



News, Announcements & Other SNPets

Jump into spring with the Genomes2People research team! Read on for news about a groundbreaking paper on econogenomics, a new FDA approval for direct-to-consumer genetic testing, and much more.

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Calculating the Cost/Benefit Ratios of Genomic Sequencing

Econogenomics: it's an aspect of the field that is crucially important. What will integrating genomic sequencing into healthcare do to healthcare costs? G2P's [Econogenomics Working Group](#), led by Dr. Kurt Christensen, is pioneering research on econogenomics. The first pilot study to look at the cost of using whole genome sequencing in medical care, published in *Genetics in Medicine*, suggests that genomic medicine may not be as costly as some expect it to be. Read the full paper [here](#).



The MedSeq Project was set up specifically to track the outcomes of genomic sequencing in presumably healthy individuals. Read more about MedSeq in our two-part [blog series](#) on Medium.

FDA Approves 23andMe to Offer BRCA Testing

Consumers who purchase the 23andMe Health and Ancestry Service will now be told their results for three BRCA mutations most commonly found in the Ashkenazi Jewish population. This is the first instance of a direct-to-consumer genetic testing company being approved by the FDA to report BRCA mutations. Revealing this kind of genetic information to the public without consulting a doctor or genetic counselor is concerning to some experts, but others perceive it as an exciting breakthrough in providing widely accessible health information. Read more



about the potential pros and cons and see Dr. Green's comments on the matter [here](#).

The Genomes2People Research Program has conducted one of the only prospective studies of DTC genetic testing customers. See recent publications about DTC testing [here](#).

Meet Megan Maxwell, Genetic Counselor and MilSeq Project Manager

Megan Maxwell is a Genetic Counselor and Project Manager for G2P's [MilSeq Project](#), a collaboration with the U.S. Department of Defense to study whole exome sequencing in the U.S. Air Force. Megan discussed the project and her career as a genetic counselor on the podcast "[DNA Today](#)". Listen to Megan explain her work at G2P and the wide variety of job experiences she has had as a genetic counselor in settings ranging from traditional hospital clinics to sales, education and more. Read more about the MilSeq project [here](#).



The BabySeq Project and Making a Case for Newborn Sequencing

G2P's BabySeq Project, led by Dr. Green and Dr. Alan Beggs of Boston Children's Hospital, is the first randomized clinical trial to study the effect of using genomic sequencing as a predictive healthcare tool for newborns. Dr. Green visited "[The Doctors](#)" talk show to describe the groundbreaking project.

In January, Dr. Green traveled to London to take part in The Great Genome Sequencing Debate, joining Professor Anneke Lucassen, Professor of Clinical Genetics at the University of Southampton to argue in favor of genomic sequencing at birth, against Dr. Kat Arney and Dr. Tara Clancy. Watch the debate [here](#).



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If you like the work we are doing in accelerating the implementation of genomic medicine, please consider donating to help fund our projects!

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