# Founder Populations and their contribution to our understanding of Biology and History - Lessons from the Jewish Genome



First International Conference, July 10-14, 2016, Haifa, Israel

# **CONFERENCE AIMS**

Since the human genome was deciphered, our understanding of genetics has made gigantic strides. The study of founder populations with clusters of disease-related genes has improved our understanding of human genetics, both mechanistically and medically.

This conference aims to evaluate the contribution made by studying one of the most significant founder populations in the world, the Jewish community, and how this has promoted knowledge of disease biology and specific genetic pathways. In addition it will explore how these studies advance our understanding of the historical movements of populations in ancient times, and the social and ethical context of genomic studies in a unique population. ancient times, and the social and ethical context of genomic studies in a unique population.

# **CONFERENCE TOPICS**

The conference will include sessions on population genetics, on translating the genetic findings on populations into historical parallels of movements of Middle-Eastern populations, on Jewish genealogy, genetic syndromes and genetic mutations (cancer, pediatrics, and others) that are unique to Jewish and Middle-Eastern populations, and will provide a forum for discussions on ethical and social aspects of population-specific studies, including the role and value of genetic screening in founder populations.

# WHO SHOULD ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE?

- If you are interested in genetics, common medical syndromes, or the influence of genetic knowledge on our ability to prevent and treat common or rare diseases
- If you are interested in Jewish history, ethics, or genealogy
- If you are interested in the complex multi-dimensional questions involved in screening populations for genetic markers

This is the event for you!

### **LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

**Gad Rennert, MD, PhD,** Carmel Medical Center and Technion-Israel Institute of Technology (Conference Chair)

Doron Behar, MD, PhD, GeneByGene

**Ohad Birk, MD, PhD,** Soroka Medical Center and Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Doron Lancet, PhD, Weizmann Institute of Science

**Ephrat Levy-Lahad, MD,** Shaare Zedek Medical Center and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**Avi Orr-Urtreger, MD,** Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center and Tel Aviv University

**Stavit Shalev, MD,** Haemek Medical Center and Technion-Israel Institute of Technology

Noah Slepkov, MA, The Jewish People Policy Institute

# To receive future updates, please click here



Call for papers will be announced at the end of 2015

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# INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

#### Nir Barzilaii, MD

The Rennert Chair of Aging Research; Professor of Medicine and Genetics; Director of The Institute for Aging Research; The Glenn Center for the Biology of Human Aging; Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NYC, USA

#### Deborah Bolnick, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin, TX, USA

# Judy E. Garber, MD

Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Director, Center for Cancer Genetics and Prevention; Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers; Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, MA, USA

### Geoffrey S. Ginsburg, MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine, Biomedical Engineering, and Pathology; Director of Duke Center for Applied Genomics and Precision Medicine, Duke University, NC, USA

#### David B. Goldstein, PhD

Director of The Institute for Genomic Medicine, Columbia University Medical School, NYC, USA

# Steve Gruber MD, PhD

Director of The USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center; H. Leslie and Elaine S. Hoffman Cancer Research Chair; The University of Southern California, LA, USA

#### **Gilad Japhet**

CEO and Founder of MyHeritage

### Steven M. Lipkin, MD, PhD, FACMG

Associate Professor of Medicine and Genetic Medicine; Weill Cornell Medical College; Associate Member, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, NYC, USA

### Arnold Munnich, MD

Professor of Genetics, University of Paris Descartes, Head of The Department of Genetics, Hospital Necker, Paris, France

### Steven Narod, MD, FRCPC, FRSC

Director of The Familial Breast Cancer Research Unit, Women's College Research Institute; Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Breast Cancer; Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health and Department of Medicine, University of Toronto, Canada

### Kenneth Offit, MD

Chief of Clinical Genetics Service, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, NY, USA

# Olufunmilayo Olopade, MD

Walter L. Palmer Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Medicine and Human Genetics- Section of Hematology/Oncology, Cancer Research Center, IL, USA

# Harry Osterer, MD

Professor of Pathology and Pediatrics, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NY, USA

# Itsik Pe'er, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, Fu School of Engineering and Applied Science; Department of Systems Biology, Columbia University Medical Center, Columbia University, NYC, USA

#### Noah A. Rosenberg, PhD

Stanford Professor of Population Genetics and Society, Department of Biology, Stanford University, CA, USA

# Karl Skorecki, MD

Professor, B. Rappaport Faculty of Medicine, Technion; Director of The Rappaport Family Institute for Research in the Medical Sciences; Director of Medical and Research Development, Rambam Center, Haifa, Israel

#### Abraham Steinberg, MD

Rabbi and Associate Professor of Medical Ethics, Shaare Zedek Medical Center; Director of The Center for Medical Ethics, Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, Jerusalem, Israel

#### Suzanne L . Stone, JD

Professor and Director of the Center for Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, NY, USA

**Conference Secretariat** 

Target Conferences Ltd.
PO Box 51227, Tel Aviv 6713818, Israel
Tel: +972 3 5175150, Fax: +972 3 5175155
genomics@target-conferences.com

To be removed from the mailing list please reply "remove" to genomics@target-conferences.com

