



## What is a pedigree?

**pedigree** flowchart that uses symbols to show inheritance of a trait within a biological family

• Founding Parents are the male and female at the very top of the pedigree.

**Non-founding Parents:** one parent is from the original founders and the other is marrying into the family.



male female mating Roman numerals 3

symbolize generations.

Arabic numbers symbolize individuals within a given generation.

Birth order, within each group of offspring, is drawn left to right, first-born to last-born.

affected individuals

Non founding mother (married in)

## **Pedigrees Trace Inherited Genetic Disorders**

A genetic disorder is an illness that is caused by changes to a person's genetic material. These changes can range from alterations of a single gene to changes to the structure and number of entire chromosomes.

XnXn

ΧqΧ

XuX

(nXu

nXp

XpY

XuY

**XnXp** 

When geneticists want to learn about the inheritance of human traits, they collect as much information as possible about the history of a biological family and use this information to create a diagram called a pedigree.





# Review of Terminology

**autosome** chromosome other than sex chromosome

- Autosomal dominant is a pattern of inheritance characteristic of some genetic diseases. Autosomal means that the gene in question is located on one of the numbered, or non-sex, chromosomes. Dominant means that a single copy of the disease-associated mutation is enough to cause the disease. i.e Aa: the A carriers the disorder
- Autosomal recessive is one of several ways that a trait, disorder, or disease can be passed down through families. An autosomal recessive disorder means two copies of an abnormal gene must be present in order for the disease or trait to develop.

## **♦**a carriers the disorder

\*i.e aa: has the disorder or Aa is a carrier of the disorder

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autosomes					sex chromosomes		



## **Review of Terminology**

\*X-linked recessive inheritance is a way a genetic trait or condition can be passed down from parent to child through mutations (changes) in a gene on the X chromosome.

In males (who only have one X chromosome), a mutation in the copy of the gene on the single X chromosome causes the condition.

Females would need two copies of the gene, one on each X chromosome.





## **General Assumptions**

- In the problems that follow, you'll be reasoning about the mode of transmission of genetic traits that are controlled by one gene, with two alleles, a dominant allele and a recessive allele.
- We also make three simplifying assumptions:
- An individual in the pedigree will have the disorder (express the phenotype associated with a trait) when the individual carries at least one dominant allele of a dominant trait, or two recessive alleles of a recessive a trait.
- \*2. In each problem, the trait in question is rare in the general population. Assume for the purposes of these problems that individuals who marry into the pedigree in the second and third generations are not carriers. This does not apply to the founding parents - either or both of the individuals at the top of the pedigree could be carriers.
- 3. Not-Y-Linked. The causative genes in these problems may be autosomal or X-Linked, but are not Y-linked.



# Analyzing a Human Pedigree

### **♦**5 Key Clues

- ✤There are five things to remember in reasoning about pedigrees.
- (1) A unaffected female (white circle) or male (white square) individual cannot have any alleles of a dominant disorder. (because a single allele of a dominant trait causes an individual to be affected).
- (2) Individuals marrying into the family are assumed to not be carriers of recessive traits (because the trait is rare in the population)
- (3) An unaffected individual can be a carrier (have one allele) of a recessive trait. (because two alleles of a recessive trait are required for an individual to be affected)
- (4) When a trait is X-linked, a single recessive allele is sufficient for a male to be affected. (because the male only has one allele of an X-linked trait)
- (5) A father transmits his allele of X-linked genes to his daughters, but not his sons. A mother transmits an allele of X-linked genes to both her daughters and her sons.



## **Patterns that Indicate A Recessive Trait**

The disease must be recessive if any affected individual has 2 unaffected parents.

Since this is a genetic disease at least one parent must have an allele for the disease.

If neither parent is affected, the trait cannot be dominant.





## Patterns that Indicate An Autosomal Recessive Trait

If any affected daughter has 2 unaffected parents the disease must be autosomal recessive and not x linked.

An affected individual must inherit a recessive allele from both parents, so both parents must have an allele.

If the father had a recessive Xlinked allele, he would have to be affected (since he only has one X-linked allele).





#### **Autosomal Recessive**

Cannot be dominant as unaffected parents could not have an affected offspring

Parents MUST be heterozygous



## **Patterns that Indicate a Dominant Trait**

The disease must be dominant if every affected child of founding parents has an affected parent.

The unaffected mother, who is marrying in, does not carry an allele for the disease; so the affected child inherits an allele only from the affected father.

No child could be affected by a single autosomal recessive allele, or X-linked recessive allele, so the trait is dominant.





## Patterns that Indicate an Autosomal Dominant Trait

When an affected son of nonfounding parents has an affected father the disease must be autosomal dominant.

A father does not transmit Xlinked alleles to a son, so the disease cannot be X-linked dominant.





#### **Autosomal Dominant**

Cannot be recessive as affected parents could not have an unaffected offspring

Parents MUST be heterozygous



## Lets try some

What type of inheritance pattern is shown by this pedigree?

## It is autosomal dominant

Both parents have it but one child does not so it cannot be recessive.



This male does not have it and his X chromosome had to come from his mother so it cannot be x linked.



> Daughter and son have it but neither parent does so it has to be recessive

## It is autosomal recessive



This female has the disorder and neither her father or mother has it, if it was X linked her father would have to have it, so it cannot be X linked



# It is sex linked recessive

Son has it but neither parent does and the father is marrying from outside so cannot be a carrier. This means its X linked



It is autosomal recessive

This female has the disorder and her father does not so it cannot be x linked

Daughter has it but neither parent does so it has to be recessive



> Dominant traits will never skip a generation

It is autosomal dominant Cannot be X linked because this female has it and her mother cant be a carrier because she is marrying into the family



An affected son who has a father with the disorder and the mother once again cannot be a carrier means that it is dominant

## All else fails try them by writing possibilities on

them.

XnXr

XpX

XnY

XnXp

We are going to trial and error autosomal recessive this is the one from earlier that was sex linked recessive Since the female is aa the father has to be Aa



parents or fill in the ones you know. In this case we will start with the parents One has to be aa and the other has to be A? because it does not have the disorder

A? aa A? **IMPOSSIBLE** 

It cant be autosomal recessive!

The male on the left has to be AA because he is marrying in so cannot be a carrier

## All else fails try them by writing possibilities on

them.

We are going to trial and error autosomal dominant this is the one from earlier that was sex linked recessive

XpX XnY XuX XnXp XnXn XnXp XρY

XnXn

In this case A = disorder A = no disorder If possible start with the parents or fill in the ones you know. In this case we will start with the parents but we are unsure of one. One has to be aa and the other has to be A? because it has the disorder

Now we work downwards from there.

It cant be autosomal dominant After completing their first child we know that the male parent has to be Aa. So we write that in



IMPOSSIBLE

This next female has to be AA because the rules of pedigrees say they are not allowed to be carriers. Same for the female on the left has to be aa

## All else fails try them by writing possibilities on

them. We are going to trial and error sex linked - this is the one from earlier that was sex linked recessive

Now we work downwards from there.

X<sup>R</sup> = normal X<sup>r</sup> = disorder Y = normal male If possible start with the parents or fill in the ones you know. In this case we will start with the parents but we are unsure of the female.

In this case

XnXr

XpX

XuX

XnXn

**XnXp** 

XρY

XnY

XnXp

The male has to be X<sup>R</sup>Y because he does not have the disorder and the female is X<sup>r</sup>X<sup>r</sup> because she has the disorder.



Everything worked! It is sex linked recessive

Blood Types can also be shown in pedigrees. In order to do blood types you will have to work them out. What is the probability that a IV-1 will have blood type AB?

As you can see we do not know the parents, so the best way to start is with O blood type that has to be ii and AB that has to be I<sup>A</sup>I<sup>B</sup>

XnXr

ΧqΧ

XnY

nXn

nXp

XpY

XnY

XnXp

Now know that both of the parents had at least one i.

Now we look at the B. It has to be I<sup>B</sup>i because of the O above it. Which means that person II-2 has to be I<sup>B</sup>i so I-1 has to be I<sup>B</sup>i as well

Now female III-3 has to be I<sup>A</sup>i and we can complete a Punnett square.





There is a 25% chance that person IV-1 will have AB blood type



# Activity 14.5

## Analyzing Pedigrees



# Exit Card #7