

who am I?

Veterinary specialist in Neurology (and internal medicine)

Clinician & researcher

Teacher
I am not!

A geneticist

Employment

Evidensia referral hospitals The Netherlands

Expertise Centre Genetics Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University

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What do we do at ECGG?

We help breeders with direct advise

Screen breed populations

Investigate diseases

Identify mutations

Develop software to improve sustainable breeding (fit2breed)

Etc

Dr. Hille Fieten & Dr. Peter Leegwater

Our network: USA, Finland, UK, Swiss, Germany etc

Several projects

• Myelopathies

• Polymyositis

• Gastric carcinoma's

• Chiari Malformation / Syringomyelia

• Epilepsy

• Paroxysmal dyskinesia's

• Polyneuropathy's

• And many others,...

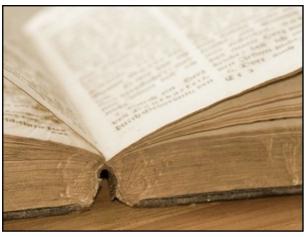
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Basic DNA knowledge

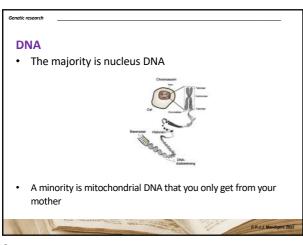
Deoxy-ribo-Nucleic Acid = DNA

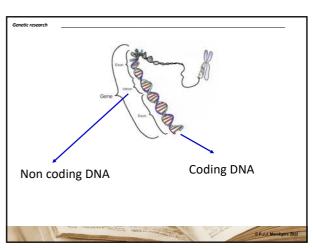
Adenine
Guanine
Thymine
Cytosine

5 6









9 10

A book?

• Up to 98,5 to 99% is non coding DNA (junk DNA)

• Only 1 to 1.5% is coding DNA (the genes)

DNA

• Contains for base pairs cytosine (C), guanine (G), adenine (A) or thymine (T)

RNA

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- Made up with four base pairs guanine (G), uracil (U), adenine (A), and cytosine (C)
- Three base pairs form a codon which translate to a amino acid

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Non coding DNA
In which we can find microsatellites:

Single Sequence Repeats (SSR) or repeats.

Single Sequence Repeats (SSR) or repeats.

For example: CACACACAC etc.

Are "fixed" in the genome.

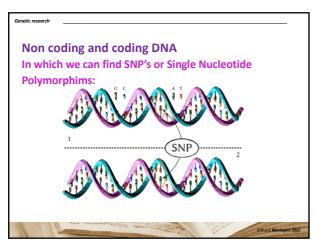
Occur infrequently in the genome.

Are unique for an individuals and related individuals (family) but vary between non-related individuals (polymorphic).

Non coding DNA
Microsatellites:

Often used as markers
for instance parental control
parental research
forensic research, etc
Also used in linkage analysis
In cancer diagnostics

13 14



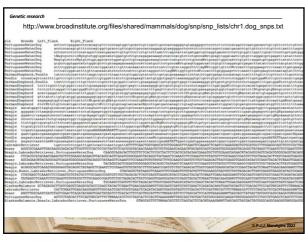
SNP's
Non-coding and coding DNA

• Scattered over all chromosomes there are loads of SNP's

• Specific piece of (non-)coding DNA with one base pair that is changed

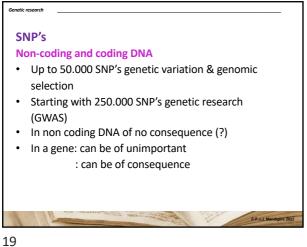
• F.i.: AAGCCTA als AAGCTTA

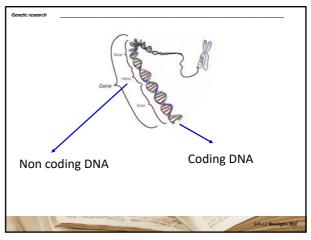
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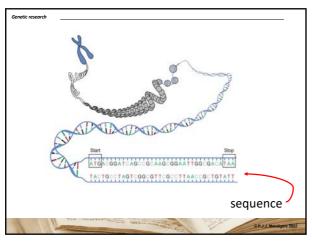


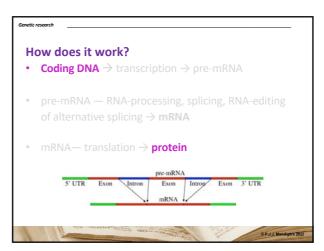


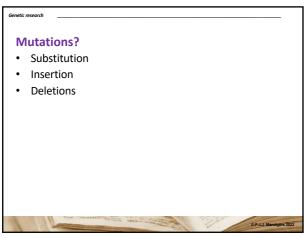
17 18

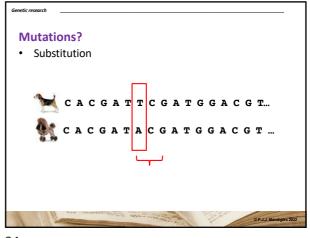


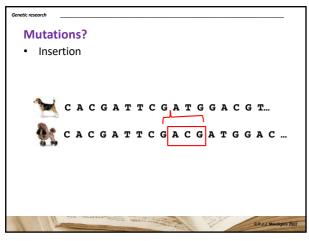


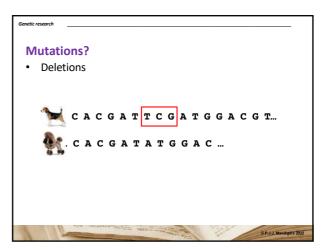


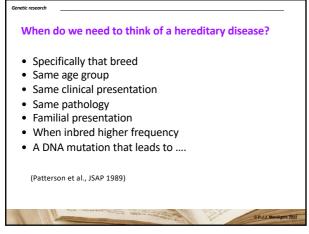








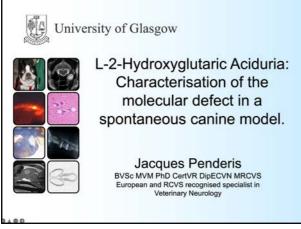




What kind of research is possible?
a.o.

Candidate gene approach
Linkage analysis
GWAS (Genome Wide Association Study)
Whole genomic sequencing

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Staffordshire bull terriers

• Same breed

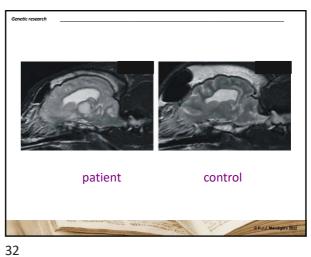
• All young dogs

• Presented with ataxia / epilepsy / muscle stiffness

→ generalised neurological disorder

• Normal routine clinical chemistry / haematology etc n.a.

• MRI:



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Staffordshire bull terriers

• Metabolic?

• Normal clinical chemistry hence next step is → organic acid analysis

Affected Dog

L2HQA

D2HQA

D2

33 34

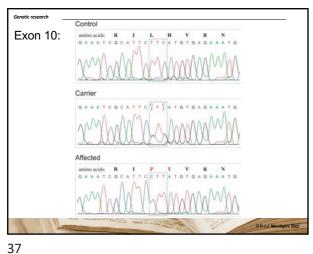
This enabled genetic research
 The whole genome of both human and dog is 'known'
 The gene involved in degradation of L2HGA is known.
 Hence → candidate gene approach

Candidate Gene Analysis of Syntenic Region of Dog Genome

Markers typed within the syntenic region of the dog genome and PCR primers designed to amplify these regions:

| Marker | Microsatellite | Chromosome 8 | F Primer | R Primer

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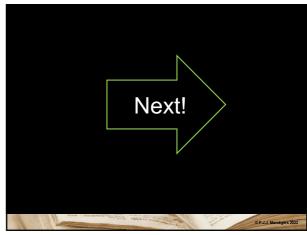
What to do when you suspect a genetic origin? • Identify what you are observing • If possible get proper pathology → This is **fenotyping**. The better you can do it, the greater the change for success • If the genes involved are known: it is possible to do a candidate gene approach If not a different approach is needed

If it is in one family Linkage analysis • Linkage analysis is a genetic method that searches for chromosomal segments that cosegregate with the ailment phenotype through families The LOD score compares the likelihood of obtaining the test data if the two loci are indeed linked, to the likelihood of observing the same data purely by chance

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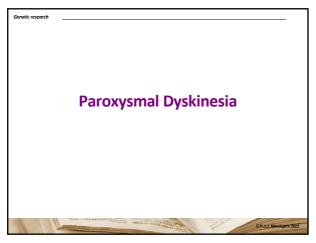
If it is in one family Linkage analysis • Microsatellites (limited use) **GWAS**



41 42

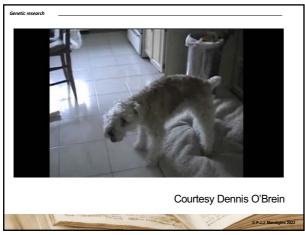








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Presentation:

- A total of seven litters with 14 affected pups (males and females) out of 36 pups
- All the same breed, same clinical presentation, 'similar' pathology
- 1 out of 4

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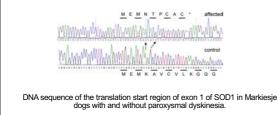
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- Parents not affected
- Most likely genetic →
- Autosomal recessive disorder

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52 51



In the affected dog, the first of two G-residues is replaced by the trinucleotide CAC. The arrows indicate unaltered A- and G-residues.

The mutation leads to a frameshift at the 4th codon of the gene. Then codons are indicated by alternating lines with the encoded

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What we did:

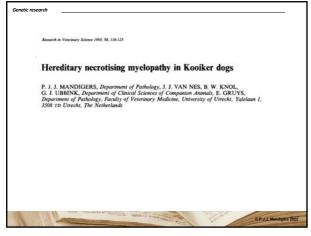
- The pathology didn't help us a lot. It was minimal.
- We identified affected (fenotyped) and non affected
- Collected DNA samples from EDTA bloodsamples
- Got funding!
- Started with a GWAS

Hence,...

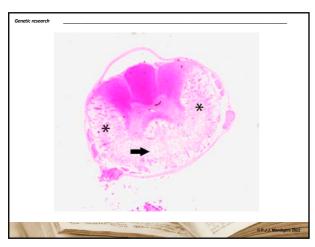
- A clear significant log value on chromosome 31 (SOD1 is over there)
- We sequenced this region

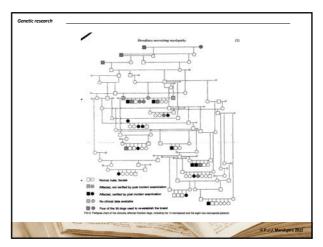
Conclusion:

- A frameshift in SOD1 that results in a knockdown of
- Model for ALS in children (translational medicine)
- Disorders solved in this breed!

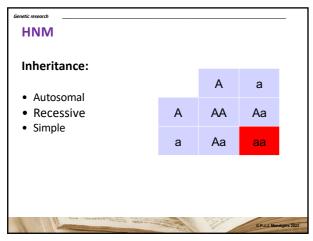








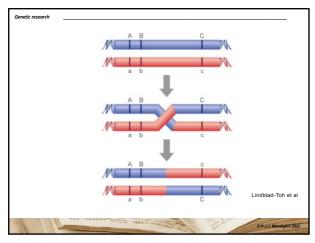
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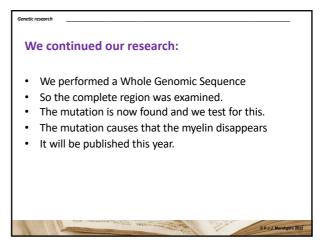


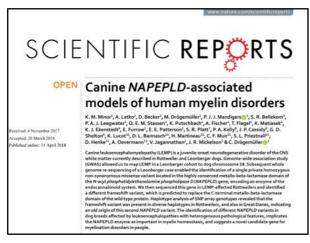
What we did:

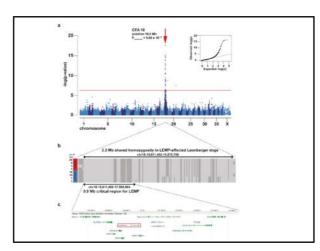
We knew it is genetic
Collected cases and controls
A GWAS only revealed a region but we were not able to pinpoint yet the mutation.
We used a marker close to the mutation not known yet
But that helped to prevent cases being born

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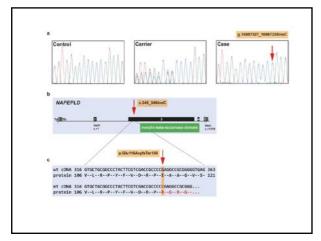


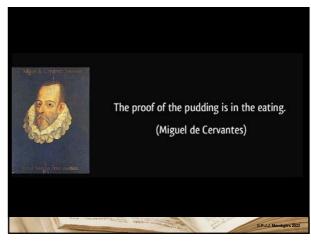






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Genetic resear

When a mutation is found:

- Proof that it causes the disease
- Is it just for this breed?
- And if it occurs in different breeds does it come to expression?

denetic reset

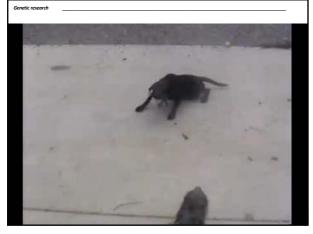
Patterson EE, Minor KM, Tchernatynskaia AV, Taylor SM, Shelton GD, Ekenstedt KJ, Mickelson JR.

A canine DNM1 mutation is highly associated with the syndrome of exercise-induced collapse

Nat Genet. 2008 Oct;40(10):1235-9. Epub 2008 Sep 21

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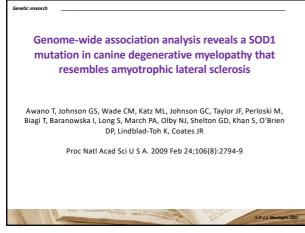
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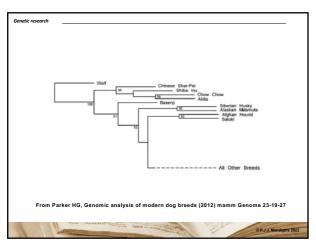


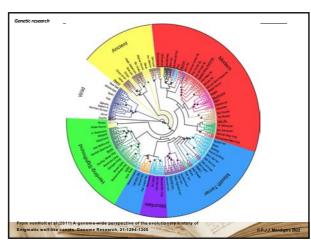


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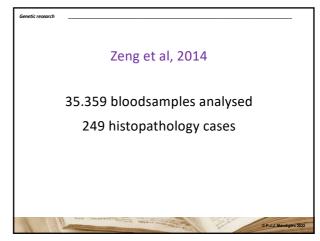




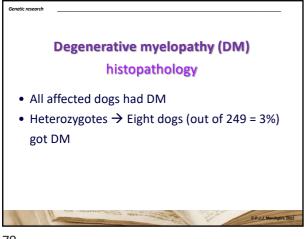


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77 78



Breed	Number Tested	Genotype			A Allele	
		G/G	G/A	A/A	Frequency	
Wire Fox Terrier	79	1	7	71	0.94	В
Pembroke Welsh Corgi	3,209	220	898	2,091	0.79	E
Boxer	3,934	500	1,177	2,257	0.72	B
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel	73	10	27	36	0.68	F
Pit Bull Terrier	53	23	6	24	0.51	In
American Water Spaniel	91	22	46	23	0.51	S
Australian Shepherd	113	57	20	36	0.41	G
Collie	151	73	39	39	0.39	S
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier	88	45	18	25	0.39	C
Hovawart	64	31	17	16	0.38	S

81 82

Degenerative myelopathy
Welsh Corgi Pembroke

• A variant of a transcription gene which means:

• Not all dogs will get affected or

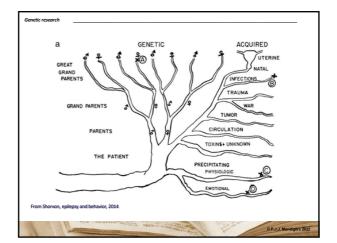
• Get affected at the same age

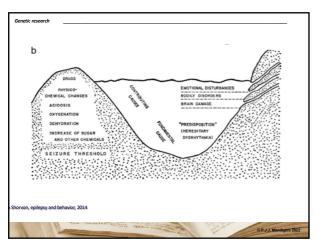
The proof of the pudding is in the eating.

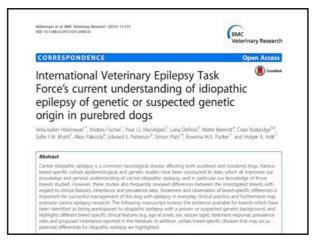
(Miguel de Cervantes)

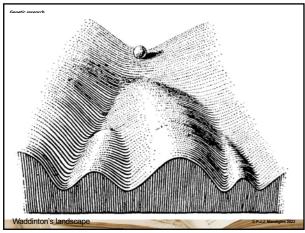
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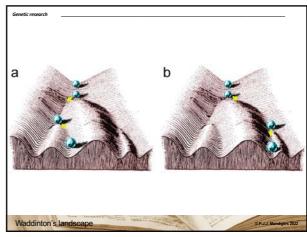












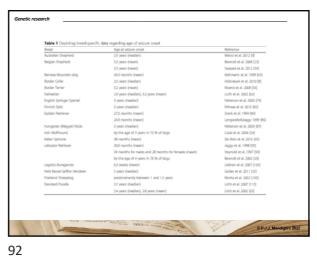
Breed specific:
(hereditary)

• All shepherds such as German, Belgian shepherd, Border collie, etc, etc

• All molossoid breeds such as St. Bernard, Great dane, Boxer, etc, etc)

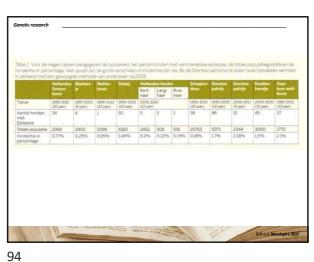
• All hunting dogs such as German pointer, English springer, Golden Retriever, Labrador retriever, Fauve E.B, etc, etc

• Chihuahua and French bulldog

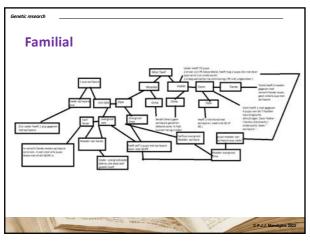


91 9.





93



Hereditary?

In many breeds we will find a simple autosomal recessive hereditary

Boxers, Labrador retrievers, Golden retrievers, Tervueren, Springer spaniëls, Viszla's, Bernese mountian dogs,...etc

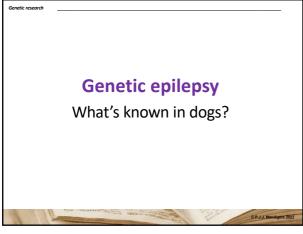
WHY?

95 96

WHY? Most important reason: • Dog breeds are highly inbred populations • We simply can not conclude otherwise 97

Why is genetic research so difficult in epilepsy? Most important reason: • We miss cases • We included cases that are not cases

98



Lagotto Romagnolo Belgian Shepherd Rhodesian Ridgeback

99 100

What did we discuss so far? • Basic DNA knowledge • When is it possible genetic? · How to approach it And next,.....



101 102



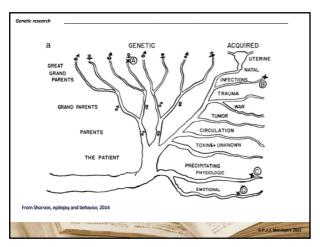
Genotyping using a SNP chip
SNP's:

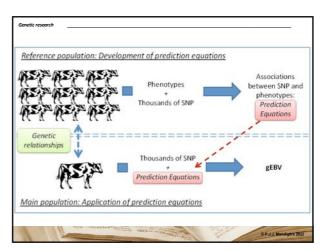
Chips can go from 10.000 to 700.000 SNP's

Up to 50.000 SNP's genetic variation & genomic selection

Starting with 250.000 SNP's genetic research (GWAS)

103 104





105 106

How can you do use this knowledge as an individual breeder of club?

• Several mutations are known → prevent diseases
• We have constant inbreeding → how to get away from it?

Genetic research

Genotyping using a SNP chip

F.i. wisdom panel:

Genotyping (100.000 to 200.000 SNP's)

Compare within the breed and other dogs/breeds:

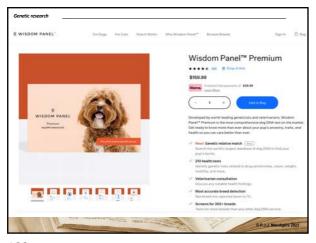
→ genetic variation

Test for all mutations known

Test for several traits (coat colours etc)

Look-alikes: is this dog interesting?

107 108



Wisdom panel a.o.
Handy test – 'want-to-have'

Genotyping (100.000 to 200.000 SNP's)

What breed is your dog?

Compare within the breed

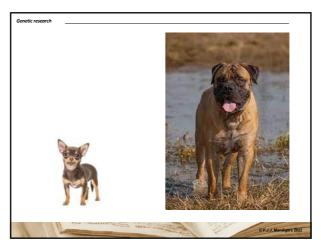
Compare with other dogs/breeds – genetic variation

Test for all mutations known

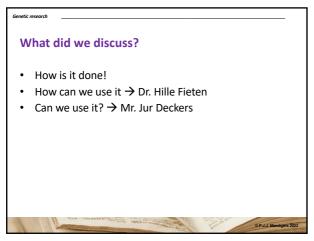
Test for several traits (coat colours etc)

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111 112



When you think of a genetic disorder:

• Phenotype!

• Store DNA (cheek mucosa sample or EDTA sample) of the affected dog (and parents / siblings)

• Is somebody busy with it contact them OR contact me/us

113 114