

# Concept Clearance: ML/AI Tools to Advance Genomic Translational Research

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National Human Genome  
Research Institute

The **Forefront**  
of **Genomics**

# Outline

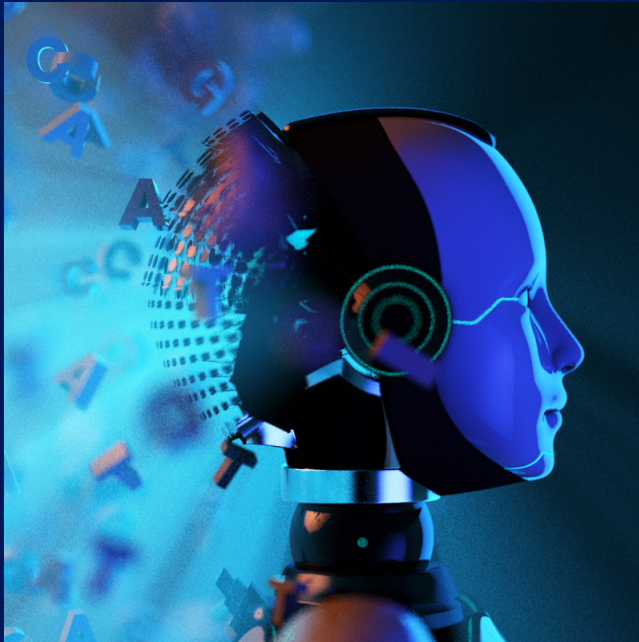
- Objective
- Background and Rationale
- Scope
- Budget
- Acknowledgements
- Feedback

# Objective

Spur the development of novel Machine Learning/Artificial Intelligence (ML/AI) tools to explore their potential to advance genomic translational research

*Specifically, the aim is to model pleiotropy and variable penetrance through the learning and classification capabilities of ML/AI to uncover novel relationships between genotypes and phenotypes. Tools will be developed in a shared, agreed upon Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications (ELSI) framework .*

# Machine Learning/Artificial Intelligence



Artificial intelligence (AI) is the capability of a computer system to mimic human cognitive functions such as learning and problem-solving.



Machine learning (ML) is an application of AI where mathematical models of data are used to help a computer learn without direct instruction.

# ML/AI in Research and Medicine

## A deep learning model for detection of Alzheimer's disease based on retinal photographs: a retrospective, multicentre case-control study

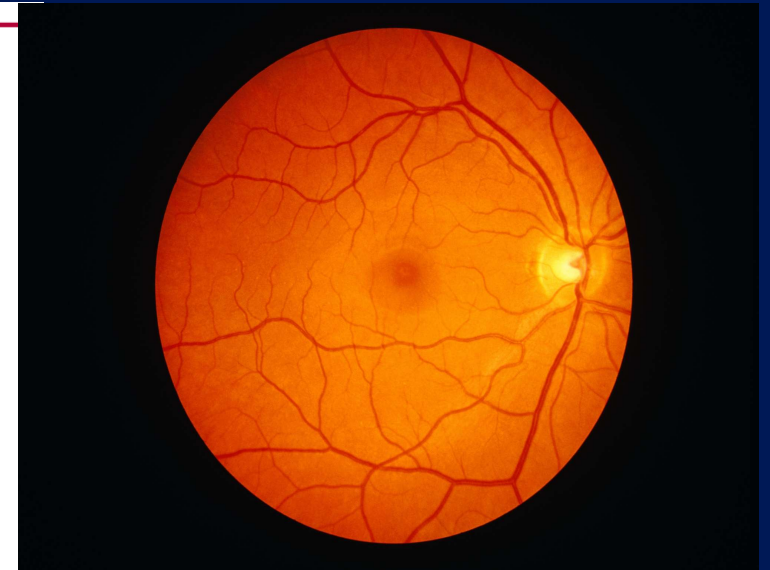
Carol Y Cheung\*, An Ran Ran\*, Shujun Wang\*, Victor T T Chan, Kaiser Sham, Saima Hilal, Narayanaswamy Venketasubramanian, Ching-Yu Cheng, Charumathi Sabanayagam, Yih Chung Tham, Leopold Schmetterer, Gareth J McKay, Michael A Williams, Adrian Wong, Lisa W C Au, Zhihui Lu, Jason C Yam, Clement C Tham, John J Chen, Oana M Dumitrascu, Pheng-Ann Heng, Timothy C Y Kwok, Vincent C T Mok†, Dan Milea†, Christopher Li-Hsian Chen†, Tien Yin Wong†

### Summary

**Background** There is no simple model to screen for Alzheimer's disease, partly because the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease itself is complex—typically involving expensive and sometimes invasive tests not commonly available outside



*Lancet Digit Health* 2022;  
4: e806-15



# ML/AI in Research and Medicine

Original Investigation

FREE

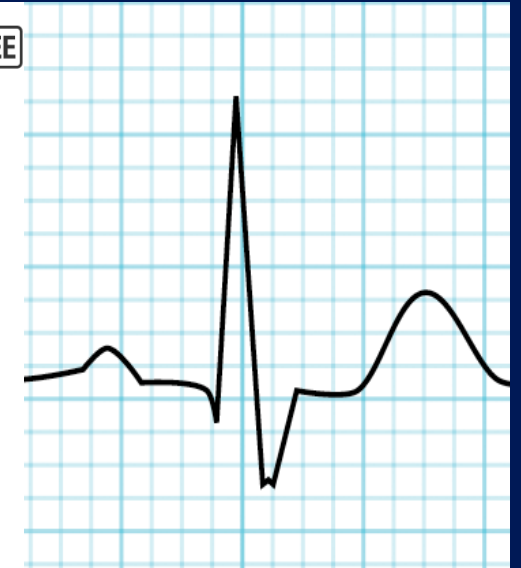
April 3, 2019

## Development and Validation of a Deep-Learning Model to Screen for Hyperkalemia From the Electrocardiogram

Conner D. Galloway, MSc<sup>1</sup>; Alexander V. Valys, BS<sup>1</sup>; Jacqueline B. Shreibati, MD<sup>1</sup>; [et al](#)

» [Author Affiliations](#) | [Article Information](#)

*JAMA Cardiol.* 2019;4(5):428-436. doi:10.1001/jamacardio.2019.0640



# Use Case - Pathogenic Variants

## *Penetrance and Pleiotropy → Phenotypic Differences*

### CFTR - Cystic Fibrosis

**Table 1**

Hierarchy of associations with mutations in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane regulator gene

Phenotypes associated with <i>CFTR</i> mutations	Genetic/other influences		
	<i>CFTR</i>	Non- <i>CFTR</i> gene modifiers	Environment
'Atypical' CF*			
CBAVD	+++	+	+
Mild pulmonary disease	+++	+	+
ICP <sup>†</sup>	+++	+	+
Associated with mutations in <i>CFTR</i> <sup>‡</sup>			
Sinusitis	+	++	+
ABPA	+	++	+++
Asthma	+/- <sup>§</sup>	+++	++

Genes 2021, 12, 562.

# Use Case - Pathogenic Variants

*Penetrance and Pleiotropy → Phenotypic Differences*

*CFTR - Cystic Fibrosis*  
*Environmental factor*

<i>Mycobacteroides abscessus</i>		
	<b>Odds ratio</b>	<b>95% CI) P-value</b>
Manganese (1-log unit)	<b>0.74</b>	<b>(0.60, 0.90) 0.002</b>
Mercury (1-log unit)	<b>1.45</b>	<b>(1.09, 1.93) 0.010</b>
Molybdenum (1-log unit)	<b>1.36</b>	<b>(1.17, 1.59) 0.0001</b>
Phosphorus (1-log unit)	<b>1.25</b>	<b>(1.05, 1.49) 0.012</b>

*Environ. Epi. 7(5):p e266, October 2023.*



# Use Case - Pathogenic Variants

*Penetrance and Pleiotropy → Phenotypic Differences*

*CFTR - Cystic Fibrosis*

*Environmental factor + Genetic modifier*



# NHGRI Rationale

- Feedback from NHGRI workshops
  - Genomic Medicine XIII, 2021
  - Machine Learning In Genomics, 2021
- Aligns with NHGRI 2020 Strategic Vision

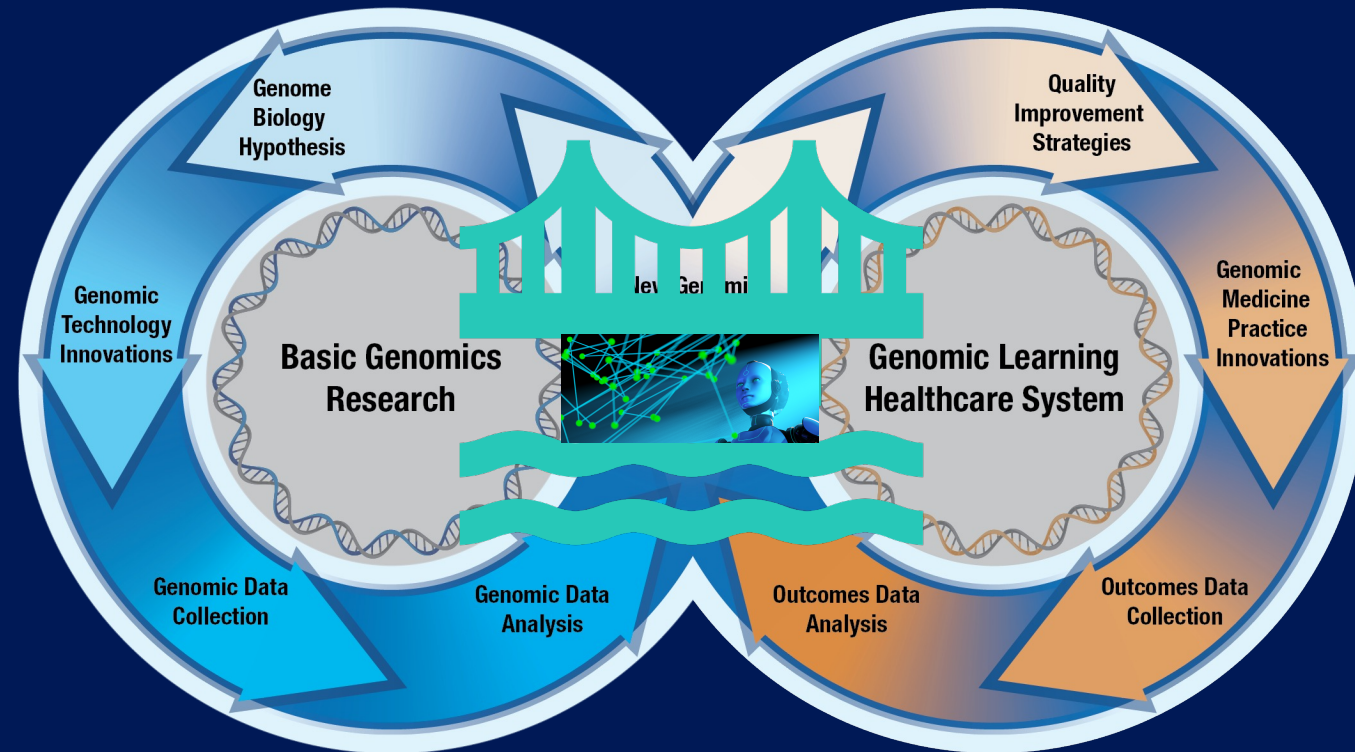
“Provide a conceptual framing that consistently conveys the role of both genomic and non-genomic contributors to health and disease – routinely considering the importance of social and environmental contributions to human health and the interactions...”

# Objective

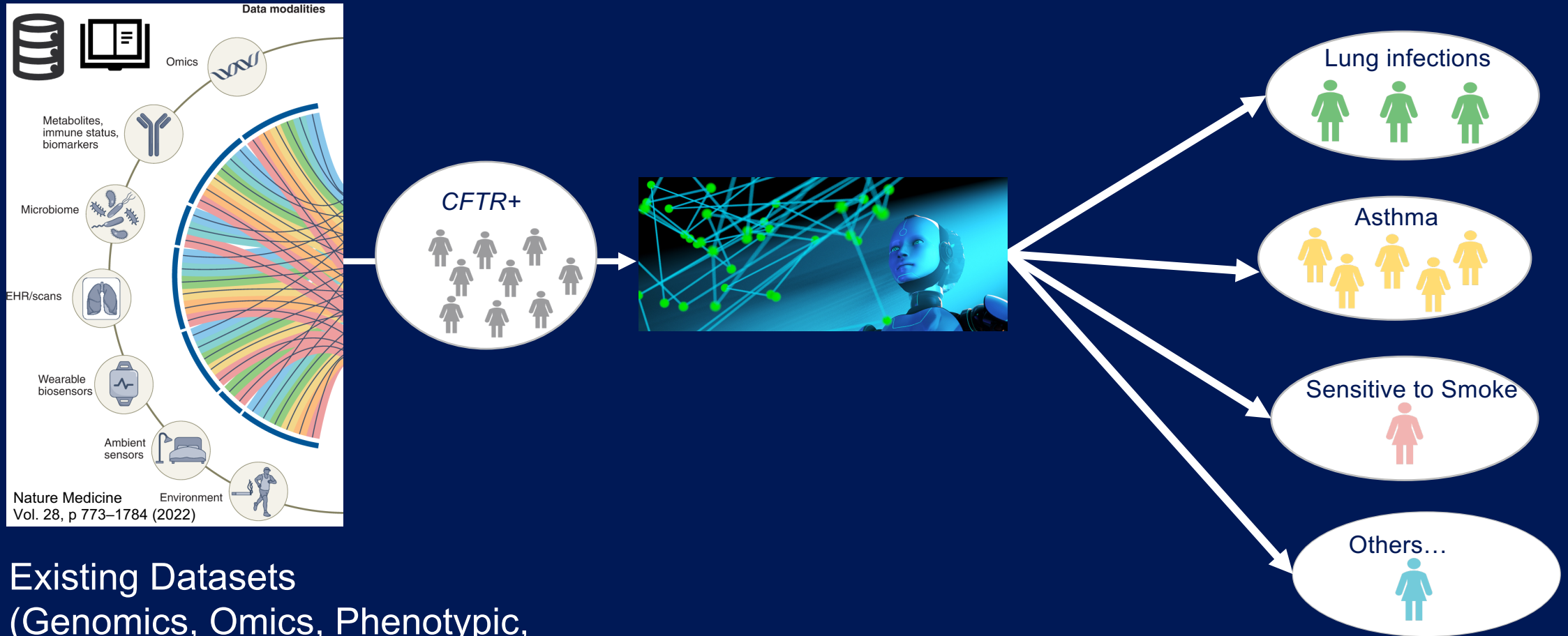
Spur the development of novel Machine Learning/Artificial Intelligence (**ML/AI**) tools to explore their potential to advance genomic translational research

*Specifically, the aim is to model pleiotropy and variable penetrance through the learning and classification capabilities of ML/AI to uncover **novel relationships between genotypes and phenotypes**. Tools will be developed in a shared, agreed upon **Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications (ELSI) framework** .*

# ML/AI Tools to Advance Genomic Translational Research



# Scope

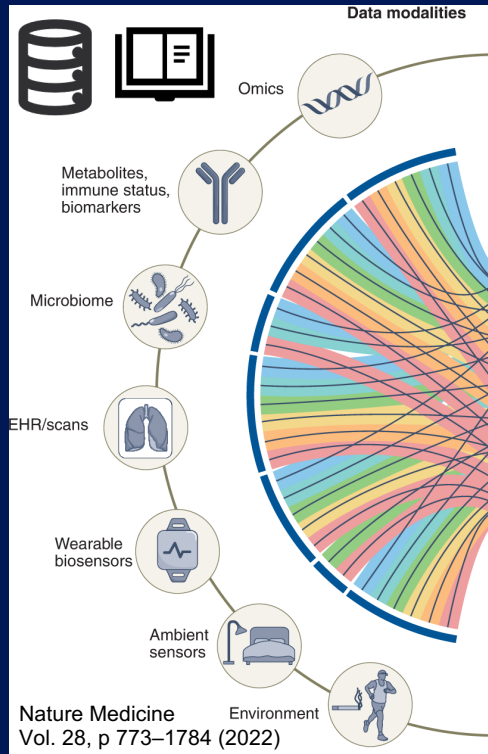


Existing Datasets  
(Genomics, Omics, Phenotypic,  
Social Determinants of Health..)

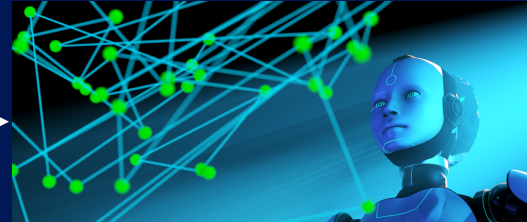
+

Reference Knowledge

# Scope



Train



Address ELSI concerns

Develop and validate ML/AI tools within a consortium-established ELSI Framework.



Existing Datasets  
(Genomics, Omics, Phenotypic,  
Social Determinants of Health..)

+

Reference Knowledge

# Program Structure

## *Biphasic, Collaborative, 2RFAs*



### Development Sites (UG3) Design Phase

#### Consortium will jointly:

- Select diseases and pathogenic variants
- Design tool end-points and outputs and validation plan
- Prepare datasets for cross-validation
- Formulate draft best practices and ELSI framework

◆ Have objectives been achieved?



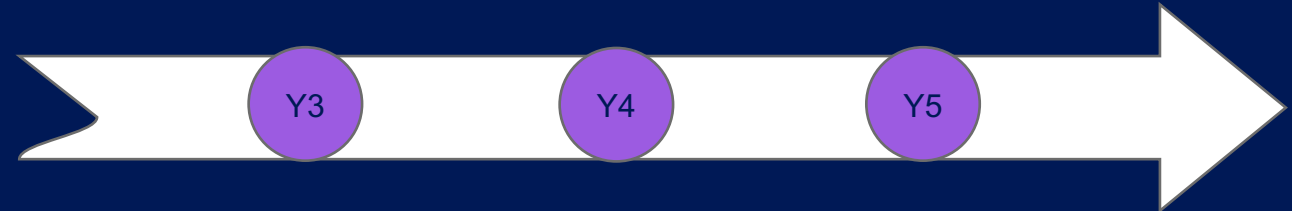
### Development Sites (UH3) ML/AI Tool Development/Validation Phase

#### Each site will:

- Develop tools according to framework
- Validate according to plan

#### Consortium will jointly:

- Refine best practices & framework
- Disseminate resources FAIR-ly
  - Tools, datasets
  - ELSI framework
  - Lessons learned etc.,



### Coordination Center (U01)

Coordinate logistics for all collaborative activities

Years 3-5 Contingent on Continuation of Development Sites

# Relationship to Ongoing Activities

Program	Leverage
eMERGE, PRIMED, GREGoR All of US, TOPMed, UKBB, Bridge2AI etc.	Datasets
AIM-AHEAD, Coalition of Health AI...	Best practices, ELSI-relevant resources



# Budget

- Total annual costs
  - 3-4\* sites for a total cost of \$4.8M
  - \$1.2M for CC
- Total costs for 5 years: \$30M

Multidisciplinary team with expertise in ML/AI, data wrangling software development, clinical research, ELSI, coordination

\*Co-funding to be sought from other ICOs for additional sites

# Acknowledgements

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# Feedback