



Pharmacogenetics & pharmacogenomics

Dr. Nashwa Aborayah

**Associate professor of clinical and experimental
pharmacology**

Mu'tah University- Faculty of Medicine

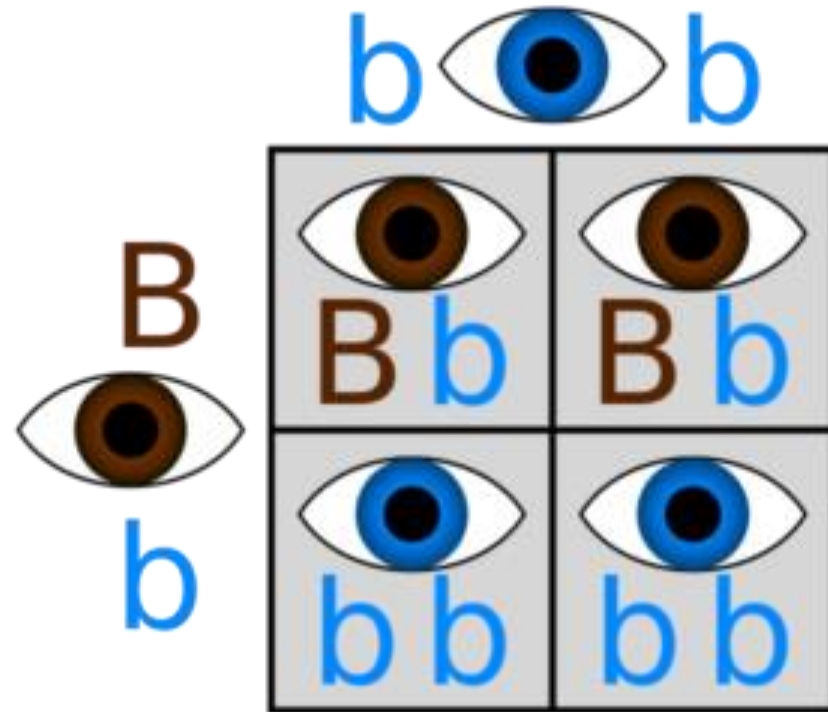
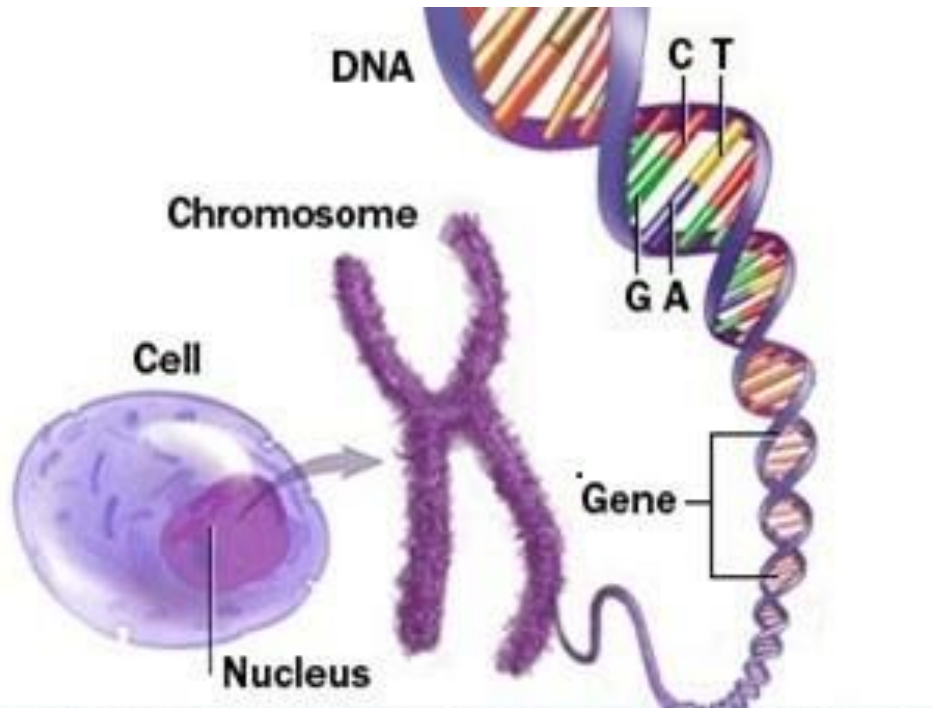
JORDAN 2024/2025



Objectives

- What is pharmacogenetics (pharmacogenomics)?
- Importance of pharmacogenetics
- Define genetic polymorphism
- Types of genetic polymorphism
- Polymorphism affecting pharmacokinetics
- Polymorphism affecting pharmacodynamics
- Polymorphism affecting underlying disease and adverse drug reactions

Concepts: **gene**, **chromosome**, **genotype** and **phenotype**



Pharmacogenomics & pharmacogenetics

- **Genomics** – The study of genetic material found in a cell (DNA)
- **Pharmacogenomics** – is a branch of pharmacology concerned with using DNA data to explain **individual variations in drug response**.
- **Pharmacogenetics** – The study or clinical testing of genetic variation affecting individual patients different response to drugs

- **Goal...**
 - To develop precisely targeted, optimal drug therapy (personalized medicine)
 - Minimizing drug related adverse effects

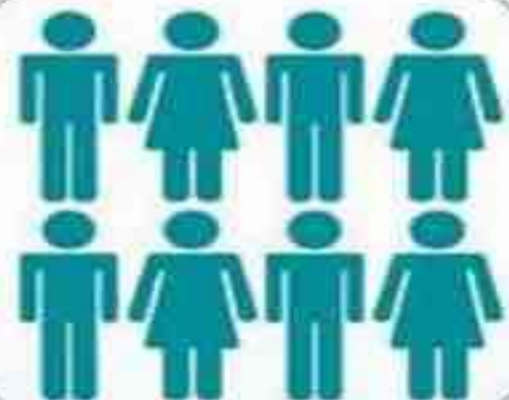
- **Personalized medicine:** the tailoring of medical treatment to the specific characteristics of each patient. (right patient, right drug, right dose)

Individual response
to the same
medication can vary

Patients taking same medication



No response



Desired response



Serious side effects

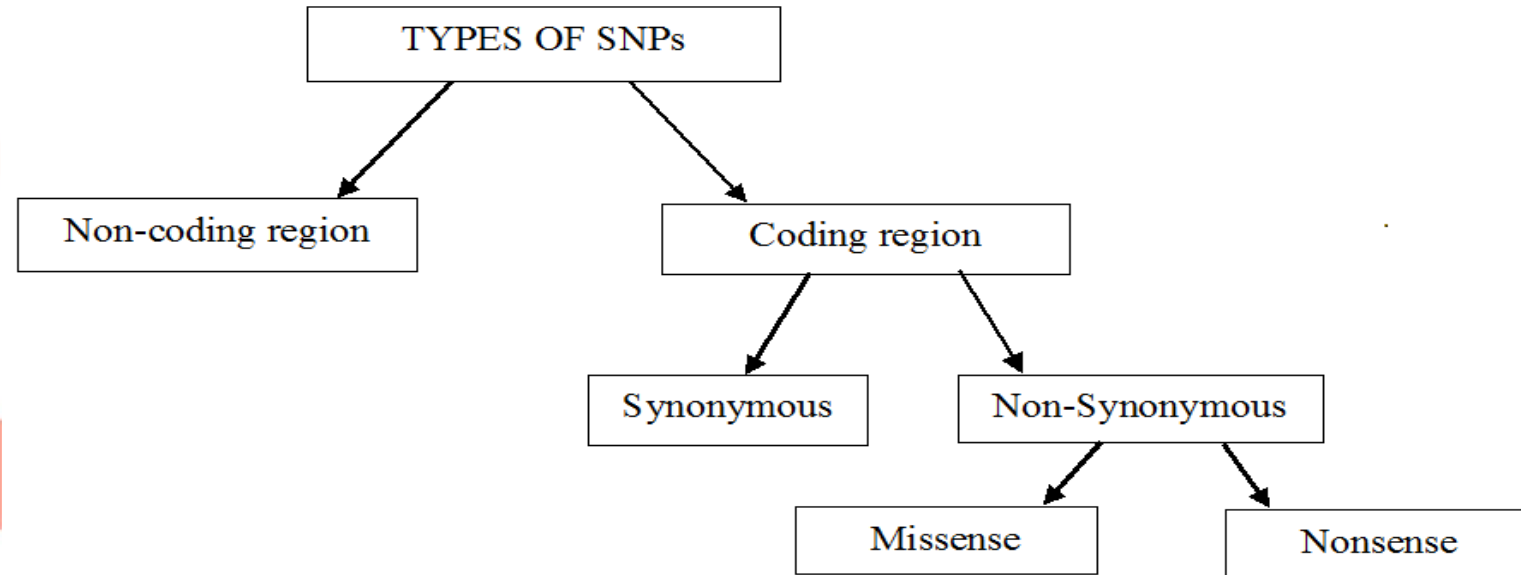
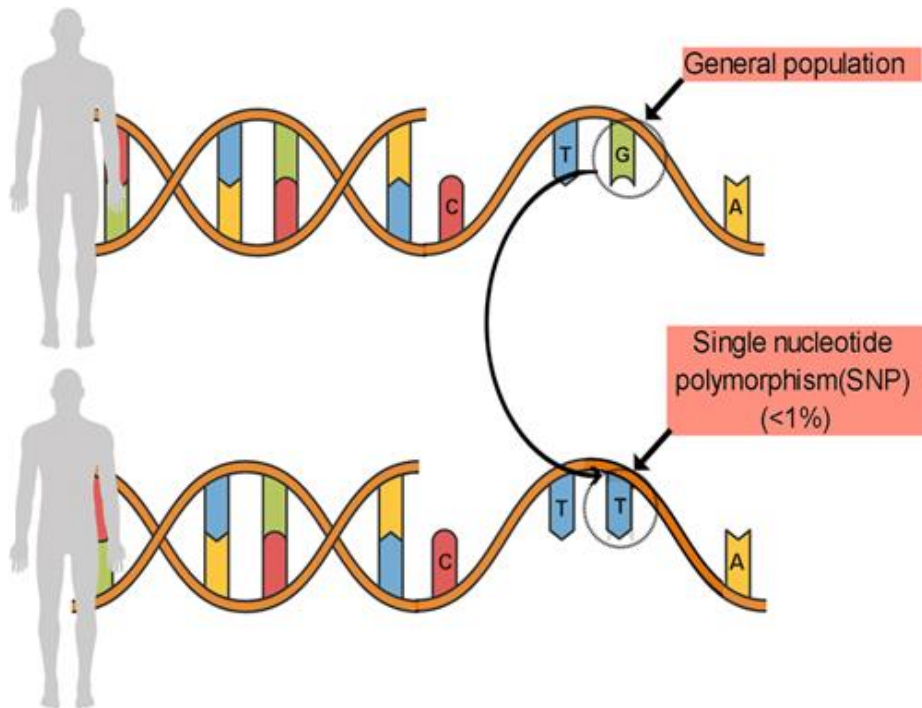
Genetic polymorphism

- Variations in human genome that occurs in 1% of population
- **Types of genetic polymorphism:**
 - 1- Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)
 - 2- Indel (insertion-deletion)

Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)

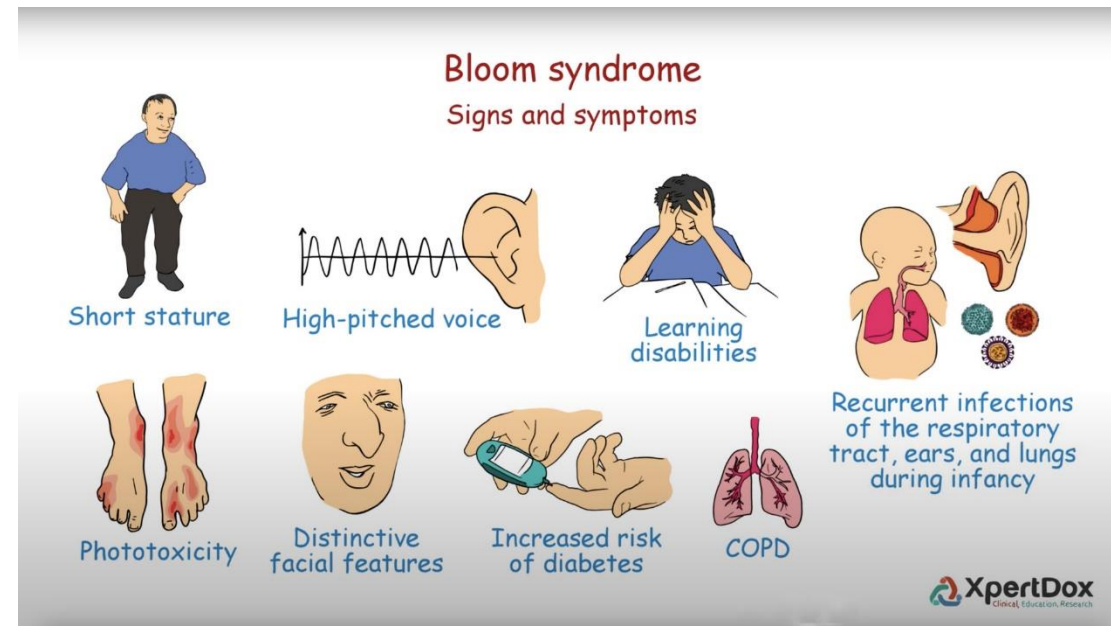
- The most common variation in human DNA
- Each SNP represents a difference in a single DNA building block, called a nucleotide
- Example:** the substitution of a C for a G in the nucleotide sequence AACGAT, thereby producing the sequence AACCAT.
- SNPs in [non-coding regions](#) can manifest in a higher risk of cancer
- SNPs in [coding regions](#):
 - [Silent substitutions](#) do not result in a change of amino acid sequence (silent mutation)
 - [Non-silent substitutions](#)
 - [missense](#) – single change in the base results in change in amino acid of protein and its malfunction which leads to disease
 - [nonsense](#) – [mutation](#) in a sequence of DNA that results in a *nonsense codon* in the [transcribed mRNA](#), nonfunctional protein product (e.g. [Cystic fibrosis](#) mutation in the [cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator](#) gene).

Types of SNPs



Indel (insertion-deletion)

- an insertion or deletion of bases in the genome of an organism
- **Example:**
- causes Bloom syndrome in the Jewish or Japanese population.



Pharmacogenomic polymorphism

- **Affected genes lead to different phenotypes with modified response and adverse effects to certain drugs:**
 - 1- Pharmacokinetic polymorphism
 - 2- Pharmacodynamics polymorphism
 - 3- Polymorphism modifying underlying disease

Polymorphisms modifying PKs

- Cytochromes P450 (P450s or CYPs) are a family of enzymes
- Mainly found within the endoplasmic reticulum and mitochondria of liver cells.
- They are also found in many other cells of the body.
- These membrane-bound proteins are involved in the metabolism of many harmful substrates, such as toxins.
- Of all the different CYP proteins that are present in the human body, **6 of them are involved in the metabolism of 90% of drugs.**
- The most important are CYP3A4, CYP2C9, CYP2C19 and CYP2D6.
- **Changes in genes controlling CYP enzymes** can make them: **more active or less active than normal, or completely inactive**

Examples of pharmacokinetic polymorphism

- **Clopedogril** (anticoagulant, inhibiting platelet aggregation): 85% metabolized by an esterase to inactive metabolite and 15% metabolized by CYP2C19 to **active metabolite**.
- **CYP2C19 poor phenotype**: poor anticoagulant action of clopedogril: blood clotting
- **Antidepressants**: metabolized by: CYP2D6:
- **Poor phenotype**: increased antidepressant toxicity
- **Ultra-rapid phenotype**: decreased efficacy

Succinylcholine (scoline) apnea

- SCH is **rapidly hydrolyzed** by **butyrylcholinesterase** (BCHE, also known as plasma cholinesterase and pseudocholinesterase), which is synthesized in the liver and present in plasma (duration of action: 5 min.).
- Succinylcholine or scoline apnoea, occurs when there are **abnormalities in plasma cholinesterase** and the body has difficulties in metabolizing the drug leading to prolonged muscle paralysis and respiratory failure (death).
- Treatment?

Rapid and slow acetylators of INH

- The rate of drug acetylation is influenced by genetic factors (hepatic acetyltransferase gene).
- Hepatic acetyltransferase metabolizes INH
- Individuals who are **phenotypically slow acetylators** are have a higher risk of hepatotoxicity than do rapid acetylators

Polymorphisms modifying PDs

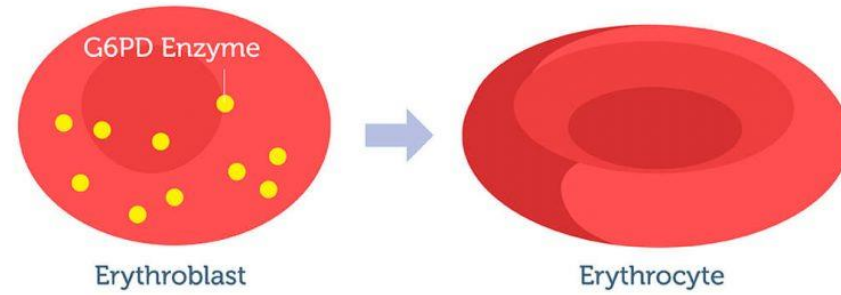
- **Beta-Adrenergic Receptors Gene Polymorphisms** alter response to **bronchodilators**
- **Serotonine receptor gene polymorphisms** affect response to **antidepressant drugs**

Polymorphisms modifying diseases and drug responses

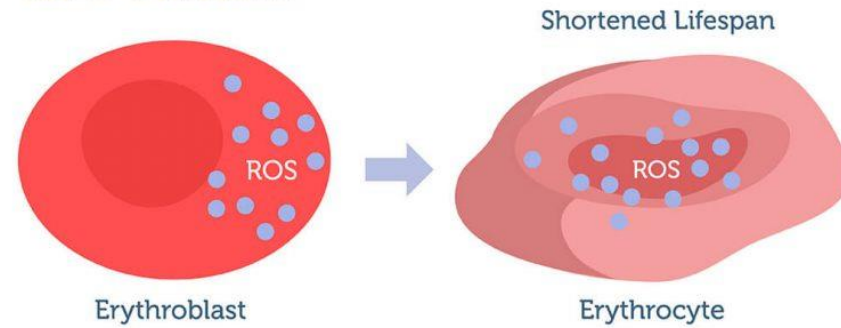
- **G6PD deficiency (Fauvism)**
- Genetic disorder that causes G6PD deficiency
- More in males
- G6PD protect RBCs against **oxidizing agents**: antibiotics, antimalarial drugs (chloroquine), aspirin, some anti-cancer medicines and large doses of vitamin C, some foods, particularly fava beans, certain infections
- These agents destroy RBCs causing hemolysis and anemia which can be life-threatening.

G6PD deficiency (Fauvism)

G6PD Normal



G6PD Deficient

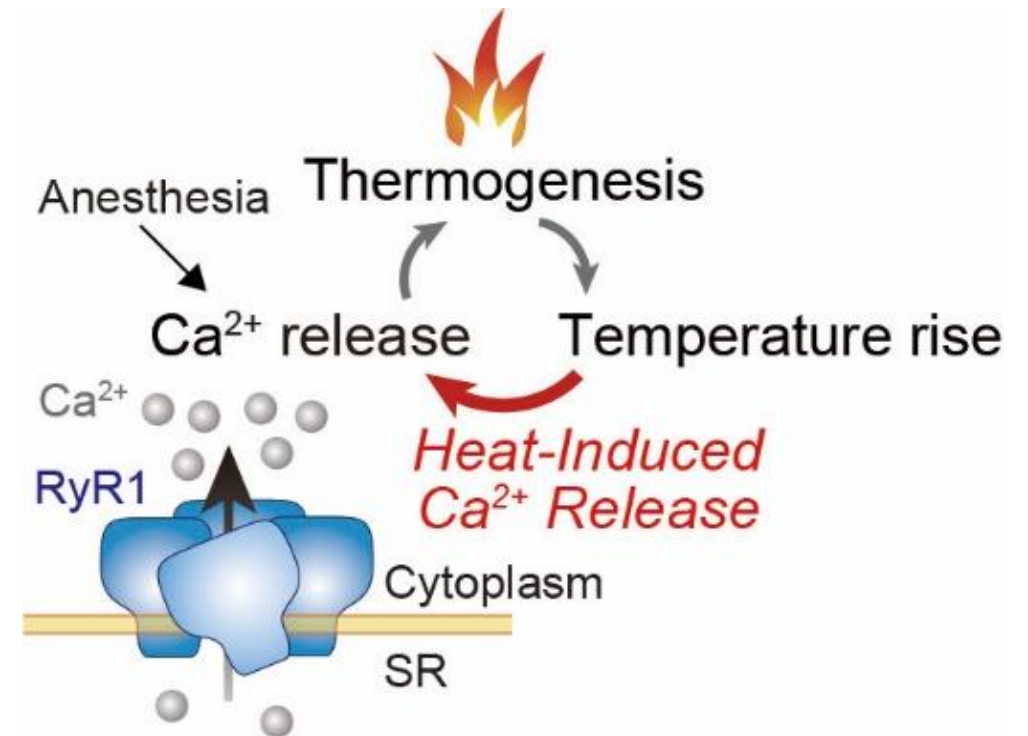


Malignant hyperthermia (MH)

- MH is a type of severe reaction that occurs in response to particular medications used during general anesthesia (volatile anesthetic agents and succinylcholine) in susceptible individuals.
- **Symptoms include** muscle rigidity, fever, and tachycardia
- **Complications** can include muscle breakdown and high blood potassium
- **Due to** genetic mutations in RYR1 gene
- **Ryanodine receptor 1 (RYR1):** functions as calcium release channel in the sarcoplasmic reticulum
- In susceptible individuals, the medications induce the release of stored calcium ions within muscle cells.
- The resulting increase in calcium concentrations within the cells cause the muscle fibers to contract.
- This generates excessive heat and results in metabolic acidosis
- Treatment???

Malignant hyperthermia

- **Dantrolene** is currently the only specific medication used for treating a malignant hyperthermia crisis
- **Mechanism of action:**
- Antagonizing the ryanodine receptors, which lessens the excitation-contraction coupling of muscle cells.



References

Lippincott's Illustrated Review

Pharmacology, 8th edition

Lippincott Williams & Wilkins

Katzung by Anthony Trevor, Bertram Katzung, and Susan Masters . 16th
edition McGraw Hill,

Rang & Dale's Pharmacology: by Humphrey P. Rang ; James M.
Ritter ; Rod Flower Churchill Livingstone; 10th edition

Thank you