

Variant interpretatie en rapportage

Van variantenlijst tot klinisch rapport

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Klinisch Moleculair Bioloog in de Pathologie (KMBP)

Radboudumc

Disclosure belangen spreker

(potentiële) belangenverstrengeling	Geen
Voor bijeenkomst mogelijk relevante relaties met bedrijven	nvt
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsoring of onderzoeksgeld • Honorarium of andere (financiële) vergoeding • Aandeelhouder • Andere relatie, namelijk ... 	nvt

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KMBP meeting (4 oktober 2019)

- KMBP van 12 centra aanwezig
- Discussie variant classificatie (n.a.v. 10 casus met lastige varianten)
- Discussie: Wat te doen met 'Variants of Unknown Significance'?
- Vereisten bij rapportage fusiegen detectie

→ Werkgroep: Update richtlijn Moleculaire Verslaglegging (dd 2012)



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From variant list to clinical report

- Sequencing tumors, some numbers
- Variant classification in 5 classes
- 'Classification by similarity'
- From variant list to clinical report

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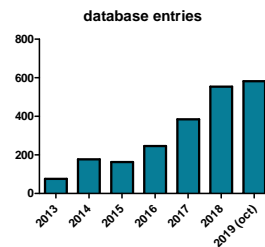
From variant list to clinical report

- **Sequencing tumors, some numbers**
- Variant classification in 5 classes
- 'Classification by similarity'
- From variant list to clinical report



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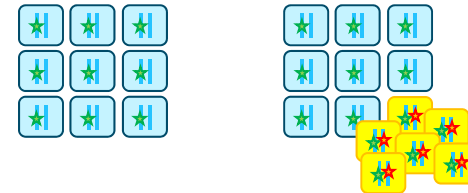
Sequencing tumors: variant classification database



Radboudumc, routine molecular diagnostics

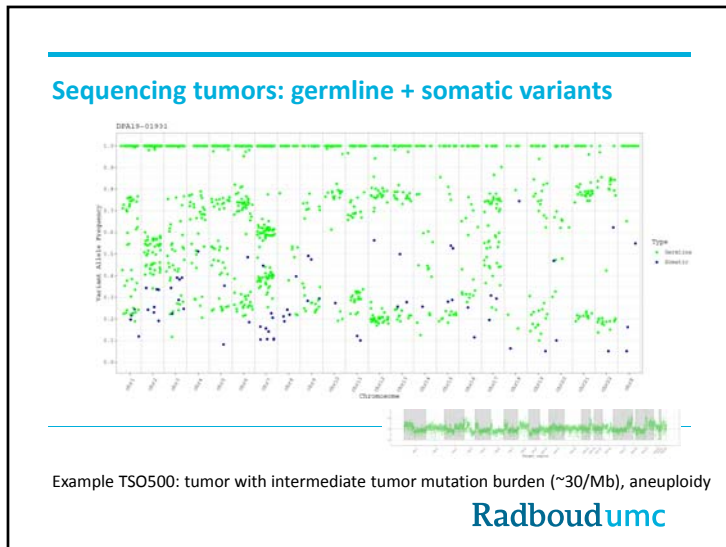
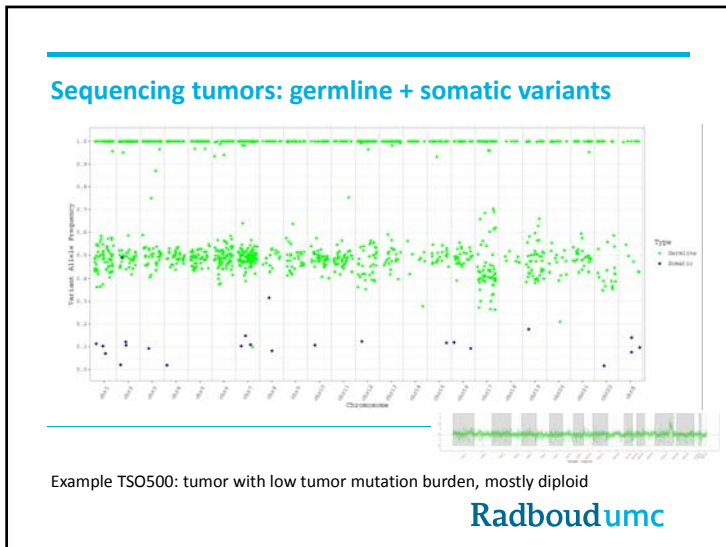
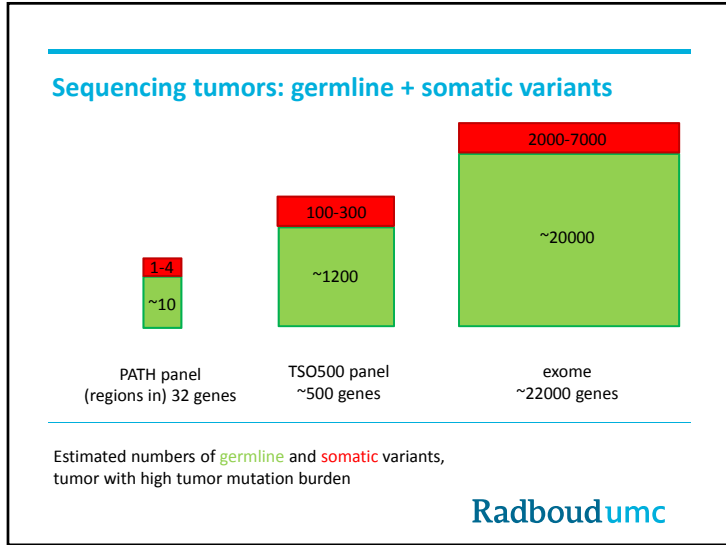
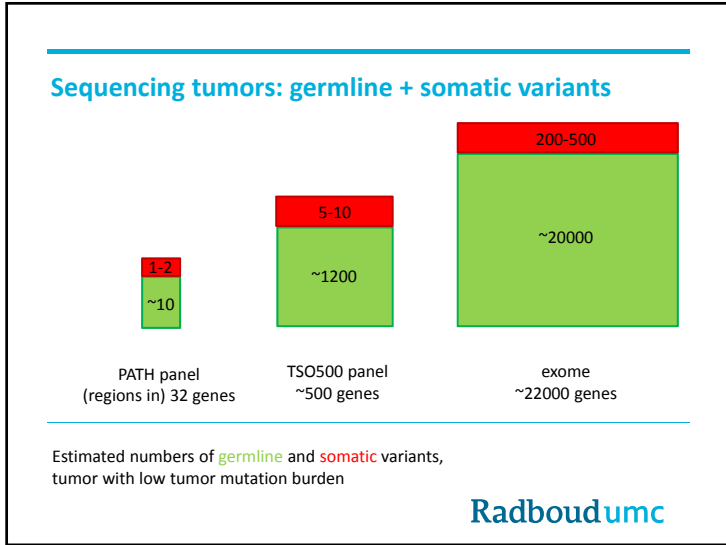
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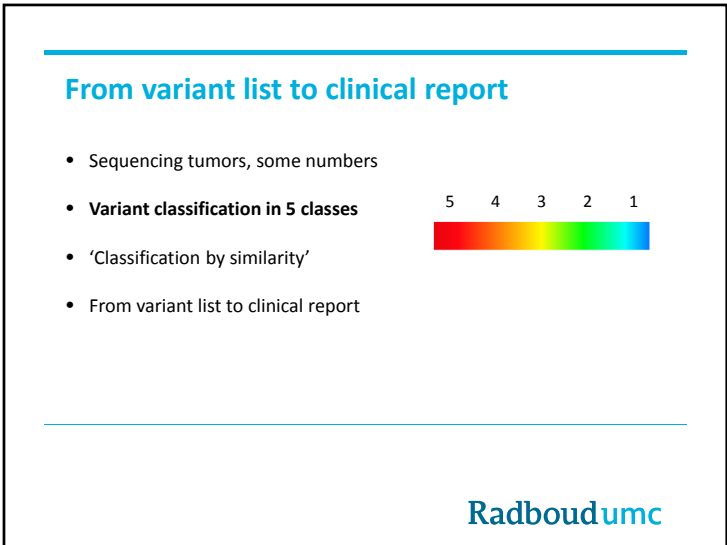
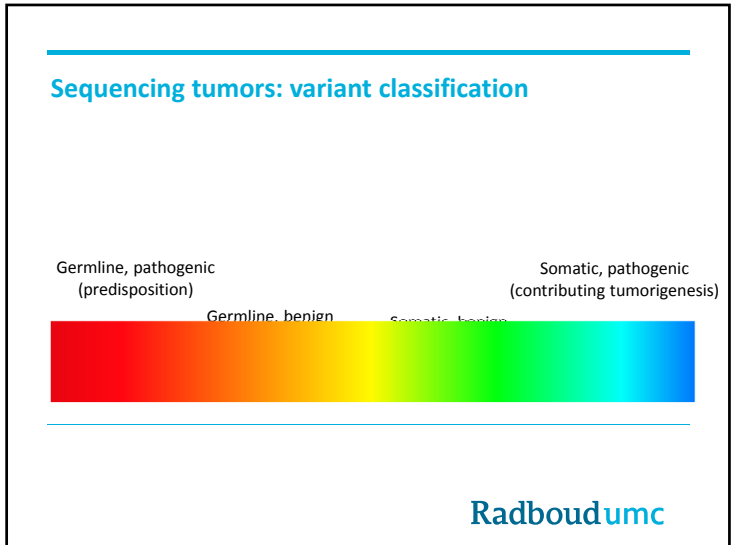
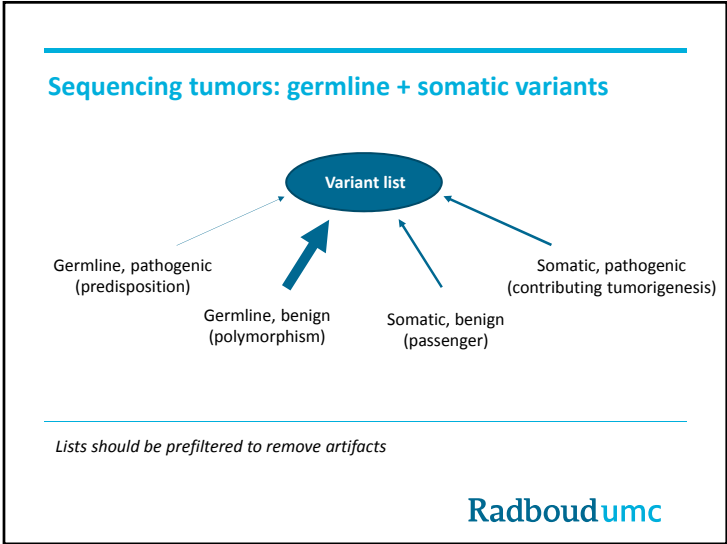
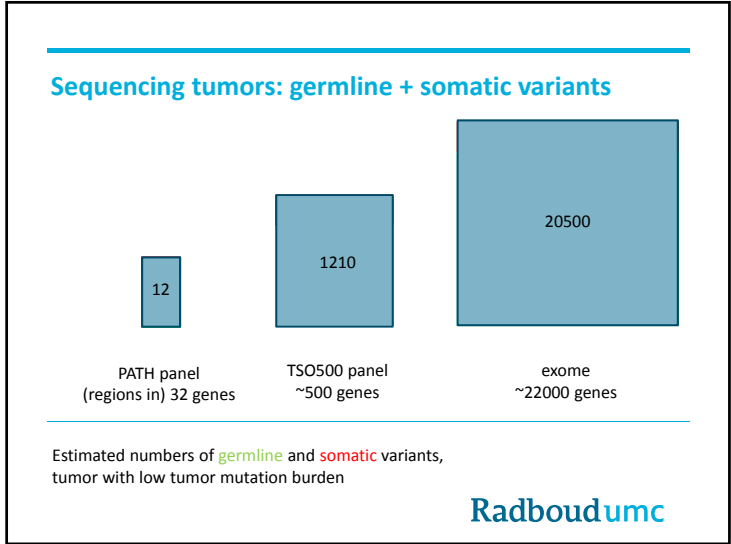
Sequencing tumors: germline + somatic variants




★ germline, (majority) benign ★ somatic, benign or pathogenic? (passenger or driver?)

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Variant classification



- 1: Benign
- 2: Likely Benign
- 3: Variant of Unknown Significance (VUS)
- 4: Likely pathogenic
- 5: Defenitely pathogenic

5 class system, originates from Human Genetics

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Variant classification

Standards and guidelines for the interpretation of sequence variants: a joint consensus recommendation of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association for Molecular Pathology
Richards et al., 2015

Oncogenes → pathogenic = gain of function
Tumor suppressor genes → pathogenic = loss of function

Pathogenic	Likely pathogenic	Benign	Likely benign	Uncertain significance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Strong (PVS1) AND 2 Strong (PS1-PS4) OR 3 Moderate (PM1-PM3) and 1 supporting (PP1-PP5) OR 4 Strong (PS1-PS4) OR 5 Strong (PS1-PS4) AND 6 Moderate (PM1-PM3) OR 7 Moderate (PM1-PM3) AND 2 supporting (PP1-PP5) OR 8 Moderate (PM1-PM3) AND 4 supporting (PP1-PP5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Strong (PVS1) AND 1 moderate (PM1-PM3) OR 2 Strong (PS1-PS4) AND 1-2 moderate (PM1-PM3) OR 3 Strong (PS1-PS4) AND 2 supporting (PP1-PP5) OR 4 1 Moderate (PM1-PM3) OR 5 Moderate (PM1-PM3) AND 2 supporting (PP1-PP5) OR 6 Moderate (PM1-PM3) AND 4 supporting (PP1-PP5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 None above BS1 OR 2 Strong (BS1-BS3) 3 Strong (BS1-BS3) and 1 supporting (BP1-BP7) OR 4 Strong (BS1-BS3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Strong (BS1-BS3) 2 Strong (BS1-BS3) and 1 supporting (BP1-BP7) OR 3 Strong (BS1-BS3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Other criteria above are not met OR 2 The criteria for benign and pathogenic are contradictory

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“De uitzondering bevestigt de regel”

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BRCA2 (NM_000059.3):c.9976A>T (p.(Lys3326*))

Very strong evidence of pathogenicity

PVS1 Null variant (nonsense, frameshift, canonical +/-1 or 2 splice sites, initiation codon, single or multi-exon deletion) in a gene where loss of function (LOF) is a known mechanism of disease

Maar: populatie frequentie volgens gnomAD:
ALL:0.65% - AFR:0.13% - AMR:0.27% - ASI:0.41% - SAS:0.69% - NFE:0.87% - FIN:1.09% - OTH:0.64%

Strong evidence of benign impact

BS1 Allele frequency is greater than expected for disorder

Te frequent om disease causing te zijn

Premature stop in tumor suppressor → benign

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CXCR4 (NM-001008540.2): c.1024dup (p.(Ser342fs))

Very strong evidence of pathogenicity

PVS1 Null variant (nonsense, frameshift, canonical +/-1 or 2 splice sites, initiation codon, single or multi-exon deletion) in a gene where loss of function (LOF) is a known mechanism of disease

Geen referentie in literatuur voor deze specifieke mutatie

Oncogen, maar premature stops/frameshifts beschreven → verhoogde expressie

Bekend in Waldenström macroglobulinemia (WM)

Premature stop in oncogen

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CXCR4 (NM-001008540.2): c.1024dup (p.(Ser342fs))

Clinical Cancer Research

Genomic Landscape of CXCR4 Mutations in Waldenström Macroglobulinemia

Protein	Start Position	End Position	Amino Acid
1	1	332	332
1	333	333	333
1	334	334	334
1	335	335	335
1	336	336	336
1	337	337	337
1	338	338	338
1	339	339	339
1	340	340	340
1	341	341	341
1	342	342	342
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1	494	494	494
1	495	495	495
1	496	496	496
1	497	497	497
1	498	498	498
1	499	499	499
1	500	500	500

Increased expression of CXCR4 in Waldenström macroglobulinemia with CXCR4^{WT}

Because we observed that all mutations were located in the C-terminal tail of CXCR4 and [2018](#), we therefore hypothesized that a gain-of-function mutation in the C-terminal tail of CXCR4 could be a potential mechanism of disease. In this study, we investigated the impact of a gain-of-function mutation in the C-terminal tail of CXCR4.

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CXCR4 (NM-001008540.2): c.1024dup (p.(Ser342fs))

Very strong evidence of pathogenicity

PVS1 Null variant (nonsense, frameshift, canonical +/-1 or 2 splice sites, initiation codon, single or multi-exon deletion) in a gene where loss of function (LOF) is a known mechanism of disease

Geen referentie in literatuur voor deze specifieke mutatie

Oncogen, maar premature stops/frameshifts beschreven → verhoogde expressie

Bekend in Waldenström macroglobulinemia (WM)

Premature stop in oncogen

Radboudumc

JAK2 (NM_004972.3): c.1849G>T (p.(Val617Phe))

Hotspot, activating mutation, commonly in myeloproliferative neoplasms, targeted with JAK inh.

Strong evidence of benign impact

BS2 Observed in a healthy adult individual for a recessive (homozygous), dominant (heterozygous), or X-linked (hemizygous) disorder with full penetrance expected at an early age

But also included in multiple population databases:

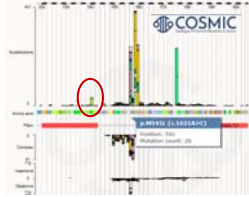
gnomAD: ALL:0.034% - AFR:0.032% - AMR:0.017% - ASJ:0.058% - EAS:0.015% - SAS:0.033% - NFE:0.038% - FIN:0.056% - OTH:0.014%

Oncogene, pathogenic (gain-of-function) mutation included in multiple population databases (commonly mutated genes in hematological malignancies can also be found in the blood of otherwise healthy individuals)

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KIT (NM_000222.2): c.1621A>C (p.(Met541Leu))

Moderate evidence of pathogenicity
 PM1 Located in a mutational hot spot and/or critical and well-established functional domain (e.g. active site of an enzyme) without benign variation



- Common germline benign variant:

gnomAD: ALL:7.65% - AFR:5.94% - AMR:4.91% - ASI:9.71% - EAS:4.61% - SAS:7.59% - NFE:9.69% - FIN:4.13% - OTH:8.50%

- But also included in database for somatic mutations (COSMIC, 26x)

Oncogene, benign variant, included in somatic mutation in cancer databases (loosely controlled sources of submitted variants)

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De uitzonderingen...

Premature stop in tumor suppressor (klasse 1, benigne)

Premature stop in oncogen (klasse 4, waarschijnlijk pathoogeen)

Bekende pathogene mutatie in populatie database

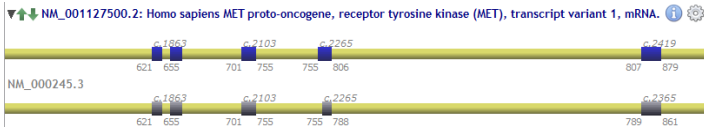
Bekende benigne variant uit populatie in somatische tumormutatie database

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MET (NM_001127500.2): c.2962C>T, p.(Arg988Cys) alias p.(R988C)

a.k.a.: MET (NM_000245.3) exon 14: 2908C>T, p.(Arg970Cys) alias p.(R970C)

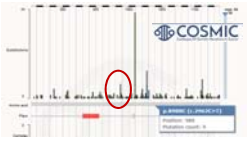
Genomic position (DNA):	Chr7(GRCh37):g.116411923C>T
Inferred coding position in transcript (RNA):	c.2962C>T or 2908C>T
Inferred amino acid position in protein:	p.(Arg988Cys) or p.(Arg970Cys)



▼ NM_001127500.2: Homo sapiens MET proto-oncogene, receptor tyrosine kinase (MET), transcript variant 1, mRNA.

Radboudumc

MET (NM_001127500.2): c.2962C>T (p.(Arg988Cys))



- MET exon 14: no predicted effect on splicing
- Included in cancer somatic mutation & population databases
- gnomAD: ALL:0.28% - AFR:0.091% - AMR:0.12% - ASI:0.16% - EAS:0.026% - SAS:0.065% - NFE:0.50% - FIN:0.088% - OTH:0.32%; **Dutch: T=1.10%**
- In vitro data conflicting

Oncogene, included in somatic mutation & population databases, conflicting in vitro data

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Strong evidence of pathogenicity

PS3 Well-established *in vitro* or *in vivo* functional studies supportive of a damaging effect on the gene or gene product

Note: Functional studies that have been validated and shown to be reproducible and robust in a clinical diagnostic laboratory setting are considered the most well-established

Gene Variant Descriptions MET R588C (corresponds to R570C in the canonical isoform) lies within the juxtamembrane domain of the Met protein (PMID: 14359814, UniProt.org). R588C does not increase Met phosphorylation, but results in increased phosphorylation of cellular proteins, and increased proliferation and migration of cultured cells (PMID: 14359814, PMID: 20670955, PMID: 22973954, PMID: 31004003).

Oncoscience

Open Access | 2019 | Vol. 10 | No. 1 | DOI: 10.1080/21642503.2019.1592838

Retrospective Review of MET Gene Mutations

Wenbin Zhang,†, Janna Brakke,†, Zhongbin Liu,†, Shihua Sun,†, Zhunuo Dai,†, Xiaohua Li,†, Janna Brakke,†

Open Access | Full Text Available Online

† Author contribution: † Author details | Copyright and License information (Open Access)

The other c-MET mutation R311E affecting the cytoplasmic juxtamembrane domain, results in the substitution of the large polar amino acid arginine with the small polar amino acid cysteine. Studies on this mutation are also conflicting as some demonstrate it resulting in gain of function in T468 cell lines [2,13], while others report its lack of transducing oncogenic capacity and therefore of little significance [11,13]

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4468339/>

Conflicting studies for effect.
But, MET gain-of-function is normally mutually exclusive with RAS/RAF gain of function

Table 2
Summary of incidence of c-MET point mutations with corresponding co-mutations in the studied tumors

Cancer	RET	KRAS	BRAF	EGFR
NSCLC	100	0	0	0
HNSCC	100	0	0	0
BLCA	100	0	0	0
PAADCA	100	0	0	0
ESCC	100	0	0	0
LIHC	100	0	0	0
STES	100	0	0	0
UCEC	100	0	0	0

Variant classification

Also take into consideration:

- Variant allele frequency (VAF) vs tumorload (%)
- Other pathogenic (driver) variants
- TMB
- Clinical context

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From variant list to clinical report

- Sequencing tumors, some numbers
- Variant classification in 5 classes
- ‘Classification by similarity’
- From variant list to clinical report

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Variant classification?

Variant is not described in any database



The Beatles

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Variant classification by similarity

PVS1	Null variant (nonsense, frameshift, canonical +/-1 or 2 splice sites, initiation codon, single or multi-exon deletion) in a gene where loss of function (LOF) is a known mechanism of disease	} Gene level
PP2	Missense variant in a gene that has a low rate of benign missense variation and where missense variants are a common mechanism of disease	
BP1	Missense variant in a gene for which primarily truncating variants are known to cause disease	
PM1	Located in a mutational hot spot and/or critical and well-established functional domain (e.g. active site of an enzyme) without benign variation	} Amino acid level
PM5	Novel missense change at an amino acid residue where a different missense change determined to be pathogenic has been seen before	

Standards and Guidelines for the Interpretation of Sequence Variants: A Joint Consensus Recommendation of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association for Molecular Pathology
Richards et al., 2015

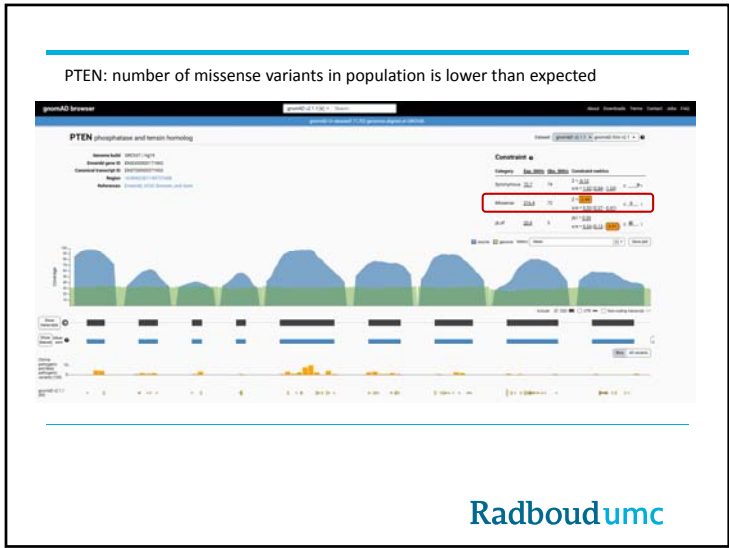
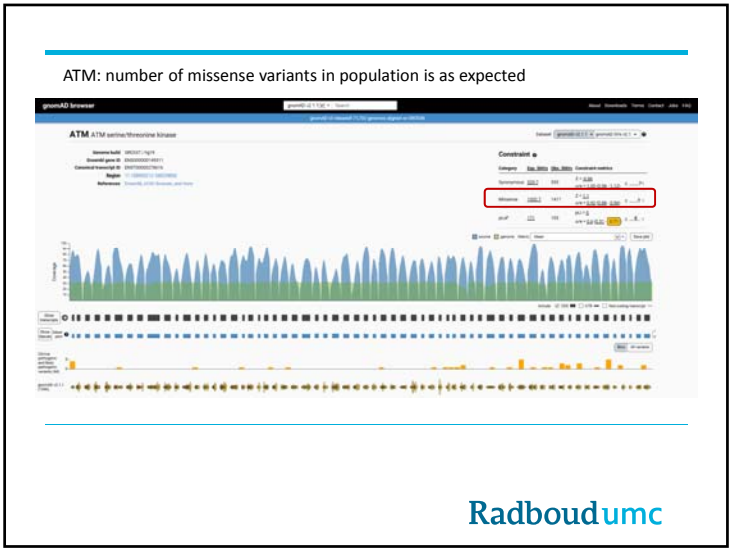
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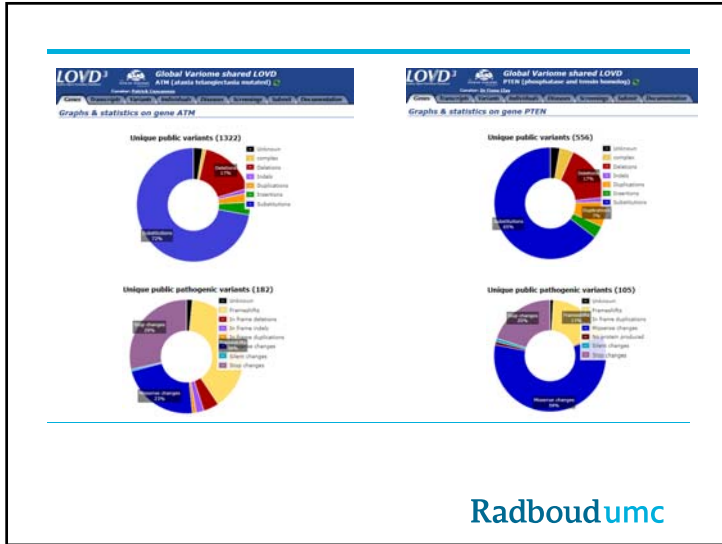
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→ ATM vs PTEN

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Variant classification by similarity

PM1 Located in a mutational hot spot and/or critical and well-established functional domain (e.g. active site of an enzyme) without benign variation

PM5 Novel missense change at an amino acid residue where a different missense change determined to be pathogenic has been seen before

} Domain/Amino acid level

Standards and Guidelines for the Interpretation of Sequence Variants: A Joint Consensus Recommendation of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association for Molecular Pathology
Richards et al., 2015

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KIT (NM_000222.2): c.1678_1738delinsCCTTATGATA p.(Val560_His580delinsProTyrAspAsn)

- delins, *in frame*
- Not in any database
- But: in frequently mutated region (in exon 11) in regulatory juxtamembrane region

Figure 1: A general autoinhibition/activation model for receptor tyrosine kinases.

Juxtamembrane autoinhibition in receptor tyrosine kinases, 2004
Therapeutic Advances in Medical Oncology, 2014

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CXCR4 (NM-001008540.2): c.1024dup (p.(Ser342fs))

Very strong evidence of pathogenicity

PVS1 Null variant (nonsense, frameshift, canonical +/-1 or 2 splice sites, initiation codon, single or multi-exon deletion) in a gene where loss of function (LOF) is a known mechanism of disease

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Bekend in Waldenström macroglobulinemia (WM)

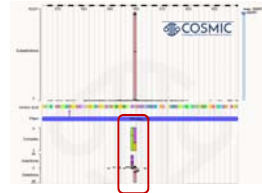
KMBP-dag: Classification 3-5

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BRAF (NM_004333.4): c.1795_1800delinsTACAGTGAA

(p.(Thr599_Val600delinsTyrSerGlu))

- delins, *in frame*
- near p.V600 hotspot
- no literature, but comparable mutations ->
- Tyr599-Val600 becomes Tyr599-Ser600-Glu601



KMBP-dag: Classification 3-5

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From variant list to clinical report

- Sequencing tumors, some numbers
- Variant classification in 5 classes
- 'Classification by similarity'
- **From variant list to clinical report**

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From variant list to clinical report

- 1: Benign
- 2: Likely Benign
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- 4: Likely pathogenic
- 5: Defenitely pathogenic

Standards and guidelines for the interpretation of sequence variants: a joint consensus recommendation of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association for Molecular Pathology
Richards et al., 2015

Most Dutch laboratories use his system

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From variant list to clinical report

National guidelines required:

- 1). Which variants to include?
- 2). What variant information to include?
- 3). Clinical significance?

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From variant list to clinical report

National guidelines required :

- 1). Which variants to include?**
- 2). What variant information to include?
- 3). Clinical significance?

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From variant list to clinical report

- | | | |
|---|-----|---------------|
| 1: Benign | } | Do not report |
| 2: Likely Benign | | |
| 3: Variant of Unknown Significance (VUS) | → ? | |
| 4: Likely pathogenic
(activating oncogene, inactivating TSG) | } | Report |
| 5: Defenitely pathogenic
(activating oncogene, inactivating TSG) | | |

→ Werkgroep: Update richtlijn Moleculaire Verslaglegging (dd 2012)

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Huidig gebruik richtlijn Moleculaire Verslaglegging

“Deze richtlijn geeft aan welke onderdelen in elk geval in verslagen moeten worden weergegeven. Het verdient aanbeveling deze items puntsgewijs en compact weer te geven.”

https://pathology.nl/wp-content/uploads/PDF/kwaliteit/richtlijnen/WMDP-richtlijn_verslaglegging_moleculaire_diagnostiek_20120601.pdf

→ Werkgroep: Update richtlijn Moleculaire Verslaglegging (dd 2012)

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Which variants to include?

Recent example:

- Premature stop in *EGFR* exon 21. Very likely a 'benign' passenger mutation.
- Was included in report.
- In summary it was included as "exon 21, not targetable".
- Personal communication with clinician: "I consider therapy targeting *EGFR*"

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Which variants to include?



"Most mutations affecting cancer genes are of uncertain significance" (88% in cohort of 44601 protein affecting mutations)

With increased panel size:
 The number of VUS can outnumber class 4 and 5 variants in the reports

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Relevance of VUS (class 3 variants)?

Lessons from Genetics (Hereditary cancer predisposition testing)

Variants are frequently reclassified and usually downgraded over time

"Similar to recent publications on variant reclassifications [4–6], we determined that the vast majority of unique variant reclassifications were downgrades (90.3%) with a much smaller fraction (9.7%) being upgraded. In particular, only 7.5% of variants reclassified from the VUS category were upgraded."

"The disproportionate number of downgrades from the VUS category seen in our cohort, in addition to data from other recent publications [4, 6], shows the aggressive usage of the VUS category by laboratories during variant annotation. If the VUS category was used impartially, the number of upgraded and downgraded reclassifications from this category would be more evenly balanced. This overuse of VUS classification is becoming an even greater issue because VUS rates track with the number of genes tested [7] and the use of multigene panels has rapidly expanded in standard of care hereditary cancer predisposition testing [8]."



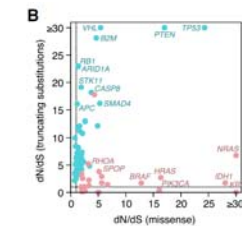
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Relevance of VUS (class 3 variants)?

Cancer genomes tolerate many coding mutations



- Highlights
- Unlike the germline, somatic cells evolve predominantly by positive selection
 - Nearly all (~99%) coding mutations are tolerated and escape negative selection
 - Exome-wide estimates of the total number of driver coding mutations per tumor
 - Half of the coding driver mutations occur outside of known cancer genes



Positive selection missense primarily in oncogenes, TP53 en PTEN

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From variant list to clinical report

Mutatie classificatie		Gen versus indicatie	
		klinisch relevant	onduidelijke klinische relevantie
	1: Benigne	-	-
	2: Waarschijnlijk benigne	-	-
	3: VUS	v (mits... opmerking in verslag en/of bespreken in MTB)	x (mits... uitgezonderd LUMC, UMCU, Av4)
	4: Waarschijnlijk pathogeen/ activerend oncogen/ inactiverend tumorsuppressorgen	v	v
	5: Pathogeen/ activerend oncogen/ inactiverend tumorsuppressorgen	v	v

→ Werkgroep: Update richtlijn Moleculaire Verslaggeving (dd 2012)

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From variant list to clinical report

National guidelines required :

- 1). Which variants to include?
- 2). What variant information to include?
- 3). Clinical significance?

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The clinical report: variant information

Variant details (inventory of preferred transcript numbers)

MET (NM_001127500.2): c.2962C>T, p.(Arg988Cys) alias p.(R988C)

a.k.a.: MET (NM_000245.3) exon 14: 2908C>T, p.(Arg970Cys) alias p.(R970C)

'Category of variant'

Clinician: "KIT exon 11?"

Conclusie:
Blijft ventricula zijde sectum: Reeld passend bij een gastro-intestinale stromaceltumor (GIST).

Next generation sequencing is het meest nauwkeurige in het vaststellen van de status van de KIT genen. In het voorbeeld hierboven is de status van de KIT genen vastgesteld op basis van de status van de KIT genen. In het voorbeeld hierboven is de status van de KIT genen vastgesteld op basis van de status van de KIT genen. In het voorbeeld hierboven is de status van de KIT genen vastgesteld op basis van de status van de KIT genen.

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From variant list to clinical report

National guidelines required:

- 1). Which variants to include?
- 2). What variant information to include?
- 3). Clinical significance?

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Figure 2 Evidence-based variant categorization. Somatic variants are classified into four tiers based on their level of clinical significance in cancer diagnosis, prognosis, and/or therapeutics. Variants in tier I are of strongest clinical significance, and variants in tier IV are benign or likely benign variants. FDA, Food and Drug Administration.

→ Variant vs clinical significance

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Fig. 3 Minimum variant level data (MVD) for somatic variant curation. The top two levels (blue and purple) contain fields generally in common use by most variant curation efforts, while the bottom set of fields (orange) are the cancer enterprise fields. ICD10 International Classification of Diseases, NCCN National Comprehensive Cancer Network, NC National Cancer Institute, FMD PubMed EI, Sub-Substitution, SNOMED Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine, UMLS Unified Medical Language System.

→ Variant vs clinical significance

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Rapportage klinische relevantie van varianten?

“Alleen binnen richtlijn” “Verantwoordelijkheid van behandelend arts”

“Altijd” “Verantwoordelijkheid ligt ook bij KMBP”

“Nooit” “KMBP is geen arts, kan klinische relevantie niet volledig overzien”

“In algemene termen” “Arts begrijpt niet altijd de resultaten”

Mijn samenvatting: gedeelde verantwoordelijkheid. KMBP heeft geen volledig klinisch overzicht, maar arts kan moleculair resultaat niet altijd goed duiden. Suggestie: “Mogelijk aanknopingspunten voor therapiekeuze: TMB 15; EGFR activerende mutatie (exon 19).”

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Molecular Tumor Boards

Platform to discuss potentially clinically relevant variants

Shared responsibility in the interpretation of clinical relevance for therapy

(Nuance might be lost in written reports)

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From variant list to clinical report

- Sequencing tumors, some numbers
- Variant classification in 5 classes
- 'Classification by similarity'
- From variant list to clinical report

