# GENETIC COUNSELING, FAMILY PLANNING, IVF AND PGD

Jacinda Sampson MD PhD August 18, 2012

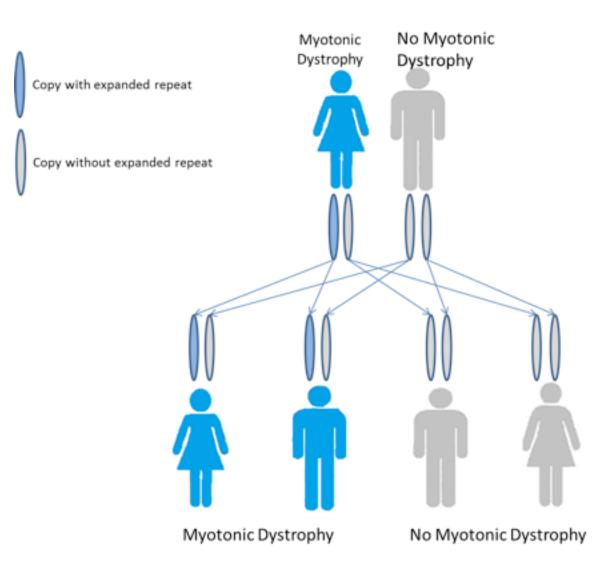
- What is genetic counseling?
  - Dialogue between you and counselor
    - Counselor can be:
      - Physician with experience with genetic disorders
      - Genetic counselor

- Who is it for?
  - ANYONE with questions about a genetic disorder
    - With or without symptoms
    - With or without a definite diagnosis
    - At risk for a genetic disorder
    - At any age
    - Planning a family at this time
    - Not planning a family at this time
    - Whether or not interested in genetic testing
    - JUST CURIOUS

- What information will I get?
  - Information about the genetic disorder
  - How it is inherited
  - Recurrence risk (how it is passed on)
  - Testing options
    - Genetic and non-genetic
  - The pros and cons of testing
    - Informed consent

- genetic testing discrimination risks
  - GINA act (Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act -2008)
  - protects asymptomatic people from health insurance discrimination
  - Does not apply if symptomatic (pre-existing condition)
  - Does not apply to:
    - life insurance
    - long term disability insurance

- How is it done?
  - Private, confidential
  - Non-directive
    - Will not make decisions for you
    - · Will not tell you what to do
  - Supportive
    - Emotions and stress related to diagnosis and testing issues
    - Emotions and stress related to living with or caring for someone with a genetic disorder



- 50% chance of inheriting abnormal gene
- 50% chance at <u>each</u> pregnancy
- Does not alternate or "even out"



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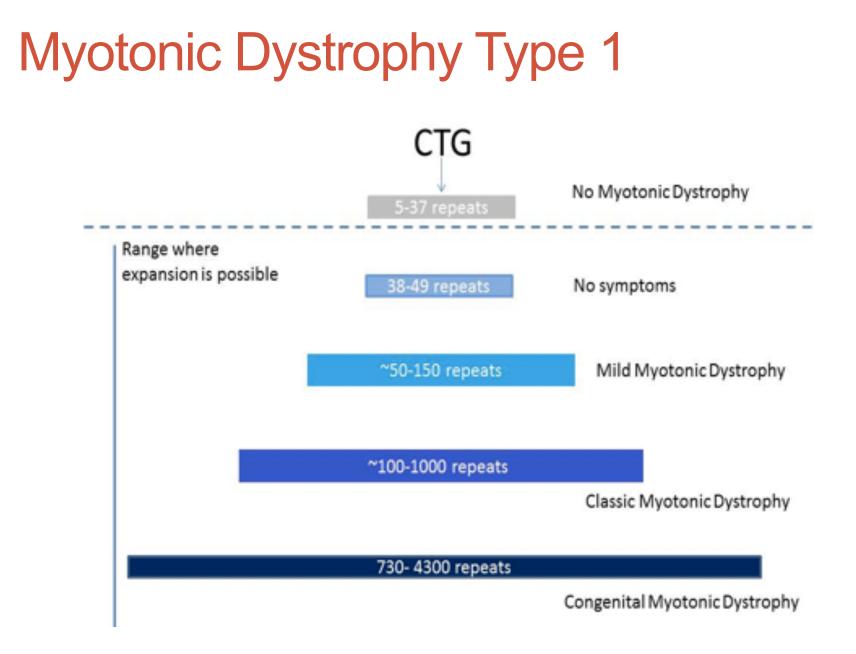


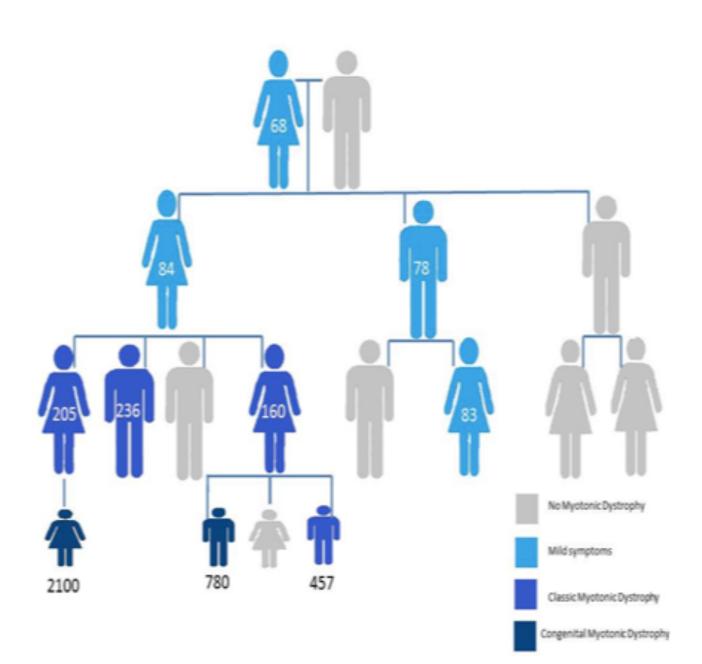


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# Sperm repeat expansion spermatogonium

- Repeat expansions <100 are more unstable when inherited from the father's side
- Even NORMAL repeat sizes show repeat number variation in sperm

Dean et al. Fertil. Steril. 2006:86:98-105 http://oscss-biology.wikispaces.com/Images

a)

primary spermatocyte

secondary spermatocytes

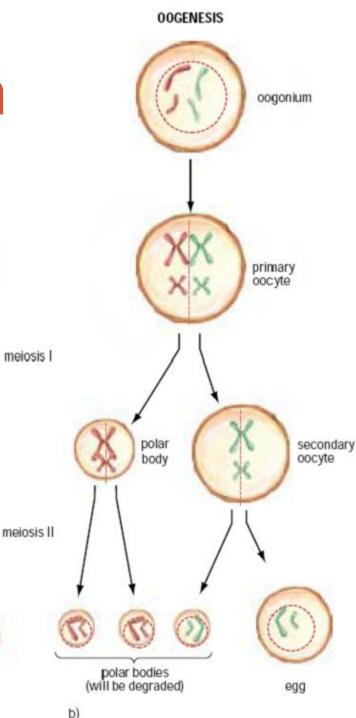
spermatids

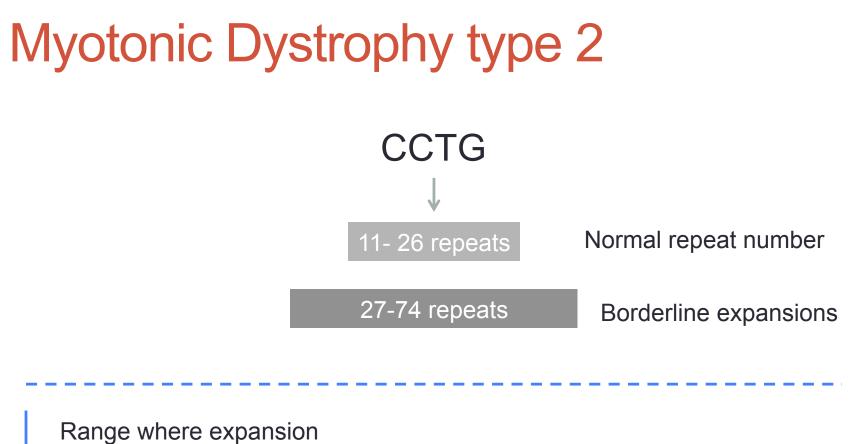


# Egg repeat expansion

- Occurred prior to fertilization
- Somatic mosaicism
  - Different tissues have different repeat sizes
  - Repeat size increases during development
  - Somatic expansion observed at 13-16 weeks (2<sup>nd</sup> trimester)

Dean et al. Fertil. Steril. 2006:86:98-105 http://oscss-biology.wikispaces.com/Images





Or contraction is possible

75-11,000 repeats

Myotonic dystrophy type 2

## **Family Planning**

- Unplanned pregnancy
  - 49% in 1994
  - 57% in 1987



Santelli et al, The Measurement and Meaning of Unintended Pregnancy, Perspect. On Sex and Reprod Health 2003: 32(2), 94

## **Planning options**

- No planning (allowing nature to take its course)
- Not having children
- Adoption
- Using a sperm donor or egg donor
- Prenatal genetic testing and pregnancy termination
- Using in vitro fertilization (IVF) and preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD)

### Myotonic Dystrophy and contraception

- Papers published = 0
- No information about effectiveness or side effects specific to myotonic dystrophy population
- Contraceptive methods only work if used
- Talk to your physician (family practice or OB/gyn) about specific types

## **Contraceptive options**

Men

- reversible
  - Condoms
  - Spermicide
- Irreversible
  - vasectomy

#### Women

- Reversible
  - Diaphragm or cervical cap
  - IUD (intrauterine device)
  - Hormonal contraceptives
    - Oral contraceptive pill
    - Contraceptive patch
    - Contrceptive shots
    - Contraceptive implants
  - Rhythm method
- Irreversible
  - Tubal ligation

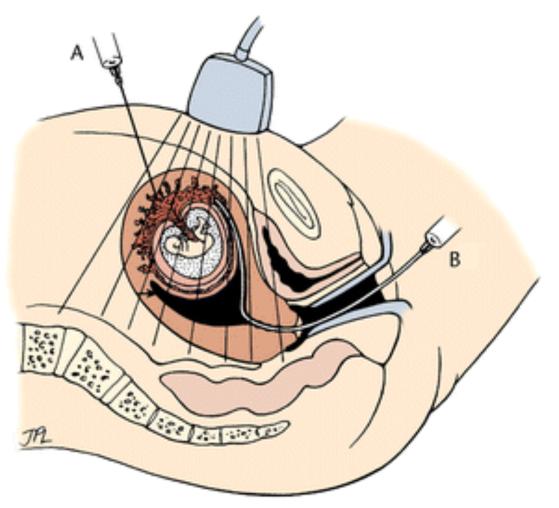
\*\*talk to your physician about what would be best for you

## **Prenatal Genetic testing**

- Chorionic villus sampling
  - >12 weeks
- Amniocentesis
  - 15-20 weeks
- Cordocentesis
  - >18 weeks
- Fetal skin biopsy
  - >18 weeks

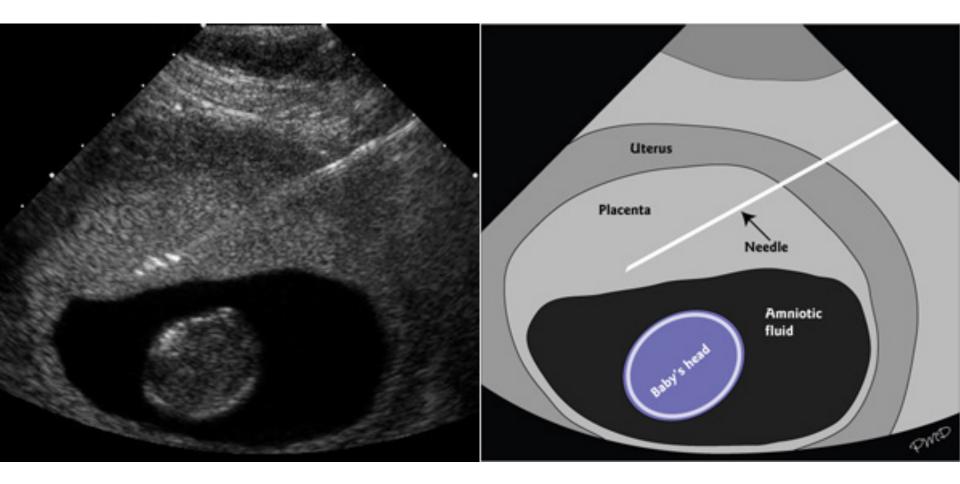
- Results take 2-3 weeks
- Information for
  - Preparing for pregnancy or
  - Termination of pregnancy

### **Chorionic Villus Sampling**

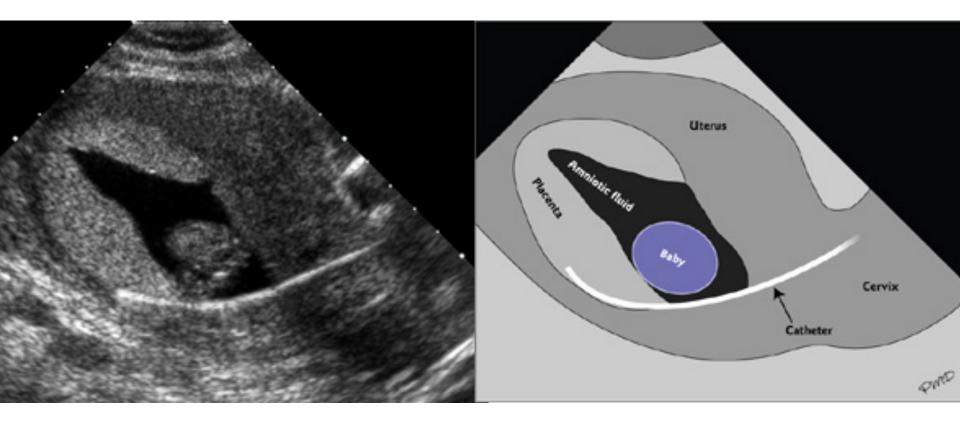


Phillips, S. E. 2001. Genetic Counselling. eLS.

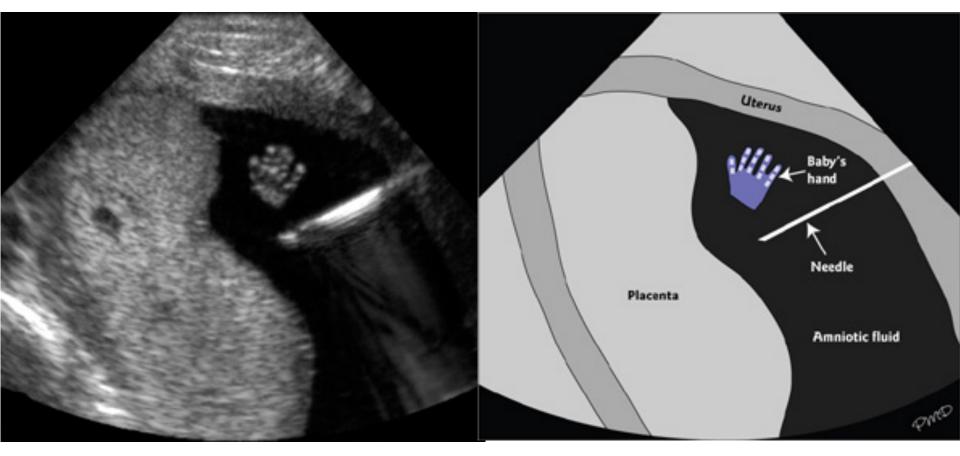
## Chorionic villus sampling



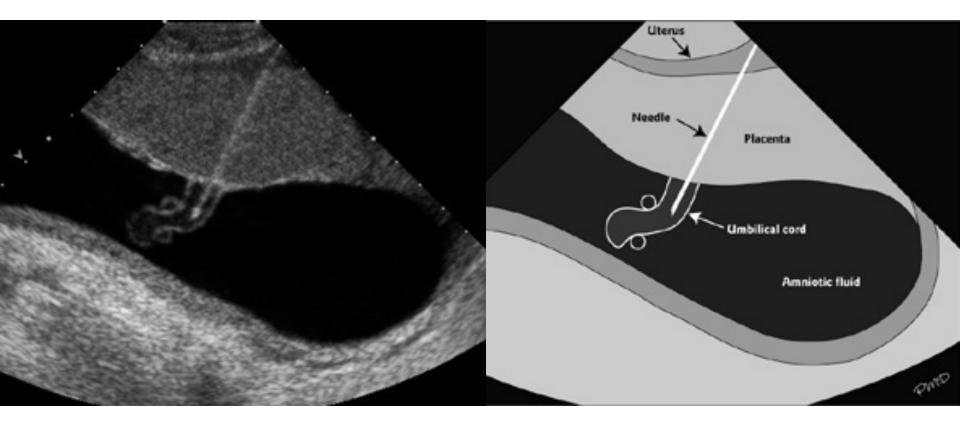
## Chorionic villus sampling



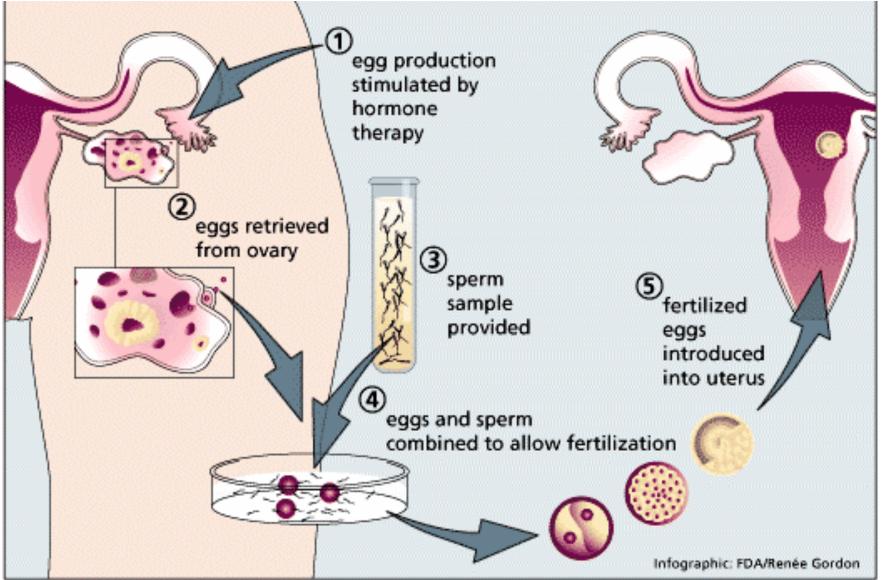
### Amniocentesis



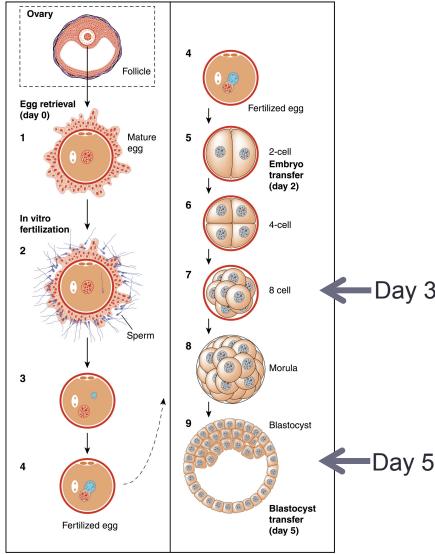
## **Umbilical blood sampling**



### In vitro fertilization



## **Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis**

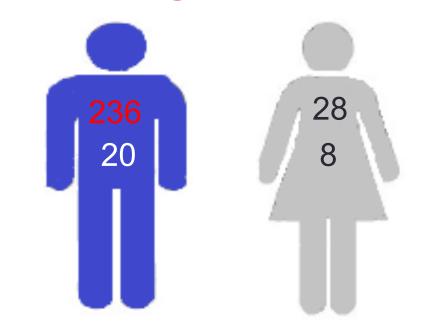


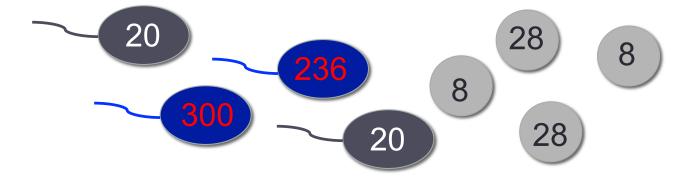
- 1-2 cells from each embryo are removed
- Each tested by PCR
- (polymerase chain reaction)
- Day 3 Can freeze embryos while awaiting gene test results

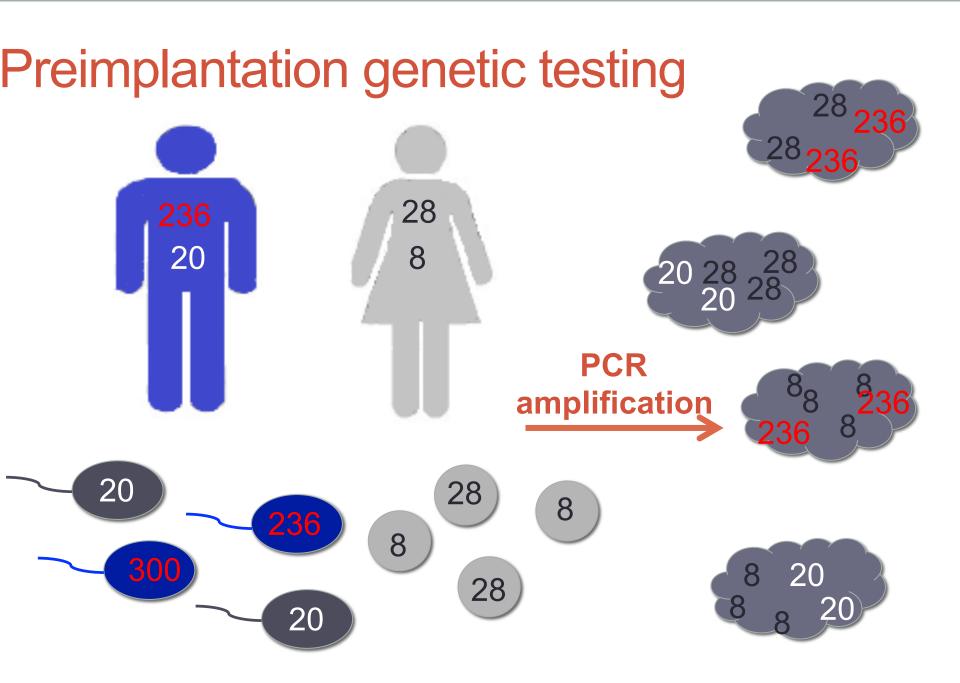
### **Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis**



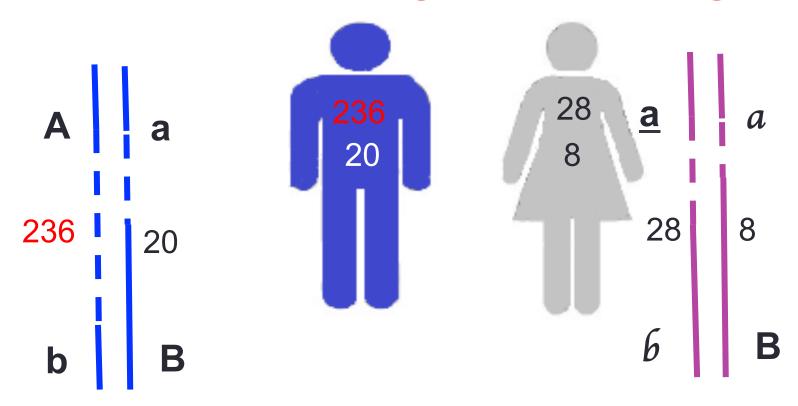
### **Preimplantation genetic testing**



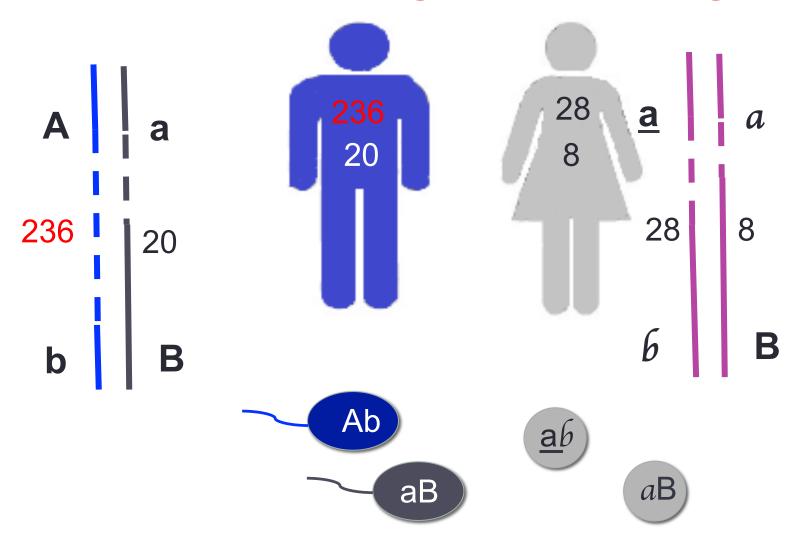




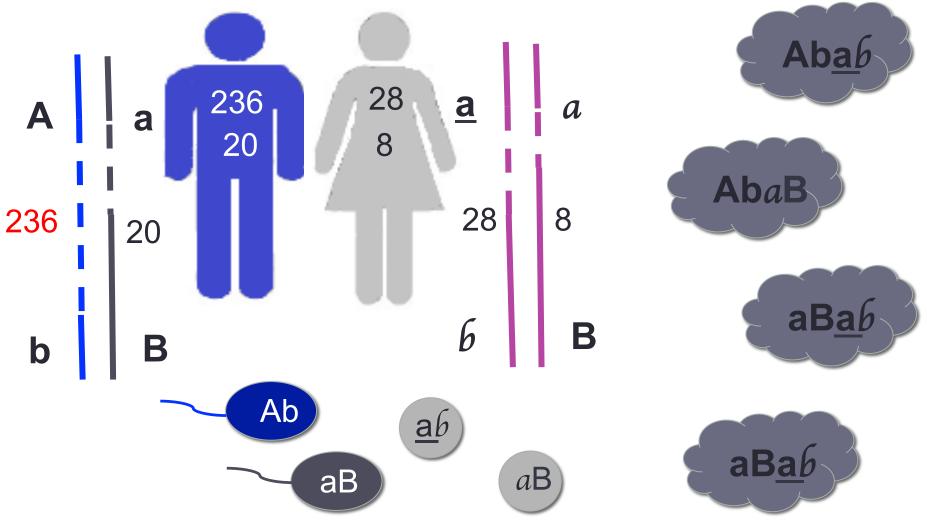
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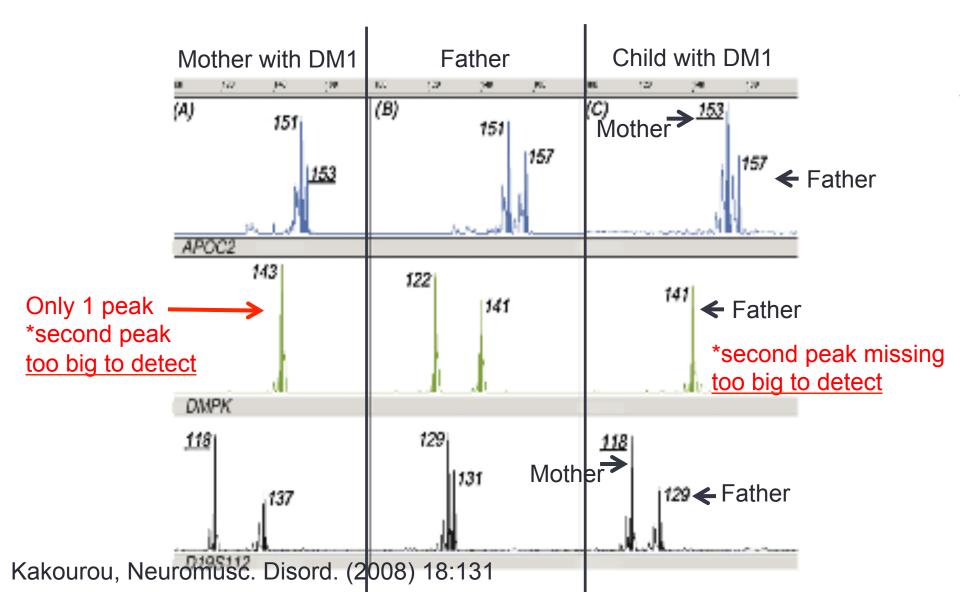
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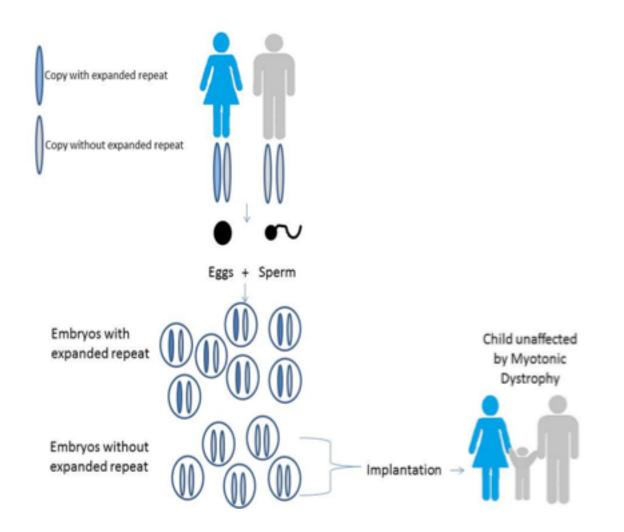


### Preimplantation genetic testingflanking markers



### Example of PCR for flanking markers





## In vitro fertilization in DM1

- No difference in:
  - Number of follicles (maturing eggs)
  - Endometrial thickness (lining of the womb)
  - Estrogen response
- Differences in:
  - Slower response to ovarian stimulation medications
    - Later human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) administration
  - Higher doses of stimulating medications needed
    - follicle stimulating hormone (FSH)
    - human menopausal gonadotropin (HMG)

Feyereisan, Hum. Reprod. (2006); 21(1):175

## Embryo implantation in DM1

- No differences in:
  - Implantation rate
  - Pregnancy rate (22% per embryo transferred)
- Differences in:
  - Higher number of cycles of implantation for a pregnancy
    - In this series, no successes on first cycle.

Feyereisan, Hum. Reprod. (2006); 21(1):175

## **IVF+PGD-** Case series Belgium

- 78 couples. Technique changed over time
  - Sperm injection
  - Implantation of up to 4 embryos
- Cycle 1: 49% implantation
- Cycle 2: 28% implantation
- Overall, 20%/cycle resulting in a live birth
- Overall, 78 couples -> total of 151 cycles ->49 children
- Pregnancy complications (8): preterm bleeding, failure to progress, premature rupture of membranes, eclampsia
- 8 babies admitted to NICU (5 briefly observed, 2 due to prematurity)

Verpoest et al, Hum. Reprod. (2008) 23(7):1654 DeRademaker, Euro J of Hum Gen (2009)27:1403 Verpoest et al, J Assist Reprod Genet (2010)27:327

#### IVF+PGD- Case series UK

- 17 couples, total of 22 IVF cycles, 6 children
- 12 cycles resulted in unaffected embryos for transfer
- Genetic testing inconclusive or failed in 24%
- 15 of the 17 couples had a family member affected by DM1
- 7 already had a child with DM1
- 2 had lost a child to congenital myotonic dystrophy
- 5 had already tried prenatal genetic testing and elective pregnancy termination
- 4 had infertility

Kakourou, Neuromusc. Disord. (2008)18:131

# Myotonic Dystrophy Type 1 and pregnancy risks

- Ectopic pregnancy
- Hypertension/ eclampsia
- Preterm vaginal bleeding
- Urinary tract infections
- Premature rupture of membranes
- Placenta problems 11%

Awater et al Eur J of Ob. & Gyn. & Reprod Biol. 2012; 162:153

Rudnick-Schoneborn et al. Neurology 2006;66; 579

- preterm labor delivery 31%
- Failure to progress in labor
- Cesarean delivery 37%
- Non-vertex
  presentation 35%

## Myotonic Dystrophy Type 2 and pregnancy risks

- preterm labor (12.6-50%)
- Preterm delivery (27%)

Awater et al Eur J of Ob. & Gyn. & Reprod Biol. 2012; 162:153 Rudnick-Schoneborn et al. Neurology 2006;66; 579

## Insurance and Fertility treatment

- 15 states mandate private insurance coverage for fertility treatment
  - Excludes self insured, small businesses
- BUT, only AK, CN, HI, IL, MD, MA, NJ, TX mandate IVF
- Conditions
  - May require failure to get pregnant by "less expensive means"
  - May exclude use of sperm or egg donor
  - Only covered for specific conditions (i.e., not necessarily myotonic dystrophy)
  - Genetic testing often not covered
  - Cryopreservation (freezing) of embryos may not be covered
- Out-of-pocket cost could range from \$20,000-83,000

http://ivfcostcalculator.com/index.html http://www.fertilitylifelines.com/payingfortreatment/state-mandatedinsurancelist.

#### IVF-34 years of progress



Wide-eyed Louise Brown pictured in hospital 18 hours after she was born. Today she's doing well. See Page Three



#### A DM blog http://apgdblog.blogspot.com



#### Conclusions- ask your medical team

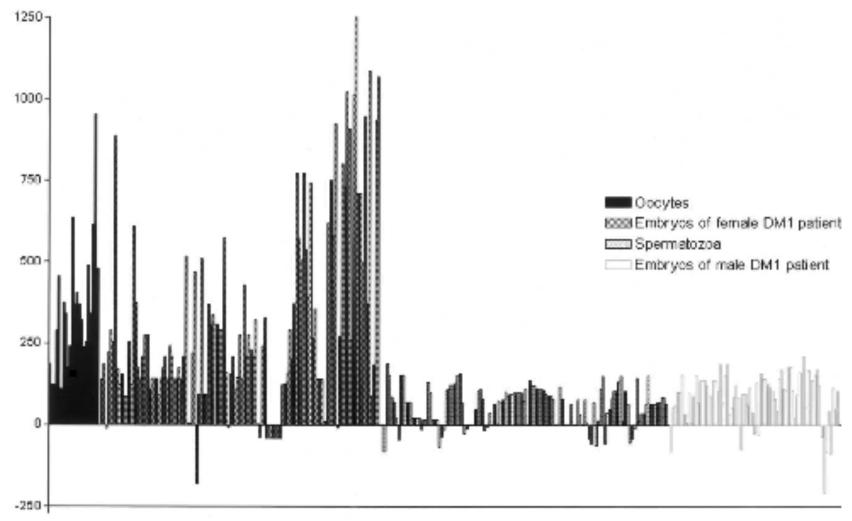
You have the right to have information to make decisions about your health and family planning

- Genetic counseling
- OB/Gyn
- Primary care physician
- Neuromuscular physician
- Local resources for IVF and PGD if you are interested

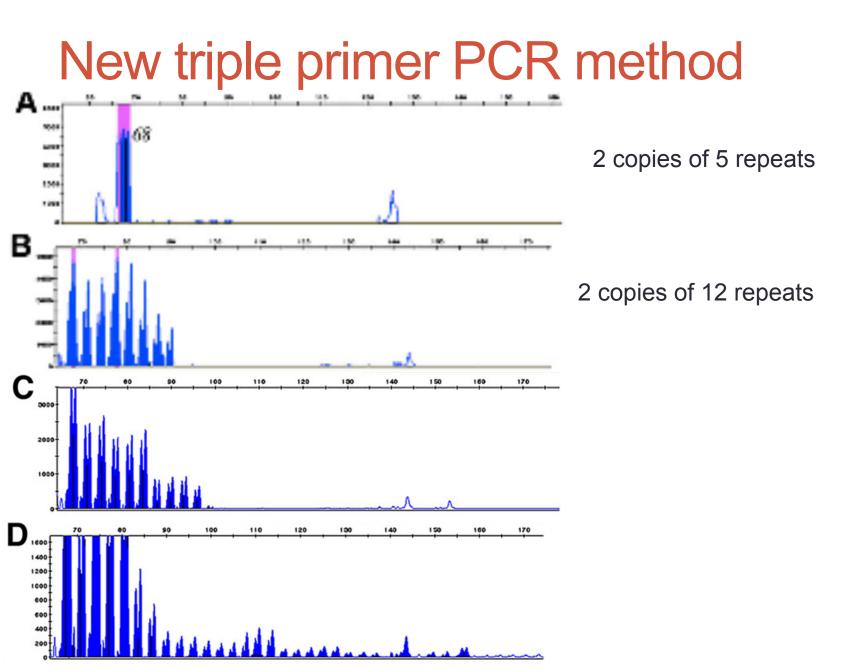
#### Acknowledgements

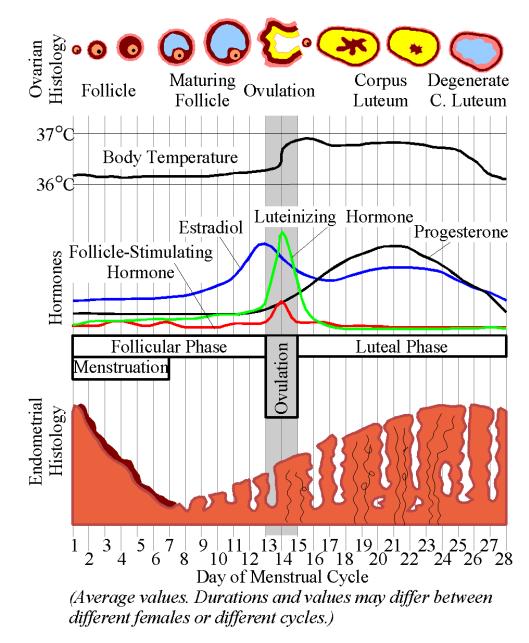
• Allie Copeland- artwork, brochure

#### **Repeat expansions**



De Temmerman, Am J Hum Genet (2004) 75:325





http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f0/MenstrualCycle.png