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GENERAL INTEREST

“Study extends the number of antigenic peptides that can be produced from a single protein”
(Sep 13) News-Medical.Net reports, “Understanding medical research problems often relies on the direct, linear relationship between the sequence of a protein and the DNA encoding that protein.”

“Scientists discuss new frontiers in single-molecule research at American Chemical Society”
(Sep 12) EurekAlert reports, “Not long ago, the idea of conducting an experiment on a single strand of DNA seemed far beyond the realm of science.”

ETHICAL, LEGAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES (ELSI)

“Industry using third parties to manage public concerns about genetic screening”
(Sep 13) News-Medical.Net reports, “The use of genetic tests to screen for inherited diseases is one of the most controversial applications of gene technologies.”

“The Wide, Wild World of Genetic Testing”
(Sep 12) The New York Times reports, “A MEDICAL journal in March published a study suggesting that drinking coffee can raise the risk of heart attack, but only for people with a gene that makes them slow metabolizers of caffeine.”

“Claiming diagnostic tests for diabetes genes is misleading, say experts”
(Sep 7) EurekAlert! reports, “Claims that the discovery of a gene could help prevent diabetes may raise unrealistic expectations, warn doctors in this week's BMJ.”

CHRONIC DISEASE

Cancer

“Statement from the NIH on cancer genetics findings at Johns Hopkins University”
(Sep 7) EurekAlert! reports, “Systematic, genome-wide scans of two types of cancer--breast cancer and colorectal cancer--have revealed important new findings about the genetic underpinnings of these diseases, a team of researchers at the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center in Baltimore, Md., an NCI-designated Cancer Center, reports in the September 7 online issue of Science.”
“An advanced genetic diagnostic method for multiple myeloma”
(Sep 11) EurekAlert! reports, “A researcher at the University of Navarra, Borja Sáez Ochoa, has proposed a new genetic diagnostic method for multiple myeloma (MM), a type of bone marrow cancer, which permits the detection of this disease in earlier stages.”

“Gene "profiling" May Improve Accuracy of Breast Cancer Prognosis”
(Sep 8) Cancerpage reports, “A 70-gene assay currently in development will be able to fine-tune the prognosis for women with node-negative breast cancer, investigators with the International TRANSBIG Consortium report in the September 6 issue of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.”

“Relatively few U.S. women carry BRCA mutations”
(Sep 7) Scientific American reports, “A population-based study of black and white American women with and without breast cancer found that relatively few were carriers of mutations in BRCA1 or BRCA2 genes.”

Development of a Communication Aid to Facilitate Risk Communication in Consultations with Unaffected Women from High Risk Breast Cancer Families: A Pilot Study
Lobb EA, et al. J Genet Couns 2006 Sep

Validation of a tool for identifying women at high risk for hereditary breast cancer in population-based screening
Hoskins KF, et al. Cancer 2006 Sep

Prospective breast cancer risk prediction model for women undergoing screening mammography

Application of BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutation carrier prediction models in breast and/or ovarian cancer families of French Canadian descent

Cardiovascular Disease (including Hypertension and Stroke)

The relationship of blood pressure and cortisol reactivity to family history of hypertension of African American adolescents

High prevalence of major cardiovascular risk factors in first-degree relatives of individuals with familial premature coronary artery disease-The GENECARD project

Lung Disease

Gene-environment interactions in the development of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
Caramori G & Adcock I
Curr Opin Allergy Clin Immunol 2006 Oct;6(5):323-8

Asthma
Variations in genetic influences on the development of asthma throughout childhood, adolescence and early adult life

Gastrointestinal Disorders

Review article: genetic susceptibility and application of genetic testing in clinical management of inflammatory bowel disease
Vermeire S Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2006 Oct;24 Suppl 3:2-10

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

A systematic review of the quality of genetic association studies in human sepsis
Clark MF & Baudouin SV Intensive Care Med 2006 Sep

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH / CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS

Congenital Conditions

Heterozygosity for a Mendelian disorder as a risk factor for complex disease

Genetic screening as a technique of government: The case of neonatal screening for cystic fibrosis in France

Maternal and Child Health

“SIDS tied to genetic mutations: study”
(Sep 11) Reuters Health reports, “Several studies have linked sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) to mutations in a gene, called IL-10, that helps control the body's immune function.”

“Ohio to Increase Genetic Testing for Newborns”
(Sep 12) WTOL11 reports, “Ohio is about to expand the testing of babies for genetic disorders.”

“September is National Newborn Screening Awareness Month”
(Sep 12) Red Orbit reports, “September is National Newborn Screening Awareness Month, and according to the American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG), every state should require complete testing of all newborns for a 'core panel' of 29 genetic and congenital conditions.”
MENTAL and NEUROLOGICAL CONDITIONS

Mental Health and Behavioral Conditions

Gene-environment factors that contribute to alcoholic pancreatitis in humans

Sleep problems, depression may share genetic link
(Sep 7) Medline Plus reports, “Sleep problems and depression in children may share a genetic source, a study of twins hints.”

Family history of suicide and psychosocial characteristics of suicide victims in central slovenia

The genomic era and perceptions of psychotic disorders: Genetic risk estimation, associations with reproductive decisions and views about predictive testing

Neurological Disorders

“Two copies of G2019S Parkinson's gene mutation doesn't lead to more severe disease”
(Sep 11) EurekAlert reports, "A group of Parkinson's disease researchers concluded there are no observable differences between those who have two copies of the most common mutation of the recently discovered LRRK2 gene and those who have only one copy."

"Genetic Link To Fatigue Found In Study Of Twins"
(Sep 10) Medical News Today reports, “Unexplained disabling fatigue in childhood is mainly due to genetic inheritance, a study of twins has revealed.”

Predictive testing for Huntington disease: interpretation and significance of intermediate alleles

PHARMACOGENOMICS

The intersection of biotechnology and pharmacogenomics: health policy implications

The pharmacogenomics of warfarin: closing in on personalized medicine
Linking pharmacogenetics-based diagnostics and drugs for personalized medicine