

Genomic and Environmental Influences on Canadian Health Phenotypes and Chronic Disease Outcomes

Philip Awadalla

National Scientific Director, Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow's Health
Director, Computational Biology, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research
Professor, University of Toronto

July 18th, 2024



CanPath

Canadian Partnership
for Tomorrow's Health



Population cohorts or laboratories unlocks potential to improve health



1 in 2 Canadians will die from **cancer or a chronic disease**



1 in 2 Canadians will be diagnosed with **cancer**



1 in 10 Canadians live with **asthma or COPD**



1 in 12 Canadians are with diagnosed with **heart disease**

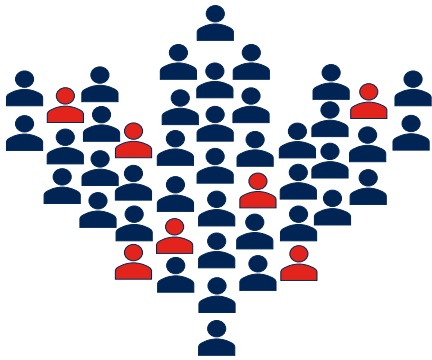
Questions that can be answered:

- How do we address the root causes of health and disease in the population?
- What can we do to improve our health?
- What can we do together to build healthier communities? Impact of environment?
- Can cancer and other serious illnesses be detected years earlier?
- How do we build learning health systems that improve outcomes?

[*Manolio et al, Nature Reviews Genetics 2006 \(re: value of prospective cohorts\).](#)

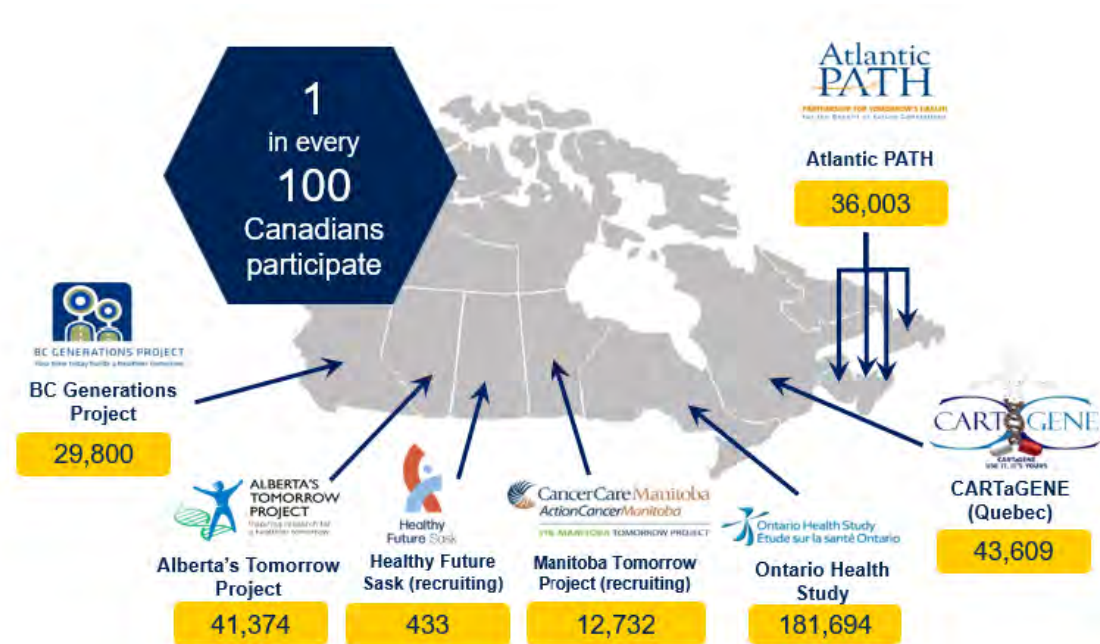
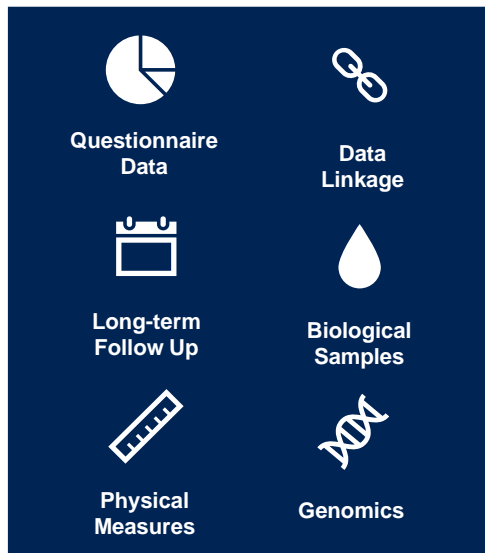
CanPath is Canada's largest population health research platform

CanPath provides a national platform for population-level health research in Canada and globally.



- CanPath collects **real-world data from one in every 100 Canadians** to enable discovery and innovation in **disease detection, treatment, control and prevention**
- Over the past decade, **CanPath has brought together scientists across Canada and leveraged over \$208 million in investments** to create the nation's largest population cohort and biobank
- Canada has a unique opportunity to leverage the CanPath platform to **advance government priorities and build a healthier Canada**

CanPath is following the health of over 330,000 adult Canadians for decades



CanPath National Leadership Team



Dr. Philip Awadalla
National Scientific Director,
CanPath; Executive Scientific
Director, Ontario Health
Study



Dr. Jennifer Brooks
Executive Director,
CanPath



Dr. Trevor Dummer
National Scientific Co-
Director, CanPath



Dr. Parveen Bhatti
Scientific Director,
BC Generations Project



Dr. Jennifer Vena
Scientific Director,
Alberta's Tomorrow Project



Ms. Shandra Harman
Strategic Director,
Alberta's Tomorrow Project



Mr. Riaz Alvi
Scientific Director,
Healthy Future Sask



Dr. Donna Turner
Scientific Director,
Manitoba Tomorrow Project



Dr. Simon Gravel
Scientific Co-Director,
CARTaGENE



Dr. Vikki Ho
Scientific Co-Director,
CARTaGENE



Dr. Guillaume Lettre
Scientific Co-Director,
CARTaGENE



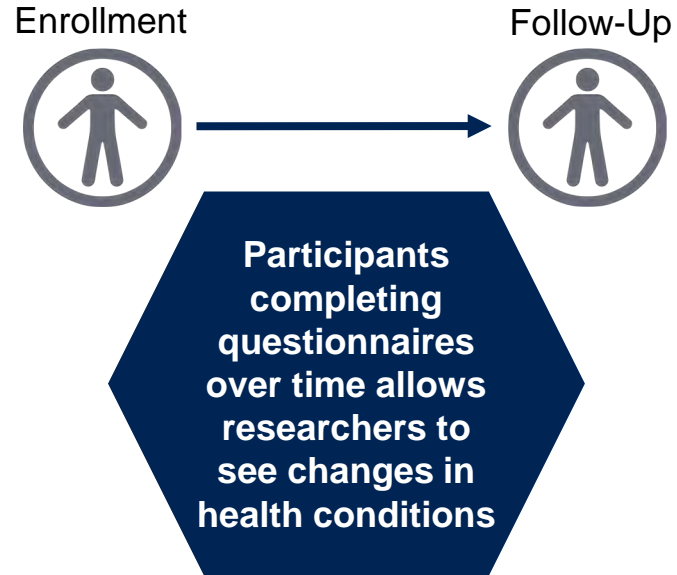
Dr. Robin Urquhart
Scientific Director,
Atlantic PATH



Mr. Jason Hicks
Executive Director,
Atlantic PATH

Over 330,000 participants have completed detailed questionnaires over the years

-  Participant demographics
-  Changes in health status
-  Mental Health
-  Medical history
-  Prescribed medication
-  Family health history
-  Anthropometric measurements
-  Working status
-  Household income
-  Behaviours (sleep, alcohol, tobacco, marijuana use, and e-cigarette use)



CanPath has collected over 1,600 variables on disease outcomes across multiple timepoints

Over one billion data elements and growing!

Number of variables collected across disease categories

Pregnancy: childbirth and the puerperium: O00 O9A -	0	3	2	0
Neoplasms: C00 D48 -	200	148	30	29
Mental and behavioural disorders: F00 F99 -	53	38	22	12
Injury: poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes: S00 T98 -	2	0	0	0
Endocrine: nutritional and metabolic diseases: E00 E90 -	49	23	7	4
Diseases without precise specification or falling into multiple categories -	0	14	11	5
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue: L00 L99 -	18	23	5	5
Diseases of the respiratory system: J00 J99 -	46	32	11	9
Diseases of the nervous system: G00 G99 -	58	30	7	4
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue: M00 M99 -	52	40	13	9
Diseases of the genitourinary system: N00 N99 -	15	20	5	4
Diseases of the eye and adnexa: H00 H59 -	53	14	0	0
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process: H60 H95 -	24	11	2	1
Diseases of the digestive system: K00 K93 -	136	73	16	12
Diseases of the circulatory system: I00 I99 -	78	48	19	12
Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism: D50 D89 -	25	0	2	1
Congenital malformations: deformations and chromosomal abnormalities: Q00 Q99 -	15	0	0	0
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases: A00 B99 -	26	14	13	35
	Baseline Qx	Follow-Up Qx	COVID19 Qx 1	COVID19 Qx 2
	Questionnaire			

- Collected detailed information on vascular disease, cardiac disease and cognitive function using MRI scans
- Data collected from 10,000 Canadians through existing cohorts, including **1,500 First Nations people** living in Canada
- These unique data are being used to evaluate the impact of different **environmental determinants on cardiovascular health**



With **Dr. Sonia Anand,**
Dr. Matthias Friedrich and
the late **Dr. Jack Tu.**

CanPath will be the first Canadian cohort to host national cohort data and administrative data at a central location

Linkages between the CanPath cohort and the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) administrative health data are underway.

Individual-level linked CIHI data (N=290,000) will be hosted alongside the harmonized national CanPath dataset and made available to approved researchers requesting administrative health data along with cohort data and/or samples.

CanPath will be the first Canadian program to be able to combine the wealth of cohort resources with national administrative level data in a central location.



Canadian Institute
for Health Information

Institut canadien
d'information sur la santé

Enabling research breakthroughs to improve the health of Canadians

- CanPath enables research across health domains to improve disease **prevention, detection, treatment and health services**
- CanPath data and biological samples are available to researchers to study **a wide range of exposures (environment, lifestyle, etc.) and outcomes (common chronic disease, rare disease, infectious disease, etc.)**
- The longitudinal nature of CanPath enable scientists to perform health-related research **today and for years to come**
- **CanPath enables a healthier Canada** by building and hosting harmonized national self-reported health data alongside linked administrative health data



June 2005

June 2019

The Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research Consortium

- All CanPath participants have been linked to CANUE environmental exposures
- Every location in Canada can be described by a complex set of environmental factors
- CANUE is building the capacity to study how these multiple **environmental factors are linked to a wide range of health outcomes**



CANUE



NO₂ Concentration (ppb)



Subscribe

Tumour promotion

In 1947, Isaac Berenblum proposed that the development of cancer was a two-stage process: the first step introduces mutations into healthy cells, the second then promotes tumour growth through tissue inflammation. In this week's issue, [Charles Swanton and his colleagues](#) investigate the role of particulate matter in prompting the development of non-small-cell lung cancers and find that cancer initiation in response to pollution conforms to Berenblum's model. The researchers investigated especially fine particles called PM_{2.5}, which are smaller than 2.5 micrometres and are typically found in smoke and vehicle emissions. Looking at nearly 33,000 people from four countries, they found a clear link between prolonged exposure to PM — [show all](#)

Cover image: Amal KS/Hindustan Times via Getty Images

International Activities



International HundredK+ Cohorts Consortium

IHCC Cohort Atlas

Cohort Name

- 23andMe 1
- 45 and Up Study 1
- AWI-Gen, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg 1
- + 67 More

Countries

- USA 18
- UK 9
- Japan 5
- + 36 More

Genomic Data

- % Unknown 27
- 1-25% 13
- 76-100% 13
- + 3 More

Genomic Data: WGS

- % Unknown 38
- 1-25% 18
- 0% 11
- + 2 More

Genomic Data: WES

- % Unknown 38
- 0% 18
- 1-25% 11
- + 2 More



Showing 1 - 25 of 70 cohorts

Cohort Name	Countries	Current Enrollment	Target Enrollment	Biospeci... Data	Genomic Data	Clinical Data	Demo... Data	imaging Data	Address or Ceocode Data	Electron... Record Data	Data Sharing Potential	Cohort Ancestry: Asian	Cohort Ancestry: Black, African, American... or African	Coh Ance Eurc or W
Africa Health ...	South Africa	130000	130000	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
All of Us / NIH	USA	330000	1000000	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	✓	0%	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	1-25%	1-25%	26-5
BioVU Vander...	USA	244000		% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
Biobank Japan	Japan	270000	270000	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	0%	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
CONSTANCES	France	220000		26-50%	1-25%	76-100%	✗	0%	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	1-25%	1-25%	76-1
California Tea...	USA	133477		% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
Canadian Part...	Canada	333000	350000	51-75%	26-50%	76-100%	✓	1-25%	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	1-25%	1-25%	51-7
Cancer Preven...	USA	184194		% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	0%	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
Center for Ap...	USA, Mexico, Brazil, Europe	130000	1000000	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	✓	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	1-25%	26-50%	26-5

Show 25 rows

Navigation icons: << < 1 2 3 > >>

Sponsored by Global Genomes Initiative

Powered by OverLife

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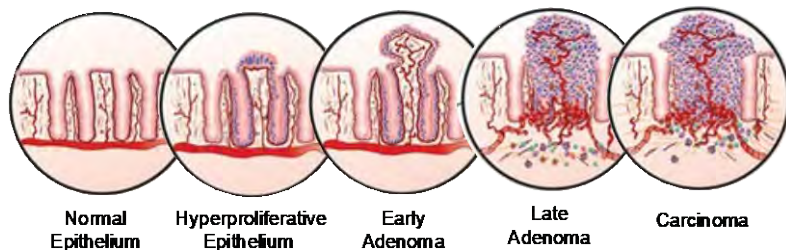
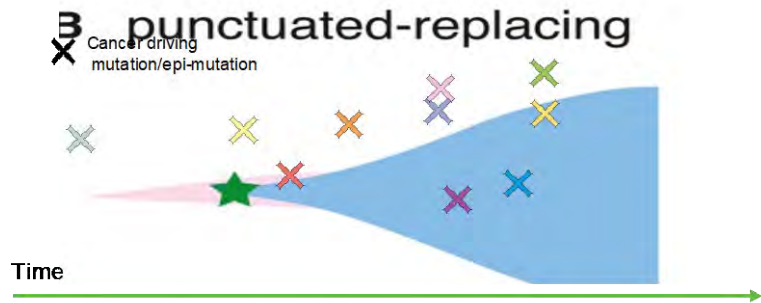
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Profiling pre-diagnosis plasma cell-free DNA methylomes up to seven years prior to clinical detection reveals early signatures of cancers

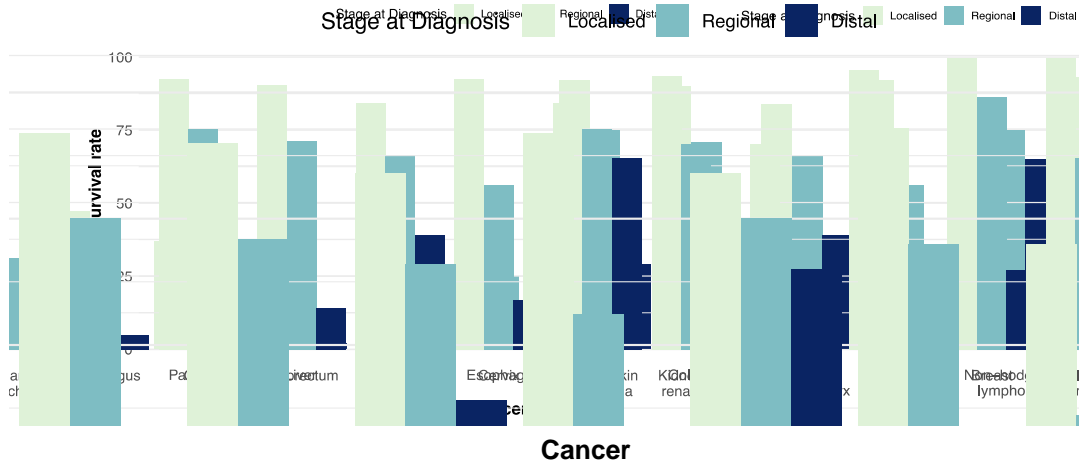
Nicholas Cheng



Treating cancer early increases survival



Kopetz et al. *Curr Gastroenterol Rep* (2019)



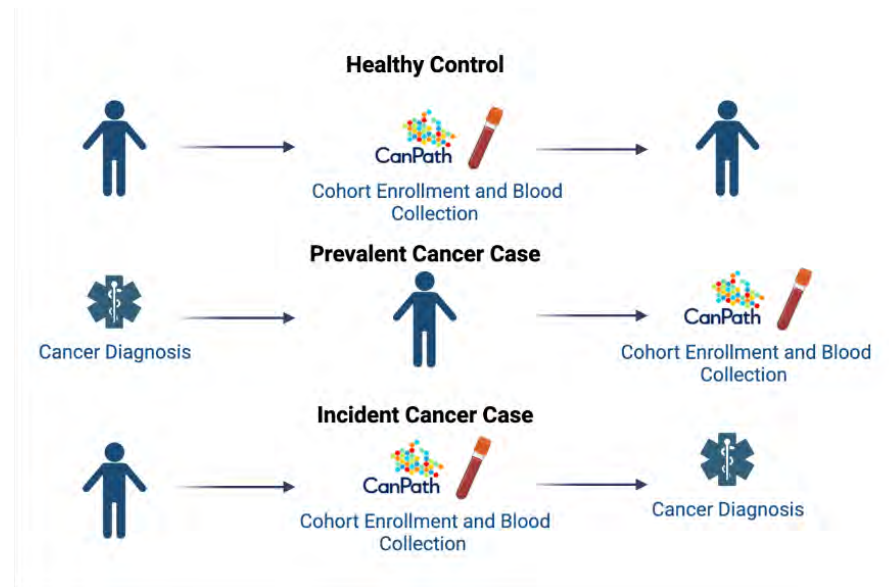
Current effective population-based screening recommendations

- Breast cancer (ages 50 – 74)
Regular mammography every 2 to 3 year
- Colorectal cancer (ages 50 – 74)
FOBT every 2 years or flexible sigmoidoscopy every 10 years
- Cervical cancer (ages 25 – 69)
PAP smear every 3 years
- Lung cancer (age 55 – 74 smokers)
Low dose CT

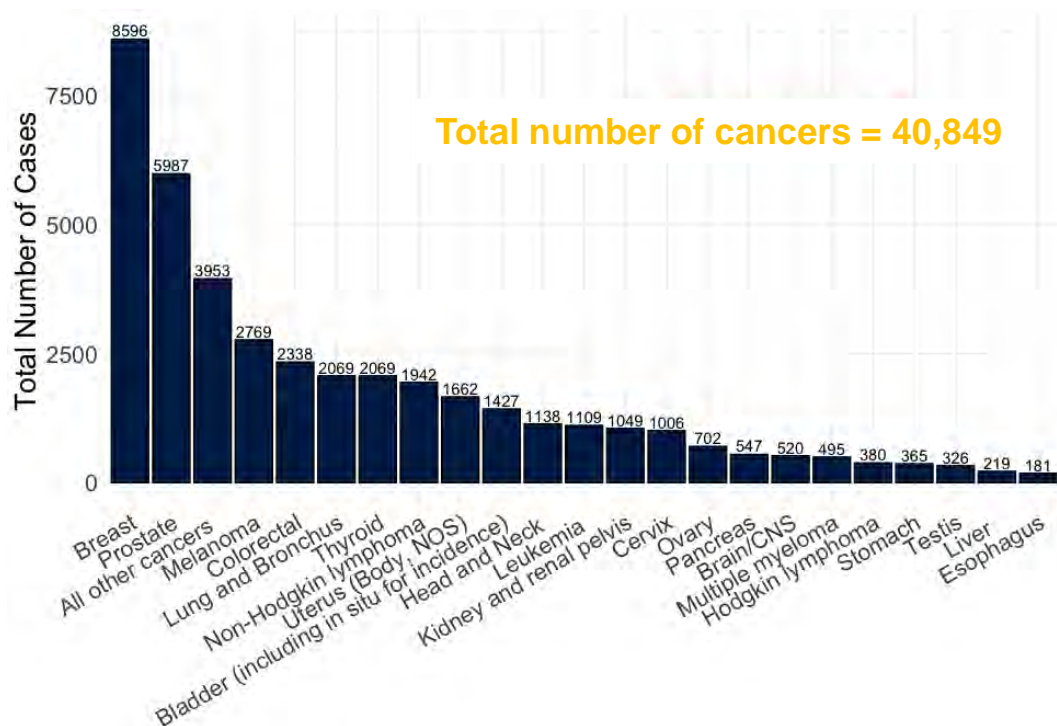
Canadian Cancer Statistics (2018)

CanPath is building the Canadian Cancer Study to advance Canadian cancer research and discovery

- CanPath is building the Canadian Cancer Study to advance research and discovery for the leading cause of death in Canada
- With linked clinical information, we can identify which participants joined the cohort **before developing disease**
- Using samples collected before disease onset, we are able to develop **novel approaches to detect disease years before current methods**
- We are adopting a multi-stage approach to **build the data resources required to enable early cancer prevention and detection research:**
 - Harmonizing aggregate cancer data reporting nationally
 - Hosting linked individual-level cancer outcomes



Mapping cancer cases in the CanPath cohort



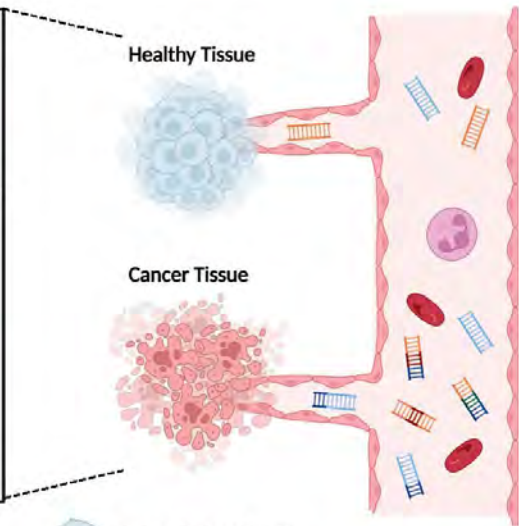
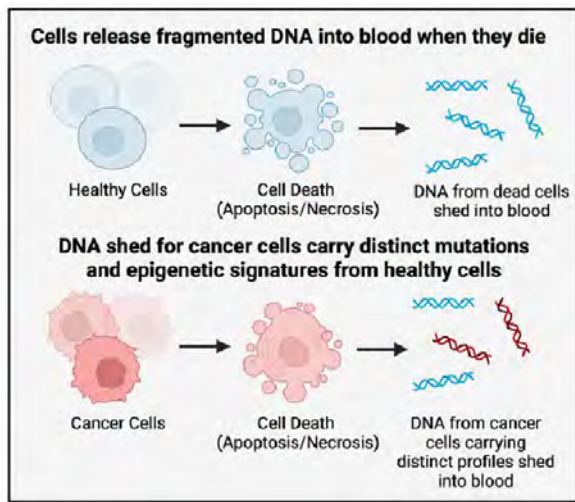
We are leveraging provincial linkages to map CanPath cancer data and biosample holdings

All cancer data is collected and grouped according to Canadian Cancer Statistic guidelines

Regions included:

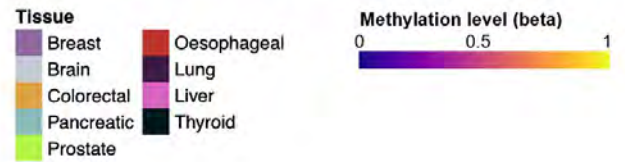
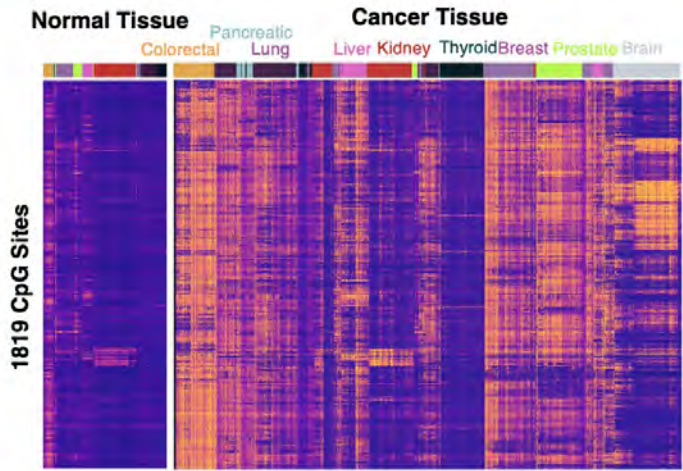
- Atlantic Path
- Alberta for Tomorrow Project
- Ontario Health Study
- BC Generations Project

Liquid Biopsy Approaches for Early Cancer Detection



- Immune Cell
- Red Blood Cell
- Endothelial Cell

- Healthy Cell
- Cancer Cell
- Methylated DNA
- Mutated DNA

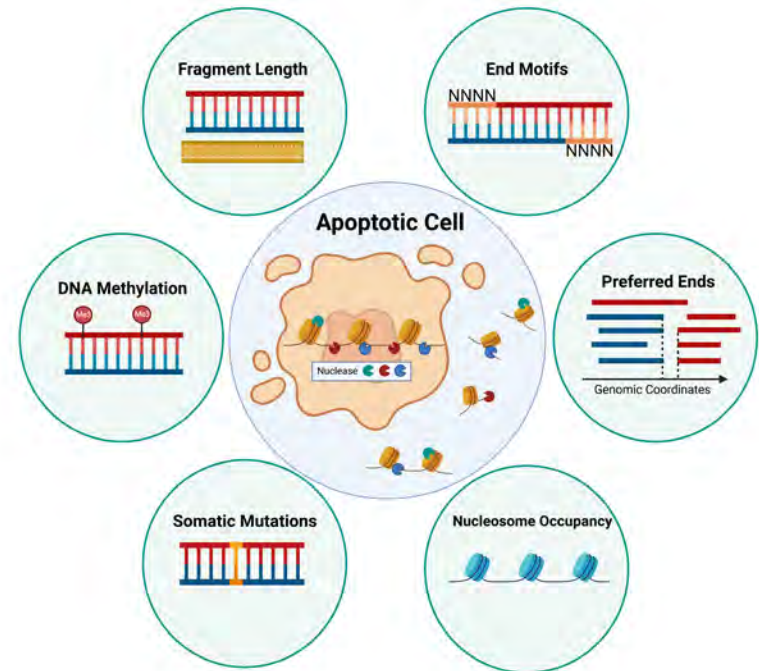


Cell-free DNA as a biomarker of disease and tissue damage

Cell-free DNA (cfDNA) are typically shed from dying cells.

While most cfDNA circulating in blood are derived from leukocytes, increased shedding from other tissues can be indicative of tissue damage and diseases.

Cell-free DNA genomic, epigenomic and fragmentomic signatures can be utilized as biomarkers for early disease detection.



DNA Methylation Patterns Discriminates between Cancer/Normal tissue and Cancer Tissue of Origin

Using DNA methylation signatures to classifying solid tissue biopsies as cancer or healthy using DNA methylation signatures

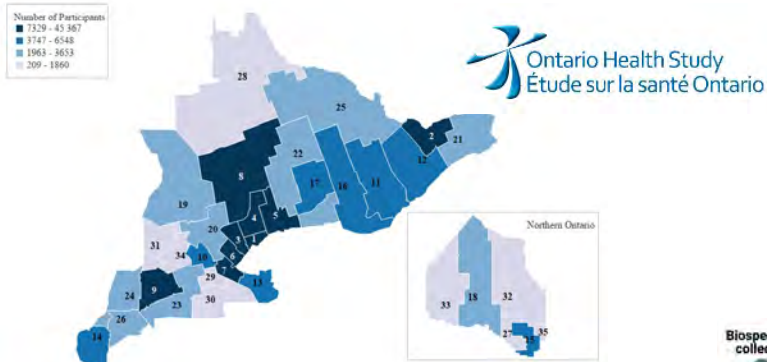
		Actual Class		CpG Sites: 500
		Tumour	Healthy	
Predicted Class	Tumour	6545	7	Precision: 99.9% 4958
	Healthy	454	217	
		Sensitivity: 95.6%	Specificity: 96.6%	5328
F1 Score: 98%				

True Class	Predicted Class														
	Bladder	Brain	Breast	Colorectal	Headneck	Kidney	Liver	Lung	Oesophageal	Pancreatic	Prostate	Skin	Stomach	Thyroid	Uterus
Uterus (n=124)	0%	0%	0.8%	0%	2.4%	0%	0%	1.6%	0%	0%	0%	0.8%	0%	0%	94.4%
Thyroid (n=129)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	98.4%	0%
Stomach (n=99)	0%	0%	1%	2%	5.1%	1%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	87.9%	0%	0%	1%
Skin (n=119)	0.8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.8%	0%	0%	98.3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Prostate (n=126)	0.8%	0%	0.8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	98.4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Pancreatic (n=47)	0%	2.1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14.9%	0%	78.7%	0%	0%	4.3%	0%	0%	0%
Oesophageal (n=47)	0%	0%	6.4%	0%	21.3%	0%	0%	19.1%	10.6%	0%	0%	0%	40.4%	0%	2.1%
Lung (n=212)	0%	0.5%	0%	0%	2.4%	0%	0.9%	94.3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1.9%
Liver (n=95)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1.1%	93.7%	5.3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kidney (n=167)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.6%	96.2%	0%	0.6%	0%	0%	0%	0.6%	0%	0%	0%
Headneck (n=133)	0%	0%	0.8%	0%	88.7%	0%	0%	8.3%	0%	0%	0%	0.8%	0.8%	0%	0.8%
Colorectal (n=104)	0%	0%	0%	90.2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2.9%	0%	0%
Breast (n=200)	0%	0%	98%	0%	0.5%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.5%
Brain (n=172)	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Bladder (n=105)	82.9%	0%	2.9%	0%	5.7%	0%	0%	3.8%	0%	0%	0%	1.9%	1%	0%	1.9%



Predictive models trained using 450k DNA methylation array data from paired TCGA cancer and normal tissue across of over 15 cancer types

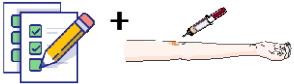
Leveraging population cohorts to study early cancer detection prior to clinical detection



Collected at the time of study enrollment:

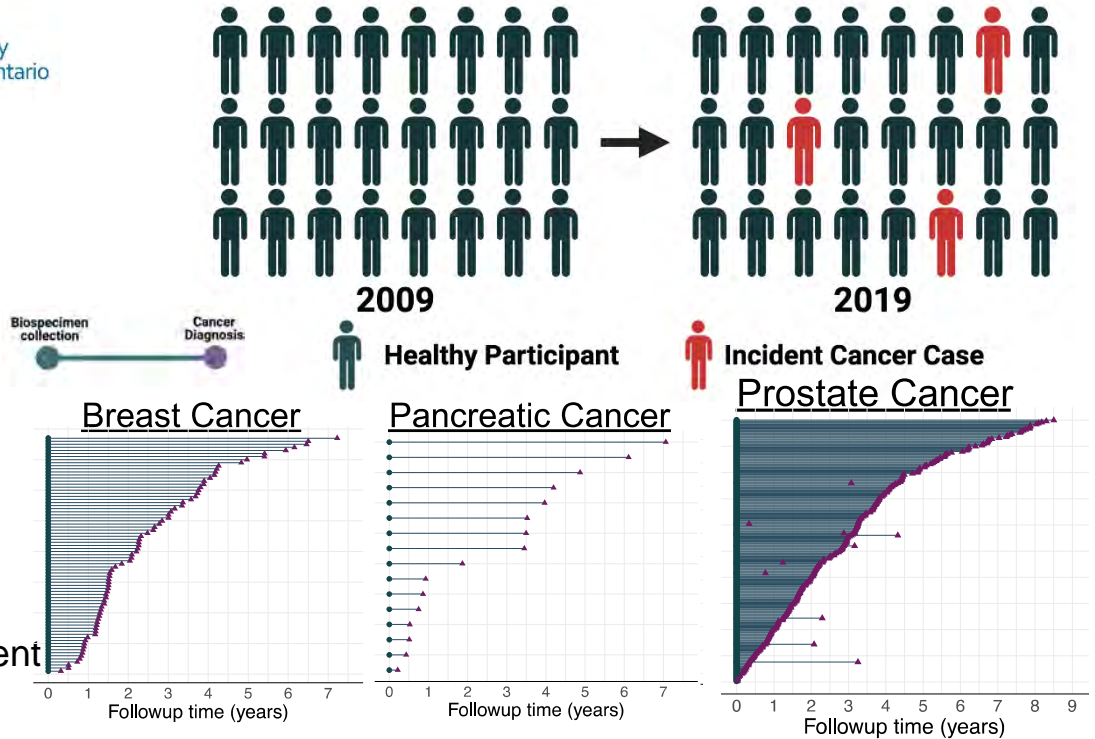
Healthy and Lifestyle Information

Blood Sample

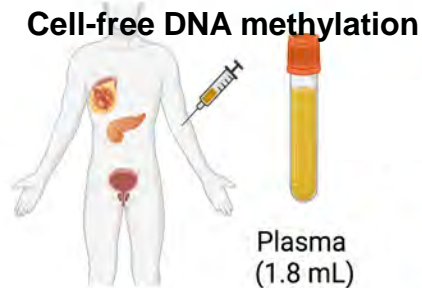
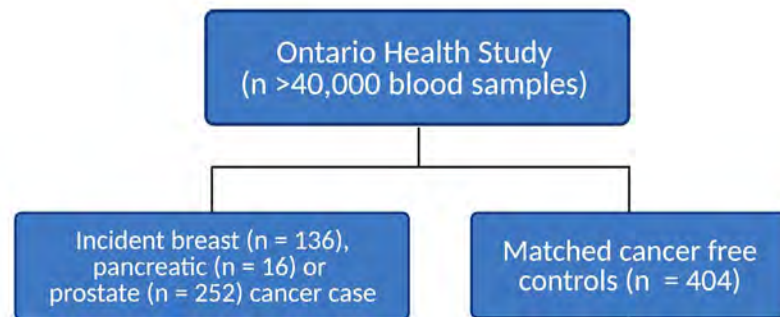
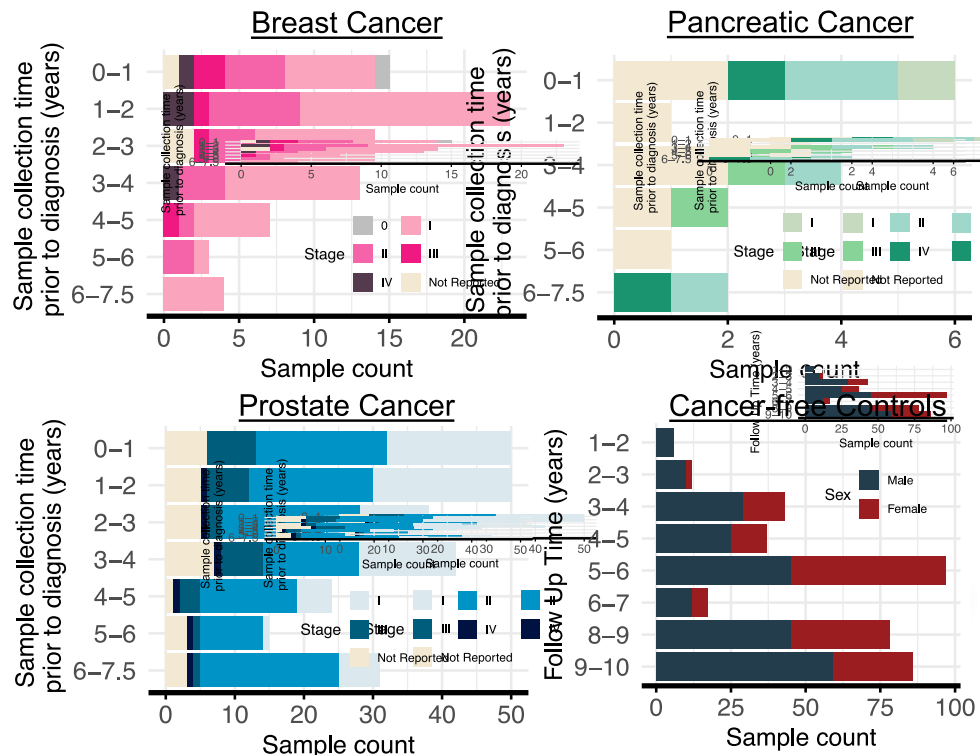


n > 40,000 blood plasma samples from cancer-free participants at time of enrollment

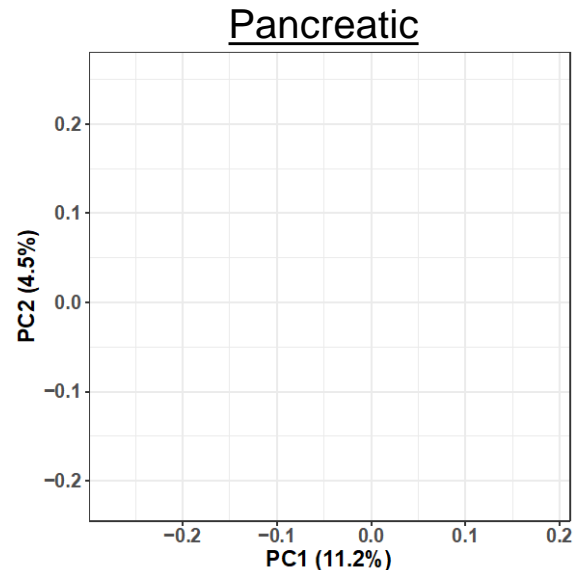
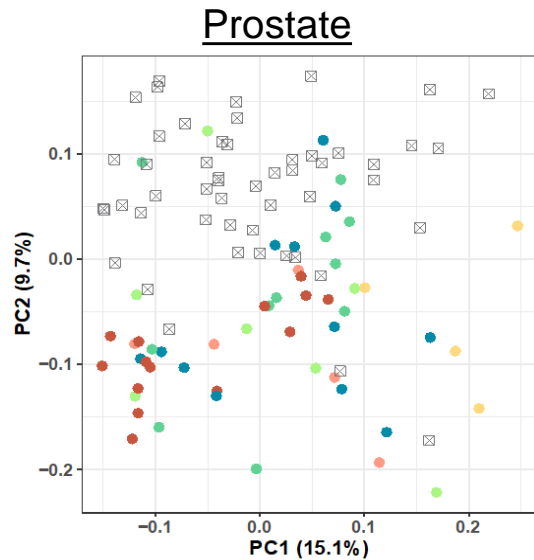
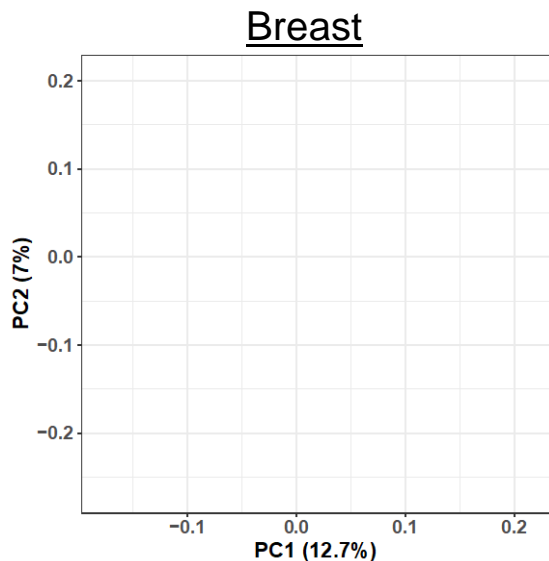
Kirsh et al. *International Journal of Epidemiology* (2022)



Identifying pre-diagnosis cases up to seven years prior to diagnosis within OHS



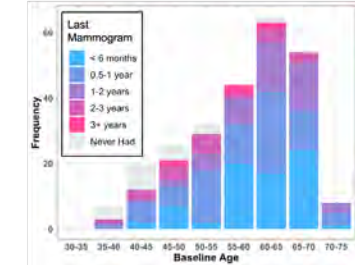
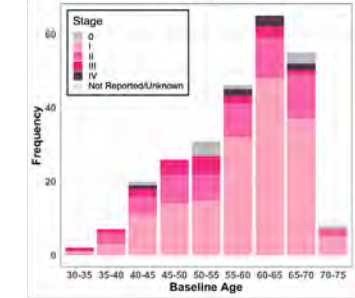
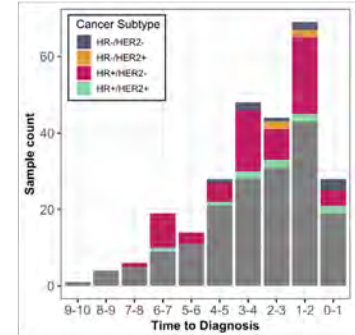
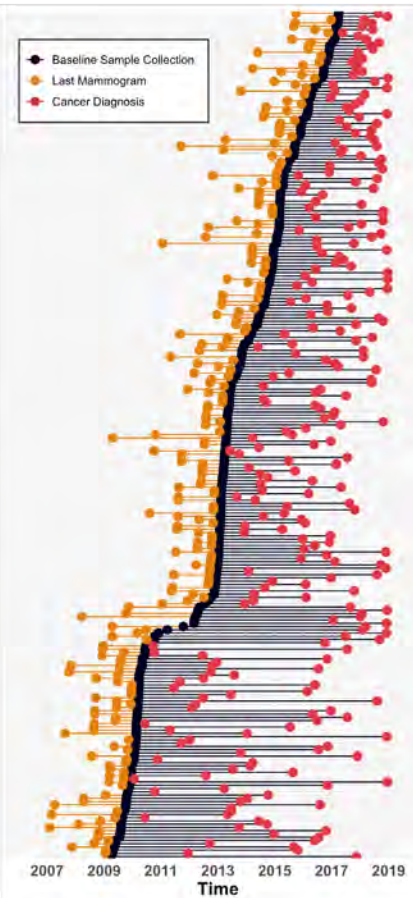
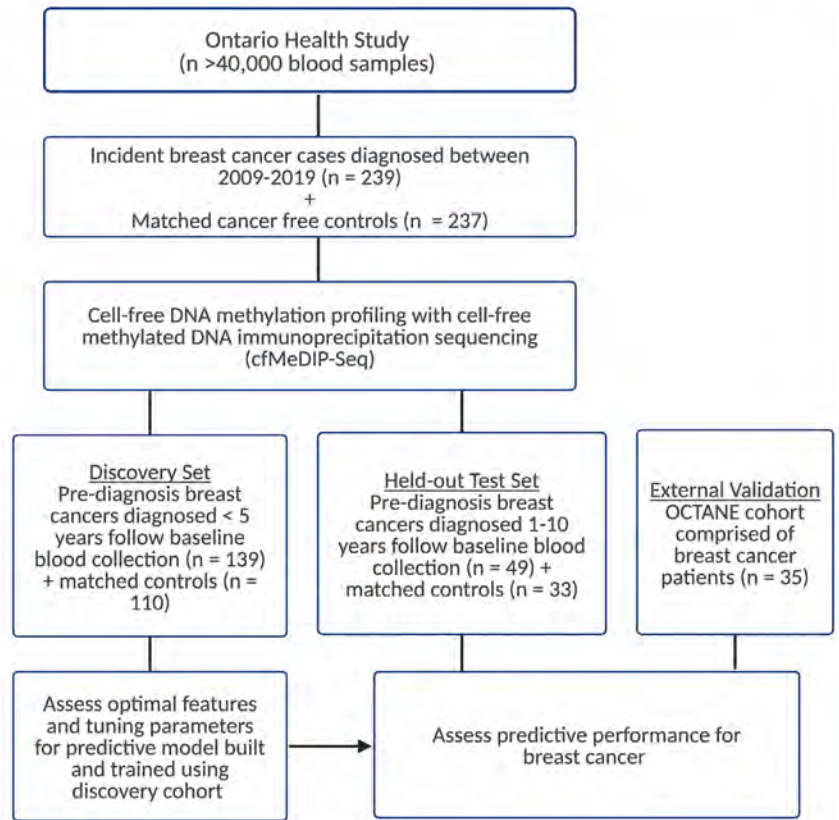
Discriminating individuals that will develop cancers using pre-diagnosis cfDNA methylation signatures



Time between sample collection & diagnosis

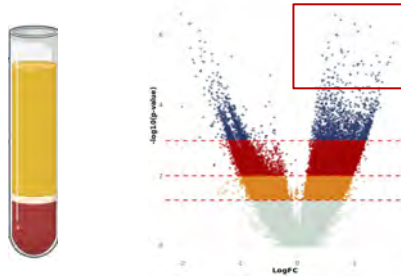
0-1 year	3-4 years	Control
1-2 years	4-5 years	
2-3 years	5+ years	

Control
Pre-Diagnosis

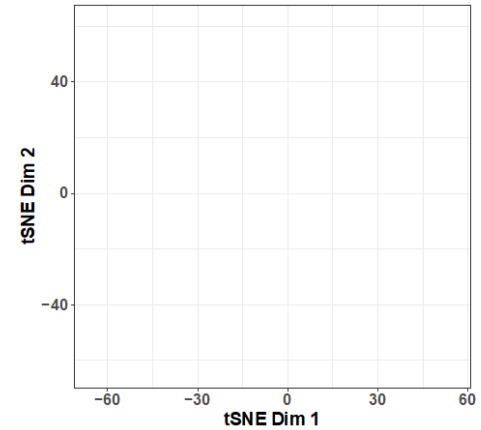
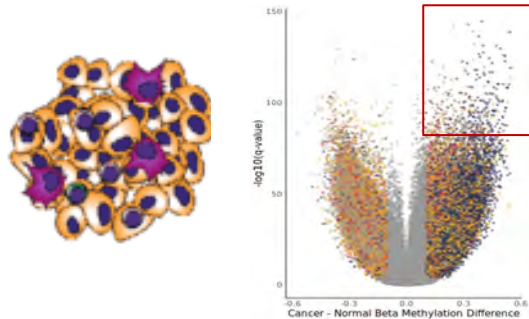


Pre-diagnosis cfDNA methylation signatures share concordant signatures with bulk cancer tissues

OHS Pre-diagnosis Cancer vs Control cfDNA hypermethylated regions



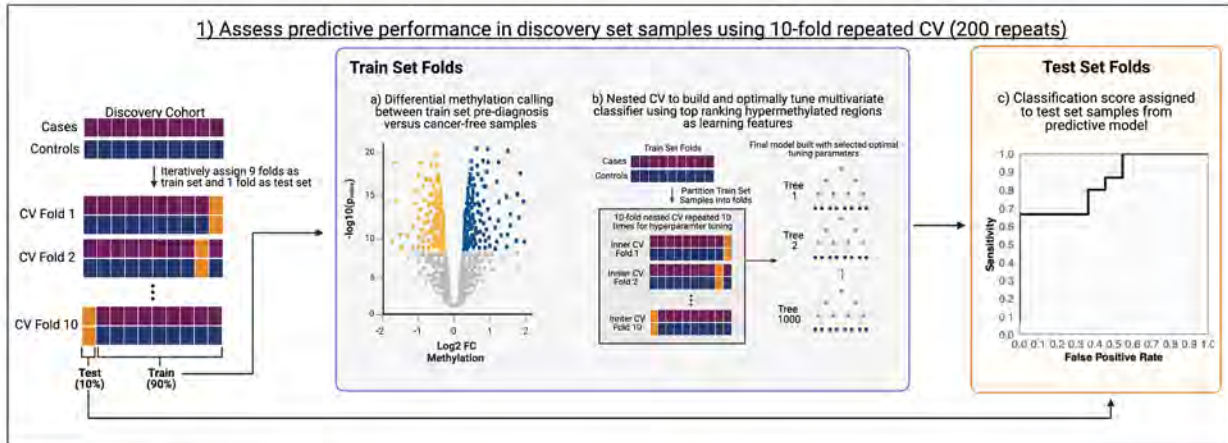
TCGA Bulk Cancer Tissue vs PBL/Adjacent Normal Hypermethylated regions



Pancreat	Tumour
Breast	Normal
Prostate	
Blood	

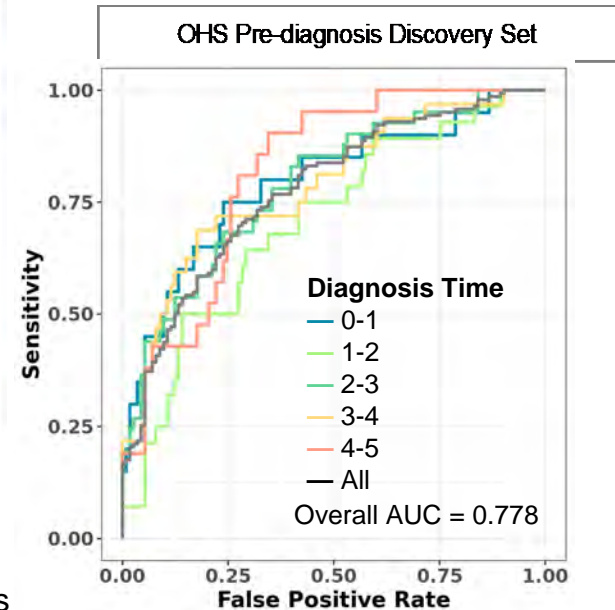
cfDNA methylation signatures predicts breast cancer in pre-diagnosis blood samples

1) Assess predictive performance in discovery set samples using 10-fold repeated CV (200 repeats)



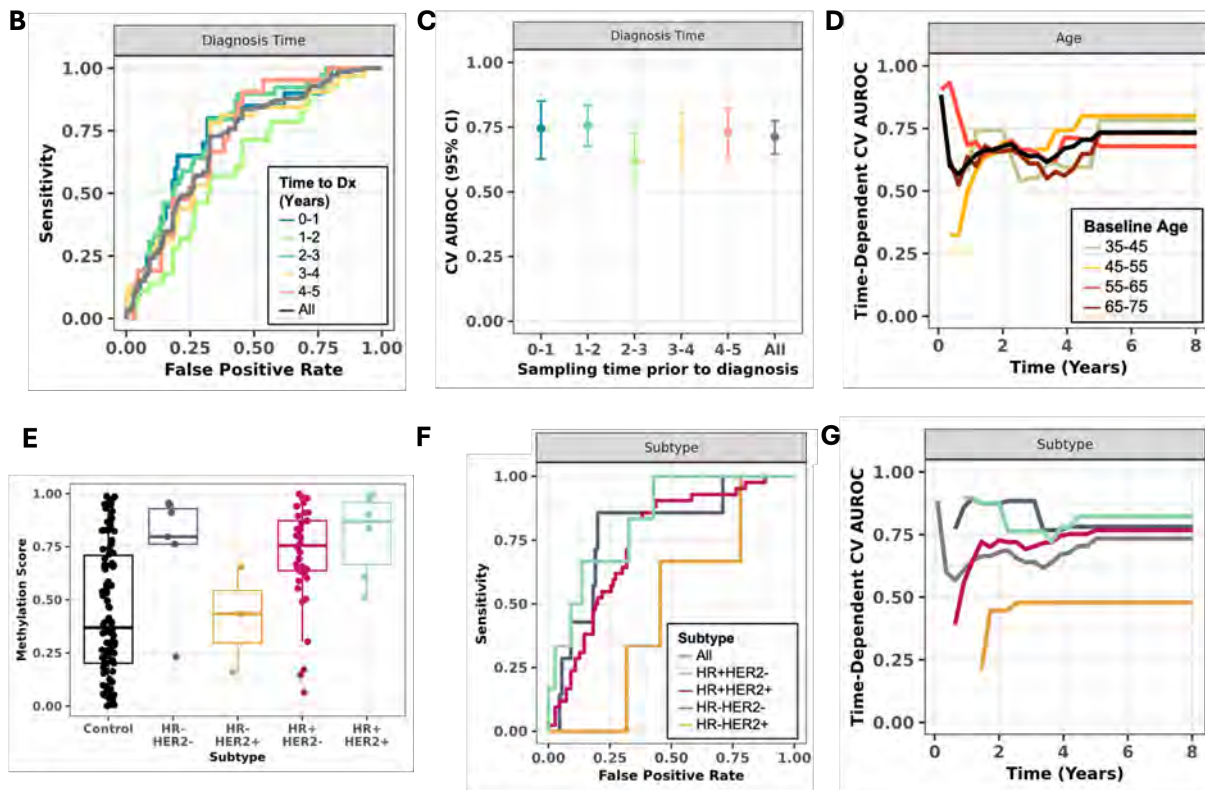
Discovery Cohort:
Pre-diagnosis breast cancer cases (n = 67)
Matched controls (n = 59)

Random forest model per iteration:
1000 Trees
150 Hypermethylated Regions
Tuning with 10-fold CV with 10 repeats

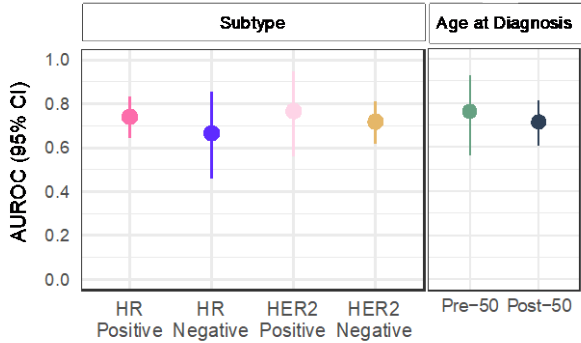


Cheng et al. (in Review)

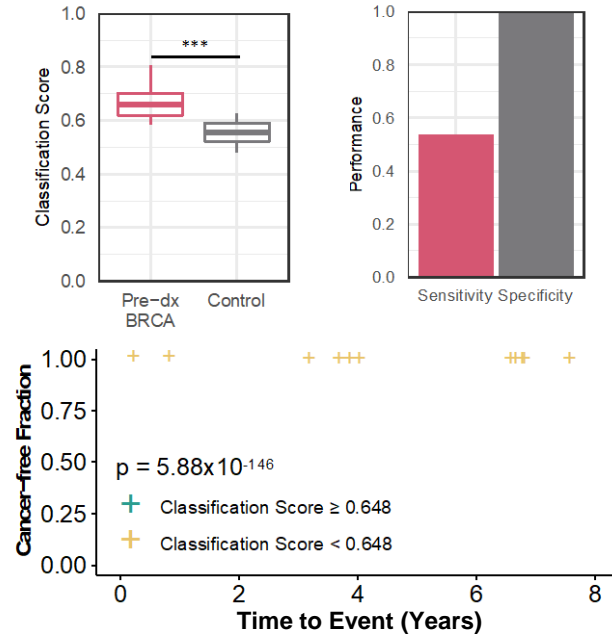
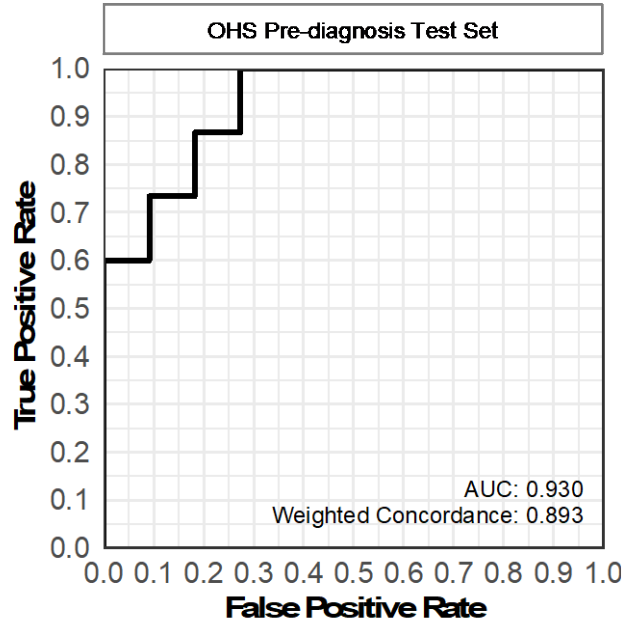
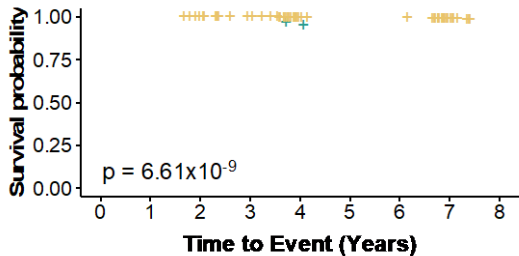
Performance varies for cancer subtypes and age of diagnosis



cfDNA methylation signatures detects breast cancers prior preceding mammogram

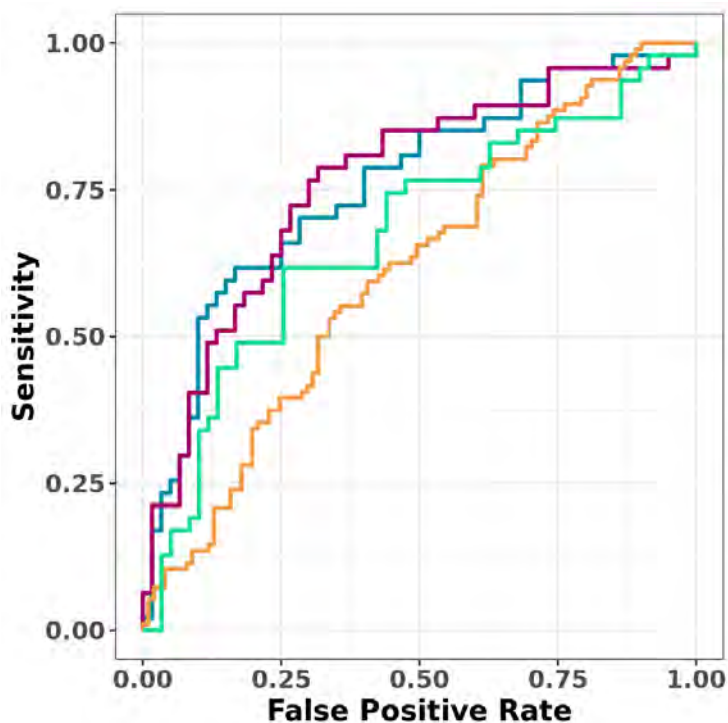


Negative Mammogram Screen < 1 year blood collection

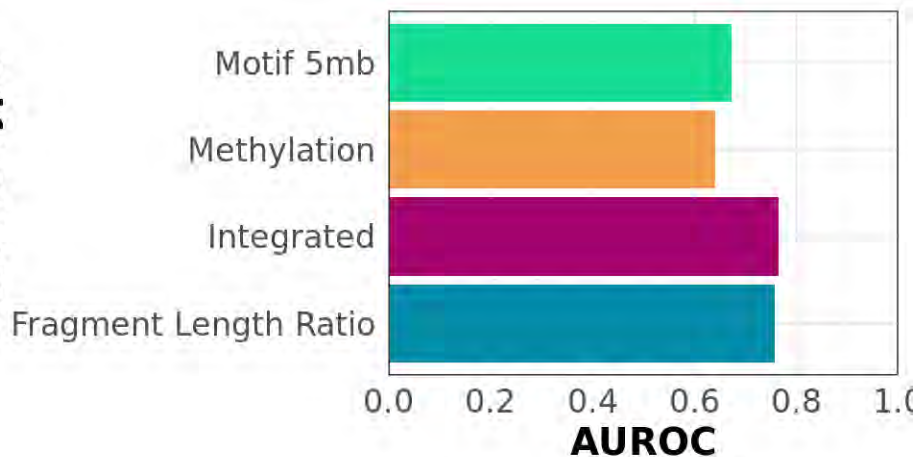


Cheng et al. (in Review)

Prostate Cancer Integrated feature score performance



Feature Type

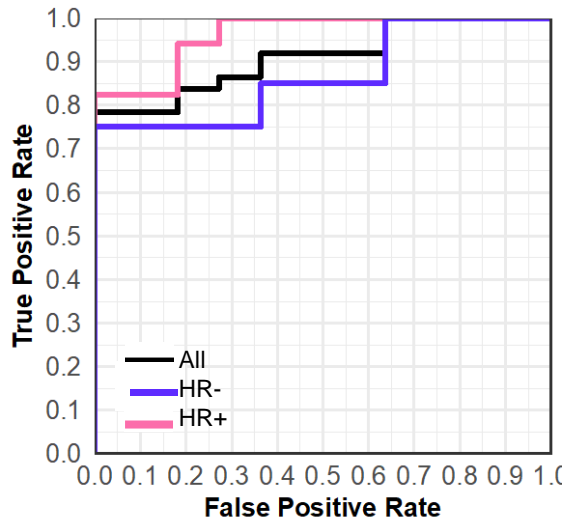


feature

- Fragment Length Ratio
- Integrated
- Methylation
- Motif 5mb

Future work: Pre-diagnosis cfDNA signatures are generalizable to other cancers

Metastatic Breast Cancer



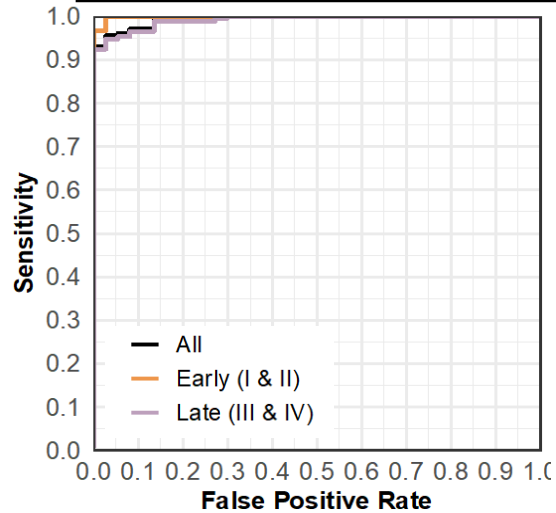
Breast Cancer Train Set

Pre-dx pancreatic cancer cases (n = 67)
Cancer-free controls (n = 59)

Breast Cancer Test Set

External Post-dx pancreatic cancer cases (n = 35)
Non-breast cancer controls (n = 11)

Prostate Metastatic Cancer



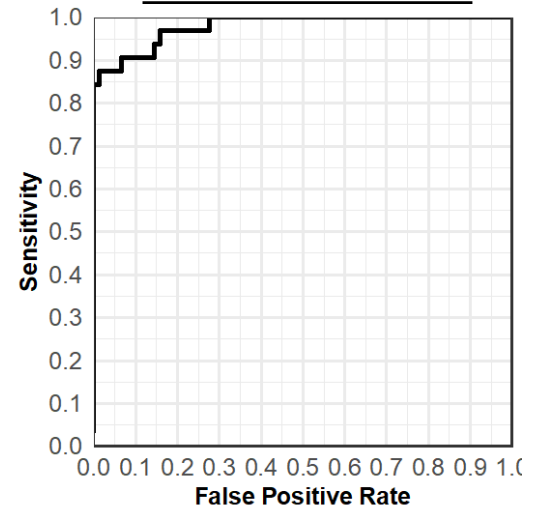
Prostate Cancer Train Set

Pre-dx prostate cancer cases (n = 47)
Cancer-free controls (n = 47)

Prostate Cancer Test Set

External post-dx prostate cancer (n = 102)
Cancer-free controls (n = 58)

Pancreatic Cancer



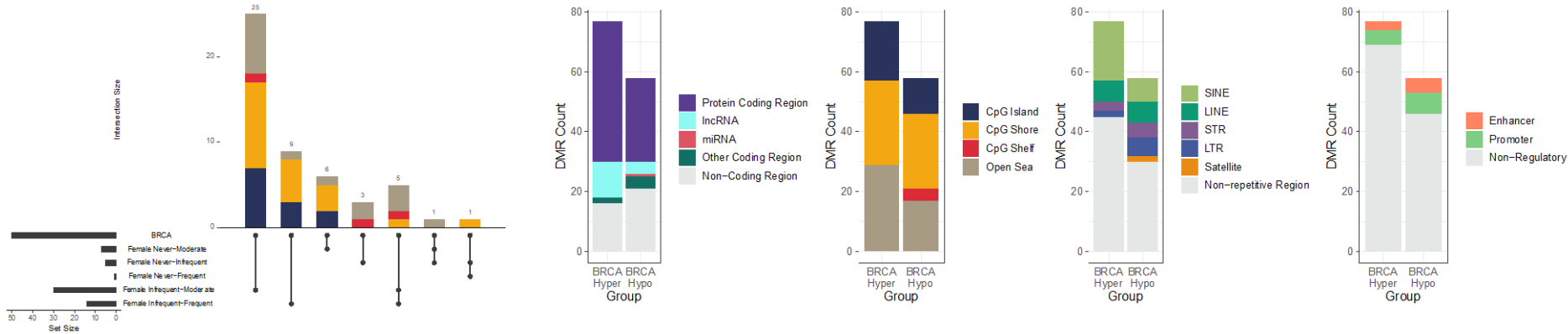
Pancreatic Cancer Train Set

Pre-dx pancreatic cancer cases (n = 16)
Cancer-free controls (n = 50)

Pancreatic Cancer Test Set

External post-dx pancreatic cancer cases (n = 38)
Cancer-free controls (n = 80)

Alcohol associated DMRs that overlap breast cancer DMRs



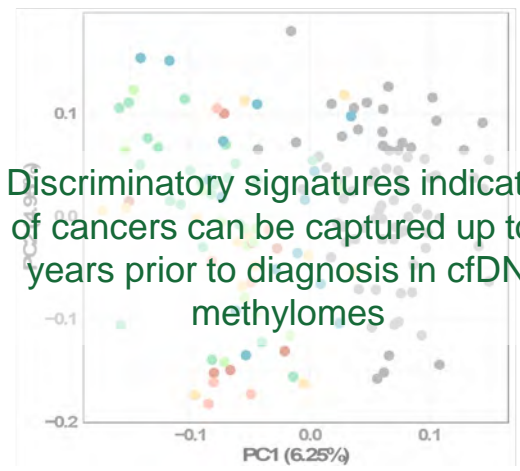
Future work: Can we see signatures of specific risk factors associated with cancer or disease?

Summary

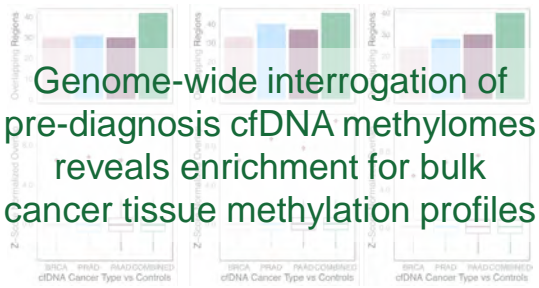
6 COHORTS
9 PROVINCES
300,000+ CANADIANS



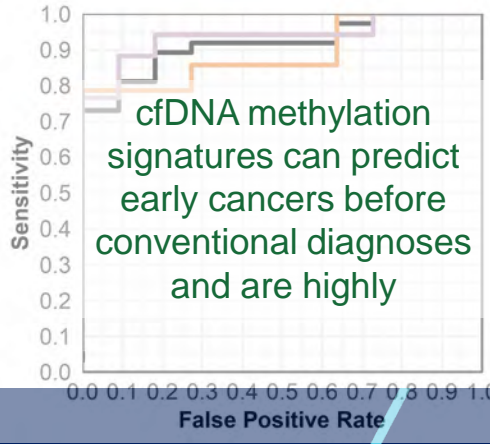
Large population cohorts enable pre-diagnosis profiling of diseases for biomarker and early evolution studies



Discriminatory signatures indicative of cancers can be captured up to 7 years prior to diagnosis in cfDNA methylomes

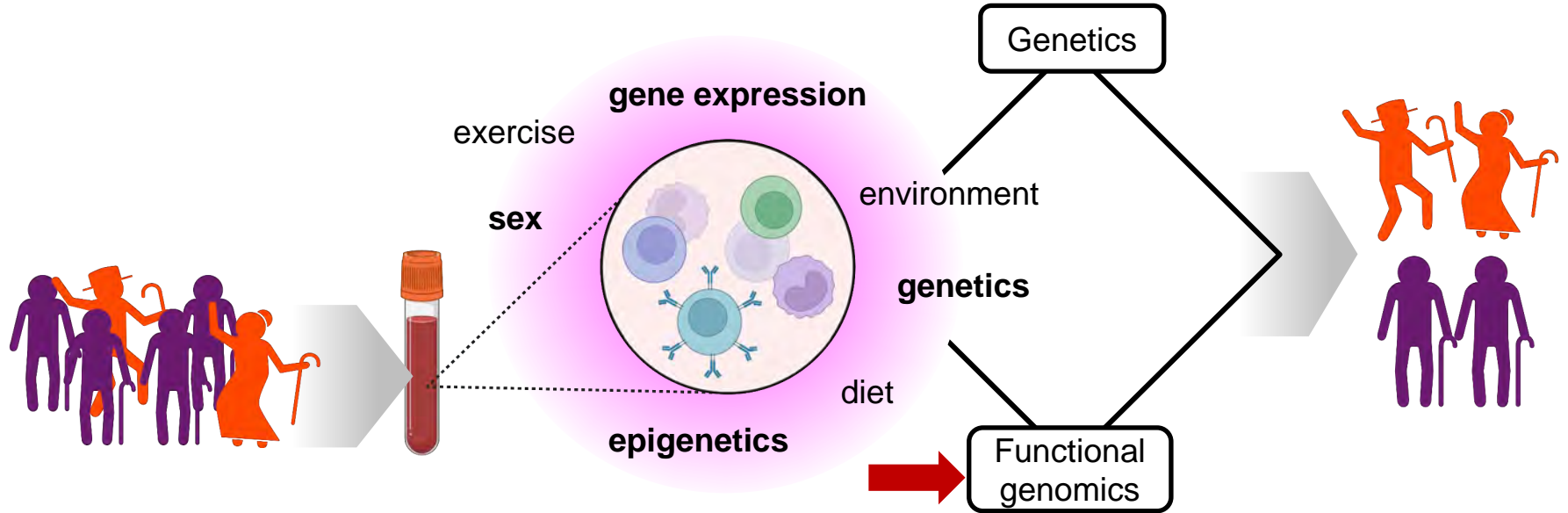


Genome-wide interrogation of pre-diagnosis cfDNA methylomes reveals enrichment for bulk cancer tissue methylation profiles



cfDNA methylation signatures can predict early cancers before conventional diagnoses and are highly

What factors contribute to healthy aging of blood?

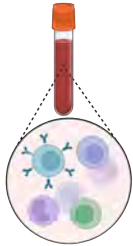


Mechanisms of healthy aging in blood cells using single-cell -omics

Elyssa Bader, PhD



Classical studies of aging don't capture tissue-specific variation



e.g., Centenarian
(100+ years old),
non-frail

Aged vs. young blood

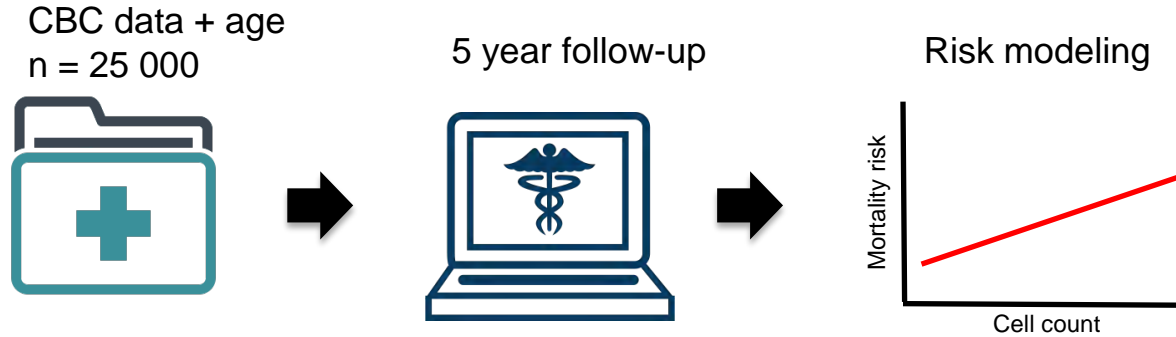
- ↑ myeloid cells
- ↑ exhaustion & senescence
- ↑ inflammation
- ↓ naive cells
- ↓ phagocytosis
- ↓ cytotoxicity
- ↓ activation

Centenarian Health check

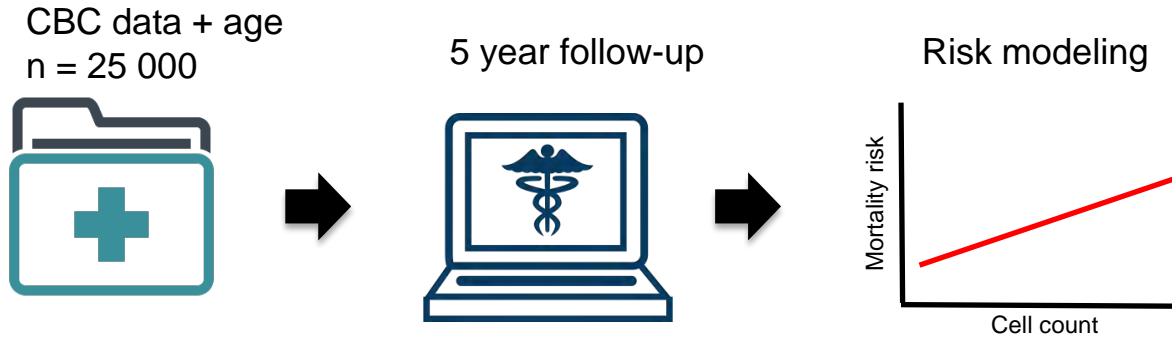


- brain
- lungs
- liver
- ...etc
- heart
- blood

Intermountain risk score predicts 5-year mortality



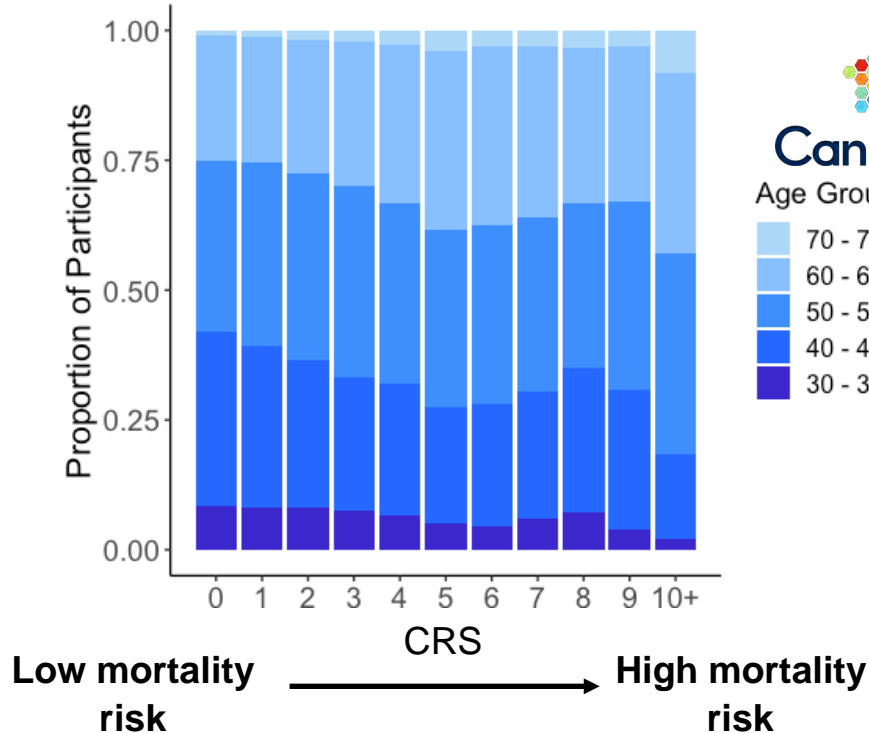
Intermountain risk score predicts 5-year mortality



Low IRS = Low mortality risk = Healthy blood

Complete blood count Risk Score increases with age

CRS is a modified version of Intermountain Risk Score¹ without the age effect
∴ comparable across all ages

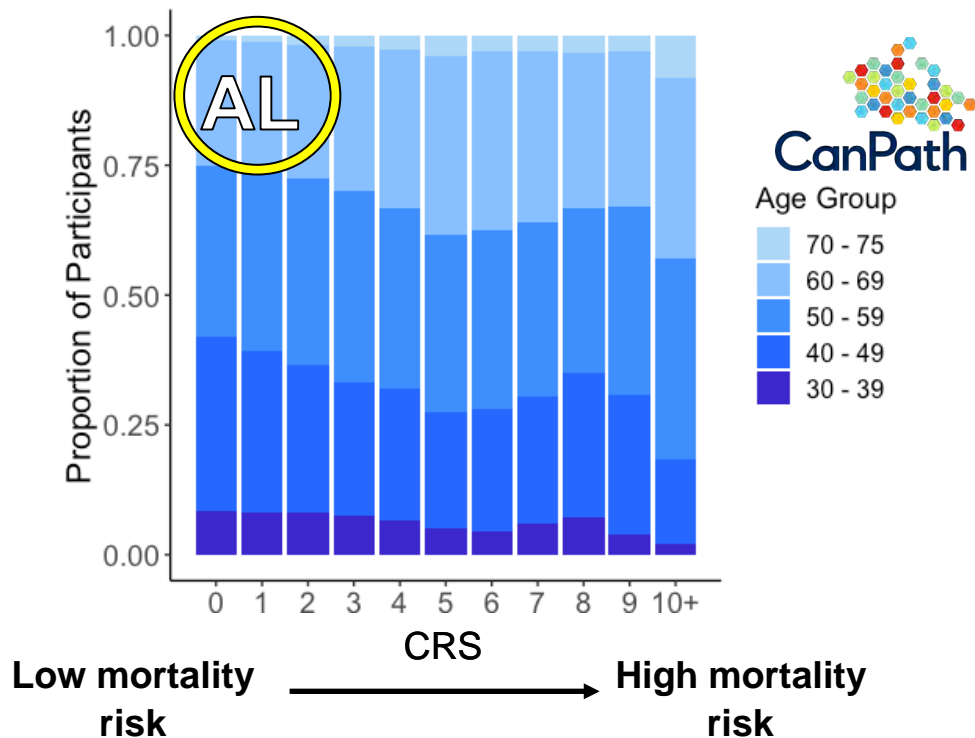


Variables in CRS

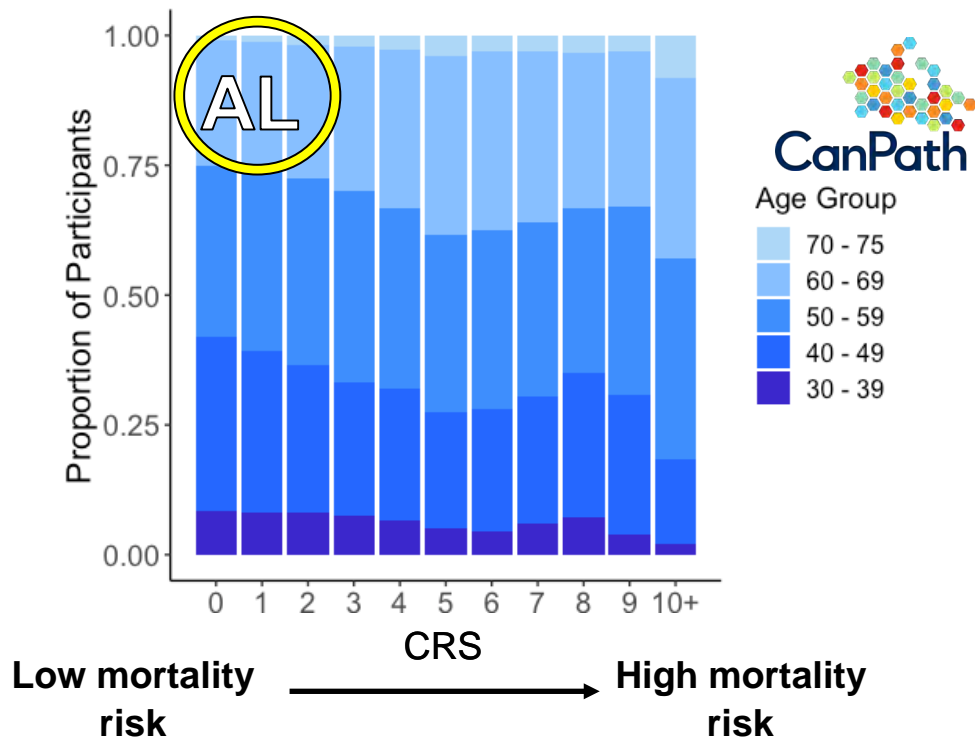
- Hematocrit
- White blood cell concentration
- Platelet concentration
- Mean corpuscular volume
- Mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration
- Red blood cell distribution width

¹Horne et al. (2009) Am J Med

Identifying mechanisms of healthy aging in blood



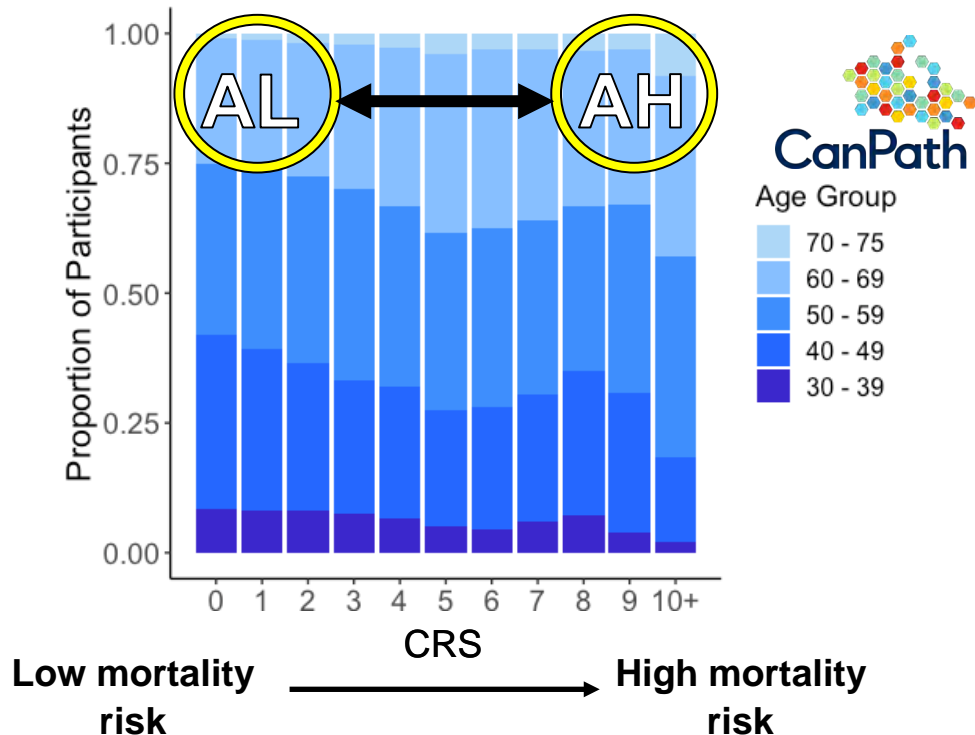
Identifying mechanisms of healthy aging in blood



Hypothesis 1

Protective mechanism: AL blood is different from AH blood

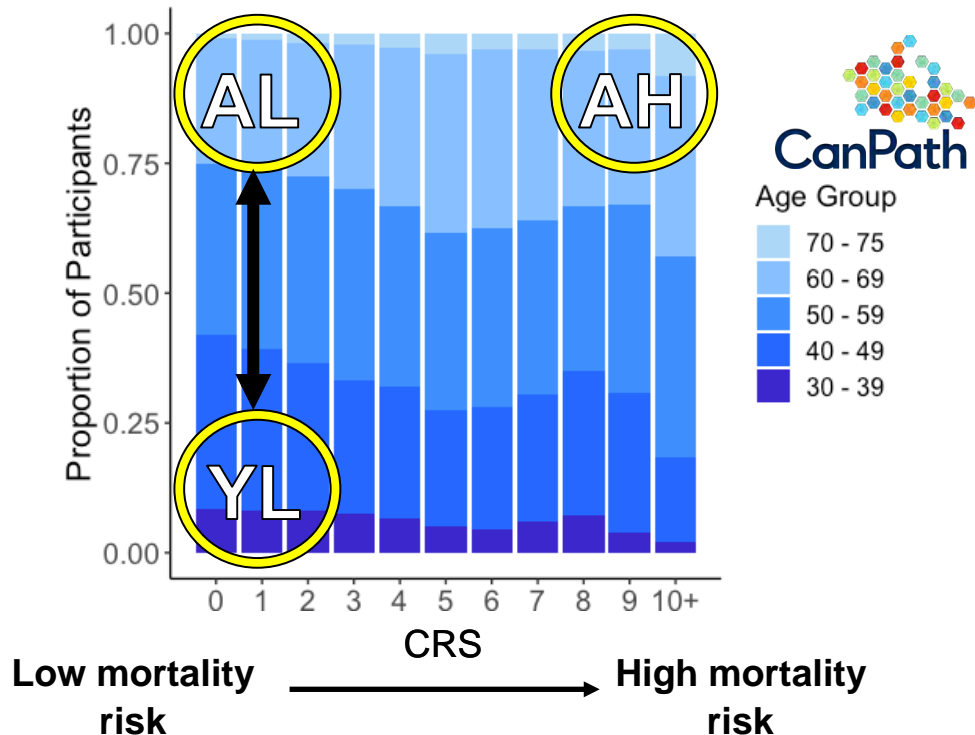
Identifying mechanisms of healthy aging in blood



Hypothesis 1

Protective mechanism: AL blood is different from AH blood

Identifying mechanisms of healthy aging in blood



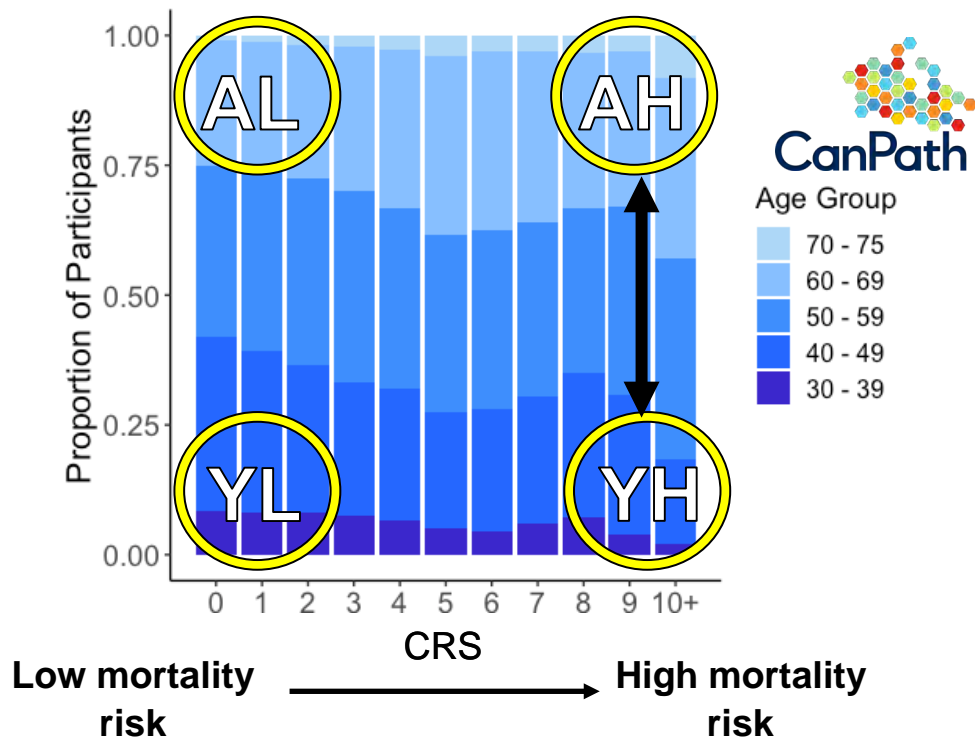
Hypothesis 1

Protective mechanism: AL blood is different from AH blood

Hypothesis 2

Healthy aging mechanism: AL blood is similar to YL blood

Identifying mechanisms of healthy aging in blood



Hypothesis 1

Protective mechanism: AL blood is different from AH blood

Hypothesis 2

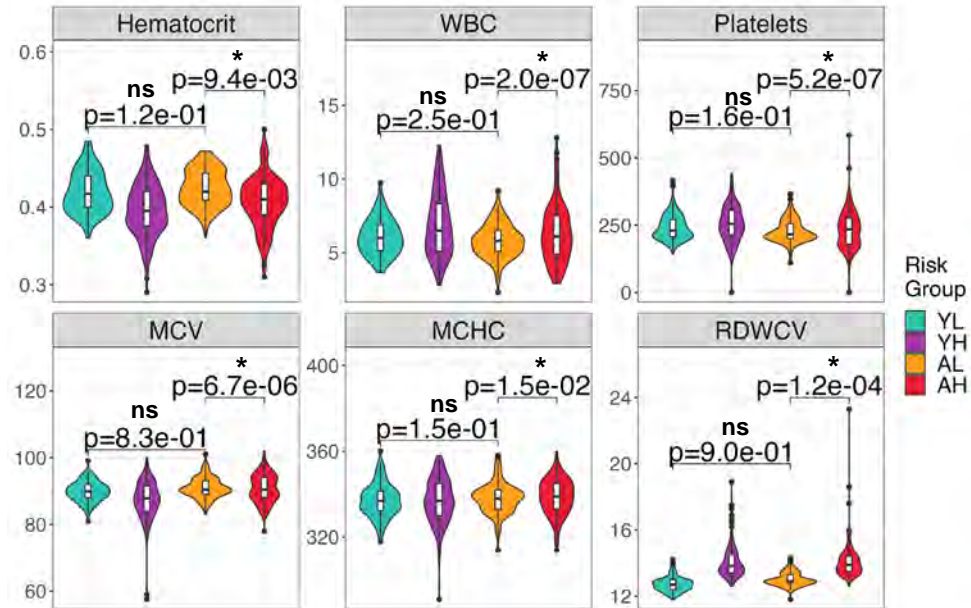
Healthy aging mechanism: AL blood is similar to YL blood

Accelerated aging mechanism: YH blood is similar to AH

Variance of blood cell phenotypes among aged and young low-risk individuals smaller compared to high-risk

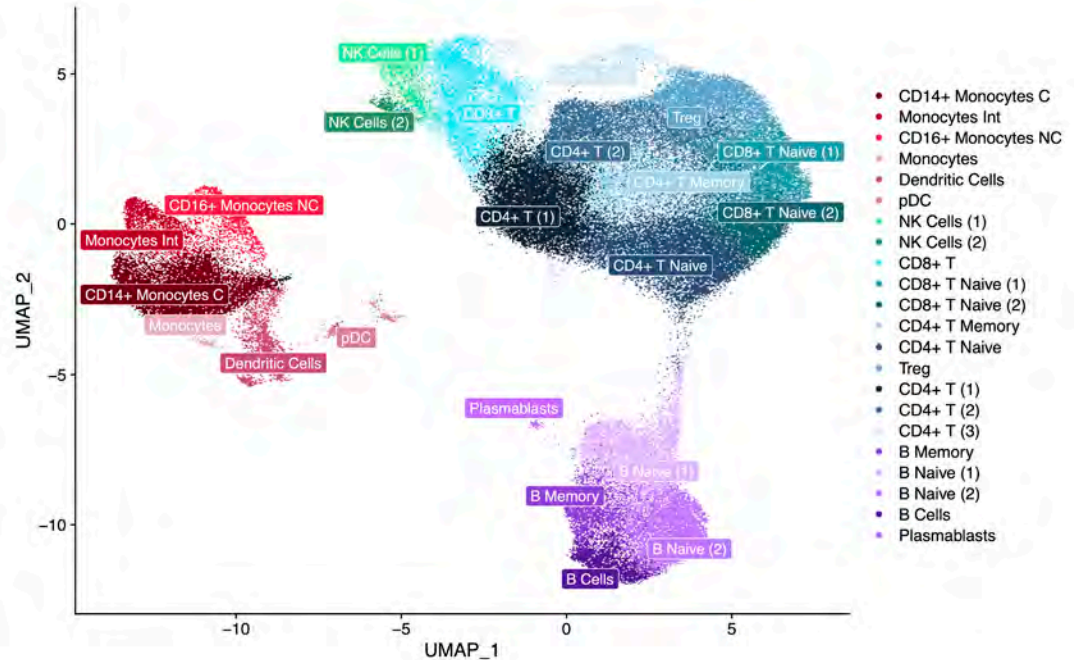
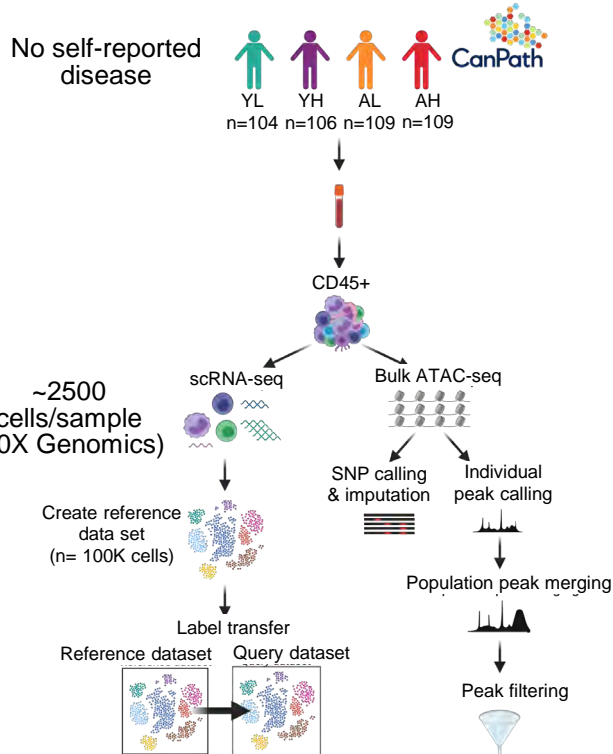
Young: 30 – 45 years old
Aged: 65 – 79 years old

Low-risk: CRS 0 – 3
High-risk: CRS 5+



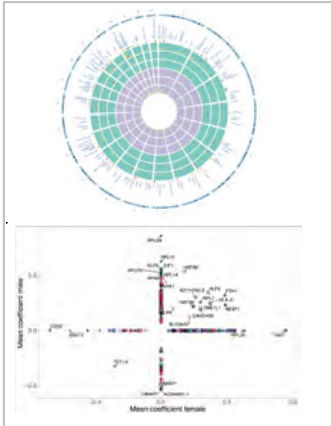
p-values calculated from Levene's test for variance

Single-cell RNA sequencing identifies major blood cell populations from bio-banked blood samples

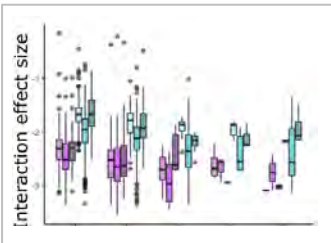


Summary

Factors contributing to healthy blood aging

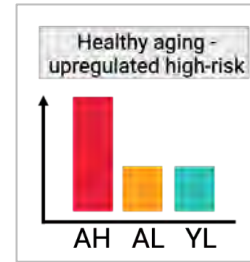


Genetic and transcriptional variation associated with healthy blood aging is **sex and cell type specific**

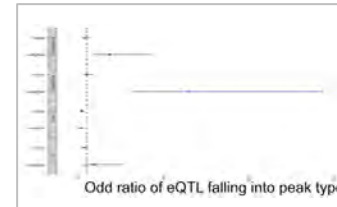


Genetic regulation of gene expression associated with CRS in **innate cells** is stronger and more abundant

Mechanisms of healthy blood aging



Maintenance of gene expression similar to **young** individuals



Maintenance of **repressed chromatin**

CanPath is a partnership between leading health institutes from coast to coast



In partnership with:



Regional cohorts:



Hosted by:



Regional Funders:



CanPath

Acknowledgements

Awadalla Lab

Dr. Philip Awadalla

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Elias Gbeha

Heather Gibling

Michelle Harwood

Ido Nofech-Mozes

Tom Ouellette

Kimberly Skead

Committee members

Dr. John Dick

Dr. Rayjean Hung

Past lab members

Dr. Armande Ang Houle

Elizabeth Hall

Jasmina Uzunović

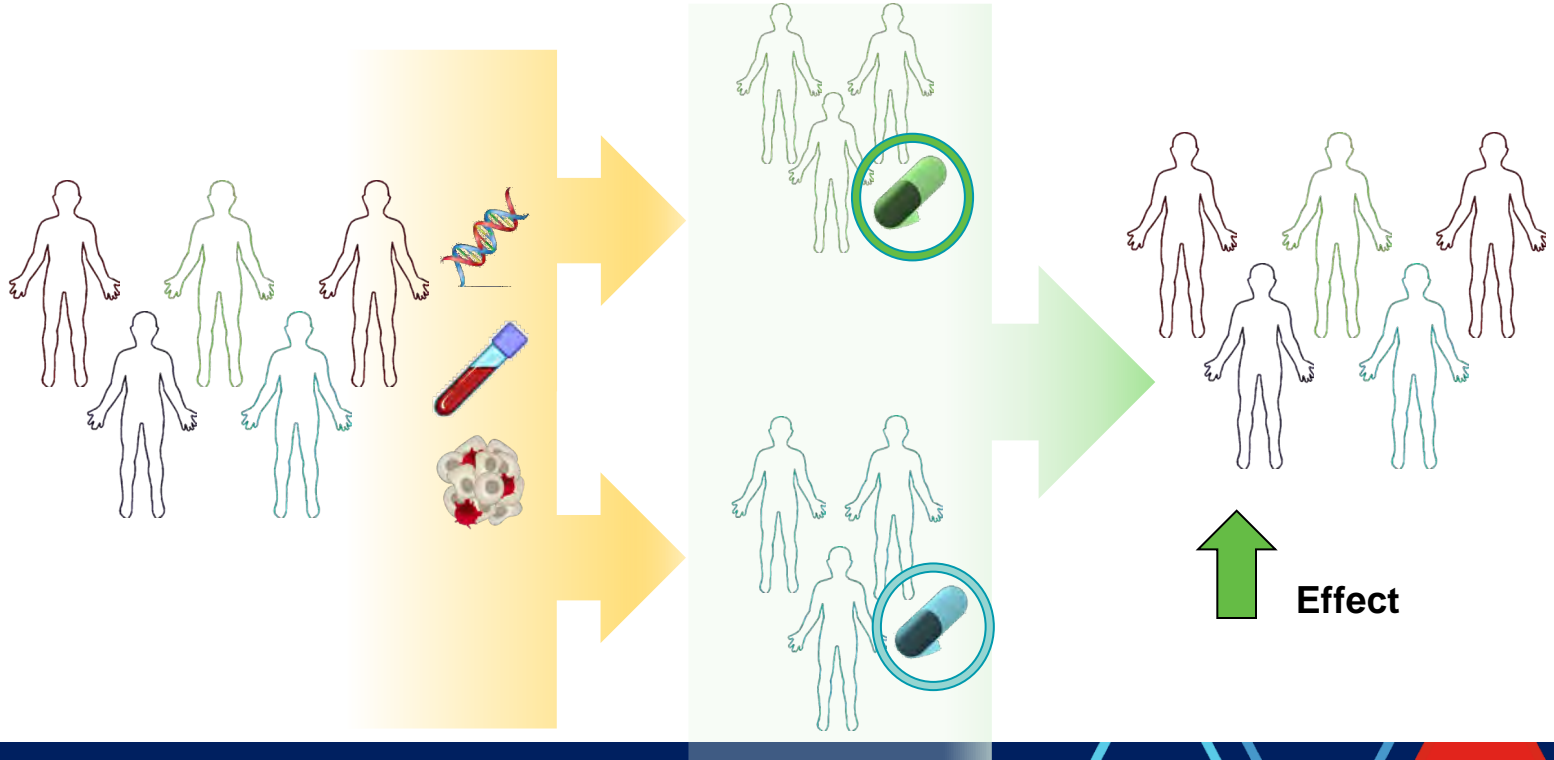
Collaborators

Dr. David Soave

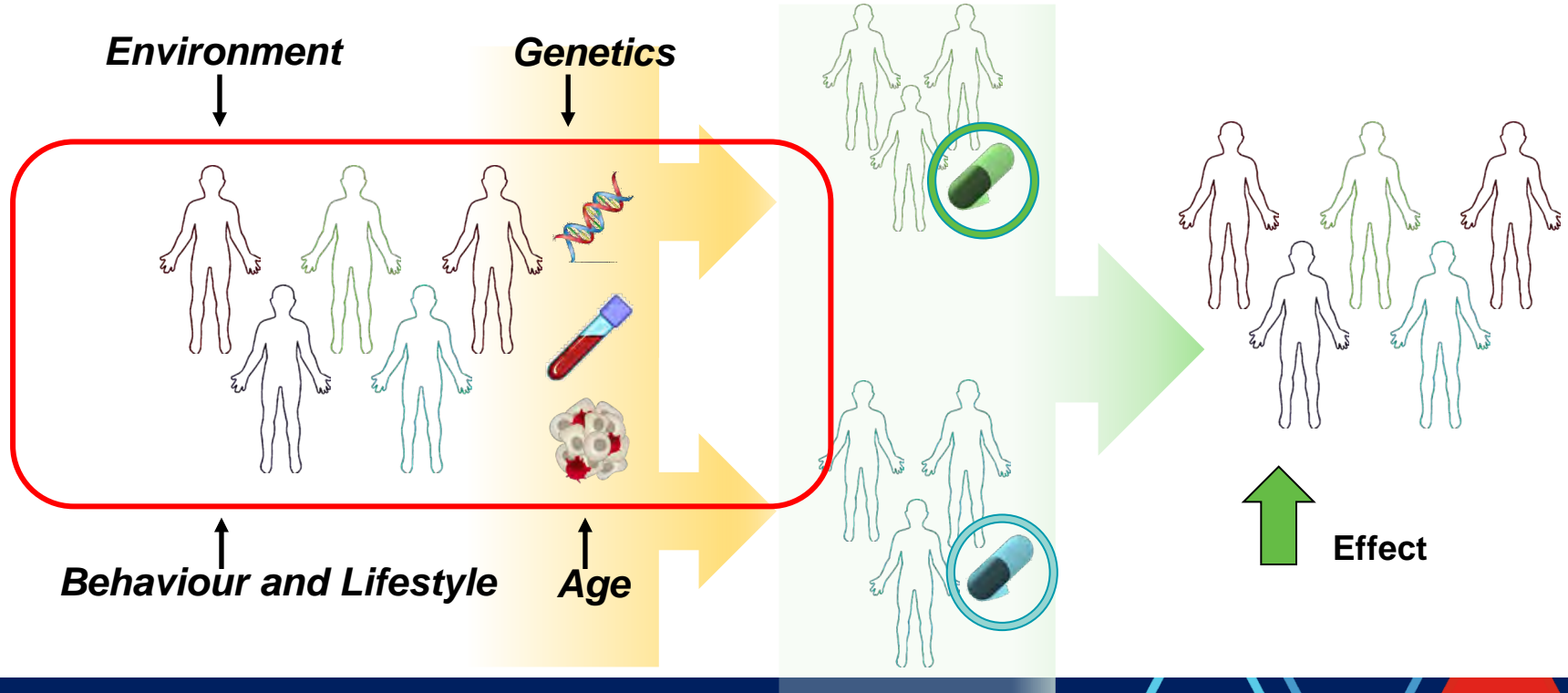




Personalized approaches to improving health outcomes



Personalized approaches to improving health outcomes



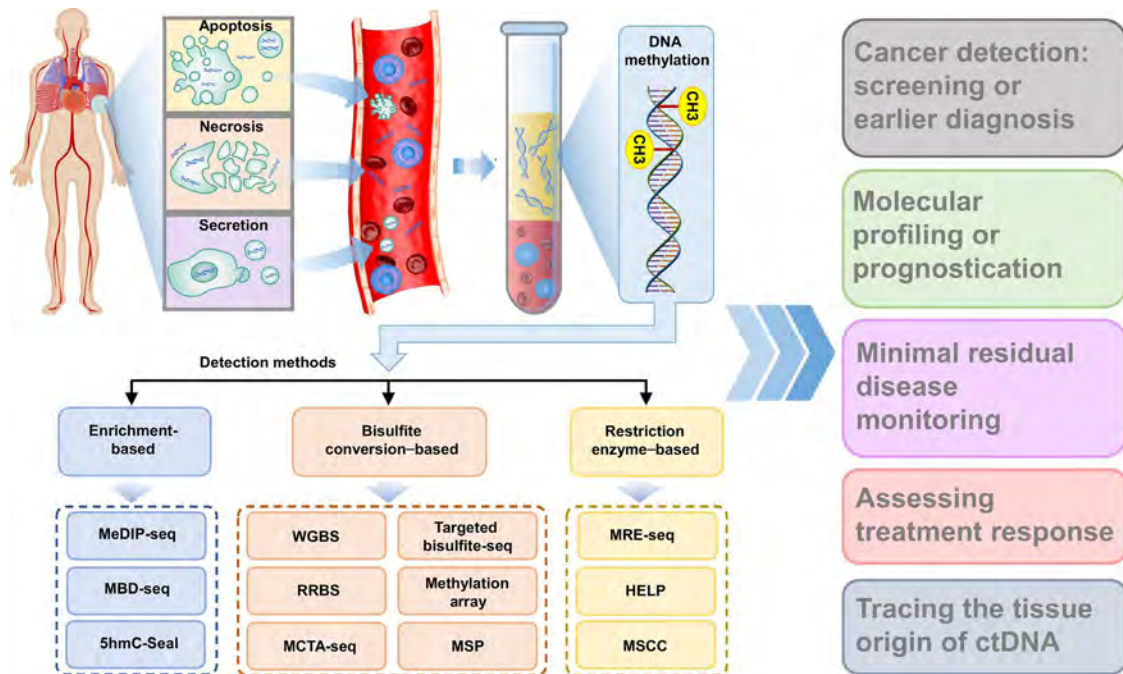
Differentially methylated regions in cell free DNA

Sources of DMRs in cfDNA

1) Disease process altering tissue or immune methylation profiles (eg cancer)

2) Increased cfDNA shedding from damaged tissues (eg organ transplant)

3) Consequence of environmental exposure (eg alcohol)



Luo et al. (2021)

Integration with international efforts








For Canada to be competitive in health research, it is crucial to have a large population cohort.

CanPath is
Canada's only initiative
working with other
large cohorts around the
world through IHCC
(International Hundred
Thousand Cohort Consortium
)



International 100K Cohort Consortium

Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow's Health (CanPath)

- 23andMe 
- Biobank Japan 
- China Kadoorie Biobank 
- Canada 
- EPIC 
- Kaiser Permanente Research Program 
- LifeGene 
- Million Veteran Program 
- Million Women Study 
- Multiethnic Cohort Study 
- MyCode Community Health Initiative 
- Nurses' Health Study (NHS/NHSII) 
- US Precision Medicine Initiative/All of Us 
- Tohoku Medical Megabank Project 
- UK Biobank 

- Cohort Name** Q
- 23andMe 1
- 45 and Up Study 1
- AWI-Gen, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg 1
- 67 More
- Countries** Q
- USA 18
- UK 9
- Japan 5
- 36 More
- Genomic Data** Q
- % Unknown 27
- 1-25% 13
- 76-100% 13
- 3 More
- Genomic Data: WGS** Q
- % Unknown 38
- 1-25% 18
- 0% 11
- 2 More
- Genomic Data: WES** Q
- % Unknown 38
- 0% 18
- 1-25% 11
- 2 More

← Use the filter panel on the left to customize your cohort search.



Showing 1 - 25 of 70 cohorts

Cohort Name	Countries	Current Enrollment	Target Enrollment	Biospeci... Data	Genomic Data	Clinical Data	Demo... Data	imaging Data	Address or Geocode Data	Electron... Health Record Data	Data Sharing Potential	Cohort Ancestry: Asian	Cohort Ancestry: Black, African American... or African	Coh Ance... or W
Africa Health ...	South Africa	130000	130000	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
All of Us / NIH	USA	330000	1000000	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	✓	0%	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	1-25%	1-25%	26-5
BioVU Vander...	USA	244000		% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
Biobank Japan	Japan	270000	270000	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	0%	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
CONSTANCES	France	220000		26-50%	1-25%	76-100%	✗	0%	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	1-25%	1-25%	76-1
California Tea...	USA	133477		% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
Canadian Part...	Canada	333000	350000	51-75%	26-50%	76-100%	✓	1-25%	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	1-25%	1-25%	51-7
Cancer Preven...	USA	184194		% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	✗	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	0%	% Unkn...	% Unkn...	% U
Center for Ap...	USA, Mexico, Brazil, Europe	130000	1000000	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	✓	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	76-100%	1-25%	26-50%	26-5

Show 25 rows

Navigation icons: << < 1 2 3 > >>

Predicting health outcomes from hematopoietic evolution

KIMBERLY SKEAD,

DEPT. MOLECULAR GENETICS, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO AND THE ONTARIO
INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COORDINATOR, CANADIAN PARTNERSHIP FOR TOMORROW'S
HEALTH (CANPATH)



AWADALLA LAB

Pioneering Genomics for Precision Health.

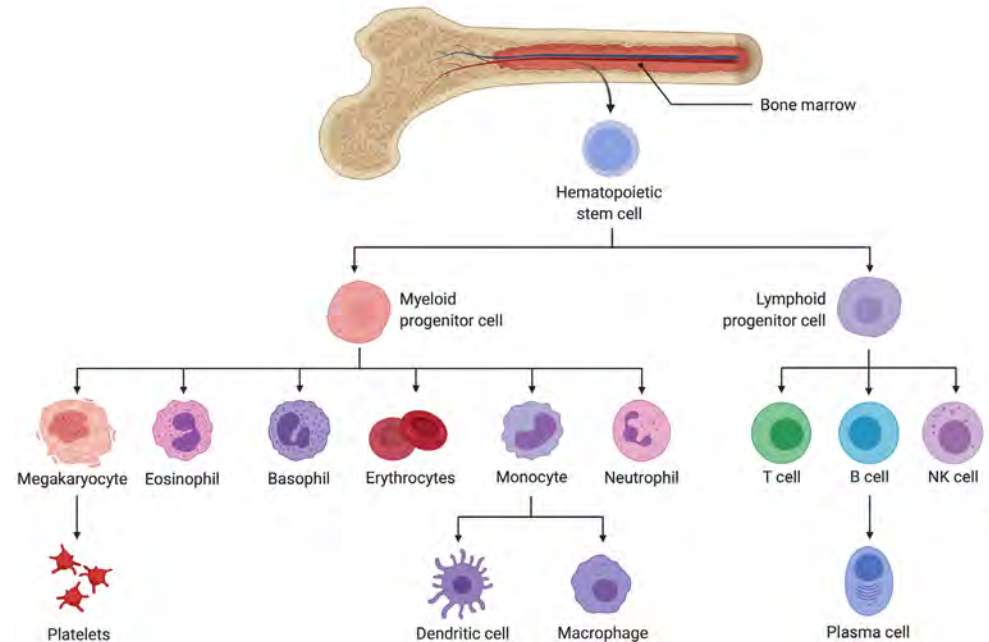


for tomorrow's Health

CanPath

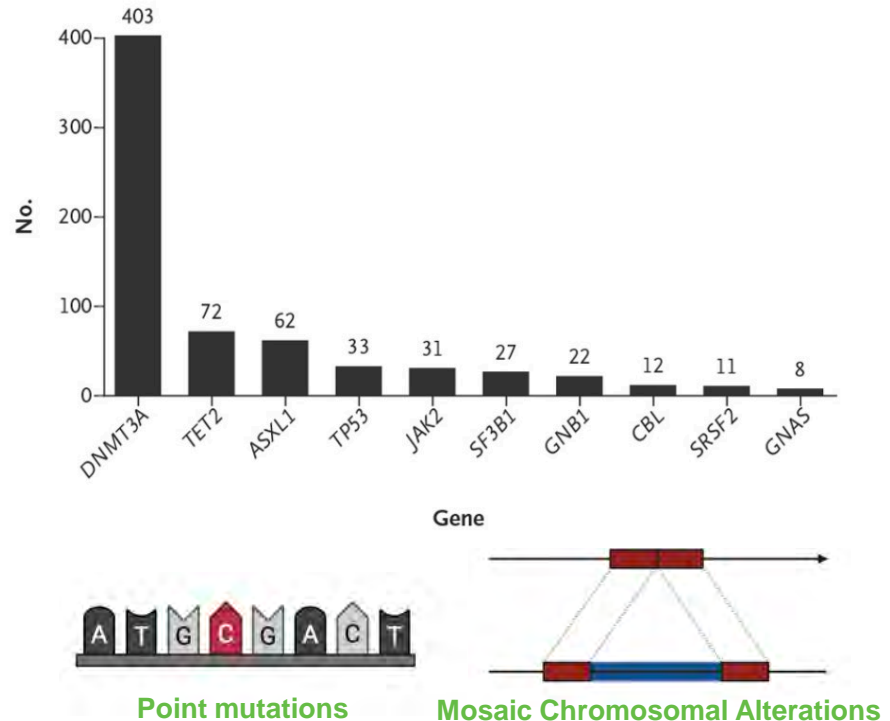
Somatic mutations accumulate in our blood over time

- Blood cell hierarchy derived from **population of stem cells** (HSCs)
- HSC populations are very tightly regulated
- **Age-Related Clonal Hematopoiesis**: the preferential expansion of blood cells that carry recurrent somatic mutations
- ARCH almost inevitable in elderly
- Increased risk of **cancers and potentially other chronic diseases**



Somatic mutations accumulate in our blood over time

- Blood cell hierarchy derived from **population of stem cells** (HSCs)
- HSC populations are very tightly regulated
- **Age-Related Clonal Hematopoiesis**: the preferential expansion of blood cells that carry recurrent somatic mutations
- ARCH almost inevitable in elderly
- Increased risk of **cancers and cardiovascular disease**



Interacting evolutionary pressures in blood shape health outcomes as we age

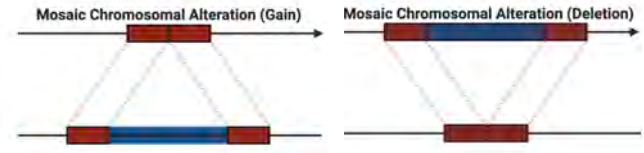


How does our blood evolve as we progress to disease?



Skead, K., et al. *Nature Communications* (2021)

Why are large mutations tolerated in our blood?



Skead, K., et al. In review at *Nature Genetics*

Why are large mutations tolerated in our blood?

Insights into clonal haematopoiesis from 8,342 mosaic chromosomal alterations

[Po-Ru Loh](#) ✉, [Giulio Genovese](#) ✉, [Robert E. Handsaker](#), [Hilary K. Finucane](#), [Yakir A. Reshef](#), [Pier Francesco Palamara](#), [Brenda M. Birman](#), [Michael E. Talkowski](#), [Samuel F. Bakhoum](#), [Steven A. McCarroll](#) ✉ & [Alkes L. Price](#) ✉

Nature **559**, 350–355 (2018) | [Cite this article](#)

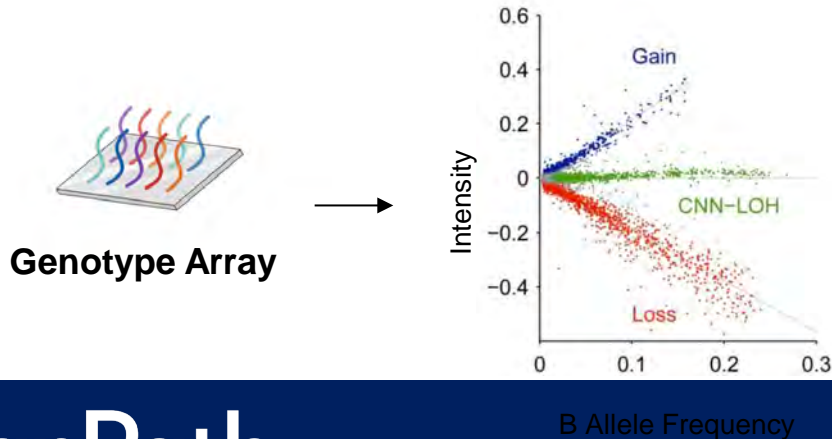





Figure adapted from Loh, P. et al. 2018

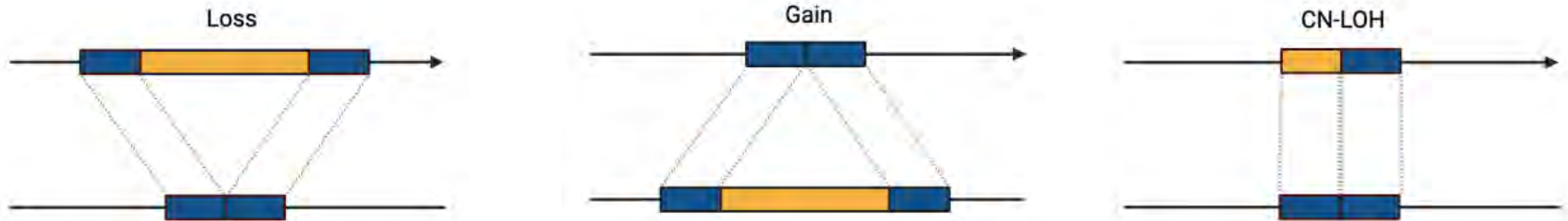
Why are large mutations tolerated in our blood?

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- Mosaic chromosomal alterations (mCAs) were found in approximately **5% of the population**



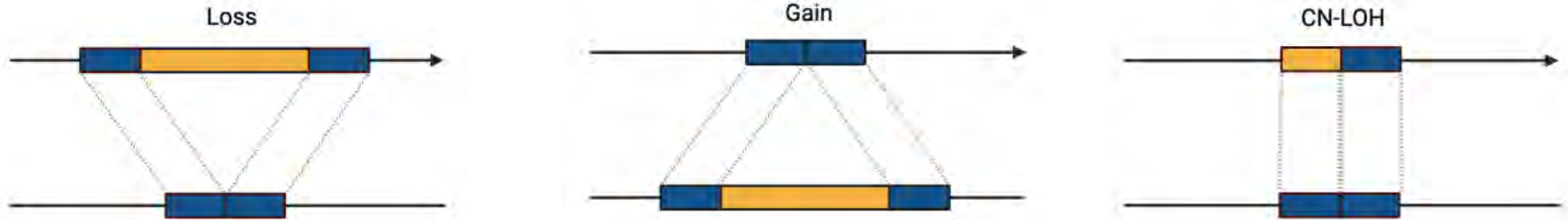
Why are large mutations tolerated in our blood?

Insights into clonal haematopoiesis from 8,342 mosaic chromosomal alterations

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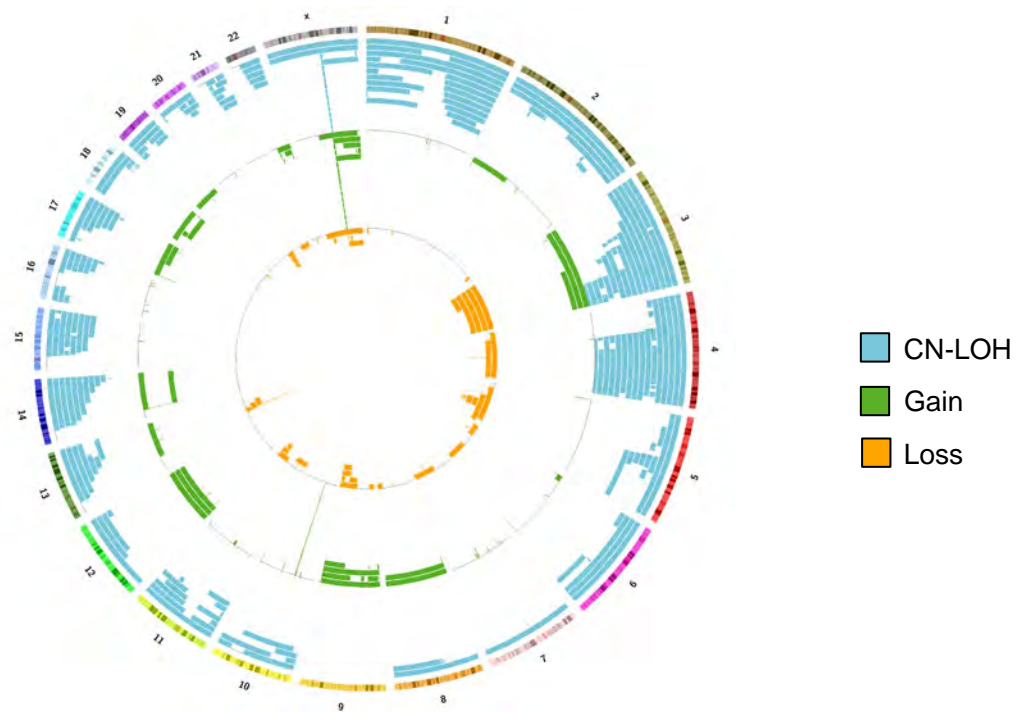
Nature **559**, 350–355 (2018) | [Cite this article](#)

- Mosaic chromosomal alterations (mCAs) were found in approximately **5% of the population**
- **Is selection is playing a role in maintaining somatic mutations in blood, why are large mCAs tolerated?**



ARCH attributable to mosaic chromosomal alterations is three times more common than previously estimated

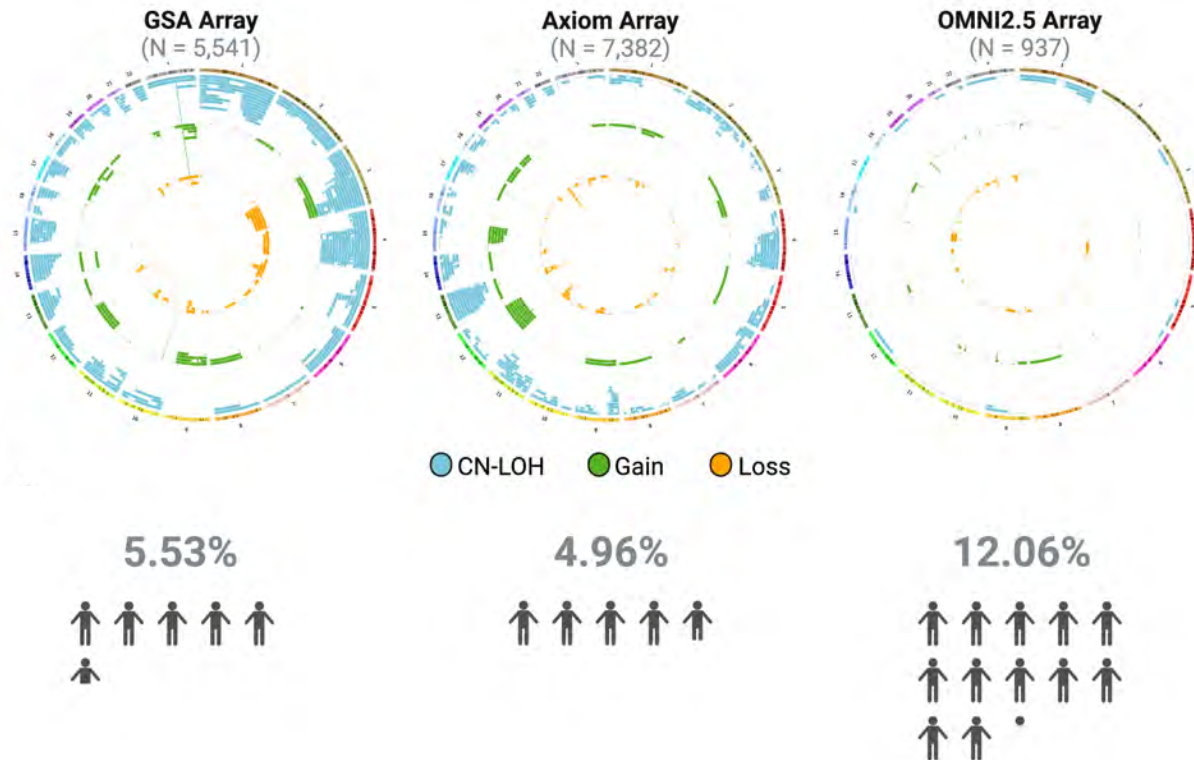
Mosaic chromosomal alterations were called from genotype array data across ~14,000 individuals



ARCH attributable to mosaic chromosomal alterations is three times more common than previously estimated

Mosaic chromosomal alterations were called from genotype array data across ~14,000 individuals

We capture a higher prevalence of mCAs (2.5x) than previously reported using denser sequencing arrays

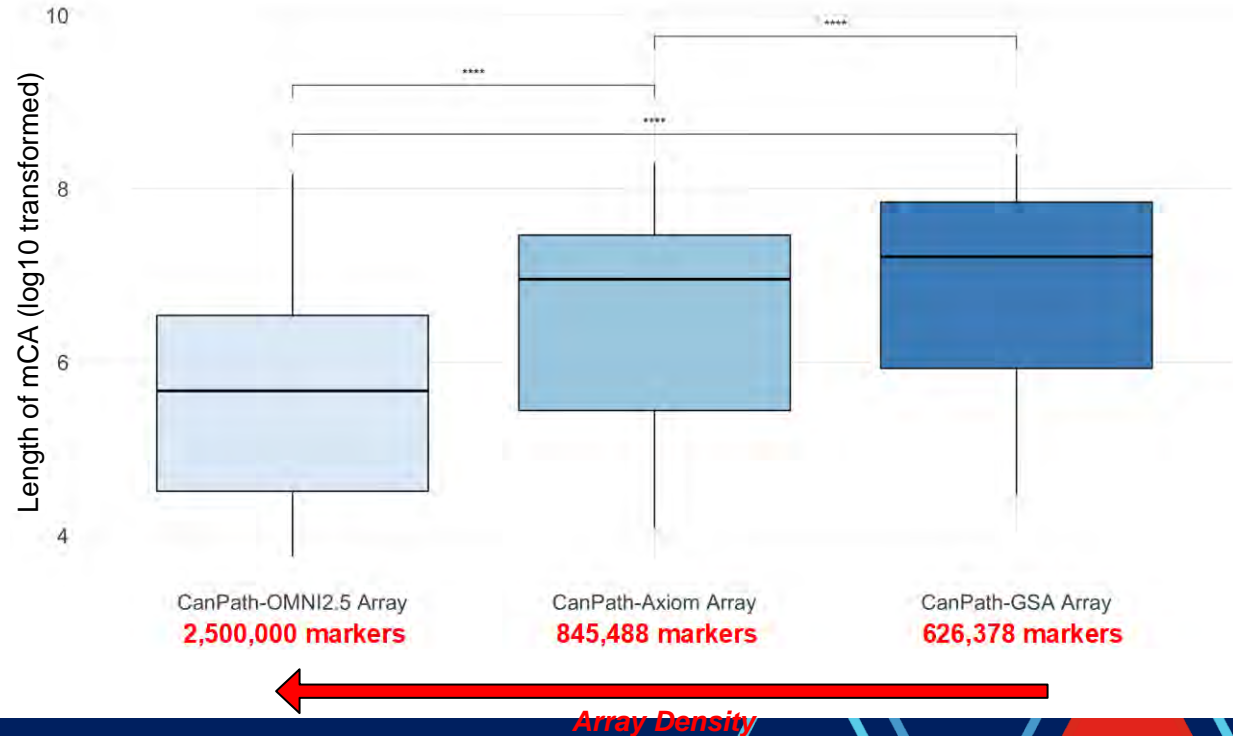


ARCH attributable to mosaic chromosomal alterations is three times more common than previously estimated

Mosaic chromosomal alterations were called from genotype array data across ~14,000 individuals

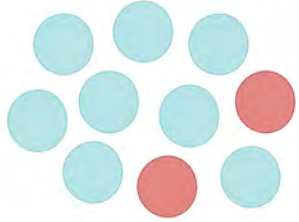
We capture a higher prevalence of mCAs (3x) than previously reported using denser sequencing arrays

Higher density arrays enable us to detect smaller mCAs that were previously missed

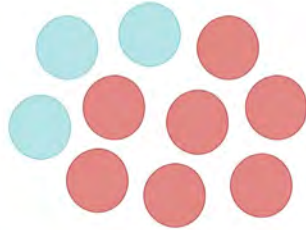



Determining the impact of selection on shaping mCA accumulation in blood


Low cell fraction



High cell fraction



 Cell with mCA

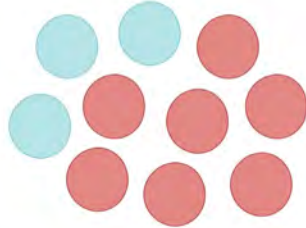
 Cell with no mCA


Determining the impact of selection on shaping mCA accumulation in blood


Low cell fraction



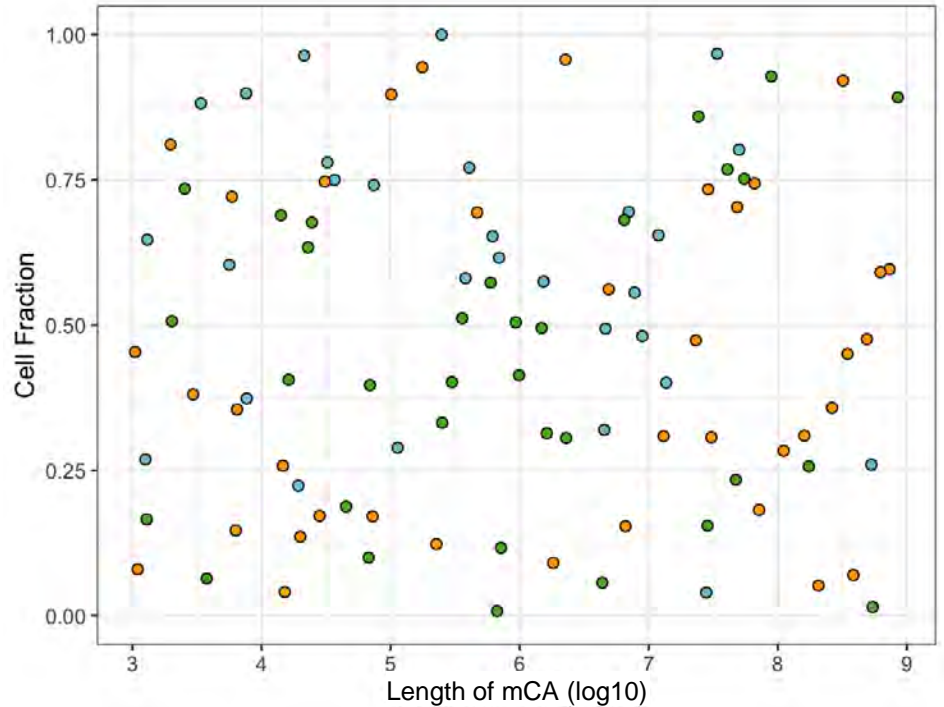
High cell fraction



 Cell with mCA

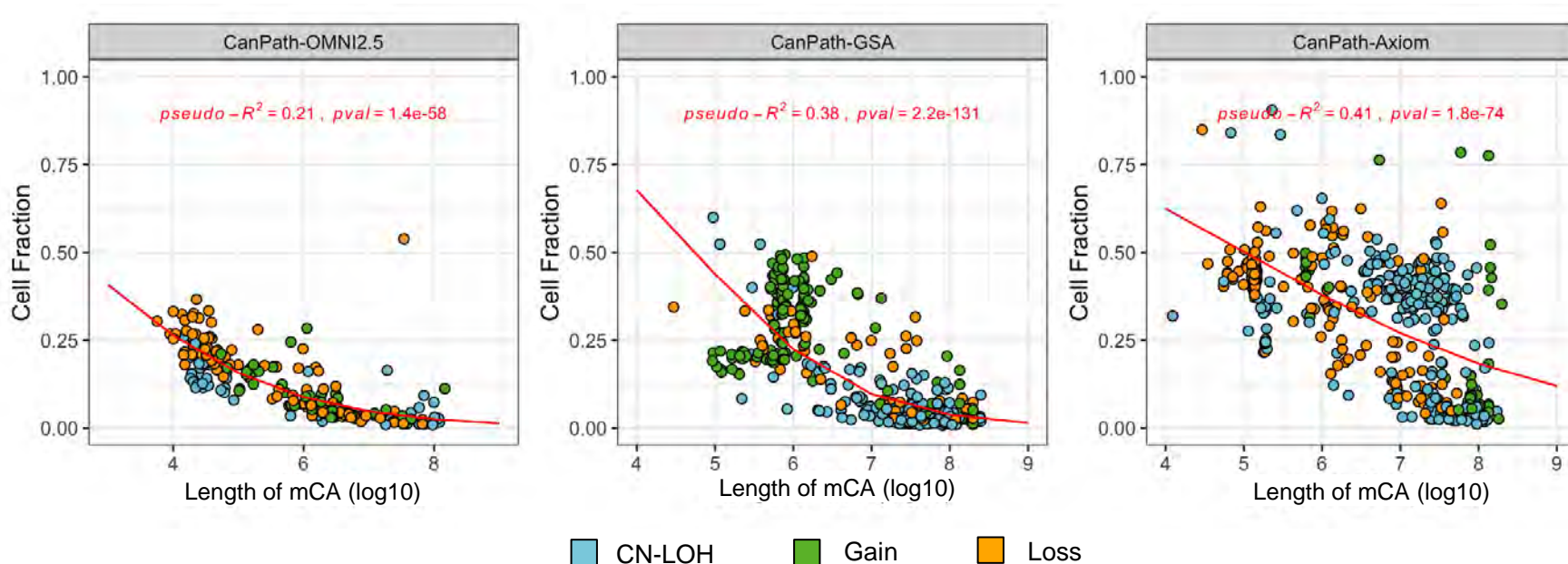
 Cell with no mCA

Under a **neutral model of evolution**, we would **not expect to see an association** between the frequency of a mCA and the size of a mCA

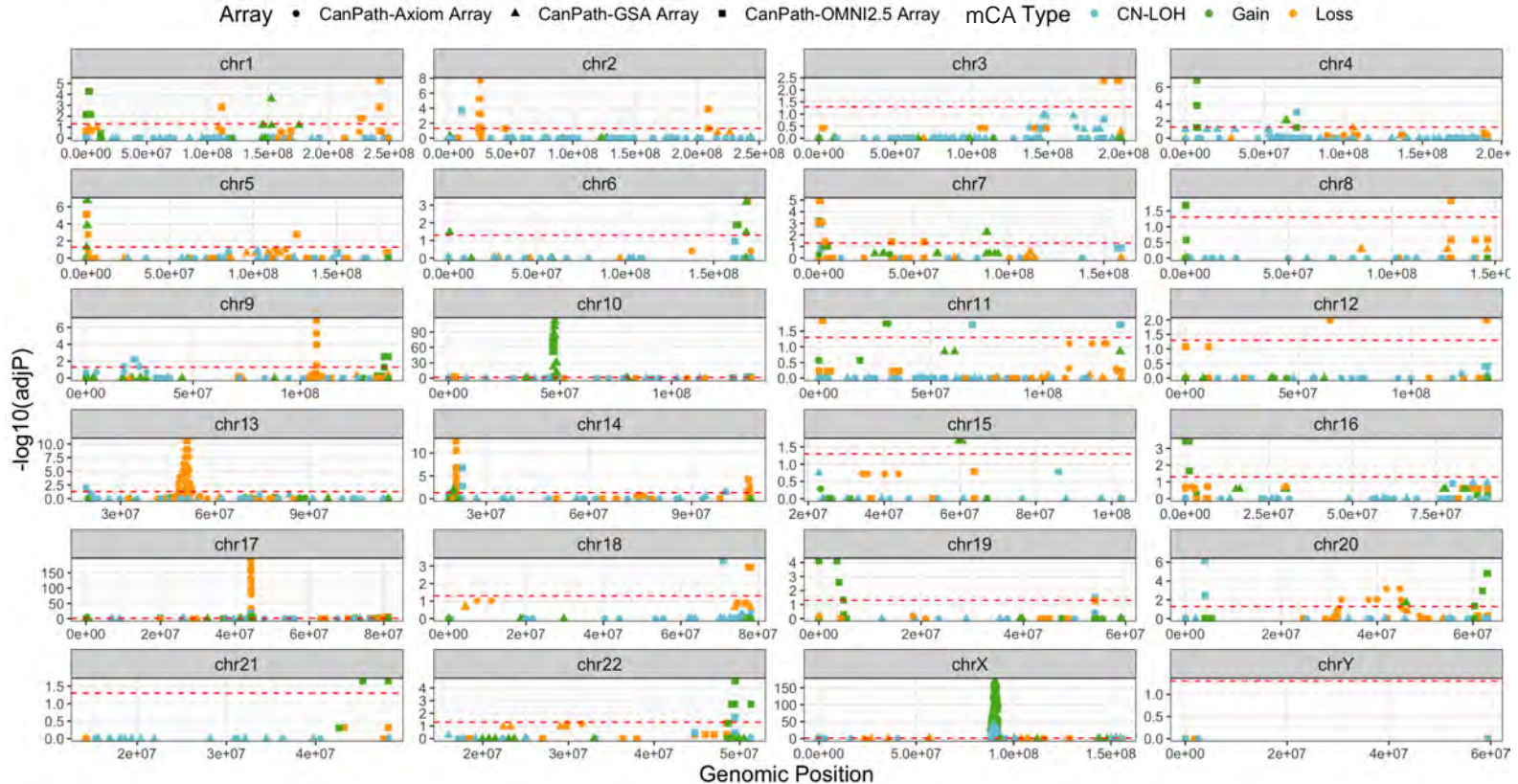


Larger mosaic chromosomal alterations are observed at low frequencies in the hematopoietic pool

- The size of mCAs impact the frequency at which they segregate in our blood
- **Negative selection plays a role in removing large mCAs** from the hematopoietic population



Genome-wide hotspotting approach detects regions which harbour a high burden of mosaic chromosomal alterations



mCAs accumulate across ARCH- and cancer-associated genes



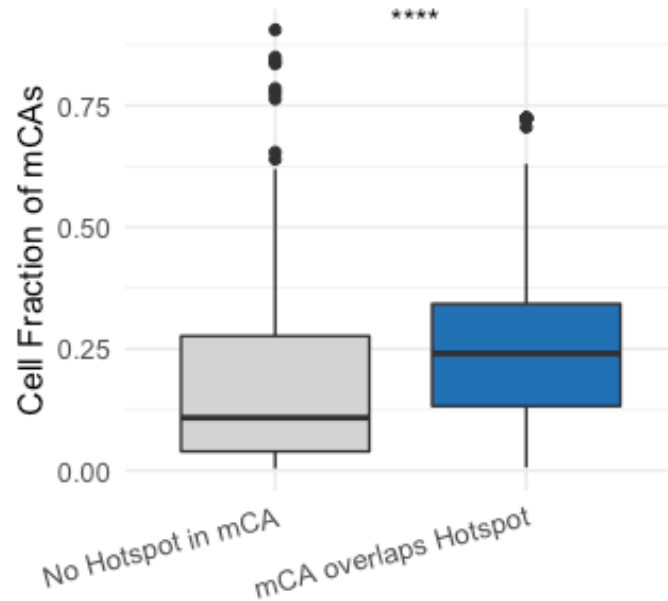


mCAs accumulate across ARCH- and cancer-associated genes



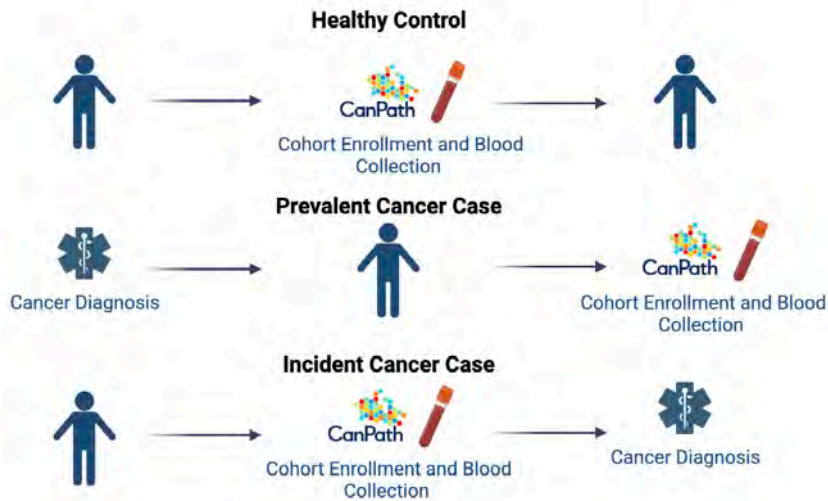
mCA hotspots suggest positive selection is shaping mCA retention and frequencies across the genome

- mCAs accumulate across ARCH- and cancer-associated genes
- mCAs which overlap at least one hotspot are at a significantly higher cell fraction than mCAs which do not overlap hotspots
- Positive selection may be retaining cell fractions at higher frequencies at select regions of the genome



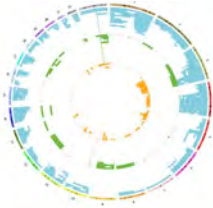
Individuals with at least one mCA are at significantly greater risk of progressing to blood cancer

Almost all participants in CanPath have consented to administrative health linkages

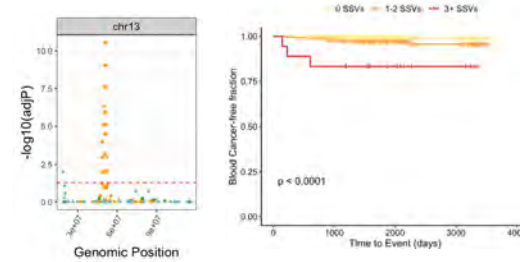


Variable	N	Hazard ratio	p
Number of mCAs	0	7306	Reference
	1-2	272	5.06 (2.47, 10.38) <0.001
	3+	18	26.80 (8.30, 86.56) <0.001
Age	7596	1.08 (1.04, 1.12) <0.001	
Sex	FEMALE	4721	Reference
	MALE	2875	2.63 (1.52, 4.56) <0.001

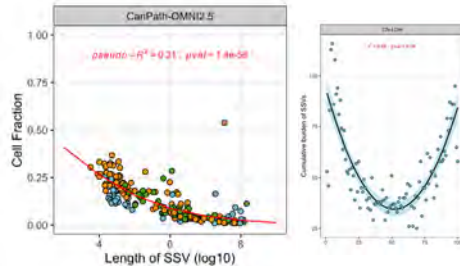
Key take-aways



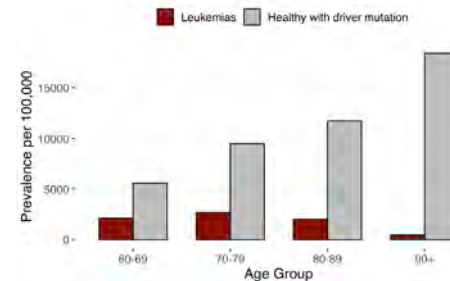
mCA-associated ARCH is much more common in the population than previously estimated



mCAs are preferentially retained at regions implicated in cancer and ARCH and are associated with an increase in cancer risk



Selection plays a role in maintaining structural variability in the population and on shaping the impact of mCAs on gene expression

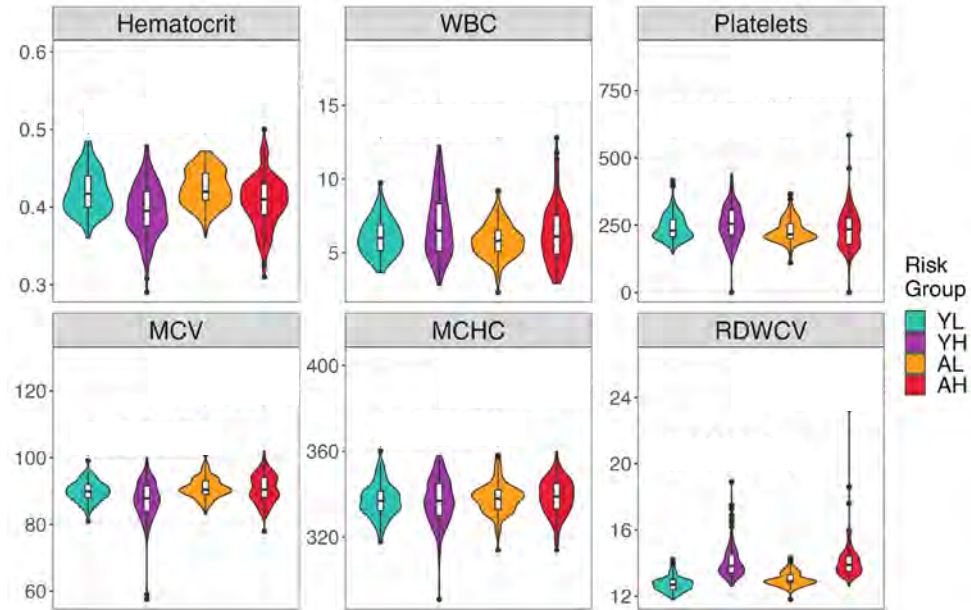


Interrogating mutational spectra through a multi-omics lens can shed light on how somatic mutations impact cancer risk

Variance of blood cell phenotypes among aged and young low-risk individuals smaller compared to high-risk

Young: 30 – 45 years old
Aged: 65 – 79 years old

Low-risk: CRS 0 – 3
High-risk: CRS 5+

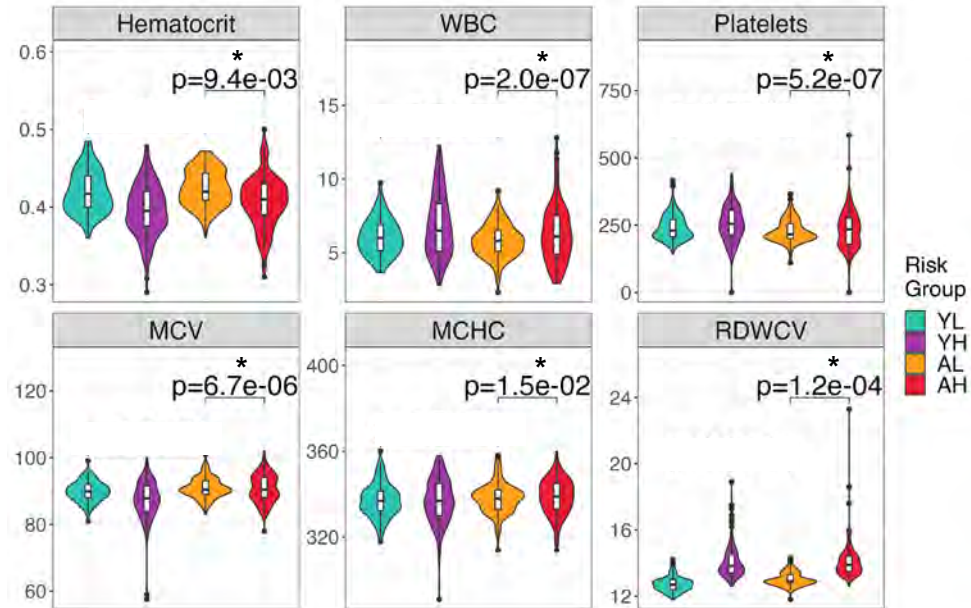


p-values calculated from Levene's test for variance

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