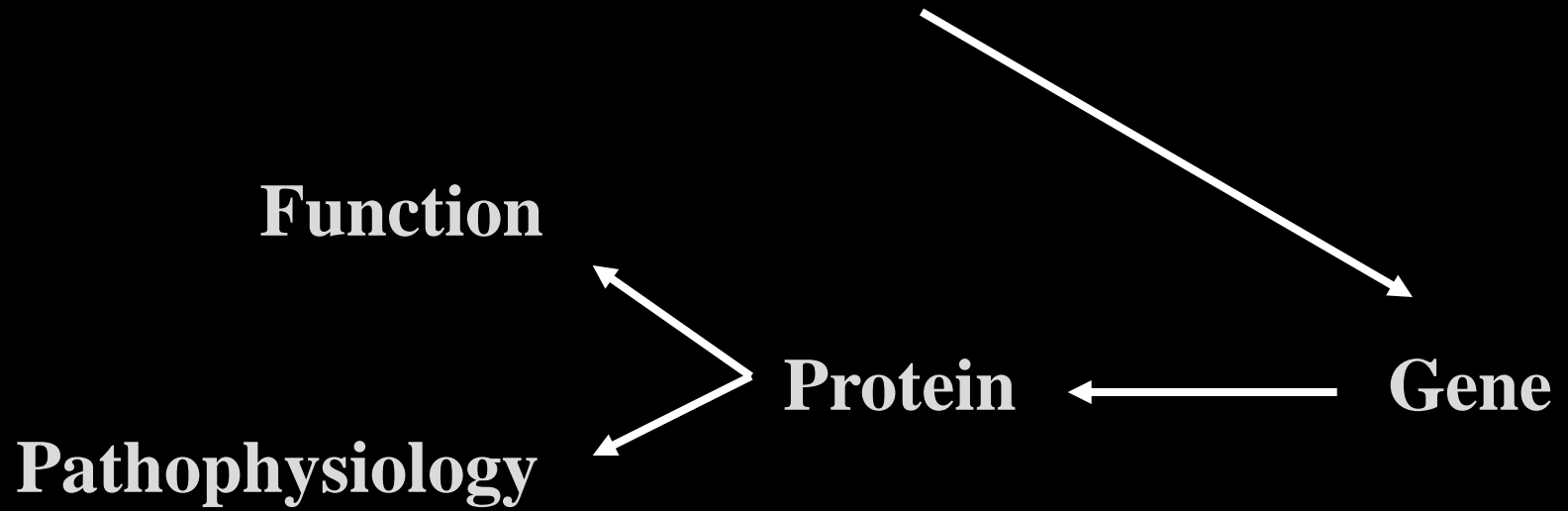




# Rare Monogenic Disorders



# Episodic Nervous System Diseases



Migraine

Epilepsy

Periodic Paralysis

LQTS

Episodic Ataxia

Paroxysmal Dyskinesias

# Phenotypes

**Muscle diseases—periodic paralyses**

**NMJ—Congenital myasthenic, Lambert-Eaton**

**Peripheral nerve—pain syndromes**

**CNS—cortex**

**Migraine**

**Epilepsy**

**Familial Cortical Myoclonus**

**CNS—striatum; Paroxysmal Dyskinesias**

**CNS—Cerebellum; Episodic ataxia**

# Similarities Among These Disorders

**Episodic**

**Precipitating Factors**

*Stress, Fatigue, Dietary Factors, Alcohol, Caffeine*

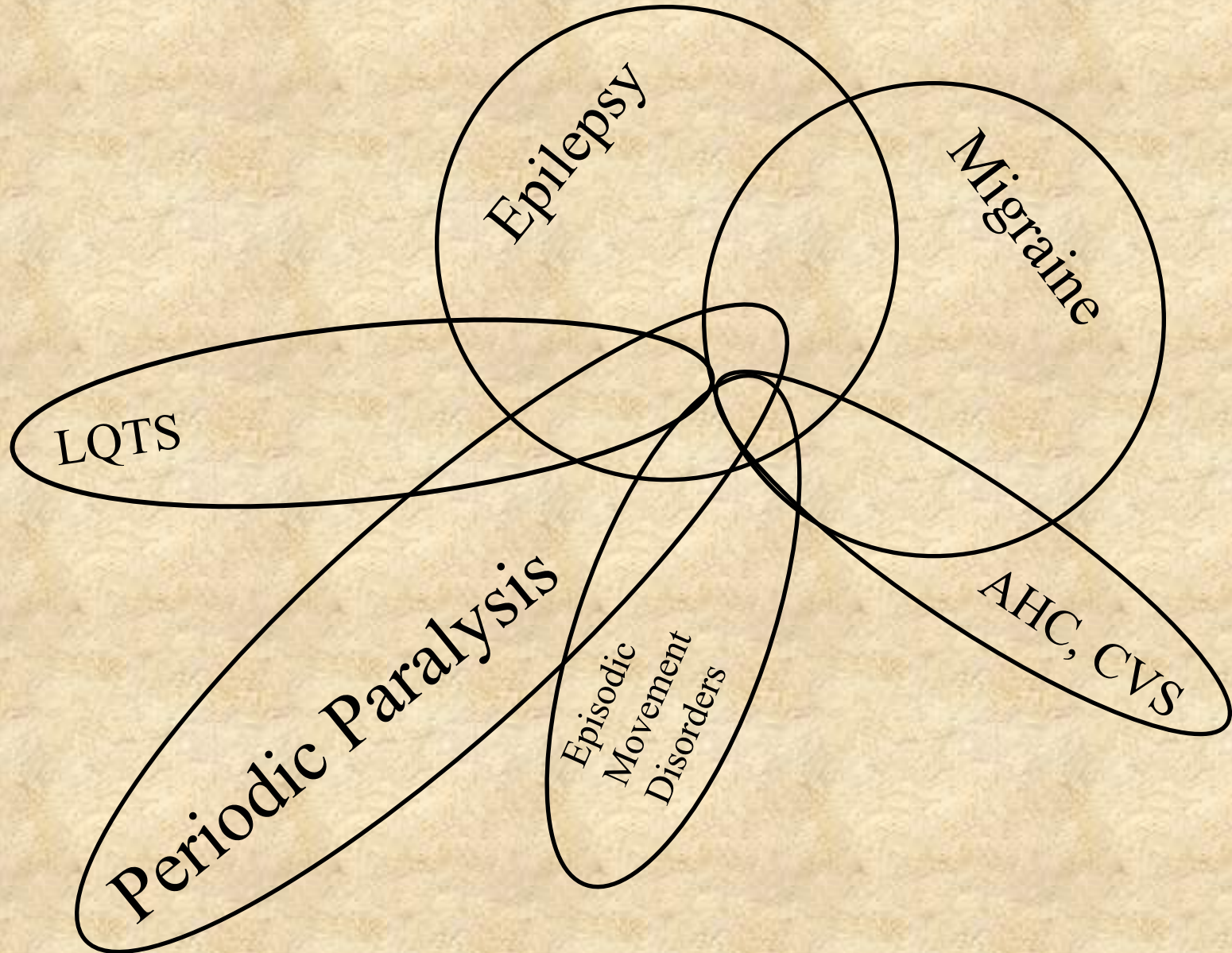
**Therapeutic Responses**

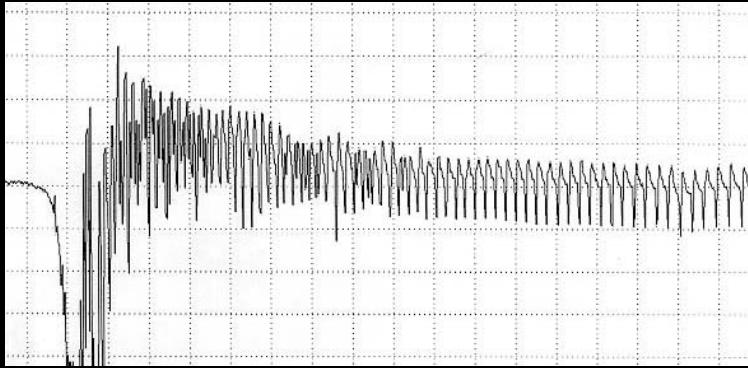
eg. CAI, Tegretol, Mexilitine

**Hormonal Factors**

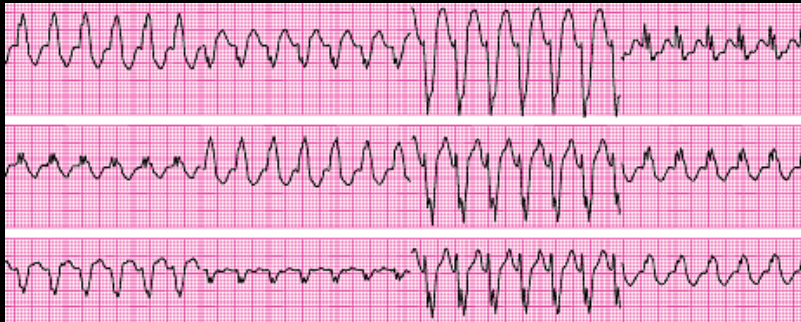
**Attacks Frequently Decrease in Middle Age**

# Episodic Disorders





Myotonia



V-tach



EEG Seizure

# Identification of a Mutation in the Gene Causing Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis

**Louis J. Ptáček,\*† Alfred L. George, Jr.,‡  
Robert C. Griggs,§ Rabi Tawil,§  
Roland G. Kallen,‡<sup>1</sup> Robert L. Barchi,‡<sup>#</sup>  
Margaret Robertson,†<sup>+</sup> and Mark F. Leppert†<sup>+</sup>**

\*Department of Neurology

†Department of Human Genetics

‡Howard Hughes Medical Institute

University of Utah Health Sciences Center

Salt Lake City, Utah 84132

‡<sup>1</sup>David Mahoney Institute of Neurological Sciences

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics

<sup>#</sup>Department of Neurology

University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

§Department of Neurology

University of Rochester School of Medicine

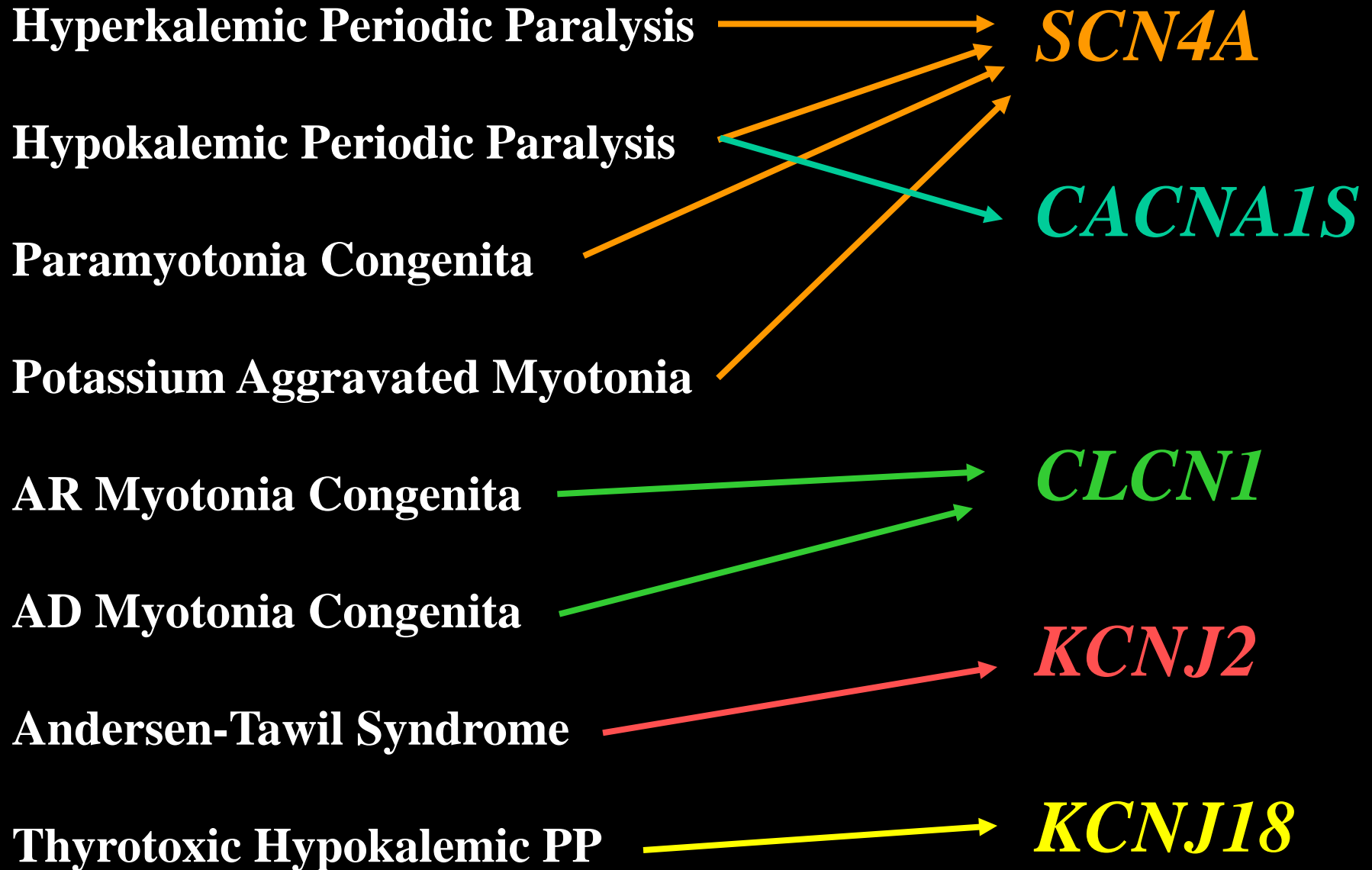
Rochester, New York 14642

sion system would then allow analysis of ion channel response to pharmacologic interventions. Understanding HYPP and related disease states will lead to better understanding of normal muscle and other excitable tissues. Furthermore, the periodic paralyses and nondystrophic myotonic disorders may serve as a useful paradigm for studying other disorders in which abnormalities in electrical properties of cell membranes are known to be important. Such diseases include epilepsy, peripheral nerve disorders, and cardiac dysrhythmias.

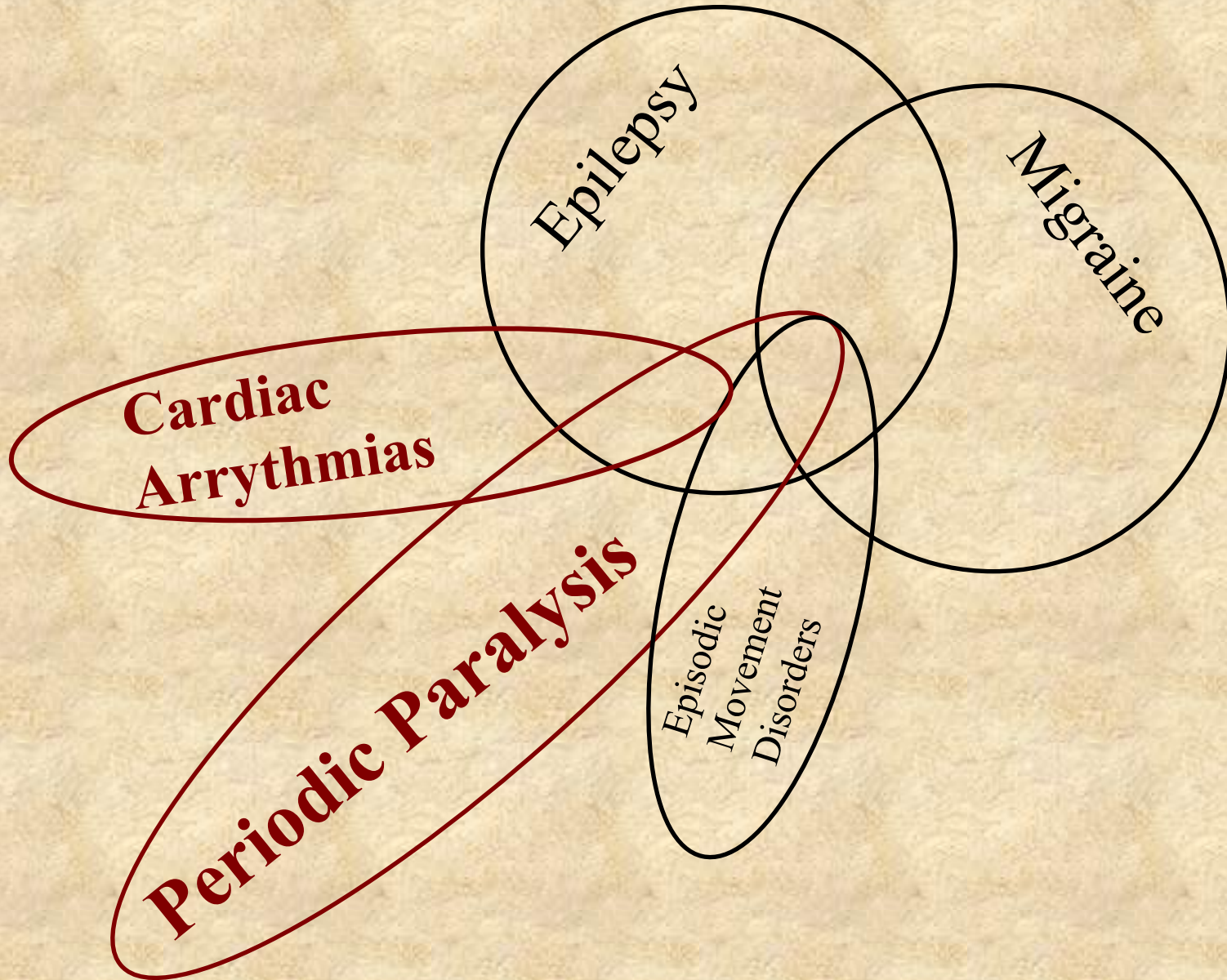
•*Ptáček et al., Cell 1991*



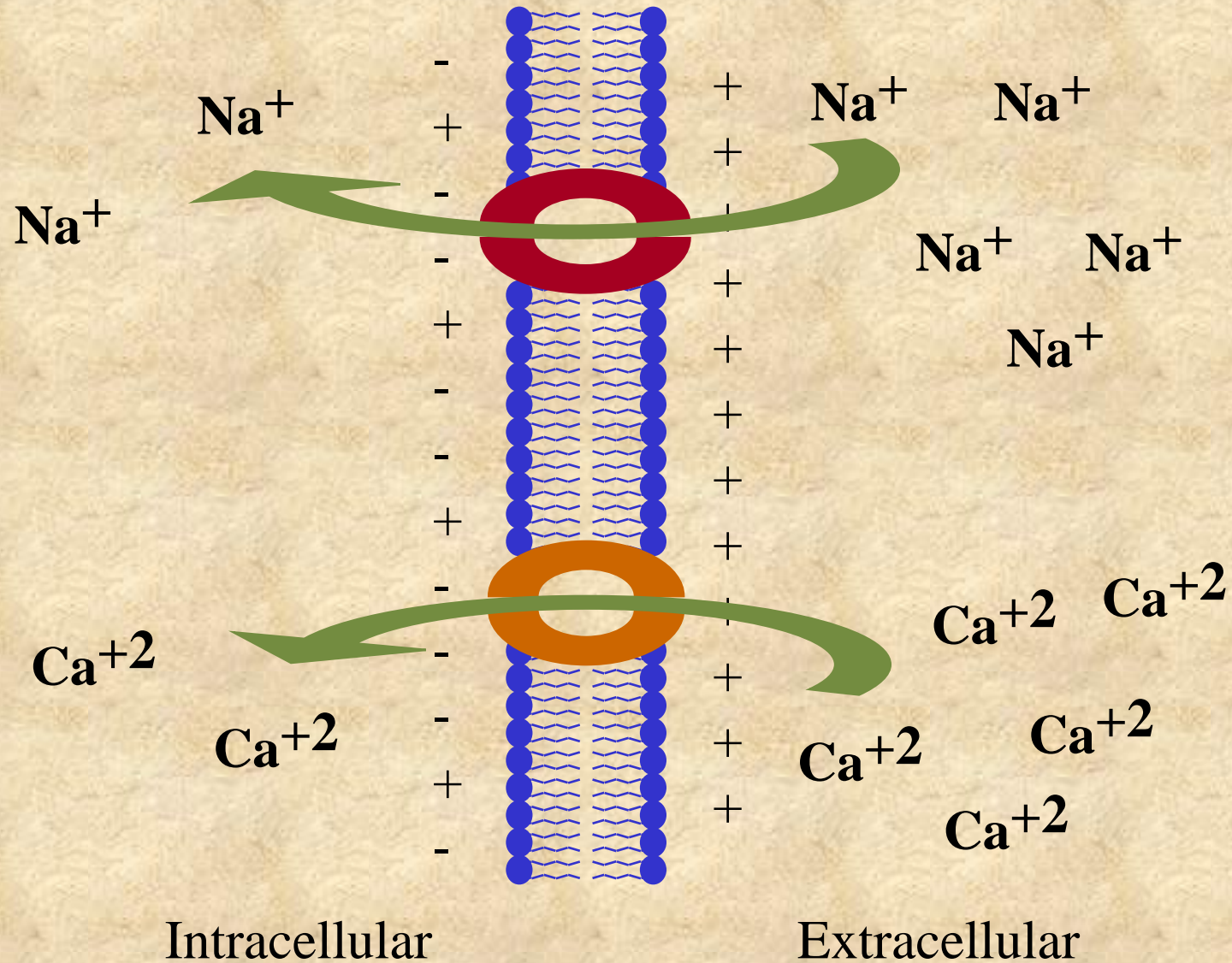
# Non-dystrophic Myotonia/Periodic Paralysis



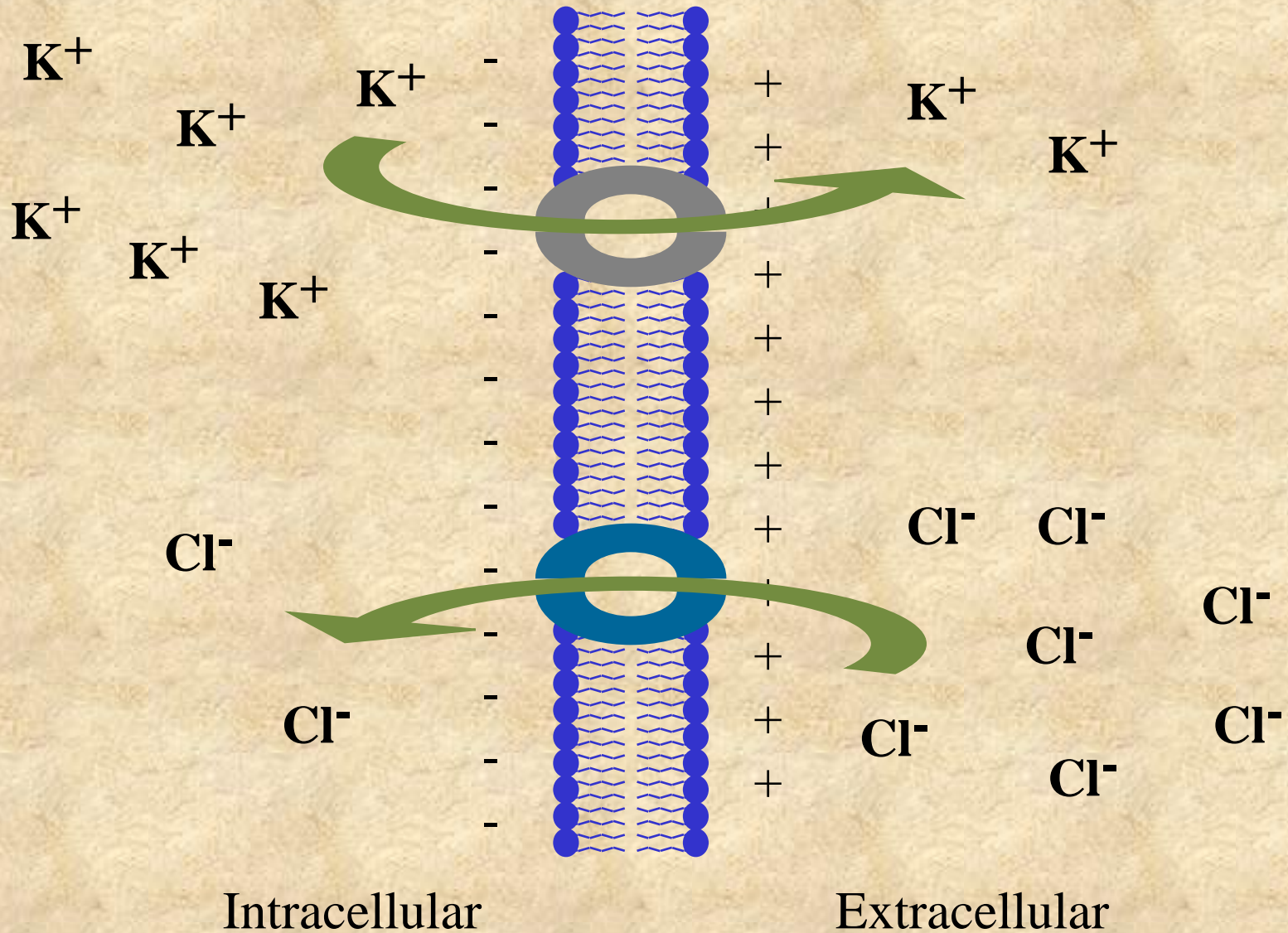
# Andersen/Tawil Syndrome



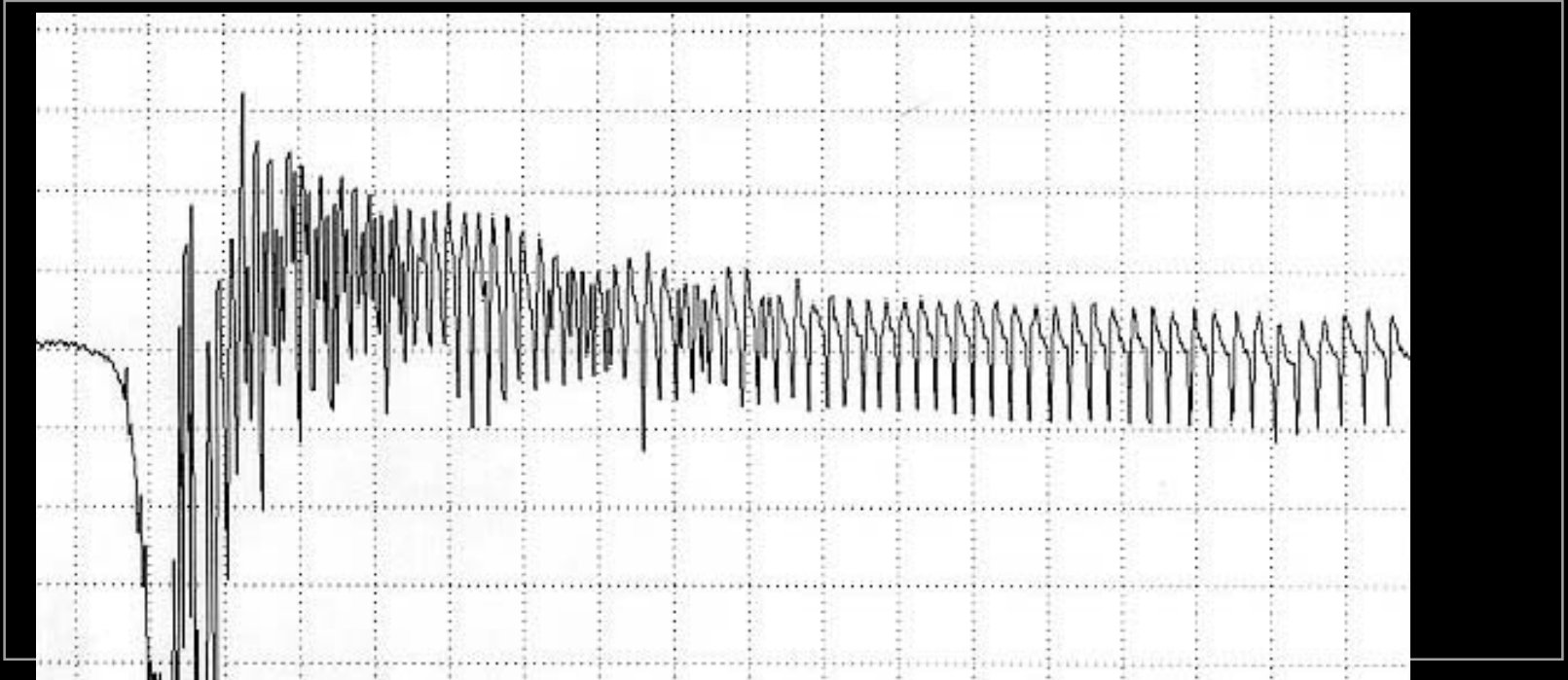
# Depolarizing Effects



# Polarizing or Re-polarizing Effects



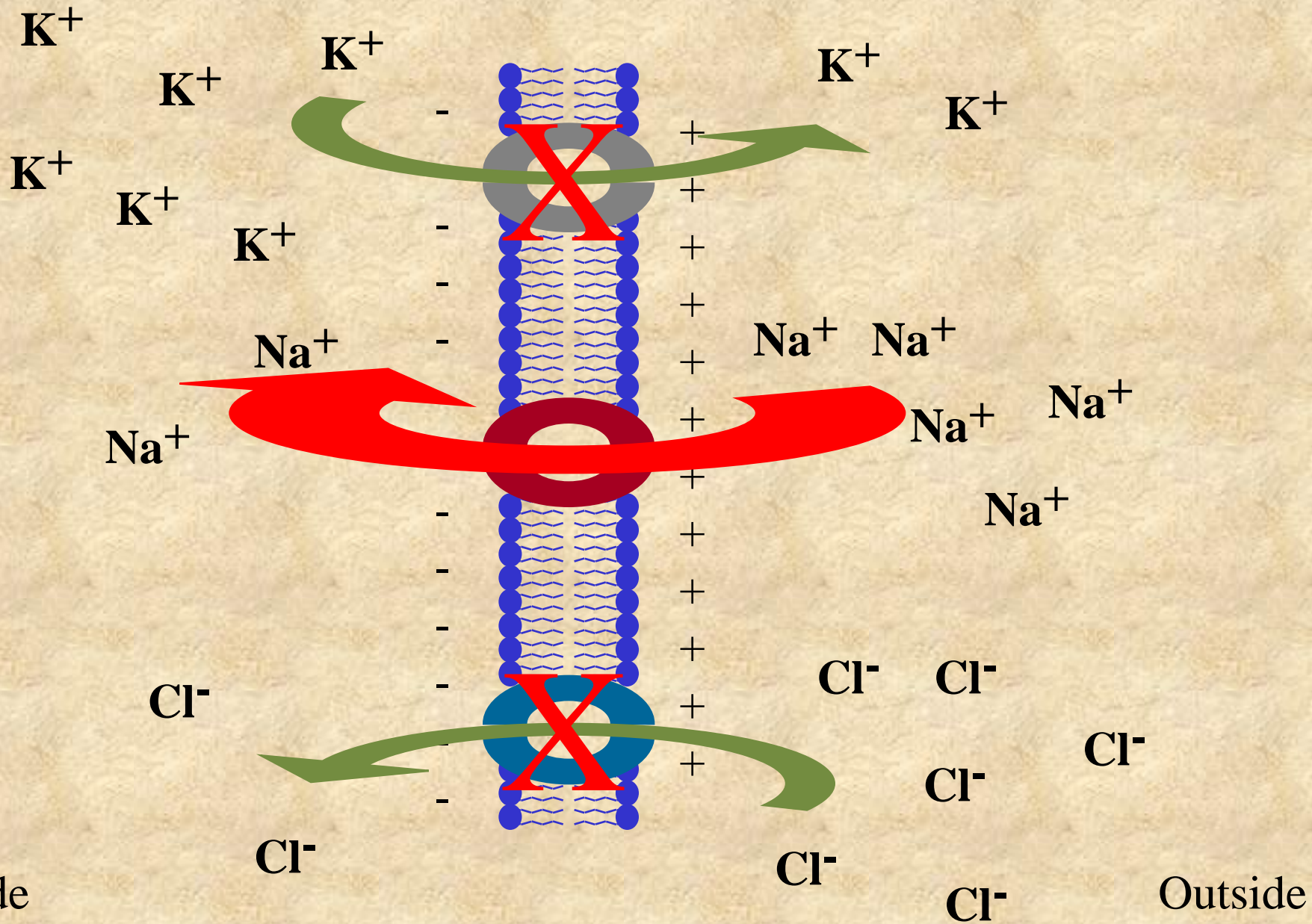
# Myotonia



# Myotonia Congenita

- Goat model of disease—decreased  $g_{Cl}$
- Physiologic study of explanted patient muscle showed decreased  $g_{Cl}$
- Mapping of MC locus to chromosome 7 near *ClC-1*
- Positional--candidate approach

# Muscle Membrane Hyperexcitability



# Fragile X mental retardation

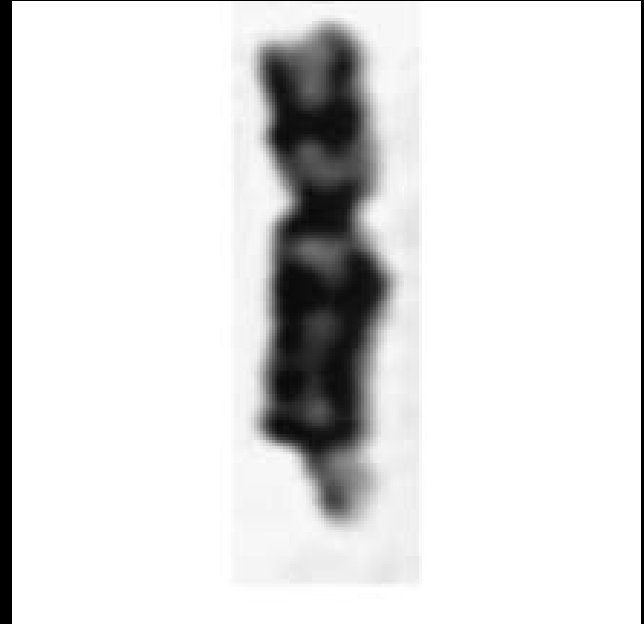
A



B



C

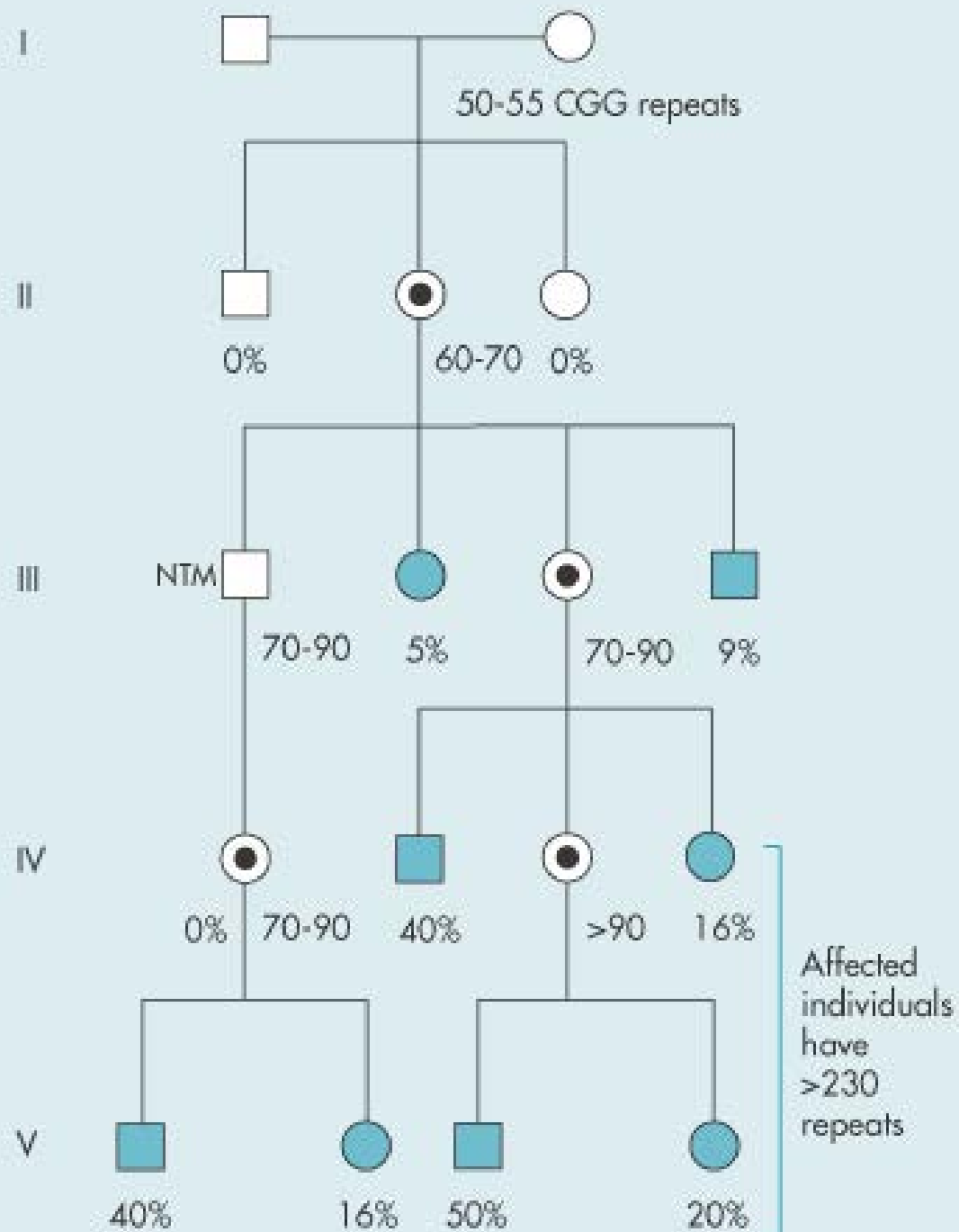


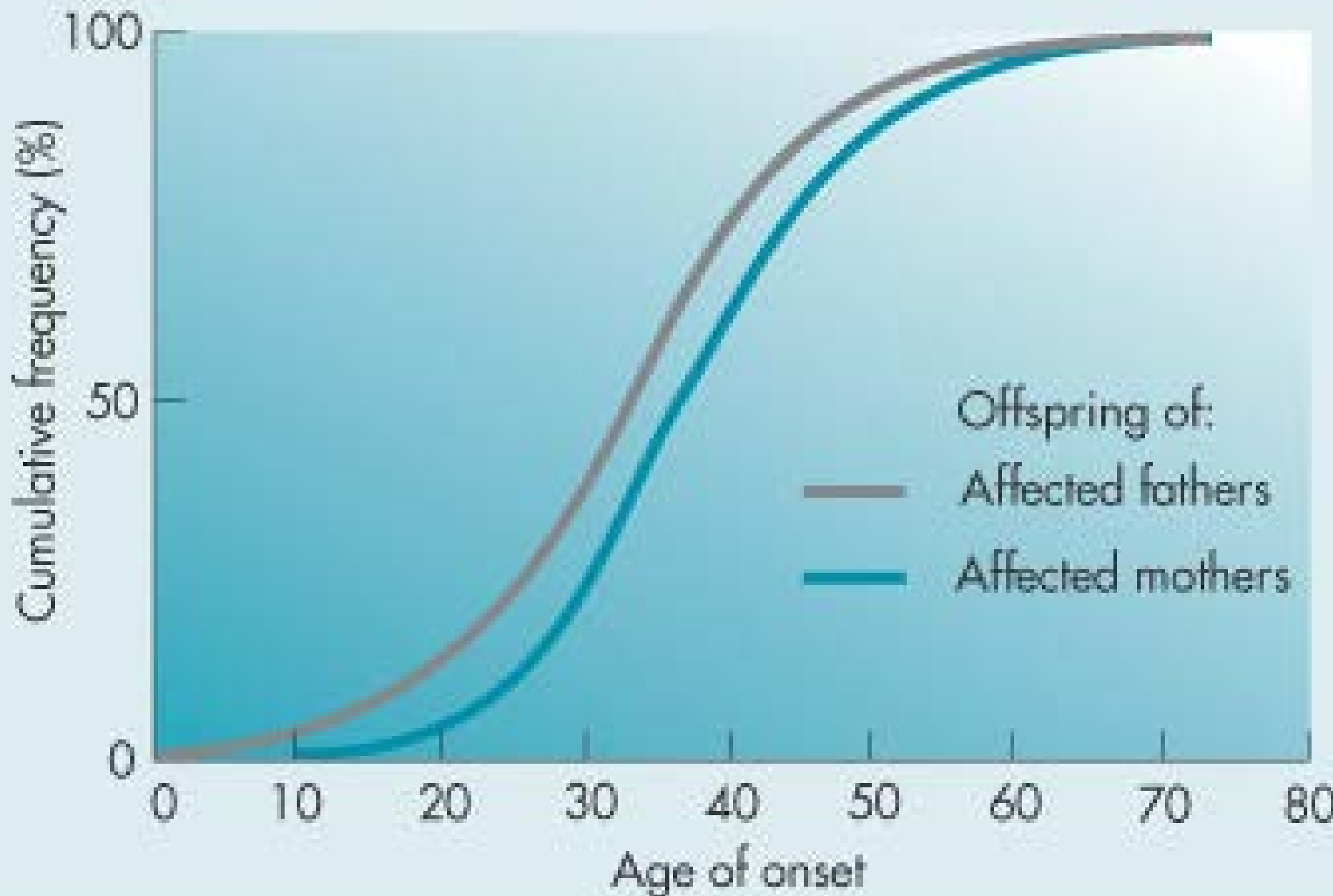


# Anticipation

- A phenomenon where an unstable mutation segregates in families such that, *on average*, disease severity increases as the mutation is passed through subsequent generations

# The Sherman Paradox





## **Variation of the CGG Repeat at the Fragile X Site Results in Genetic Instability: Resolution of the Sherman Paradox**

**Ying-Hui Fu,\* Derek P. A. Kuhl,\* Antonio Pizzuti,\*  
Maura Pieretti,\* James S. Sutcliffe,†  
Stephen Richards,\* Annemieke J. M. H. Verkerk,‡  
Jeanette J. A. Holden,§ Raymond G. Fenwick, Jr.,\*  
Stephen T. Warren,† Ben A. Oostra,‡  
David L. Nelson,\* and C. Thomas Caskey\***

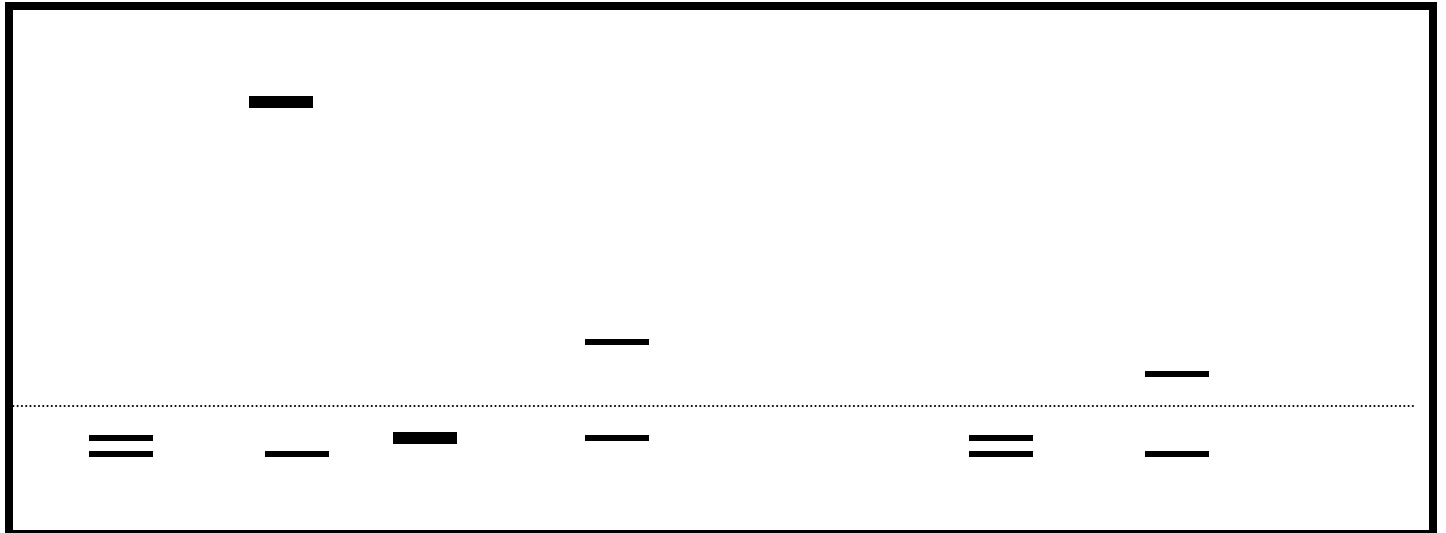
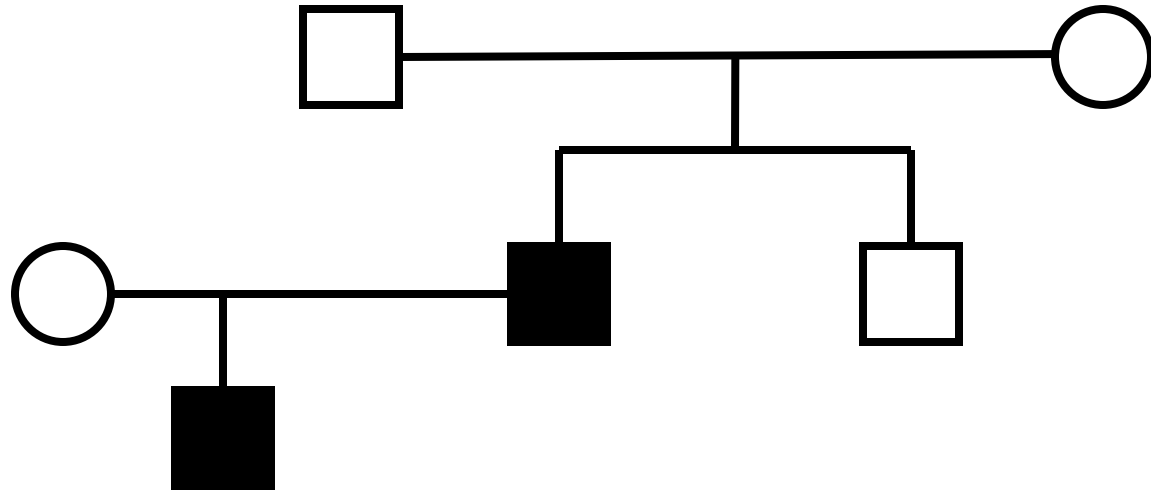
\*Institute for Molecular Genetics  
Human Genome Center  
Howard Hughes Medical Institute  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Houston, Texas 77030

†Departments of Biochemistry and Pediatrics  
Howard Hughes Medical Institute  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, Georgia 30322

‡Department of Cell Biology  
Erasmus University  
Rotterdam  
The Netherlands

§Department of Cytogenetics  
Ongwanada Resource Center, Queens University  
Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L 3N6

# The Molecular Basis of Anticipation



# Myotonic dystrophy



# The search for the DM1 gene

- Linked to ‘secretor’
- ‘Secretor’ mapped to chromosome 19
- Fine mapping of the DM1 locus
- Search for the DM1 gene
- A novel gene predicted to be a protein kinase

# An Unstable Triplet Repeat in a Gene Related to Myotonic Muscular Dystrophy

Y.-H. FU, A. PIZZUTI, R. G. FENWICK, JR., J. KING, S. RAJNARAYAN, P. W. DUNNE, J. DUBEL, G. A. NASSER, T. ASHIZAWA, P. DE JONG, B. WIERINGA, R. KORNELUK, M. B. PERRYMAN, H. F. EPSTEIN, C. THOMAS CASKEY\*†

Synthetic oligonucleotides containing GC-rich triplet sequences were used in a scanning strategy to identify unstable genetic sequences at the myotonic dystrophy (DM) locus. A highly polymorphic GCT repeat was identified and found to be unstable, with an increased number of repeats occurring in DM patients. In the case of severe congenital DM, the paternal triplet allele was inherited unaltered while the maternal, DM-associated allele was unstable. These studies suggest that the mutational mechanism leading to DM is triplet amplification, similar to that occurring in the fragile X syndrome. The triplet repeat sequence is within a gene (to be referred to as myotonin-protein kinase), which has a sequence similar to protein kinases.

SCIENCE

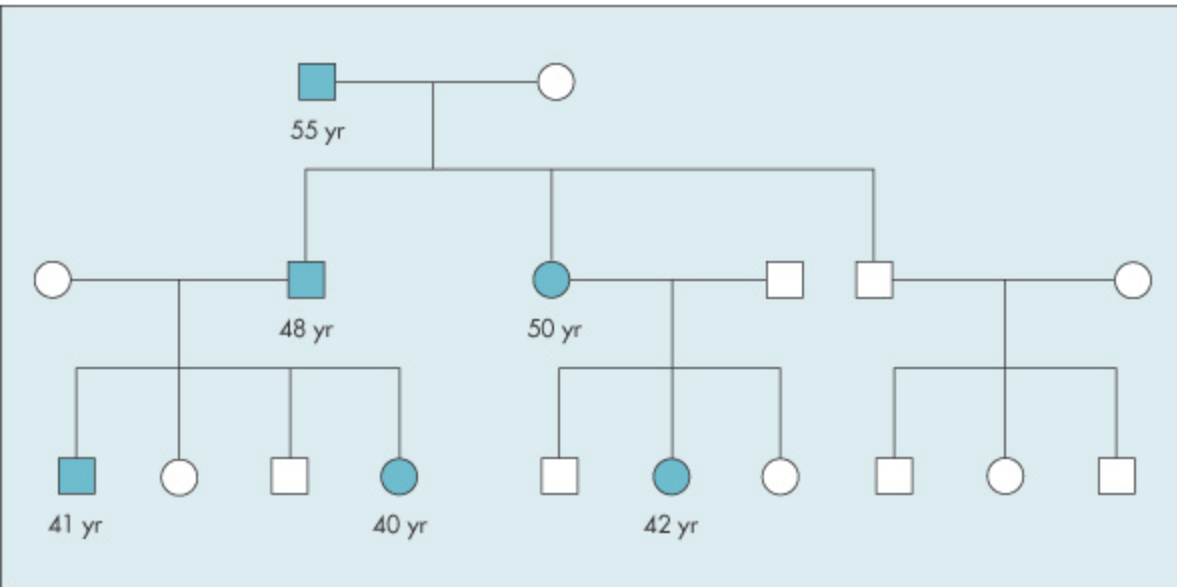
Molecular  
Advances  
in Genetic  
Disease

Science, 1992; 255:1256

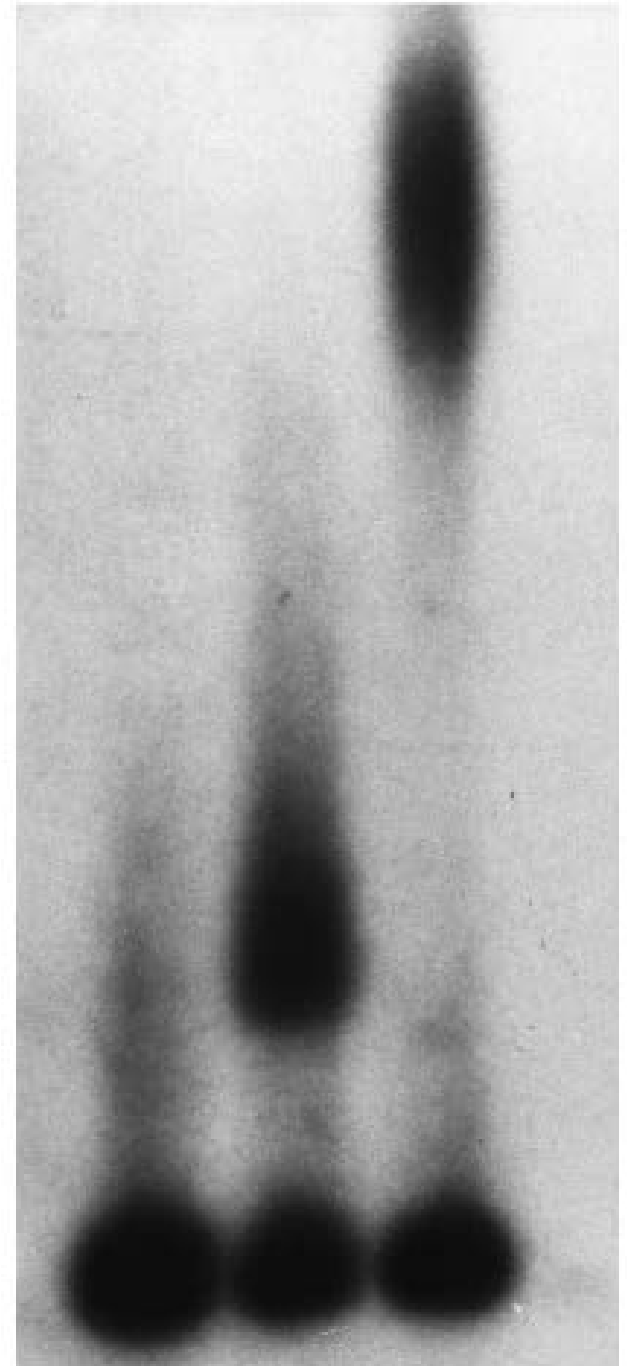


# Anticipation and Unstable repeats

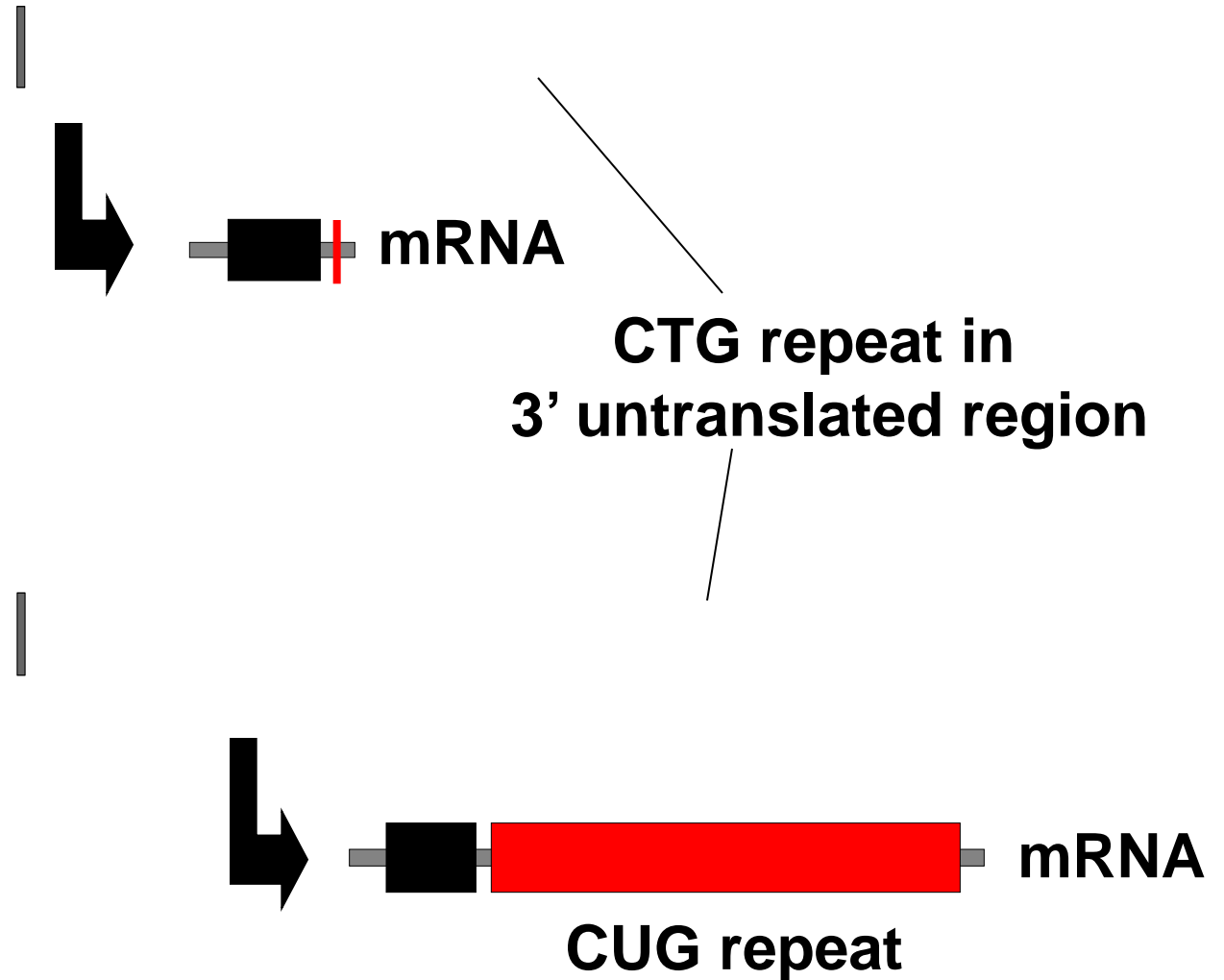
A



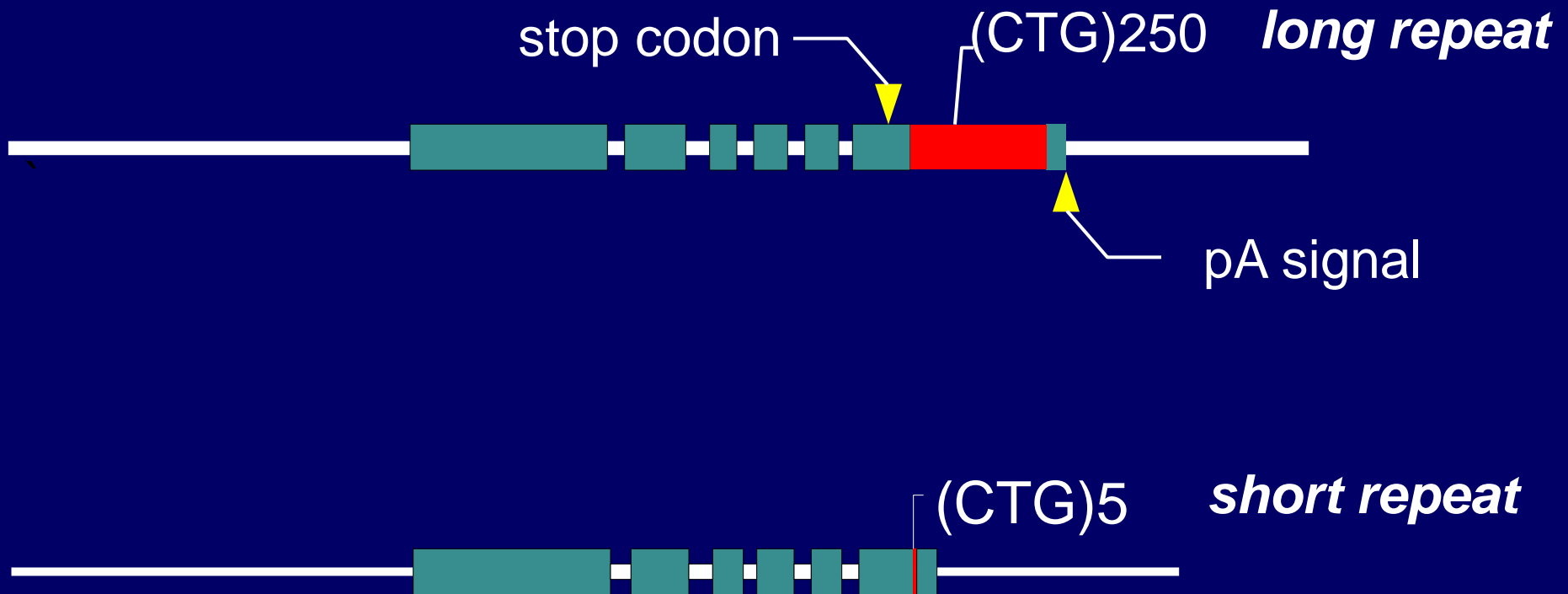
B



# How does a 3' UTR mutation cause disease?

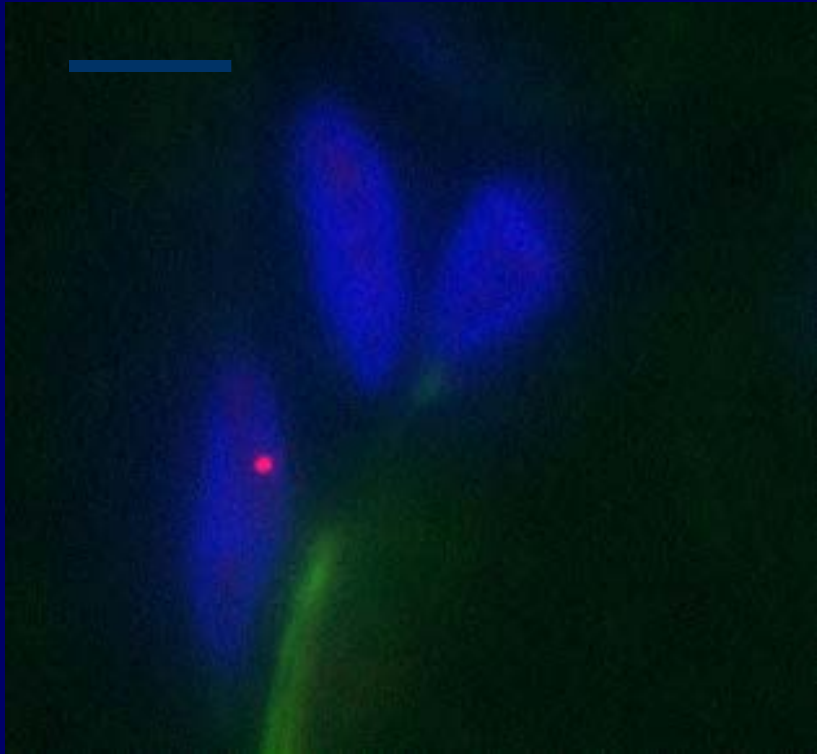


# human skeletal actin (*HSA*) gene

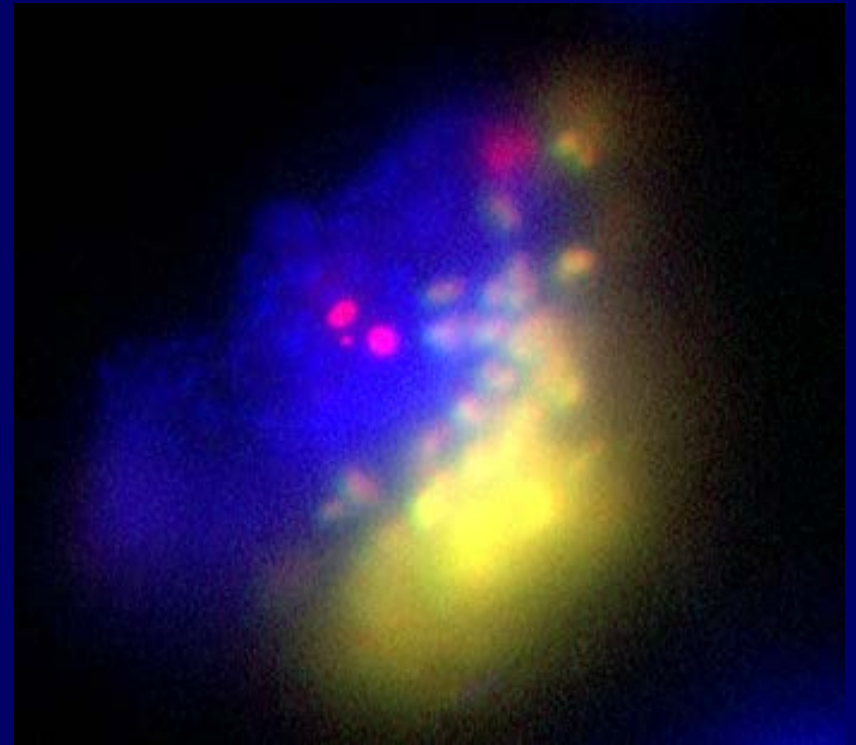


<u>Transgene</u>	<u># of lines of Tg mice</u>	<u># lines with myotonia &amp; myopathy</u>
Short repeat	5	0
Long repeat	7	6

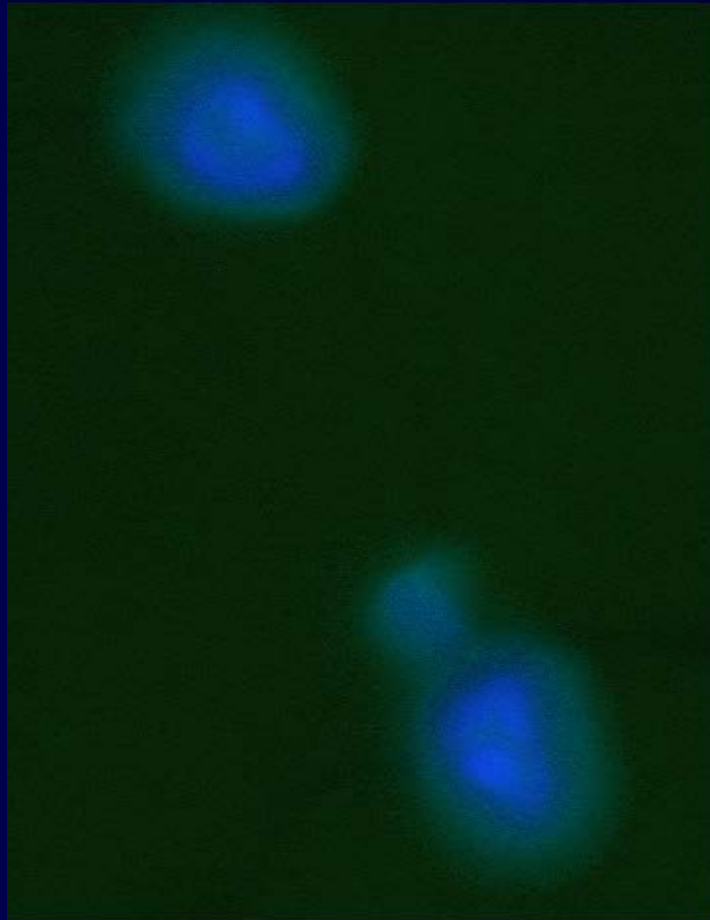
# RNA expanded repeat forms inclusions in the nucleus



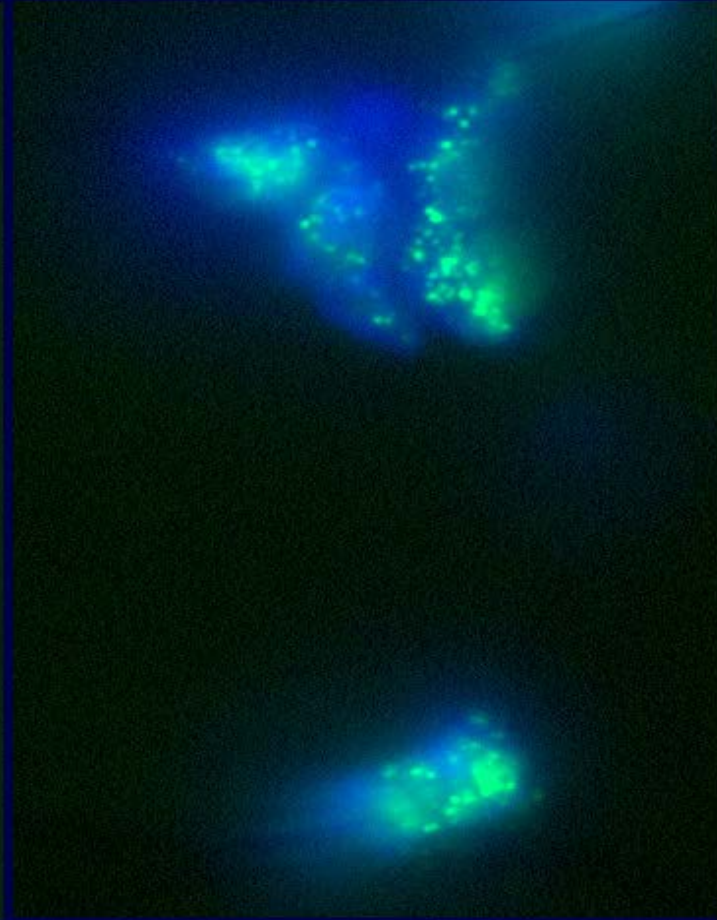
muscle cell



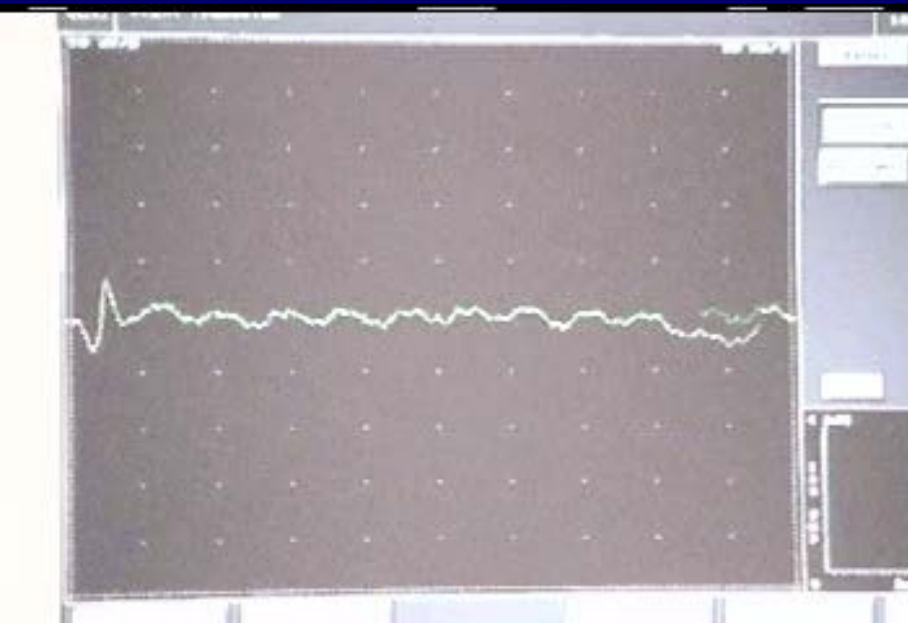
cortical neuron



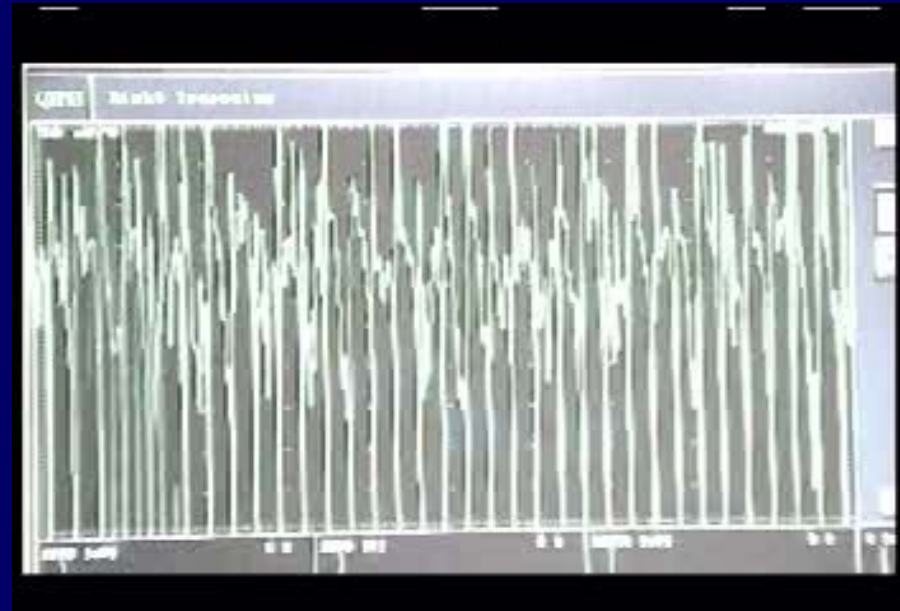
***short-  
repeat***



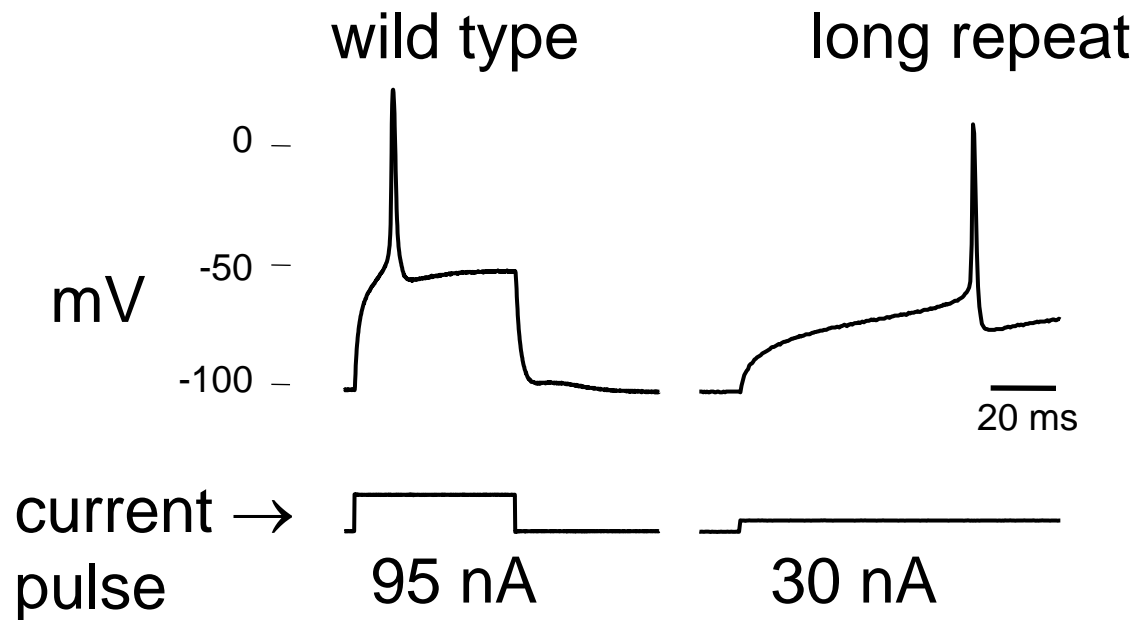
***long-  
repeat***



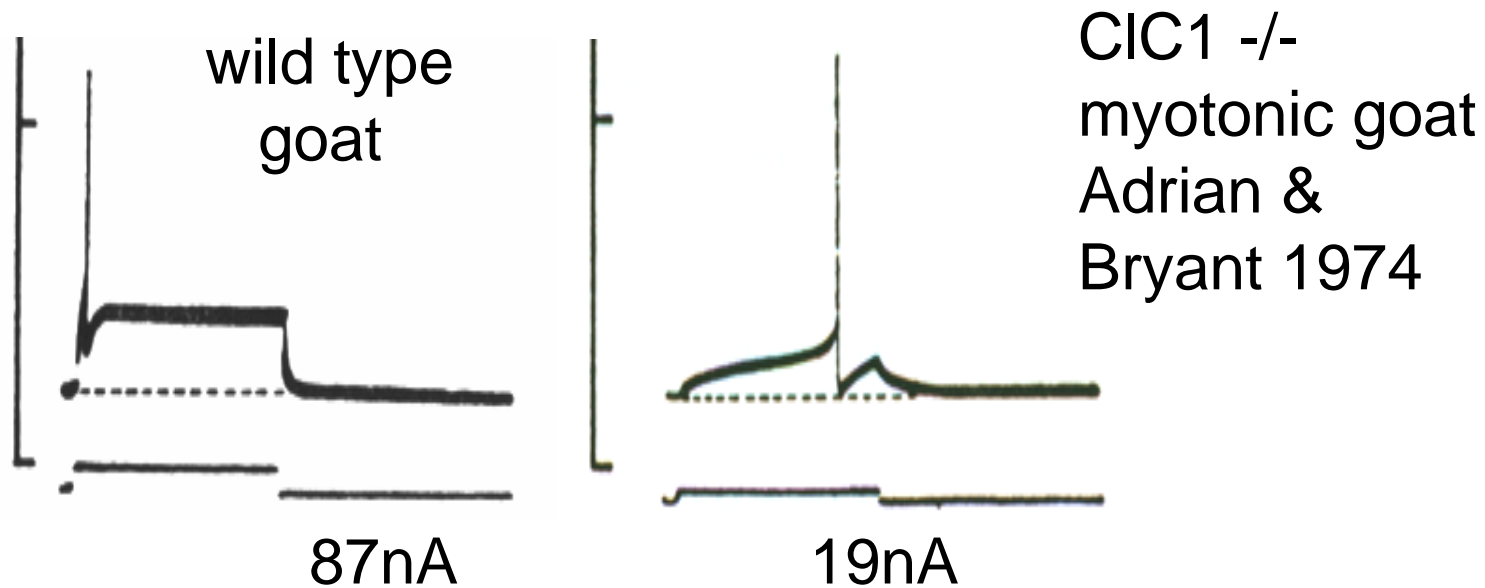
***HSA<sup>SR</sup> mice***



***HSA<sup>LR</sup> mice***

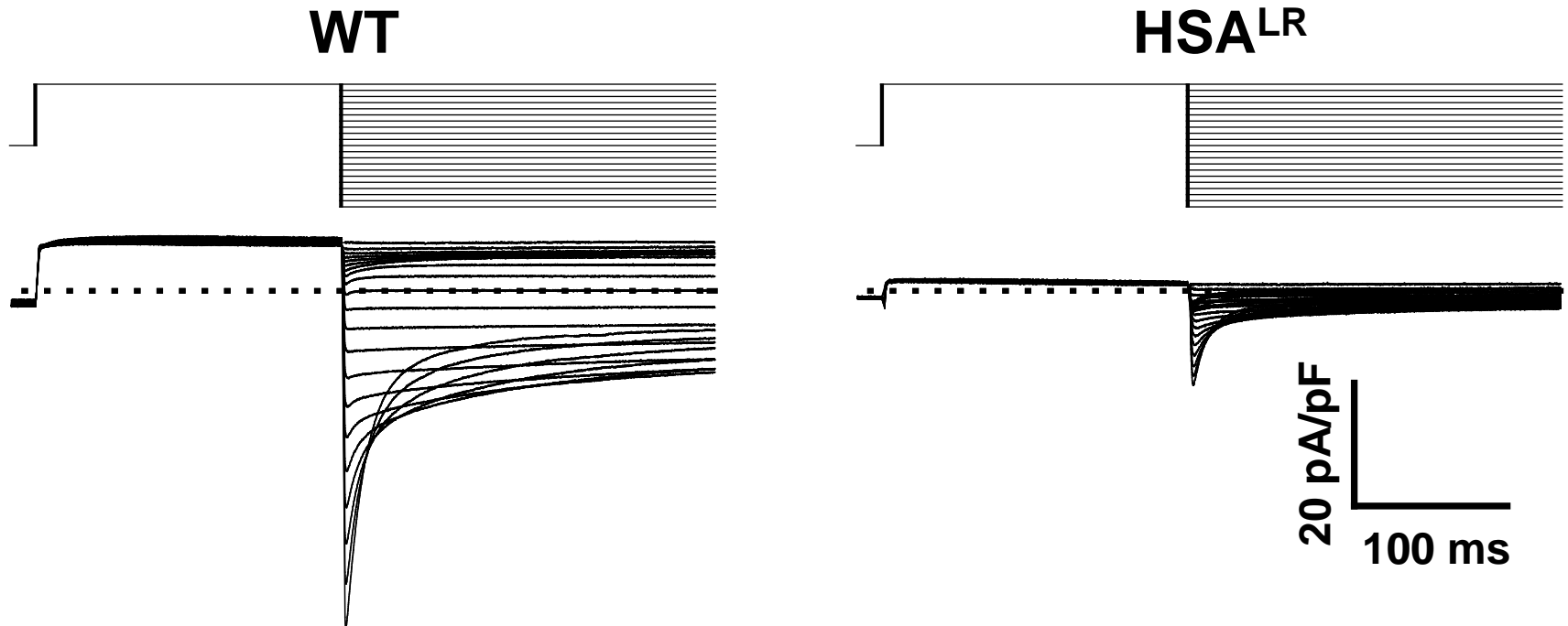


Takahashi &  
Cannon

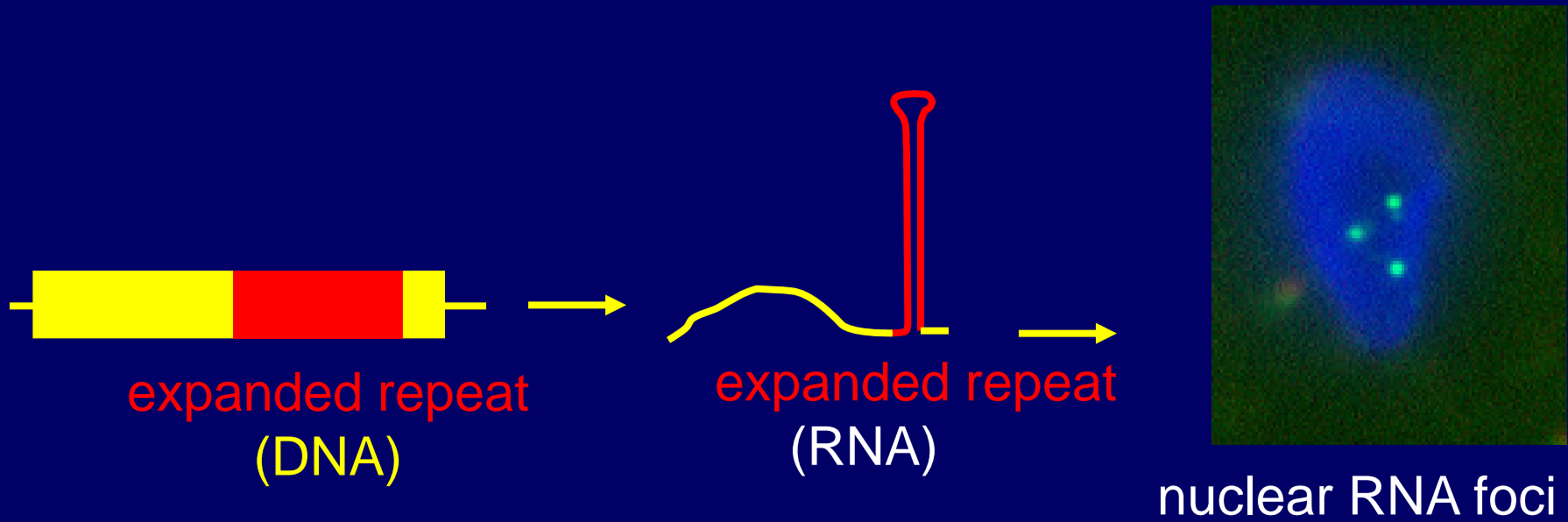




chloride channel 1 (ClC-1)  
whole-cell patch clamp  
flexor digitorum brevis fibers



Bob Dirksen  
John Lueck



↓

myotonia

# Split Genes

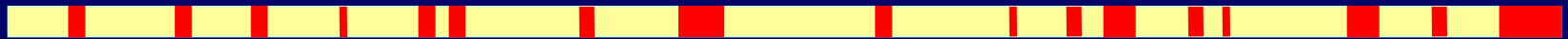
protein coding region (exons)      interruptions (introns)



*Gene*



Transcription



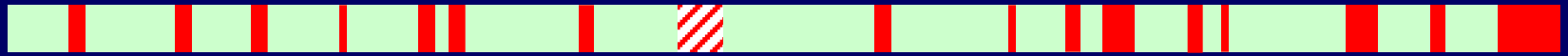
*Primary RNA (pre-mRNA)*



RNA Splicing

*mRNA*





*gene*



transcription



*primary transcript (pre-mRNA)*



alternative splicing



*mRNA*

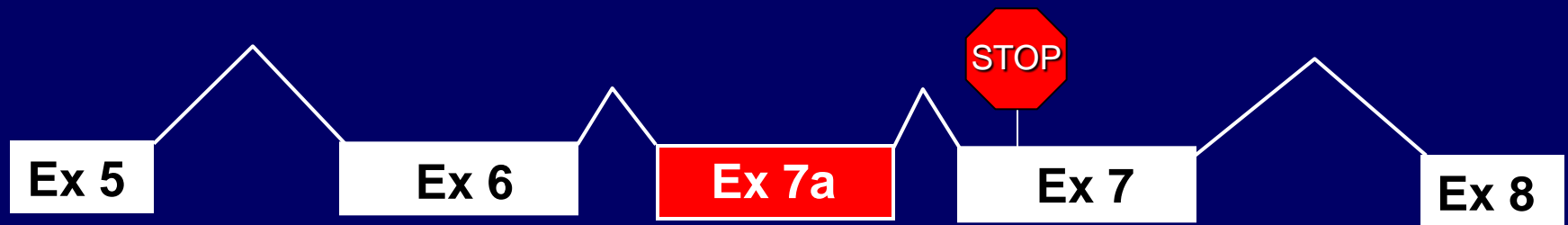


isoform A

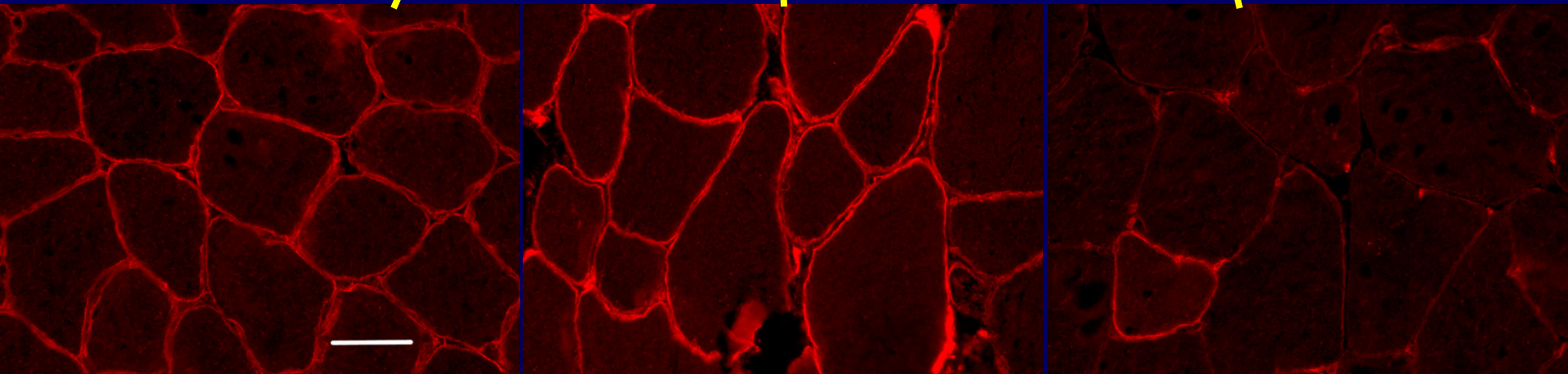
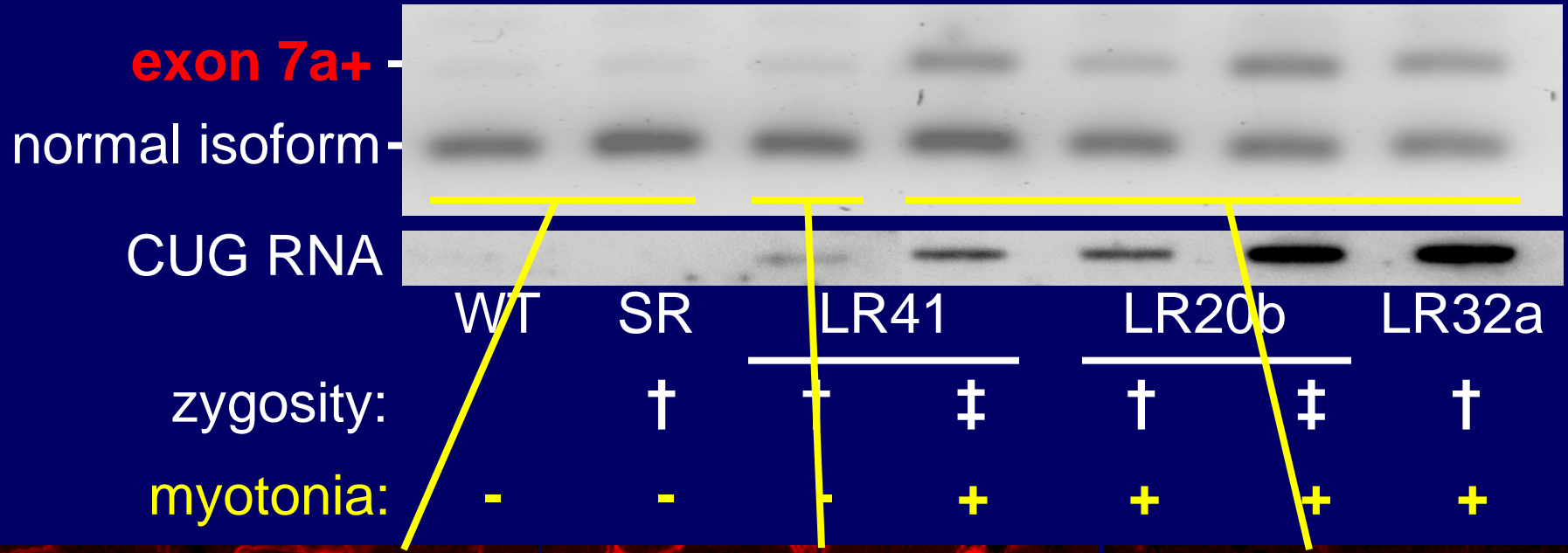


isoform B

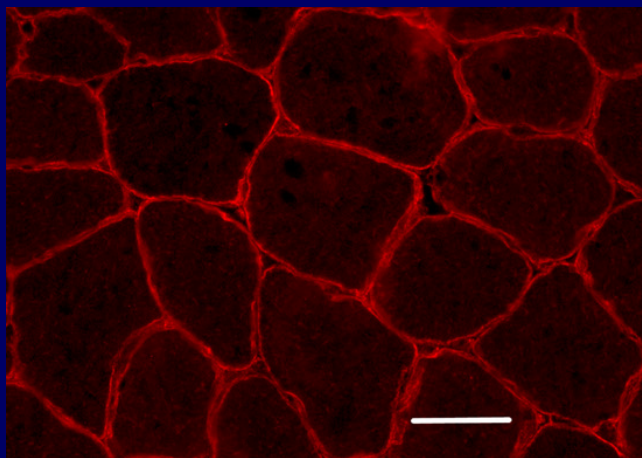
# Alternative splicing of ClC-1 chloride channel in long repeat transgenic mice



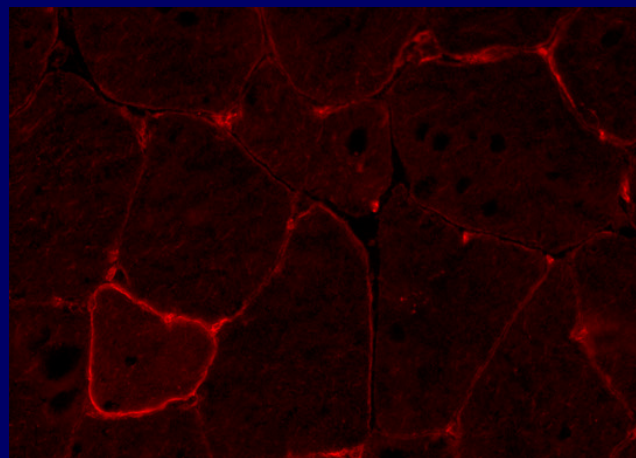
# CIC-1 splicing (exons 5 to 8)



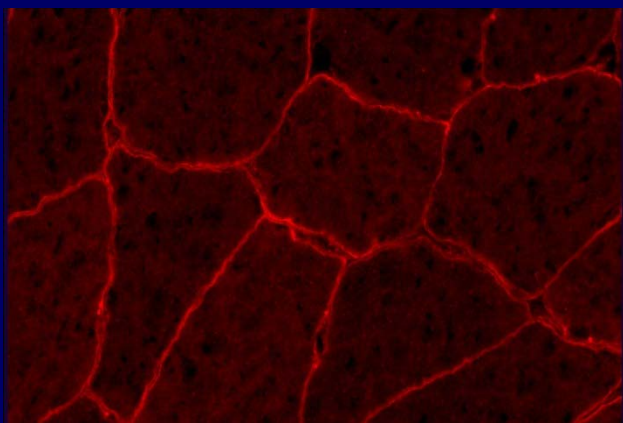
# CIC1 chloride channel



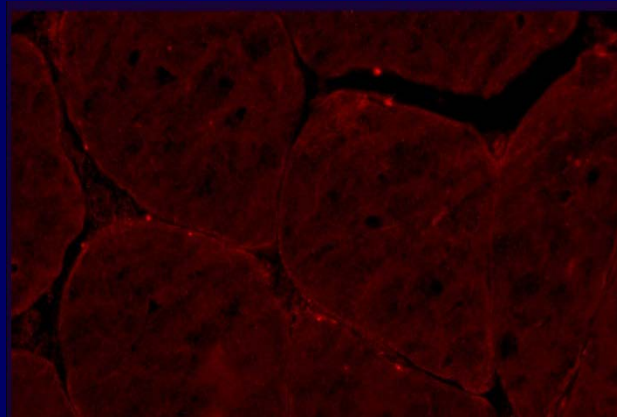
wild type mouse



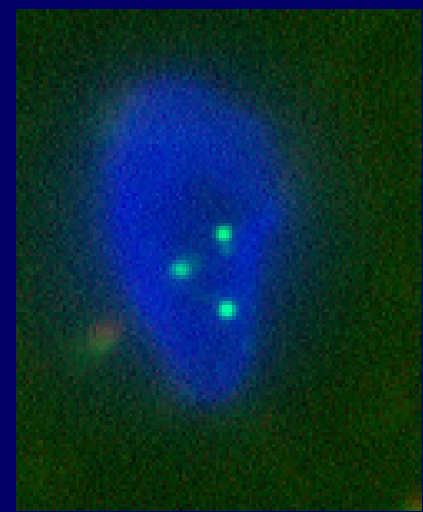
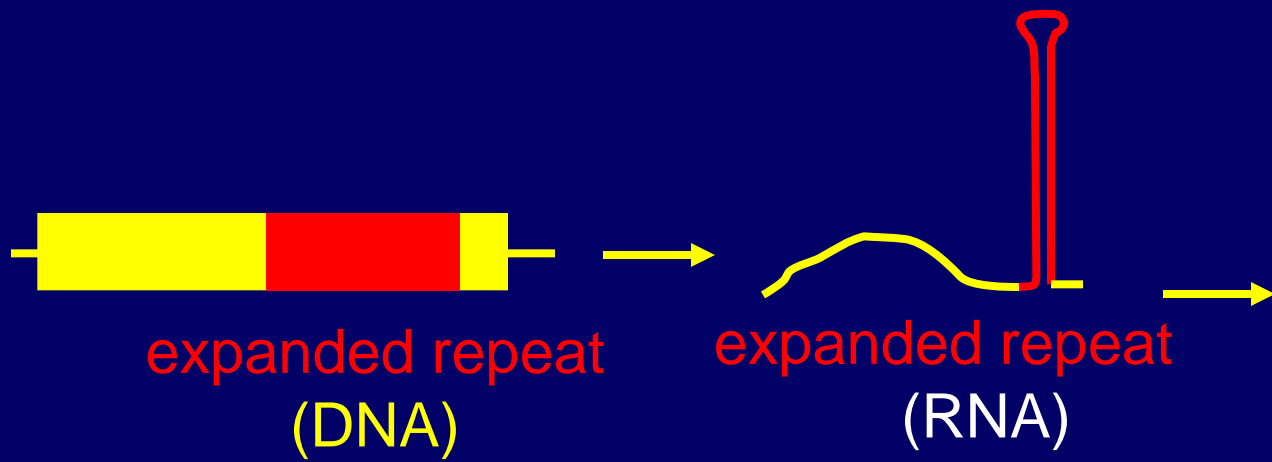
*HSA<sup>LR</sup>* Tg mouse



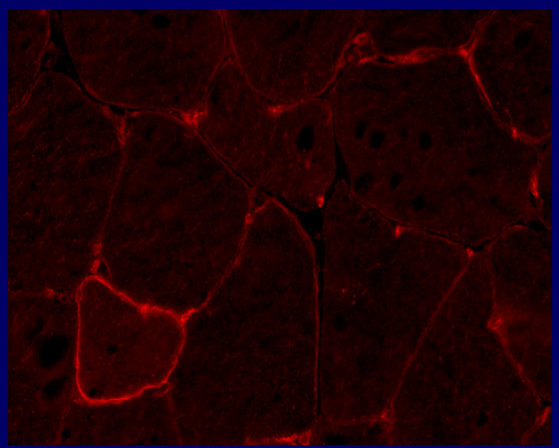
normal human muscle



myotonic dystrophy



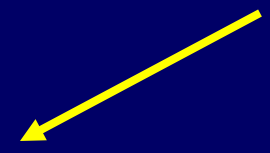
nuclear RNA foci



myotonia

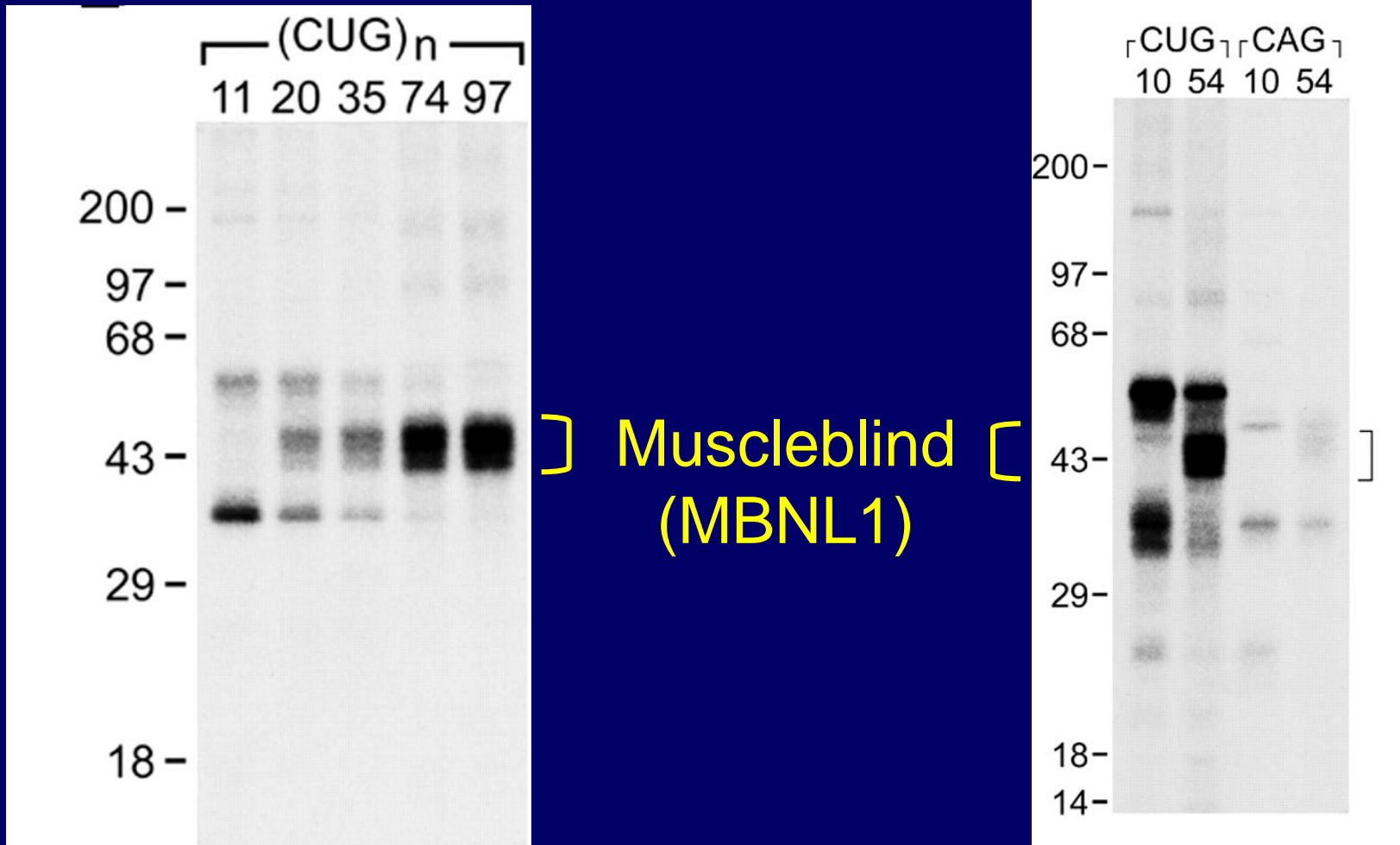
*trans*-interference with regulation of alternative splicing

loss of chloride channel

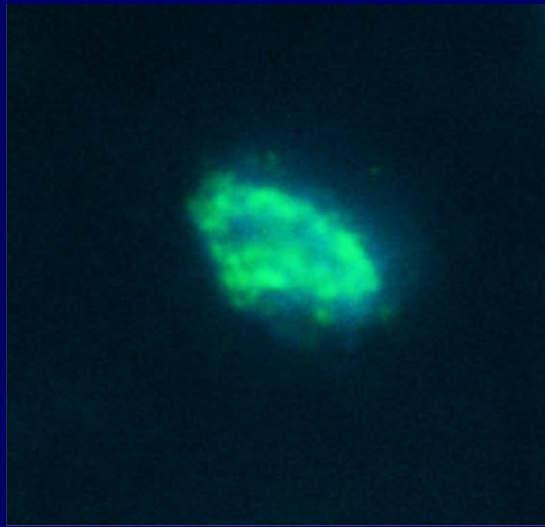




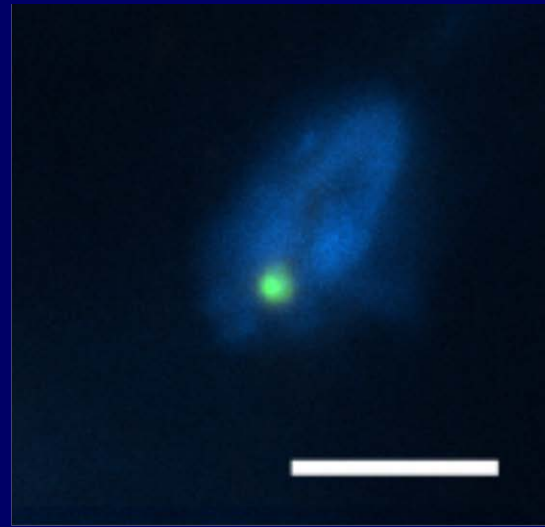
# Recruitment of human muscleblind proteins to (CUG)<sub>n</sub> expansions associated with DM1



# Distribution of Muscleblind 1 in the muscle nucleus

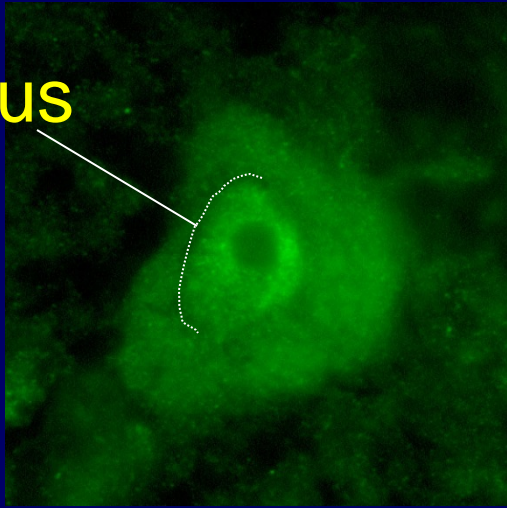


Normal



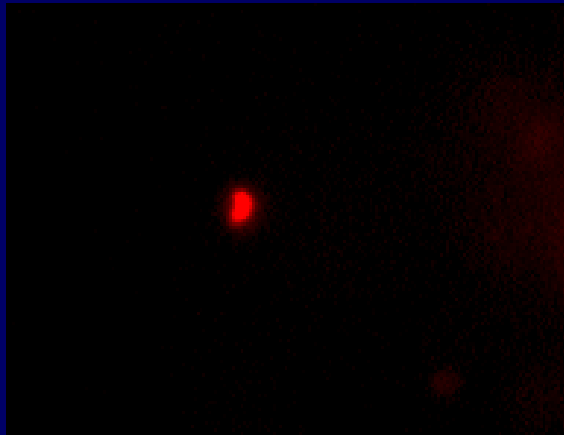
DM1

nucleus

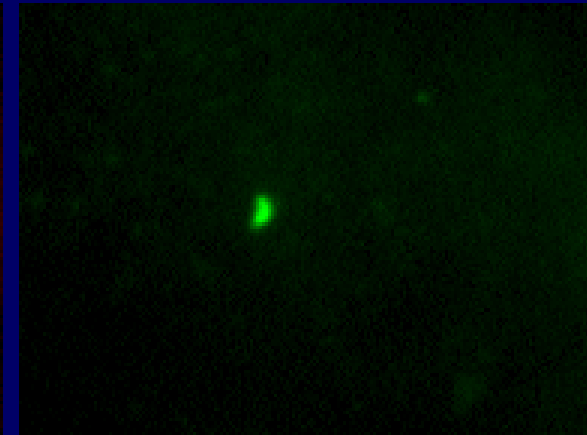


Distribution of muscleblind 1 protein in cortical neurons

non-disease control



triplet repeat  
RNA



muscleblind 1

DM1

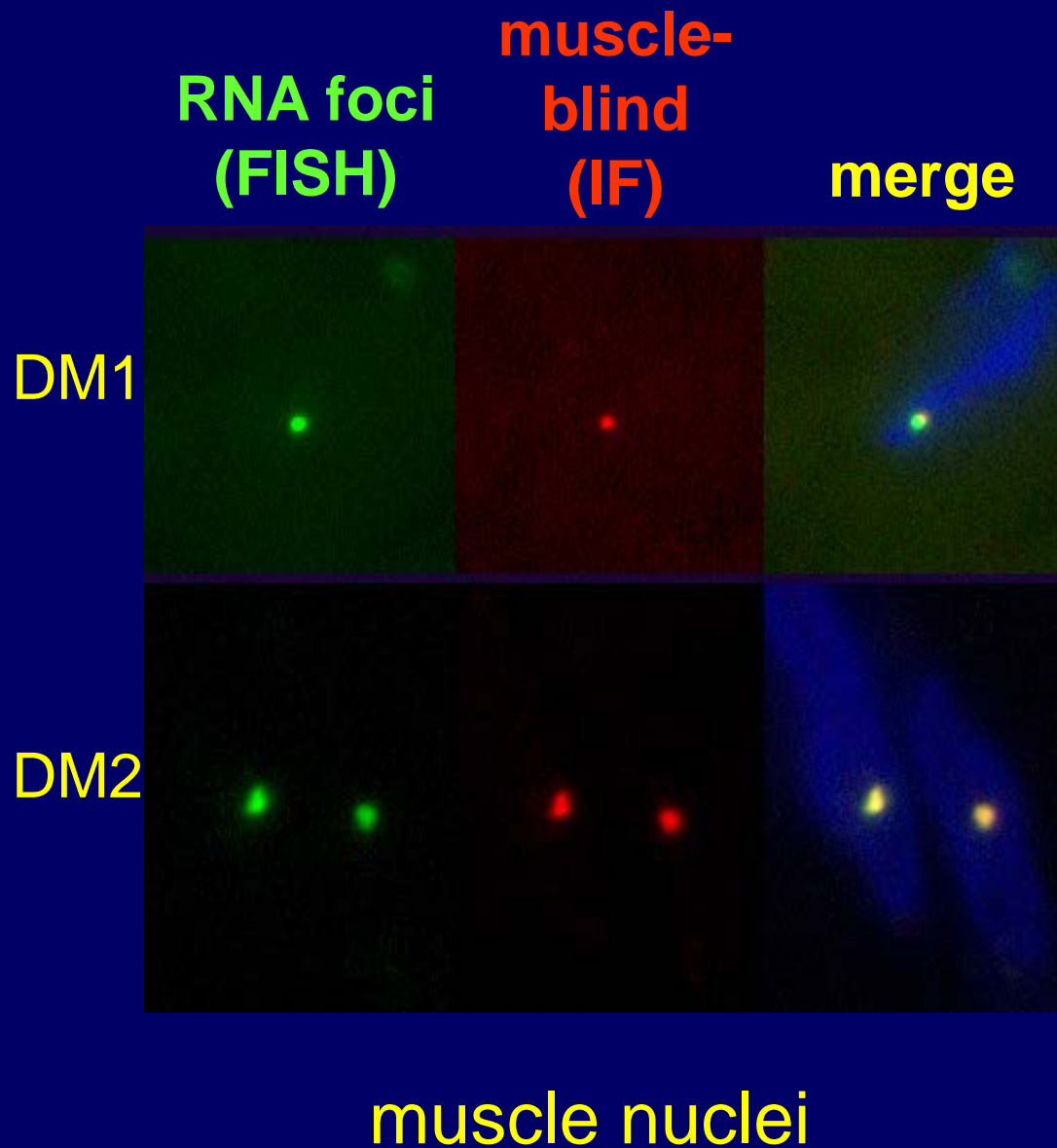


merge

# Myotonic Dystrophy Type 2 Caused by a CCTG Expansion in Intron 1 of *ZNF9*

Christina L. Liquori,<sup>1,2</sup> Kenneth Ricker,<sup>4</sup> Melinda L. Moseley,<sup>1,2</sup>  
Jennifer F. Jacobsen,<sup>1,2</sup> Wolfram Kress,<sup>5</sup> Susan L. Naylor,<sup>6</sup>  
John W. Day,<sup>1,3\*</sup> Laura P. W. Ranum<sup>1,2\*</sup>

Myotonic dystrophy (DM), the most common form of muscular dystrophy in adults, can be caused by a mutation on either chromosome 19q13 (DM1) or 3q21 (DM2/PROMM). DM1 is caused by a CTG expansion in the 3' untranslated region of the dystrophia myotonica–protein kinase gene (*DMPK*). Several mechanisms have been invoked to explain how this mutation, which does not alter the protein-coding portion of a gene, causes the specific constellation of clinical features characteristic of DM. We now report that DM2 is caused by a CCTG expansion (mean ~5000 repeats) located in intron 1 of the zinc finger protein 9 (*ZNF9*) gene. Parallels between these mutations indicate that microsatellite expansions in RNA can be pathogenic and cause the multisystemic features of DM1 and DM2.

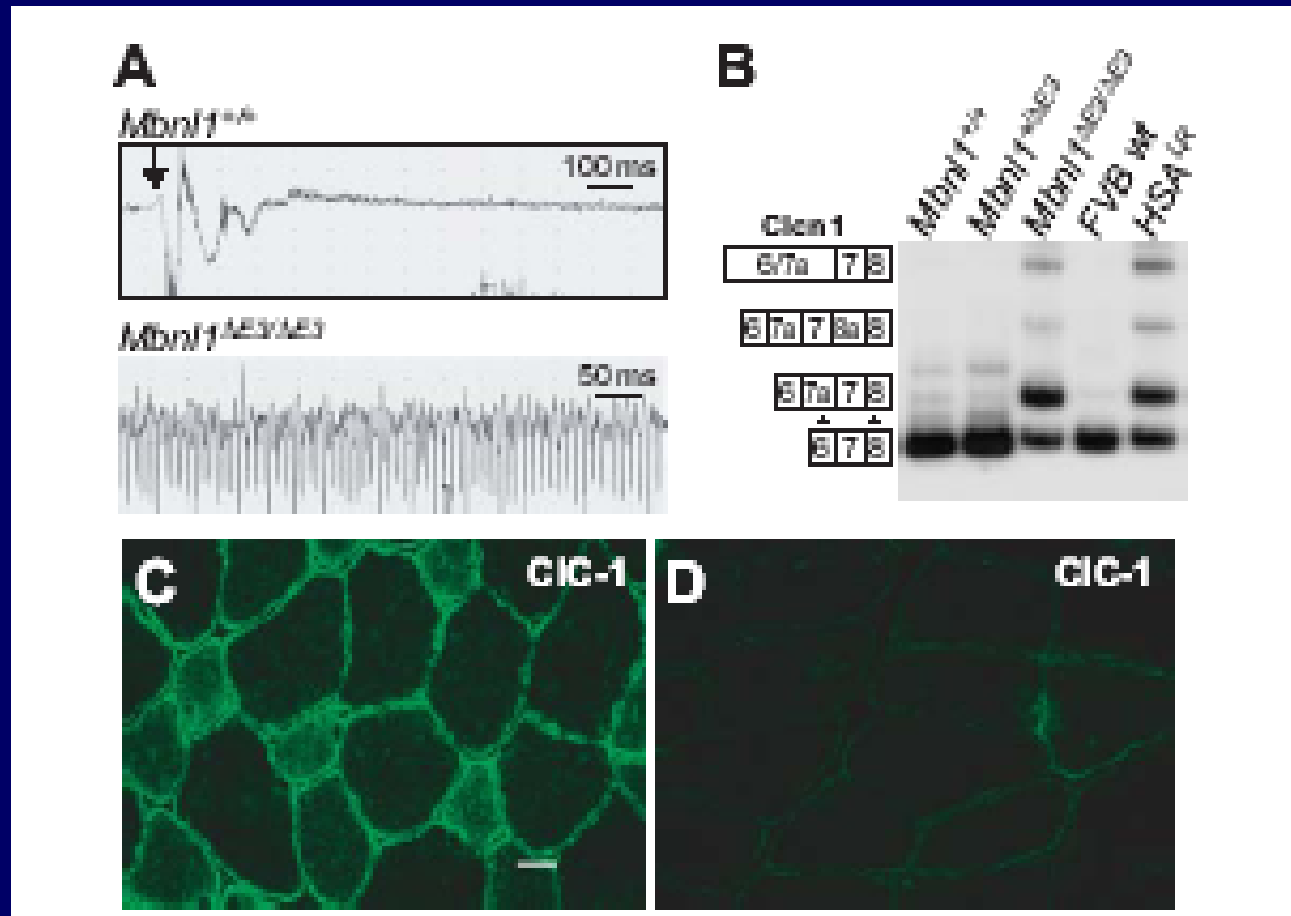


# A Muscleblind Knockout Model for Myotonic Dystrophy

Rahul N. Kanadia,<sup>1</sup> Karen A. Johnstone,<sup>1</sup> Ami Mankodi,<sup>3</sup>  
Codrin Lungu,<sup>3</sup> Charles A. Thornton,<sup>3</sup> Douglas Esson,<sup>2</sup>  
Adrian M. Timmers,<sup>2</sup> William W. Hauswirth,<sup>2</sup>  
Maurice S. Swanson<sup>1\*</sup>

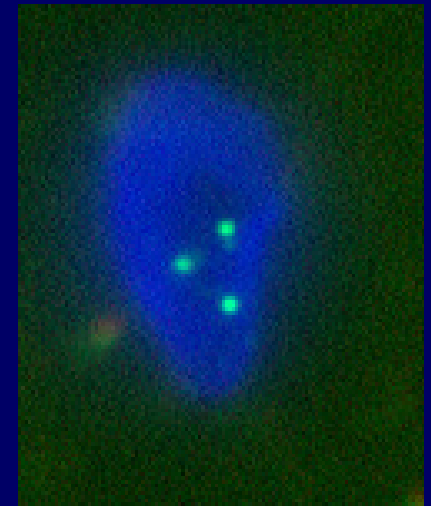
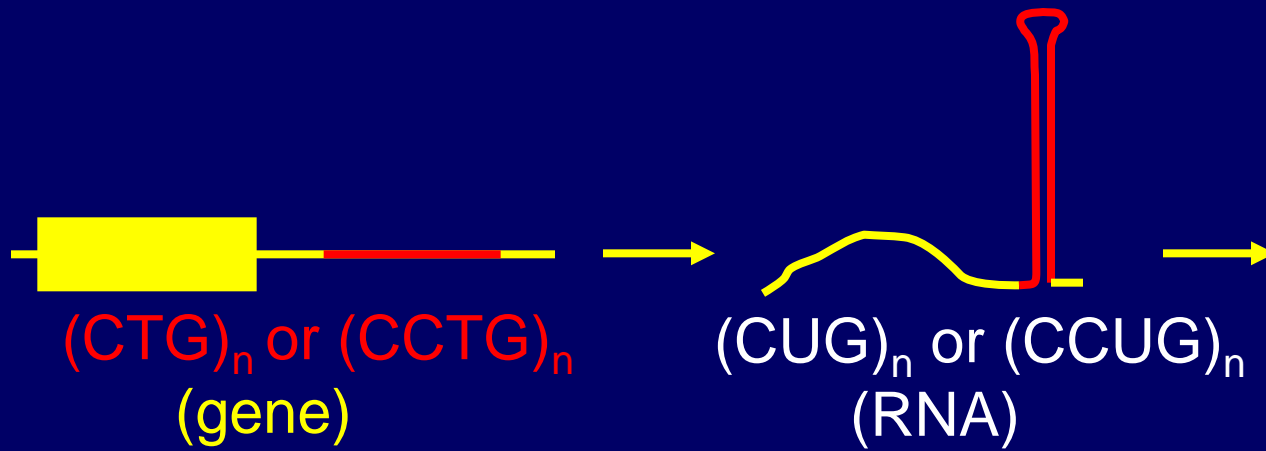
The neuromuscular disease myotonic dystrophy (DM) is caused by microsatellite repeat expansions at two different genomic loci. Mutant DM transcripts are retained in the nucleus together with the muscleblind (Mbnl) proteins, and these abnormal RNAs somehow interfere with pre-mRNA splicing regulation. Here, we show that disruption of the mouse *Mbnl1* gene leads to muscle, eye, and RNA splicing abnormalities that are characteristic of DM disease. Our results support the hypothesis that manifestations of DM can result from sequestration of specific RNA binding proteins by a repetitive element expansion in a mutant RNA.

# Isoform specific knockout of *Mbnl1*

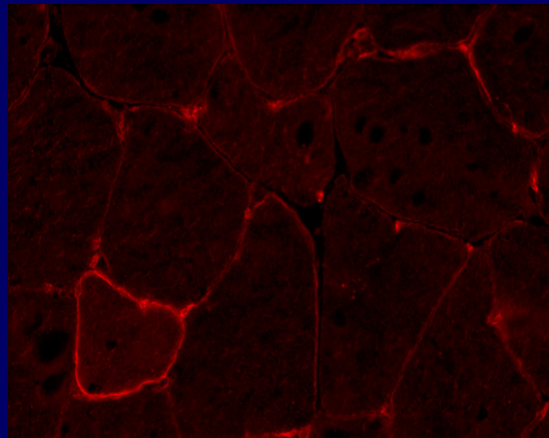


wild-type

*Mbnl1<sup>Δex3/Δex3</sup>*



RNA inclusions



loss of CIC-1 protein

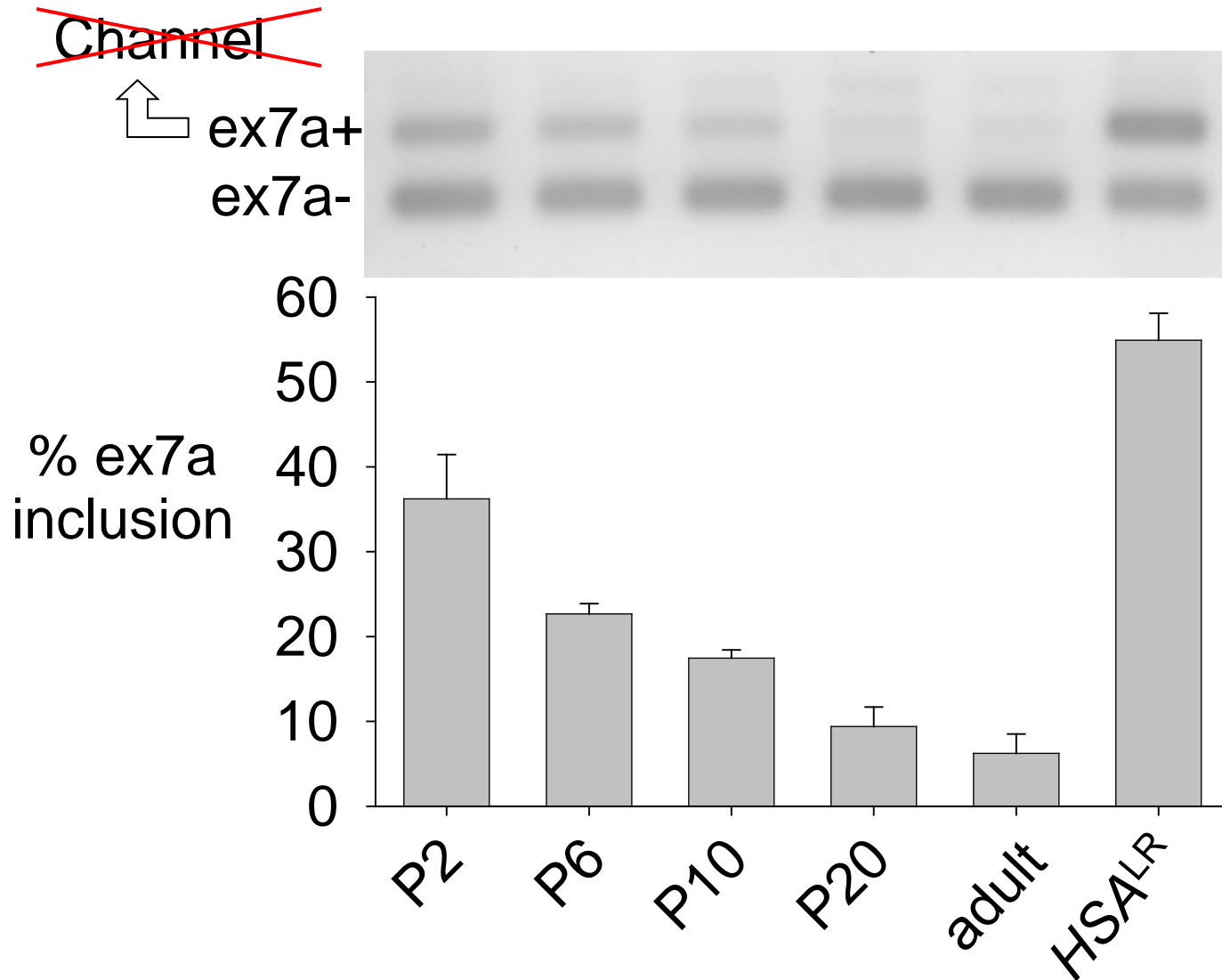
myotonia

abnormal splicing of pre-mRNA

sequestration of muscleblind protein



# Postnatal regulation of CIC-1 splicing in WT mice



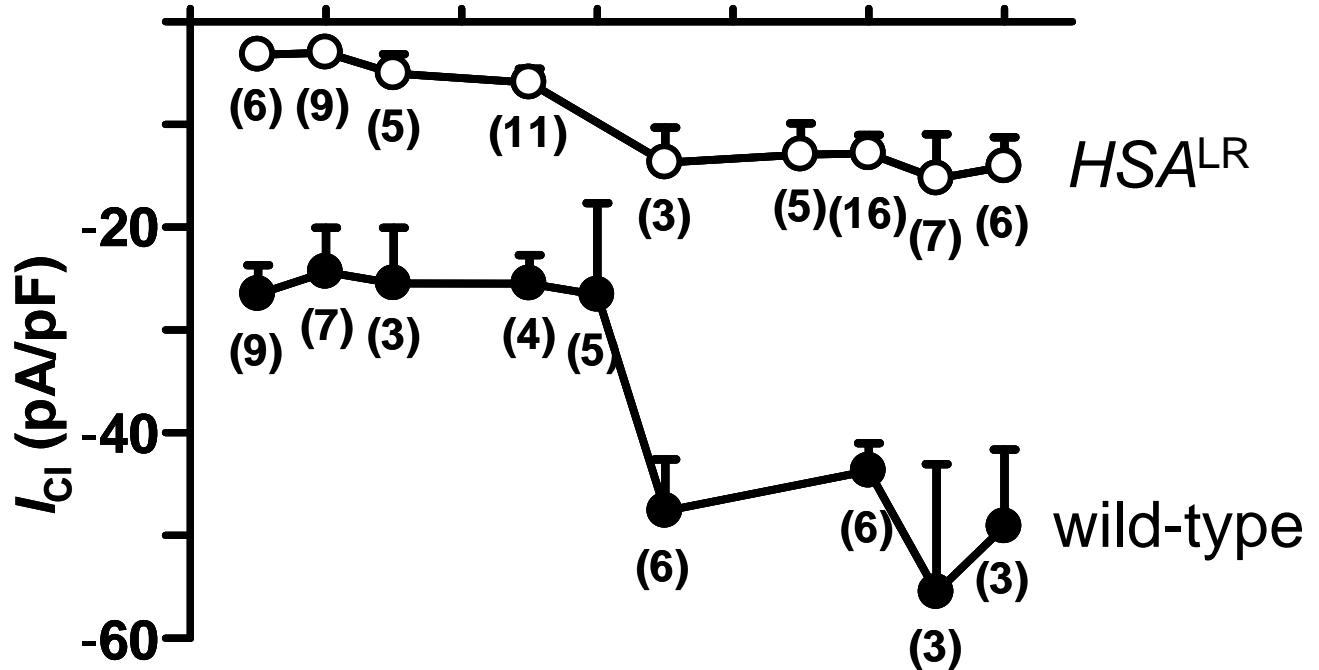
P=postnatal day

# Clc1 current density in FDB fibers

DAYS POSTNATAL

10 12 14 16 18 20

increasing  
Cl current  
density  
↓



Bob Dirksen  
John Lueck

## Summary of DM splicing story

Myotonia in DM results mainly from CI channelopathy

↳ CI channelopathy results from a splicing defect

↳ Splicing defect:

1. can be explained by loss of function for a single splicing factor, MBNL1
2. results from sequestration of MBNL1 in nuclear foci of RNA
3. similar in DM1, DM2, and mouse models
4. phenotypes in DM result partly from expression in mature muscle of splice isoforms that normally occur in immature muscle
5. compromise a developmental program of alternative splicing

# One view of Human Genetics

## Rare Monogenic Disorders

