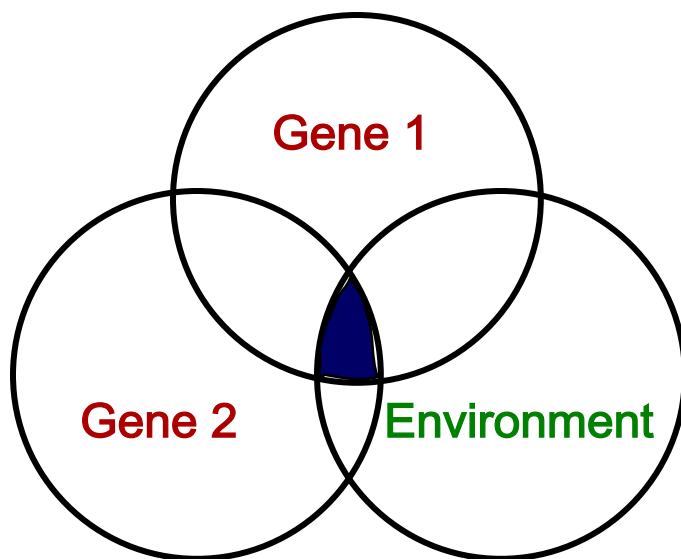
## Ethical, regulatory, legal issues

## *....Barriers for Clinical Implementation*

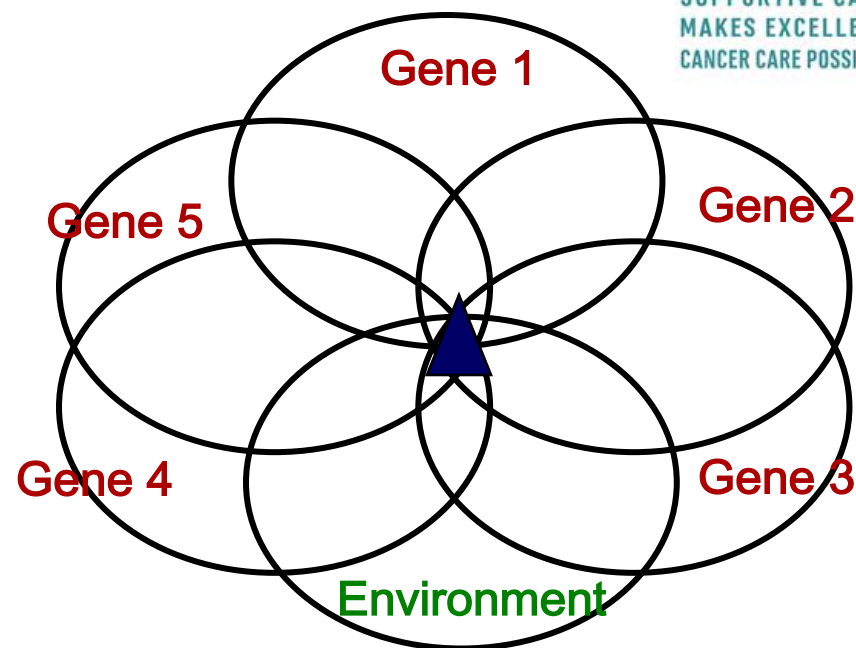
- Translation of data in to clinical practice
- Cost
- Availability of test facility
- **No valid tests** for transporters and receptors **for routine use**
- High expectations



# Complex Phenotypes – What Can We Expect?



**Few genes and environmental factors  
each contributing a large risk**



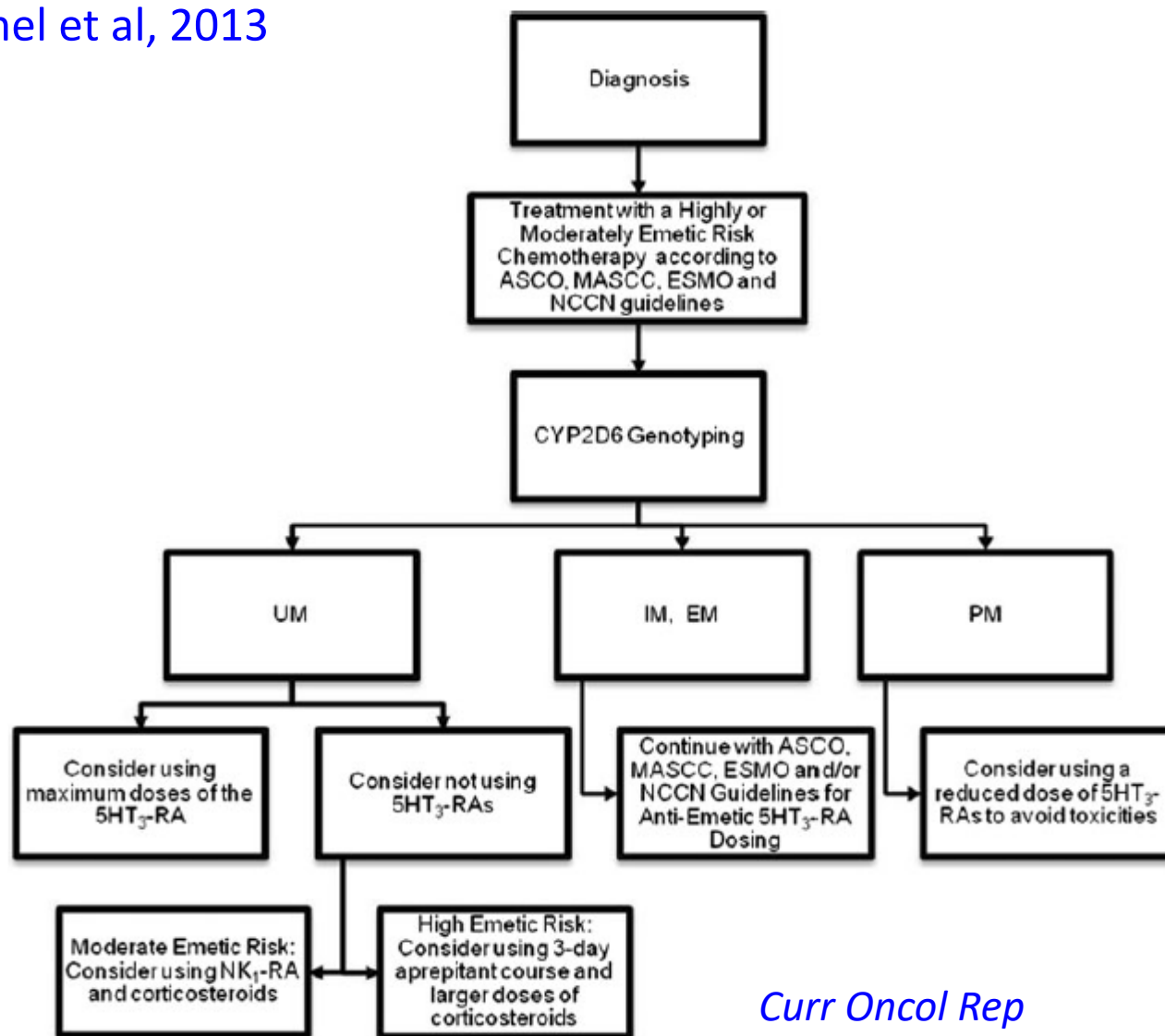
**Many genes and environmental  
factors each contributing a small risk**





# An individualized antiemetic treatment algorithm using the cytochrome P450 (CYP) 2D6 genotype

Trammel et al, 2013



*Curr Oncol Rep*

DOI 10.1007/s11912-013-0312-x



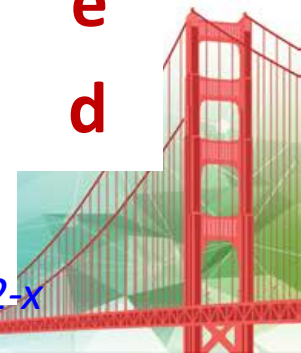
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# Future perspective

- Interindividual differences in susceptibility to CINV-partly explained
- Tech support- Next-generation DNA sequencing-  
**revolutionary**
- Necessary to shift the research paradigm in CINV from a **candidate gene approach** to **GWAS (Genome wide association studies)**
  - Number of genes in the human genome exceeds 20,000, and the number of SNPs might be hundreds to thousands times larger



# Conclusion

Advances in pharmacogenetics and pharmacogenomics related to CINV will contribute to future personalized cancer therapy strategies





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*Thank you*





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