

# II INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

*Rare disease and orphan drug registries*

Day 1  
16.09.2014

## Omics and links with biobanks and registries

Mattia Calissano, MD, PhD

MRC Centre for Neuromuscular Diseases at Newcastle  
Institute of Genetic Medicine  
University of Newcastle, UK

*Organised by Istituto Superiore di Sanità  
Rome (Italy), September 15-19, 2014*



# Some (very brief) history

# 500 years ago

Doctors used to be dressed like below and believed in the influence of stars (the origin of the term 'flu' for infu<sup>l</sup>enza) on human affairs.

Patients described their symptoms according to a chart



c.1656



c. 1500

The analysis of 'biomaterials' was performed by sight (and often by taste) and therapy was mainly bloodletting



# 500 years later....

## DNA (and not proteins) is the genetic material

“Studies on the chemical nature of the substance inducing transformation of pneumococcal types induction of transformation by a desoxyribonucleic acid fraction isolated from pneumococcus type III.” Oswald T. Avery, Colin M. MacLeod, and Maclyn McCarty, February 1, **1944**, JEM vol. 79 no. 2 137-158

## First sequence of DNA...24 bases

“Nucleotide Sequence Analysis of DNA” Ray Wu *Nature* **236**, 198-200 (19 April **1972**)

## ‘Sanger’ sequencing (600bp)

“DNA sequencing with chain-terminating inhibitors”

F. Sanger, S. Nicklen, and A. R. Coulson, Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. Dec **1977**; 74(12): 5463–5467.

## Human genome sequenced (9 months, 3 billion dollars)

‘The Sequence of the Human Genome’ JC Venter et al, Science 16 February **2001**:  
Vol. 291 no. 5507 pp. 1304-1351

# Who is depicted in the previous images:

Doctors



Diagnostics



Patients



Therapeutics



Our priorities have not changed much

# -Omics, Registries and biobanks

## -Omics, Registries and Biobanks

**-Omics:** The collective technologies used to explore the identity, function and interaction of the various molecules that contribute to the form, shape and function of cells and of organisms.

**-Registry:** A database that collects uniform data regarding the details of individuals and the characteristics of a particular disease which affects them. This serves for scientific, clinical, or policy purposes including information on the disease, current research, clinical trials, help for patients and their families etc.

**-Biobanks:** A collection of biomedical data and materials (blood, serum, plasma, urine etc.) collected from individuals and physically stored in secure premises under standardized conditions.



# Rare diseases

The definition of rare diseases differs in every country.

- USA: prevalence of 1:1500 (a total of circa 200.000 people)
- Japan: 1:2500
- EU: 1:2000

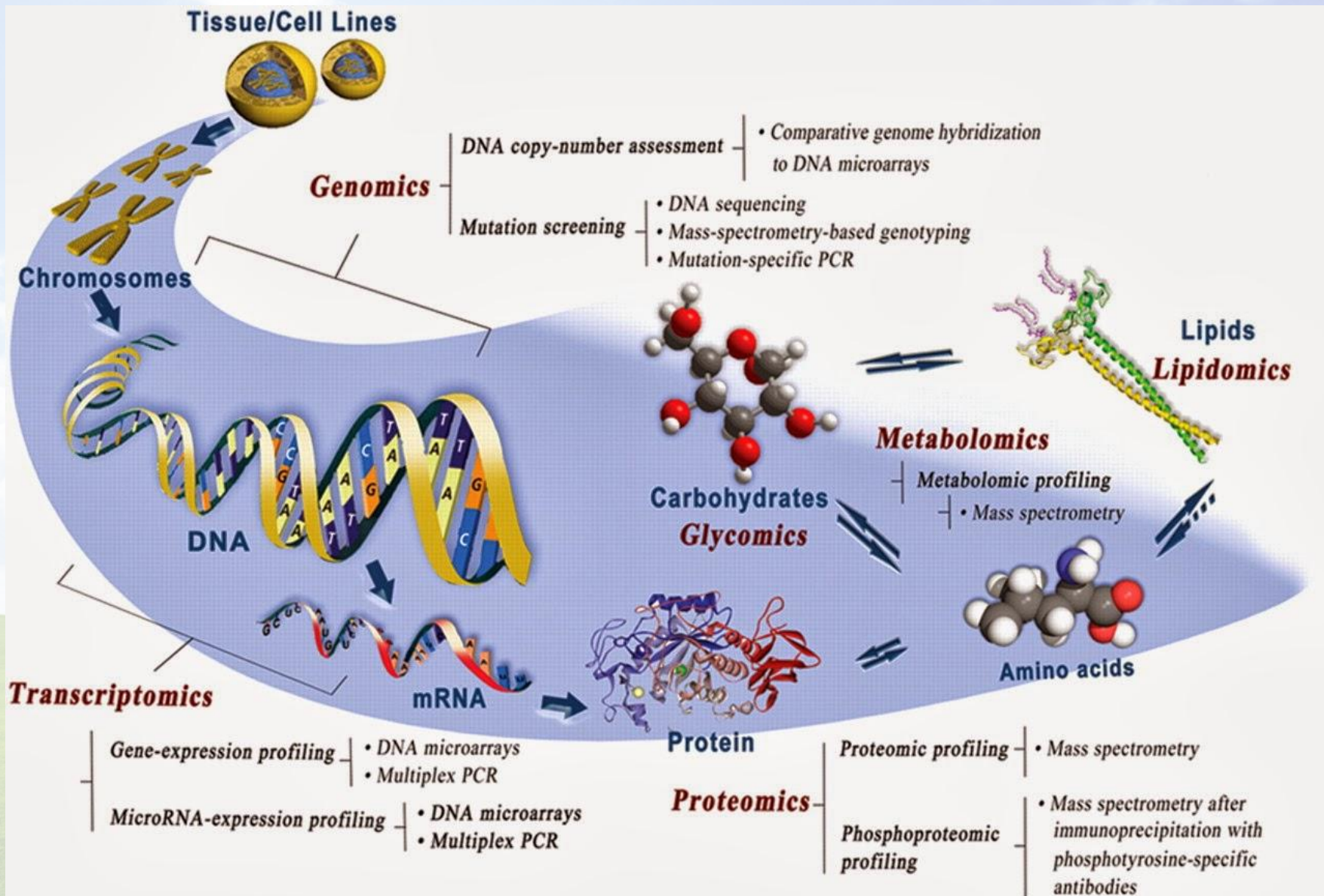
Eurordis (European Organization on rare diseases) estimates that circa 6-8% of the population is affected by a rare disease).

# 'Omics are divided according to the subcellular network they explore:

- Genomics**: the study of DNA encompassing structural genomics (the sequencing of genes) and functional genomics (the function of the encoded genes ). This field now also includes epigenetic (events altering gene expression without actual changes of the DNA sequence).
- Transcriptomics**: The qualitative and quantitative analysis of the RNA population expressed in a defined group of cells, tissues, organs or organisms.
- Proteomics**: The qualitative and quantitative analysis of the proteins expressed in a defined group of cells, tissue, organ or organism.
- Lipidomic**: The qualitative and quantitative analysis of lipids expressed in a defined group of cells, tissue, organ or organism.
- Glycomics**: The qualitative and quantitative analysis of complex sugars expressed in a defined group of cells, tissue, organ or organism.
- Peptidomics**: The qualitative and quantitative analysis of the peptides (derived from protein degradation) expressed in a defined group of cells, tissue or organs.

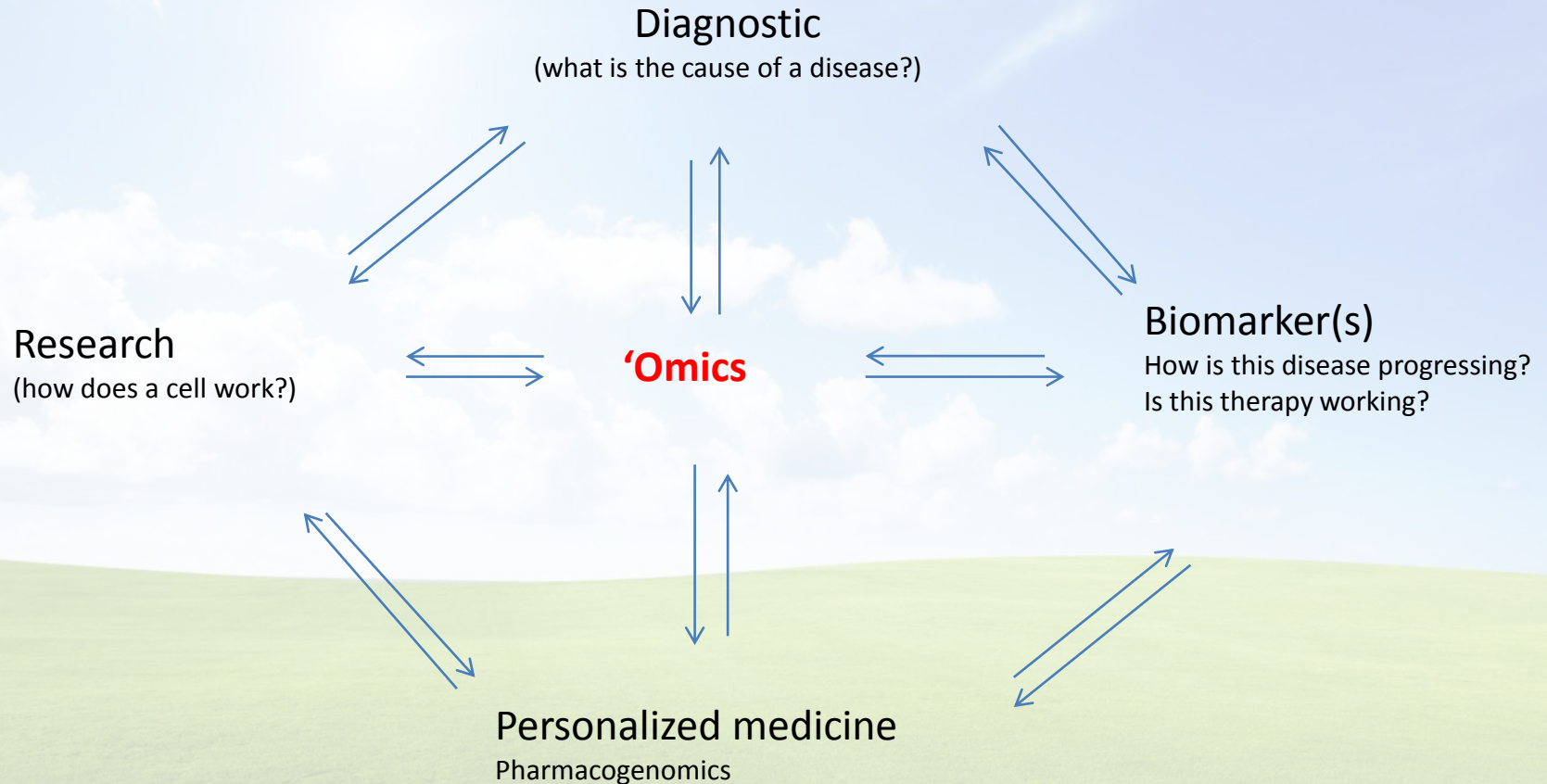
Etc. Etc...

# From Genomics to... –Omics



Wu RD et al. JDR 2011; 90:561-572

# From -Omics to...

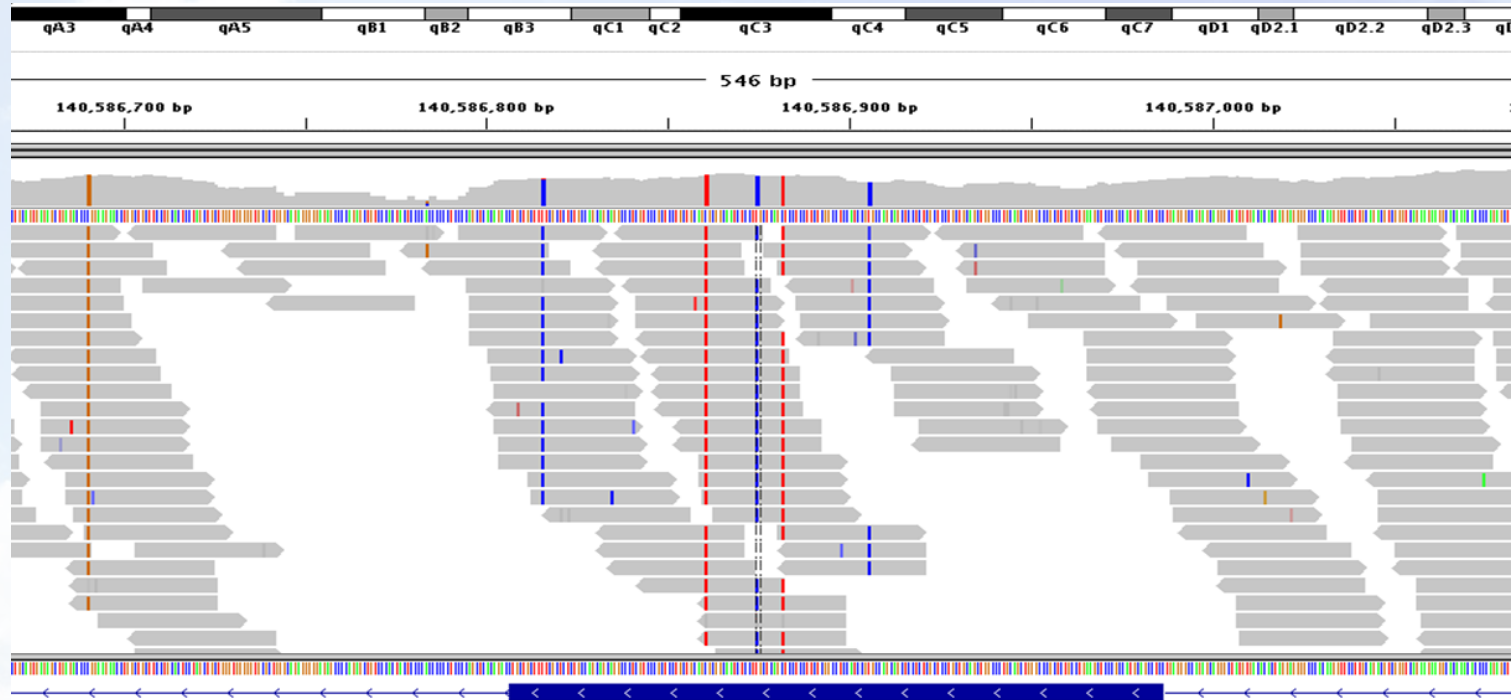


In particular 'Genomics' has opened many possibilities as science moved from....



End of 90's, 'Sanger sequencing': 2-3 days for 500-600 bp read.

To...



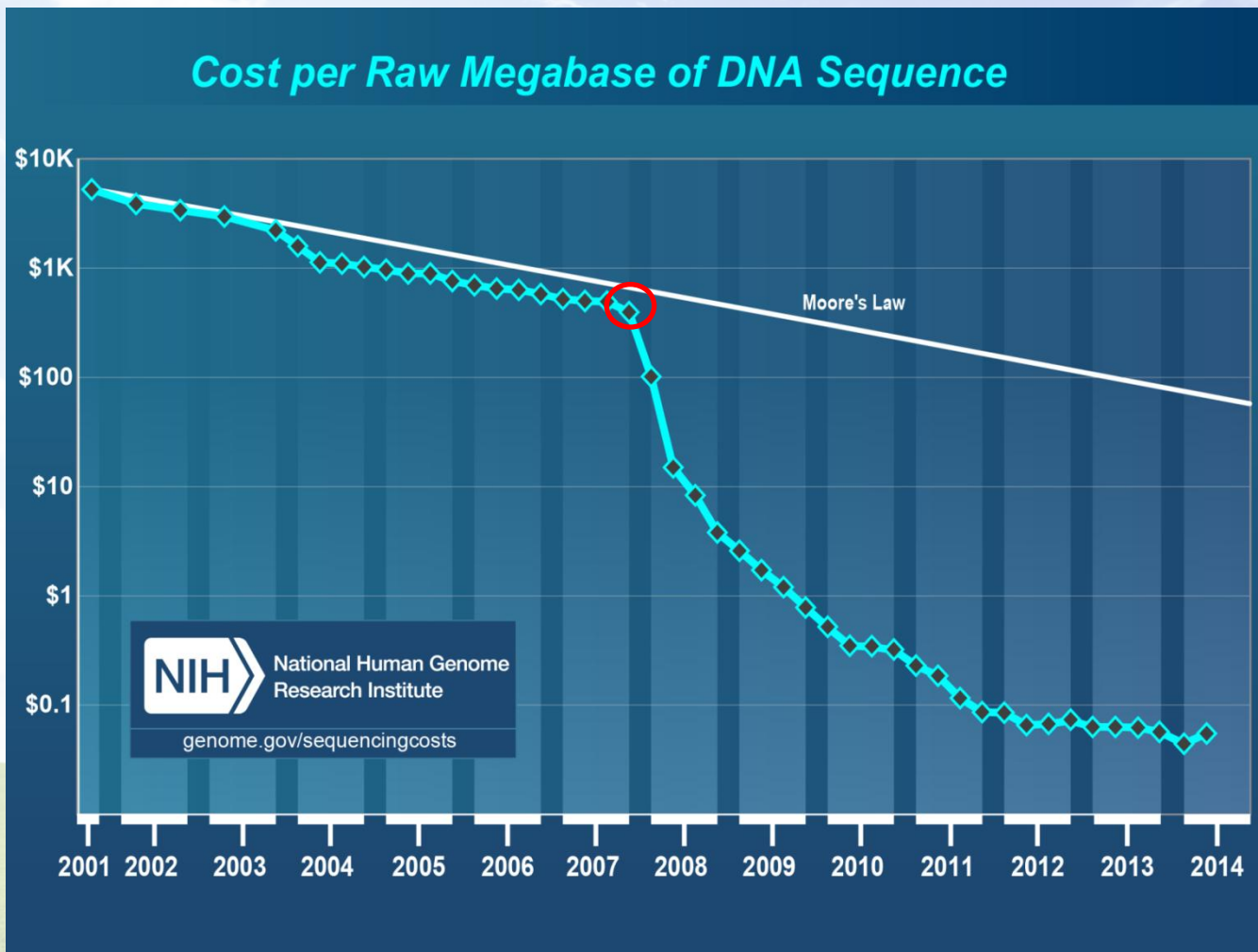
15 years later (circa 2010)... an entire human genome (**3 billion bases**) in **6 hours!**

## The dramatic fall in cost for DNA sequencing – working toward the \$1,000 genome

Year	1990	2002	2006	2008	2012	2014
Cost	\$3 billion	\$300 million	\$20 million	\$2 million	\$5,000	\$1,000

Source: Carr G

# Cost per sequenced megabase



Data from Wetterstrand KA. DNA Sequencing Costs: NHGRI Genome Sequencing Program (GSP)

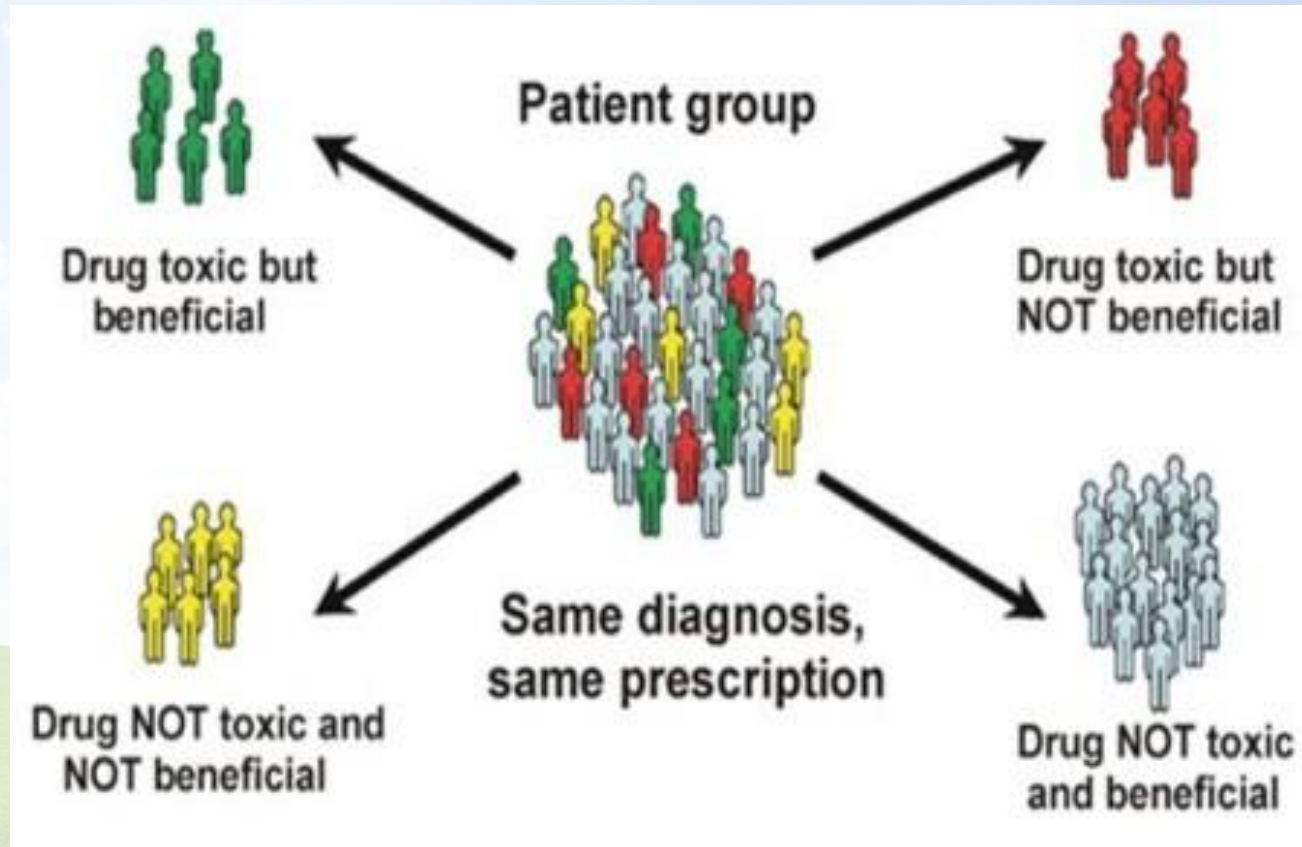
○ Transition from Sanger-based (dideoxy chain termination sequencing) to 'second generation' (or 'next-generation') DNA sequencing technologies.

# Next Gen. Sequencing costs

	NGS costs (2014)			
	Whole Genome	Exome	Custom capture	Amplicon
Size (Gigabyte)	\$100	\$2.5	\$0.13-1	\$0.03-0.13
Preparation	\$400	\$200	\$80	\$40
Sequencing	\$4300	\$400	\$12-100	\$1-12
Data processing/storage	\$350	\$200	\$50	\$25
Clinical analysis	\$5000-10000	\$2000-6000	\$700-2000	\$400-900
<b>Total</b>	\$10000-15000	\$2800-6800	\$1000-2000	\$500-1000



# Pharmacogenomics: personalized treatment with minimum adverse effects.



'What Is Pharmacogenomics', Natalie Khan, 2014

The variability in drug metabolism is due to polymorphisms naturally occurring in the population.

# Pharmacogenomics

Gene variants	Disease	Therapeutic agent	Individual response
<b>Her2/Neu receptor</b>	breast cancer	Trastuzumab	polymorphisms in HER2 and cardiac toxicity
<b>Bcr-Abl</b>	chronic myeloid leukaemia	Imatinib mesylate	Various genes affecting response and toxicity
<b>UGT1A1 TA7 variant</b>	colorectal cancer	Irinotecan, Cetuximab, Panitumab	increased toxicity
<b>SNPs in ABCG2 promoter</b>	lung cancer	Erlotinib	skin and gastrointestinal toxicity

# List of drugs currently approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) with associated pharmacogenomic information

Clinical specialty	Drugs used	Associated genes
Allergy Analgesics	Desloratadine and Pseudoephedrine	CYP2D6
	Celecoxib, Codeine	CYP2C9, CYP2D6
Antiarrhythmics	Tramadol and Acetaminophen	CYP2D6
	Quinidine	CYP2D6
Antifungals	Terbinafine, Voriconazole	CYP2D6, CYP2C19
Anti-infectives	Chloroquine, Rifampin, Isoniazid, and Pyrazinamide	G6PD, NAT1; NAT2
Antivirals	Abacavir, Boceprevir, Maraviroc, Nelfinavir, Peginterferon alfa-2b, Telaprevir	HLA-B*5701, IL28B, CCR5, CYP2C19, IL28B
Cardiovascular	Carvedilol, Clopidogrel, Isosorbide and Hydralazine, Metoprolol, Prasugrel, Pravastatin, Propafenone, Propranolol, Ticagrelor	CYP2D6, CYP2C19, NAT1; NAT2, CYP2D6 CYP2C19, Genotype E2/ E2 and Fredrickson Type III dysbetalipoproteinemia, CYP2D6 CYP2D6, CYP2C19
Dermatology and Dental	Cevimeline, Dapsone, Fluorouracil, Tretinoin	CYP2D6, G6PD, DPD PML/RAR $\alpha$
Gastroenterology	Dexlansoprazole (1) <sup>†</sup> , Dexlansoprazole (2), Esomeprazole, Pantoprazole, Rabeprazole, Sodium Phenylacetate and Sodium Benzoate, Sodium Phenylbutyrate	CYP2C19, CYP1A2, CYP2C19, CYP2C19, CYP2C19, UCD (NAGS; CPS; ASS; OTC; ASL; ARG), UCD (NAGS; CPS; ASS; OTC; ASL; ARG)
Hematology Metabolic and Endocrinology Musculoskeletal Neurology	Lenalidomide, Warfarin (1), Warfarin (2) Atorvastatin Carisoprodol, Mivacurium	5q Chromosome, CYP2C9, VKORC1 LDL receptor CYP2C9, Cholinesterase gene
Oncology	Carbamazepine, Dextromethorphan and Quinidine, Galantamine, Tetrabenazine Arsenic Trioxide, Brentuximab Vedotin, Busulfan, Capecitabine, Cetuximab (1), Cetuximab (2), Crizotinib, Dasatinib, Erlotinib, Fulvestrant, Gefitinib (1), Gefitinib (2), Imatinib (1), Imatinib (2), Imatinib (3), Imatinib (4) Irinotecan, Lapatinib, Mercaptopurine, Nilotinib (1), Nilotinib (2), Panitumumab (1), Panitumumab (2), Rasburicase, Tamoxifen, Thioguanine, Tositumomab, Trastuzumab, Vemurafenib Timolol	HLA-B*1502, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6 PML/RAR $\alpha$ , CD30, Ph Chromosome, DPD EGFR, KRAS, ALK, Ph Chromosome, EGFR ER receptor, CYP2D6, EGFR, C-Kit, Ph Chromosome, PDGFR, FIP1L1- PDGFR $\alpha$ , UGT1A1, Her2/neu, TPMT, Ph Chromosome, UGT1A1, EGFR, KRAS, G6PD, ER receptor, TPMT, CD20 antigen, Her2/neu, BRAF
Ophthalmology Psychiatry	Aripiprazole, Atomoxetine, Chlordiazepoxide and Amitriptyline, Citalopram (1), Citalopram (2) Clomipramine, Clozapine, Desipramine, Diazepam, Doxepin, Fluoxetine, Fluoxetine and Olanzapine, Fluvoxamine (1), Fluvoxamine (2), Fluvoxamine (3), Iloperidone, Imipramine, Modafinil (1), Modafinil (2), Nefazodone, Nortriptyline, Paroxetine, Perphenazine, Pimozide, Protriptyline, Risperidone, Thioridazine, Trimipramine, Valproic Acid, Venlafaxine	CYP2D6 CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, CYP2D6, UCD (NAGS; CPS; ASS; OTC; ASL; ARG), CYP2D6
Pulmonary	Tiotropium	CYP2D6
Reproductive	Drospirenone and Ethinyl Estradiol Clomiphene, Tolerodine	CYP2C19, Rh genotype, CYP2D6
Rheumatology	Azathioprine, Flurbiprofen	TPMT, CYP2C9

<sup>†</sup>Data source - <http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ScienceResearch/ResearchAreas/Pharmacogenetics/ucm083378.htm>, <sup>‡</sup>Numbers in the brackets indicate that the drug is affected by multiple genetic polymorphisms

# Implications of reduced NGS costs

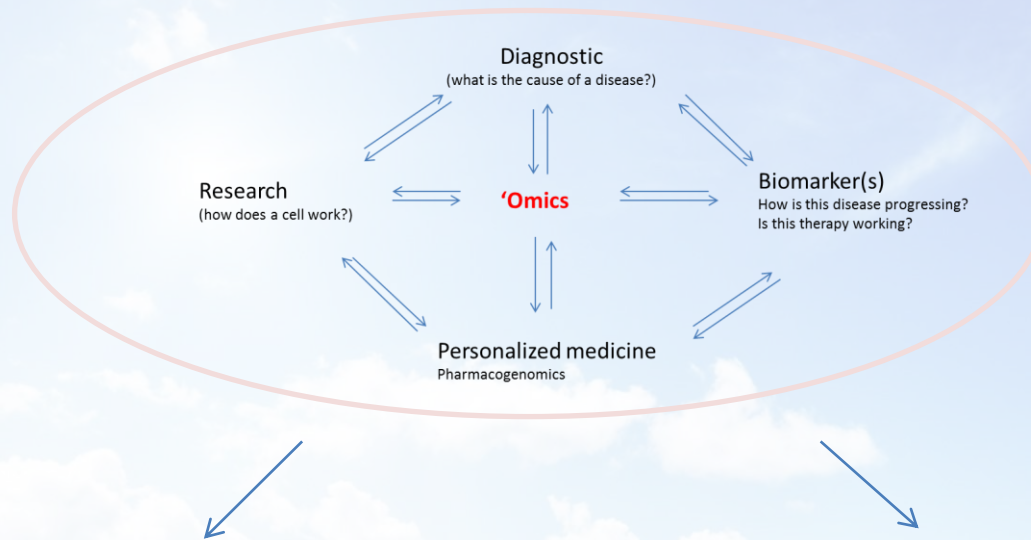
- Increased** accuracy of diagnosis of genetic diseases.
- Faster** diagnosis.
- Increased** statistical analysis of genetic diseases for health policies.
- Possibility** of pharmacogenomics (reduced adverse events, secondary effects and overall expenses).

## But

Before the actual DNA sequence and other 'omics studies can occur, the following are needed:

- Details of the patient and the disease, natural history, family history etc.
- Specific consent from the patient for sampling, storage and analysis of biomaterials

# From omics to registries and biobanks and...back



Information about the disease and the patient.

- Who is it?
- What age, sex, type of disease?
- What is the gene(s) involved? Type of mutation?
- Consent for clinical/natural history studies?
- Etc.

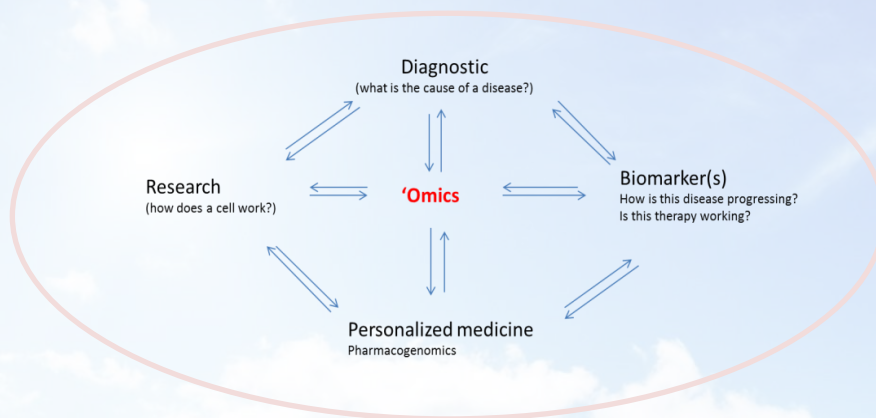
**Registries**

Storage and availability of biomaterials

- What type of biomaterial: blood, serum, cells, etc.
- How many samples originating from patients with similar characteristics are stored?
- What type of controls are stored?
- Etc.

**Biobanks**

# Issues with the current systems



**Information about the sample**  
(What is it, when was it taken,  
Where does it come from?)

**Storage and availability to study the sample**  
(where is it? How many similar samples are stored?  
Are then any controls stored?)

**Registries**

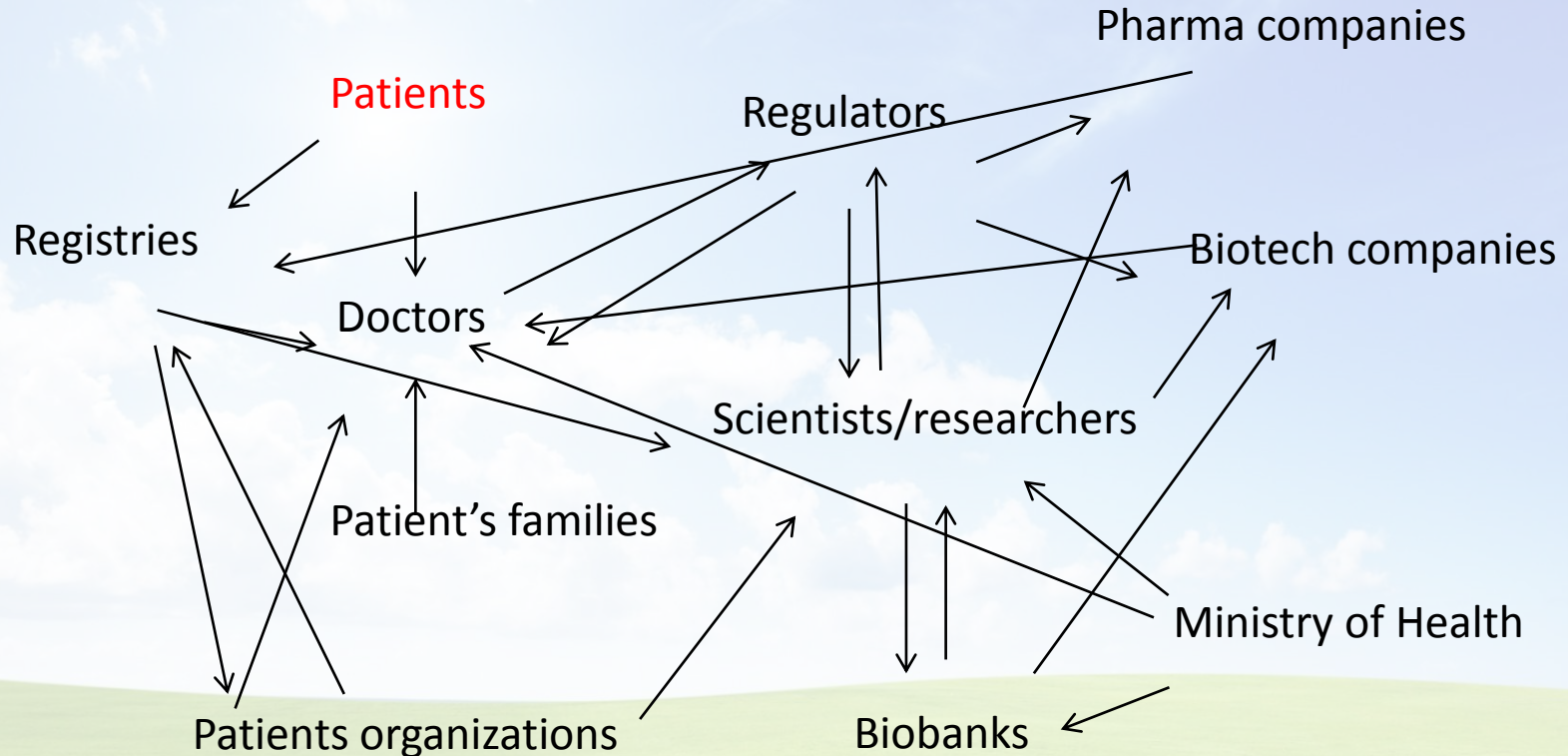
**Biobanks**



**Lack of-/incomplete integration between biobanks and registries**

# Who will benefit by an increased integration between biobanks and registries?

# Who are the stakeholders when it comes to health?



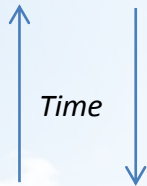
The high number of stakeholders and the deep fragmentation of information regarding patients, their disease, the type(s) of samples stored, their availability etc., has several negative implications for patients and **all** research/diagnostic/clinical trial studies.



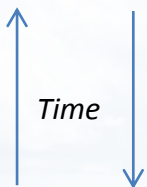
# National/international registries, biobanks and their functions

## Registries

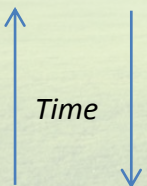
Database of patients with same disease, info on disease, support groups, sharing scientific advances etc.



Identification of patients with similar characteristics for research purposes.



Pharma company investigation for feasibility studies.



Anonymization of data for external use

## Biobanks

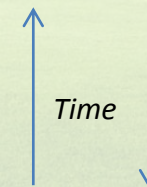
Database of stored biomaterial, some info regarding the material (e.g. serum, plasma, urine etc.) and the disease (e.g. gene, mutation).



Enquiry by researchers, biotech and pharma companies for 'omics/biomarker studies.



Anonymization of data for external use



Functional study of new genes.

\*\*\*Consent\*\*\*

\*\*\*Consent\*\*\*

\*\*\*Consent\*\*\*

\*\*\*Consent\*\*\*



# Partial list of European Biobanks

## European Biobanks

AT	Graz	Biobank Graz	IT	Genoa	Telethon Genetic Biobank Network
AT	Vienna	MUW Biobank	IT	Milan	BioRep
AT	Vienna	Ludwig Boltzman Tumour Bank	IT	Padua	Movement Disorders Biobank
BE	Brussels	Saint-Luc Tumour Bank	LV	Riga	EuroBioBank
BE	Luxembourg	Integrated Biobank of Luxembourg	NL	Groningen	Latvia Biobank
CH	Bern	Biobank Suisse	NL	Groningen	ErasmusMC
CH	Pfaffikon	Cryo-Save	NL	Rotterdam	Lifelines Biobank
CH	Bern	Tumor Bank Bern	NO	Trondheim	European Human Frozen Tissue Bank
CH	Geneva	East West Biopharma	NO	Levanger	Regional Biobank of Central Norway
CH	Monthey	Swiss Biobank	NO	Lund	Hunt Biobank
CY	Limassol	StemCure	SE	Malmö	Swedish Regional Biobank
DE	Berlin	Central Biomaterial Bank	SE	Stockholm	European Cancer Biobank
DE	Berlin	SepNet Central Sample Bank	SE	Stockholm	Karolinska Biobank
DE	Munich	BrainNet Europe	SE	Stockholm	LifeGene
DE	Munich	KORA-gen	SE	Stockholm	Swedish National Biobank Program
DE	Regensburg	Danubian Biobank Consortium	SE	Umeå	Biobank of Northern Sweden
EE	Tartu	Estonia Biobank	UK	Birmingham	Central England Haemato-Oncology Research Biobank
ES	Barcelona	Biobank of Hospital Clínic - IDIBAPS	UK	Cambridge	CamUro-Oncology Biobank
ES	Granada	Andalusian Regional Tumour Bank	UK	Cambridge	Geneservice
ES	Madrid	HIV Biobank	UK	Cardiff	Wales Cancer Bank
ES	Madrid	Spanish National Tumour Bank Network	UK	Dundee	Tayside Tissue Bank
FI	Helsinki	National Biobank of Finland	UK	Edinburgh	Edinburg Brain & Tissue Banks
FI	Turku	Biobanking and Biomolecular Resources Research	UK	Glasgow	Biopta
FR	Amiens	Biobanque de Picardie	UK	Hertfordshire	onCore UK
FR	Evry	Genethon DNA and Cell Bank	UK	Hertfordshire	UK Stem Cell Bank
FR	Lyon	Biobank Resource Centre de France	UK	Leicester	Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Tissue Bank
FR	Lyon	European Sarcoma & Tumour Bank	UK	Liverpool	Cancer Tissue Bank Research Centre
FR	Marseille	Tumour Bank of Provence	UK	London	Chernobyl Tissue Bank
FR	Toulouse	Southwest France Tumour Bank	UK	London	Confederation of Cancer Banks
GR	Marousi	Stem-Health Hellas Stem Cell Bank	UK	London	King's College Infectious Diseases BioBank
HU	Budapest	Hungarian Neurological-Psychiatric Biobank	UK	London	Neuroendocrine Tumors Biobank
IE	Dublin	Biobank Ireland Trust	UK	London	UK Parkinson's Disease Tissue Bank
IE	Dublin	Dublin Brain Bank	UK	London	UK Multiple Sclerosis Tissue Bank
IE	Belfast	Northern Ireland Virtual Tissue Archive	UK	London	Virgin Health Bank
IE	Wexford	BioStor Ireland	UK	Manchester	UK DNA Banking Network
IE	Trinity	Trinity Biobank	UK	Midlothian	Roslin Wellcome Trust Tick Cell Biobank
IT	Florence	da Vinci European Biobank	UK	Newcastle Upon Tyne	HDBR - Human Developmental Biology Resource
IT	Genoa	Biological Resource Centre - National Institute for Cancer Research	UK	Oxford	Autism Brain Bank
			UK	Plymouth	BioVault
			UK	Salisbury	European Collection of Cell Cultures
			UK	Southampton	Southampton Tumour Bank
			UK	Stockport	UK Biobank

# Example of patient registries for neuromuscular diseases.

Disease Name	Type of Registry
Congenital muscular dystrophies (CMD)	International
Congenital myasthenic syndromes (CMS)	International (under construction)
Charcot Marie Tooth disease (CMT)	International
Duchenne/Becker muscular dystrophy (DMD/BMD)	National
Facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy (FSHD)	National
Hereditary inclusion body myopathy (HIBM/GNE myopathy)	International
Limb girdle muscular dystrophies (LGMD)	International (several)
Myotonic dystrophy (DM)	National
Myotubular and centronuclear myopathy (MTM and CNM)	International
Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA)	National

# Ideal registries and biobanks

- Easily accessible databases for the identification of patients with similar characteristics for clinical trials and other studies.
- Internationally standardized protocols for the sampling and storage of biomaterials.
- Simplification and harmonisation of the consent forms required to perform the above studies.
- Shared ethical principles for good research practices.
- Incentives to share data amongst various centres to promote fast, cost-effective and efficient research.

# RD-Connect: a possible solution to the current fragmentation and reduced integration



**RD-Connect** is a global EU-funded project that links up databases, registries, biobanks and clinical bioinformatics data used in rare disease research into a **central resource for researchers worldwide.**

## Major objectives:

Contribution to the IRDiRC objectives of delivering 200 new therapies for rare diseases and means to diagnose most rare diseases by the year 2020

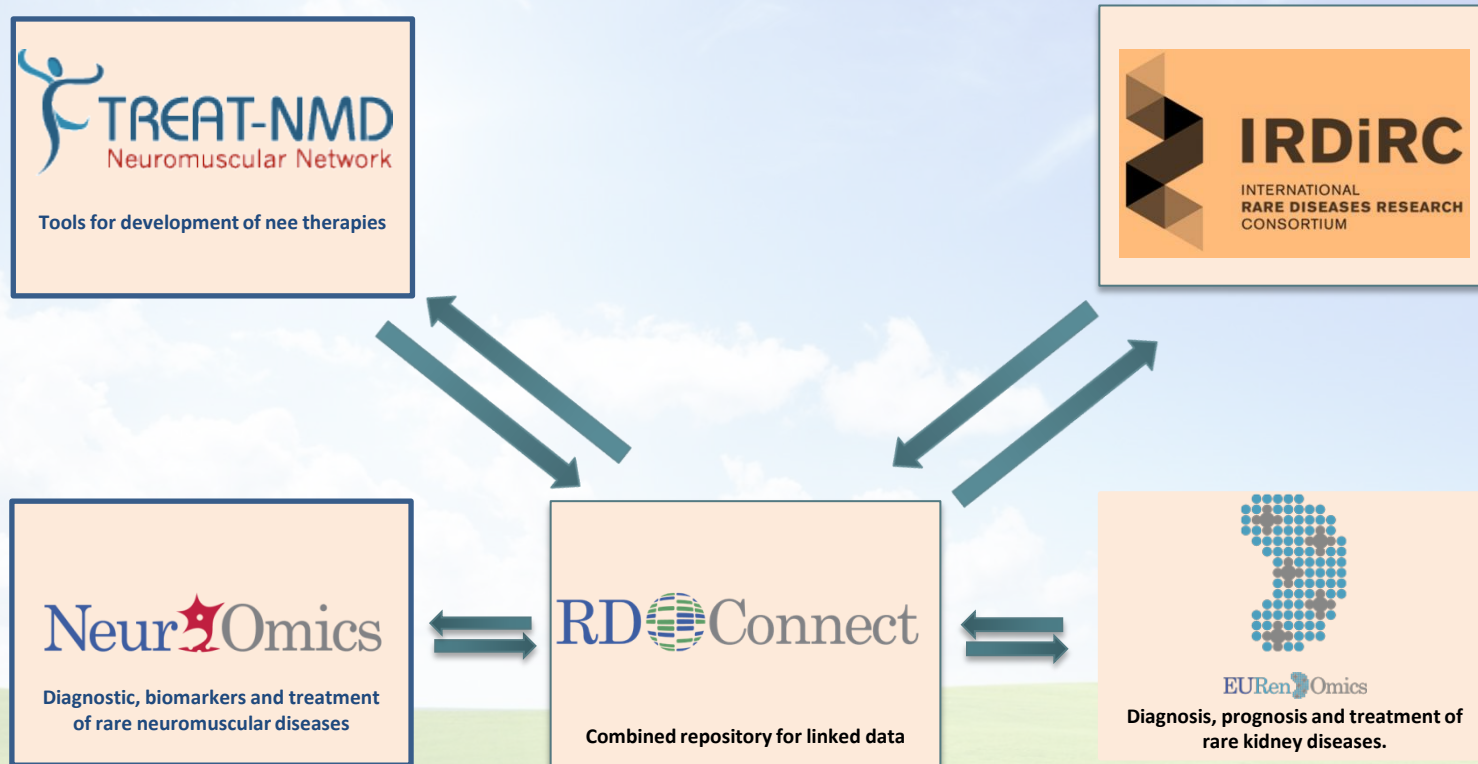
Development of an integrated, quality-assured and comprehensive platform in which complete clinical profiles are combined with -omics data and sample availability for rare disease research, in particular IRDiRC-funded research.

(From the RD-connect website)

# RD-Connect additional objectives

- **Patient registries:** developing best practice for registries used for research – establishing interoperability standards, common data elements => feeding into central platform.
- **Biobanks:** developing interoperability standards, common MTAs, searchable online catalogue of sample availability (building on EuroBioBank and BBMRI) => feeding into central platform.
- **Bioinformatics tools:** developing and integrating clinical bioinformatics tools and making them accessible through the central platform and via APIs and web services.
- **Ethical, legal and social issues:** addressing data sharing and informed consent for omics research, proposing a regulatory framework for linking RD medical and personal data, integrating patient perspective.

RD-Connect links and connects two research projects (Neuromics and EUrenOmics) and participates in the IRDiRC (International Rare Diseases Research consortium) and TREAT-NMD.

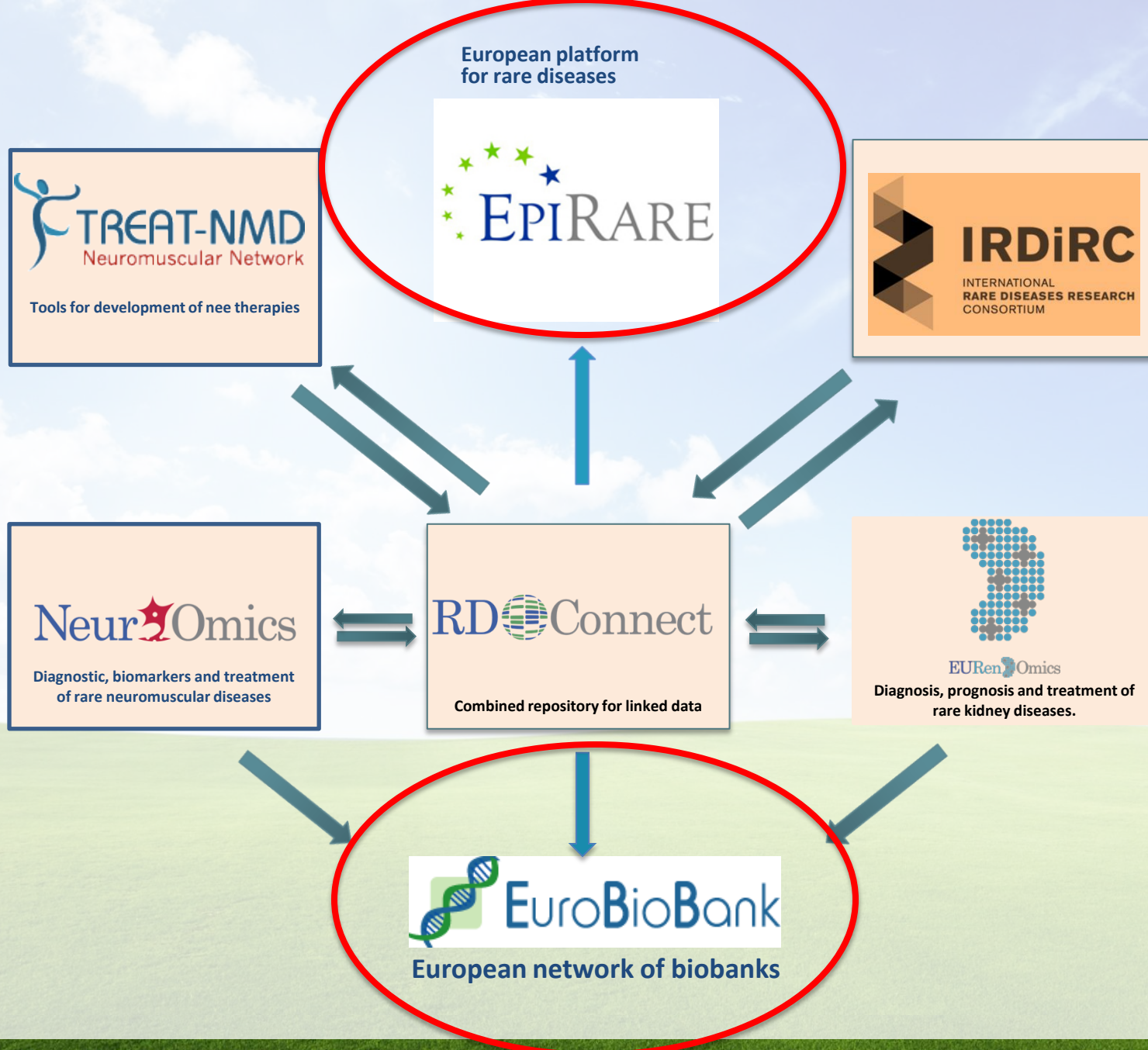


**NeuOmics**: revolutionise diagnostics and develop new therapies for ten major neurodegenerative and neuromuscular diseases through collaborative –omics research.

**EUrenOmics**: develop novel tools to make more accurate diagnoses, predict the disease course and the efficacy of new therapies for rare kidney diseases.

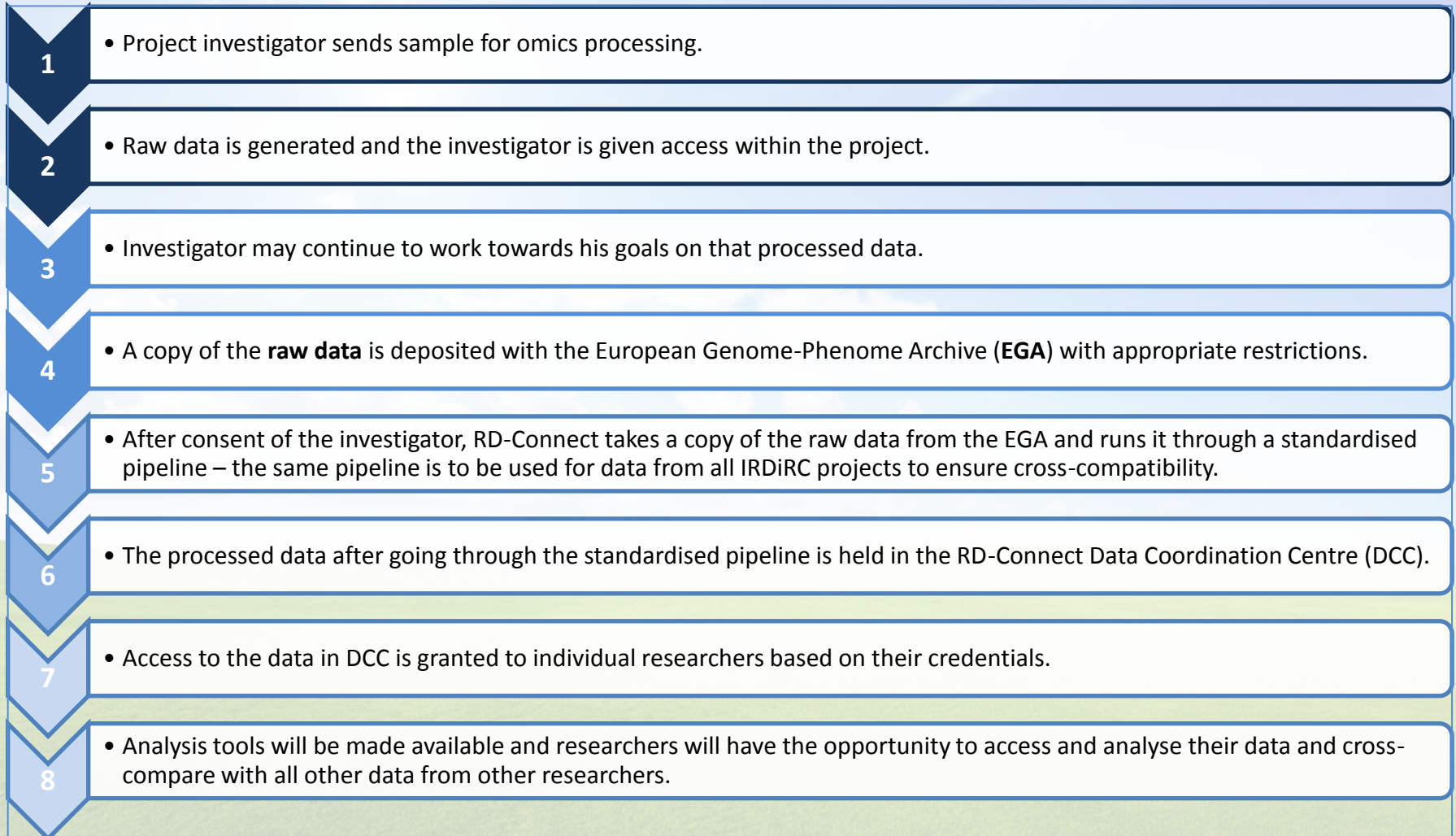
**IRDiRC**: deliver 200 new therapies and means to diagnose most rare diseases by 2020.

**TREAT-NMD**: development of tools that industry, clinicians and scientists need to bring novel therapeutic approaches through preclinical development and into the clinic, and on establishing best-practice care for neuromuscular patients worldwide.

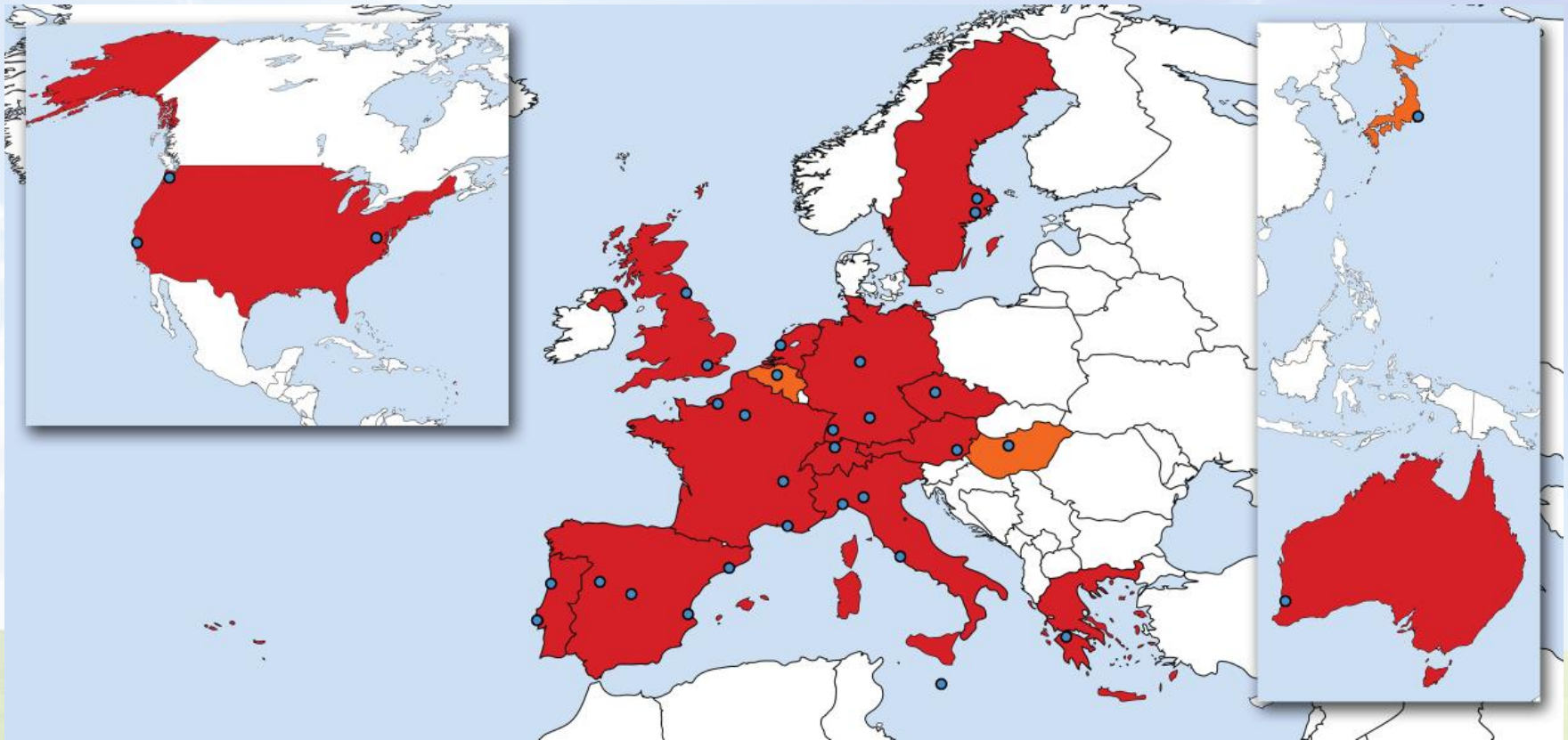




# “8-point plan” for sharing within RD-Connect



## RD-Connect partners



27 full partners, 17 associated partners, 17 countries

# Workpackage leaders

## WP1: Coordination



**Hanns Lochmüller**  
Newcastle and TREAT-NMD

## WP2: Patient registries



**Domenica Taruscio**  
ISS and EPIRARE

## WP3: Biobanks



**Lucia Monaco**  
Fondaz. Telethon & EuroBioBank

## WP4: Bioinformatics



**Christophe Bérout**  
INSERM Marseille

## WP5: Unified platform    WP6 Ethical/legal/social    WP7: Impact and innovation



**Ivo Gut**  
CNAG Barcelona



**Mats Hansson**  
Uppsala



**Kate Bushby**  
Newcastle and EUCERD/ EJARD

# From RD-Connect to other practices

The example of RD-Connect can be expanded from rare-diseases to other fields

**facilitating**

the exchange of information, material and knowledge between various stakeholders

**benefiting**

patients, health organizations, regulators and the industry.

## Further reading:

### Websites:

<http://rd-connect.eu/>,

<http://www.eurobiobank.org/>,

<http://rd-neuromics.eu/>

<http://www.treat-nmd.eu/>

<http://www.irdirc.org/>

<http://www.eucerd.eu/>

<http://www.epirare.eu>

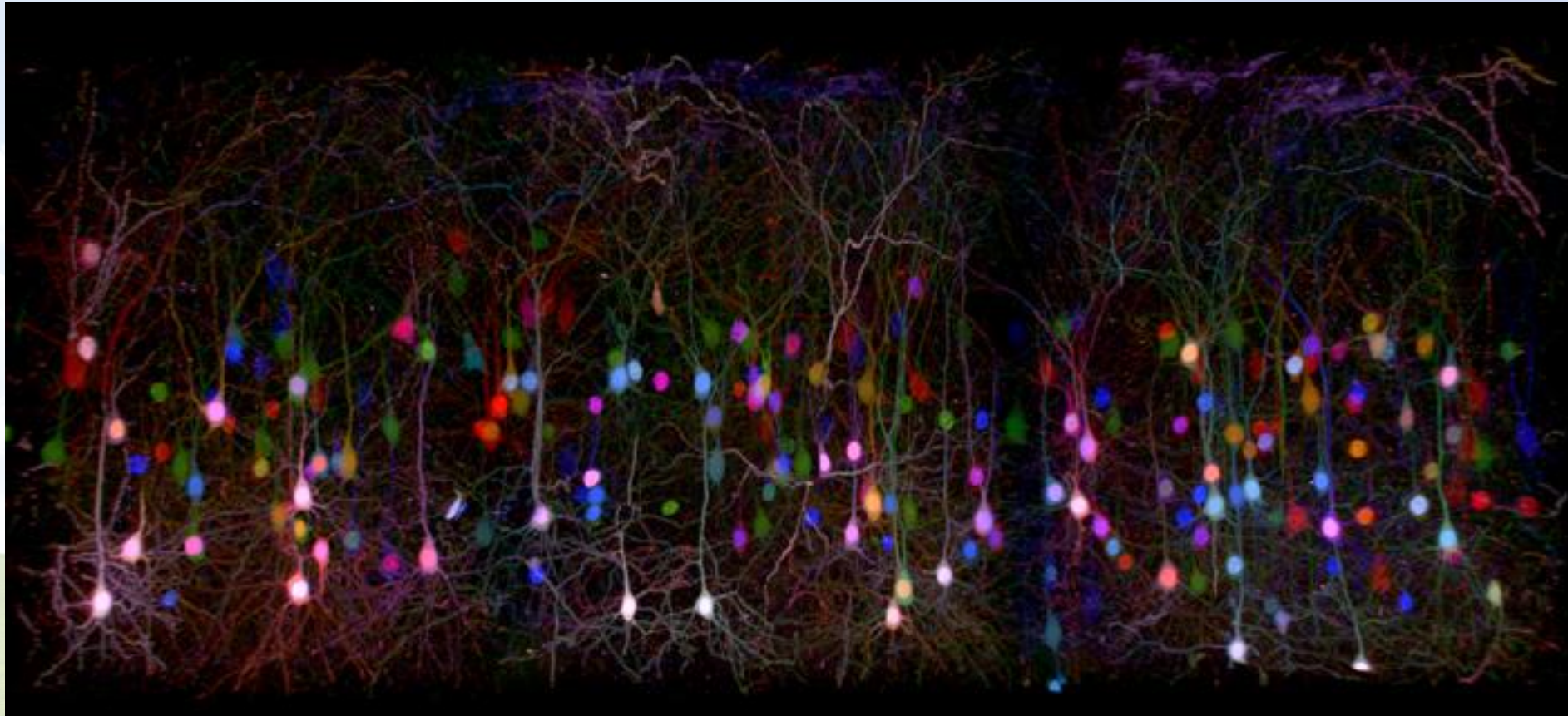
<http://www.rarebestpractices.eu>

<http://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/index.php>

### Articles:

-Thompson R. et al. "RD-Connect: An Integrated Platform Connecting Databases, Registries, Biobanks and Clinical Bioinformatics for Rare Disease Research". Journal of General Internal Medicine August 2014, Volume 29, Issue 3 Supplement, pp 780-787

# 'Brainbow': labelling of individual neurons in the mouse brain.



"Transgenic strategies for combinatorial expression of fluorescent proteins in the nervous system". J. Livet et al., Nature, 2007

RD  Connect



Neur  Omics



# Thank you!

A special thanks to:

Hanns Lochmuller,  
Volker Straub  
Karen Rafferty  
Libby Woods,  
Oksana Pogoryelova  
Rachel Thompson  
Emma Heslop,  
Victoria Hedley