

# Building genomics

genomDE :  
National and  
European initiatives

30th November 2020  
DIGITAL EVENT

**Building genomics**

genomDE : National and European initiatives  
30TH NOVEMBER 2020



Supported by the European Union's Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) and implemented in cooperation with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM)



# Genomics in the Netherlands

Han G. Brunner

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# hello

Han G. Brunner

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# The Netherlands



**17 Million inhabitants**

# 1 Height 183 / 169 cm

# 17 Life expectancy (81.5)

# 8 Corruption ranking

# 5 World happiness ranking



# The Netherlands

Single payer (National) health care system

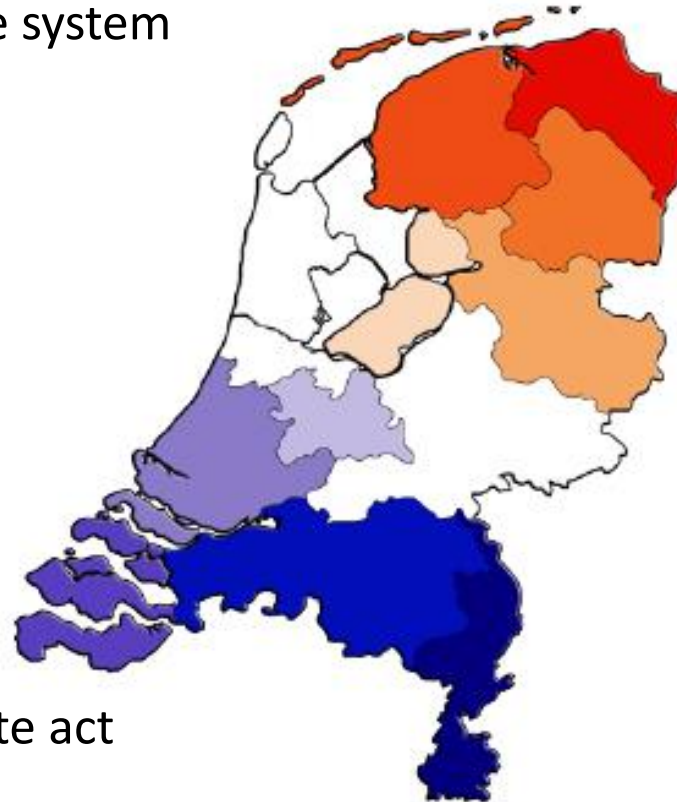
~180 M Euros for genetic services

~12M Euros for NIPT program

Neonatal screening program

600 PGD Procedures / yr

Genetics healthcare under separate act



# The Netherlands

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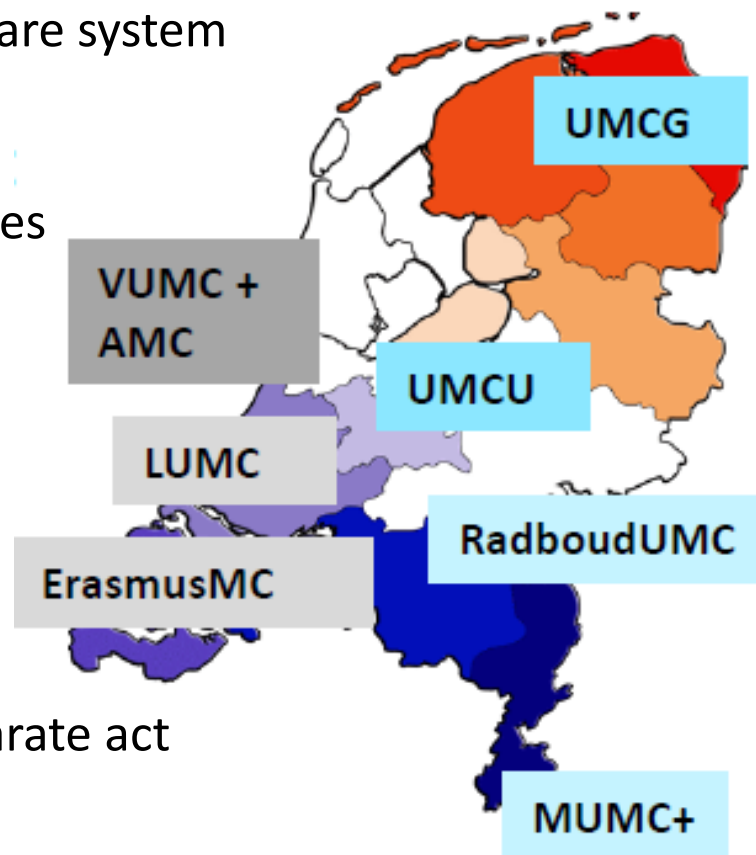
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8 Clinical Genetics Centers  
All are academic

No private genetics labs  
No private genetics doctors





# The Dutch system

Dutch Law (1983; 1991; 2007) regulates special medical services and procedures, such as kidney transplants , radiotherapy , heart surgery , brain surgery , heart lung and liver transplantations , and neonatal intensive care.

This law stipulates that for a center to provide genetic services requires:

- **Proven medical and ethical expertise, and know how regarding genetic disorders, in order to provide a full and up to date spectrum of genetic diagnostic services with respect for societal and ethical values**
- **And to have access to all relevant technological expertise, including innovation.**

# 250 Whole Genome Trios

2012



2015







GoNL  
GENOMEoftheNETHERLANDS

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Ultra-sharp genetic group portrait of the Dutch

Omics measure	Technique	Number of samples
Whole Genome Sequencing	Illumina	750
Imputed genotypes	HRC	~6000
DNA Methylation	Illumina 450K	~4000
Transcriptome	Illumina RNA seq	~4000
Metabolome	Nightingale NMR	~32,000



**BBMRI.nl**  
Biobanking and  
BioMolecular resources  
Research Infrastructure  
The Netherlands



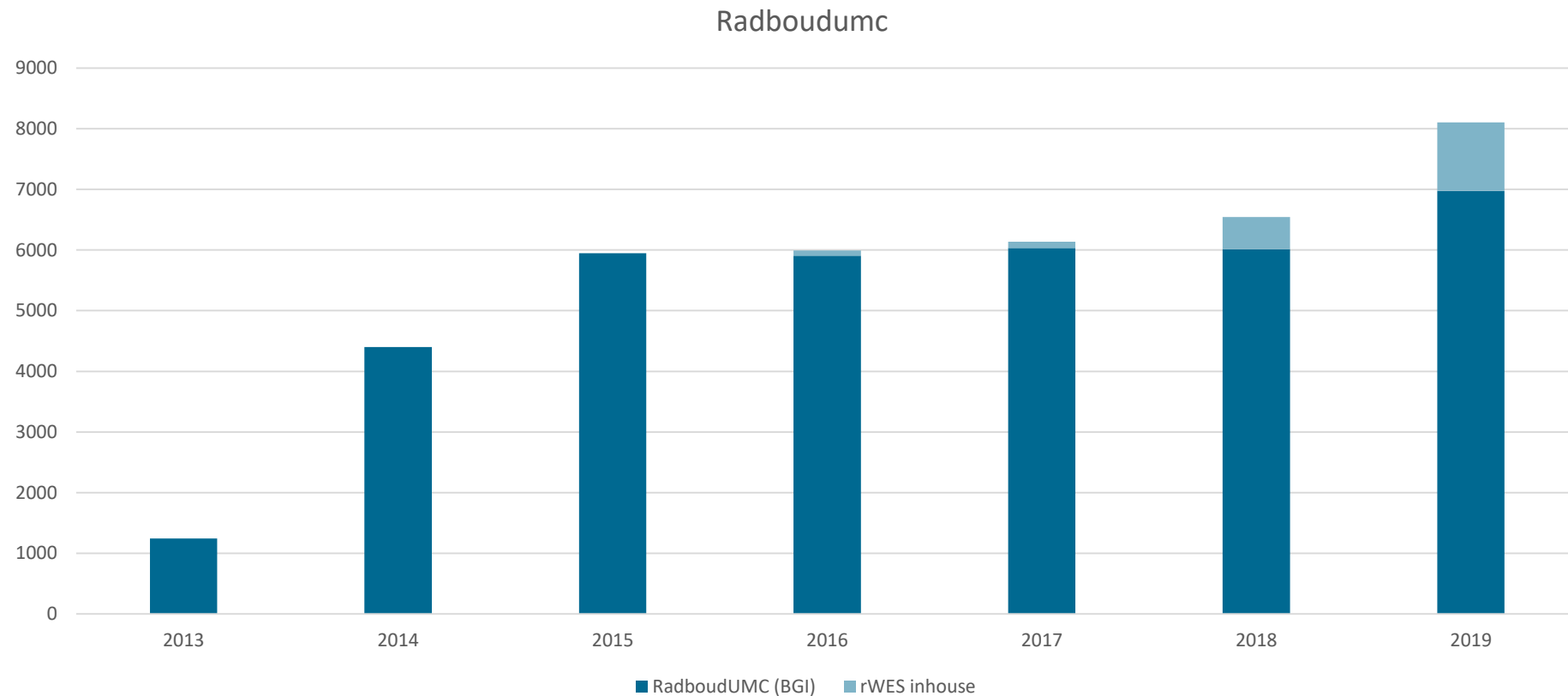
**Biobanking Netherlands**  
makes biosamples, images and data findable, accessible  
and usable for health research.



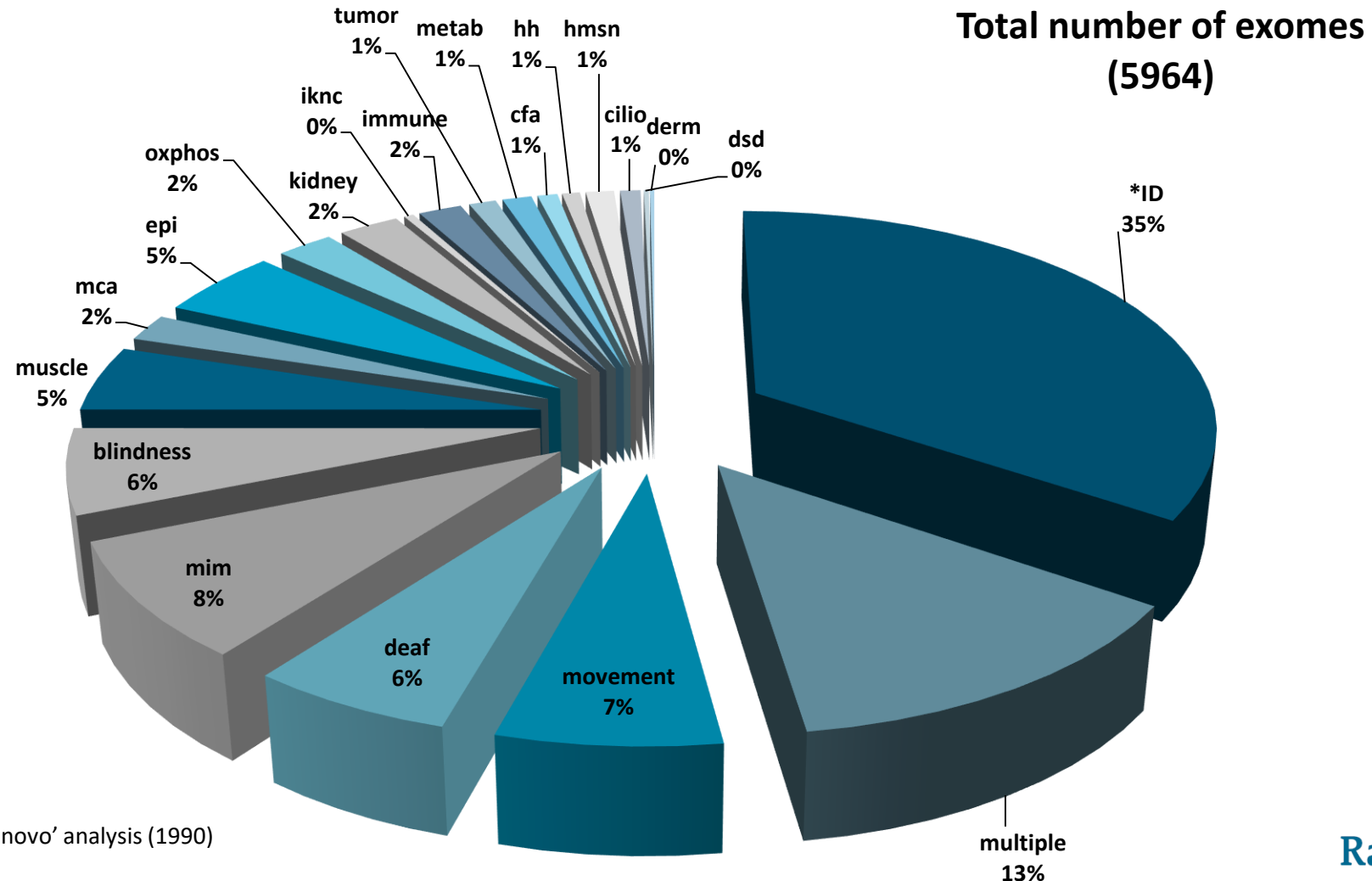
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# The Dutch experience with clinical exomes

# ~30.000 Exomes Netherlands



# *% requested clinical exomes per disease panel in 2015*



\*ID: majority has a trio based 'de novo' analysis (1990)

# Rare diseases

**8 diagnostic labs, all based at University hospitals**

**All use the same technology, and standards**

**Diagnostic variants are shared and stored in National database**

# High-quality Exomes are the main tool in Genome Diagnostics

Panels are used only for a limited number of (relatively common) problems with fewer than 50 genes responsible

- Breast cancer
- Cardiomyopathy
- Cardiac Arrhythmias
- Genomes will be introduced as the main diagnostic test starting 2021



# Diagnosis matters

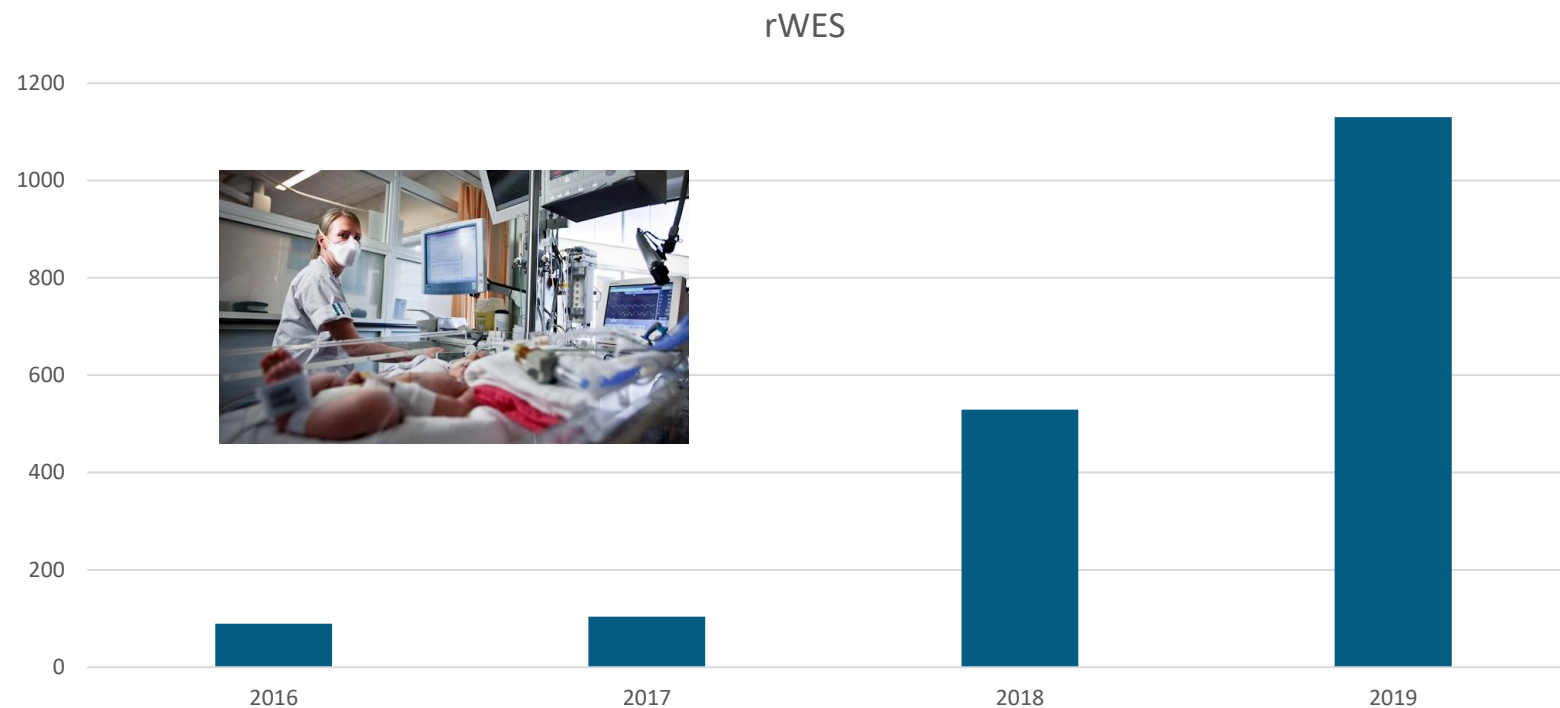


**In 2011 or 2012 investigations uncovered a GRIN2a spontaneous mutation.**

**The mother writes:**

**“Truly, the day you informed us of the diagnosis, was the best day of my life.”**

# Rapid WES RadboudUMC



# National variant sharing improves diagnosis

Received: 20 February 2019 | Revised: 5 August 2019 | Accepted: 14 August 2019

DOI: 10.1002/humu.23896

## DATABASES



**Dutch genome diagnostic laboratories accelerated and improved variant interpretation and increased accuracy by sharing data**

Ivo F. A. C. Fokkema<sup>1\*</sup> | Kasper J. van der Velde<sup>2\*</sup> | Mariska K. Slofstra<sup>2</sup> |  
Claudia A. L. Ruivenkamp<sup>3</sup> | Maartje J. Vogel<sup>4</sup> | Rolph Pfundt<sup>5</sup> | Marinus J. Blok<sup>6</sup> |  
Ronald H. Lekanne Deprez<sup>7</sup> | Quinten Waisfisz<sup>8</sup> | Kristin M. Abbott<sup>9</sup> | Richard J. Sinke<sup>9</sup> |  
Rubayte Rahman<sup>10</sup> | Isaac J. Nijman<sup>11</sup> | Bart de Koning<sup>6</sup> | Gert Thijs<sup>12</sup> |  
Nienke Wieskamp<sup>13</sup> | Ruben J. G. Moritz<sup>4</sup> | Bart Charbon<sup>2</sup> | Jasper J. Saris<sup>14</sup> |  
Johan T. den Dunnen<sup>1</sup> | Jeroen F. J. Laros<sup>1,3</sup> | Morris A. Swertz<sup>2</sup> | Marielle E. van Gijn<sup>9,11</sup>

**The nine Dutch labs publicly share variant classifications.  
Variant classifications of nearly 100,000 unique variants in centralized database.**

**Variants labeled as “consensus” when classifications agreed between labs, and shared internationally with LOVD and ClinVar.**

# Different populations carry different disease alleles

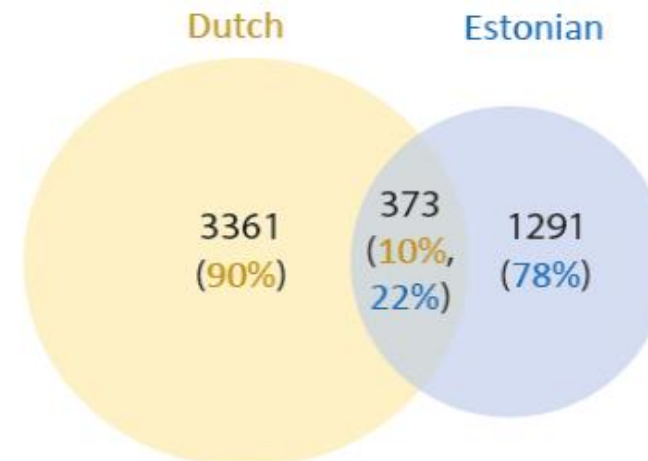
The landscape of autosomal-recessive pathogenic variants in European populations reveals phenotype-specific effects

Hila Fridman<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Helger G. Yntema<sup>4</sup>, Reedik Mägi<sup>5</sup>, Reidar Andreson<sup>5</sup>, Andres Metspalu<sup>5</sup>, Massimo Mezzavila<sup>6</sup>, Chris Tyler-Smith<sup>7</sup>, Yali Xue<sup>7</sup>, Shai Carmi<sup>1</sup>, Ephrat Levy-Lahad<sup>2,3,\*</sup>, Christian Gilissen<sup>4,\*</sup> and Han G. Brunner<sup>4,8,\*</sup>



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THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR BIOLOGY

**Figure 2. PLP variants in the Dutch and Estonian cohorts-variant classification.**



# Genomics changes medicine



Official journal of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics

**ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE**

**Genetics  
in Medicine**

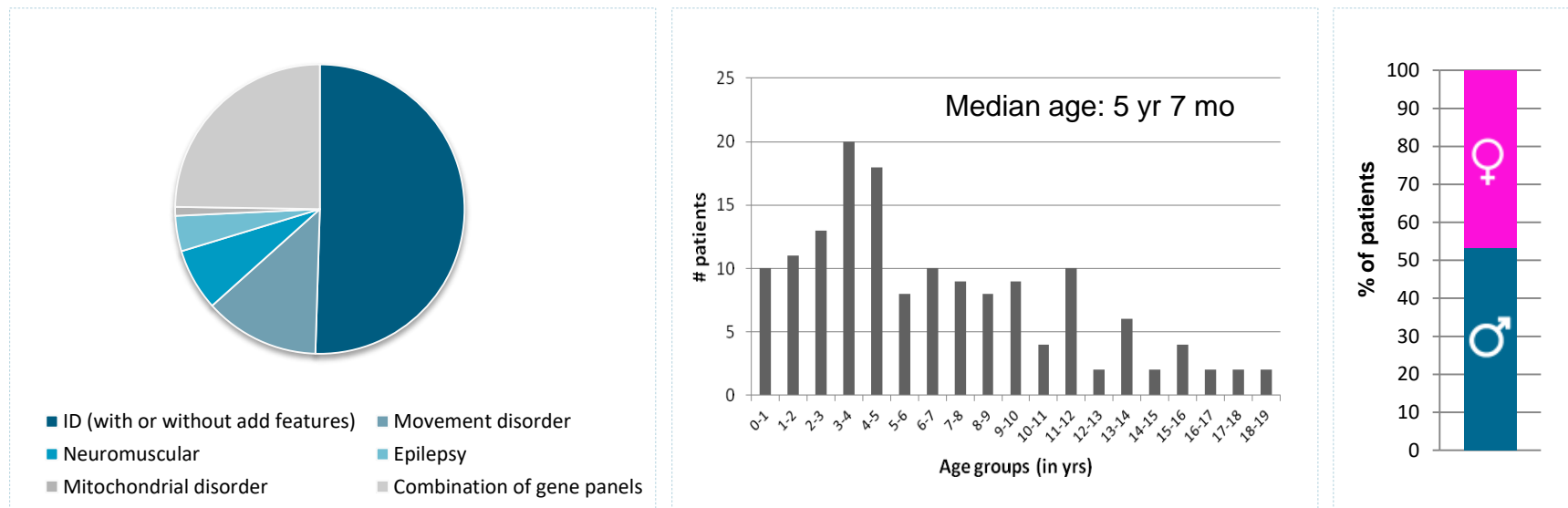
*Open*

## **A clinical utility study of exome sequencing versus conventional genetic testing in pediatric neurology**

Lisenka E.L.M. Vissers, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Kirsten J.M. van Nimwegen, MSc<sup>2</sup>, Jolanda H. Schieving, MD<sup>3</sup>,  
Erik-Jan Kamsteeg, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Tjitske Kleefstra, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Helger G. Yntema, PhD<sup>1</sup>,  
Rolph Pfundt, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Gert Jan van der Wilt, PhD<sup>2</sup>, Lotte Krabbenborg, PhD<sup>4,5</sup>,  
Han G. Brunner, MD, PhD<sup>1,6</sup>, Simone van der Burg, PhD<sup>4</sup>, Janneke Grutters, PhD<sup>2</sup>,  
Joris A. Veltman, PhD<sup>1,6</sup> and Michèl A.A.P. Willemsen, MD, PhD<sup>3</sup>

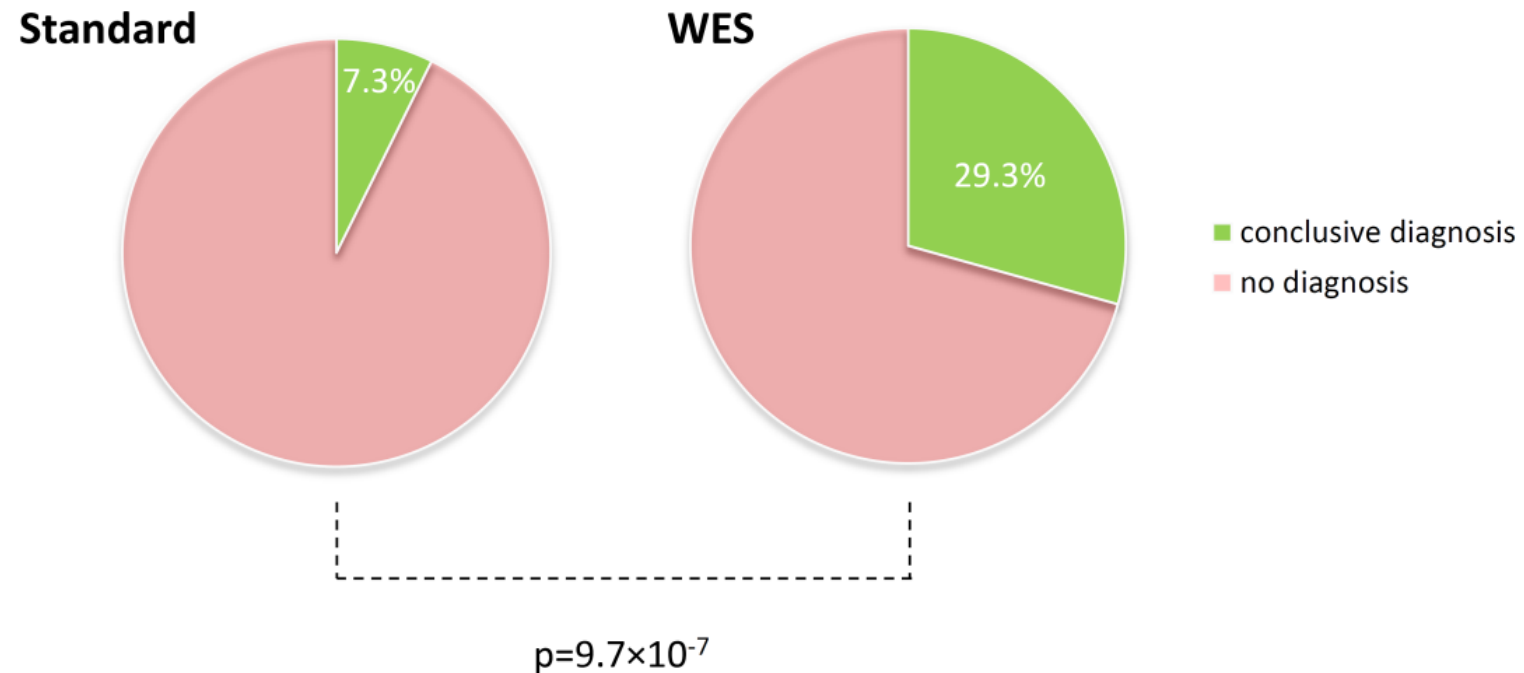
# Pediatric neurology cohort description

- 150 consecutive patients recruited between Nov 2011 and Jan 2015
- Represents 'every day practice' in tertiary pediatric neurology clinic

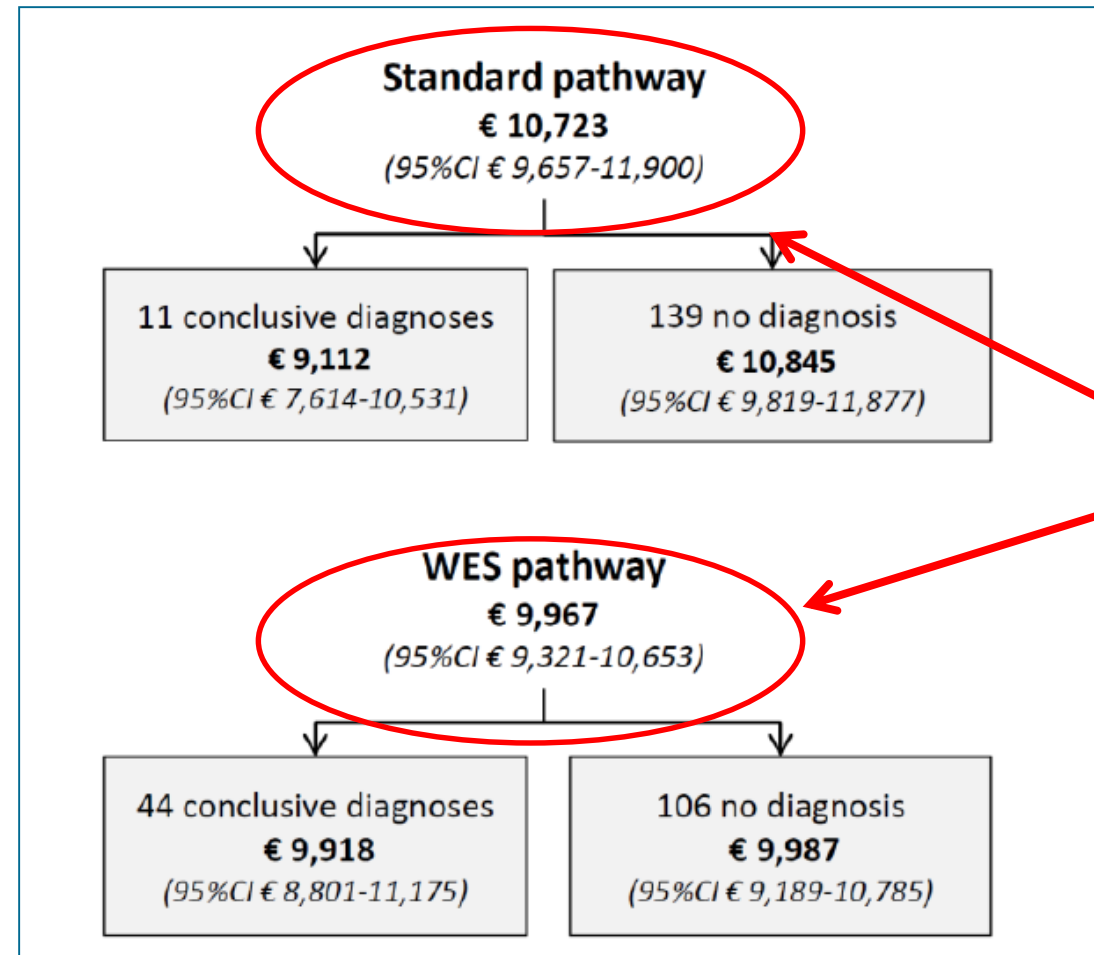




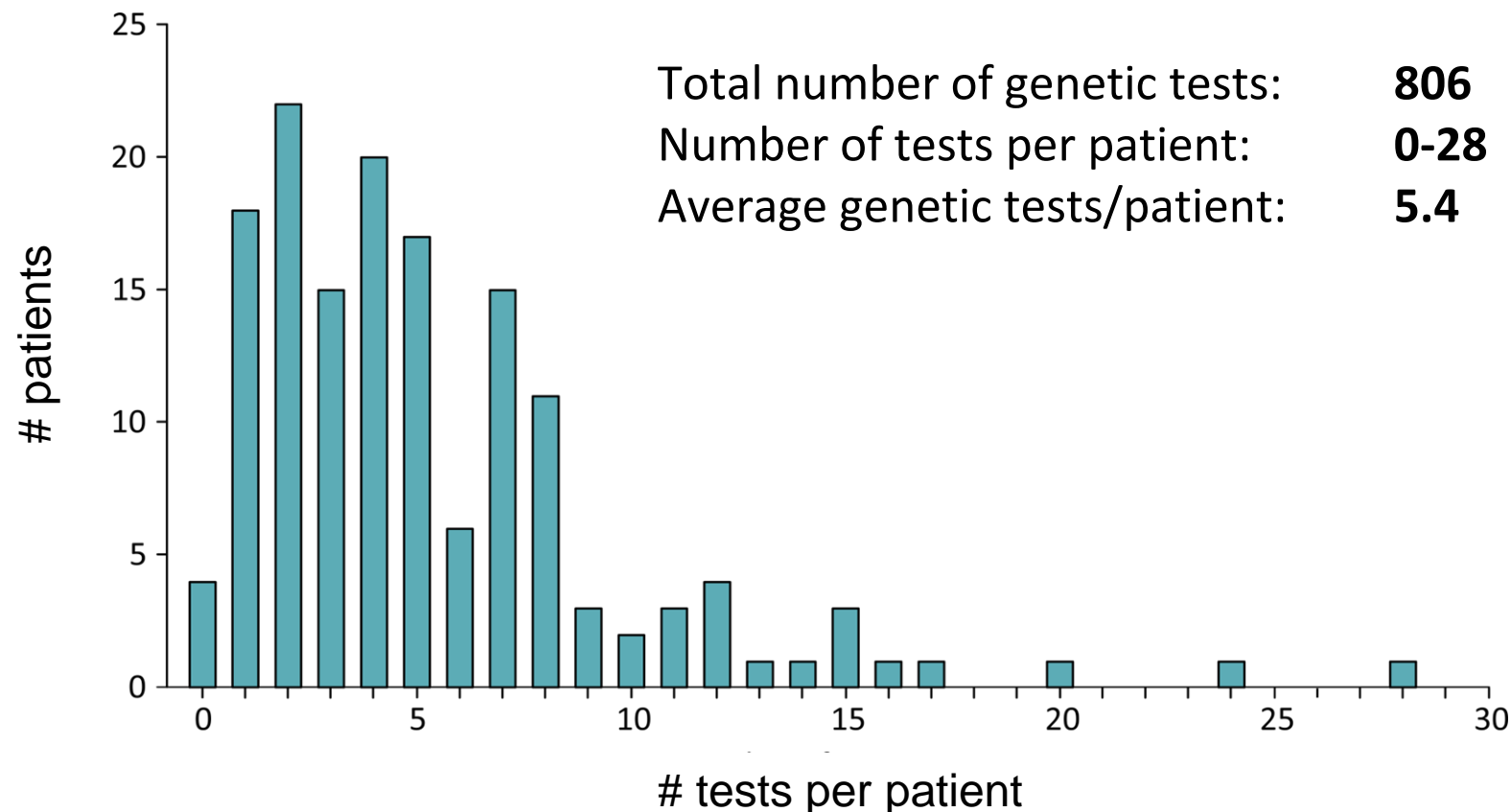
# WES provides significantly more diagnoses



# 150 Pediatric Neurology patients



# Number of genetic tests per patient



# **An inconvenient truth**

**The hit rate of diagnostic exome sequencing (including CNVs)**

***Clearly Exceeds***

**The current diagnostic standard of clinician driven investigation**



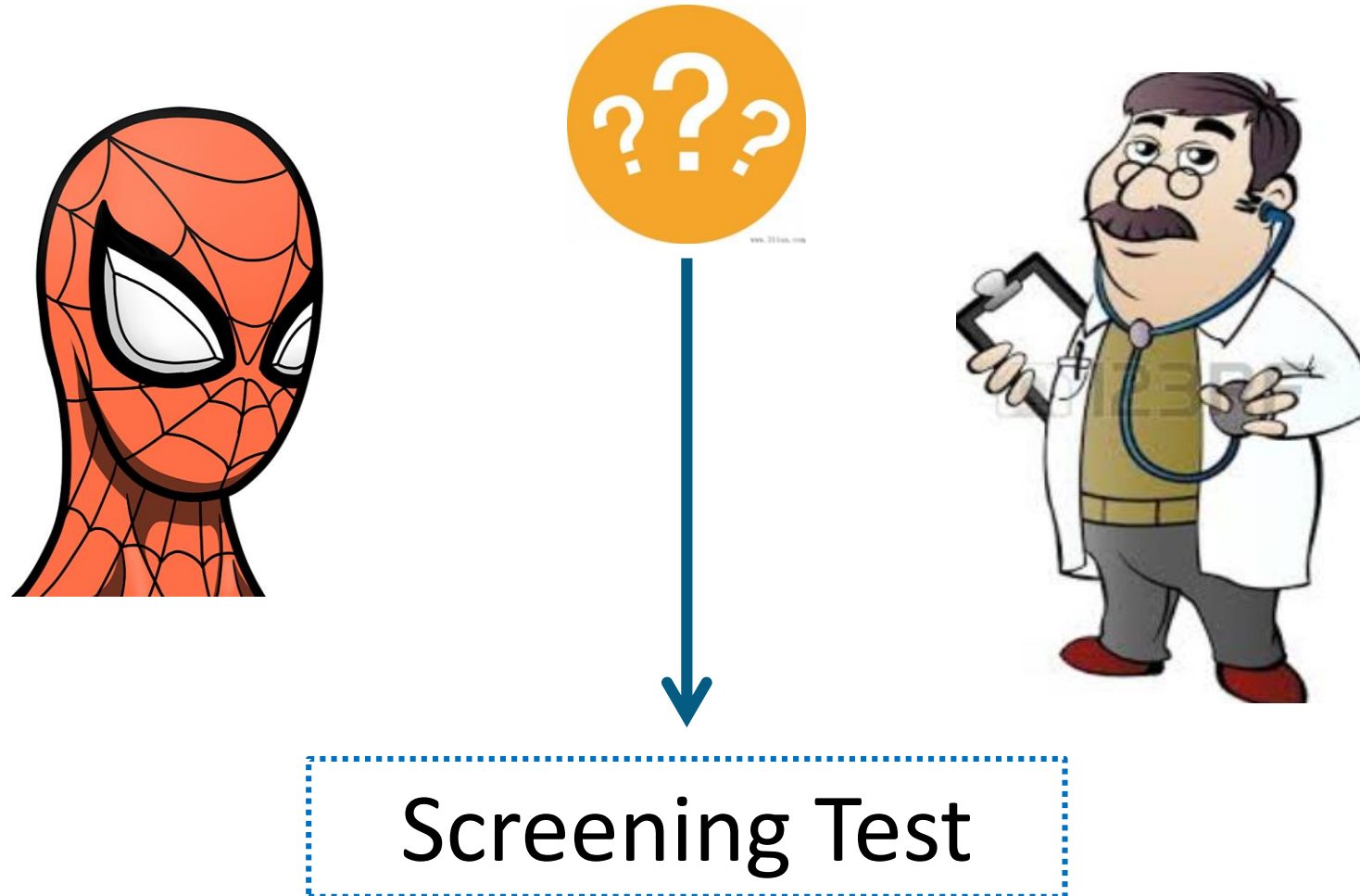
# How clinicians see themselves



Test



# How things mostly work out







➤ **Doctors are great**

**BUT**

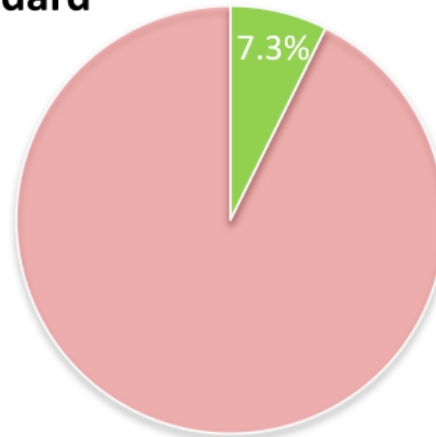
➤ **Exomes are better**

*Vissers, van Nimwegen, Schieving et al. Genetics in Medicine 2017*

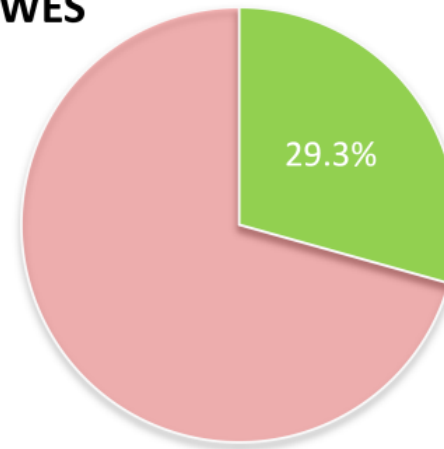
# WES provides significantly more diagnoses

2017

Standard



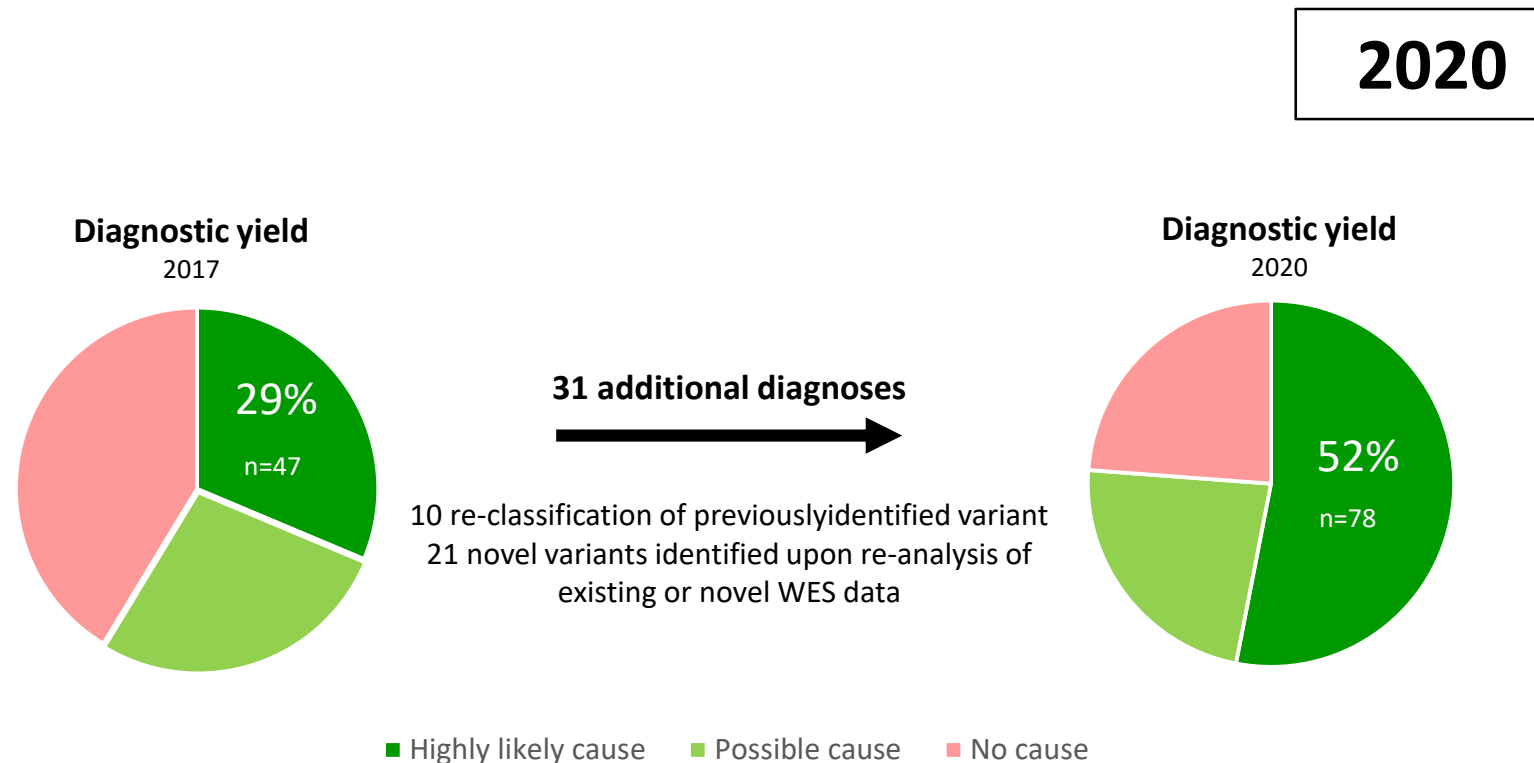
WES



■ conclusive diagnosis  
■ no diagnosis

$p=9.7 \times 10^{-7}$

# Storing the data and systematic re-evaluation



Vissers et al. GiM 2017; Schobers et al. Manuscript in preparation

## **What this means**

**For rare diseases, most diagnoses reside in the exome**

**Exome-first is cost-effective compared to traditional clinician-driven diagnosis**

**National variant curation and collection is helpful**

**Storage allows Reanalysis and Re-interpretation**

**Academic embedding drives innovation, and reduces cost.**

# Thank you



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