# Lecture 1. Introduction to Cytogenetics

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- Genetics is the science of the laws of heredity and variability
- CYTOGENETICS is the area of genetics, studying the cytological basis of heredity and variability
- CELLULAR GENETICS is the field of genetics that studies extrachromosomal (cytoplasmic) heredity
- The main subject of CYTOGENETICS is CHROMOSOME, its organization, functioning and inheritance
- Cytogenetics uses methods of genetics and cytology and is closely related to the sections of these sciences: molecular genetics, cytochemistry, karyology and others.



# The laws of inheritance

- 1) The law of uniformity
- 2) The law of segregation
- 3) The law of independent assortment
- 4) The chromosome theory of inheritance





Gregor Mendel, 1822-1884

# The laws of inheritance

- 1) The *law of uniformity* refers to the fact that when two homozygotes with different alleles are crossed, all of the offspring in the F1 generation are identical and heterozygous.
- 2) The *law of segregation* refers to the observation that each individual possesses two genes for a particular characteristic, only one of which can be transmitted at any one time.
- 3) The *law of independent assortment* refers to the fact that members of different gene pair segregate to offspring independently of one another.

# The laws of inheritance

## The chromosomal basis of inheritance

Boveri and Sutton's chromosome theory of inheritance states that genes are found at specific locations on chromosomes, and that the behavior of chromosomes during meiosis can explain Mendel's laws of inheritance.

Thomas Hunt Morgan, who studied fruit flies, provided the first strong confirmation of the chromosome theory.





Walter Sutton, 1877-1916

Theodor Boveri, 1862-1915



Thomas Hunt Morgan, 1866-1945

#### **The chromosome theory of inheritance**

1) Genes are located on chromosomes.

2) Genes are located on the chromosome in a linear sequence.

3) Different chromosomes contain a different number of genes. In addition, the set of genes for each of the non-homologous chromosomes is unique.

4) Alleles of genes occupy identical loci in homologous chromosomes.

#### The chromosome theory of inheritance

5) The genes of one chromosome form a linkage group, that is, they are inherited mainly in a cohesive manner (due to which the linked inheritance of certain features occurs). The number of linkage groups is equal to the haploid number of chromosomes of this type (in the homogametic sex) or more by 1 (in heterogametic sex).

6) The clutch is broken as a result of crossing-over, the frequency of which is directly proportional to the distance between the genes in the chromosome (therefore, the adhesion force is inversely related to the distance between the genes).

7) Each biological species is characterized by a certain set of chromosomes - a karyotype.

#### **Chromosome.** The levels of DNA organization



- cell division: equal distribution of DNA → chromosomes form
- 2 chromatids = chromosome  $\rightarrow$  are identical
- 1 DNA molecule = chromatid



### The functional and structural components of metaphase chromosome





Cell cycle





Mitosis

## **Chromosome number in various animal**

| Animal | Total number of chromosomes | Animal     | Total number of chromosomes |
|--------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Human  | 46                          | Toad       | 22                          |
| Cat    | 38                          | Chimpanzee | 48                          |
| Dog    | 78                          | Mosquito   | 6                           |
| Pig    | 38                          | Earthworm  | 36                          |
| Goat   | 60                          | Chicken    | 78                          |
| Sheep  | 54                          | Fruit fly  | 8                           |
| Cattle | 60                          | Crayfish   | >100                        |
| Horse  | 64                          | Mallard    | 80                          |
| Donkey | 62                          | Rat        | 42                          |
| Rabbit | 44                          | Mouse      | 40                          |

### **Hereditary conditions:**

- Single gene disorders (albinism);
- Chromosome abnormalities (Down syndrome);
- Multifactorial disorders (diabetes mellitus);
- Acquired somatic genetic disease (cancer)



Histogram showing the rapid increase in recognition of conditions and characteristics (traits) showing singlegene inheritance (Adapted from McKusick 1998 and OMIM)

### **Methods of chromosomal analysis**

- Chromosome preparation and chromosome banding (G-, Q-, R-, C-banding, high-resolution banding );
  Korveture analysis;
- Karyotype analysis;
- Fluorescent *in-situ* hybridization (FISH);
- Comparative genomic hybridization (CGH)







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### **Major new developments**

The *Human Genome Project* (HGP) was an international scientific research project with the goal of determining the sequence of nucleotide base pairs that make up human DNA, and of identifying and mapping all of the genes of the human genome from both a physical and a functional standpoint. The Human Genome Project was declared complete in 2003.



### **Major new developments**

*Genome 10K (G10K)* is a project to sequence the genome of at least one individual from each vertebrate genus, approximately 10,000 genomes. This target number could expand in the future to consider all ~66,000 named species of vertebrates. The Genome10K project was established in 2009.



# Thank you for attention!