Genetics Education

Addressing (some of) the Gaps

Joseph D. McInerney Director, NCHPEG





OUR GOALS ARE:

- To develop tools and resources that help integrate genetics content into the knowledge base of practicing health professionals.
- To strengthen and expand a coordinated, national genetics education effort for health professionals.

127 member organizations

The challenge is to meld the practical and the conceptual:

"Primary care providers are asking for instruction on specific content, and there is no debate about this need. However, with the rapid pace of change in genetic medicine, specific content will fall short of what PCPs really need....A thoughtful, deliberate, and informed refinement of the 'usual' cognitive strategies will have the greatest impact on integrating genetics into all of health care."

Hayflick & Eiff. 2002. Genetics in Medicine. 4(2): 43-44.

NCHPEG's Core Competencies

- Knowledge
- Skills
- Attitudes
- Core principles of genetics
- www.nchpeg.org

Core Competencies in Genetics Essential for All Health-Care Professionals



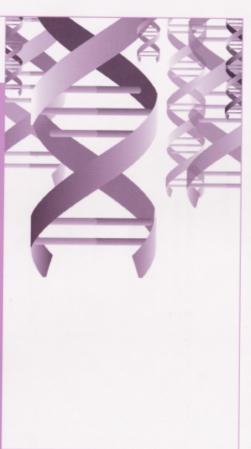
Educational Efforts By

- Professional societies
- Consumer/advocacy groups
- Commercial entities
- Colleges, universities, medical schools
- Individuals



Challenges and Opportunities for Health Care Professionals





REPORT OF THE EXPERT PANEL ON GENETICS AND NURSING:

IMPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATION AND PRACTICE

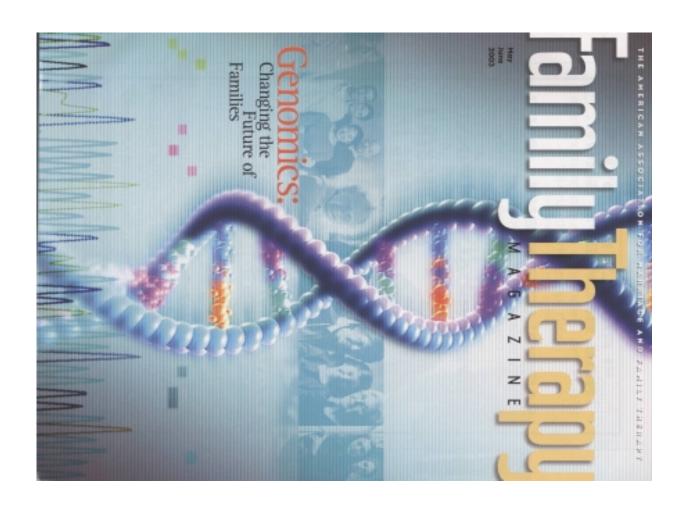
September 28-29, 2000 Washington, DC











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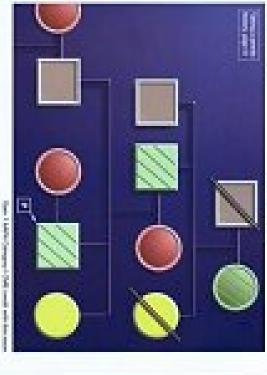
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Commitment from the Top

"The American Physical Therapy Association supports...genetics literacy and its importance and implications for patient/client management by physical therapists. This...encompasses the emerging importance, benefits, and risks of genetic information and gene-based therapies, as well as the associated ethical, legal, psychological, and social implications."

APTA House of Delegates, 2001

American Society of Radiological Technologists Curriculum Guidelines – Ethics and Law

- Objective 12. Analyze the ethical issues of genetic screening
- Objective 13. Explain the genetic counseling responsibility of health care providers

In 1998, The International Society of Nurses in Genetics and the American Nurses Association developed:

Statement on the Scope and Standards of Genetics Clinical Nursing Practice

- Genetics-specific credentials
 - Advanced Practice Nurse in Genetics (APNG), for those trained at the masters level
 - Genetics Clinical Nurse (GCN), for those trained at the bachelors level

Provided by: Genetic Nursing Credentialing Commission, Inc., a subsidiary of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics

From: Josh Carlson, for GeneTests, University of Washington © 2003

- Certification in a nursing specialty, with a genetics component in the certification test or core competencies
 - 11 separate credentials, including Advanced Oncology Nurse, Clinical Nurse Specialist in acute and critical care, and Certified Nurse-midwifery

Provided by: individual professional societies

From: Josh Carlson, for GeneTests, University of Washington © 2003

• 11 graduate programs or graduate certificate programs that emphasize genetics

 16 short courses or web-based programs on genetics

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The Genetic Standards as Building Blocks THE DNA OF SC

Social Workers are the Largest Providers of Mental Health Services





POSTER AUTHORS

Reby Waissman, ACSW Reby Waismiller, ACSW beth J Clark Pio ASW

> brochure represent a foundation for introducing genetics into social work practice integrate knowledge of genetics into social work practice in the context of the NASW Code of Ethics (NASW, 2000). The standards that are delineated in this The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) recognizes the need to

Advocacy .pday .adulated

Genetics Standards in Social Work Practice

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APPLYING STANDARDS

TOTOCOL FOR DEVELOPING PRACTICE STANDARDS

export workgroup and internal and and 60 day web writing and obtaining final standards and final review by NASW board

NASW Standards for Integrating Genetics into Social Work Practice

- Ethics and values
- Genetics knowledge
- Practice skills in working with individual, families, groups and communities
- Client/practitioner collaborative practice model
- Interdisciplinary practice
- Self-awareness
- Genetics and cross-cultural knowledge
- Research

Some Professional Groups Asking for Help

- Clinical pharmacists
- Dental professionals
- Dieticians and nutritionists
- International groups
- Nurses
- Physical and occupational therapists
- Physician assistants
- Physicians
- Radiation technologists
- Social workers
- Speech, language, hearing specialists

What do they request?

- Curriculum guidelines
- New content for courses (lectures, slides, chapters)
- Workshops
- New courses
- Recommendations for CME and CEU
- Programs at regional and national meetings
- Organizational assistance

Some Practical Constraints

- Preparation at different levels: AA, BS, MS, MD, PhD
- State-by-state regulation of practice and CEUs
- Licensing
- Certification
- Testing

Some New NCHPEG Programs

- Psychiatric genetics (DOE/ELSI)
 - Genetic counselors
 - Psychiatric nurses, psychiatric social workers, psychiatrists
- Genetics and common chronic disease (DOE/ELSI)
 - Primary-care providers
 - Public-health professionals
- CF screening
 - AWHONN

Genetics and Public Health

Epidemiologists assert, "This (behavior, drug, dietary variable) is a risk factor."

Geneticists ask, "For whom?"

Genetics helps to build the bridge between populations and individuals.





The Genetic Family History in Practice:

three annual newsletters emphasize important concepts related to family history







GROW Website and Search Engine:

One-stop portal for quality genetics information



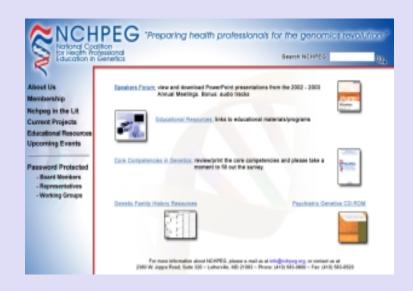
www.geneticsresources.org





NCHPEG website www.nchpeg.org

showcases NCHPEG educational products & genetics ed. resources







Collection & Review of Genetics Education Programs:

catalogues educational programs and informs NCHPEG's future projects



Genetics Content in Introductory Biology Courses for Non-Science Majors: Theory and Practice

ADAM M. HOTT, CARL A. HUETHER, JOSEPH D. McINERNEY, CAROL CHRISTIANSON, ROBERT FOWLER, HARVEY BENDER, JOHN JENKINS, ANNETTE WYSOCKI, GLENN MARKLE, AND RICHARD KARP

he increasing importance of genetics in our daily lives requires greater attention to the study of genetics in our educational system. To understand the significance of the rough draft of the human genome, the related benefits and risks of gene therapy, and the increasing complexity of gene-gene and gene-environment interactions, the public must understand basic principles of genetics, including human genetics. The National Science Education Standards, developed by the National Research Council, recommend that the concept of inheritance be introduced in grades kindergarten (K).4 and the basic principles of heredity and genes in grades 5–8. The standards for grades 9–12 concentrate on the molecular basis of inheritance, including DNA structure and function, genetic change, and variation (NRC 1996).

man et al. 1995). core curriculum in medical genetics for medical school (Friedand Education (I&E) Committee of the American Society of coordinate the process. Much later, in 1995, the Information posed establishment of a Genetics Education Task Group to riculum in genetics and clinical genetics and further pro-Goodman (1982) suggested implementation of a core cura comfortable niche in medical schools. Shortly thereafter, The authors concluded that human genetics had not found and primary discipline of the instructor (Childs et al. 1981). courses in terms of content, duration, responsible department, operating in the United States analyzed the medical genetics ago, a noteworthy study of 103 of the 107 medical schools then college and university undergraduate courses. Twenty years schools have received more attention in this regard than have genetics curricula offered at collegiate institutions. Medical Human Genetics (ASHG) submitted a report outlining a No similar benchmarks exist for the genetics and human

Studies conducted at the precollege level and in medical schools left the undergraduate years unaddressed. In 1999, ASHG began to address this deficiency by offering a workshop on undergraduate genetics education at its annual meeting (Bender et al. 1999). Catalyzed in part by the positive reception of this workshop, the I&E Committee appointed a subcommittee on undergraduate genetics education to develop a set of content recommendations for institutions of higher education (Paula Gregory, ASHG 1&E chairperson, personal communication, 1999). The committee, which comprises the first eight authors of this article, represents a wide variety of educational and professional backgrounds, including undergraduate biology education, clinical genetics, nursing, genetics education, and more than 100 years of cumulative teaching experience.

Adam M. Hott (e-mail: hotta@email: uc.edu) is a graduate student in the Department of Biology at the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 452210006, and an active member of the American Society of Human Genetics, he
ados sits on the Human Genetics Education Subcommittee of the Information
and Education Committee. Also at the University of Cincinnati are Carl A.
Huether and Richard Karp professors in the Department of Biology: Carol
Christianson, who is a genetic counselor; and Glenn Markke, professor in the
Department of Teacher Education, College of Education, Joseph D. McInerneys executive director of the National Coalition for Health Professional Education in Genetics, Lutherville, M.D. 12093, Robert Proder is a professor in the
Department of Biological Sciences at San Jose State University, San Jose, CA
95192-0100. Harvey Bender is a professor of biological sciences and director
of the Human Genetics Program at the University of Notre Dame, Norre
Dame, IN 46556-0369. John Jenkins is a professor in the Department of Bioology at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA 19081-1397. Amerter Wysocki
works at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20892-0967.

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Genetics for Undergraduates: Introductory Biology for Non-Majors (ASHG)

- The nature of the genetic material
- Transmission
- Gene expression
- Gene regulation
- Evolution
- Genetics and society

Hott, AM, et al. *BioScience* 52(11): 1024-1035, 2002

A Modest Proposal To Help Integrate Genetics into Mainstream Health Care

We should stop using the terms "genetic disorder" and "genetic disease."