

Extended Data

Extended Data Note 1. Sharing candidate etiological variants in UDN cases.

Strong candidate or confirmed diagnostic variants uncovered across all UDN clinical sites are submitted to ClinVar every three to four months by the UDN Coordinating Center (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/clinvar/submitters/505999/>). Cases with strong candidate variants are also shared via Matchmaker Exchange through the PhenomeCentral node (<https://www.phenomecentral.org>). In addition, patients have the option of listing their candidate gene/variant data on the public-facing UDN website (<https://undiagnosed.hms.harvard.edu/genes/>). Finally, strong candidate genes are listed on a gene function study candidate list for further investigation (<https://undiagnosed.hms.harvard.edu/research/funding-opportunities/>).

Extended Data Note 2. Baylor Genetics' sequencing coverage and sample identity checks.

Depth of sequencing coverage across targeted regions is checked by all CLIA-certified genetic testing laboratories including the Baylor Genetics sequencing core before sequencing data is made available to a client. The most recent coverage requirements (as of September 2020) for clinical genomic sequencing by Baylor Genetics are: average coverage over the genome must be >40X, and >97.5% of the "target base" (i.e., all coding regions, UTRs, noncoding genes and intronic regions implicated in human disease) must be covered at >20X.

In addition, as a quality control measure for each sample, concordance between variants called from next-generation sequencing (NGS) data and 96 SNPs measured by an independent genotype array must be >95%. Specifically, the genotype array is performed by the Fluidigm SNPtype platform using the SNPTrace Panel, which consists of 46 autosomal SNPs that are polymorphic across all populations, 44 autosomal ancestry-informative SNPs, 3 SNPs on chromosome X, and 3 SNPs on chromosome Y. The SNP data are compared with the genotype calls made from the Illumina Dragen BioIT Platform for NGS data to ensure correct sample identification. Contamination analysis is also performed by identifying homozygous sites and by computationally inspecting the aligned reads at those sites.

Main Text

▶ **Aligning next-generation sequencing reads**

Burrows-Wheeler Aligner (BWA-MEM)¹, Illumina/Edico's DRAGEN aligner (<https://www.illumina.com/products/by-type/informatics-products/dragen-bio-it-platform.html>)

▶ **SNP/indel variant calling**

GATK², DeepVariant³, Real Time Genomics' PolyBayes (<https://www.realtimegenomics.com>)⁴

▶ **Quality control of sequencing reads**

FASTQC (<https://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastqc/>), FASTP⁵, MultiQC⁶, BEDTools⁷, bam.iobio⁸

▶ **Patient-gene matching (Figure 1)**

Matchmaker Exchange⁹, MARRVEL¹⁰

Table 1

▶ **Find SVs from sequencing reads**

Manta¹¹, ExpansionHunter¹², GATK², LUMPY¹³, CNVnator¹⁴, CNVkit¹⁵, RUFUS (<https://github.com/jandrewfarrell/rufus>), BreakDancer¹⁶, SvABA¹⁷, CoNIFER¹⁸, ERDS¹⁹, BreakSeq2²⁰, DELLY²¹

▶ **Jointly call and/or genotype SVs**

smoove (<https://github.com/brentp/smoove>), SVTyper²²

▶ **Annotate SVs**

AnnotSV²³, gnomAD-SV²⁴, duphold²⁵

▶ **Run or combine output from other tools**

XHMM²⁶, SURVIVOR²⁷, Parliament2²⁸

Table 2

BCFtools²⁹, vcf.iobio (<http://vcf.iobio.io>), GATK's DepthOfCoverage², Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV)³⁰, Peddy³¹, LAMP-LD³², plink³³, ATAV (<https://github.com/igm-team/atav>), denovo-db (<https://denovo-db.gs.washington.edu>), NovoCaller³⁴, Salvage Pathway³⁵

Table 3

▶ **Known disease gene databases**

ClinVar³⁶ and ClinVar Miner³⁷, OMIM³⁸, HGMD³⁹, dbSNP⁴⁰, CGD⁴¹, Orphanet (<https://www.orpha.net/>)

▶ **Healthy human population SNV/indel databases**

gnomAD⁴², ExAC⁴³, 1000 Genomes Project⁴⁴, EVS⁴⁵, TOPMed (<https://www.nhlbiwgs.org>), UK10K⁴⁶, GME⁴⁷, xKJPN⁴⁸, GenomeAsia 100K Project⁴⁹, Iranome⁵⁰

▶ **Human structural variant databases**

gnomAD-SV²⁴, DGV⁵¹, dbVar⁵², ClinGen's Dosage Sensitivity Map (<https://dosage.clinicalgenome.org>), DECIPHER⁵³

▶ **Within-human selective constraint scores**

pLI⁴³, missense (constraint) Z score⁴³, pREC⁴³, RVIS^{54,55}, subRVIS^{54,55}, LoF/missense-o/e-UF⁴², CCR⁵⁶, LIMBR⁵⁷, MTR⁵⁸, s_het⁵⁹, LoFtool⁶⁰

Table 4

▶ **Cross-species conservation scores**

GERP++⁶¹, PhastCons⁶²

▶ **Predicted functionality or pathogenicity**

PolyPhen2⁶³, SIFT⁶⁴, MutationTaster⁶⁵, MVP (<https://github.com/ShenLab/missense>), ReMM⁶⁶

▶ **Ensemble pathogenicity predictors**

CADD⁶⁷, REVEL⁶⁸, DANN⁶⁹, M-CAP⁷⁰, DOMINO⁷¹, Eigen⁷²

▶ **Predicted splice- or expression-altering effect**

SpliceAI⁷³, GTEx (<https://www.gtexportal.org>), SpliceRegion⁷⁴, dbSCSNV⁷⁵, Human Splicing Factor⁷⁶, MMSplice⁷⁷, MaxEntScan⁷⁸, TraP⁷⁹

Extended Data Table 1. Citations of tools listed in main text and Tables 1–4.

References for computational approaches and datasets listed in Tables 1-4; links are provided for open-source tools that are currently unpublished.

	BaylorSeq	BCM	Duke/Columbia	Harvard	Miami	NIH	PacificNW	Stanford	UCLA	Utah	Vanderbilt	WUSTL
Variant annotation tools												
Ensembl's Variant Effect Predictor (VEP) ⁸⁰				●	●		●				●	○
Annovar ⁸¹		●				●						●
SnEff/ClinEff ⁸²			●								○	
GenomOncology Knowledge Management API ⁸³	●											
Interactive Biosoftware's commercial Alamut (https://www.interactive-biosoftware.com)	○											
GoldenHelix's commercial VarSeq ⁸⁴									●			
SeattleSeq Annotation Server ⁸⁵							●					

● = tool used by default ○ = tool used in specific cases or contexts only^a

Extended Data Table 2. Annotating SNV and indel variants.

Tools for annotating genetic variants with their functional effects and relevant additional information. Clinical sites listed in gray do not separately annotate simple variants; this is accomplished using an automated wrapper tool (i.e., Exomiser at Stanford and emedgene at Vanderbilt). ^aThe specific contexts in which some tools are used include: to consider splice region annotations specifically (Ensembl VEP) and to verify selected variants where there is uncertainty from default annotation tools (SnEff/ClinEff and Alamut).

Tool Name	Tool Purpose	BCM	NIH	Stanford	UCLA	Utah
Trimmomatic ⁸⁶	preprocess raw reads		●			
Cutadapt ⁸⁷	"			●		
STAR ⁸⁸	align reads	●	●	●	●	●
featureCounts ⁸⁹	measure read depth per exon/gene		●		●	
RSEM ⁹⁰	"	●		●		
DESeq2 ⁹¹	analyze differential expression		●			●
edgeR ⁹²	"		●			
OUTRIDER ⁹³	detect expression anomalies	●	△		●	
custom scripts	"			●	●	
LeafCutter ⁹⁴	detect splice junction distributions and anomalies		△			
RIVER ⁹⁵	"			●		
FRASER*	"	●				
custom scripts	"			●	●	

● = tool used by default △ = tool has been tested

Extended Data Table 3. Processing transcriptomic data.

Tools actively used or being tested by clinical sites for processing RNA-sequencing data.

*FRASER is unpublished but available at <https://github.com/c-mertes/FRASER> and in practice is called via DROP (Detection of RNA Outlier Pipeline), a wrapper tool available at <https://github.com/gagneurlab/drop>.

	BaylorSeq	BCM	Duke/Columbia	Harvard	Miami	NIH	PacificNW	Stanford	UCLA	Utah	Vanderbilt	WUSTL
Variant prioritization tools based on phenotype and genotype input												
Amelie ⁹⁶						○		○		●	○	○
Exomiser ⁹⁷				○		●		●				
emedgene (https://emedgene.com)		●									●	
OMIM Explorer ⁹⁸	●											
Codified (https://www.codifiedgenomics.com)		●										
GENESIS ⁹⁹					●							
Gene prioritization tools based only on phenotype input												
PhenoTips ¹⁰⁰							●	●	●			
Phenomizer ¹⁰¹							●					
genepanel.iobio ¹⁰²										●		
→ NCBI's Genetic Testing Registry (GTR) ¹⁰³										○		
→ Phenolyzer ¹⁰⁴										○		
Databases with parseable gene–phenotype relationships												
Monarch Initiative's Gene/PubMed Browser ¹⁰⁵							●			●		
Mouse Genome Informatics (MGI) ¹⁰⁶		●	○						●			
HPO–gene annotations ¹⁰⁷	○								●	○		

● = tool used by default ○ = tool used in specific cases or contexts only^a

Extended Data Table 4. Incorporating phenotype data in the gene- and variant-prioritization process.

Computational tools take phenotype information in the form of structured Human Phenotype Ontology (HPO) terms in order to prioritize phenotypically-relevant variants and genes. Clinical sites that do not regularly use phenotype information in their automated pipelines are listed in gray in the top row. The “→” indicates tools that are not used directly but rather are accessed indirectly by the wrapper tool genepanel.iobio. ^aThe specific contexts in which some tools are used include: to find supporting literature when the molecular mechanism of a candidate variant is unclear (Amelie), to investigate phenotypically-ranked variants in cases suggestive of a known disease (Exomiser), to confirm the validity of genepanel.iobio’s suggested gene lists (GTR, Phenolyzer), when particular genetic counselors are assigned to a case (MGI), and when more exhaustive lists of phenotypically-associated genes are desired (HPO–gene annotations).

	Variant Filtering	Pipeline Automation	Case Collaboration	Custom Programs	BaylorSeq	BCM	Duke/Columbia	Harvard	Miami	NIH	PacificNW	Stanford	UCLA	Utah	Vanderbilt	WUSTL
MS Office365 Excel spreadsheets	✓		✓		●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	○	●	●
Box/Dropbox			✓			●		●	●		●	●	●	●	●	
GitHub				✓			●			●	●	●	●	●		
Custom Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) ¹⁰⁸			✓		●	●				●	●					
Exomiser ¹⁰⁹	✓	✓						○		●		●				
MS Office365 SharePoint		✓	✓	✓		●					●					
emedgene	✓	✓				●									●	
xBrowse/seqr	✓	✓	✓				●	●								
REDCap ¹¹⁰			✓						●		●					
GEMINI ¹¹¹	✓	✓								●	●					
Codified	✓	✓				●										
Redmine		✓	✓	✓			●									
ATAV	✓	✓					●									
MS Office365 OneNote			✓				●									
Forome Anfsa ¹¹²	✓	✓	✓					○								
GENESIS ⁹⁹	✓	✓	✓						●							
Snakemake		✓		✓								●				
DNAexus		✓		✓									●			
VarSeq	✓	✓	✓	✓									●			
Jira		✓	✓	✓											●	
slivar	✓														●	
frameshift.io (mosaic)	✓		✓												●	
Genome Modeling System ¹¹³		✓	✓	✓												●

● = tool used by default

○ = tool used in specific cases or contexts only^a

Extended Data Table 5. Case workflow management and collaboration tools.

Distinct sets of tools or platforms are used to automate the case processing and variant prioritization workflows and to enable clinical collaboration at each UDN clinical site. The majority of UDN sites use commercially available software or tools for pipeline management. Current web links to tools listed in this table can be found in [Extended Data Table 6](#).^aThe specific contexts in which some tools are used include: to share variant-level data as requested with clinicians or genetic counselors (MS Office365 Excel spreadsheets), to prioritize phenotypically-relevant variants in cases suggestive of known diseases (Exomiser), and to consider newer or additional annotations (Forome Anfsa).

Tool Name	Availability
MS Office365 Excel	https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/excel
Box	https://www.box.com/
Dropbox	https://www.dropbox.com
GitHub	https://github.com
Exomiser ¹⁰⁹	https://github.com/exomiser/Exomiser
MS Office365 SharePoint	https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/sharepoint
emedgene	https://emedgene.com
xBrowse/seqr	https://seqr.broadinstitute.org
REDCap ¹¹⁰	https://www.project-redcap.org
GEMINI ¹¹¹	https://gemini.readthedocs.io/en/latest/
Codified	http://codifiedgenomics.com/
Redmine	https://www.redmine.org
ATAV	https://github.com/igm-team/atav
MS Office365 OneNote	https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/onenote
Forome Anfisa ¹¹²	https://forome.org
GENESIS ⁹⁹	https://genesis-app.com
Snakemake	https://snakemake.readthedocs.io/en/stable/
DNAnexus	https://www.dnanexus.com
VarSeq ⁸⁴	https://www.goldenhelix.com/products/VarSeq/
Jira	https://www.atlassian.com/software/jira
slivar	https://github.com/brentp/slivar/wiki/rare-disease
frameshift.io (mosaic)	https://frameshift.io/mosaic/
Genome Modeling System ¹¹³	https://github.com/genome/gms

Extended Data Table 6. Access to workflow management and collaboration tools.

Case workflow management and collaboration tools used by UDN clinical sites are either open-source or commercially-available.

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