# ACMG In Action

Essential Updates: Member News You Can Use

ACMG American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics
Translating Genes Into Health®

May 2021

### *In This Issue...*



### *Upcoming Events*

**ClinGen Somatic Cancer and VICC Virtual Molecular Tumor Board Case Series**
May 25, 2021 (4th Tuesday)
4:00 PM–5:00 PM ET

**2021 ACMG Genetics and Genomics Review Course – Online**

## ACMG Advocacy Update


**Access to Reproductive Options following a Prenatal Diagnosis**

Recently several states have passed laws that restrict patients' access to the full spectrum of reproductive options following a prenatal diagnosis. Some of the laws include broad abortion restrictions while others specifically target genetic conditions. Many of these focus on criminalizing healthcare providers, discourage patients from sharing relevant health information with their physicians, and/or allow a broad array of civil suits to be brought against the healthcare provider and others. ACMG continues to strongly oppose any legislation that prohibits healthcare professionals from providing complete and accurate medical care, obstructs the patient-physician relationship, or in any manner penalizes the provision of appropriate healthcare. We also want to remind members of our position statement on access to reproductive options after prenatal diagnosis, available here, which was published in 2013 and updated in 2019.

Also, in case you missed it, ACMG recently responded to a court decision on a 2017 Ohio law criminalizing physicians for providing healthcare services requested by their patients. Click here to read our response.

## ACMG Publishes Two Important New Documents

The ACMG publishes a range of professional and practice resources including policy and points to consider statements, standards of professionalism, technical standards for laboratories, and clinical and laboratory practice resources and guidelines for specific disorders or uses of genetic and genomic services. ACMG's published resources are developed by ACMG working groups, committees, and the College's Board of Directors. Documents touch on a host of important matters

RENEW MEMBERSHIP

### Website Links

ACMG
ACMG Foundation
ACMG Meetings Website
ACMG Education Center
NBSTRN
NCC
ClinGen
GIM

relevant to the medical genetics community and support the professional needs of members and of the larger medical genetics and genomics community.

**ACMG is pleased to announce the recent publication of the following documents. For more information about each document, click on the document title.**

• Next-Generation Sequencing for Constitutional Variants in the Clinical Laboratory, 2021 Revision: A Technical Standard of the ACMG

• Management of Individuals with Germline Variants in PALB2: A Clinical Practice Resource of the ACMG

## New Draft ACMG Document Now Open for Member Comment

The ACMG Board of Directors routinely invites members to comment on draft ACMG documents, including new and updated laboratory technical standards, points to consider statements, clinical practice resources, and more. The contribution of members' expertise to the review process for ACMG draft documents consistently leads to higher quality publications because members serve as expert peer reviewers—it is your valuable input that earns ACMG its continued reputation as the trusted experts in medical genetics and genomics practice.

Presently, the ACMG Board of Directors is requesting member comments on the following document:

• Stewardship of Patient Genomic Data: A Policy Statement of the ACMG

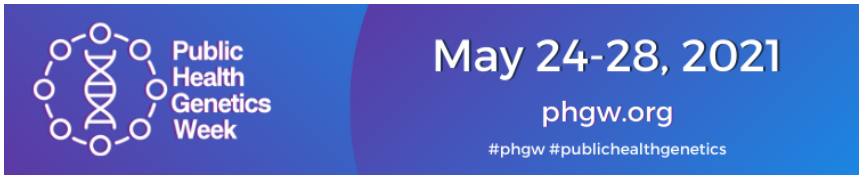
For more information, including instructions for accessing the document and the deadline for comments, please click on the document title above. Thank you for your participation in this important ACMG members-only activity.

## May 2021 GenePod: The Implementation of Clinical Genomic DNA Methylation Testing in Patients with Rare Disorders


All too often, genomic testing in patients with undiagnosed disorders results in the finding of variants of unknown significance (VUS). This leaves the healthcare provider and patient in a quandary, not knowing whether that variant is disease causing or not. On this month's episode of GenePod, *Genetics in Medicine*'s monthly podcast, Bekim Sadikovic, PhD, director of the Clinical Genomic Center and head of the molecular diagnostics program at Canada's Western University, discusses the implementation of genomic DNA methylation testing in patients with rare disorders—a diagnostic tool that may help

sort out the impact of VUS by identifying the signals of DNA methylation.

### NCC's Public Health Genetics Week: May 24–28




Did you know that Public Health Genetics Week is happening in one week? Join the National Coordinating Center for the Regional Genetics Networks, NCC, in celebrating the second annual Public Health Genetics Week by engaging on social media using our hashtags (#PHGW and #PublicHealthGenetics) and participating in one of our many events throughout the week.

As we highlight below, there are many activities occurring to celebrate Public Health Genetics Week. Check out the calendar of events, which will be updated continuously when new information is announced.

***Ken Burns Presents The Gene: An Intimate History Virtual Screening***
In collaboration with WETA Washington DC, virtual daily screenings of *Ken Burns Presents The Gene: An Intimate History* ("THE GENE") will be held to celebrate Public Health Genetics Week. The landmark four-hour documentary series weaves together science, history, and personal stories to present a historical biography of the human genome, while also exploring breakthroughs for diagnosis and treatment of genetic diseases, and the complex web of moral, ethical and scientific questions raised by developments in genetics.

Listed below is the virtual screening schedule. More information, including registration information, can be found here.

• **Monday, May 24 at 8 PM–9 PM ET**: Hour 1 of THE GENE
• **Tuesday, May 25 at 8 PM–9 PM ET**: Hour 2 of THE GENE
• **Wednesday, May 26 at 8 PM–9 PM ET**: Hour 3 of THE GENE
• **Thursday, May 27 at 8 PM–9 PM ET**: Hour 4 of THE GENE
• **Friday, May 28 at 2 PM–3 PM ET**: Screening of "The Gene Explained (For Those Without Microscopes)—an animated companion series to THE GENE

For more information about the film, click here.

**Social Media Events**
• **Monday, May 24 at 3 PM ET**: Reddit AMA with public health genetics experts
• **Tuesday, May 25 at 6 PM ET**: Panel discussion with public health genetics students
• **Wednesday, May 26 at 5 PM ET**: Twitter chat about public health genetics programs

**• Thursday, May 27 at 3 PM ET: Facebook Live about newborn screening**

• **Friday, May 28 at 3 PM ET**: Twitter chat about public health genetics resources

READ MORE

## Accelerating NBS Research: NBSTRN Annual Network Meeting, June 14–16

The Newborn Screening Translational Research Network (NBSTRN) will be hosting its annual Network Meeting June 14–16, 2021, from 12 PM to 4 PM ET. Each day, four sessions will describe cutting-edge research and include a live Q & A with experts. Learn about the latest efforts to increase the number of screened conditions and explore the use of fetal sequencing to predict disease. Also learn about efforts in long-term follow-up care and data collection, and continuous quality improvement in newborn screening.

We will also introduce you to the NBSTRN team and conduct training sessions on NBSTRN tools and resources from 3 PM to 4 PM ET on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, and Wednesday, June 16, 2021. These interactive demonstrations will give attendees an inside look at NBSTRN's resources and the many ways they can be used to design and conduct innovative rare disease research studies.

Sign up for this free event to learn about the latest newborn screening research, expand your research network, and support newborn screening programs.

*The Newborn Screening Translational Research Network (NBSTRN) is a key component of the Hunter Kelly Newborn Screening Research Program. The Hunter Kelly Newborn Research Program is operated by the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Branch (IDDB) at the* Eunice Kennedy Shriver *National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). ACMG has operated the NBSTRN since 2008 with a contract from NICHD.*

## ACMG Welcomes 22 New Members

ACMG welcomes and congratulates 22 new and newly certified members. There has never been a more exciting time to be a part of this field and we encourage current members of the College to invite friends and colleagues to join and help grow the medical genetics and genomics field.

Thank you to all our members who make important contributions and the work of the College possible through your membership, support and involvement.

### Fellow Members

Alyce Belonis, MD, FACMG
Sushma Guptha, MBBS, FACMG

Chanika Phornphutkul, MD, FACMG
Zena Wolf, PhD, FACMG

**Candidate Fellow Members**
Oscar Cano, MD
Fen Guo, MS, DSci
Rebecca B. Smith, PhD
Tatiana Tvrdik, PhD, MGC, MS

**Affiliate Members**
Rick Barbarash, PharmD
Patrice Eydoux, MD
Patrick Law Tik Wan, BS
Yinghui Li, PhD, MS
Tiziano Pramparo, PhD
Valerie Trapp-Stamborski, PhD, MS

**Trainee Members**
William B. Burns, MD, MS
Mary K. LoPiccolo, MD

**Student Members**
Lisa Anakwenze, MS, MPH
Oscar Bastidas, MS
Makenzie Beaman, BA
Angelique Diedericks, BS
Francesco Enrico Sautto, BS
Genesis Serrano Rodriguez, BS

Do you know someone who should join ACMG? Please invite them to visit our Join ACMG web page.

## Don’t Let Your Membership Benefits and Discounts Expire

Renew Today!
*Note: If your ACMG website login credentials do not work, select the “Forgot Password?” link on the Sign In page and follow the prompts to reset your password.*

Have you renewed your ACMG membership for 2021? If not, please renew your membership by **May 31, 2021** to avoid interruption of membership benefits and discounts. If you have a medical or financial hardship prohibiting you from renewing, ACMG may be able to offer a reduction or waiver of dues for 2021. If you would like more information about hardship requests or need assistance with renewing membership, please email the ACMG membership department or call us at 301-718-9603.

ACMG’s online renewal system is a fast, easy and secure way to renew your ACMG membership instantly and receive immediate payment confirmation. The online system accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express payments. If you prefer to pay by check or by fax, download a 2021 Dues Renewal Form here. Renewal by phone is also available. Call us at 301-718-9603.

## Now Available in the ACMG Genetics Academy


**Register Now for the Next ClinGen Somatic Cancer and VICC Virtual Molecular Tumor Board Case Series Webinar**

May 25, 2021 (4th Tuesday), 4:00 PM–5:00 PM ET

For all medical and healthcare professionals and researchers interested in understanding cancer genomic testing and somatic and germline variant interpretation methods. This series is presented as a collaboration between ClinGen Somatic Cancer and VICC consortia, and ACMG.

Learn more and register today!

**2021 ACMG Genetics and Genomics Review Course – Online**

*Minimize distractions: Participate online from wherever you study best*
*Receive valuable online resources: a syllabus, self-testing tools, and supplemental videos*

The 2021 ACMG Genetics and Genomics Review Course will take place in a series of activities and sessions in the ACMG Genetics Academy. Offering online formats that will provide exam preparation lectures followed by discussion sessions, the course will feature a required pre-course practice exam, a session on exam preparation and exam taking tips, in-depth coverage of exam content areas, and discussion sessions with faculty. Newly added is the ACMG Board Review Qbank (with over 600 practice questions).

**Questions may be submitted during the watch party broadcast and each broadcast will be followed by a live discussion session with faculty. Alternatively, participants may watch the lectures at any time, then join the live discussion sessions.**

**• June 8–11 Practice Exam (required)**

• June 15–18, June 21–25 watch parties (9:00 AM–12:00 PM ET) and faculty Q&A live sessions (1:30 PM–3:00 PM ET) **exact times may vary depending on number of sessions per date*
• ACMG Board Review Qbank 2021 Included!
• $895 ACMG members, $995 nonmembers

The Genetics and Genomics Review Course employs multiple approaches to bring it together:

**• 55 unique board-style practice questions (required before viewing session)**

• ACMG Board Review Qbank – create your own exam! (over 600 practice questions)
• 20 detailed sessions prerecorded by expert faculty
• Nine watch parties
• Nine opportunities for live Q & A with faculty
• Meet the Faculty Happy Hour
• eSyllabus of all the presentations

**• Supplemental materials**

• 30 CME Credits/CCP Part II Certificate

**ACMG Board Review Qbank 2021 (over 600 practice questions)**

The ACMG Board Review Qbank 2021 contains over 600 practice questions.

Features include:
• Two-year access
• 55 unique board-style practice questions with remediation
• Create your own practice exams by topic
• Bookmarking questions
• Notes
• Peer comparison graphics
• Multiple devices
• $445 ACMG members, $545 nonmembers

**NEW! NCC Knowledge Nugget Series: SMA ACT Sheet**

The National Coordinating Center for the Regional Genetics Networks (NCC) is excited to announce the launch of our Knowledge Nugget Series. This series is a companion education module series to the ACMG ACT Sheets that provides an animated review of certain ACMG ACT Sheets. The first NCC Knowledge Nugget Series is about the Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Newborn Screening (NBS) ACT Sheet. Click here to access the module and earn .25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit* ™ in the ACMG Genetics Academy.

NCC sincerely thanks Ms. Renee Rider for authoring this activity and Dr. Joann Bodurtha and Dr. Nancy Rose for participating in reviewing the module.

Explore all the ACMG ACT Sheets and Algorithms here. If you have any questions about the ACMG ACT Sheets or the new NCC Knowledge Nugget Series, please contact Megan Lyon, NCC senior program manager.

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*This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.*

***To learn more about any of these courses and to register, go to the** ACMG Genetics Academy**.***

Have questions about registration? Email the ACMG education team.

### There's Still Time to Experience the 2021 ACMG Annual Meeting


If you were not registered for the 2021 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting – *A Virtual Experience*, you can still register and take advantage of the diverse educational offerings. Sessions are available to watch on demand in the virtual platform through July 16, 2021 and registration is now available at discounted rates until June 30, 2021.

Visit the meeting website to view fees and register online. During the registration process, you can add the 2021 Digital Edition for a flat fee of $199, which will extend your access to the sessions for two years. *Note: after June 30, 2021, the Digital Edition price will increase to $349 (members) and $399 (nonmembers)*.

American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics | 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1101, Bethesda, MD 20814

Telephone: (301) 718-9603 | Fax: (301) 718-9604 | Privacy Policy | Feedback


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