

# Polygenic risk scores for psychiatry

Naomi R Wray



# Background

JAMA Psychiatry | Review

## From Basic Science to Clinical Application of Polygenic Risk Scores A Primer

Naomi R. Wray, PhD; Tian Lin, PhD; Jehannine Austin, PhD; John J. McGrath, MD, PhD; Ian B. Hickie, MD; Graham K. Murray, MD, PhD; Peter M. Visscher, PhD



Peter Visscher, UQ



Tian Lin, UQ

JAMA Psychiatry | Review

## Could Polygenic Risk Scores Be Useful in Psychiatry? A Review

Graham K. Murray, MD, PhD; Tian Lin, PhD; Jehannine Austin, PhD; John J. McGrath, MD, PhD; Ian B. Hickie, MD; Naomi R. Wray, PhD



Graham Murray,  
UoCambridge



Ian Hickie,  
UoSydney



Jehannine Austin,  
UoBritish Columbia



John  
McGrath, UQ

## Methods

## Prediction of individual genetic risk to disease from genome-wide association studies

Naomi R. Wray,<sup>1,4</sup> Michael E. Goddard,<sup>2,3</sup> and Peter M. Visscher<sup>1</sup>

2007



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



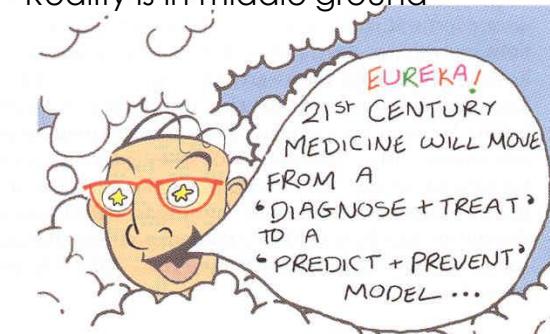
Current Opinion in  
Genetics  
& Development

## Prediction of individual genetic risk of complex disease

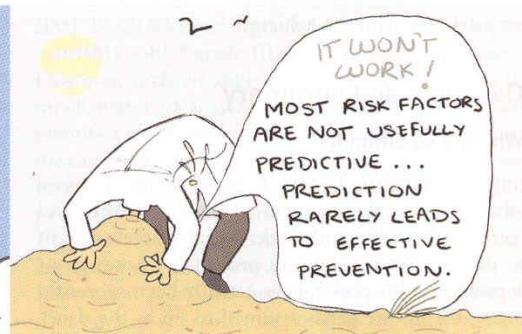
Naomi R Wray<sup>1</sup>, Michael E Goddard<sup>2</sup> and Peter M Visscher<sup>1</sup>

2008

Risk predictors have led to polar-opposite opinions for decades.  
Reality is in middle ground



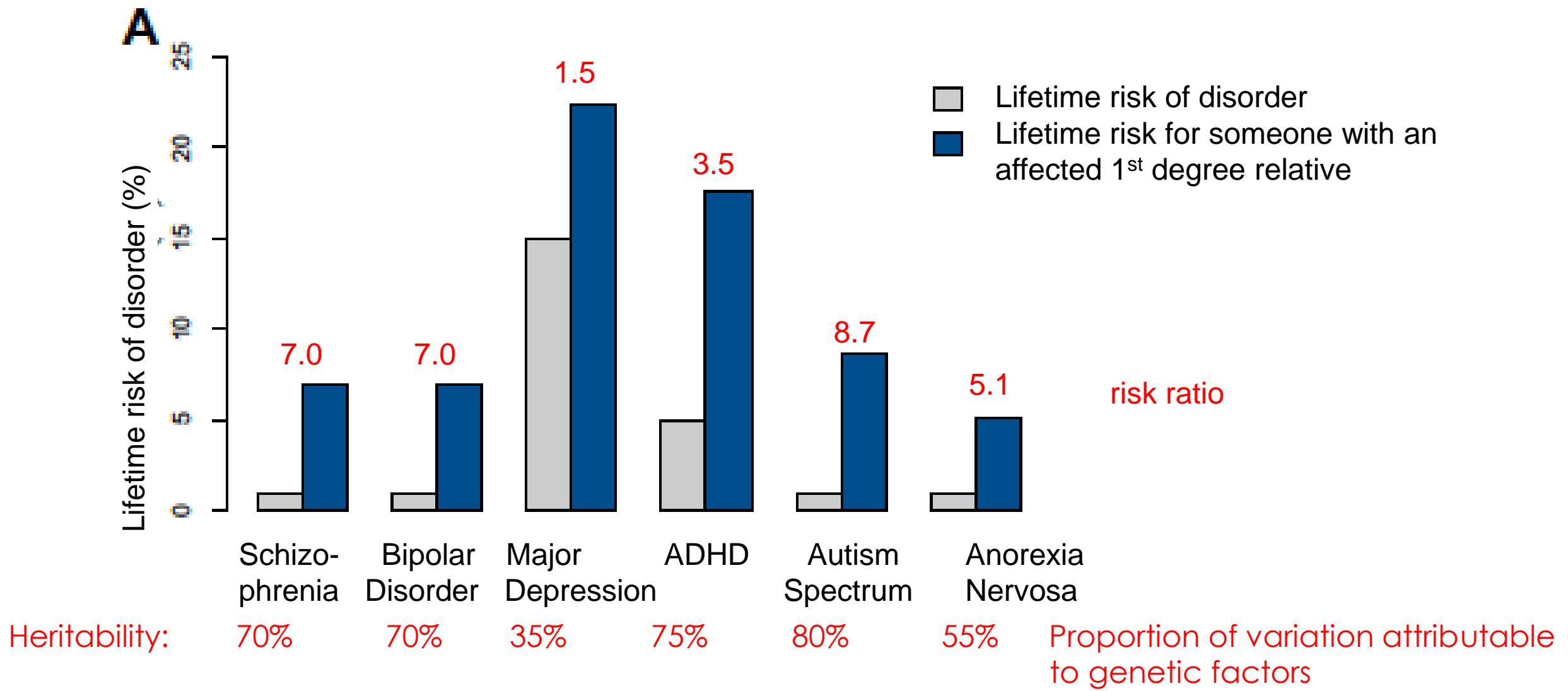
Head in the clouds



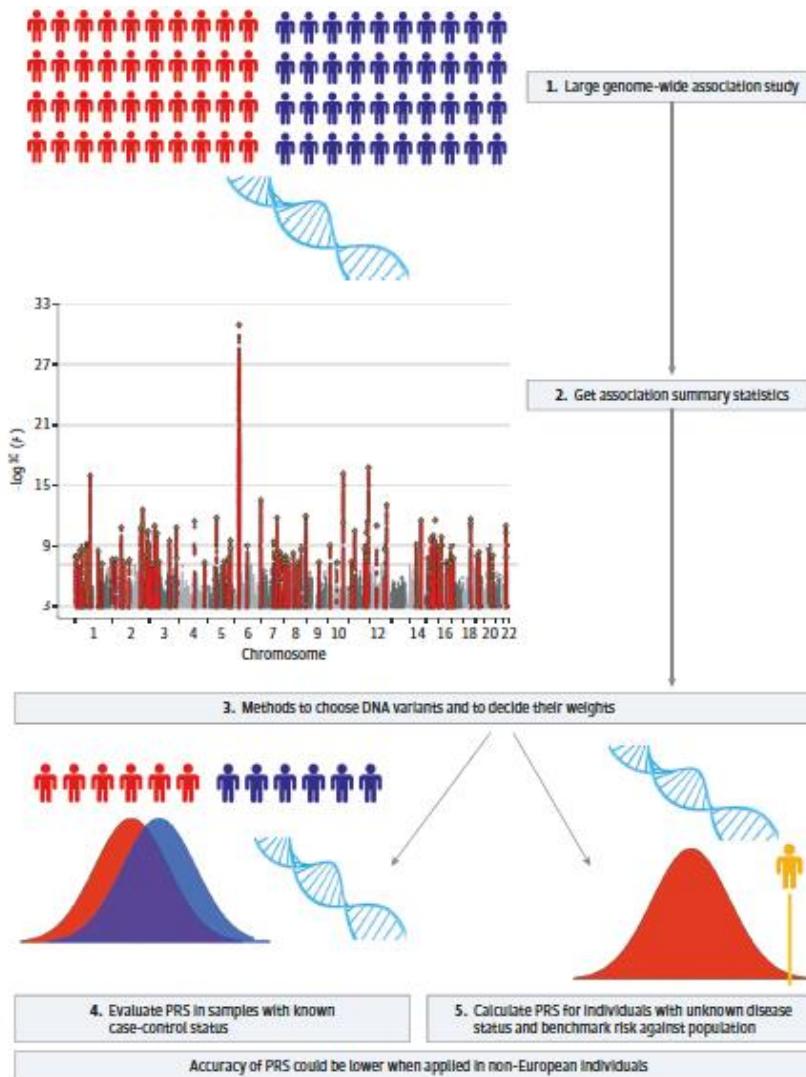
Head in the sand

Source: My undergrad text book: Strachan & Read Human Molecular Genetics 3.

# Evidence for a genetic contribution to psychiatric disorders



# Polygenic risk scores



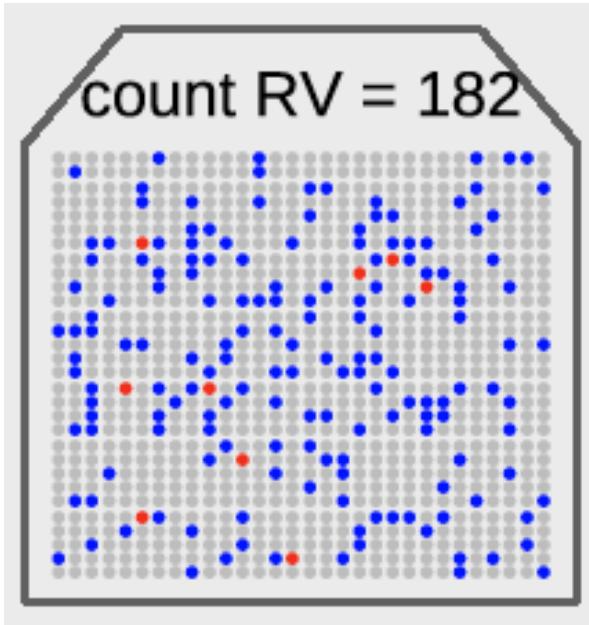
"The value from predicting individual disease risk from multiple associated variants could be reaped long before the causal mechanism of each is determined."

- What constitutes a polygenic risk score for an individual?
- What does the variation in polygenic risk scores between individuals look like?

This understanding needed to answer key questions, e.g.:

- Will someone **with family history** have a high polygenic risk score?
- Can someone **without family history** have a high polygenic risk score?

# Polygenic disease for an individual



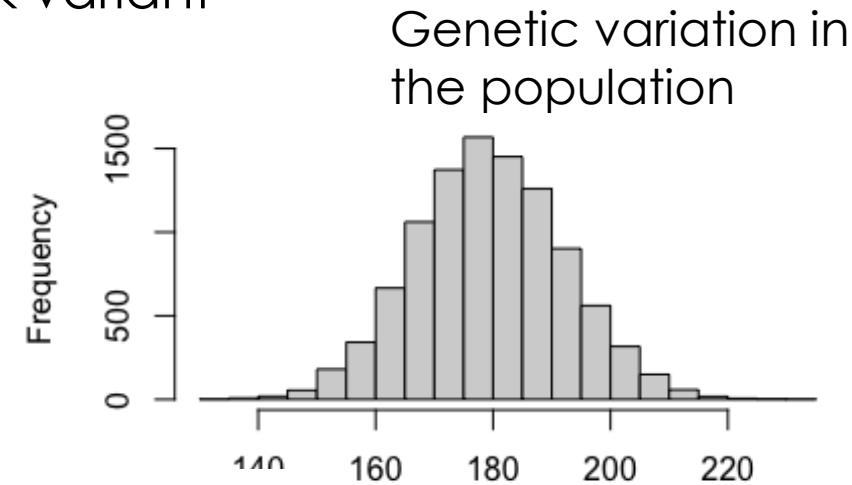
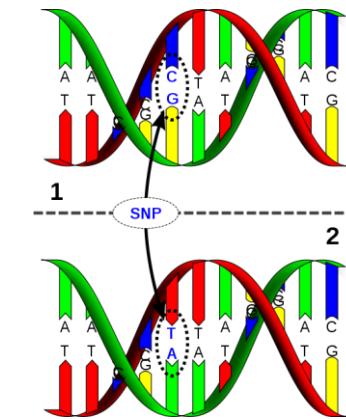
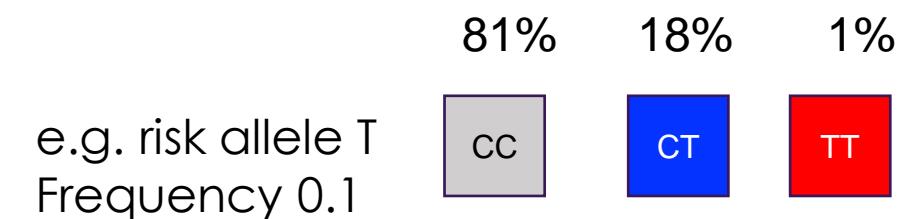
900 DNA polymorphisms associated with disease risk

RV = risk variant

Frequency of risk variant at each site: 0.1

Average person  $900 \times 2 \times 0.1 = 180$  risk variant

Mean  $\pm 3SD$ : 142 to 218

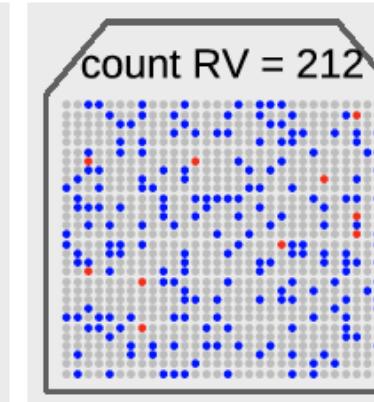
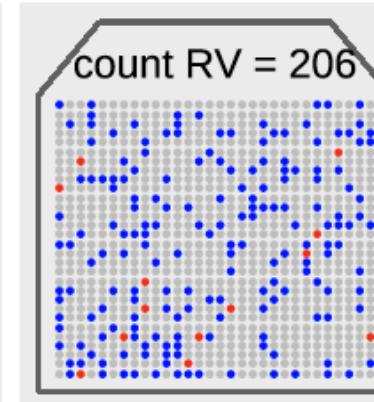
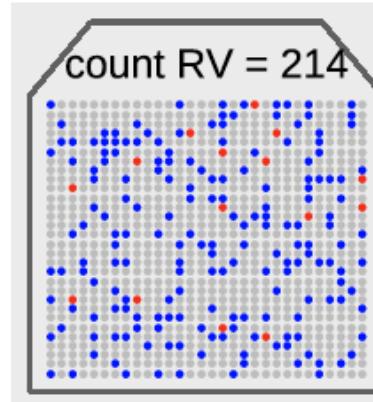
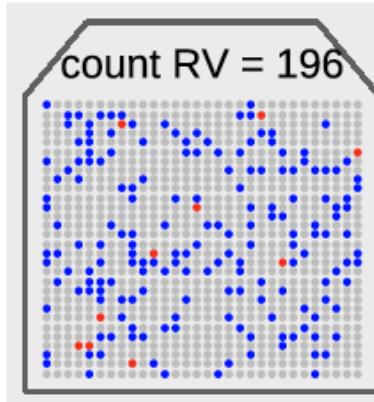
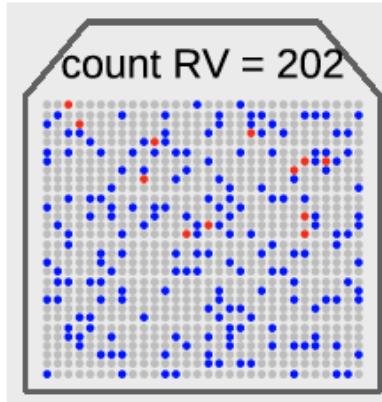


SNP: Single nucleotide polymorphism

SNV: Single nucleotide variant

# Polygenic disease for individuals

Affected over lifetime



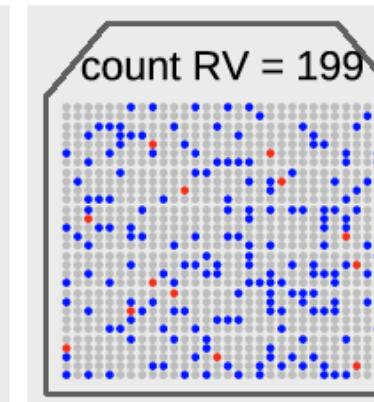
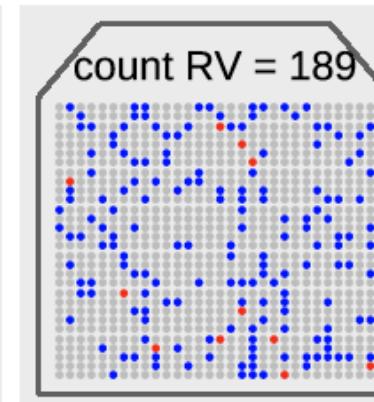
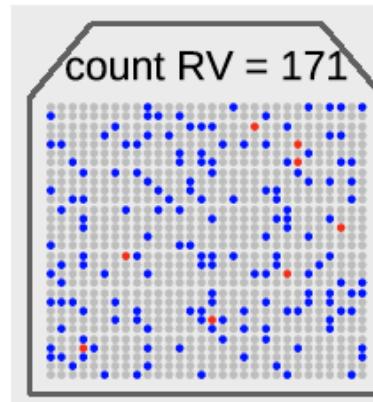
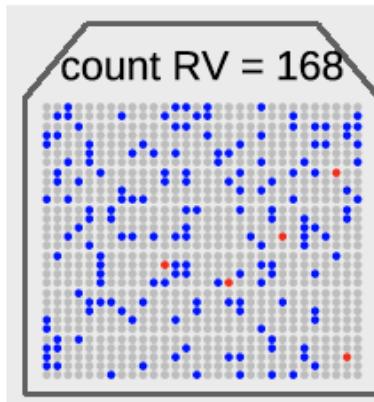
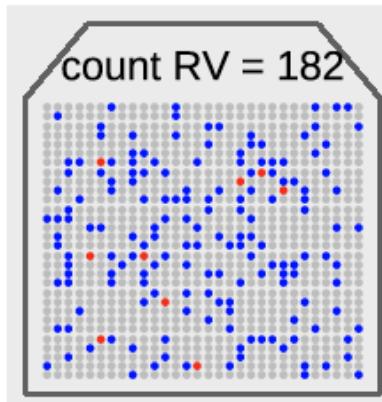
900 sites

RV = risk variant

Frequency of  
risk variant at  
each site: 0.1

Heritability 0.7  
Lifetime risk  
0.01

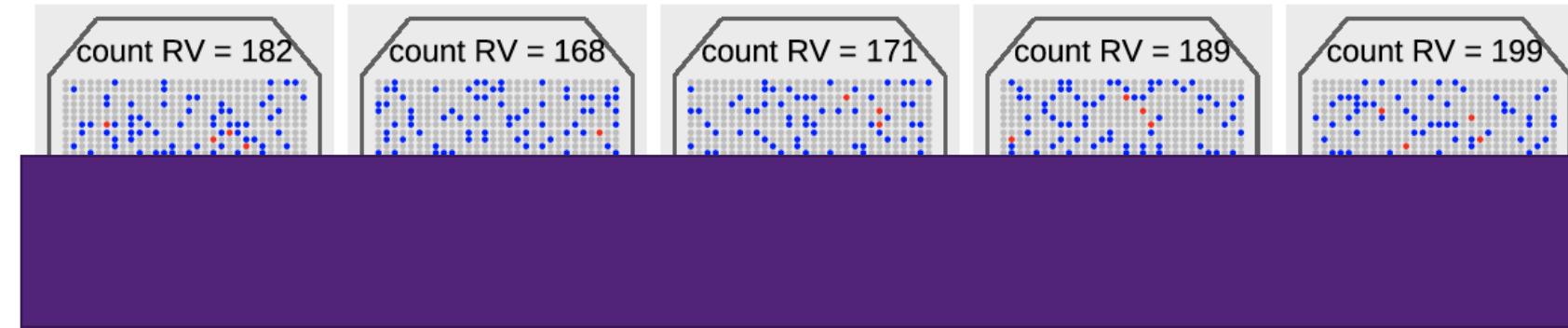
Not affected over lifetime



Average  
person has  
 $900 \times 2 \times 0.1$   
= 180 risk  
variant

Mean +/- 3SD:  
142 to 218

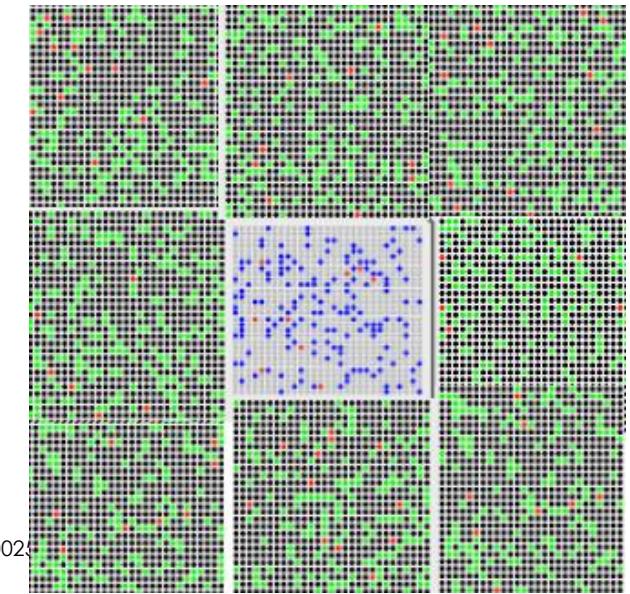
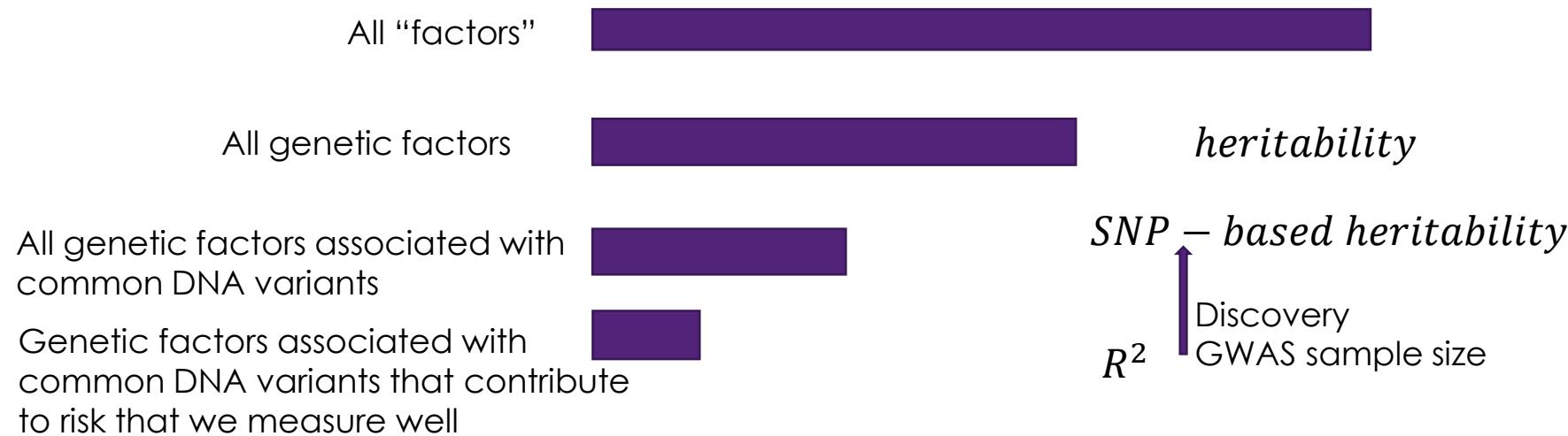
# Polygenic score



“True” polygenic score

Not all variants captured on  
genotyping arrays

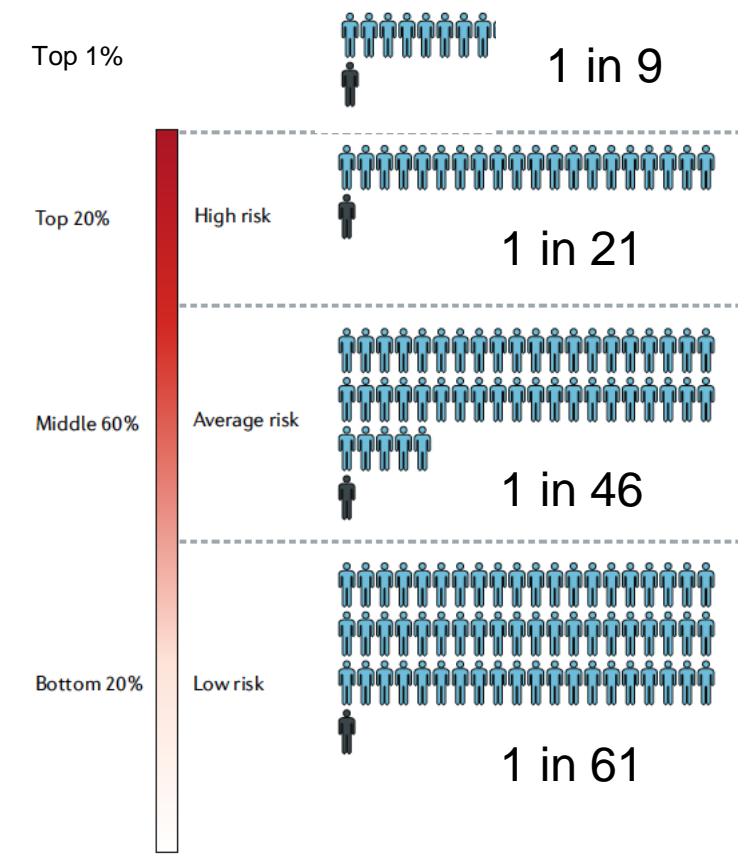
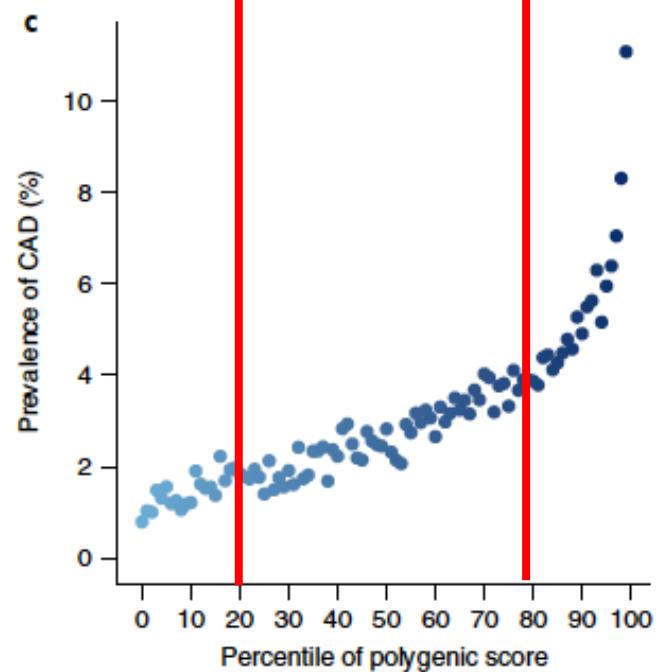
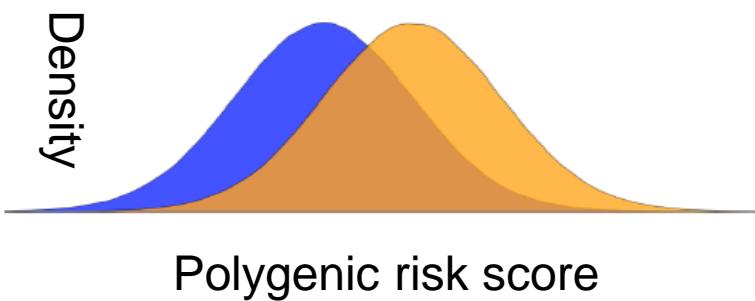
## Factors contributing to variation between people



Polygenic scores cannot be highly accurate predictors of phenotypes

CRICOS code 0002

# Different views of the same data

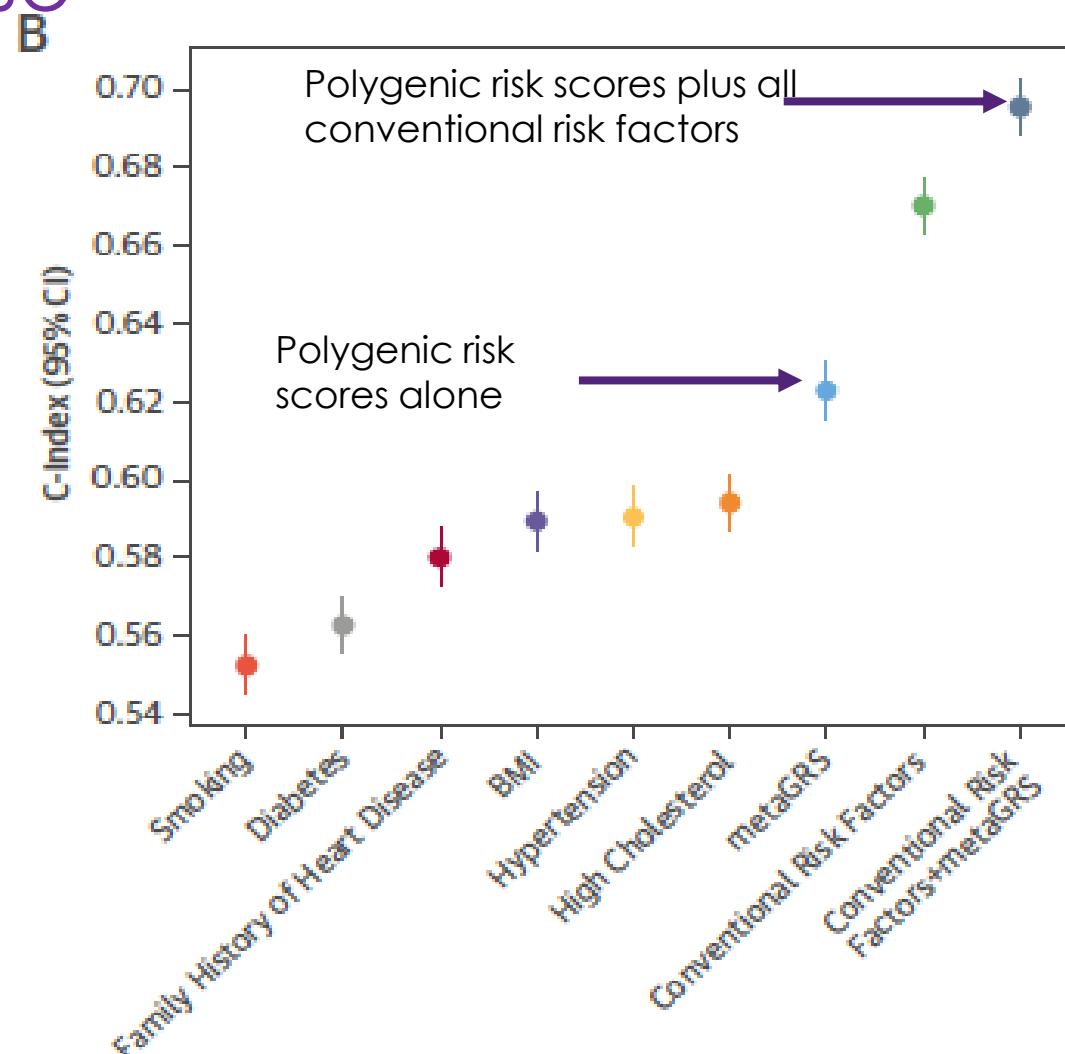


Risk stratification

# Combine PRS with conventional risk predictors

## Coronary Artery Disease

Within sex probability of ranking case higher than control (like AUC)

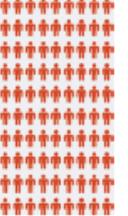
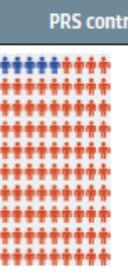
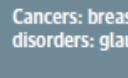


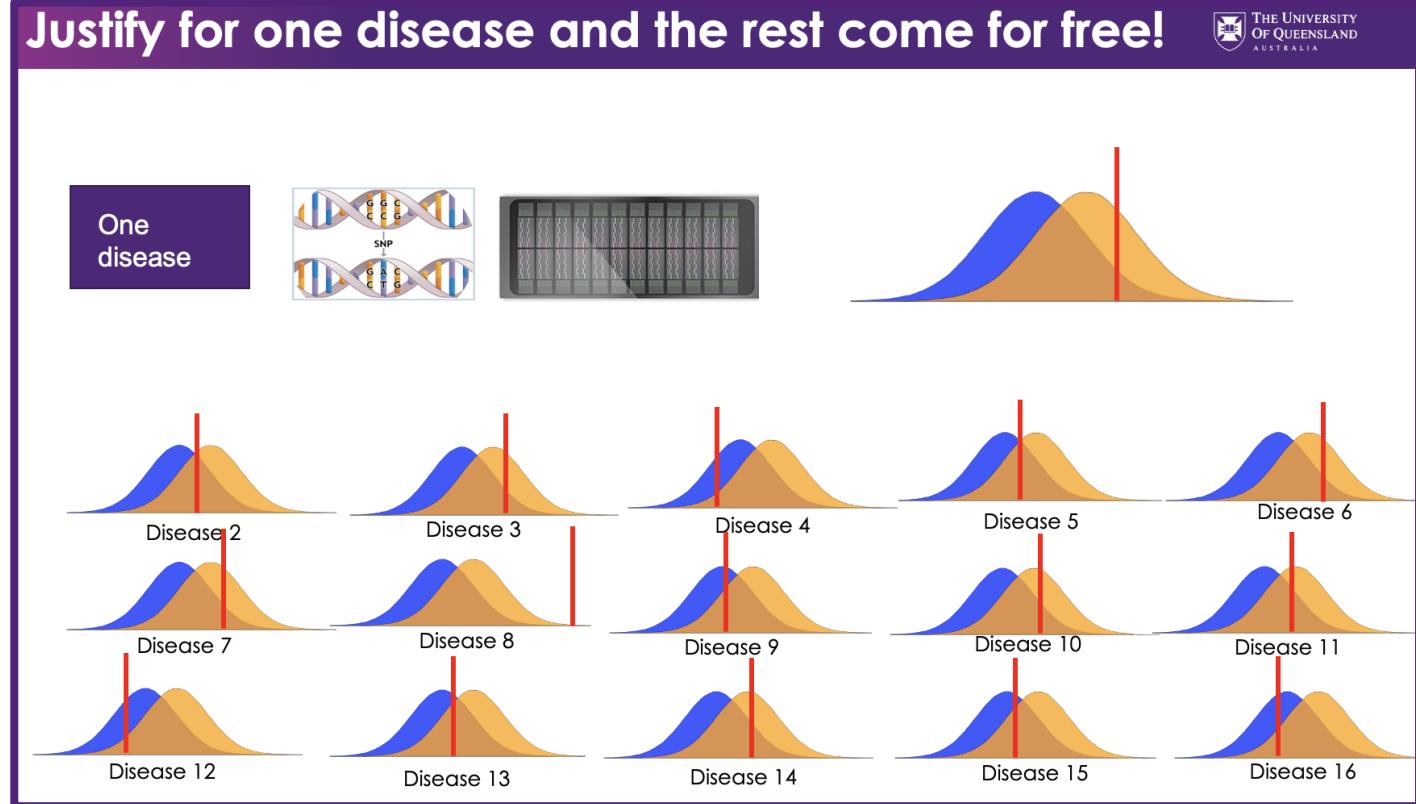
# Polygenic risk score applications

JAMA Psychiatry | Review

## From Basic Science to Clinical Application of Polygenic Risk Scores A Primer

Naomi R. Wray, PhD; Tian Lin, PhD; Jehannine Austin, PhD; John J. McGrath, MD, PhD; Ian B. Hickie, MD; Graham K. Murray, MD, PhD; Peter M. Visscher, PhD

Cohort where PRS applied:	Community
	 <p>Of 100 people in the population, 1 will get "the disease" in lifetime, assuming a disease of lifetime risk of 1%</p>
Utility of PRS:	 <p>PRS contribute to risk stratification</p> <p>Of 100 people in the top PRS stratum, a higher proportion will get "the disease" in their lifetime and hence are particularly encouraged to enter established disease screening</p>
Likely applications:	<p>Common diseases/ disorders for which there is already population screening</p>
Likely first applications:	 <p>Cancers: breast and colorectal; common eye disorders: glaucoma, macular degeneration; heart disease</p>



# Around the world: UK

+  
Our  
Future  
Health

## Our Future Health will recruit 5 million people into a prospective cohort, representative of the UK population

### Diversity, scale and long term engagement opportunities

- Deep links to NHS clinical data
- Significant scale, diversity and breadth of participation
- Fast and cost effective recontact of participants
- Genetic info related to common disease areas

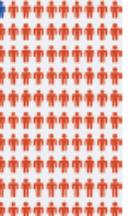
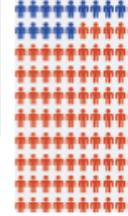
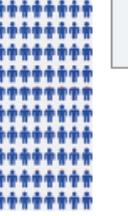
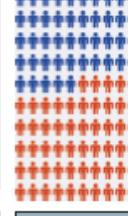
- Adults who represent the full diversity of the UK population
- Biological samples and health data on enrolment
- Consent to link with NHS records and additional data sources
- Stored samples that enable the application of newly available diagnostic tests
- Polygenic risk scores (PRS) on everyone
- Consent for health related feedback to participants
- Consent to invite to additional data collection, samples, or take part in new clinical studies
- Repeat sampling to observe the transitions from health to diagnosable disease

# Polygenic risk score: other applications

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Cohort where PRS applied:	Community	Symptoms: help-seeking	Established diagnosis
	 <p>Of 100 people in the population, 1 will get "the disease" in lifetime, assuming a disease of lifetime risk of 1%</p>	 <p>Of 100 people presenting at clinic with symptoms but without a clear diagnosis, a higher proportion than in a population sample will go on to get "the disease" in their lifetime</p>	 <p>100 people with diagnosis of "the disease"</p>
Utility of PRS:	PRS contribute to risk stratification	PRS contribute to clinical decisions	PRS contribute to treatment choices
	 <p>Of 100 people in the top PRS stratum, a higher proportion will get "the disease" in their lifetime and hence are particularly encouraged to enter established disease screening</p>	 <p>Of 100 people presenting with symptoms AND in the top PRS stratum, a higher proportion than in the clinic-presenting cohort will go on to get diagnosis of "the disease" in their lifetime</p>	 <p>Genetic information may contribute to more effective choice of treatment, with reduced adverse events</p>
Likely applications:	Common diseases/ disorders for which there is already population screening	When there is no clear diagnosis based on presenting symptoms, guide monitoring of emergent symptoms	Potentially all common diseases/disorders but little data available to date
Likely first applications:	Cancers: breast and colorectal; common eye disorders: glaucoma, macular degeneration; heart disease	Differentiating between type 1 and type 2 diabetes	Inflammatory bowel disease is a flagship in the genetics of common disease; perhaps we will see first applications here?

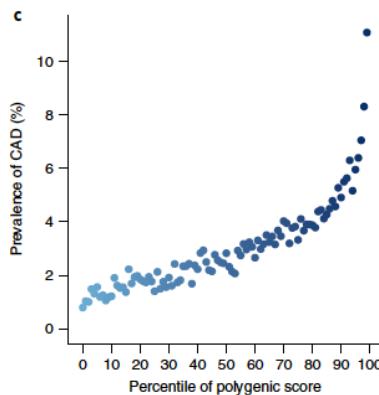
# Schizophrenia polygenic risk prediction

**medRxiv** THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES

**CSHL** Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory **BMJ** Yale

**Mapping genomic loci prioritises genes and implicates synaptic biology in schizophrenia**

The Schizophrenia Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium, Stephan Ripke, James TR Walters, Michael C O'Donovan  
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.09.12.20192922>



Coronary artery disease  
14-fold difference

Top percentile vs bottom percentile:  
40-fold difference



~10% variation in liability  
AUC 0.73

	Low PRS	HighPRS
No Disease		

Complex Psychiatry

Research Article

Complex Psychiatry 2020;6:68–82  
DOI: 10.1159/000512716

## Publicly Available hiPSC Lines with Extreme Polygenic Risk Scores for Modeling Schizophrenia

Kristina Dobbrindt<sup>a,b</sup> Hanwen Zhang<sup>c</sup> Debamitra Das<sup>d</sup> Sara Abdollahi<sup>d</sup>  
Tim Prorok<sup>c</sup> Sulagna Ghosh<sup>e,f</sup> Sarah Weintraub<sup>c</sup> Giulio Genovese<sup>e,f</sup>  
Samuel K. Powell<sup>a,b</sup> Anina Lund<sup>a,b</sup> Schahram Akbarian<sup>b</sup> Kevin Eggan<sup>f,g</sup>  
Steven McCarroll<sup>e,f</sup> Jubao Duan<sup>c,h</sup> Dimitrios Avramopoulos<sup>d</sup>  
Kristen J. Brennand<sup>a,b</sup>

**PERSPECTIVE** **FOCUS ON PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS**

**nature medicine**

The promises and challenges of human brain organoids as models of neuropsychiatric disease

Giorgia Quadrato, Juliana Brown & Paola Arlotta

	Low PRS	HighPRS
No Disease		
Disease		


 Graham Murray,  
UoCambridge

 Jehannine Austin,  
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 John  
McGrath, UQ

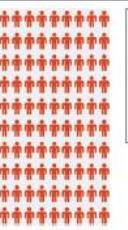
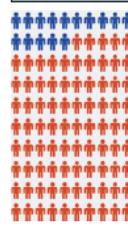
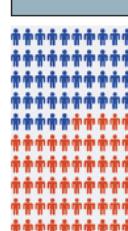
 Ian Hickie,  
UoSydney

# Polygenic risk score applications in psychiatry

JAMA Psychiatry | Review

## Could Polygenic Risk Scores Be Useful in Psychiatry? A Review

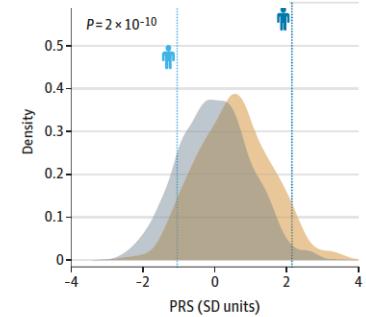
Graham K. Murray, MD, PhD; Tian Lin, PhD; Jehannine Austin, PhD; John J. McGrath, MD, PhD; Ian B. Hickie, MD; Naomi R. Wray, PhD

Cohort where PRS applied	Community	Symptoms: help seeking
	<b>Community</b>  Of 100 people in the population, 1 will get the disease in lifetime, assuming a disease of lifetime risk of 1%.	<b>Symptoms: help seeking</b>  Of 100 people presenting at clinic with symptoms but without a clear diagnosis, a higher proportion than in a population sample will go on to get the disease in their lifetime.
Utility of PRS	PRS contribute to risk stratification	PRS contribute to clinical decisions
	 Of 100 people in the top PRS stratum, a higher proportion will get the disease in their lifetime and hence are particularly encouraged to enter established disease screening, if relevant, or consider lifestyle risk factors.	 Of 100 people presenting with symptoms and in the top PRS stratum, a higher proportion than in the clinic-presenting cohort will go on to get diagnosis of the disease in their lifetime.
Likely relevance to mental health disorders	This application of PRS is unlikely to be relevant in the short term. Possible applications in the long term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to risk screening for ASD or ADHD, where stratification for intensive evaluation could lead to earlier diagnosis and earlier behavioral interventions</li> <li>High PRS for schizophrenia could lead to lifestyle guidelines on recreational drug use.</li> </ul>	

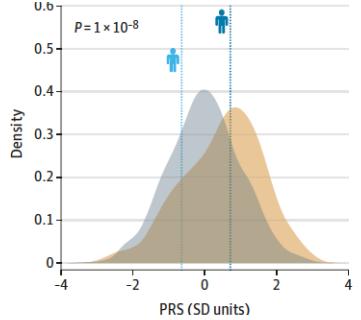
158 young adults presenting with symptoms at a youth mental health clinic

1528 community samples random ascertainment

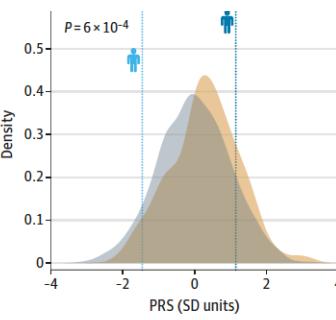
### Schizophrenia



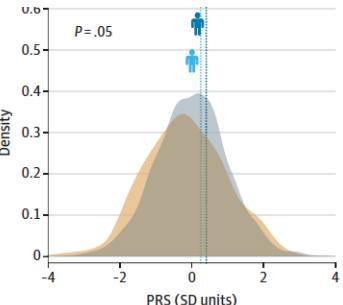
### Depression



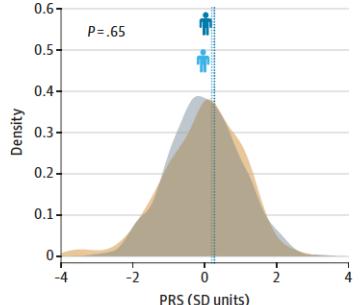
### Bipolar Disorder



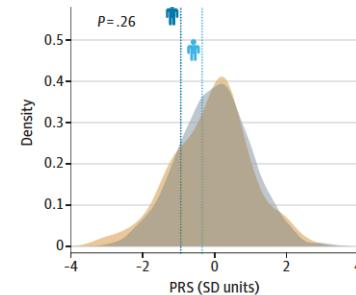
### Height



### Body mass index



### Type 2 diabetes



# Family history

Will people **withOUT** known family history have high PRS?

Maybe, and that's important!

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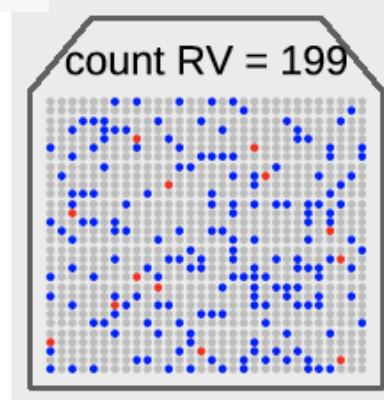
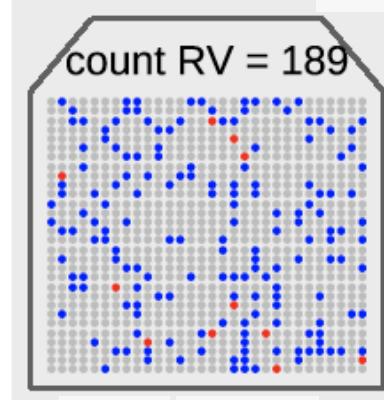
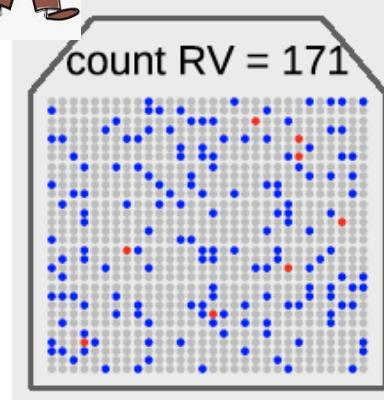
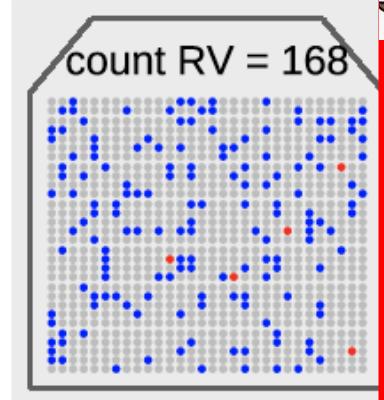
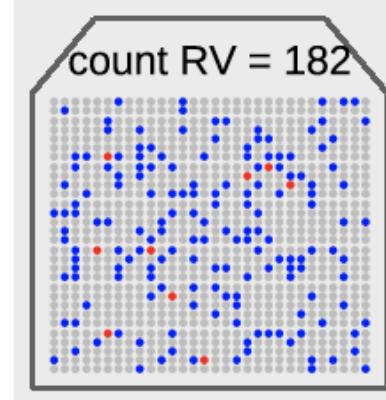
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stin, PhD; John J. McGrath, MD, PhD; Ian B. Hickie, MD;  
hD



Not affected over lifetime



100  
%



50  
%



100  
%



25  
%

50  
%

25  
%



50  
%

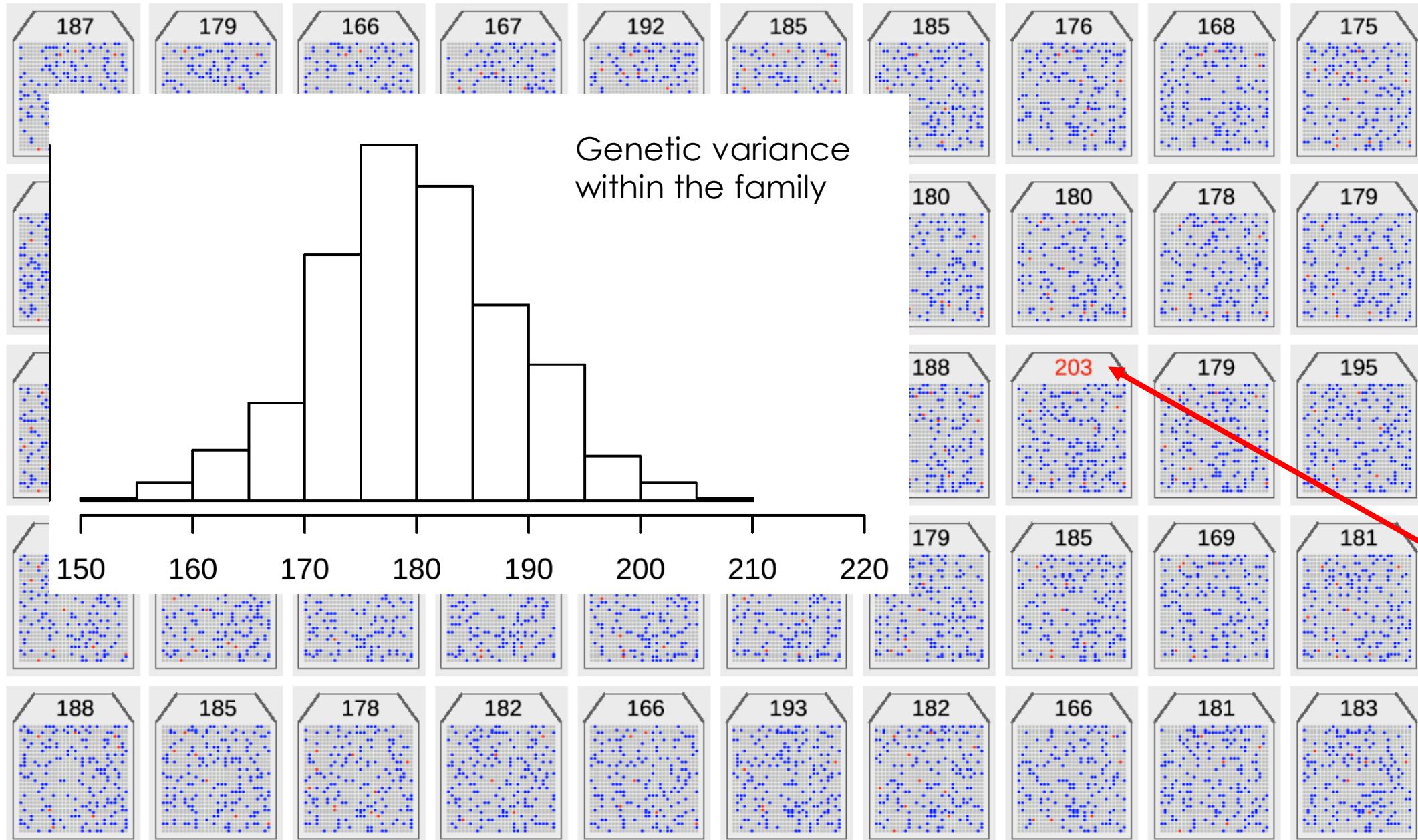
50  
%



100  
%



# Children (Parents: 171 & 189)



Children of these parents  
Mean: 180  
+/-3SD: 153-207

Population  
Mean: 180  
+/-3SD: 142-218

No family history, but by chance segregation of alleles has high genetic risk

# PRS in the clinically high risk

## Polygenic Risk Score Contribution to Psychosis Prediction in a Target Population of Persons at Clinical High Risk

2019

Diana O. Perkins, M.D., M.P.H., Loes Olde Loohuis, Ph.D., Jenna Barbee, B.S., John Ford, M.S., Clark D. Jeffries, Ph.D., Jean Addington, Ph.D., Carrie E. Bearden, Ph.D., Kristin S. Cadenhead, M.D., Tyrone D. Cannon, Ph.D., Barbara A. Cornblatt, Ph.D., Daniel H. Mathalon, M.D., Ph.D., Thomas H. McGlashan, M.D., Larry J. Seidman, Ph.D., Ming Tsuang, M.D., Ph.D., Elaine F. Walker, Ph.D., Scott W. Woods, M.D.

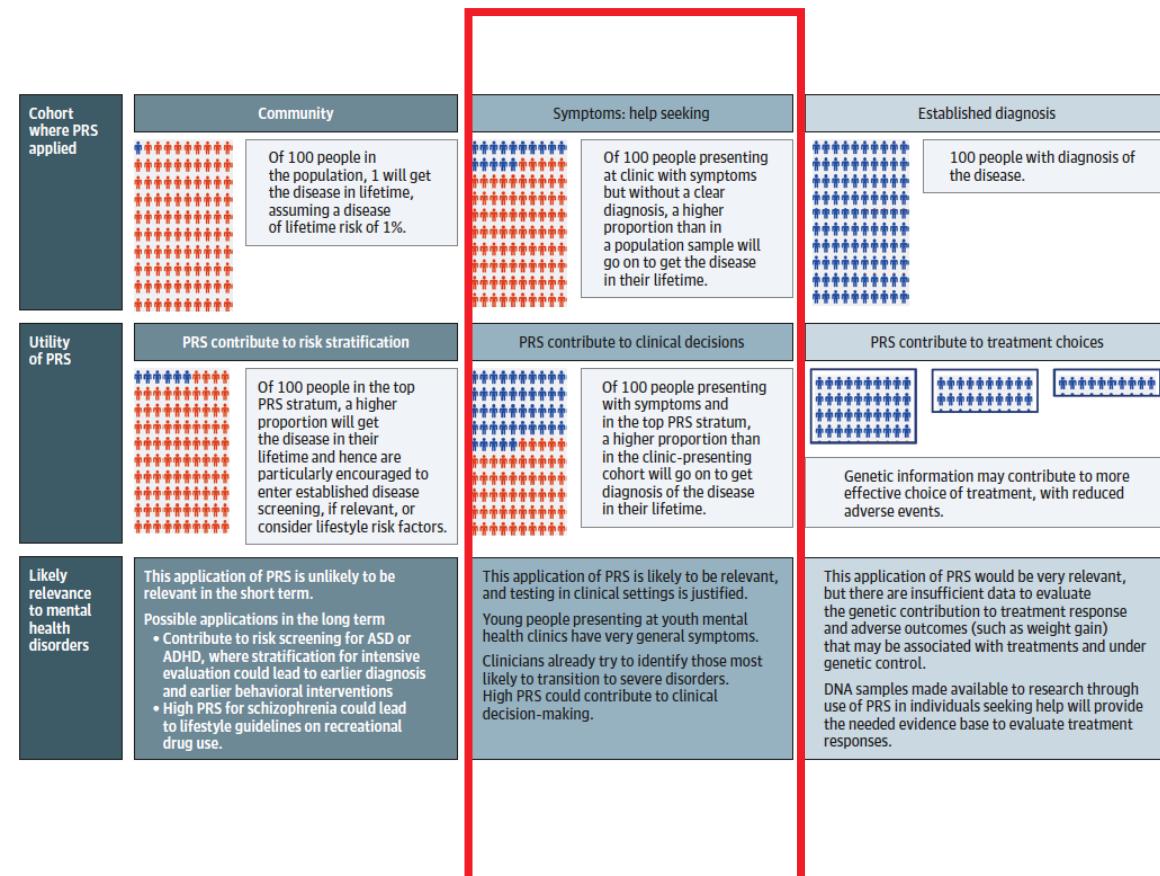
- 764 people with psychosis high risk at baseline
  - 595 with follow-up
  - 238 EUR, 357 non-EUR
  - 84 converted to psychosis diagnosis (33 & 51)
- 279 unaffected

**Conclusions:** The PRS discriminates psychosis converters from nonconverters and modestly improves individualized psychosis risk prediction when added to a psychosis risk calculator. The schizophrenia PRS shows promise in enhancing risk prediction in persons at high risk for psychosis, although its potential utility is limited by poor performance in persons of non-European ancestry.

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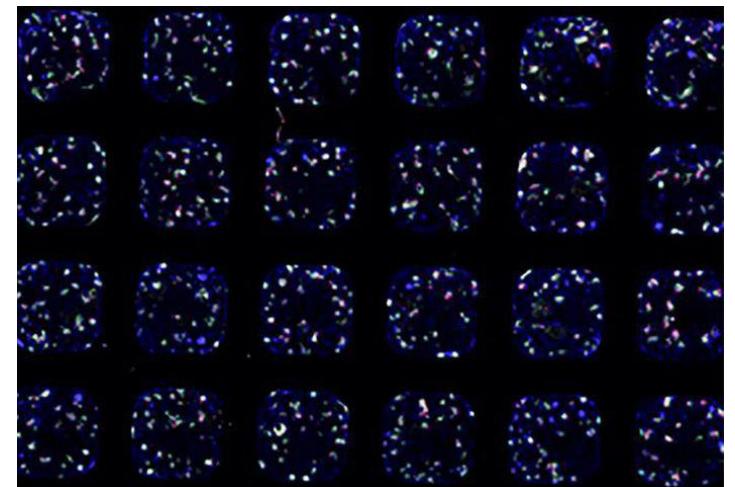
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# Summary

- Polygenic scores are biomarkers not diagnostic tests
- Polygenic risk scores will be evaluated in many common diseases and disorders in next 5-10 years
  - Context of population screening
  - Combined with non-genetic risk factors
- In psychiatry
  - Need to evaluate use of polygenic risk scores in the context of young people presenting with symptoms
  - 40-fold difference between top and bottom percentile can provide very powerful experimental design
  - Collect the samples today to allow the experimental designs of tomorrow



Robotic cellular phenotyping

# Acknowledgements



Enabling scientific discoveries that improve human health

