



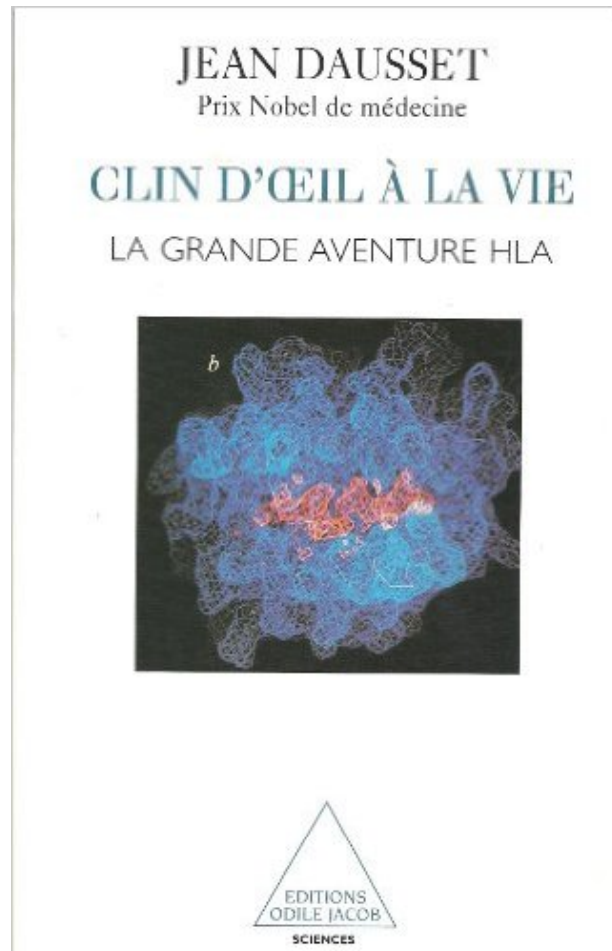
# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics Laboratory

**Abdelghani Tbakhi, MD**

**Chairman, Department of Cell Therapy & Applied Genomics  
Medical Director, Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory  
Medical Director, Blood & Marrow laboratory**



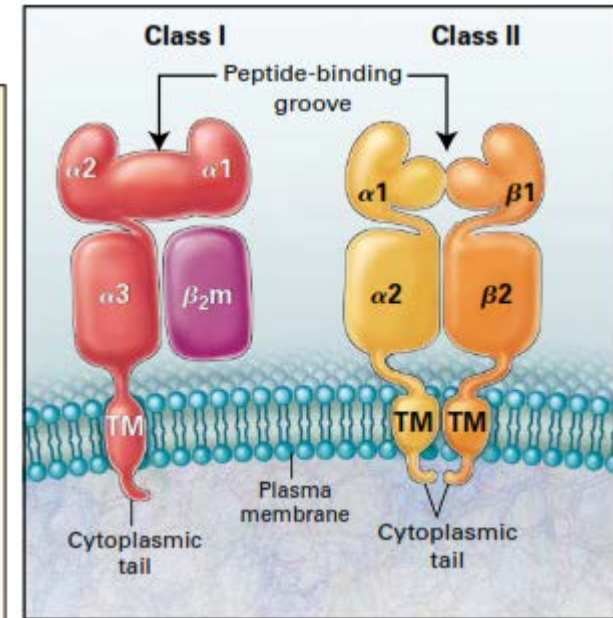
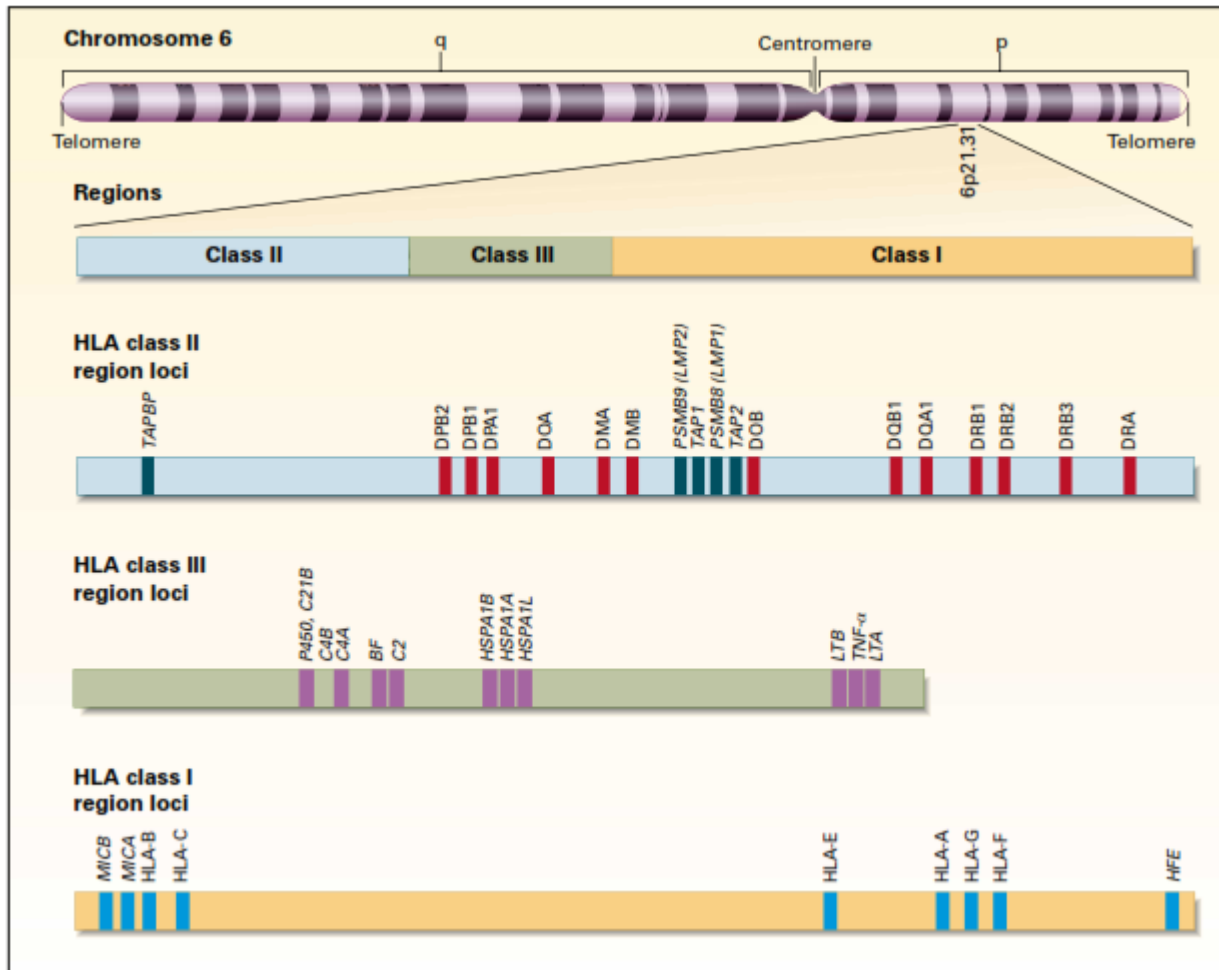
# HLA Discovery, 1958



The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 1980  
Baruj Benacerraf, **Jean Dausset**, George D. Snell

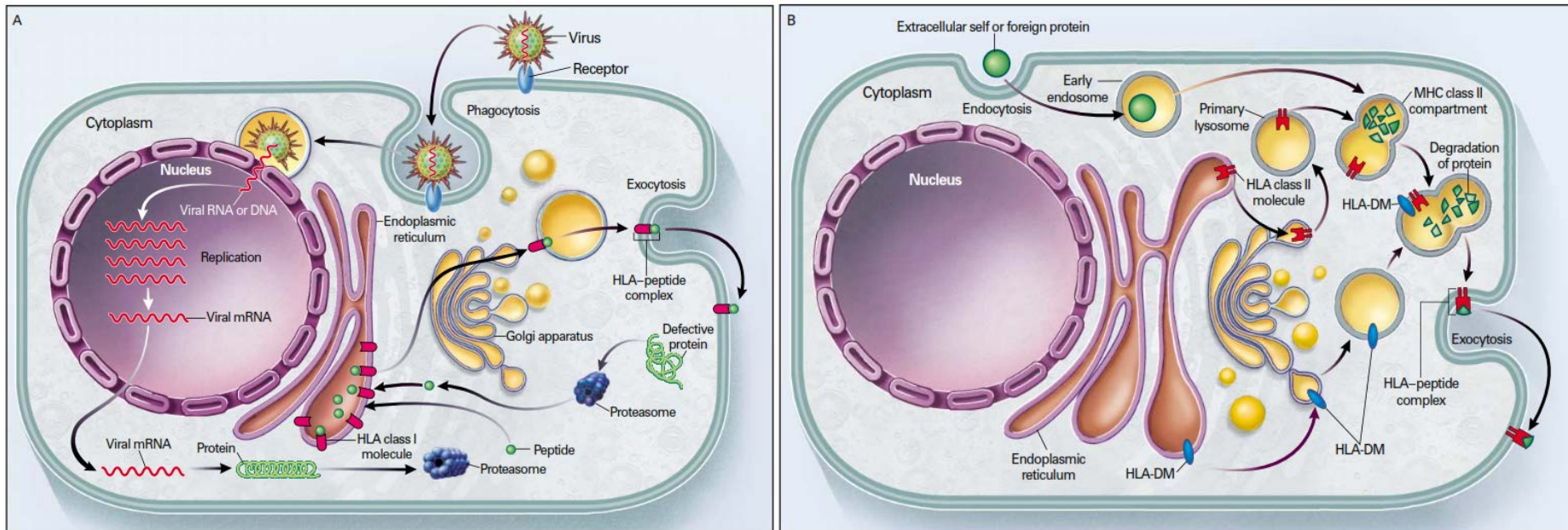


# HLA Complex, Chromosome 6



Klein and Sato. NEJM, 2000

# Antigen Processing

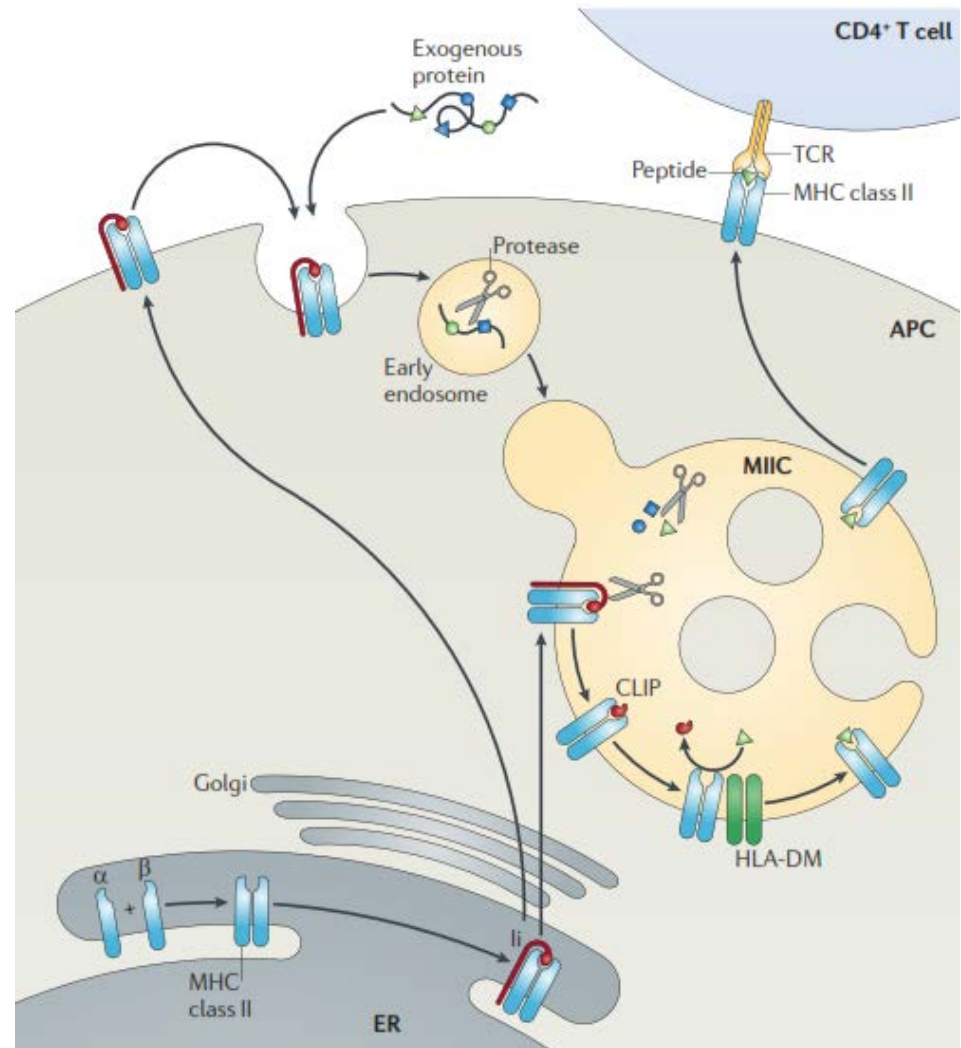
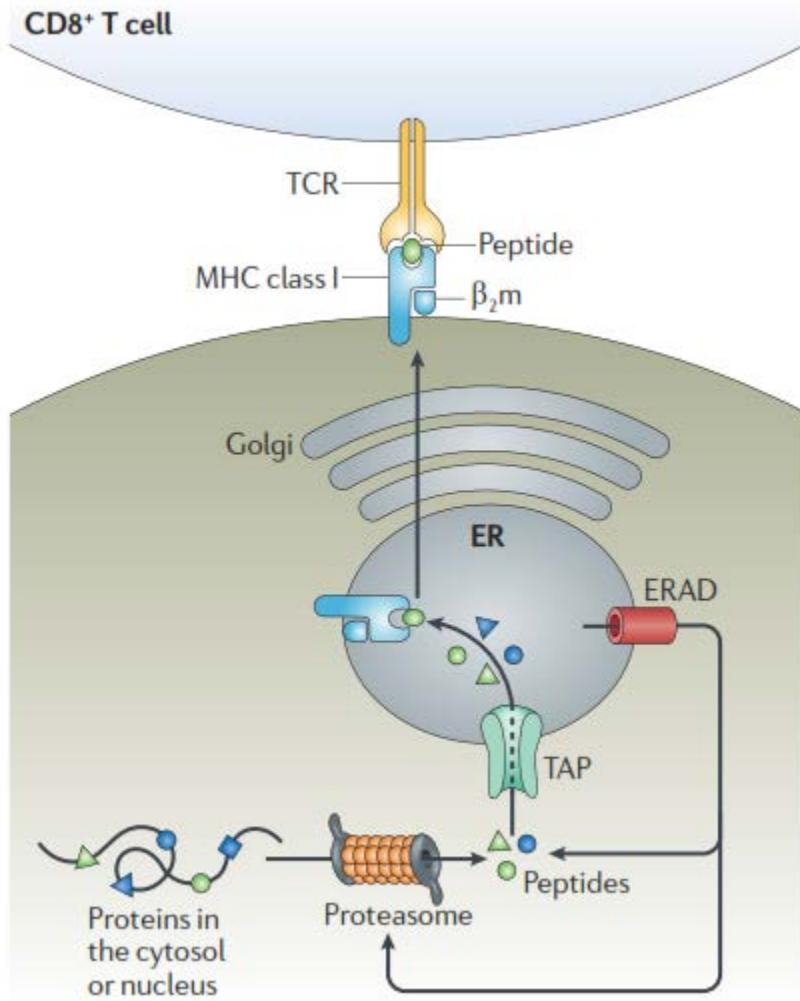


**Panel A shows the principal pathways of generating peptides for loading onto HLA class I molecules**

**Panel B shows the processing of extracellular proteins.**

**Klein and Sato. NEJM, 2000**

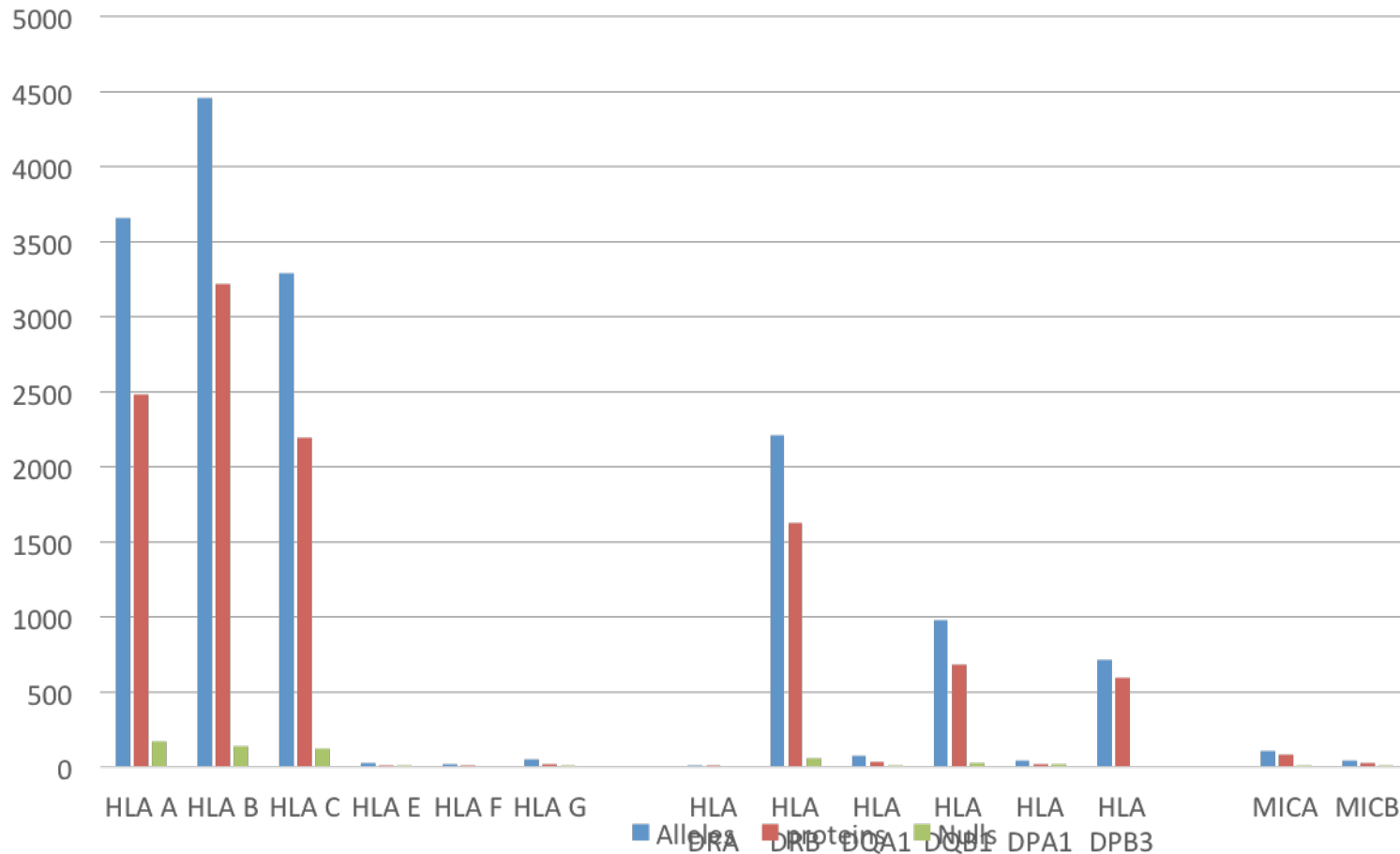
# Antigen Presentation



Neefjes et al. Nature Reviews, 2011

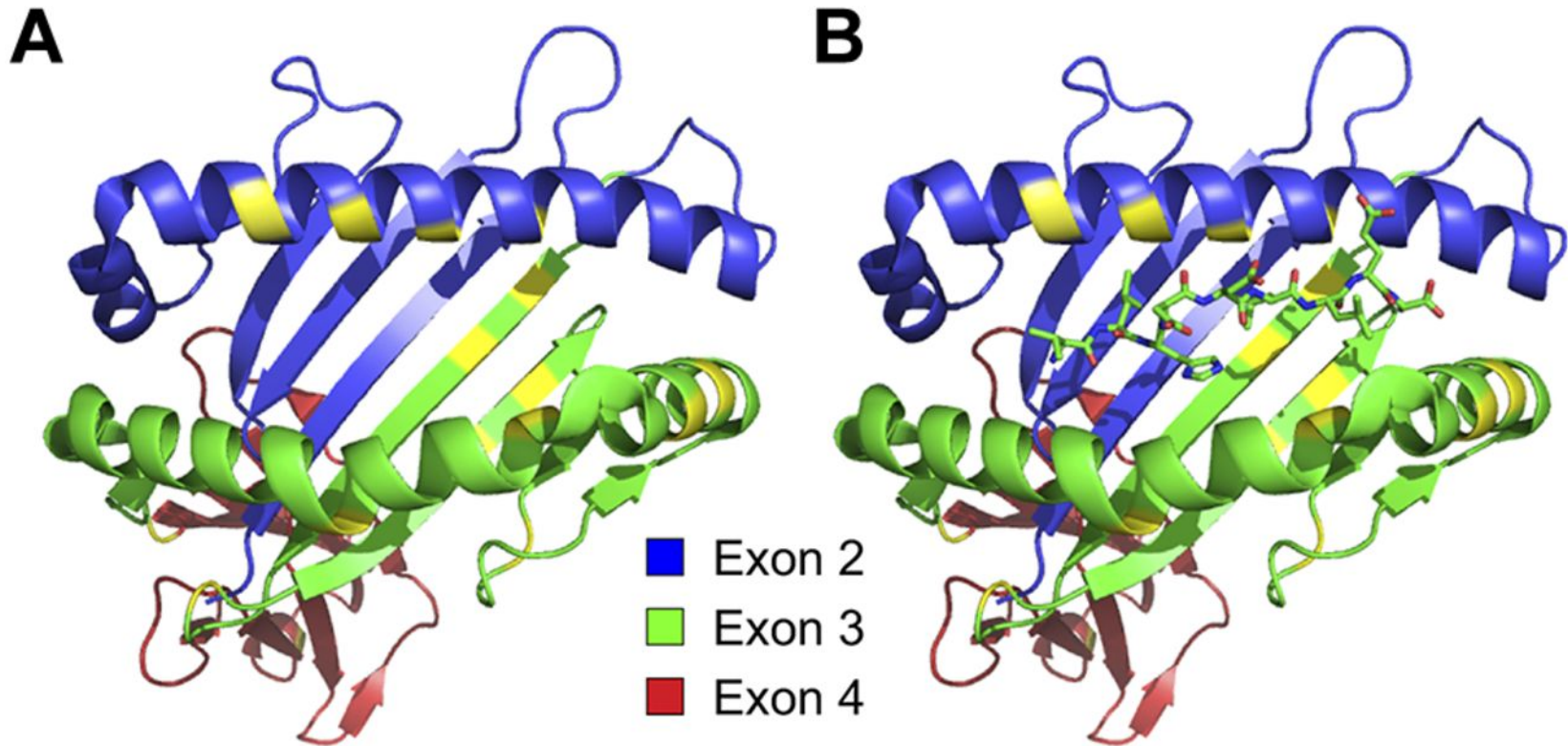


# The *HLA-A*, *-B*, *-C*, and *-DRB1* loci are the most polymorphic genes in the entire human genome



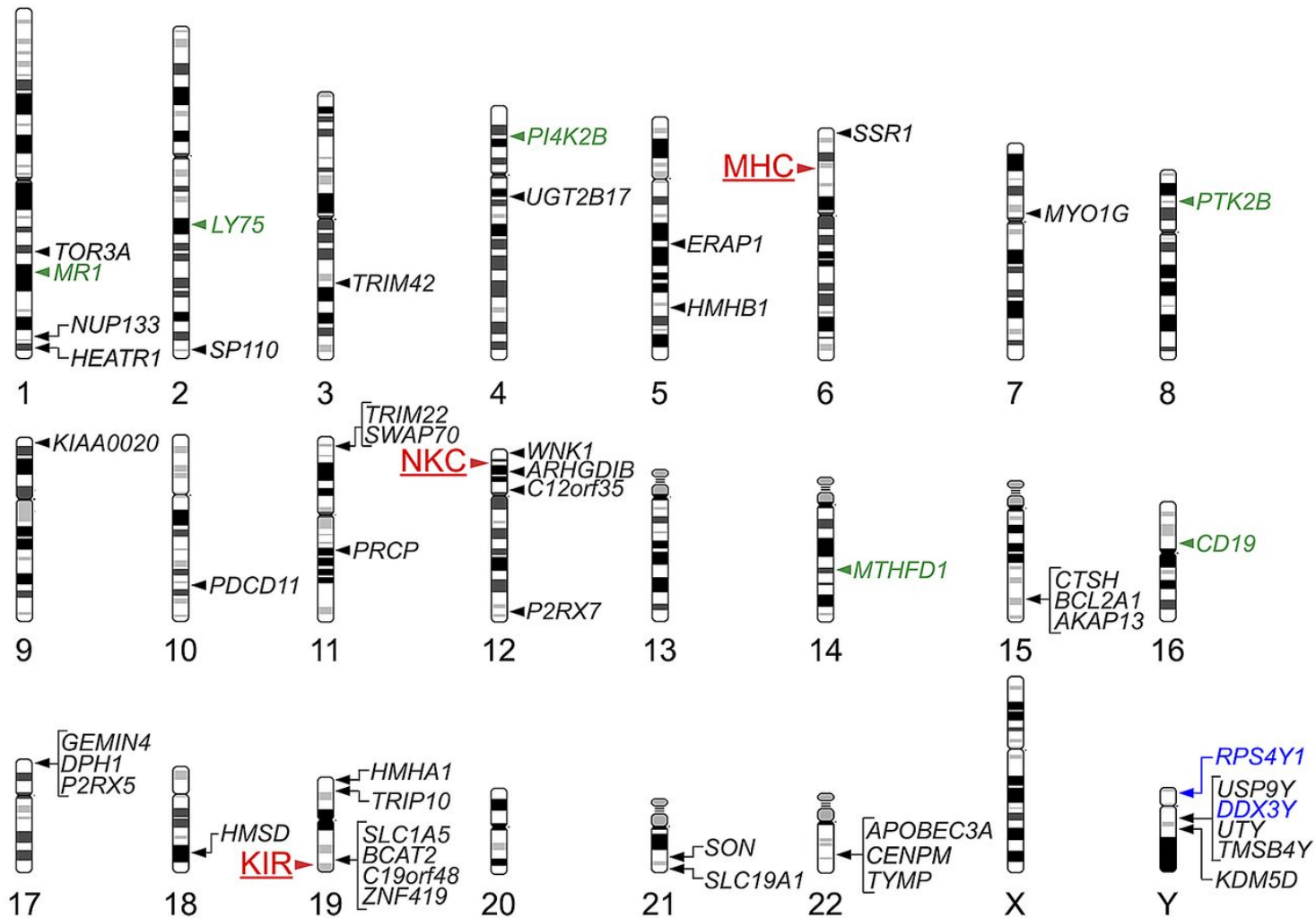
Data were taken from <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/imgt/hla/stats.html>; accessed January 12, 2017.

The majority of polymorphic residues that distinguish different alleles of class I and class II molecules are located in positions that influence Peptide binding or interaction with T-cell receptors.



Edus H. Warren et al. *Blood* 2012;120:2796-2806

# Map of genetic loci that can influence histocompatibility in the allogeneic HCT setting



Edus H. Warren et al. Blood 2012;120:2796-2806



**Table 1. Diseases Commonly Treated with Hematopoietic Stem-Cell Transplantation.**

**Autologous transplantation\***

Cancers

- Multiple myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Hodgkin's disease
- Acute myeloid leukemia
- Neuroblastoma
- Ovarian cancer
- Germ-cell tumors

Other diseases

- Autoimmune disorders
- Amyloidosis

**Allogeneic transplantation†**

Cancers

- Acute myeloid leukemia
- Acute lymphoblastic leukemia
- Chronic myeloid leukemia
- Myelodysplastic syndromes
- Myeloproliferative disorders
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Hodgkin's disease
- Chronic lymphocytic leukemia
- Multiple myeloma
- Juvenile chronic myeloid leukemia

Other diseases

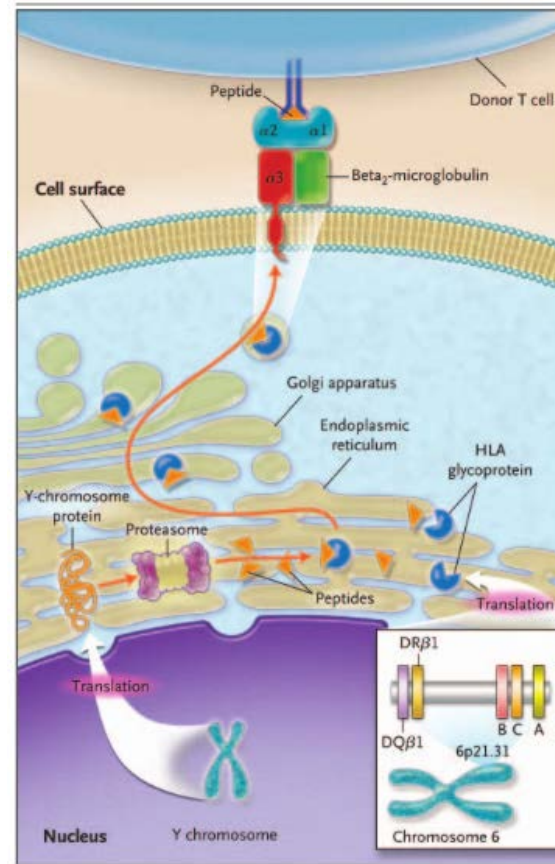
- Aplastic anemia
- Paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria
- Fanconi's anemia
- Blackfan–Diamond anemia
- Thalassemia major
- Sickle cell anemia
- Severe combined immunodeficiency
- Wiskott–Aldrich syndrome
- Inborn errors of metabolism

REVIEW ARTICLE

MEDICAL PROGRESS

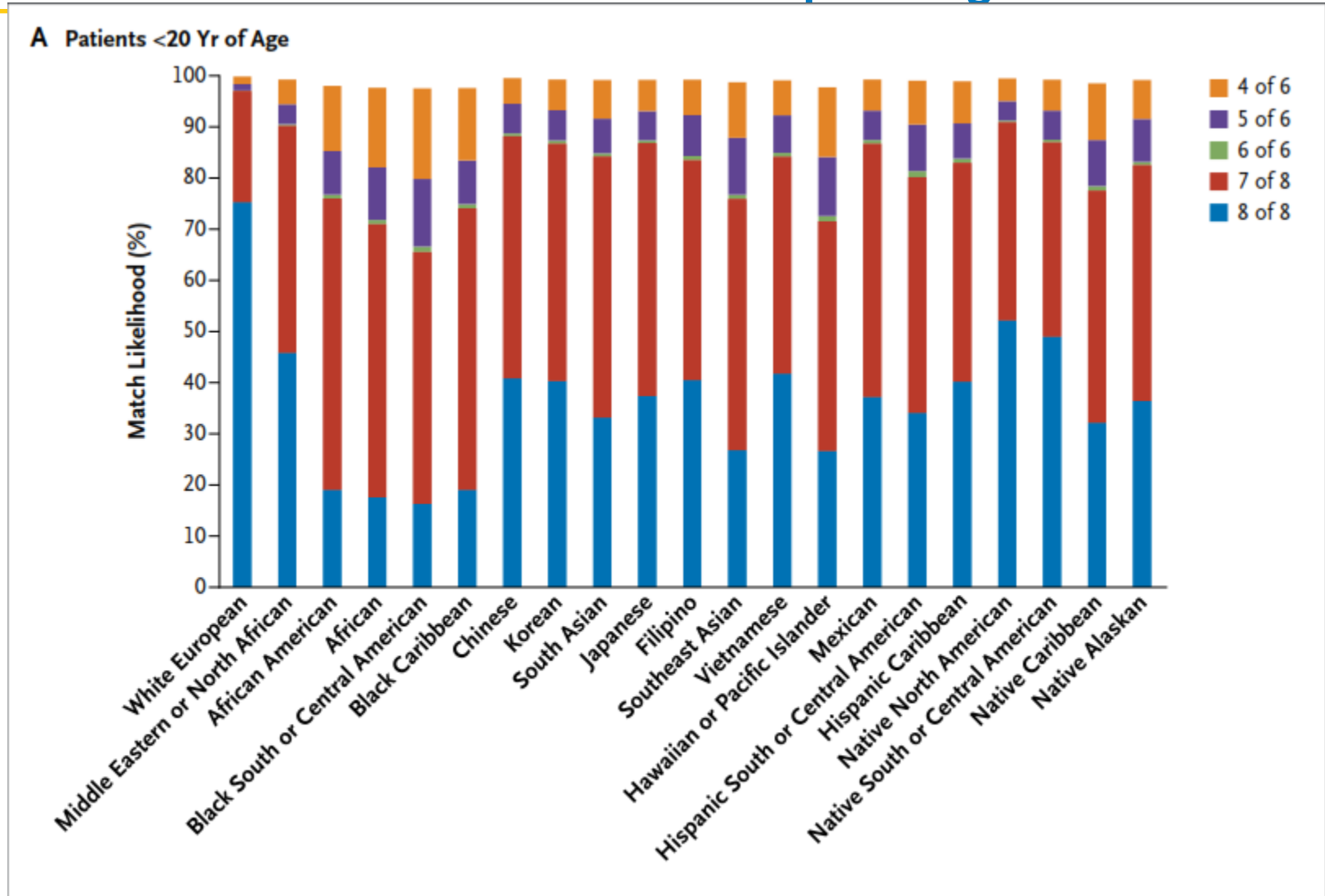
# Hematopoietic Stem-Cell Transplantation

Edward A. Copelan, M.D.

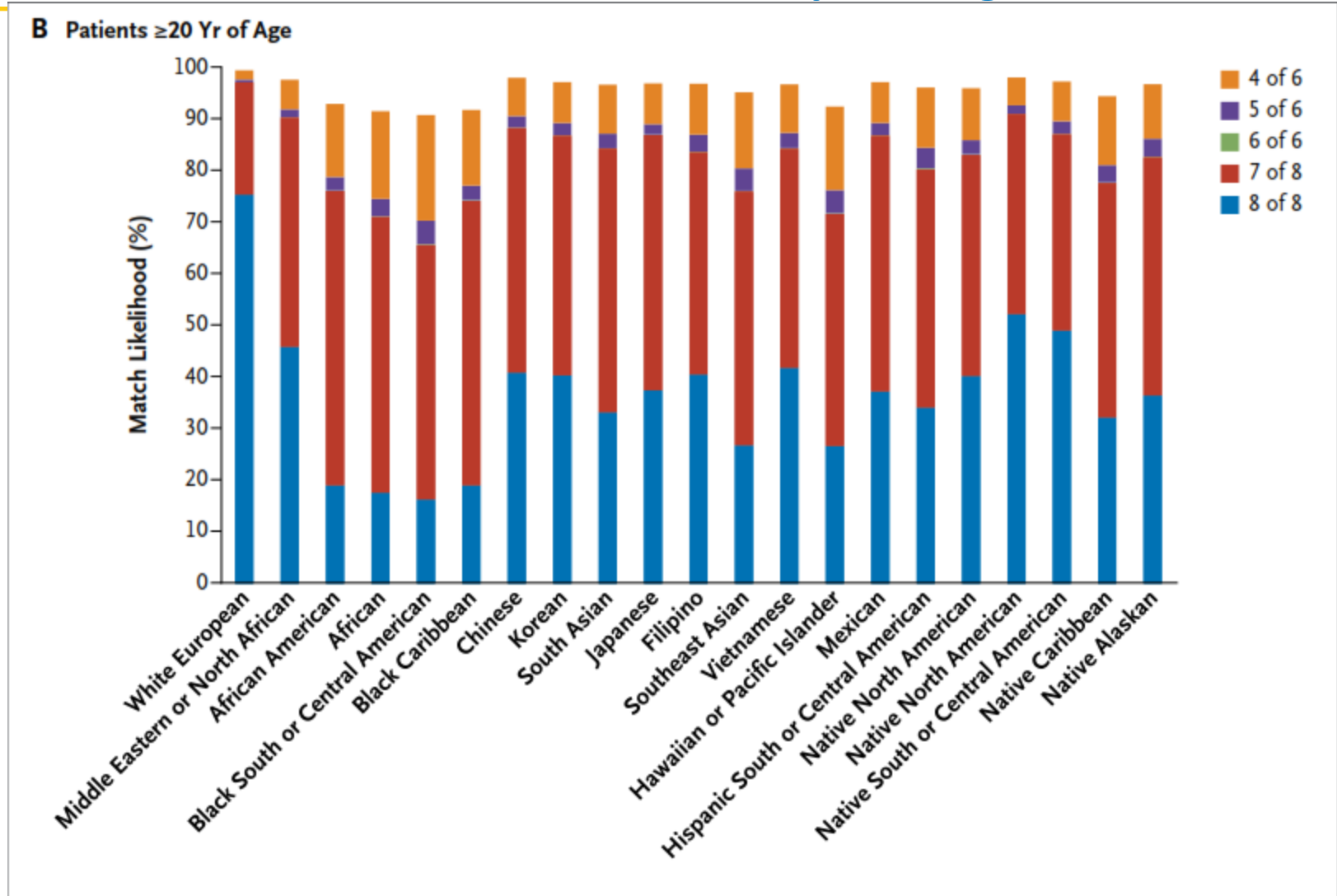


Copelan. NEJM, 2006

# Match Likelihoods According to Racial and Ethnic Group and Age



# Match Likelihoods According to Racial and Ethnic Group and Age



# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



Personnel Qualifications

Quality Assurance

Testing Methods

Laboratory Accreditation

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Personnel Qualifications

- The laboratory must employ one or more individuals who meet the qualifications and fulfill the responsibilities of the **Director**, and **Technical Supervisor**
- The **number of staff** must be large enough to carry out the volume and variety of tests required

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality Assurance

- Facilities
- Specimen submission and requisition
- Laboratory Procedure Manual
- Proficiency Testing and Competency Evaluation
- Records and test reports
- Testing referred to other laboratories

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality assurance

### Facilities

- **Sufficient space** to all procedures carried out
- Proper **maintenance** of equipments, instruments and test systems (with ample records)
- Laboratories performing amplification of nucleic acids must use physical and/or biochemical barriers to **prevent DNA contamination**
- Adequate **lighting and ventilations**

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality assurance

### Specimens issues

- The laboratory must have available and follow written **policies and procedures regarding specimen collection**
- The laboratory must assure adequate information contained in the **requisition form**
- The laboratory must maintain a system to ensure reliable **specimen identification**



# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality assurance

### Laboratory Procedure Manual

- All procedures in use in the laboratory must be detailed in a **procedure manual**, and **immediately available**
- Each procedure must be **reviewed periodically** (according to standards) by the Director and written evidence of this review must be in the manual

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality assurance

### Proficiency Testing

- The laboratory must participate in **External proficiency Testing (EPT) program (s)** to cover all the accredited laboratory applications (HLA typing, antibody screening and identification, crosshatching, etc.)

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality assurance

### Competency Evaluation

- The laboratory Director and the technical staff must participate in pertinent continuing education

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality assurance

### Records and test reports

- The laboratory must maintain records of subjects tested for a period dictated by national laws and accreditation standards

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality assurance

### Records and test reports

- The report must contain:
  - a. Name of the individual tested or unique identifier(s) and relationship to the patient if applicable.
  - b. Date(s) of collection of sample(s)
  - c. Date of the report

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality assurance

### Records and test reports

- The report must contain:
  - d. Test results.
  - e. Techniques used.
  - f. Appropriate interpretations and the signature of the Laboratory Director, or, in his/her absence, by a designee

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Quality assurance

### Testing referral

- An accredited laboratory may engage another laboratory to perform testing not done by the primary laboratory

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory

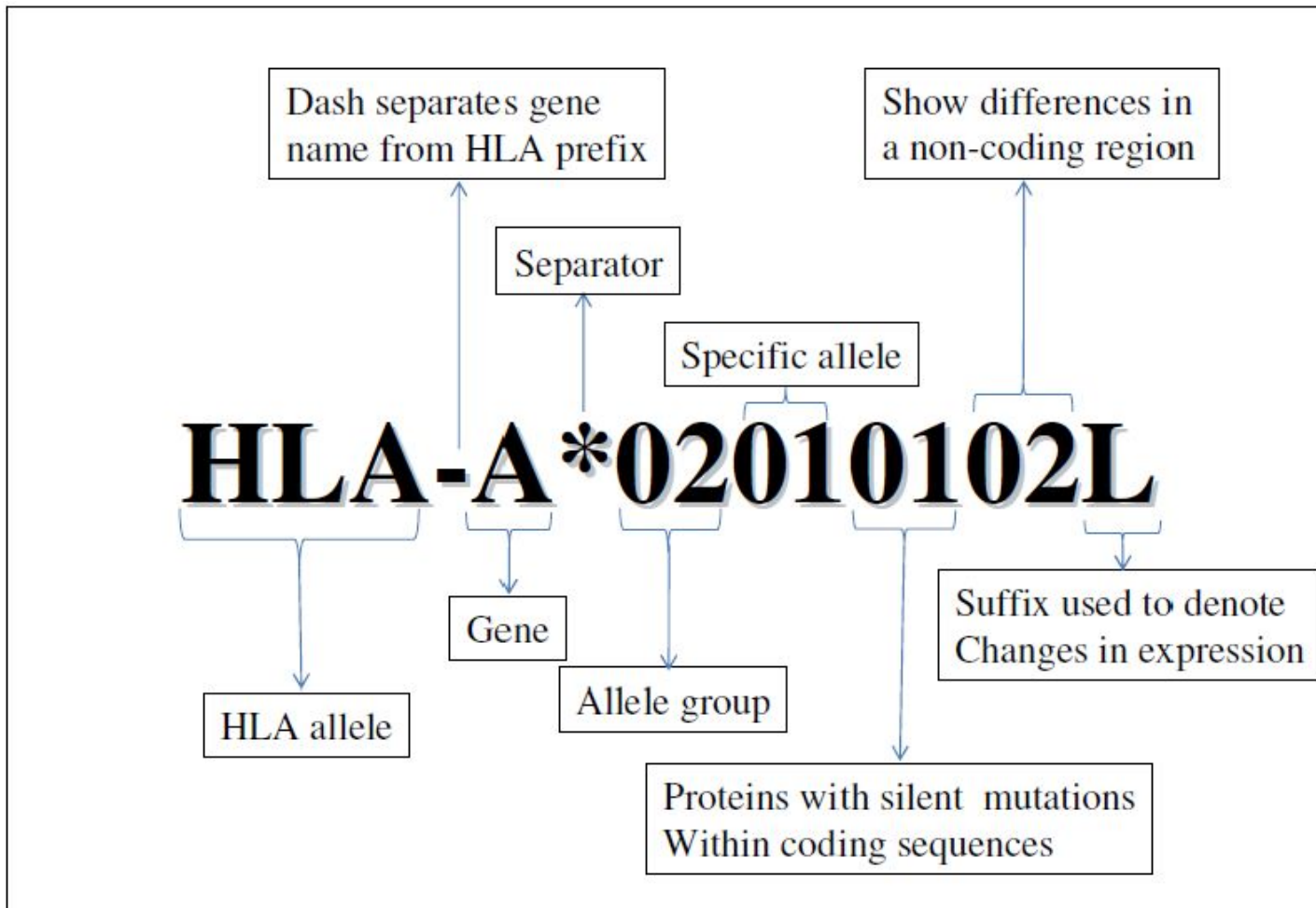


## Testing Methods

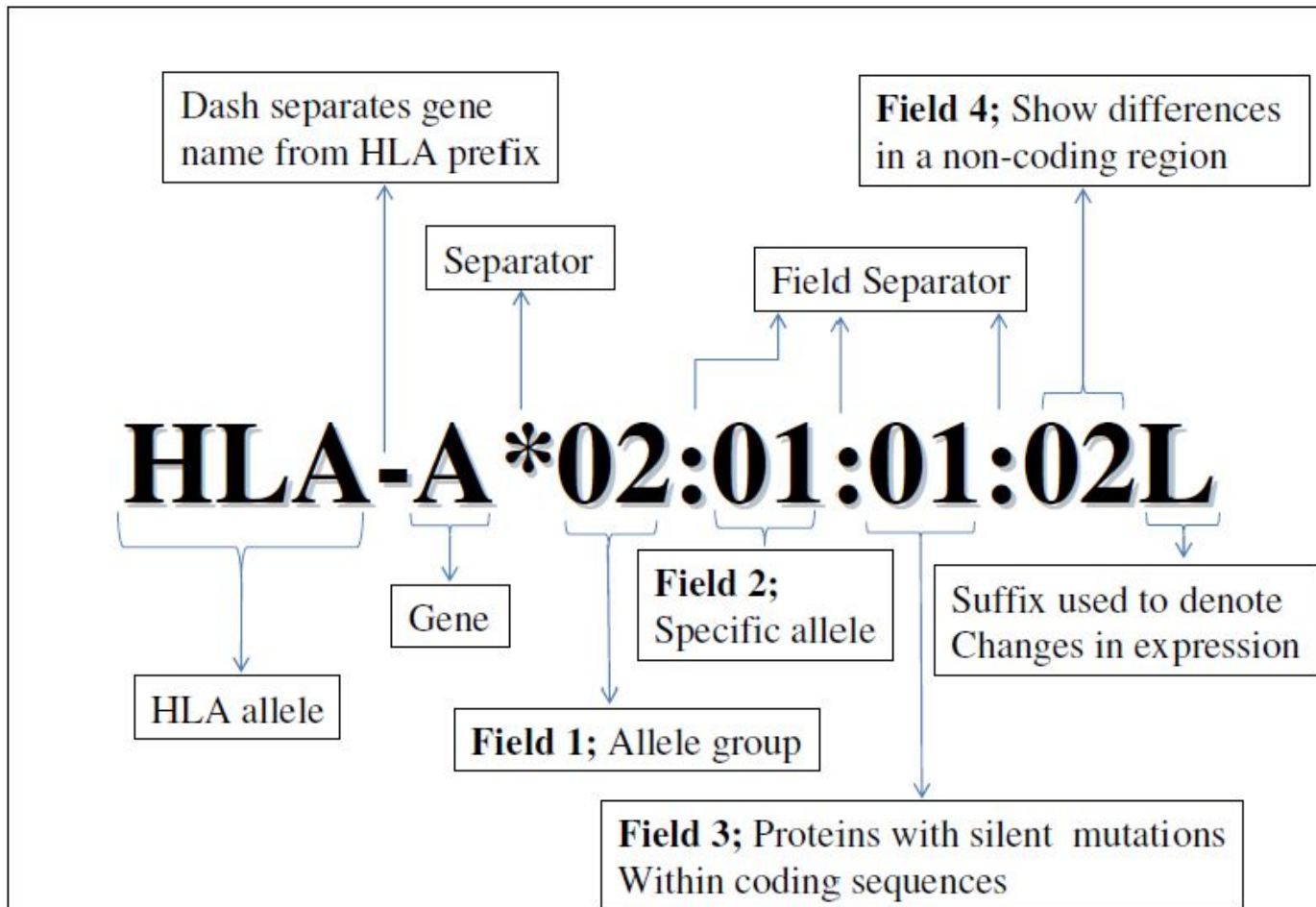
- Serological vs. Molecular-based HLA typing
  - HLA Nomenclature
  - Resolution level
  - Haplotype assignment
- Chimerism studies



# HLA Nomenclature, old



# HLA Nomenclature, new



# HLA Typing Methods



1950  
s

- **Discovery of HLA system**

1960  
s

- **Serological typing**

1980  
s

- **First HLA genes cloned, sequenced**

1990  
s

- **DNA/PCR based HLA typing**

1999

- **Sequence entire MHC (HGP)**

2000

- **Database of all HLA alleles**

2000  
s

- **SBT, Luminex SSO**

2013

- **Next Generation Sequencing**

# Levels of Resolution



**Low resolution  
(2 digit)**

- same serotype group (e.g. A\*02)

**Intermediate  
resolution  
(allele string)**

- identifies alleles that have common sequence (e.g. A\*02:05/08/22)

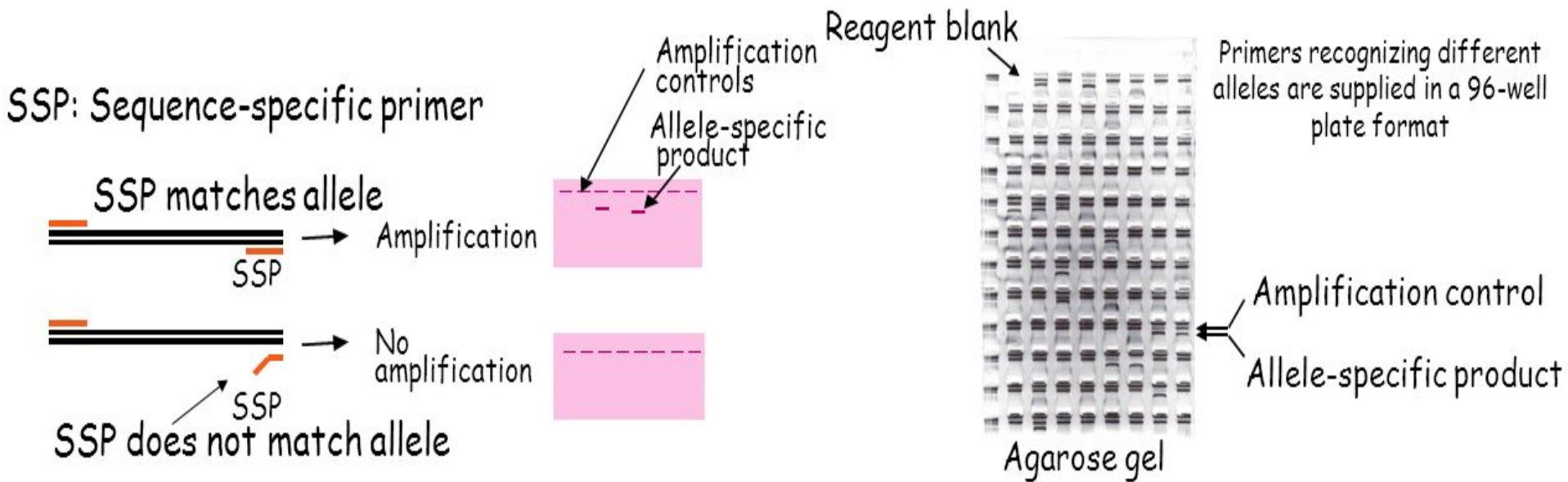
**High resolution  
(minimum 4  
digit)**

- identifies single allele e.g. A\*02:05

# HLA TYPING

## DNA-BASED TYPING METHODS

**SSP-PCR:** Sequence-specific PCR (allele-specific primers)

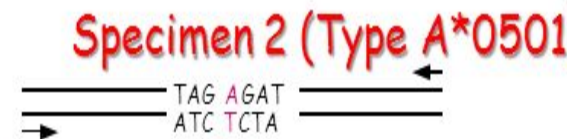


Very rapid test that can be performed in 3-4 hours from the time a sample is received.  
PCR-SSP is used for typing deceased organ donors when speed is an important consideration.

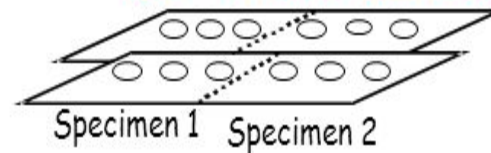
# HLA TYPING

## DNA-BASED TYPING METHODS

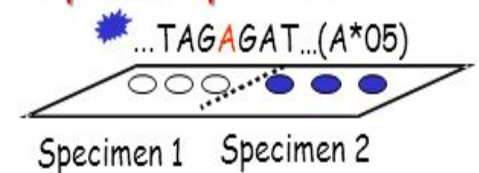
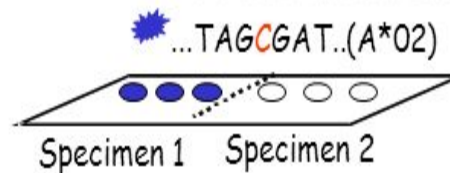
**PCR-SSOPH:** Sequence-specific oligonucleotide probe hybridization



Amplify, denature, and  
spot onto membranes



Probe with allele-specific probes

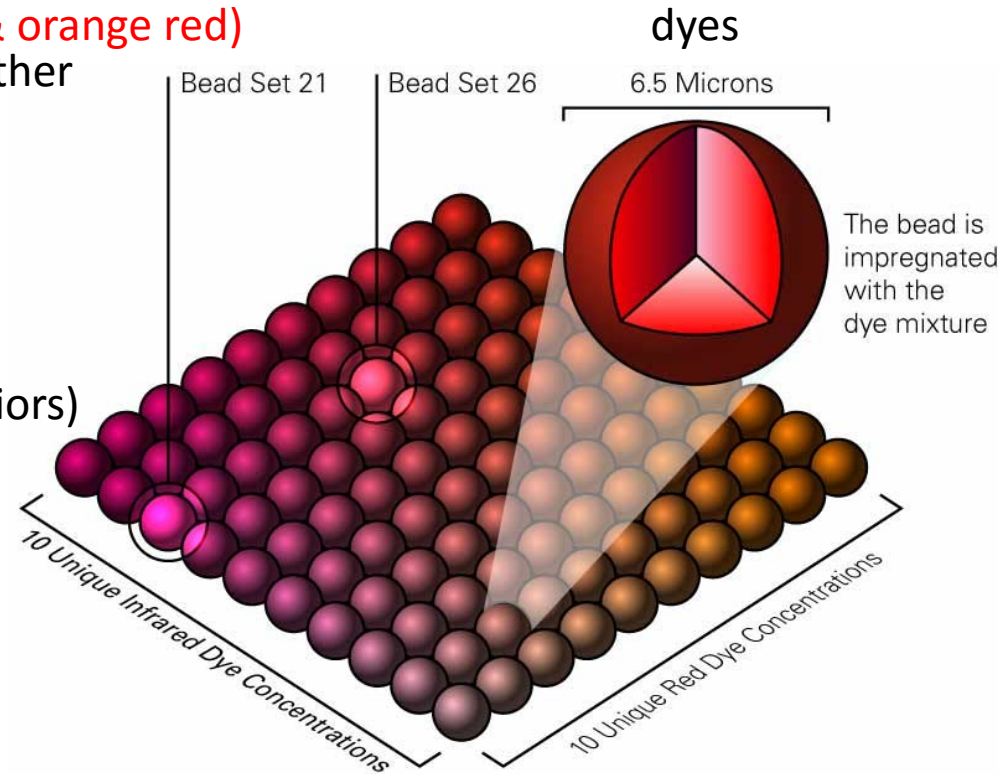


- Intermediate resolution
- Screening test to identify potential donors or individuals who may later require higher resolution testing
- High volume, relatively low cost

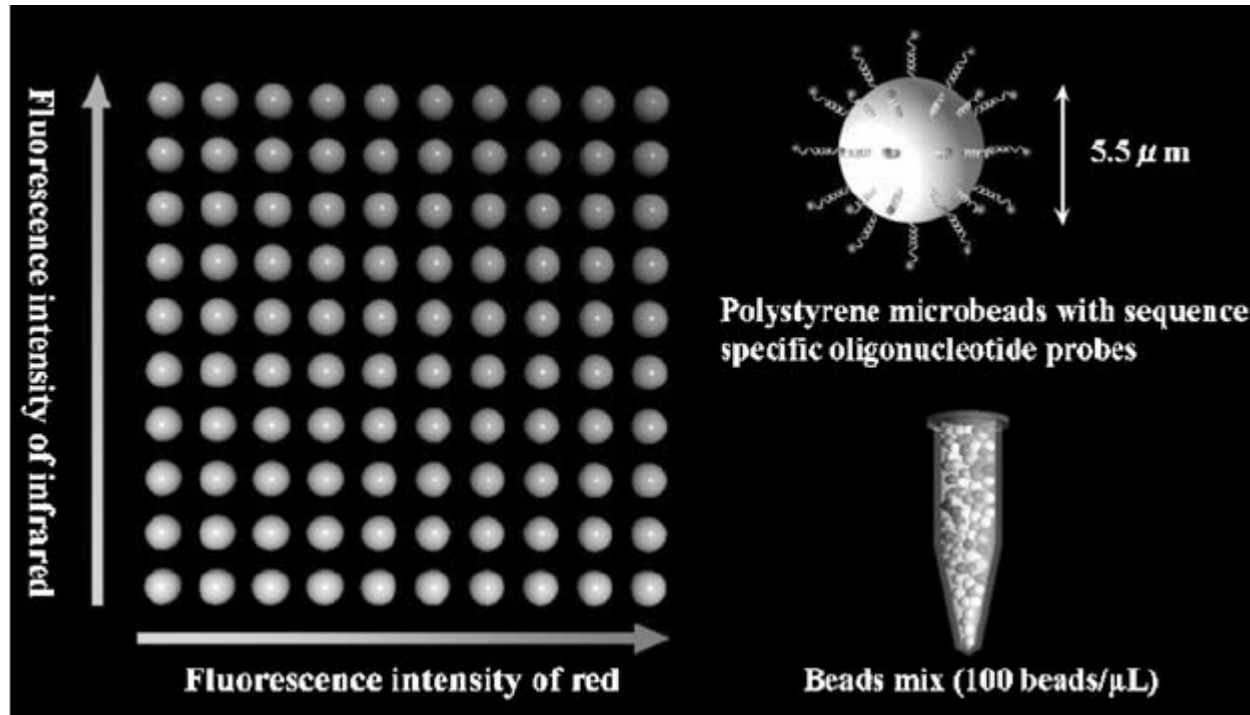
# xMAP<sup>®</sup> Technology, Multi - Analyte Profiling



- 5.6 micron (non magnetic) or 6.5 micron (magnetic) beads
- Up to 100 (500) different beads/well
  - Bead color = spectral address
  - A combination of red and infrared (& orange red) distinguishes one bead set from another
- Small bead size allows:
  - Liquid suspension assay with
    - a high surface-to-volume-ratio
    - fast kinetics (liquid-phase behaviors)



# xMAP<sup>®</sup> Technology, Multi - Analyte Profiling





MDI 6A  
LUMINEX WORKING  
AREA

1. Turn on the computer  
2. Open the software  
3. Check the sample  
4. Run the test  
5. Save the results  
6. Print the results  
7. Clean the instrument  
8. Turn off the computer

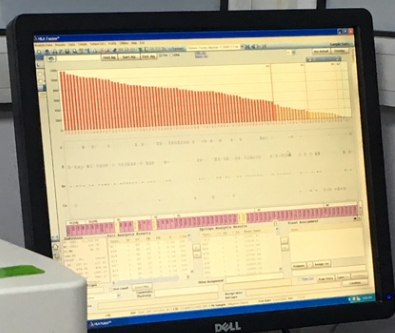
1. Turn on the computer  
2. Open the software  
3. Check the sample  
4. Run the test  
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6. Print the results  
7. Clean the instrument  
8. Turn off the computer

سحب  
SQUEEZE the  
ماء بطريقة التمشيط  
SWEEP the extinguisher fr

Daily Shut  
1- Wash (distilled water)  
2- Sanitize (20% bleach) fo  
wash (distilled water) fo  
wash (distilled water) fo

UPS Power  
UPS Power

LABScan 100  
NCS  
LABScan System  
(1)



DELL  
DELL

Stack of papers and documents on the desk.

Person wearing a white lab coat and a floral headscarf, viewed from behind, sitting at the desk.

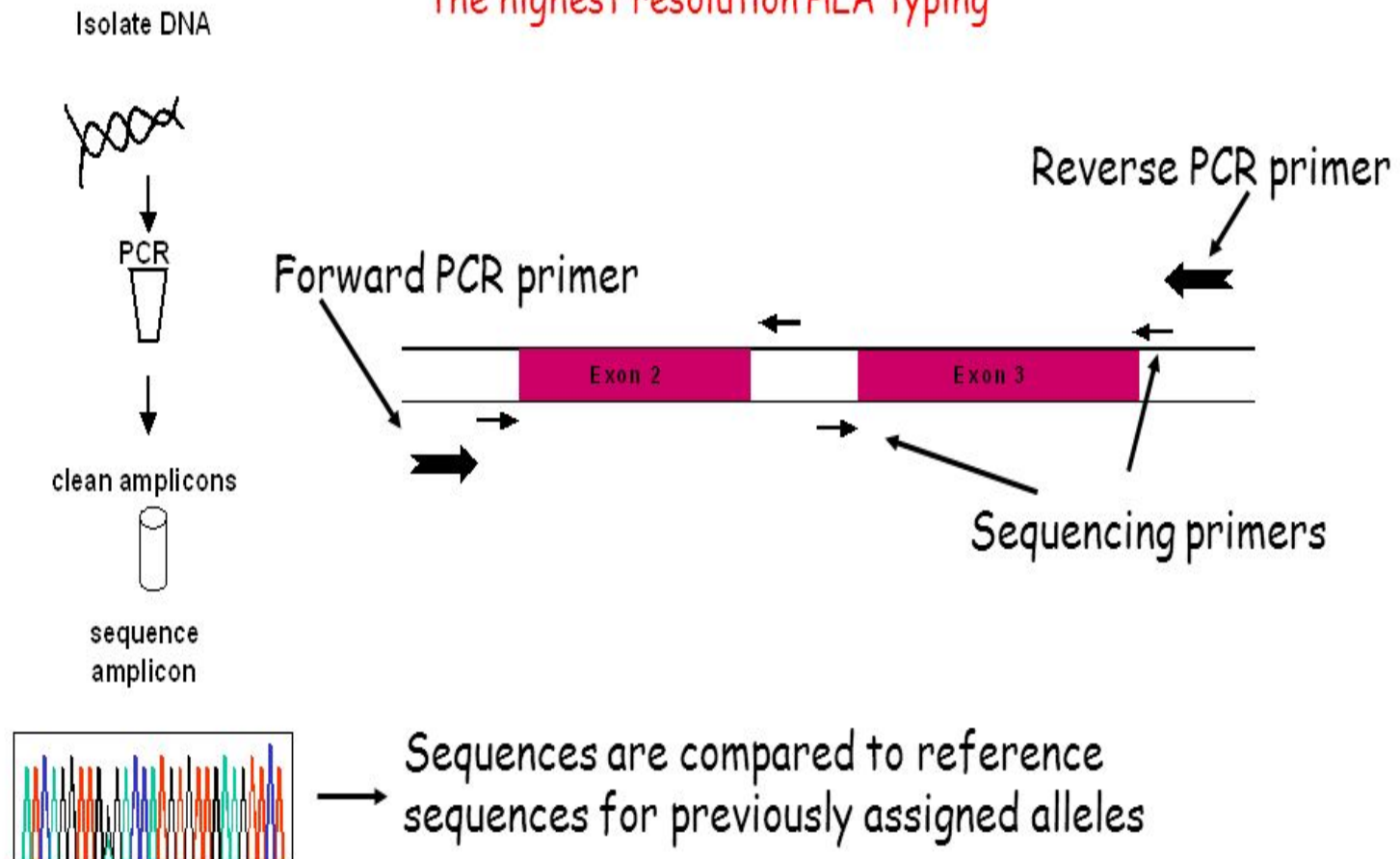
# HLA TYPING

## DNA-BASED TYPING METHODS

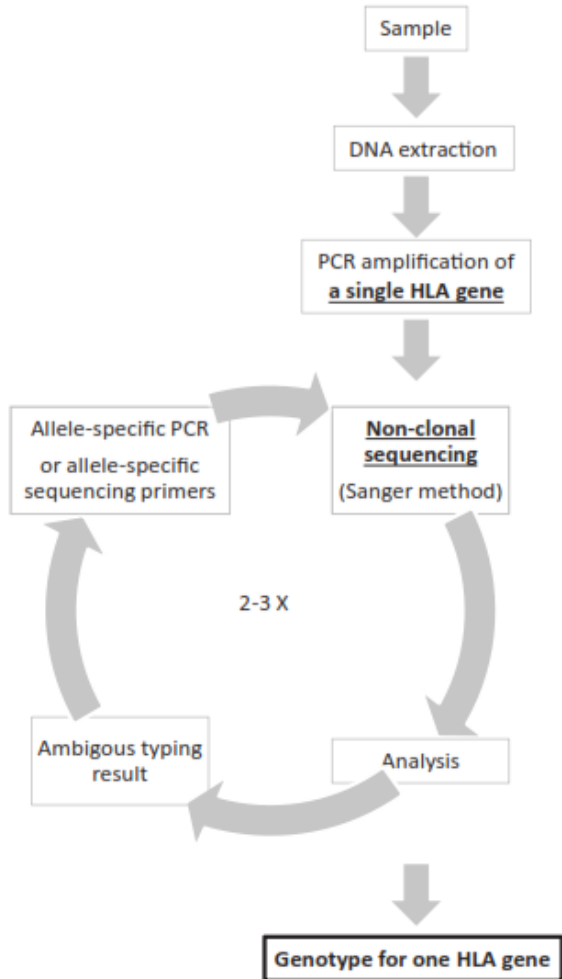
### SBT: Sequence-based typing

Polymorphic regions are amplified by PCR and then sequenced

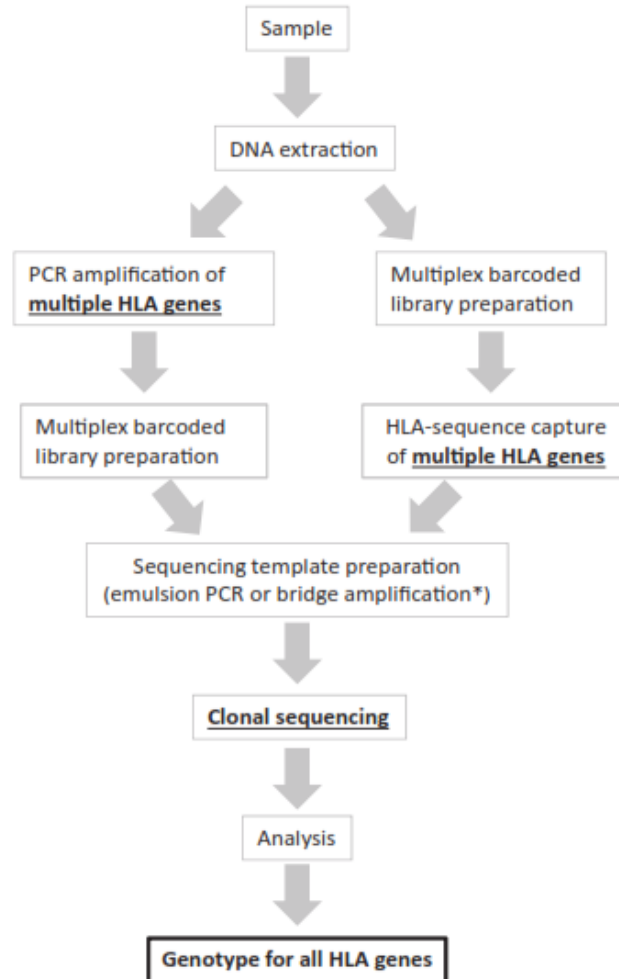
The highest resolution HLA typing



**(A) Sanger sequence-based HLA-typing**



**(B) NGS-based HLA-typing**



# Sequence-based Typing



## Sequencing of the HLA genes or region

SNV  
-genotype

— G/A — C/T — A/T — A/G —

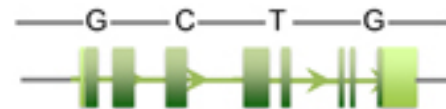
Haplotype

-A set of SNV alleles in a region

— G — C — T — G —  
— A — T — A — A —

HLA allele

-Allele-Level Sequencing  
-Phasing of Full-length HLA



HLA haplotype

-Haplotype of HLA allele  
-Entire HLA region



## HLA typing

Resolution of  
HLA allele

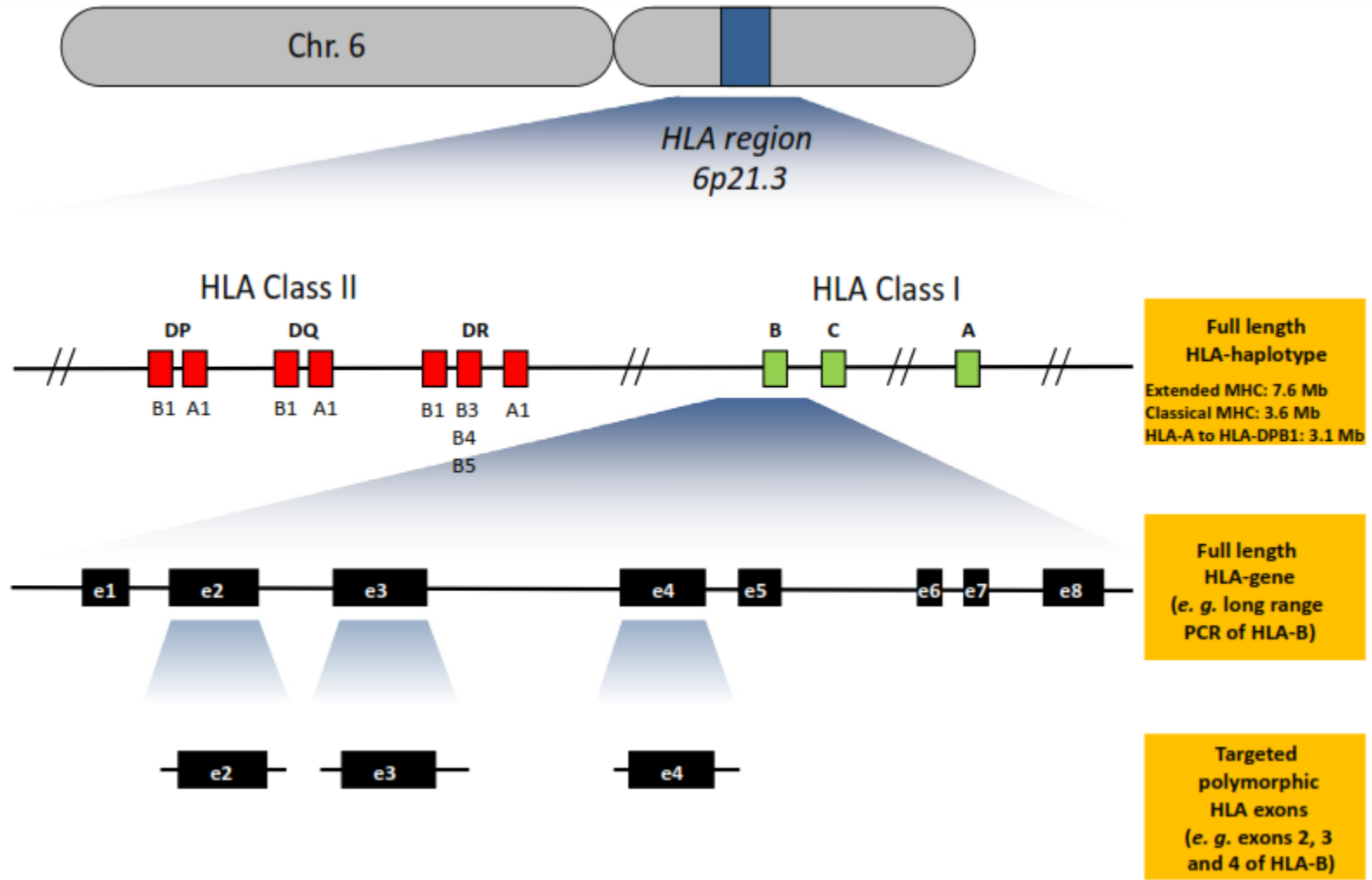


- Allele group as protein : 2-digit
- Specific HLA protein : 4-digit
- Specific HLA CDS : 6-digit



Specific HLA genome sequence : 8-digit

# Targeted regions of the HLA by NGS approaches





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Invited Review

## Clinical validation of NGS technology for HLA: An early adopter's perspective



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*University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, United States*

### ARTICLE INFO

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### ABSTRACT

Clinical validation of NGS for HLA typing has been a topic of interest with many laboratories investigating the merits. NGS has proven effective at reducing ambiguities and costs while providing more detailed information on HLA genes not previously sequenced. The ability of NGS to multiplex many patients within a single run presents unique challenges and sequencing new regions of HLA genes requires application of our knowledge of genetics to accurately determine HLA typing. This review represents my lab-

- **NGS can reduce the ambiguity rate, cost, and TAT for HLA typing.**
- **Validation of NGS for clinical HLA typing is challenging due to the numerous issues, including: sample types, complexity of the HLA genes, reliance on software for accurate HLA typing, and many more.**

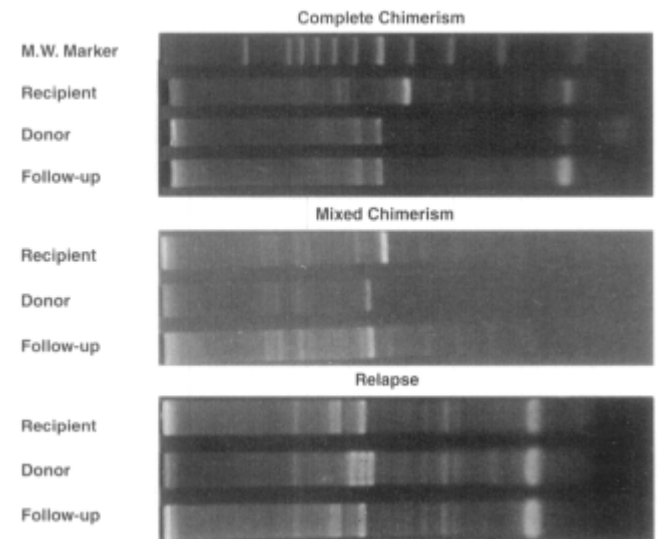




# The Use of Amplified Variable Number of Tandem Repeats (VNTR) in the Detection of Chimerism Following Bone Marrow Transplantation

## *A Comparison With Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism (RFLP) by Southern Blotting*

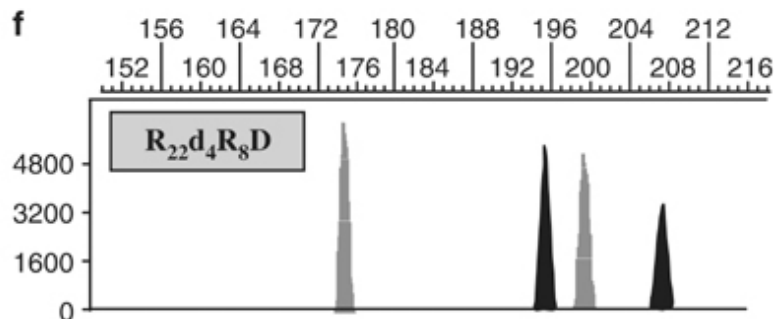
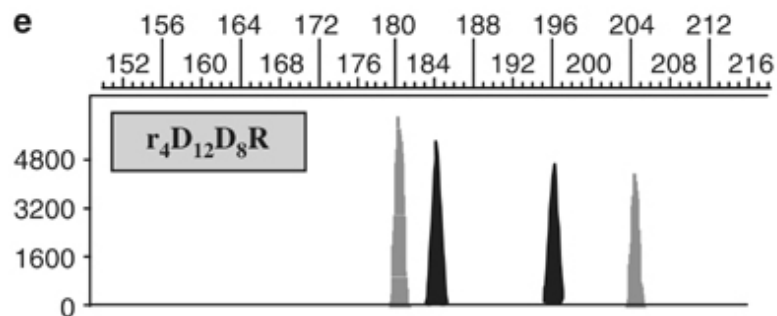
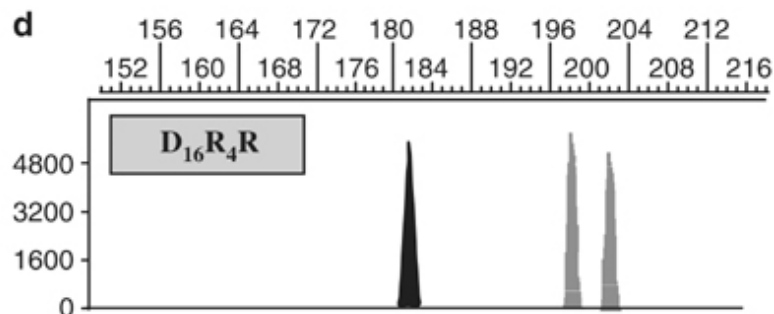
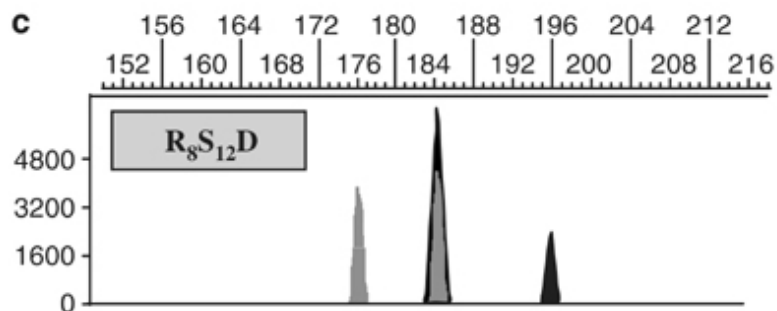
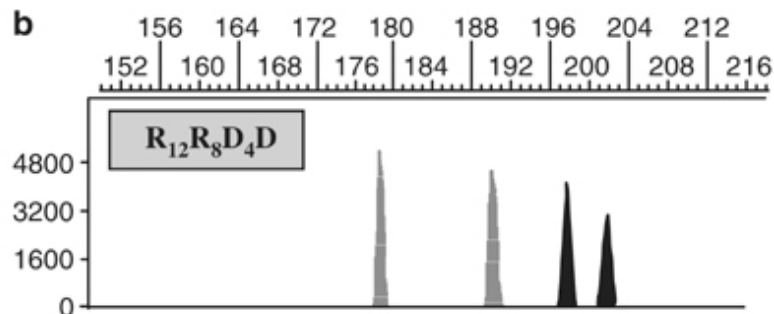
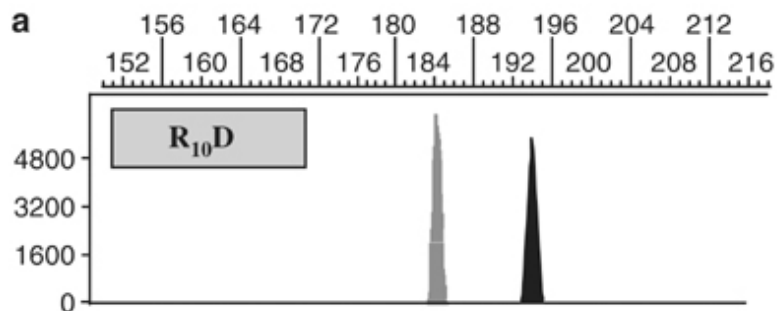
JOSEPH J. SREENAN, MD, JAMES D. PETTAY, MT(ASCP), ABDELGHANI TBAKHI, MD, GRIGORIOS TOTOS, MD, LINDA M. SANDHAUS, MD, MICHAEL L. MILLER, DO, BRIAN BOLWELL MD, AND RAYMOND R. TUBBS, DO



Am J Clin Pathol 1997;107:292-298.

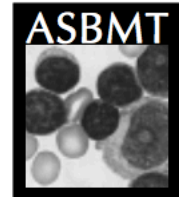


# STR-PCR-based chimerism testing





Biology of Blood and Marrow Transplantation 7:473-485 (2001)  
© 2001 American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation



## REVIEW

# Establishment of Complete and Mixed Donor Chimerism After Allogeneic Lymphohematopoietic Transplantation: Recommendations From a Workshop at the 2001 Tandem Meetings

*Joseph H. Antin,<sup>1</sup> Richard Childs,<sup>2</sup> Alexandra H. Filipovich,<sup>3</sup> Sergio Giralt,<sup>4</sup> Stephen Mackinnon,<sup>5</sup> Thomas Spitzer,<sup>6</sup> Daniel Weisdorf<sup>7\*</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts; <sup>2</sup>National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, Bethesda, Maryland; <sup>3</sup>Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio; <sup>4</sup>M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas; <sup>5</sup>University College London, London, United Kingdom; <sup>6</sup>Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts; <sup>7</sup>University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, Minnesota

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Leukemia (2012) 26, 1821 – 1828

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[www.nature.com/leu](http://www.nature.com/leu)**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

# The EuroChimerism concept for a standardized approach to chimerism analysis after allogeneic stem cell transplantation

T Lion<sup>1</sup>, F Watzinger<sup>1</sup>, S Preuner<sup>1</sup>, H Kreyenberg<sup>2</sup>, M Tilanus<sup>3</sup>, R de Weger<sup>4</sup>, J van Loon<sup>4</sup>, L de Vries<sup>4</sup>, H Cavé<sup>5</sup>, C Acquaviva<sup>5</sup>, M Lawler<sup>6</sup>, M Crampe<sup>6</sup>, A Serra<sup>7</sup>, B Saglio<sup>7</sup>, F Colnaghi<sup>8</sup>, A Biondi<sup>8</sup>, JJM van Dongen<sup>9</sup>, M van der Burg<sup>9</sup>, M Gonzalez<sup>10</sup>, M Alcoceba<sup>10</sup>, G Barbany<sup>11</sup>, M Hermanson<sup>11</sup>, E Roosnek<sup>12</sup>, C Steward<sup>13</sup>, J Harvey<sup>14</sup>, F Frommlet<sup>15</sup> and P Bader<sup>2</sup> on behalf of the EuroChimerism Consortium (EU-Project number: QLG1-CT-2002-01485)

Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation is becoming an increasingly important approach to treatment of different malignant and non-malignant disorders. There is thus growing demand for diagnostic assays permitting the surveillance of donor/recipient chimerism posttransplant. Current techniques are heterogeneous, rendering uniform evaluation and comparison of diagnostic results between centers difficult. Leading laboratories from 10 European countries have therefore performed a collaborative study supported by a European grant, the EuroChimerism Concerted Action, with the aim to develop a standardized diagnostic methodology for the detection and monitoring of chimerism in patients undergoing allogeneic stem cell transplantation. Following extensive analysis of a large set of microsatellite/short tandem repeat (STR) loci, the EuroChimerism (EUC) panel comprising 13 STR markers was established with the aim to optimally meet the specific requirements of quantitative chimerism analysis. Based on highly stringent selection criteria, the EUC panel provides multiple informative markers in any transplant setting. The standardized STR-PCR tests permit detection of donor- or recipient-derived cells at a sensitivity ranging between 0.8 and 1.6%. Moreover, the EUC assay facilitates accurate and reproducible quantification

Hindawi Publishing Corporation  
Biotechnology Research International  
Volume 2016, Article ID 8589270, 6 pages  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2016/8589270>



## *Research Article*

# **Chimerism Analysis of Cell-Free DNA in Patients Treated with Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation May Predict Early Relapse in Patients with Hematologic Malignancies**

**Mahmoud Aljurf,<sup>1</sup> Hala Abalkhail,<sup>2</sup> Amal Alseraihy,<sup>3</sup> Said Y. Mohamed,<sup>1</sup> Mouhab Ayas,<sup>3</sup> Fahad Alsharif,<sup>1</sup> Hazza Alzahrani,<sup>1</sup> Abdullah Al-Jefri,<sup>3</sup> Ghuzayel Aldawsari,<sup>1</sup> Ali Al-Ahmari,<sup>3</sup> Asim F. Belgaumi,<sup>3</sup> Claudia Ulrike Walter,<sup>2</sup> Hassan El-Solh,<sup>3</sup> Walid Rasheed,<sup>1</sup> and Maher Albitar<sup>4</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>*Oncology Centre, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre, Riyadh 11211, Saudi Arabia*

<sup>2</sup>*Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre, Riyadh 11211, Saudi Arabia*

# Minimal Requirements for Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics laboratory



## Laboratory Accreditation

- To certify that the laboratory is meeting the minimum requirements as per given sets of standards
  - ASHI
  - EFI
  - CAP
  - ISO 15189





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Thank you