

Fourth International Workshop on Genetics, Medicine and History

Principal Theme

Early History of Human Molecular Genetics

Gothenburg, Sweden, June 11-12, 2010



Organised by the Genetics and Medicine Historical Network
(Organising Committee: Dr C. Yapijakis, Prof. P. Harper, Prof. T. Pieters, Prof. A. Read)
in conjunction with the annual conference of European Society of Human Genetics.

Funded by the European Society of Human Genetics and the Wellcome Trust, UK.

Early History of Human Molecular Genetics

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Outline programme

Friday, June 11th

9.30-10.30am Coffee and registration

10.30-12.30pm

Session 1: From basic molecular biology to human molecular genetics

Christos Yapijakis (Athens, Greece): Welcome address and Introduction presentation: Ancestral concepts of human genetics and molecular medicine in Epicurean philosophy.

Soraya de Chadarevian, (Los Angeles, USA):
Hemoglobin and human molecular genetics.

Jan Witkowski (Cold Spring Harbor, USA):
Cold Spring Harbor and the beginnings of human molecular genetics.

12.30-1.30pm Lunch

1.30-3.30pm

Session 2: From DNA analysis to human genetic disease

Tom Maniatis (New York City, USA):
Recombinant DNA technology and human molecular genetics.

Andrew Read (Manchester, UK):
Technology and the development of clinical molecular genetics.

Patrick Lestienne (Bordeaux, France):
The mitochondrial genome: historical aspects.

3.30-4.00pm Coffee

4.00-5.30pm

Session 3: From pedigrees to the human genome

Judith Friedman (Victoria, Canada):
A brief history of the theory of anticipation in hereditary disease.

Ludmila Pollock (Cold Spring Harbor, USA):
Documenting the history of the Human Genome Project. An international data repository.

5.30-6.15pm

Discussion: How can we best preserve the history of human molecular genetics?

7.30pm Workshop Dinner

Saturday June 12th

9.00-10.30am

Session 4: Genetic testing and prenatal diagnosis

Dimitris Loukopoulos (Athens, Greece):

Thalassaemia: genetic testing and prenatal diagnosis

Constantinos Deltas (Nicosia, Cyprus):

Founder mutations, heterozygous advantage and thalassaemia in Cyprus.

Heike Peterman (Muenster, Germany):

The 'special' situation of genetic testing and prenatal diagnosis in Germany. The influence of history.

10.30-11.00am Coffee

11.00-1.00pm

Session 5: Gene mapping and isolation

Sue Povey (London, UK):

The Human Gene Mapping Workshops 1973-1991.

Mary-Claire King (Seattle, USA):

Detection of the genes for breast cancer.

Peter Harper (Cardiff, UK):

Historical lessons from Huntington's disease.

1.00-1.45pm Lunch

1.45-3.30pm

Session 6: From human genetics to genetic medicine

Bengt-Olle Bengtsson (Lund, Sweden):

Film from the 1956 First International Human Genetics Congress, Copenhagen.

Walter Bodmer (Oxford, UK):

The beginnings of clinical cancer genetics.

Planning of future workshops, and conclusion of Workshop.