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OF FORENSIC MEDICINE

INTRODUCING MPS TO A FORENSIC WORKFLOW – WHERE TO START?

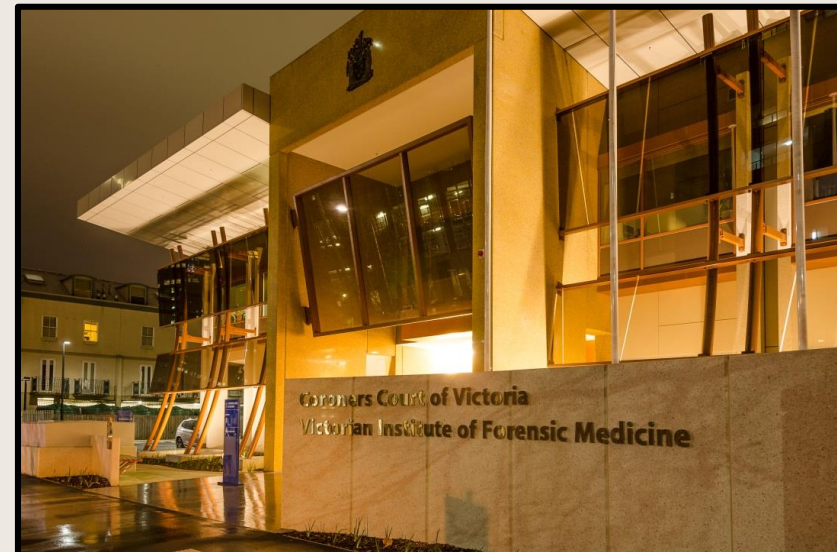
Dr Dadna Hartman | Manager Molecular Biology

Warning: contains images of deceased persons

VICTORIA - AUSTRALIA



- ❑ **Coroners Court of Victoria (CCoV) is required to investigate any reportable death**
 - **Annually, over 6,500 cases are admitted as coronial cases**
- ❑ **Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine (VIFM)**
 - **Independent forensic medical services to the Victorian public and justice system**
- ❑ **Identification must be established to enable the legal interment of the deceased**
 - **Most cases are identifiable using visual inspections**
 - **~ 10 % of reportable cases required ID by scientific means**
 - **DNA**
 - **Fingerprints**
 - **Dental**



MOLECULAR BIOLOGY LABORATORY (MBL)

❑ Coronial identification

- Nuclear DNA (nDNA) – 24 markers (including sex determination markers)
- Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)

❑ Disaster Victim Identification (DVI)

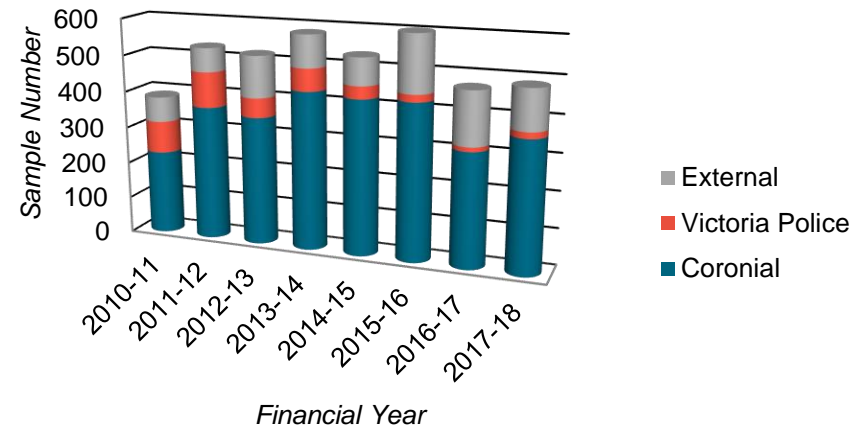
- Two or more persons killed in an event
- Multiple fatality car crash to 2009 Victorian Bushfires

❑ Missing persons investigations

- Unidentified remains reconciled with missing persons

❑ DNA testing services

- mtDNA analysis
- ID verification

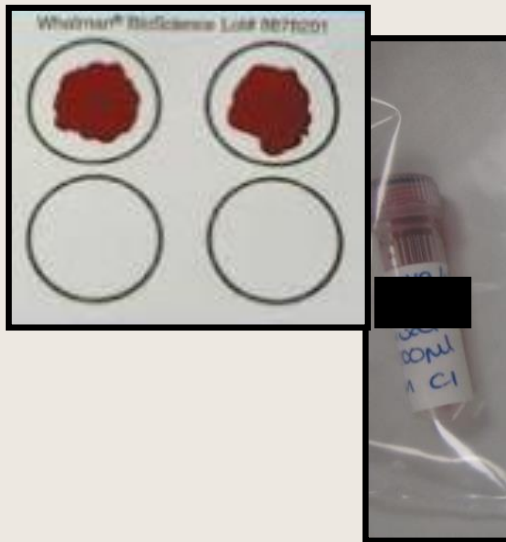


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DNA ANALYSIS PIPELINE

❑ PM samples

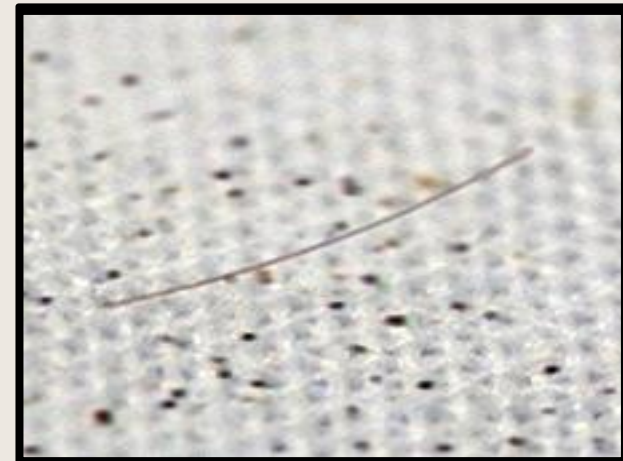
- **Blood:** liquid; stain collected on FTA card or swab
- **Tissue:** deep red muscle tissue (~ 1g)
- **Toenails:** few toe nail clippings or whole toenail
- **Bone:** compact bone – preferably head of femur
- **Bladder swabs:** cells lining the bladder wall are collected on a swab



DNA ANALYSIS PIPELINE

❑ Other samples

- **Fixed tissue:** paraffin embedded or slides
- **Urine:** fresh or frozen
- **Hair:** with or without the hair root



WORKFLOW

DNA Extraction

DNA investigator kit



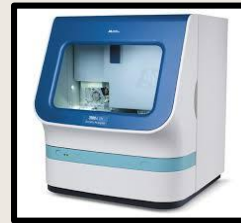
DNA Quant

Quantifiler™ HP kit



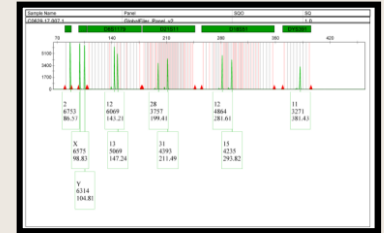
DNA Profiling

GlobalFiler™ and Minifiler™ kits

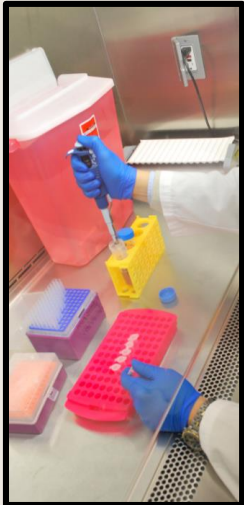


DNA Analysis

GeneMapper™ ID-X Software



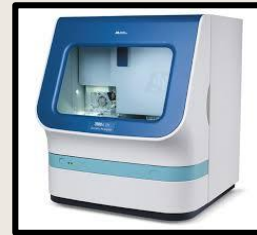
Organic



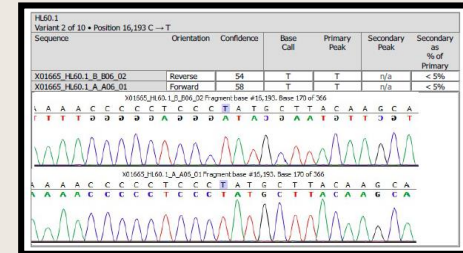
DNA 1000



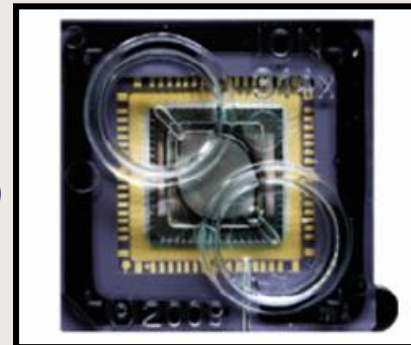
BigDye™ Terminator
Cycle Sequencing Kits



Sequencher Software



Massive Parallel Sequencing (MPS)



VI
FM

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MASSIVE PARALLEL SEQUENCING (MPS)

CARDIO SNP PANEL – PILOT STUDY

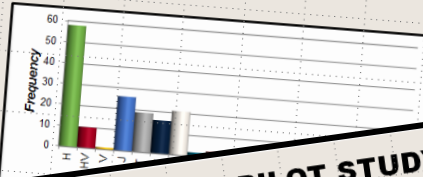
- Comparison to previous analysis
- Data from the nine cases

Sample	Gene	Identified in Pilot Study?	Read Depth	Classification in Ingenuity Variant Analysis	Examples of Other Findings
1	SCN5A	Yes	234	Damaging/Likely Pathogenic	PRKAG2 (RD 69): Frameshift/Likely Pathogenic
2	SCN5A	Yes	250	Uncertain Significance	JPH2 (RD 358): Damaging/Uncertain Significance
3	TMEM43*	Yes	245	Tolerated/Uncertain Significance	MYBPC3 (RD 127): Tolerated/Pathogenic
4	ANK2	Yes	245	Tolerated/Uncertain Significance	TRPM4 (RD 130): Damaging/Uncertain Significance
5	MYOM1	Not in Panel	536	Damaging/Uncertain significance	VCL (RD 120): Damaging/Uncertain Significance
6	MY7	Yes	682	Tolerated/Uncertain significance	BAG3 (RD 153): Damaging/Uncertain Significance
7	KCNQ1	Yes	247	In-Frame/Uncertain Significance	RANGRF (RD 13): Frameshift/Uncertain Significance
8	DSP	Yes	247	In-Frame/Uncertain Significance	LAMP2 (RD 161): Damaging/Uncertain Significance
9	N/A				TRPM4 (RD 172): Tolerated/Uncertain Significance

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MT-DNA ANALYSIS – PILOT STUDY

- Data analysis
 - Sanger sequencing available for comparison
 - Example: 16188.1C 16189C 16209C 16278T 16293G 16311C 195C 215G 263G 309.1C 309.2C 309.3C 315.1C
 - Torrent browser
- Issues
 - We did not want the whole genome (ethical reasons)
 - Needed an analysis tool for comparison of the raw sequence to rCRS
 - Difficulty with some regions (e.g. HVII polyC)



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ID MARKERS – PILOT STUDY



- Case 1

February 2007
 possible to comment on the ancestry; likely to be older >20 years of age
 refers to VMPDD

	Hair Shade		Y-Haplotype	Geographical
	Light	Dark		
Black	0.00	1.00	0.00	R1b-M343 European

Brown hair colour (Light shade)

Western European
 Europe and/or West Asia

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(*Admix: European 95%, South-West Asian 5%)

Pilot studies in collaboration with Thermo Fisher Scientific

Demonstrate MPS application in our workflow

Basis for funding application

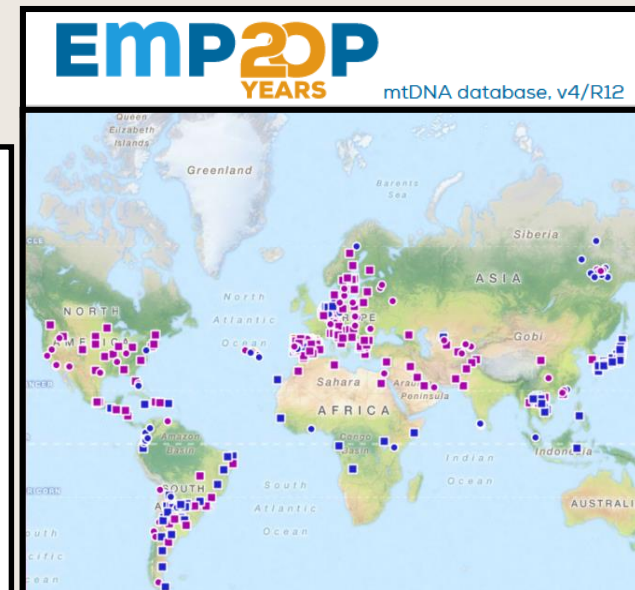
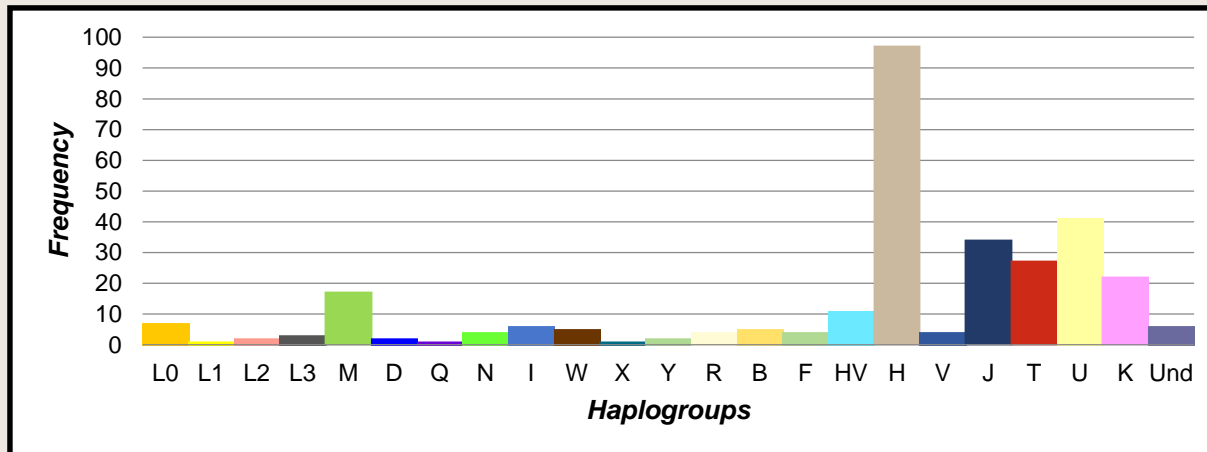
MT-DNA ANALYSIS – PILOT STUDY

❑ Victorian mtDNA haplotype database project

- Frequency of the reported mtDNA profile (haplotype) in the population
- Use EMPOP (EDNAP mtDNA Population Database) - database did not contain Australian haplotype information
- mtDNA analysis of ~ 300 volunteer samples

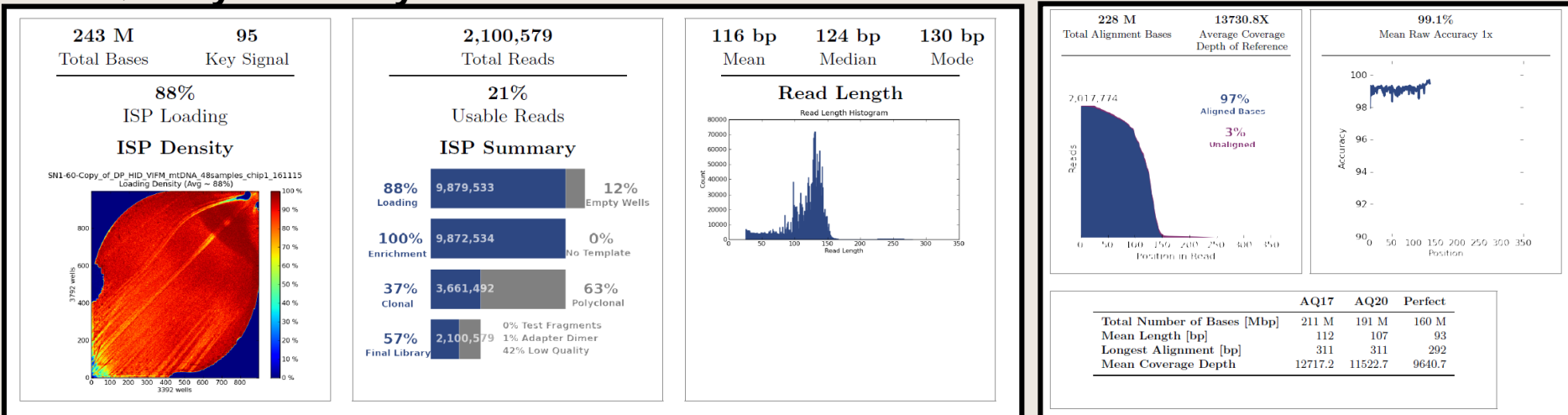
❑ Early Access HID-Ion AmpliSeq Mitochondrial Tiling Panel

- 10 samples at full and half AmpliSeq reactions
- 58 samples analysed in total
- Using Ion Chef to generate templates
- Sequenced on 318v2 chips



MT-DNA ANALYSIS – PILOT STUDY

Quality of library construction



Bioinformatics

- Ion Torrent – Ion Reporter
- Sequencher 5.4
- IGV 2.3

Barcode Name	Sample	Bases	≥ Q20	Reads	Mean Read Length
No barcode	none	8,209,269	6,731,447	82,623	99 bp
IonXpress_049	MDP002	3,300,961	2,989,211	28,812	115 bp
IonXpress_050	MDP005	4,534,995	4,123,206	39,595	115 bp
IonXpress_051	MDP006	3,207,329	2,911,709	27,989	115 bp
IonXpress_052	MDP007	11,177,492	10,069,435	94,829	118 bp
IonXpress_053	MDP008	10,282,716	9,334,971	88,345	116 bp
IonXpress_054	MDP009	4,503,041	4,082,737	39,575	114 bp
IonXpress_055	MDP012	36,085,543	32,602,973	309,434	117 bp
IonXpress_056	MDP014	5,128,913	4,657,490	44,576	115 bp
IonXpress_057	MDP015	23,329,806	21,157,491	195,148	120 bp
IonXpress_058	MDP016	5,279,780	4,776,756	46,605	113 bp



MT-DNA ANALYSIS – PILOT STUDY

❑ Example MDP001

- Torrent browser

HVI (16024-16404) **16051G** 16129C 16183C **16193.1C** 16362C
 HVII (18-413) 73G 217C 228A 263G **309.1C** **315.1C** 340T

HALF REACTION													
Chrom	Position	Ref	Variant	Allele Call	Filter	Frequency	Quality	Filter	Type	Allele Source	Allele Name	Gene ID	Region Name
chrM	73	A	G	Homozygous	-	100	7601.75	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_1
chrM	217	T	C	Homozygous	-	100	18465.5	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_2
chrM	228	G	A	Homozygous	-	100	18337.9	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_2
chrM	263	A	G	Homozygous	-	100	2210.39	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_3
chrM	311	-	C	Homozygous	-	100	2213.88	-	INS	Novel	---	unknown	mt_4
chrM	340	C	T	Homozygous	-	100	2184.29	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_4
chrM	16051	A	G	Homozygous	-	96.8	14691.1	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_156
chrM	16052	C	G	Heterozygous	-	20.7	316.78	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_156
chrM	16129	G	C	Homozygous	-	100	13476.7	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_158
chrM	16183	A	C	Heterozygous	-	87.6	1848.3	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_158
chrM	16190	-	C	Homozygous	-	98.1	2224.15	-	INS	Novel	---	unknown	mt_158
chrM	16362	T	C	Homozygous	-	100	13455.5	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_160
FULL REACTION													
Chrom	Position	Ref	Variant	Allele Call	Filter	Frequency	Quality	Filter	Type	Allele Source	Allele Name	Gene ID	Region Name
chrM	73	A	G	Homozygous	-	100	32137	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_1
chrM	217	T	C	Homozygous	-	100	19586.9	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_2
chrM	228	G	A	Homozygous	-	100	19719	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_2
chrM	263	A	G	Homozygous	-	100	7749.24	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_3
chrM	311	-	C	Homozygous	-	100	5787.6	-	INS	Novel	---	unknown	mt_4
chrM	340	C	T	Homozygous	-	100	3770.41	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_4
chrM	16051	A	G	Homozygous	-	100	21164.2	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_156
chrM	16052	C	G	Heterozygous	-	26.1	953.52	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_156
chrM	16129	G	C	Homozygous	-	100	38364.7	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_158
chrM	16183	A	C	Homozygous	-	93.2	4572.08	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_158
chrM	16190	-	C	Homozygous	-	100	5002.64	-	INS	Novel	---	unknown	mt_158
chrM	16362	T	C	Homozygous	-	100	26152.8	-	SNP	Novel	---	unknown	mt_160

MT-DNA ANALYSIS – PILOT STUDY

❑ Comparison: non-concordance

- 58 of 58 samples incorrect calling of cytosine homopolymeric regions in HVI and HVII
- Non-SWGDAM nomenclature used by Ion Reporter
 - i.e. Sample 49 variants “16187T 16188G 16189C” reported as “16187 TGC”
- 1 missed insertion 291.1(non C repeat region)
- 3 missed deletions at 249
- ~~2 samples with missed variants at 150 and 152~~
- ~~2 samples with missed variant at 150 only~~
- 1 sample with missed variants at 263, 295
- ~~1 sample with missed variant at 16296~~

❑ Amendment to Torrent Variant Caller Analysis parameter settings

- realignment-threshold = 0.9



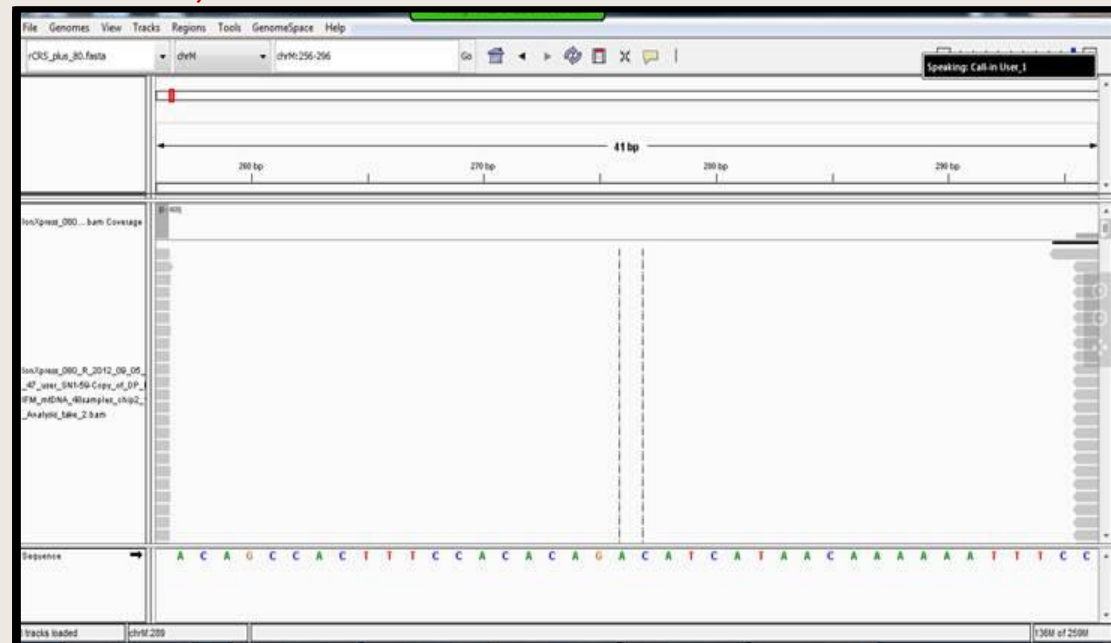
MT-DNA ANALYSIS – PILOT STUDY

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- ~~1 missed insertion 291.1(non c repeat region)~~
- ~~3 missed deletions at 249~~
- ~~1 sample with missed variants at 263, 295~~

❑ Further work

- Re-run on second chip
- IGV analysis



MT-DNA ANALYSIS – PILOT STUDY

☐ Things to consider

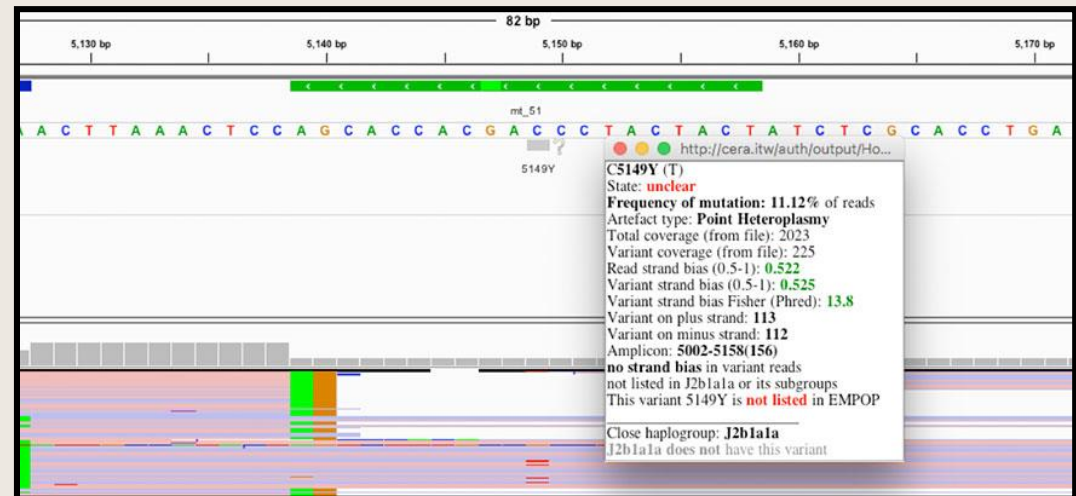
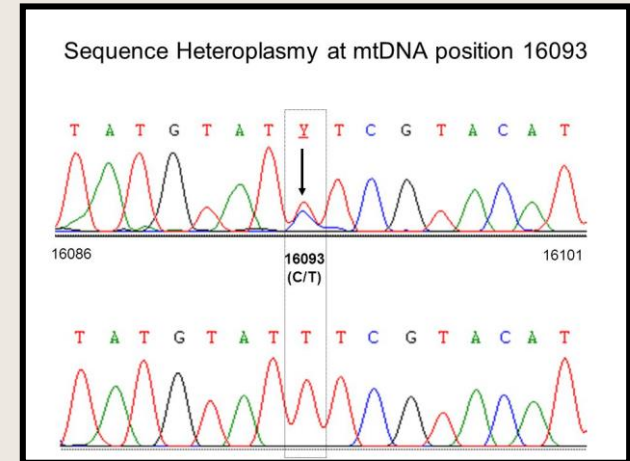
- % of heteroplasmy
 - Reporting thresholds
 - Inheritance of %
- Length vs point heteroplasmy
- Detection of sequencing errors

☐ MPS

- Time effective
- Increased coverage

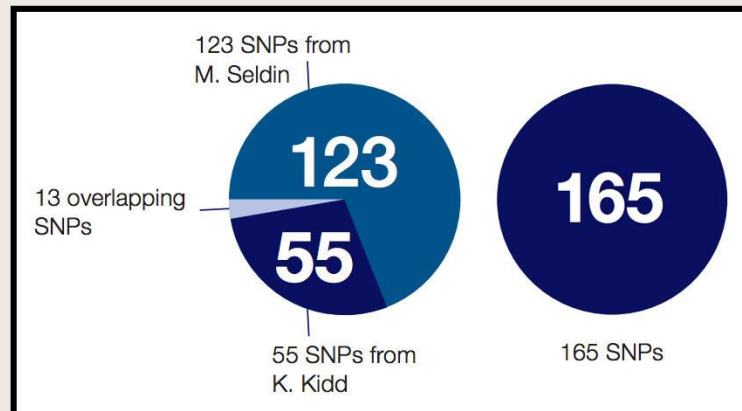
☐ Bioinformatics

- Better tools needed



ID MARKERS – PILOT STUDY

- ❑ **Missing persons and cold case investigations**
 - Have ~ 40 UHRs in our care
 - Varying success of DNA profiling (STR and/or mtDNA)
- ❑ **DNA to predict physical appearance**
 - EVCs; e.g. eye and hair colour
- ❑ **DNA to predict ancestry**
 - BGA; e.g. European, Asian
- ❑ **Ion AmpliSeq™ ID panels**
 - 30 of the UHR cases
 - Two control cases (long term MP cases IDed using DNA matching)



ID MARKERS – PILOT STUDY



❑ Case 1

▪ UHR

- Jaw bone located at a beach in February 2007
- **Anthropology:** absence cranium not possible to comment on the ancestry; likely to have been female; presence of a third molar ⇒ older >20 years of age
- Conventional DNA profiling; No matches to VMPDD

▪ Phenotypic and ancestry analysis

Eye Colour			Hair Colour				Hair Shade		Y-Haplotype	Geographical*
Blue	Intermediate	Brown	Blond	Brown	Red	Black	Light	Dark		
0.01	0.05	0.94	0.09	0.62	0.29	0.00	1.00	0.00	R1b-M343	European

▪ mtDNA profiling

- HV (South- Eastern Europe)

▪ Information provided to MP Unit

- Male with Brown eye colour and Brown hair colour (Light shade)
- European ancestry
 - Maternal lineage of South-Eastern European
 - Paternal lineage of Western Europe and/or West Asia



MASSIVE PARALLEL SEQUENCING (MPS)

CARDIO SNP PANEL - PILOT STUDY

Comparison to previous analysis

- Data from the nine cases

Sample	Gene	Identified in Pilot Study?	Read Depth	Classification
1	SCN5A	Yes	234	Variant
2	SCN5A	Yes	293	Damaged
3	TMEM43*	Yes	250	Unknown
4	ANK2	Yes	245	
5	MYO11	Not in Panel	536	
6	MY7	Yes	682	
7	KCNQ1	Yes	247	
8	DSP	Yes		
9	N/A			

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Pilot studies in collaboration with ThermoFisher Scientific

Successfully demonstrated MPS application in our workflow

Basis for successful funding application

February 2007

It is possible to comment on the ancestry; likely to be of European descent. The molar is older >20 years of age. Refer to VMPDD

	Hair Shade		Y-Haplotype	Geographical*
	Black	Light		
g	0.00	1.00	0.00	R1b-M343 European

Brown hair colour (Light shade)

Western European

Europe and/or West Asia

Paternal lineage of...

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(*Admix: European 95%, South-West Asian 5%)

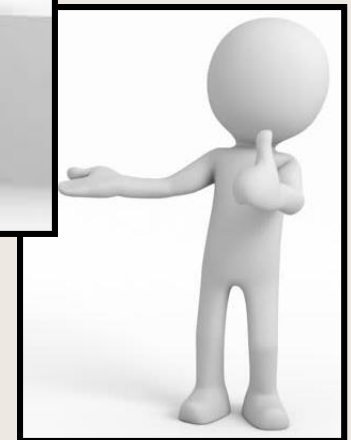
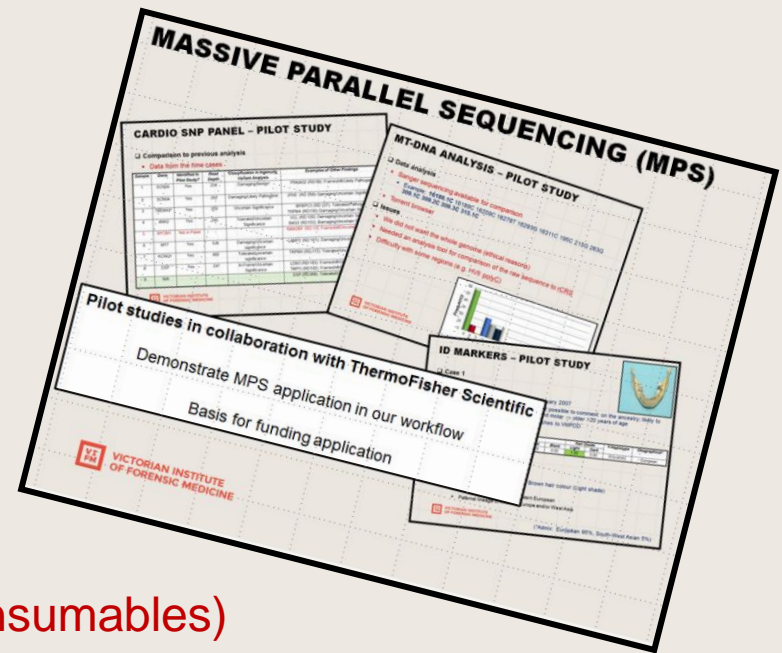
MPS VALIDATION

❑ Where to begin?

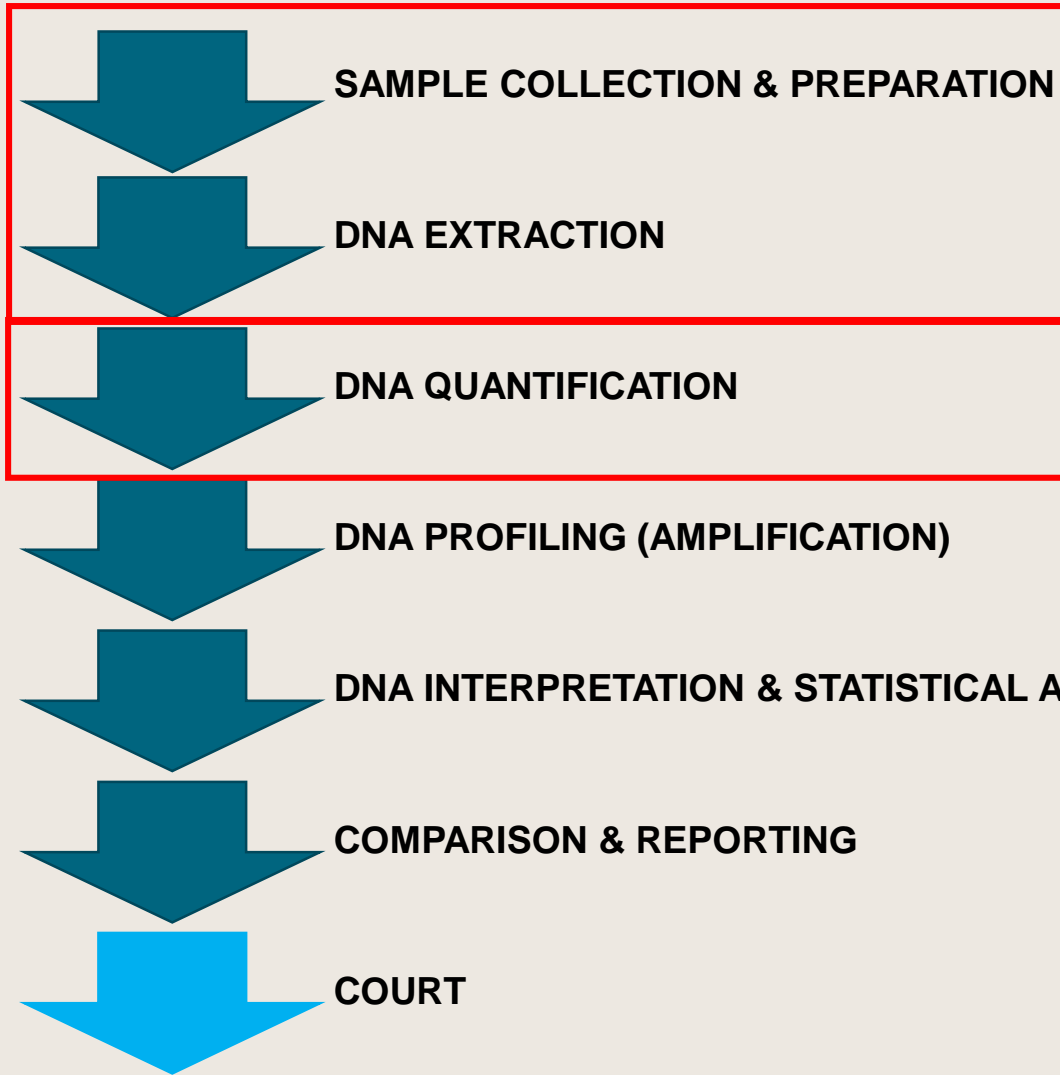
- Genetic screening
- Mitochondrial DNA analysis
- BGA and EVC analysis

❑ For consideration

- Limited resources (staff and funding for consumables)
- Build on existing expertise
- Uptake once validated



DNA ANALYSIS PIPELINE



- Better sample types
- Improved extraction methods
- Better understanding of how good our samples are
- Quantity and quality



QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF N-DNA

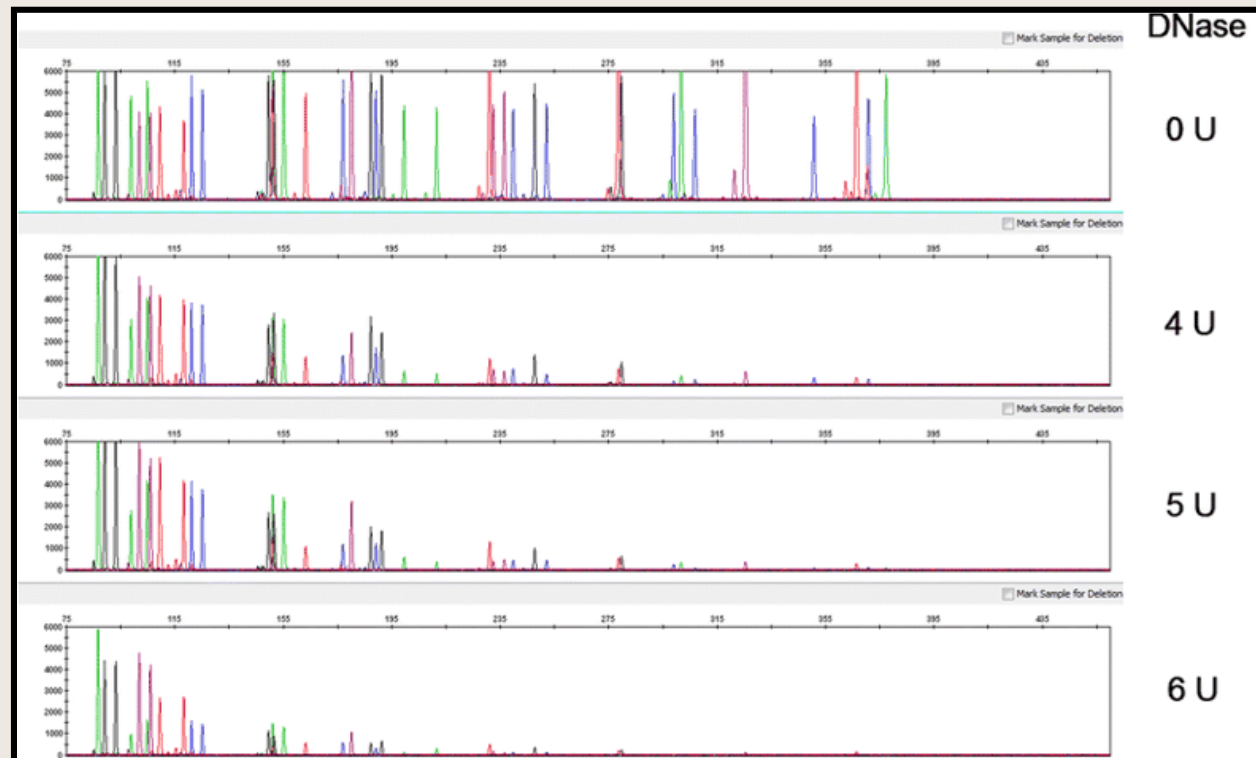


❑ Quantifiler HP kit

- Quantitative and qualitative assessment of total human DNA

❑ Casework

- How degraded is my sample?
- Include this in the decision matrix used to determine our amplification strategy with GlobalFiler kit



DEGRADATION

❑ Experimental design

- 10 x 11 x 10 experiment
 - 10 samples with 11 descending concentrations with 10 increasing degradation levels

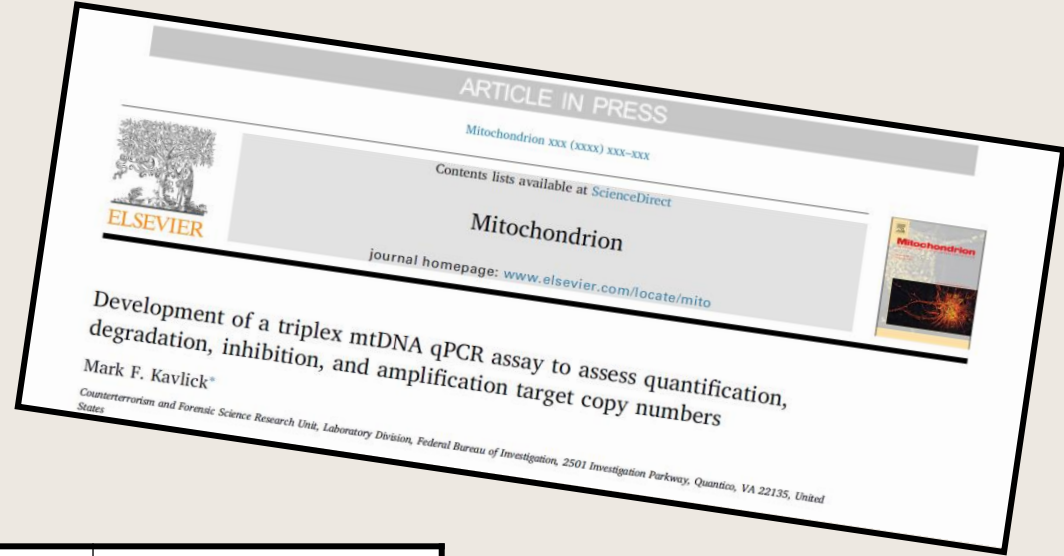
		Concentration (ng/ul)										
		0.067	0.05-0.067	0.03-0.05	0.02-0.03	0.012-0.02	0.077-0.012	0.005-0.077	0.032-0.005	0.002-0.0032	0.0014-0.002	<0.0014
Degradation Index	<1	C1D1	C2D1	C3D1	C4D1	C5D1	C6D1	C7D1	C8D1	C9D1	C10D1	C11D1
	1-1.25	C1D2	C2D2	C3D2	C4D2	C5D2	C6D2	C7D2	C8D2	C9D2	C10D2	C11D2
	1.25-1.5	C1D3	C2D3	C3D3	C4D3	C5D3	C6D3	C7D3	C8D3	C9D3	C10D3	C11D3
	1.5-2	C1D4	C2D4	C3D4	C4D4	C5D4	C6D4	C7D4	C8D4	C9D4	C10D4	C11D4
	2-3	C1D5	C2D5	C3D5	C4D5	C5D5	C6D5	C7D5	C8D5	C9D5	C10D5	C11D5
	3-5	C1D6	C2D6	C3D6	C4D6	C5D6	C6D6	C7D6	C8D6	C9D6	C10D6	C11D6
	5-7.5	C1D7	C2D7	C3D7	C4D7	C5D7	C6D7	C7D7	C8D7	C9D7	C10D7	C11D7
	7.5-10	C1D8	C2D8	C3D8	C4D8	C5D8	C6D8	C7D8	C8D8	C9D8	C10D8	C11D8
	10-20	C1D9	C2D9	C3D9	C4D9	C5D9	C6D9	C7D9	C8D9	C9D9	C10D9	C11D9
	>20	C1D10	C2D10	C3D10	C4D10	C5D10	C6D10	C7D10	C8D10	C9D10	C10D10	C11D10

- Test the performance of GlobalFiler kit
 - Ideal (input concentration with no sample degradation)
 - Additional 109 concentrations-degradation categories
- Genemapper ID-X Software (v1.4) with 45RFU as the analytical threshold



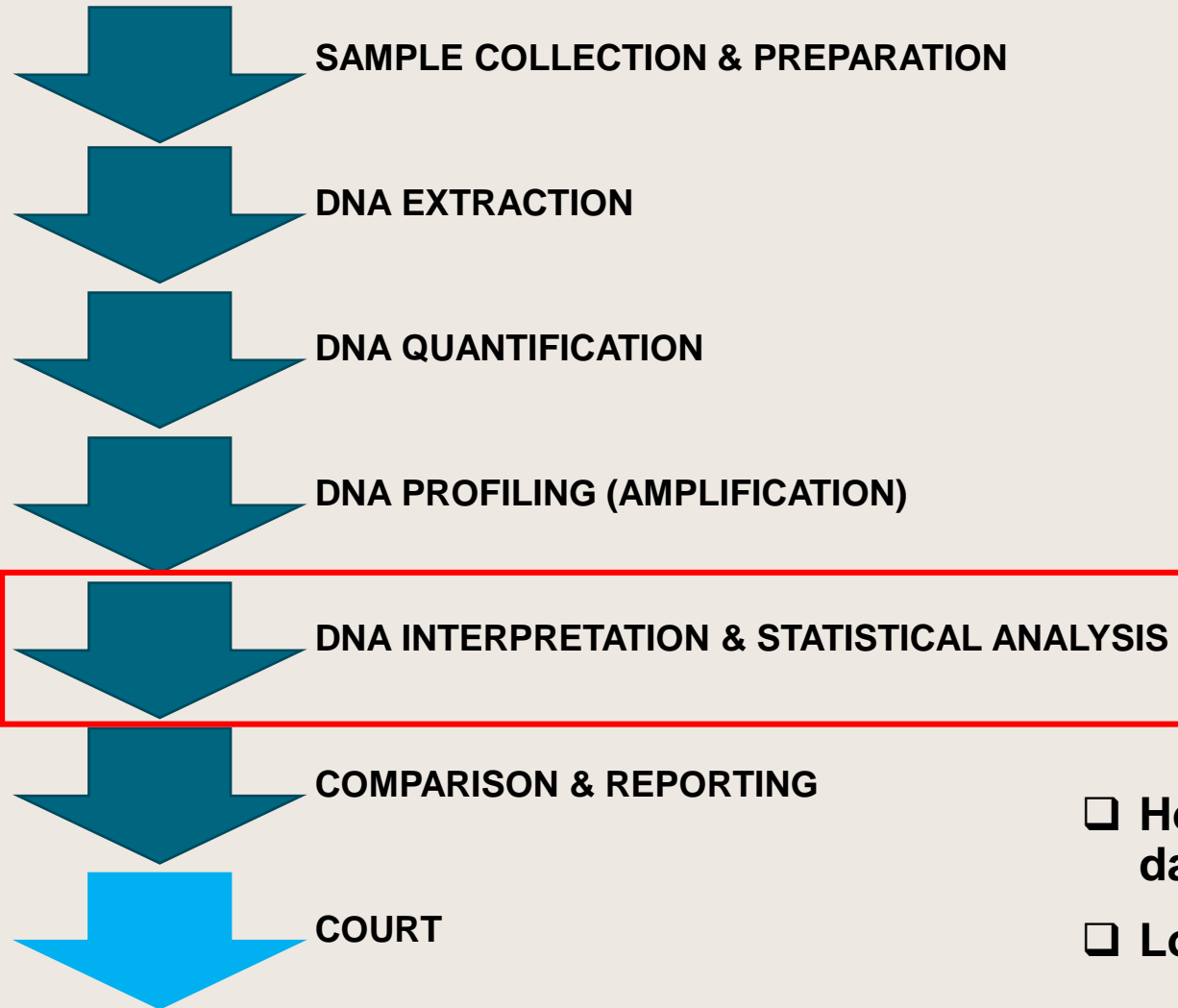
QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF MT-DNA

- ❑ Quantification kit
 - None commercially available
- ❑ In-house quantification
 - Based on published method



<i>Sample</i>	<i>Nuclear DNA (ng/μL)</i>	<i>Mito DNA (copies/μL)</i>
1	0.00068	16,883
2	Undetermined	0 (Inhibited)
3	0.00096	1,179
4	Undetermined	368
5	0.00068	676
6	Undetermined	91
7	0.011	12,941

DNA ANALYSIS PIPELINE



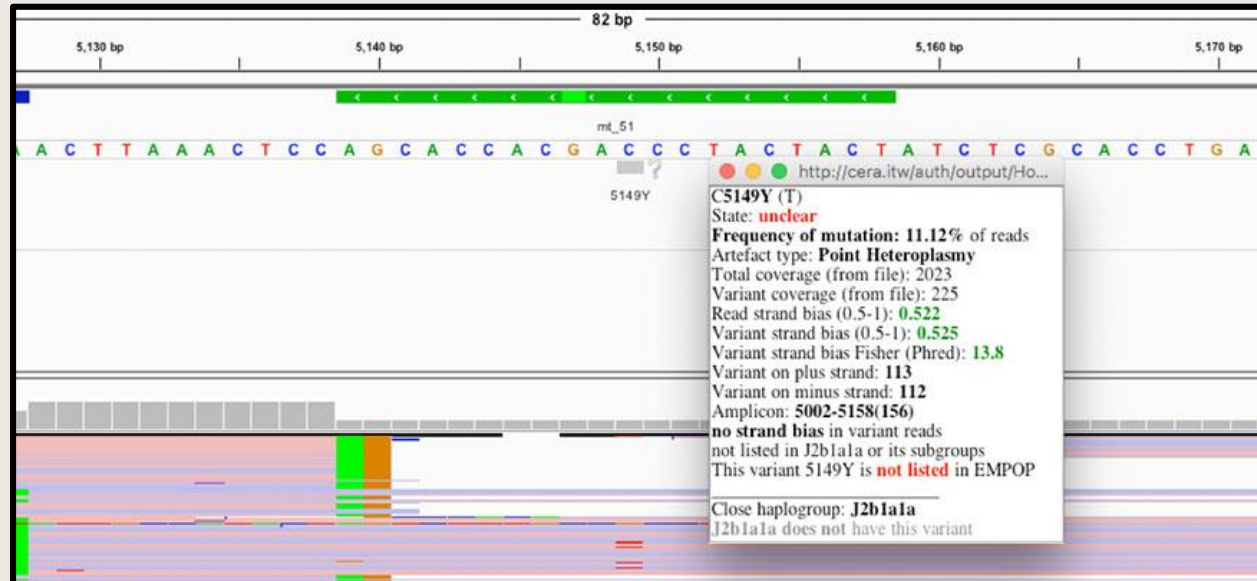
- How do we analyse MPS data generated?
- Looking for a plug & play

ANALYSIS TOOLS – CONVERGE™ SOFTWARE

converge

❑ Converge™

- MPS data analysis
 - Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)
 - Ancestry (biogeographic) SNPs
 - Identity SNPs
 - STR markers
- CE to MPS comparison of STR profiles
- Kinship
- Case management

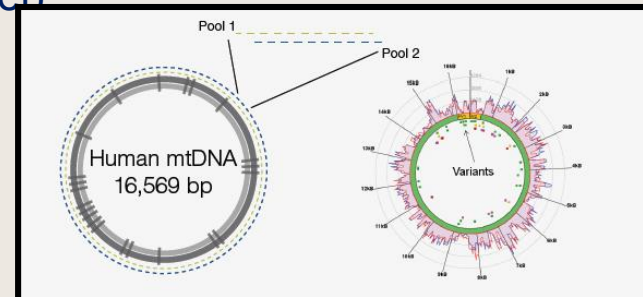
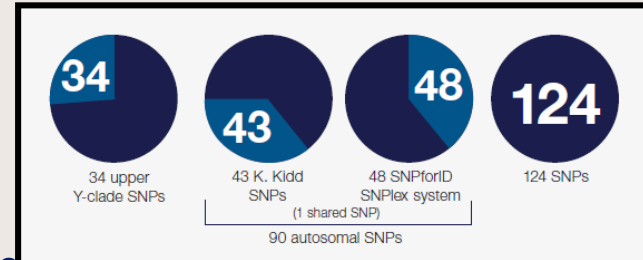
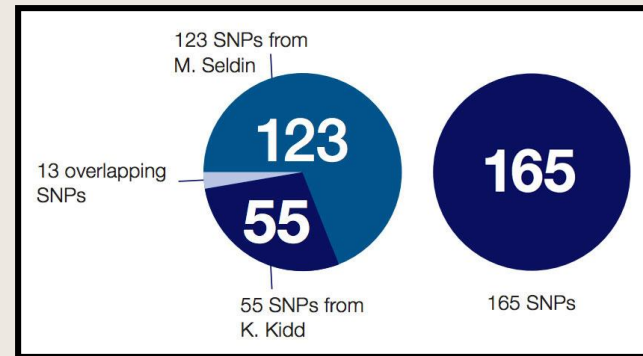


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UHR CASES

❑ MPS analysis

- **8 UHR cases**
 - Varying degrees of DNA quantity and quality
- **Panels**
 - Precision ID Ancestry Panel
 - Precision ID Identity Panel
 - DNA Phenotyping Panel (Ion Ampliseq™ custom panels)
 - Precision ID mtDNA Control Region Panel
- **Libraries & Sequencing**
 - Library construction on Ion Chef™ System
 - Template preparation on Ion Chef System
 - Sequencing on Ion 530™ chip on Ion S5™ System
- **Analysis**
 - Converge Software
 - IrisPlex (EVC data)



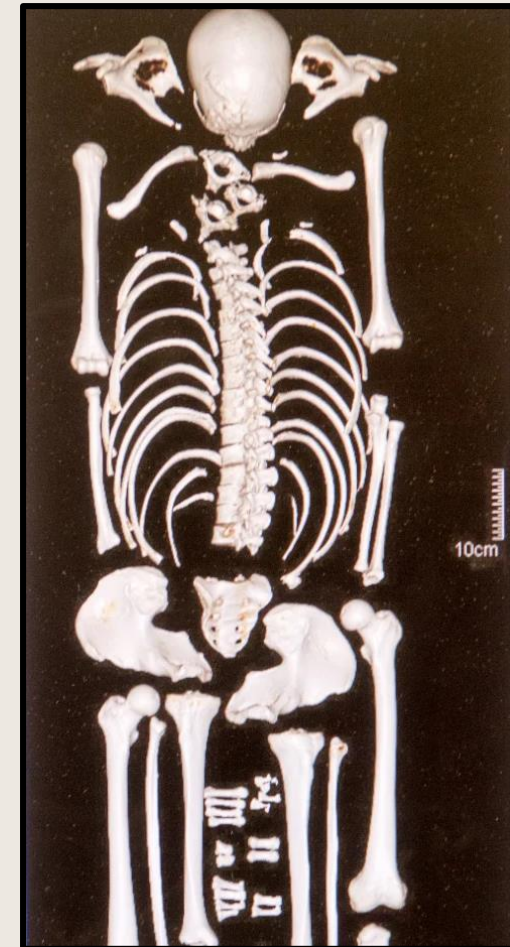
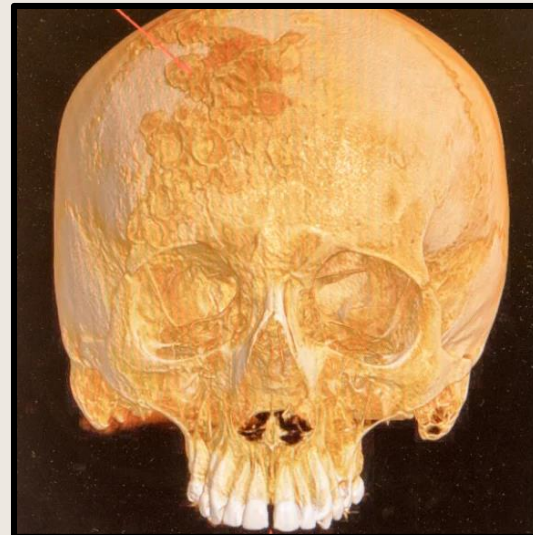
Sample	Nuclear DNA (ng/μL)	Mito DNA (copies/μL)	Median Read Depth
1	0.00068	16,883	15,931
2	Undetermined	0 (Inhibited)	23,297
3	0.00096	1,179	20,290
4	Undetermined	368	26,823
5	0.00068	676	0
6	Undetermined	91	27,478
7	0.011	12,941	19,574
8	0.007	Not Available	18,408

UHR CASES

□ Sandy Point Skeleton

▪ UHR

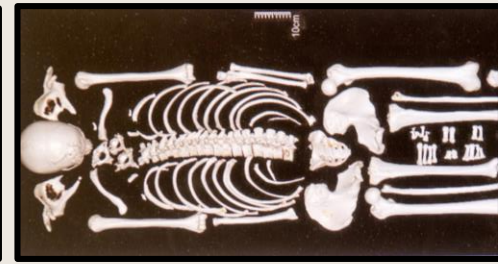
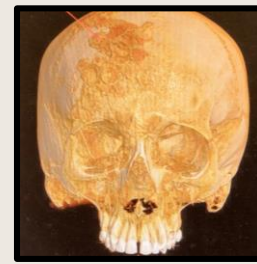
- December 2017
- Sandy Point coast line; near Wilsons Promontory in Victoria
- Complete skeleton; no fractures; few bones missing;
- No soft tissue
- Distinctive dental work (a gold filling in his front tooth)
- **Anthropology:** Caucasoid male; in his 20s
- **Conventional DNA profiling:** nDNA and mtDNA profiling
- No matches to VMPDD



UHR CASES

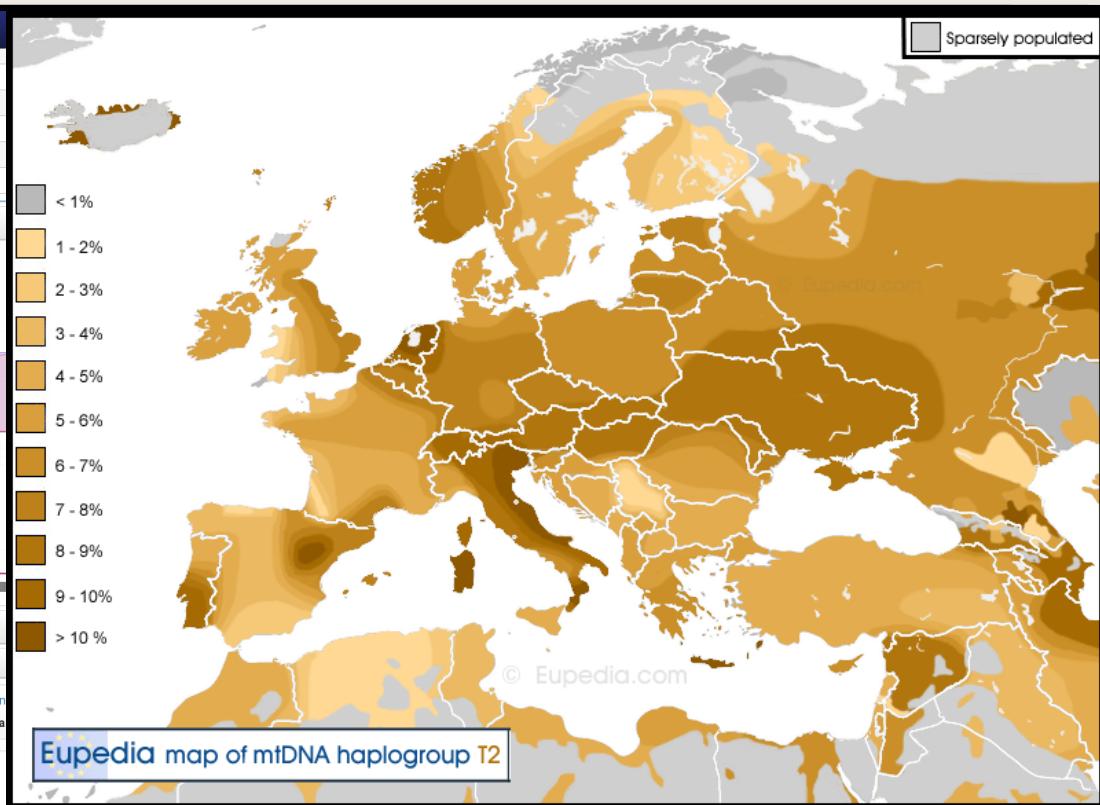
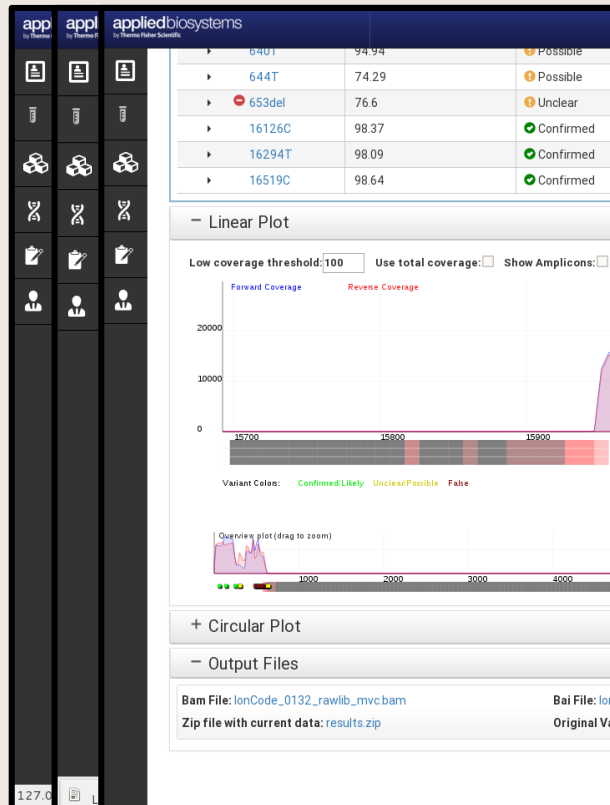
□ Sandy Point Skeleton

- MPS – mtDNA analysis
 - T2
 - Maternal lineage: West Eurasia

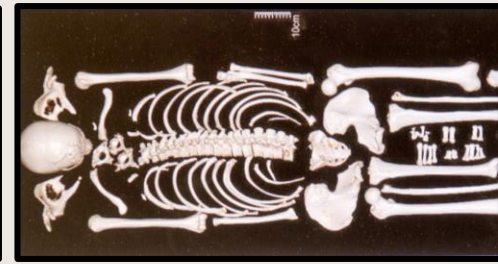
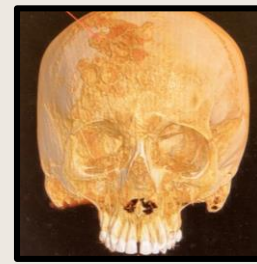


HVI (16024-16389)	16126C 16294T
HVII (51-388)	73G 152C 263G 315.1C

HV	16126C 16294T 16519C
	73G 152C 263G 315.1C

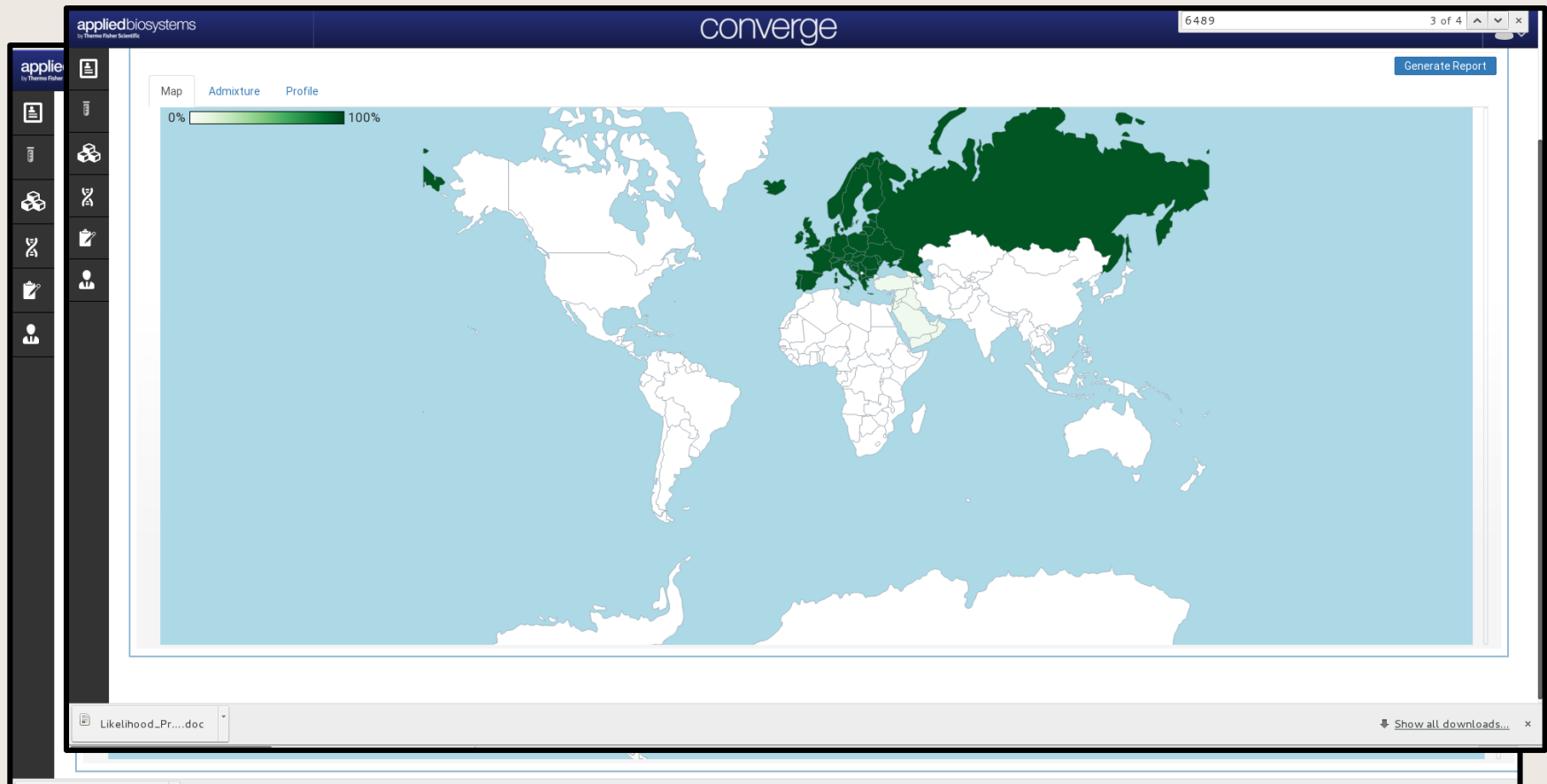


UHR CASES

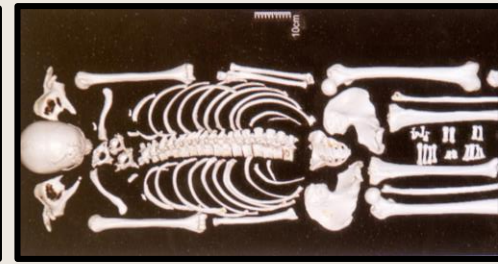
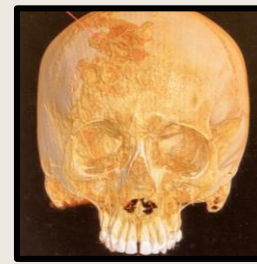


❑ Sandy Point Skeleton

- **BGA analysis**
 - Admix: 95% Europe; 5% South-West Asia



UHR CASES

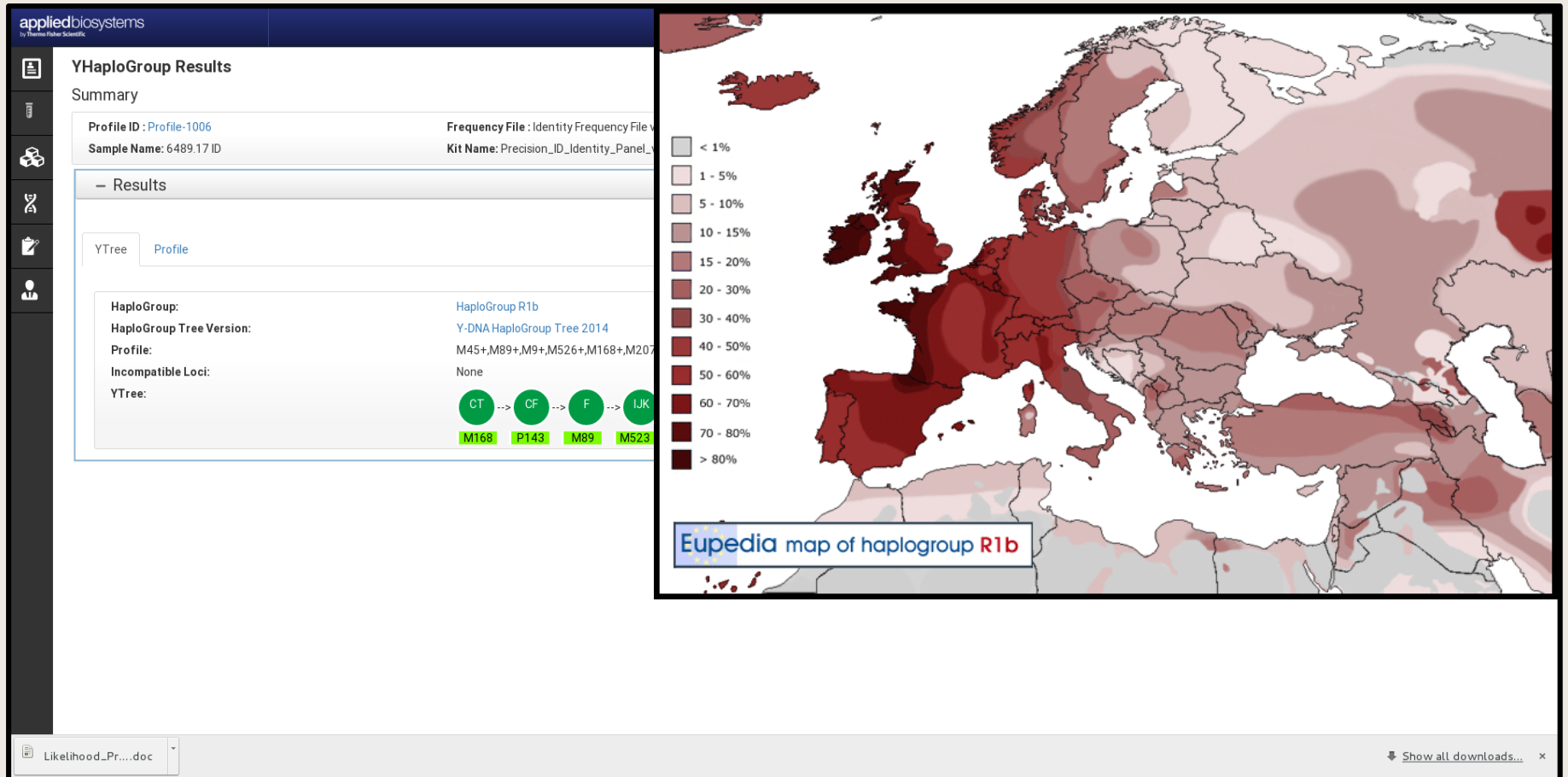


❑ Sandy Point Skeleton

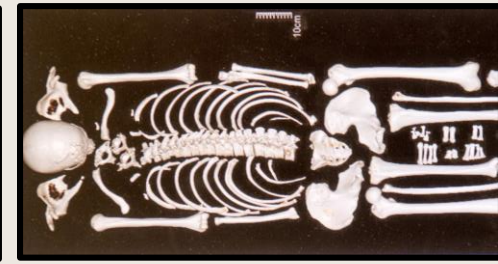
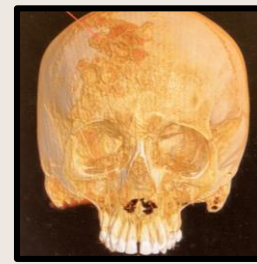
■ Y Haplogroup

■ R1b

- Paternal lineage: Western Europe



UHR CASES



□ Sandy Point Skeleton

▪ UHR

- Complete skeleton; no fractures; few bones missing;
- Distinctive dental work (a gold filling in his front tooth)
- **Anthropology:** Caucasoid male; in his 20s
- **Conventional DNA profiling:** nDNA and mtDNA profiling

▪ EVC & BGA

Eye Colour			Hair Colour				Hair Shade		Y-Haplotype	Geographical*
Blue	Intermediate	Brown	Blond	Brown	Red	Black	Light	Dark		
0.55	0.15	0.30	0.02	0.56	0.00	0.42	0.16	0.84	R1b	European

▪ mtDNA profiling

HV	73G 152C 263G 315.1C 16126C 16294T 16519C
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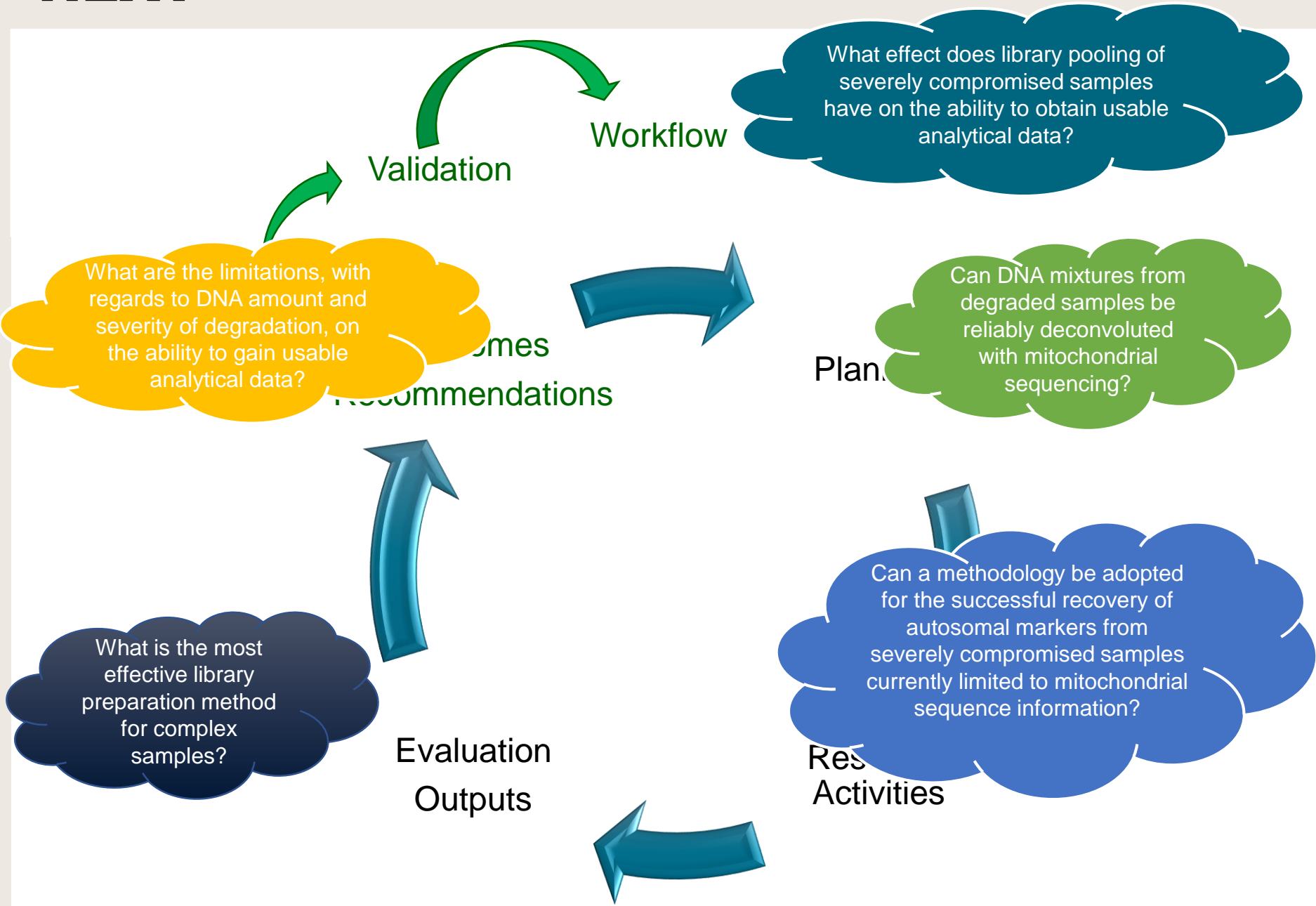
- T2 (West Eurasia)



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(*Admix: European 95%, South-West Asian 5%)

NEXT



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Andrew Schlenker

Michelle Spiden

April Stock



Coroners Court of Victoria



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Name of Conference/Meeting, *Date*

