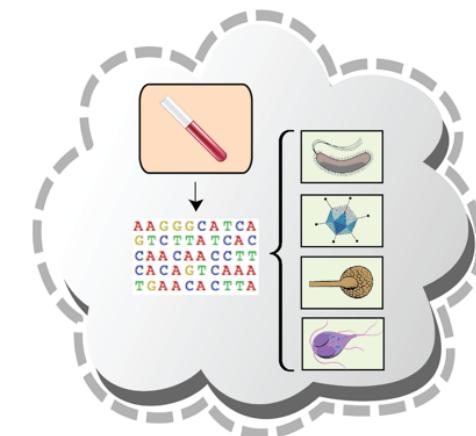




University of California  
San Francisco



# Next-Generation Sequencing for Diagnosis of Infections

**Charles Chiu, MD / PhD**

Associate Professor, Departments of Laboratory Medicine and Medicine /  
Infectious Diseases

Director, UCSF-Abbott Viral Diagnostics and Discovery Center

Associate Director, UCSF Clinical Microbiology Laboratory

# Disclosures

- Abbott Diagnostics (research support for pathogen discovery)
- Rubicon Genomics (scientific advisory board)
- Karius, Inc. (scientific advisory board)

# **Summary of Talk**

- 1. Metagenomic next-generation sequencing (mNGS) for infectious disease diagnosis, including the SURPI bioinformatics pipeline**
- 2. Clinical case studies of mNGS**
- 3. The California Initiative to Advance Precision Medicine (CIAPM) “Precision Diagnosis of Acute Infectious Diseases” project**
  
- 1. Other applications of NGS (point-of-care nanopore sequencing, transcriptomics)**

# Precision Diagnosis with Genomic Testing can Impact Clinical Decision-Making in Infectious Diseases



California Initiative to Advance  
Precision Medicine



## CLIA Laboratory



Metagenomic NGS



Bioinformatics

Agent  
ID

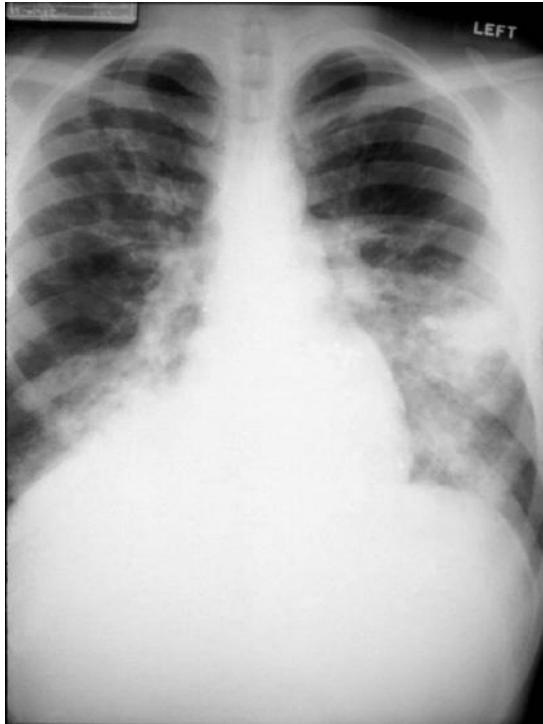
↓ Lower healthcare costs

↑ Improved patient outcomes

Cost-effective and actionable  
information for early treatment

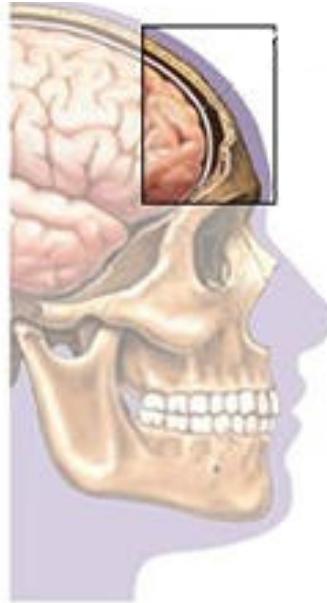
*Turnaround time: hours – days (versus days – weeks)*

# Targeted Infectious Diseases in Hospitalized Patients



**Pneumonia**

**15 – 25%**  
*unknown cause*



**Meningitis / Encephalitis**

**50 – 70%**  
*unknown cause*

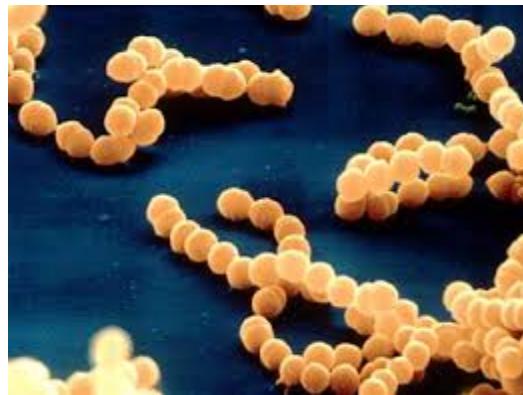


**Fever / sepsis**

**~20 – 30% unknown  
cause**

# Nearly All Microbes can be Uniquely Identified by “Shotgun” Nucleic Acid Sequencing

Bacteria



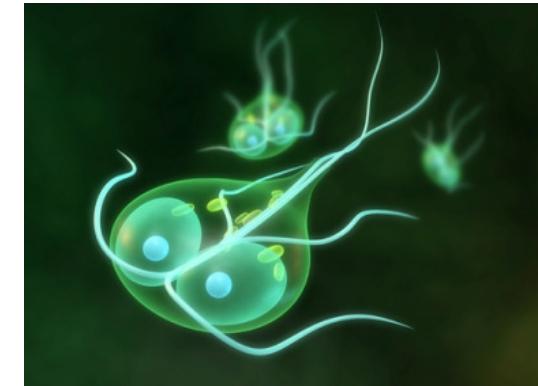
Viruses



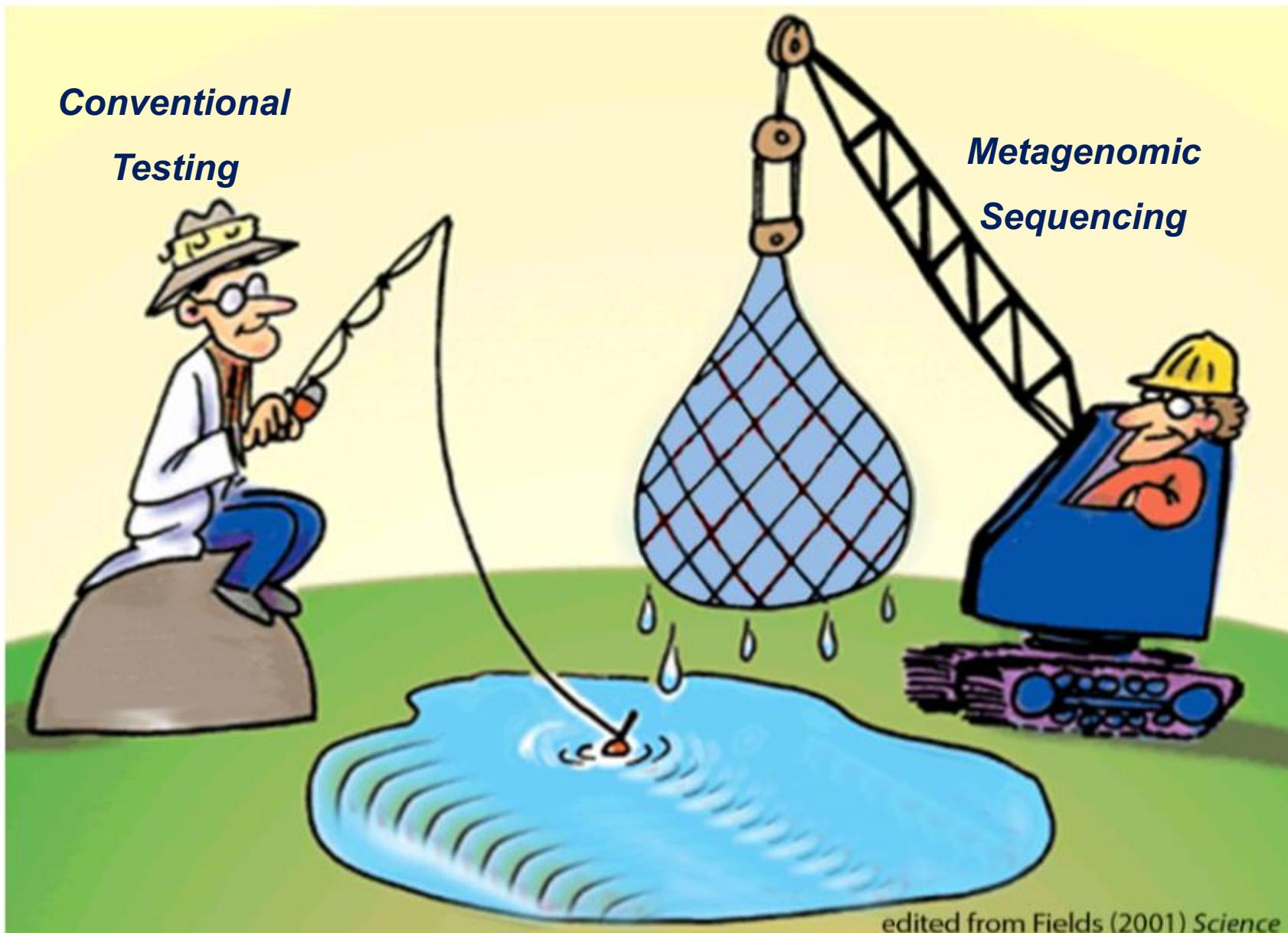
Fungi



Parasites



# Metagenomic Sequencing – Casting a Wide Net



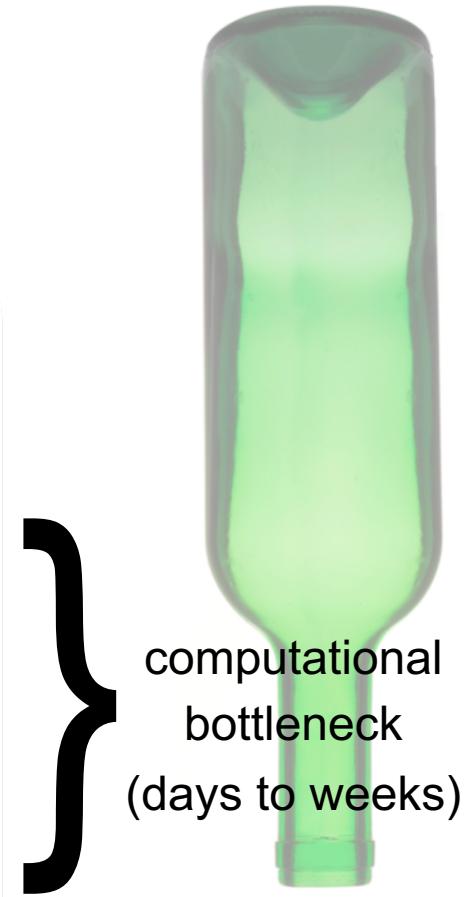
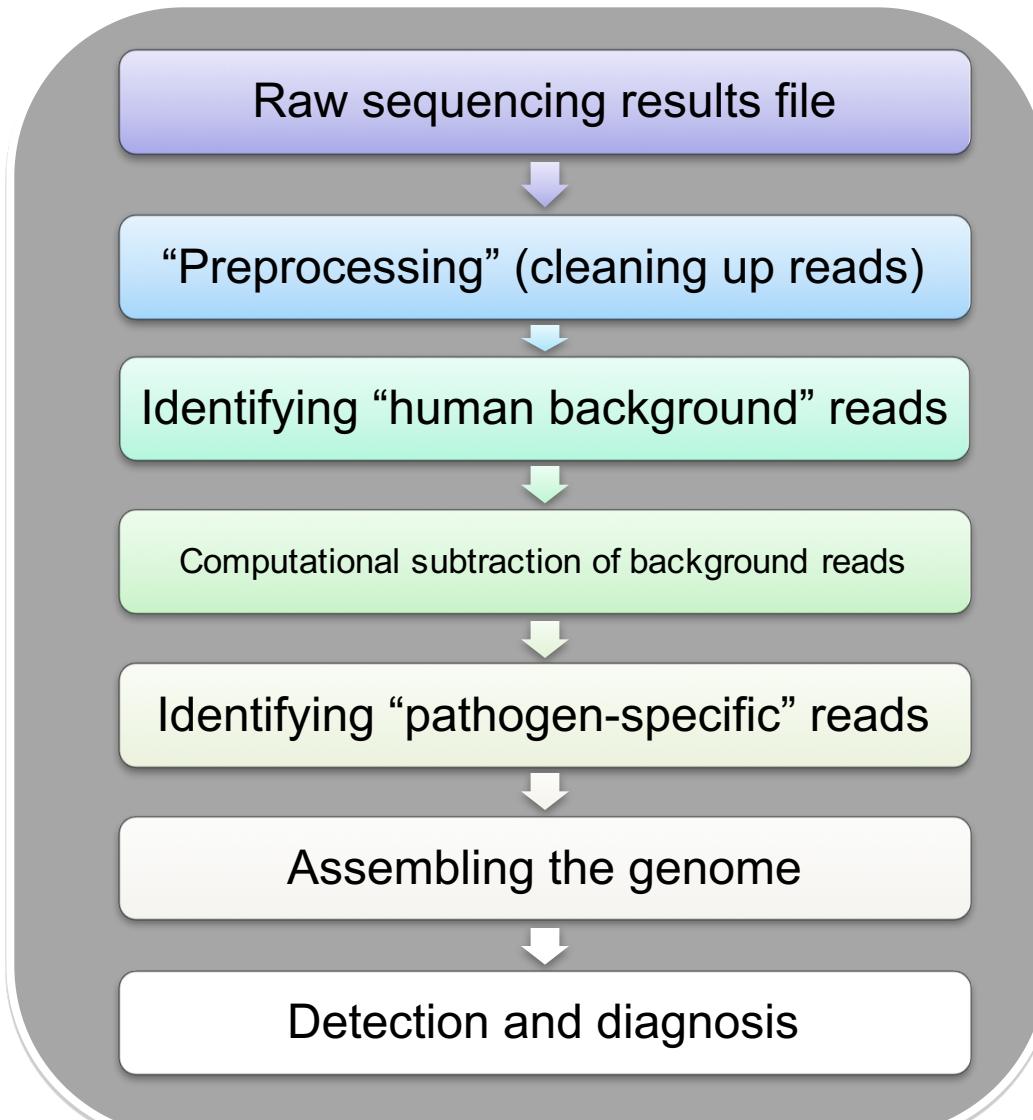
# Metagenomic Next-Generation Sequencing (mNGS) for Infectious Disease Diagnosis

- Metagenomic sequencing = shotgun, random sequencing of all of the RNA and DNA in a clinical sample
- “Unbiased” approach to detect and reconstruct the genomic sequence of nearly any and all pathogens including viruses, bacteria, fungi, and parasites
- Feasible due to vast increases in sequencing capacity with current instruments



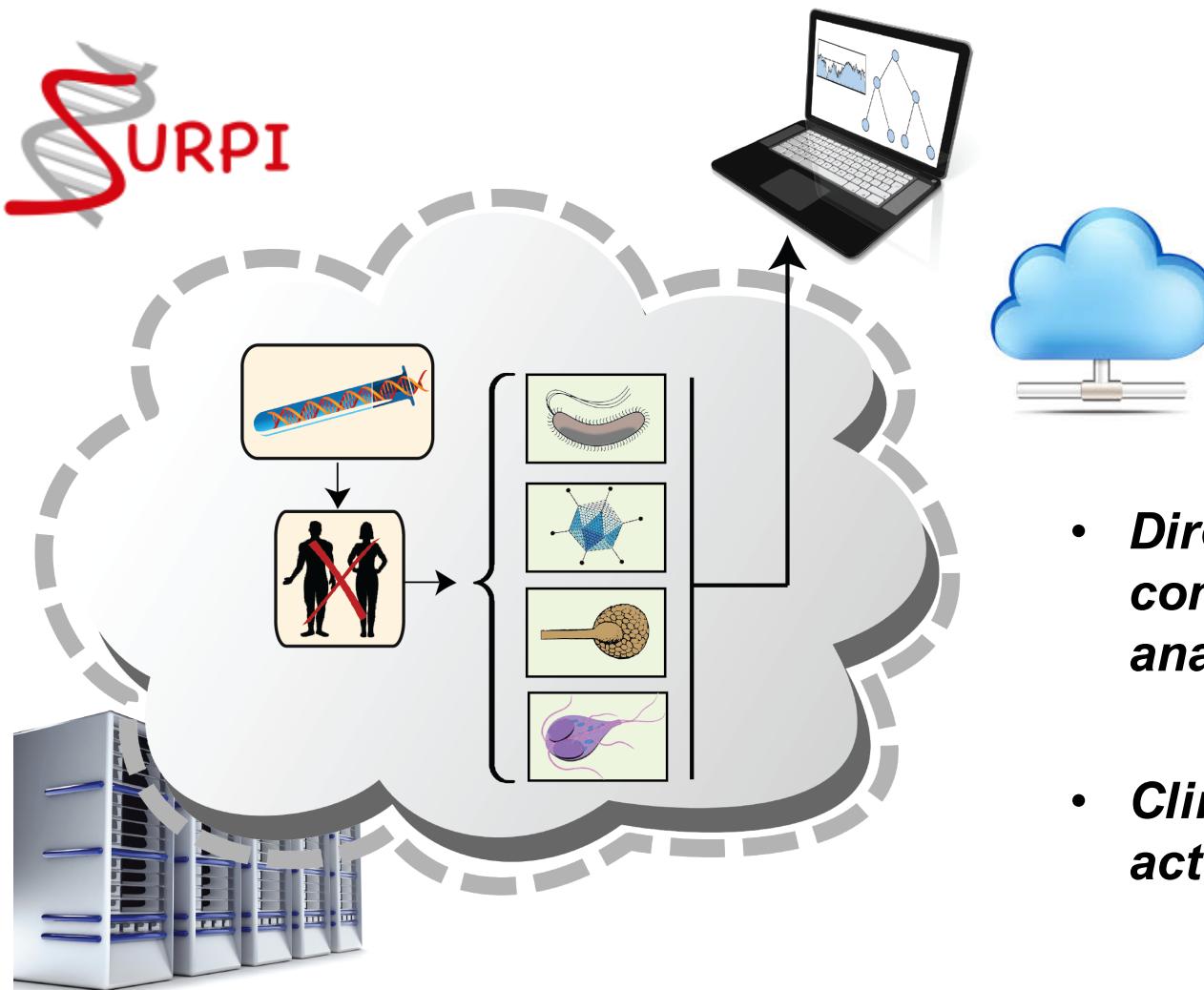
HiSeq 2500 (Illumina, Inc.)

# Identifying Pathogens by their Specific DNA Sequence



# The SURPI Bioinformatics Pipeline

**“Sequence-based ultra-rapid pathogen identification” (minutes – hours)**



- ***Directly addresses computational analysis bottleneck***
- ***Clinical version, in active development***

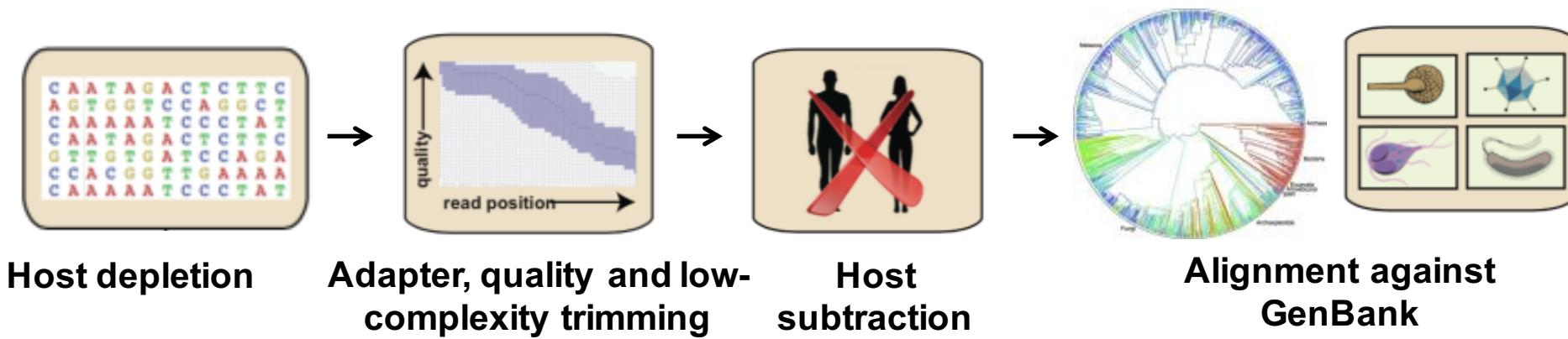
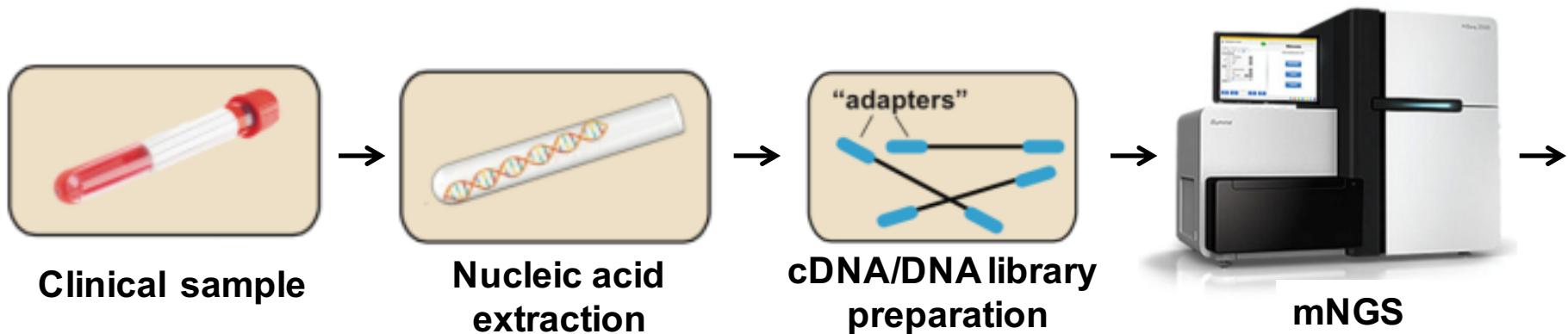
# CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments)

- CLIA = federal regulatory framework for clinical laboratory testing
  - Took effect Sept. 1992
  - CLIA laboratories are accredited (certified) by inspection agency (e.g. CAP)
- Sets minimum standards under which all clinical laboratories operate
- Requires validation and quality assurance for all laboratory tests used in clinical care



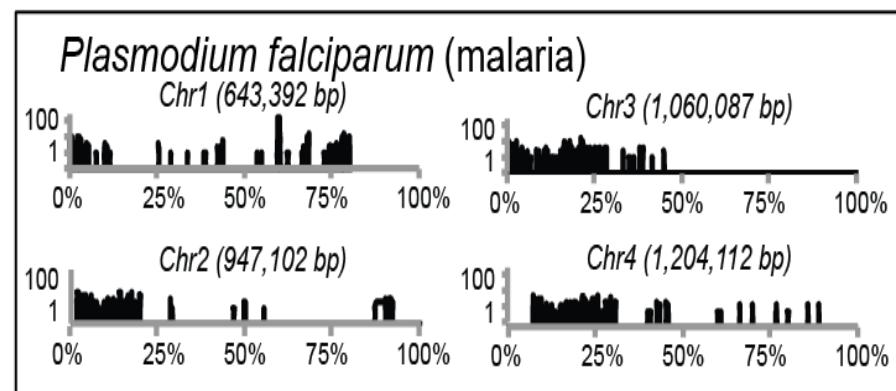
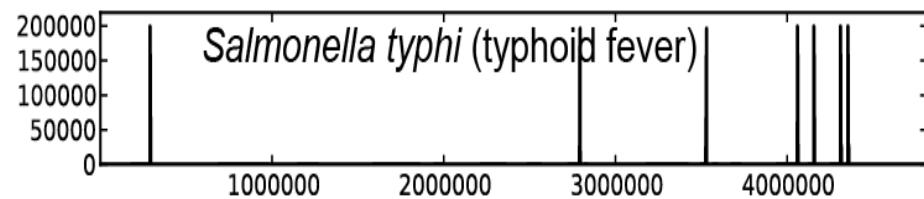
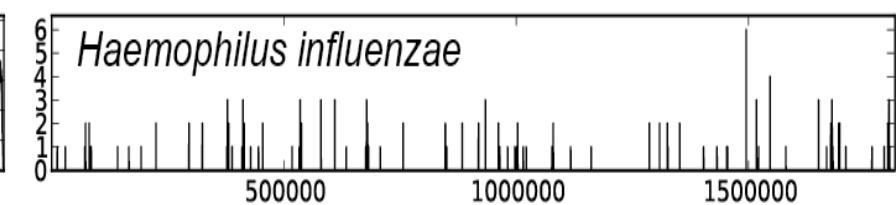
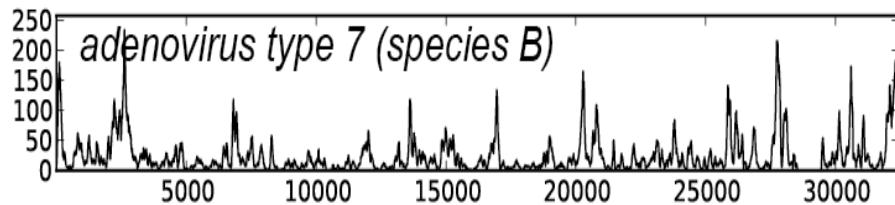
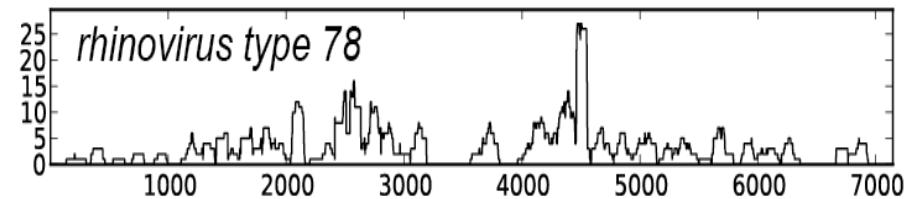
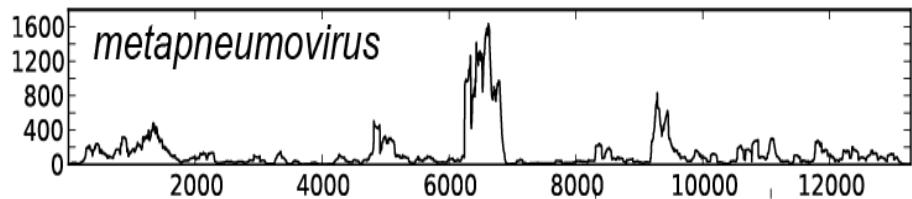
***Validation of the metagenomic NGS assay in a CLIA laboratory is essential for clinical implementation***

# mNGS Clinical Workflow in a CLIA Laboratory



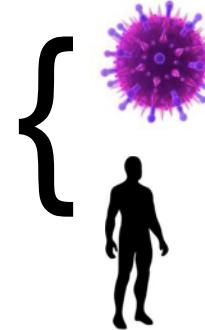
**SURPI (Sequence Based Ultra-Rapid Pathogen Identification) Pipeline**

# Same mNGS Approach Can Diagnose a Range of Acute Febrile Illnesses



# **SURPI+ (Clinical Version)**

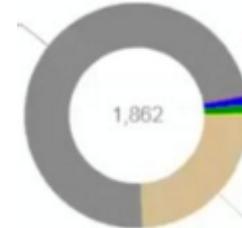
## **1. Filtering for misannotations in GenBank**



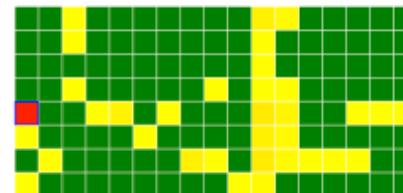
## **1. metadata tagging**



## **2. taxonomic classification**

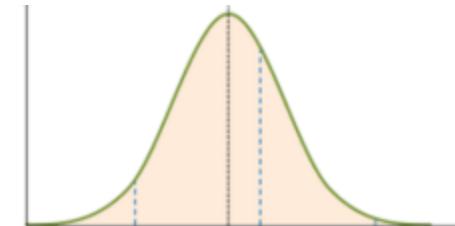


## **3. pipeline optimization**



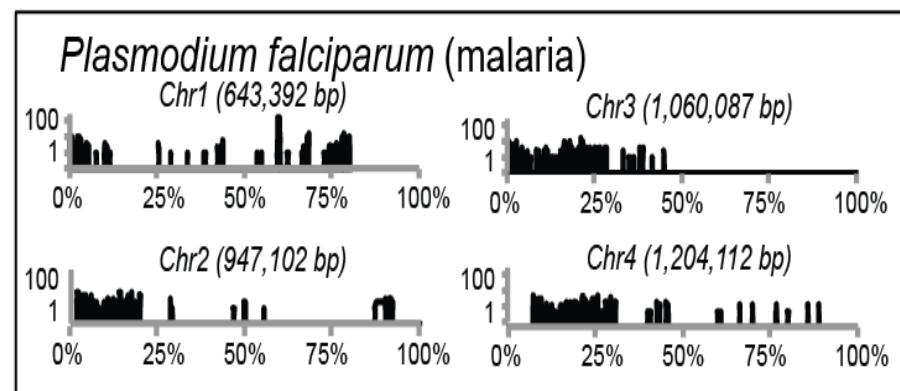
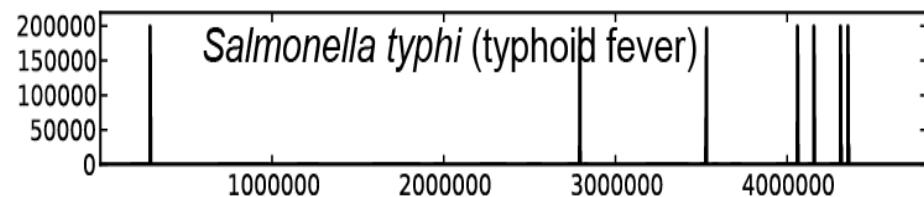
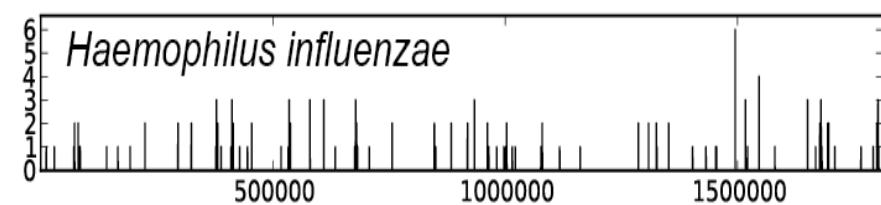
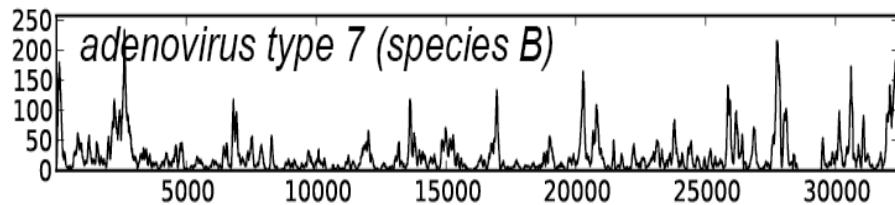
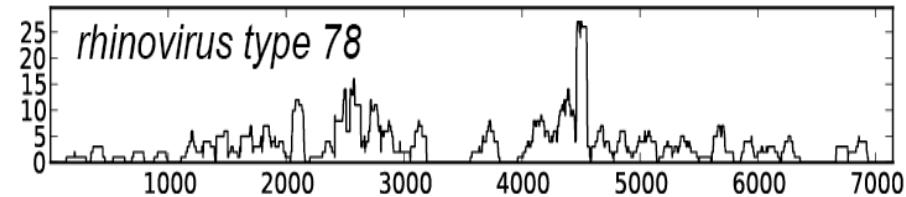
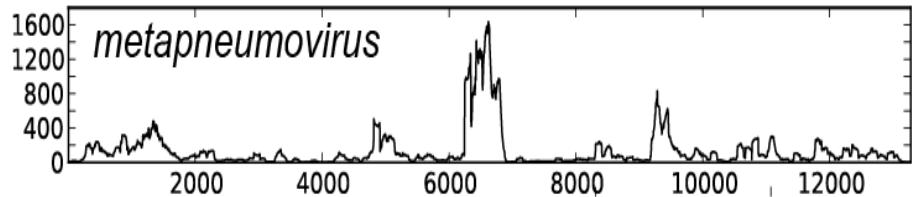
## **4. visualization (SURPIviz)**

## **5. server and cloud implementation**



## **6. metrics for normalization of results**

# Same NGS Approach Can Diagnose a Range of Acute Febrile Illnesses





## Neuroleptospirosis Diagnosed by Metagenomic NGS (mNGS)

**3 hospitalizations over 4 months**

**44 days in the ICU**

**>100 inconclusive tests**

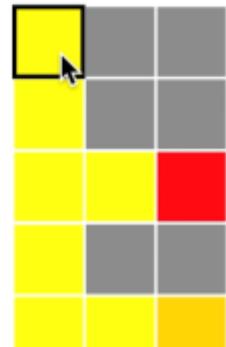
**3 empiric treatments with no effect**

**Brain biopsy and induced coma**

**Cured 2 weeks after NGS dx with  
appropriate treatment**

0063\_DNA  
0118\_DNA  
UC\_0118\_RNA

1581



## Leptospira santarosai

Leptospira borgpetersenii

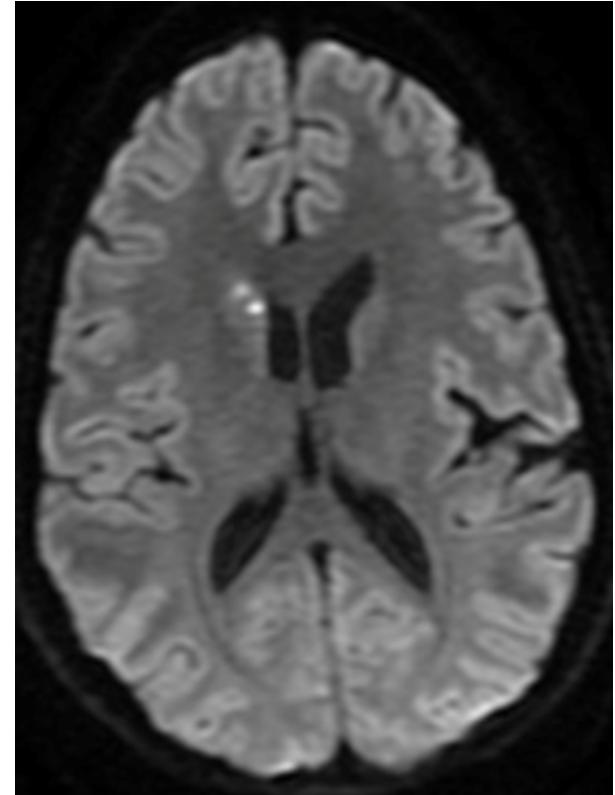
unclassified

Leptospira interrogans

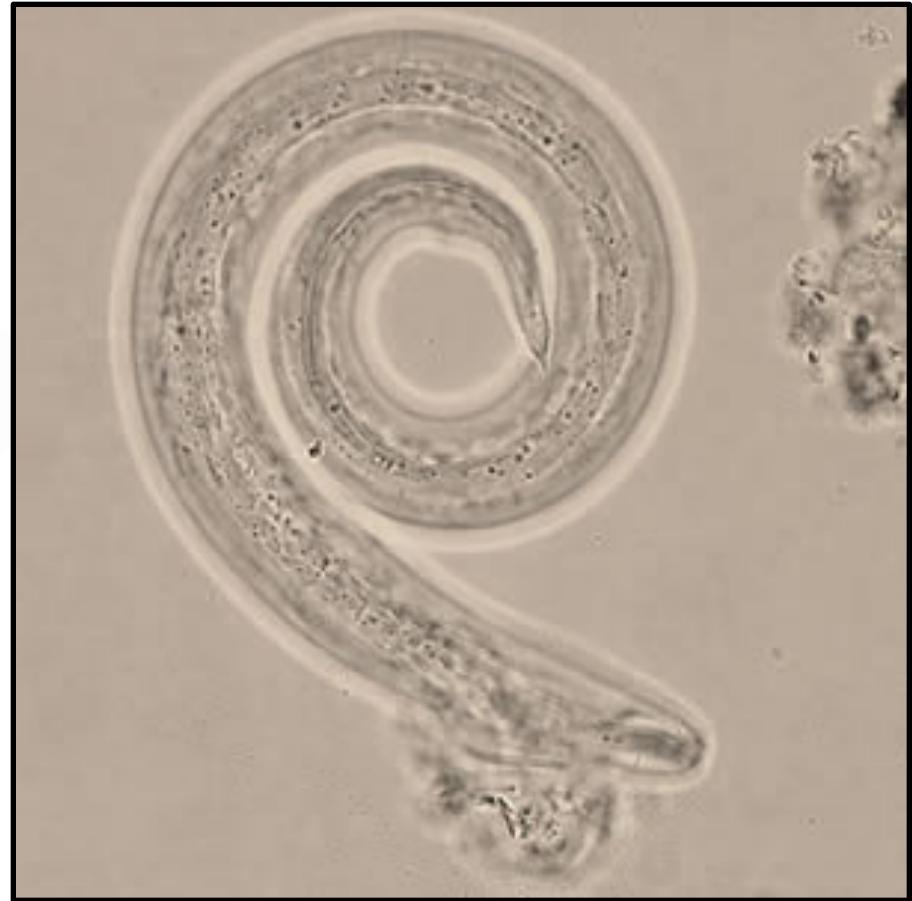
Propionibacterium acnes

# A Case of Fever and Eosinophilia

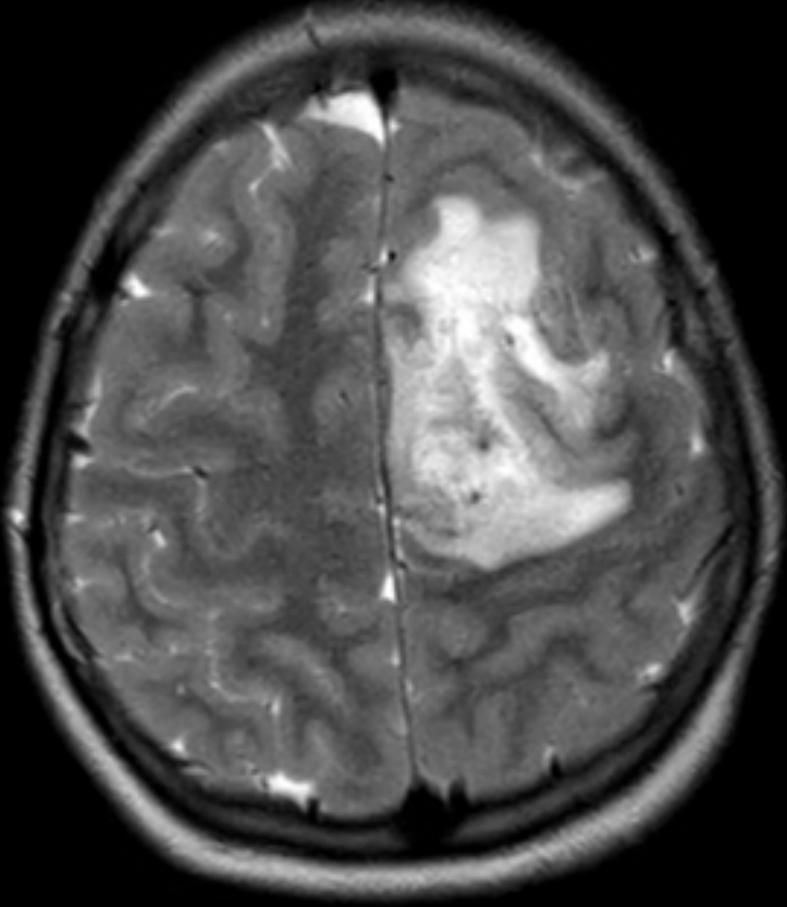
- 35 y/o female, travel to Fiji for honeymoon
- Itchy skin rash, joint pains, fever / chills
- Progresses to severe headache, blurry vision, diplopia (double vision), paresthesias (“pins-and-needles”)
- Cerebrospinal fluid with 280 white blood cells, 30% eosinophils
- Infectious disease workup negative (>40 tests)
- Treated empirically with steroids for presumed organism, but still symptomatic after 2 weeks



# mNGS Dx: Eosinophilic Meningitis from *Angiostrongylus cantonensis*, the rat lungworm



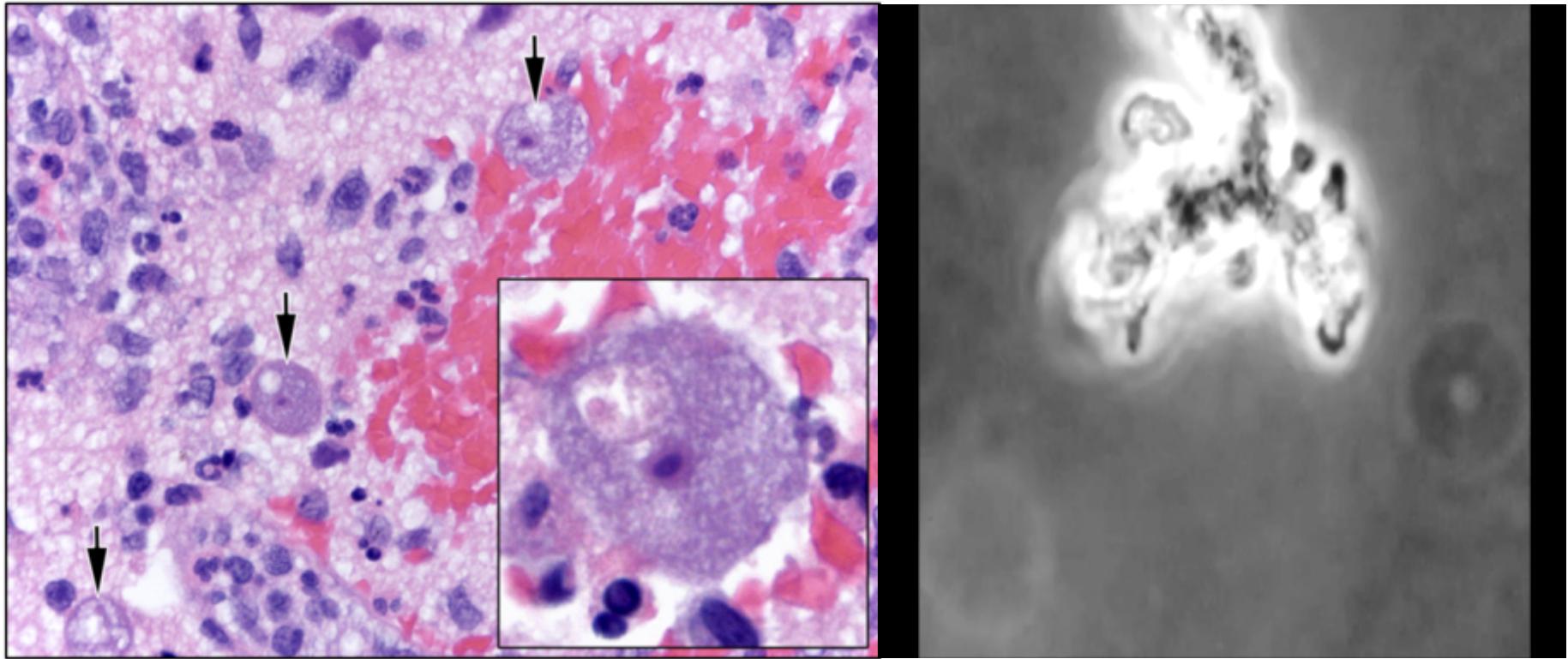
**Laboratory confirmation by the US CDC**



## A Case of Hemorrhagic Encephalitis

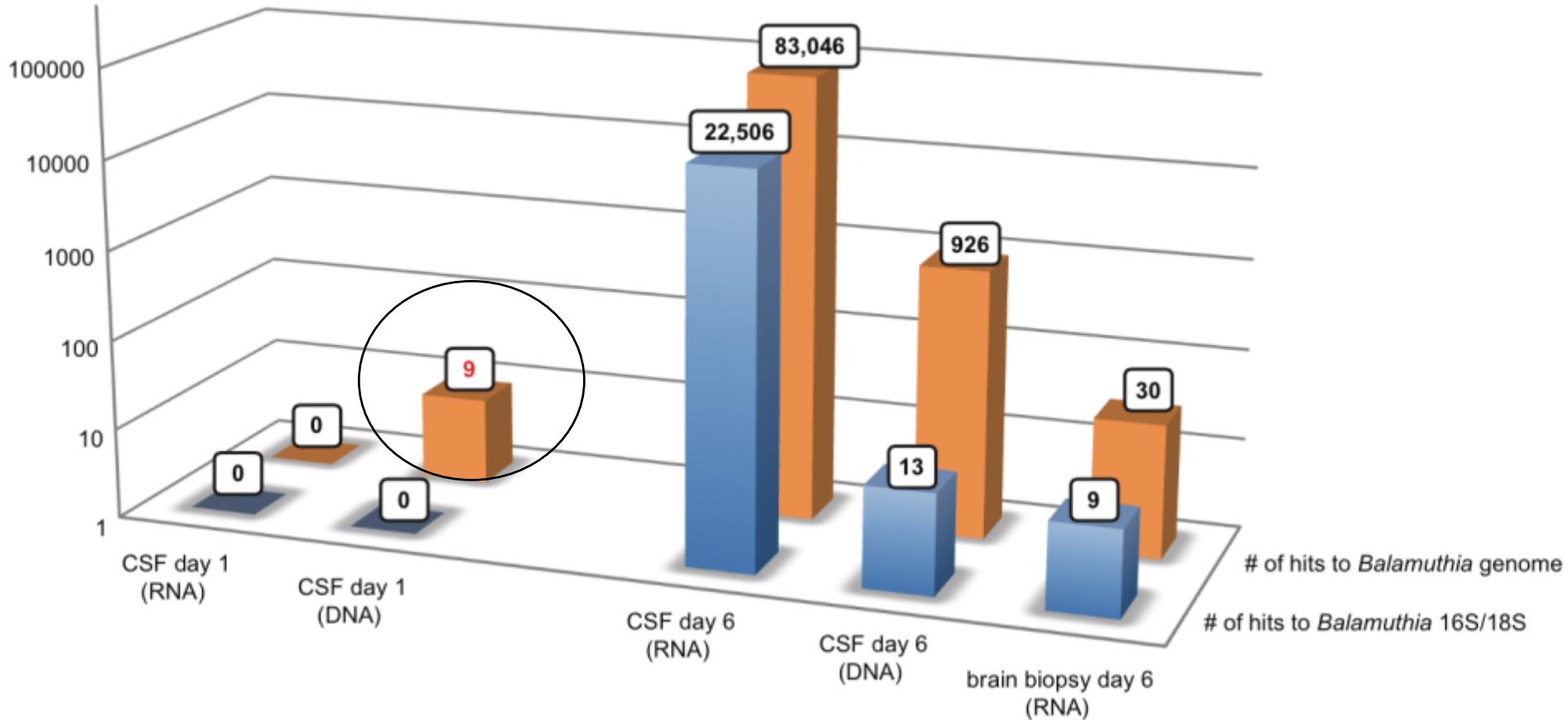
- **15 year-old girl with type 1 diabetes**
- **7 days of headache, vomiting, arm weakness, and confusion**
- **Elevated WBC count in CSF (pleocytosis); hemorrhagic frontal / occipital lobe brain lesions on MRI**
- **Extensive diagnostic testing negative**
- **“Classic” presentation for hemorrhagic form of ADEM → given IV steroids x 5 days**

# mNGS Dx: *Balamuthia mandrillaris* encephalitis



- By SURPI, 6,540 sequences out of 2,813,691 (0.23%) from *Balamuthia mandrillaris*
- Brain biopsy pathology from HD 6 → hemorrhagic necrotizing process with numerous amoebae
- Despite combination amoebicidal therapy, she developed intracranial hypertension, cardiac arrest, and died

# Could We Have Made the Diagnosis Earlier?

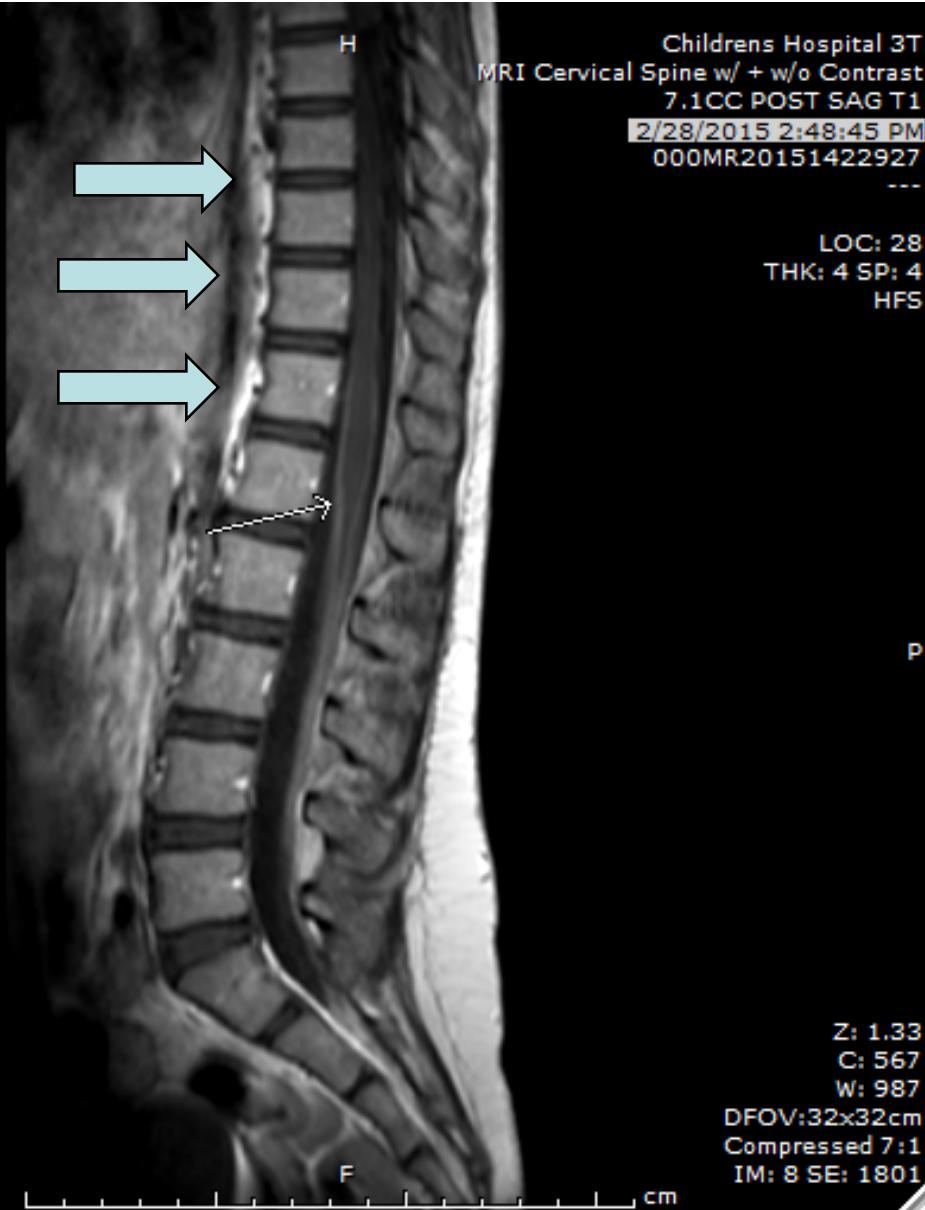


Completeness of Reference Databases is Critically Important!

# A Case of Headache and Back Pain

- 11 y/o female from Mexico
- 1 month prior to admission developed headache, nausea, abnormal jerking movements of fingers, hands, and legs (polyminimyoclonus)
- Pets: dog and turtle. H/o *Salmonella* infection 3 months ago (fever but no diarrhea)
- Father and sister with remote history of pulmonary TB
- CSF: 183 WBC (100% mono), glucose 25, protein 270
- EBV and HHV-7 detected in CSF
- She was treated with acyclovir, then ganciclovir.
- 2 weeks after discharge, she developed back pain and worsening HA
- Started empirically on 4-drug TB therapy

Galvan, Aracely  
4043448  
2/4/2004  
11 YEAR  
F



## MRI spine:

**leptomeningeal enhancement along the conus medullaris involving the cauda equina without underlying signal abnormality of the spinal cord**

**"...these findings represent an infectious or inflammatory process..."**

# A Case of Headache and Back Pain

- Laboratory testing negative for enteroviral PCR, HSV PCR, HHV-6 PCR, bacterial cx, fungal stain, fungal culture, *M. Tb* PCR x 3, AFB smear, mycobacterial culture, PPD, IGRA, HIV, RPR, crypto Ag, histo urinary Ag, cysticercosis Ab, CSF cocci ID/CF, *Brucella* IgM EIA (IgG EIA positive), malignant cells
- Poor response to 4-drug therapy – concern for drug-resistant TB:
  - ethambutol was changed to ethionamide
  - levofloxacin added to RIPE
- She improved substantially on 5-drug TB therapy and was discharged on RIPE + levofloxacin
- 1 month later, re-admitted with back pain, fatigue, and episodes of shaking of her extremities
- Repeat testing of CSF negative – what to do now?

# Before Normalization...

SPECIES	GENUS	FAMILY	NTC	POS	124	134	123_133
*	*	Enterobacteriaceae	246,369	21,342	2,350		52,116
Escherichia coli	Escherichia	Enterobacteriaceae	170,966	11,959	1,601		35,144
Propionibacterium acnes	Propionibacterium	Propionibacteriaceae	126,533	5,329	1,158		43,477
*	*	*	41,826	3,194	457		8,593
*	Brucella	Brucellaceae	0	0	251		0
Enterococcus faecium	Enterococcus	Enterococcaceae	526	96	85		26
Enterococcus casseliflavus	Enterococcus	Enterococcaceae	371	54	79		11
Pseudomonas sp. TKP	Pseudomonas	Pseudomonadaceae	941	205	69		56
*	Escherichia	Enterobacteriaceae	3,865	210	35		744
Pseudomonas stutzeri	Pseudomonas	Pseudomonadaceae	1,094	40	32		36

# After Normalization...

SPECIES	GENUS	FAMILY	NTC	POS	124_134	123_133
*	*	Enterobacteriaceae	1	0	0	0
Escherichia coli	Escherichia	Enterobacteriaceae	1	0	0	0
Propionibacterium acnes	Propionibacterium	Propionibacteriaceae	1	0	0	0
*	*	*	1	0	0	0
*	Brucella	Brucellaceae	0	0	16	0
Enterococcus faecium	Enterococcus	Enterococcaceae	1	0	0	0
Enterococcus casseliflavus	Enterococcus	Enterococcaceae	1	0	0	0
Pseudomonas sp. TKP	Pseudomonas	Pseudomonadaceae	1	0	0	0
*	Escherichia	Enterobacteriaceae	1	0	0	0
Pseudomonas stutzeri	Pseudomonas	Pseudomonadaceae	1	0	0	0
Brucella melitensis	Brucella	Brucellaceae	0	0	2	0
Xanthomonas campestris	Xanthomonas	Xanthomonadaceae	1	0	0	0
*	Burkholderia	Burkholderiaceae	1	0	0	0

# Before Normalization...

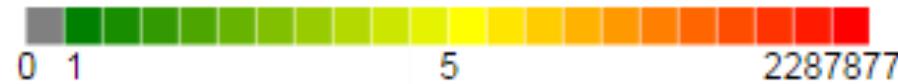
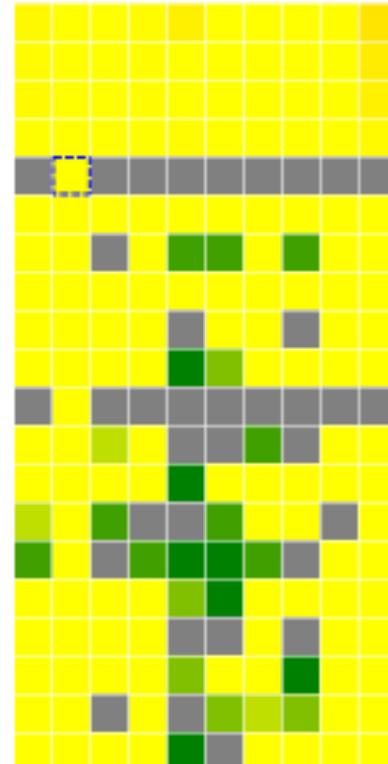
Accession: All ▾

Prep:  DNA  RNA

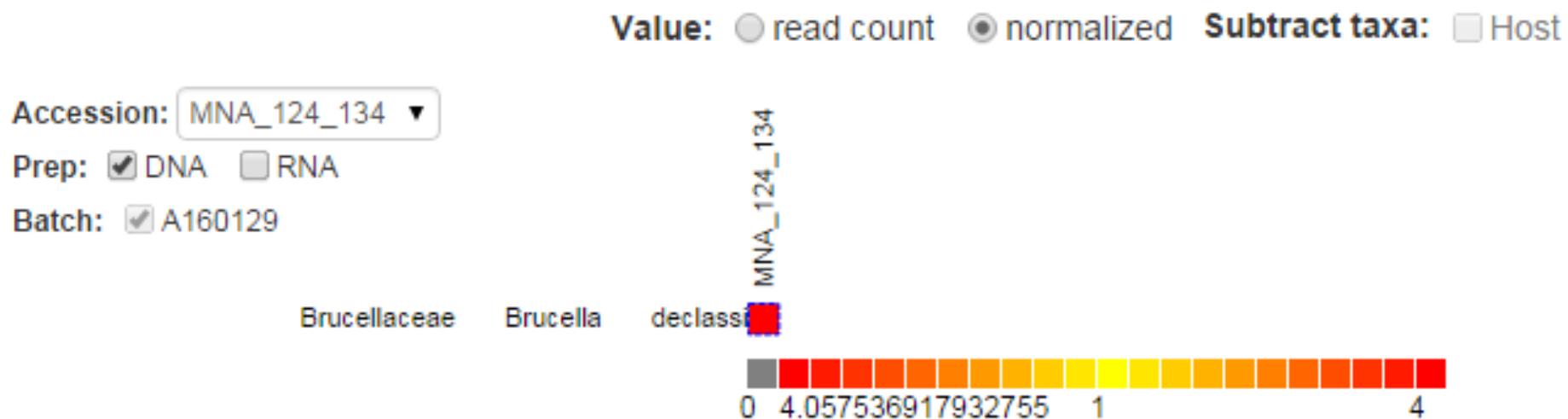
Batch:  A160129

Enterobacteriaceae	declassified	declassified
Enterobacteriaceae	Escherichia	Escherichia coli
Propionibacteriaceae	Propionibacterium	Propionibacterium acnes
declassified	declassified	declassified
Brucellaceae	Brucella	declassified
Enterococcaceae	Enterococcus	Enterococcus faecium
Enterococcaceae	Enterococcus	Enterococcus casseliflavus
Pseudomonadaceae	Pseudomonas	Pseudomonas sp. TKP
Enterobacteriaceae	Escherichia	declassified
Pseudomonadaceae	Pseudomonas	Pseudomonas stutzeri
Brucellaceae	Brucella	Brucella melitensis
Xanthomonadaceae	Xanthomonas	Xanthomonas campestris
Burkholderiaceae	Burkholderia	declassified
Corynebacteriaceae	Corynebacterium	Corynebacterium glutamicum
Pasteurellaceae	Haemophilus	Haemophilus influenzae
Staphylococcaceae	Staphylococcus	Staphylococcus epidermidis
Streptococcaceae	Streptococcus	Streptococcus salivarius
Pseudomonadaceae	Pseudomonas	declassified
Burkholderiaceae	Burkholderia	Burkholderia cepacia
Propionibacteriaceae	Propionibacterium	declassified

MNA\_123\_133  
**MNA\_124\_134**  
MNA\_125\_135  
MNA\_126\_136  
MNA\_127\_137  
MNA\_128\_138  
MNA\_129\_139  
MNA\_130\_140  
MNA\_131\_141  
MNA\_132\_142



# After Normalization...



# Brucellosis

- IgG ELISA (+)
- Brucellosis and TB
  - Overlapping clinical features
- A false-positive *Brucella* IgG ELISA in active TB patients was reported. Int J Gen Med (2011), 4:207-210
- A false-positive *Brucella* IgM EIA was reported. CDC recommends that all positive results obtained by rapid serologic assays be confirmed with *Brucella*-specific agglutination testing MMWR (2008), 57(22):603-605
- Spinal brucellosis has variable clinical picture; lumbar region most common with abscess, myelitis, nerve root contrast enhancement Int J Infect Dis (2008), 12(6):573-577

***Brucella agglutinins 1:128 (borderline pos) → pt treated with doxycycline and rifampin x 6 weeks with complete response***



University of California  
San Francisco



## CIAPM Project: **Precision Diagnosis of Acute Infectious Diseases**



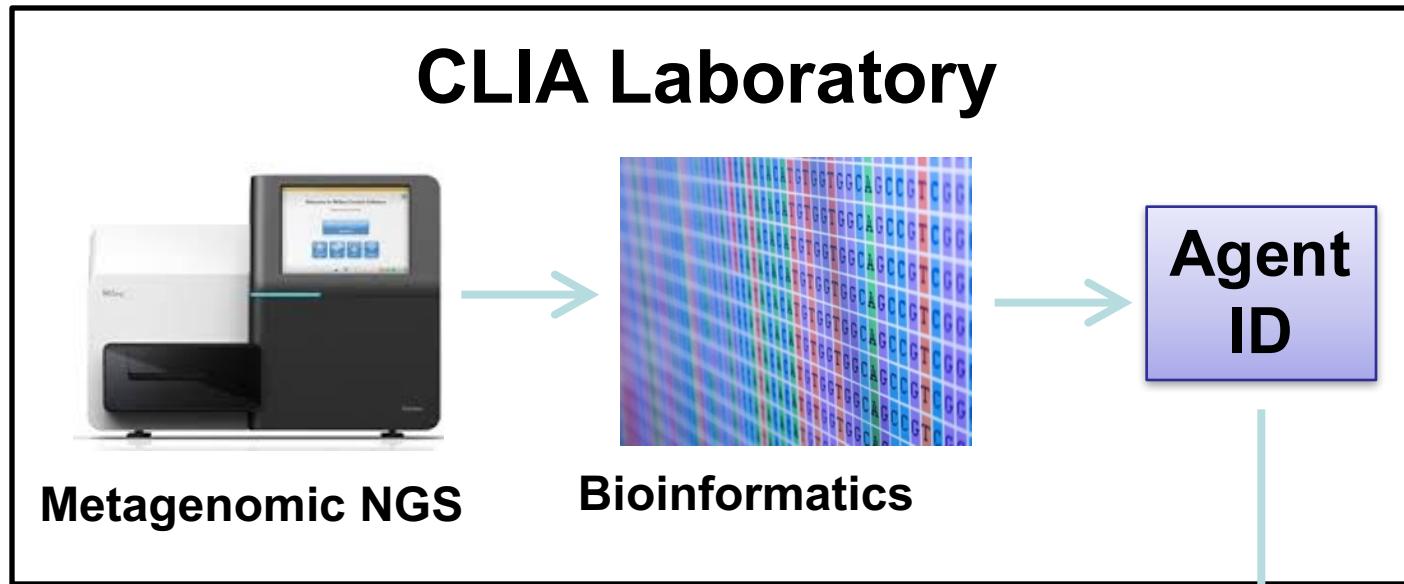
Google  
Genomics



# Precision Diagnosis with Genomic Testing can Impact Clinical Decision-Making in Infectious Diseases



California Initiative to Advance  
Precision Medicine



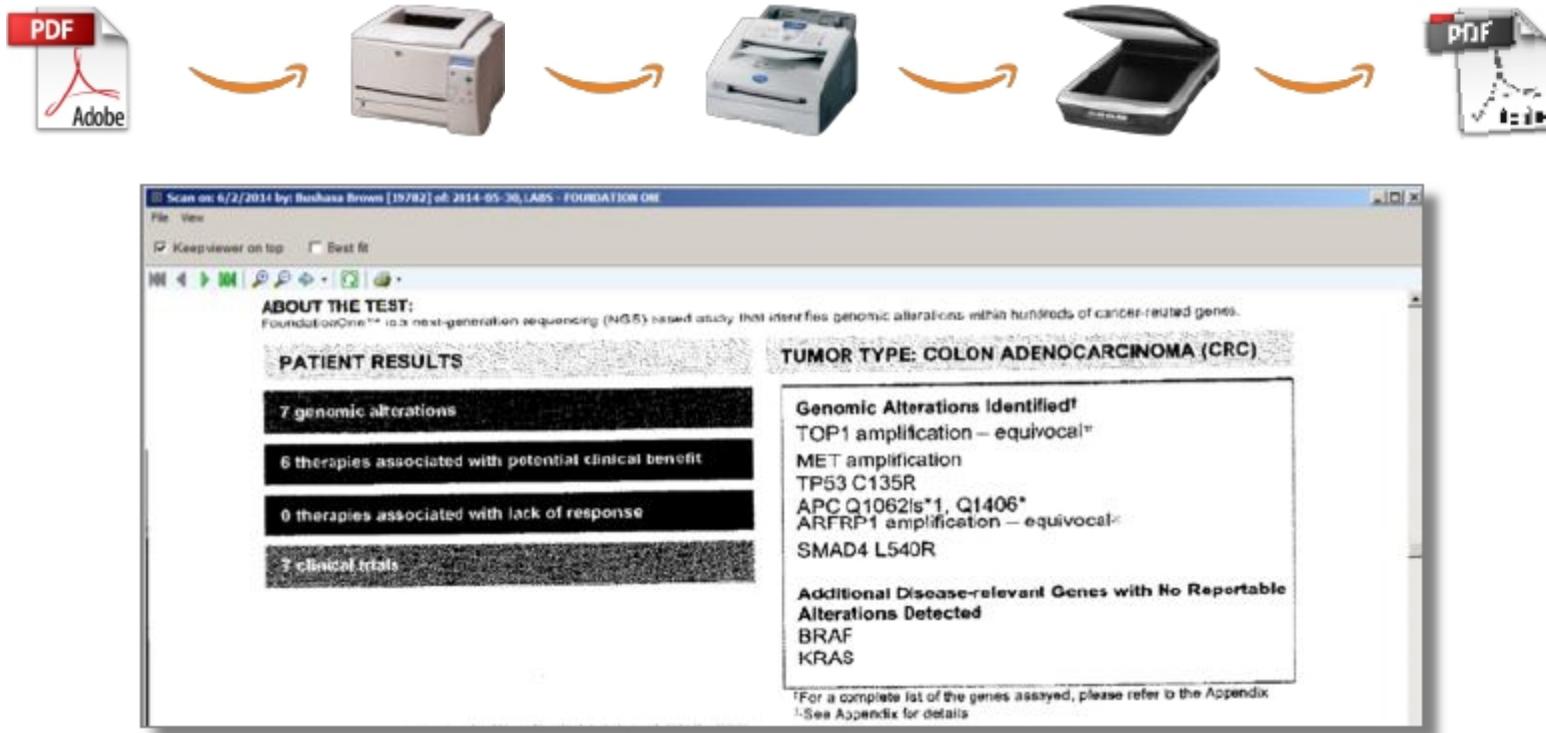
↓ Lower healthcare costs

↑ Improved patient outcomes

Cost-effective and actionable  
information for early treatment

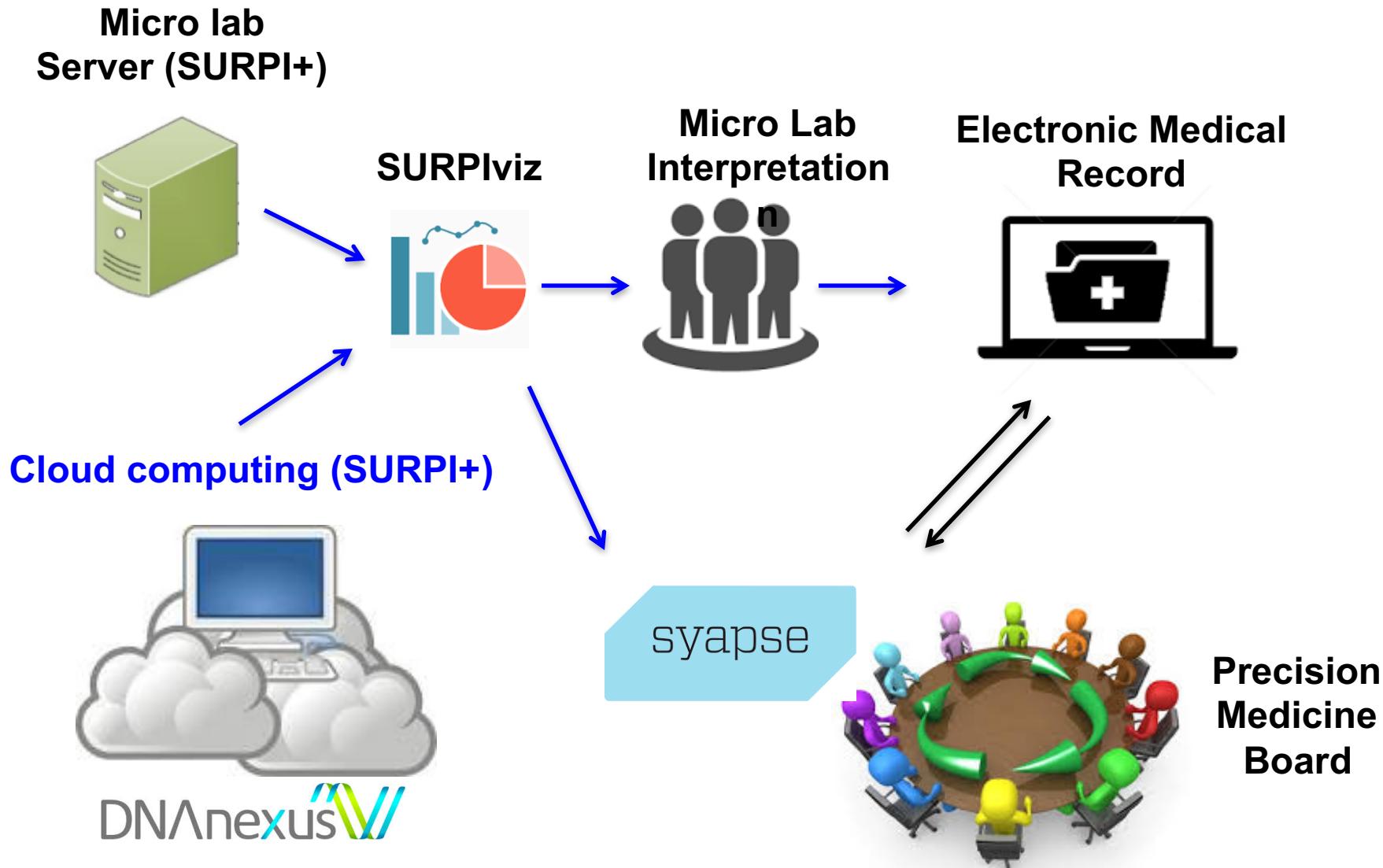
*Turnaround time: hours – days (versus days – weeks)*

# How Laboratory Data Currently Gets into the EMR

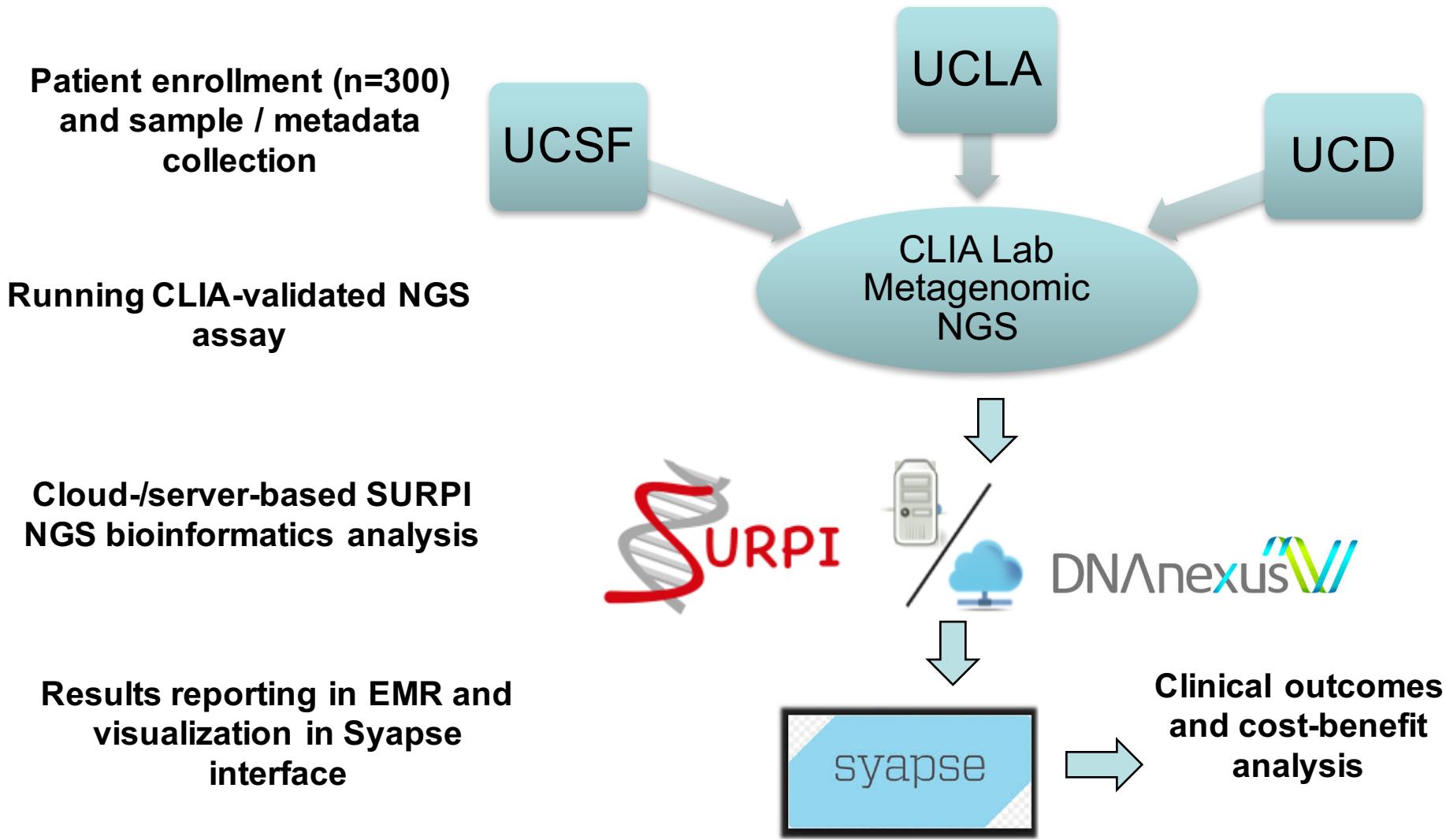


*This is the standard for data obtained from outside labs!*

# The Lab-Physician Interface

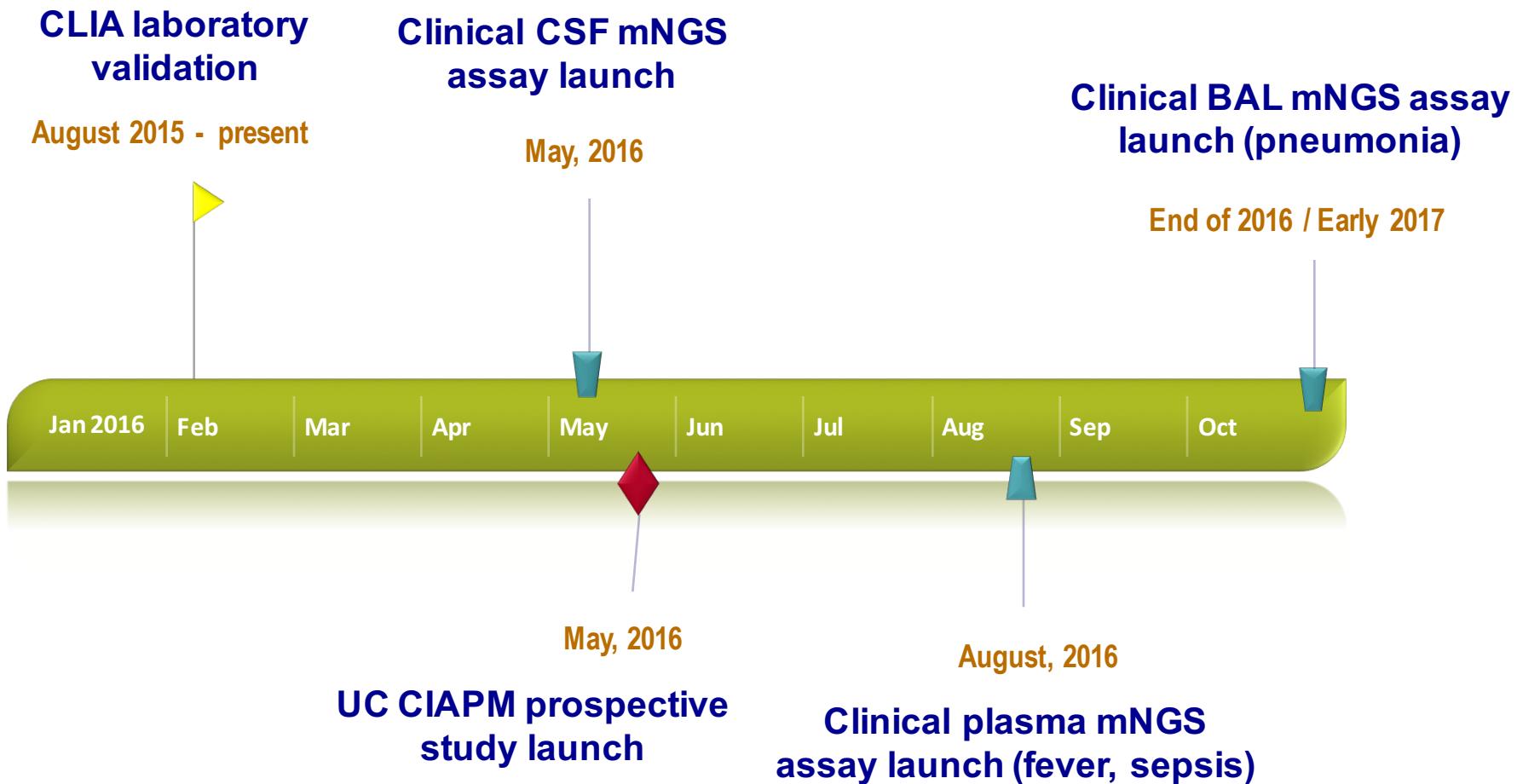


# Prospective Clinical Study Comparing mNGS to Conventional Testing (n=300)



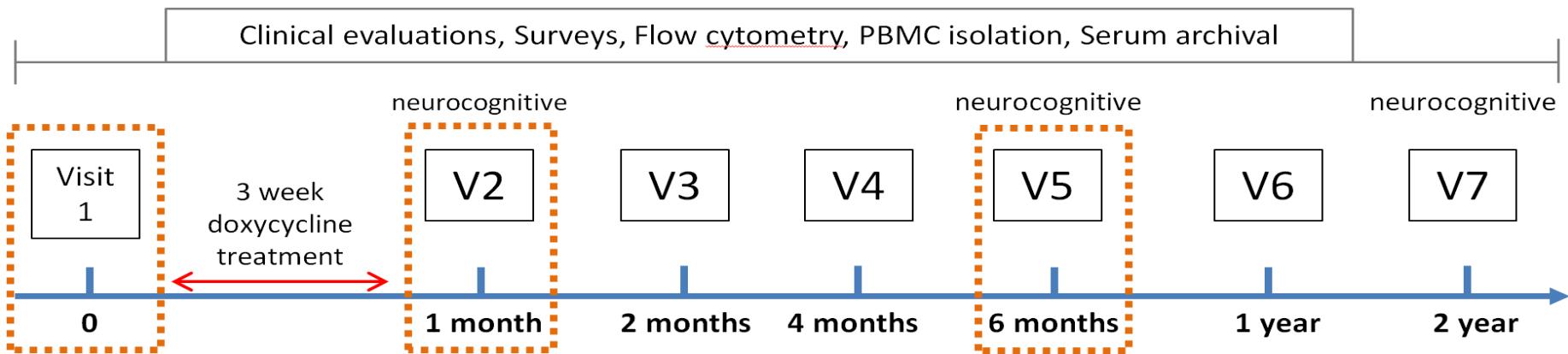
***Demo project will set the stage for future deployment in clinical labs***

# Projected Timeline



# Lyme Transcriptome Profiling (Identification of Diagnostic Host Biomarkers for Lyme)

## Study of Lyme Immunology and Clinical Events (SLICE)

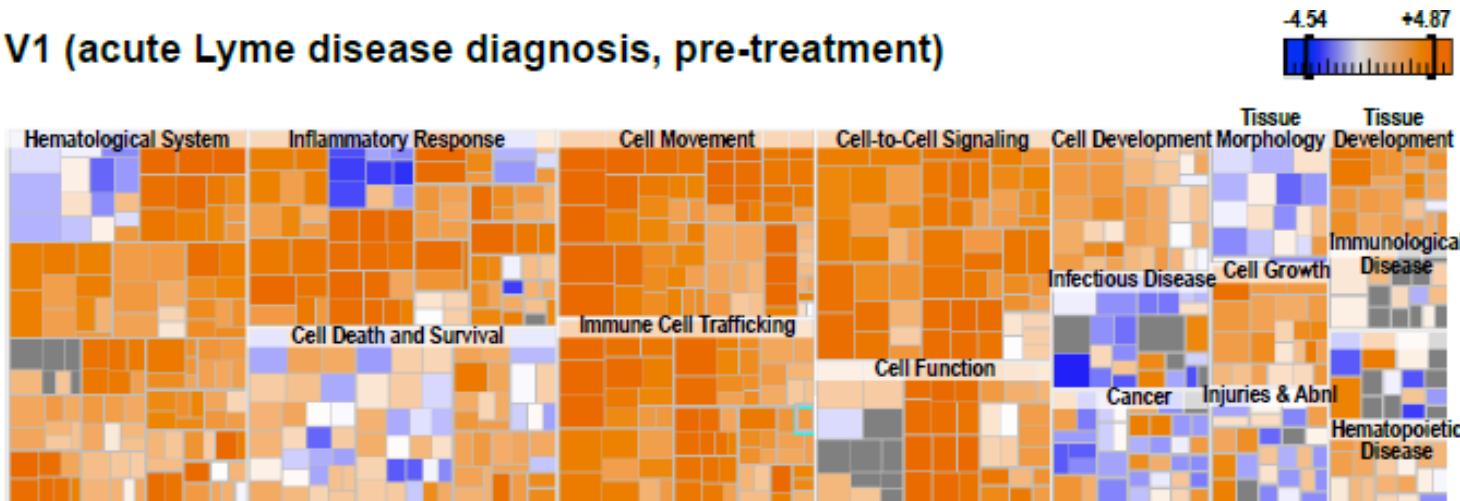


29 patients at 3 time points (V1, V2 and V5)

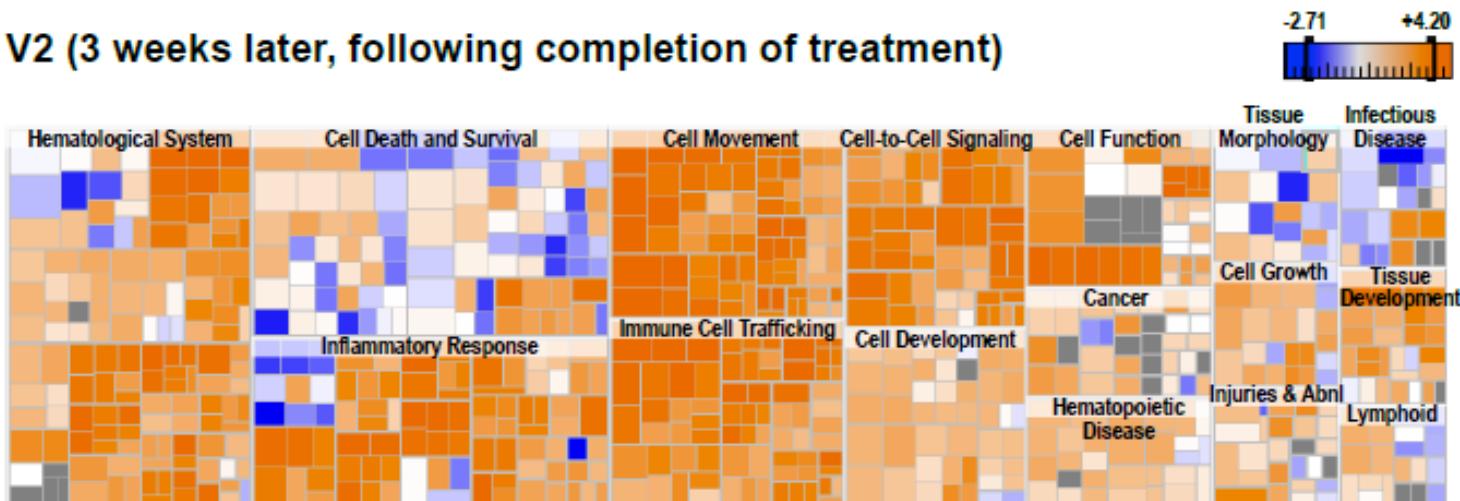
13 healthy controls

# Identification of a Host Biomarker Signature for Lyme Disease Diagnosis – From 30,000 to 60 Genes

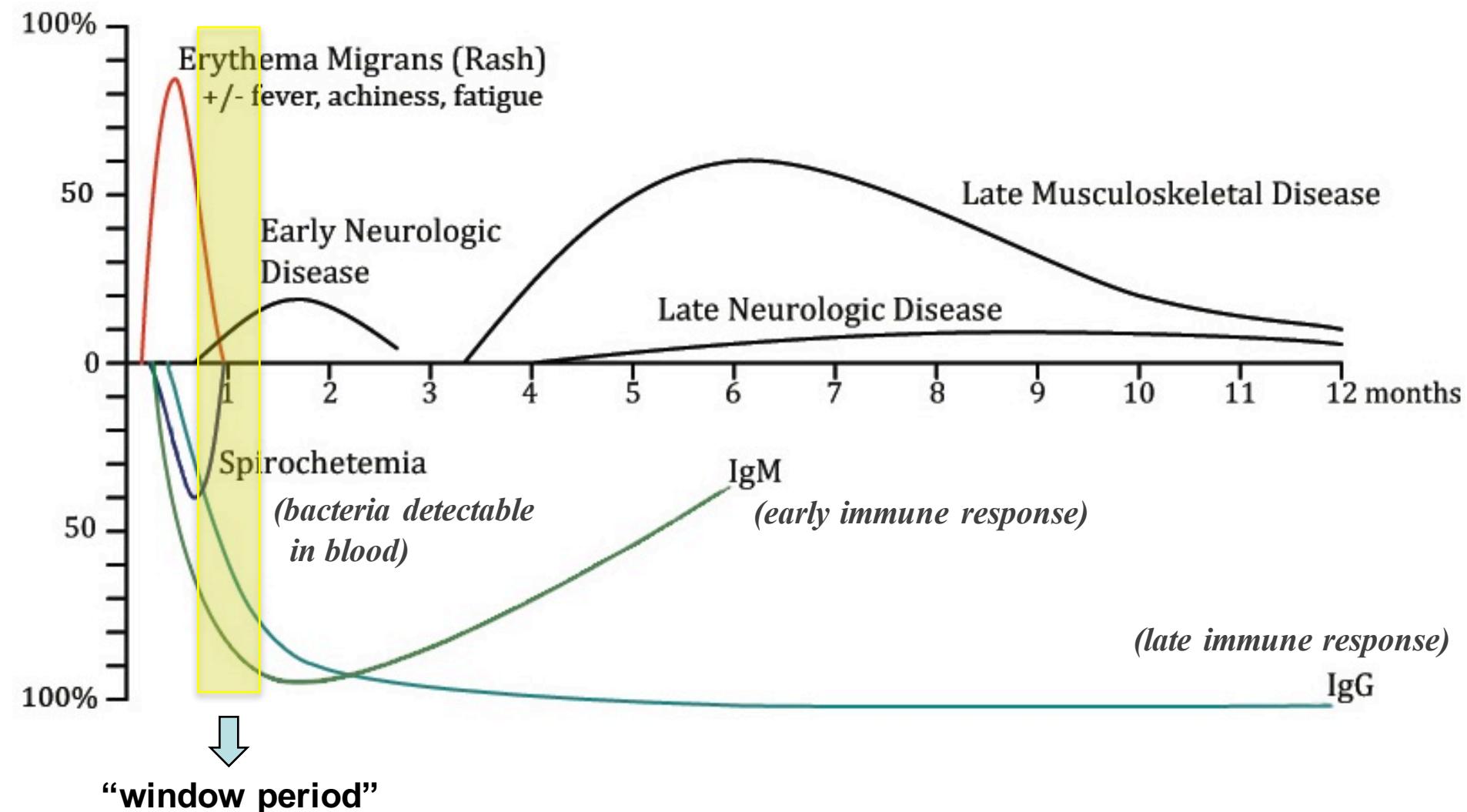
V1 (acute Lyme disease diagnosis, pre-treatment)



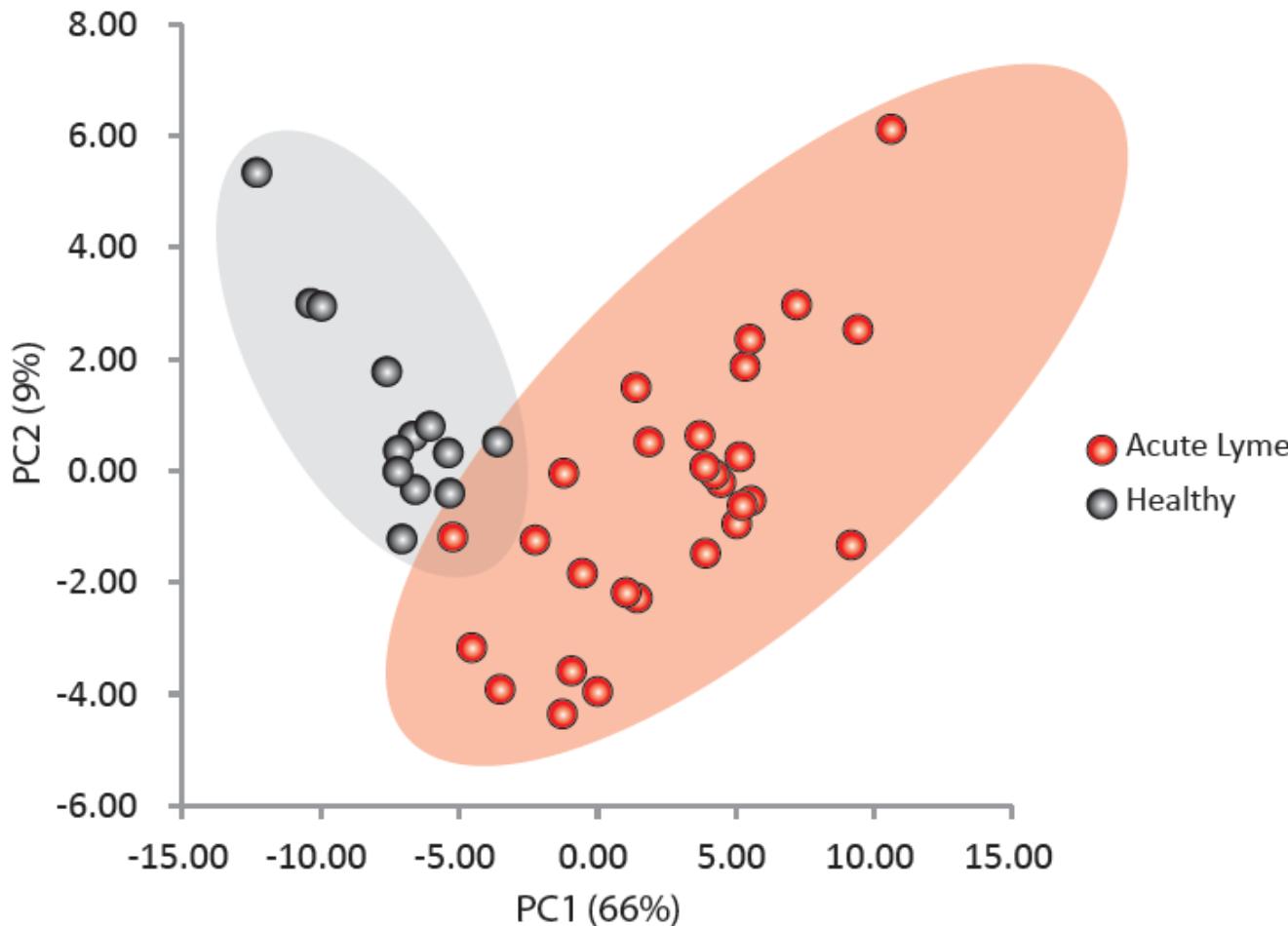
V2 (3 weeks later, following completion of treatment)



# Early Diagnosis and Treatment is Key to Preventing Later Complications



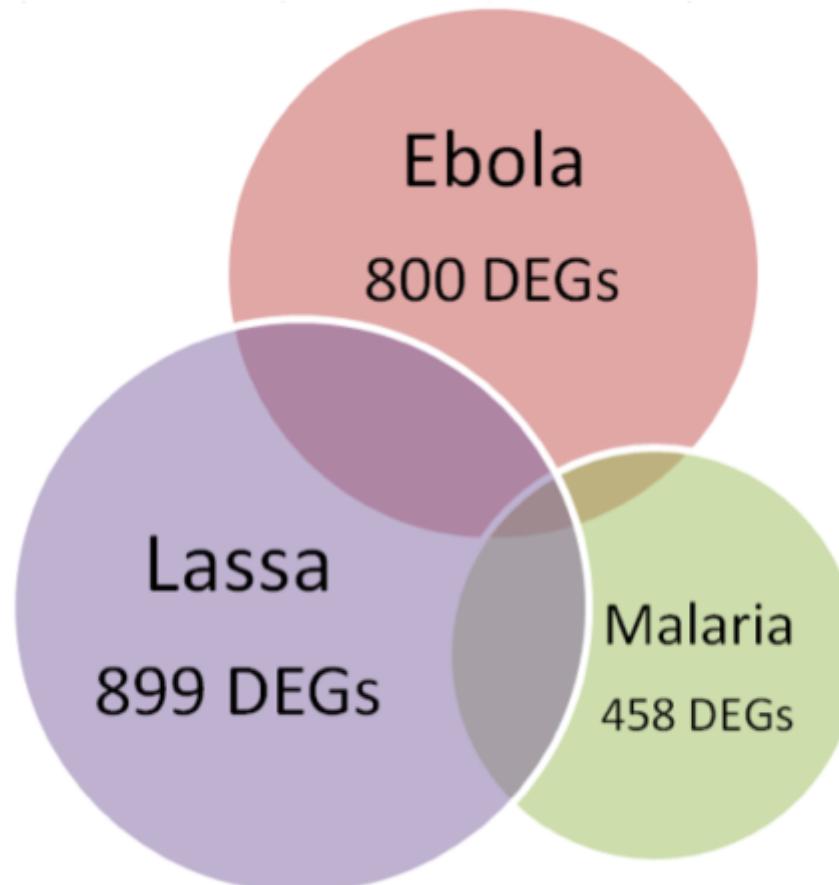
# Diagnosis of Lyme Disease using Human Host Biomarkers



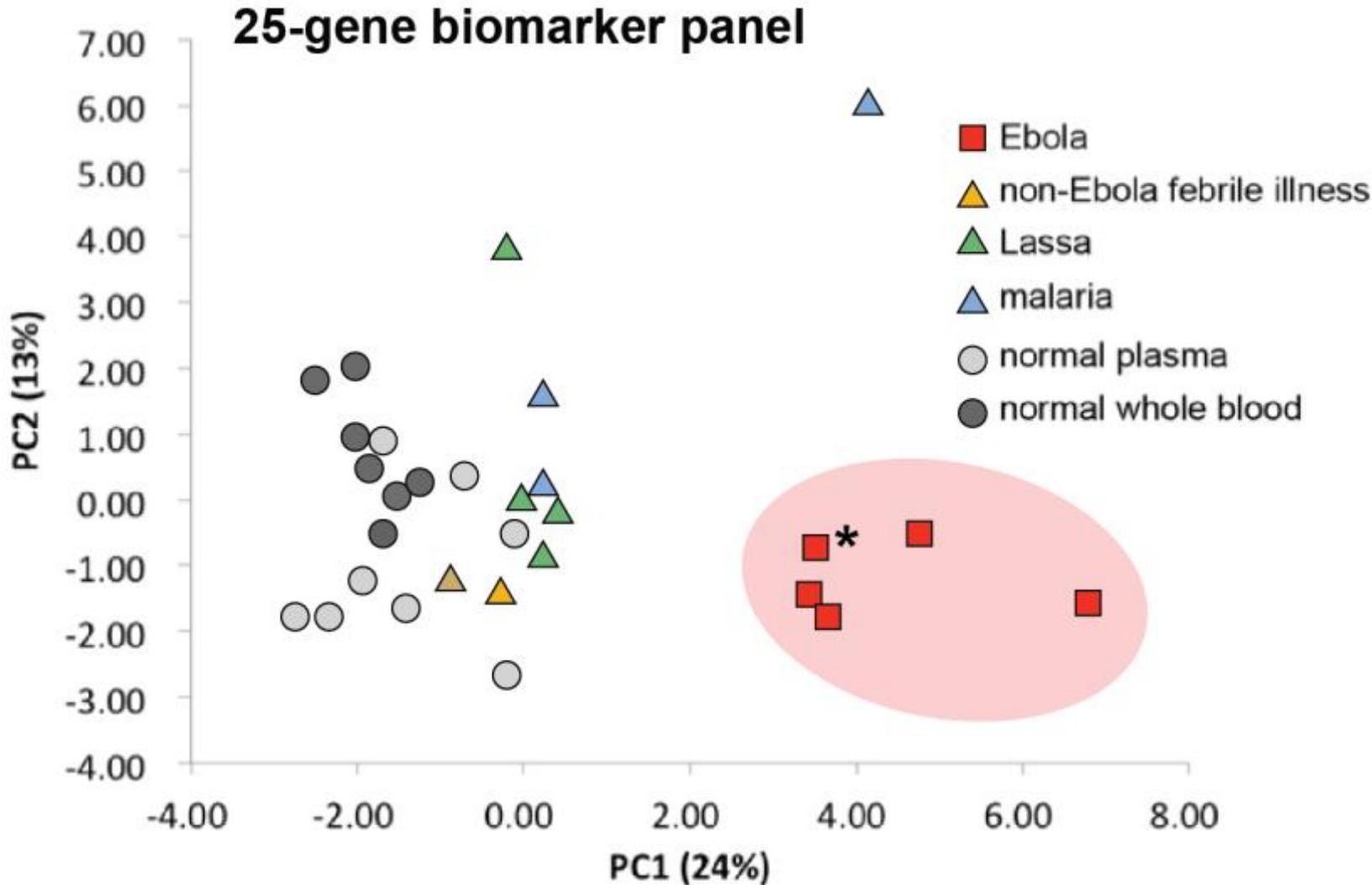
*59 human transcripts → 96% sensitivity / 100% specificity in distinguishing Lyme patients from controls*

# NGS-Based Human Transcriptome Profiling For Diagnosis of Ebola Virus Infection

Training set - 8 EBOV whole blood, 4 Lassa virus plasma, 3 malaria plasma,  
8 healthy whole blood and 8 healthy plasma



# Differential Diagnosis of Acute Hemorrhagic Fever by Gene Expression Profiling



# Febrile Outbreak Surveillance with Nanopore Sequencing

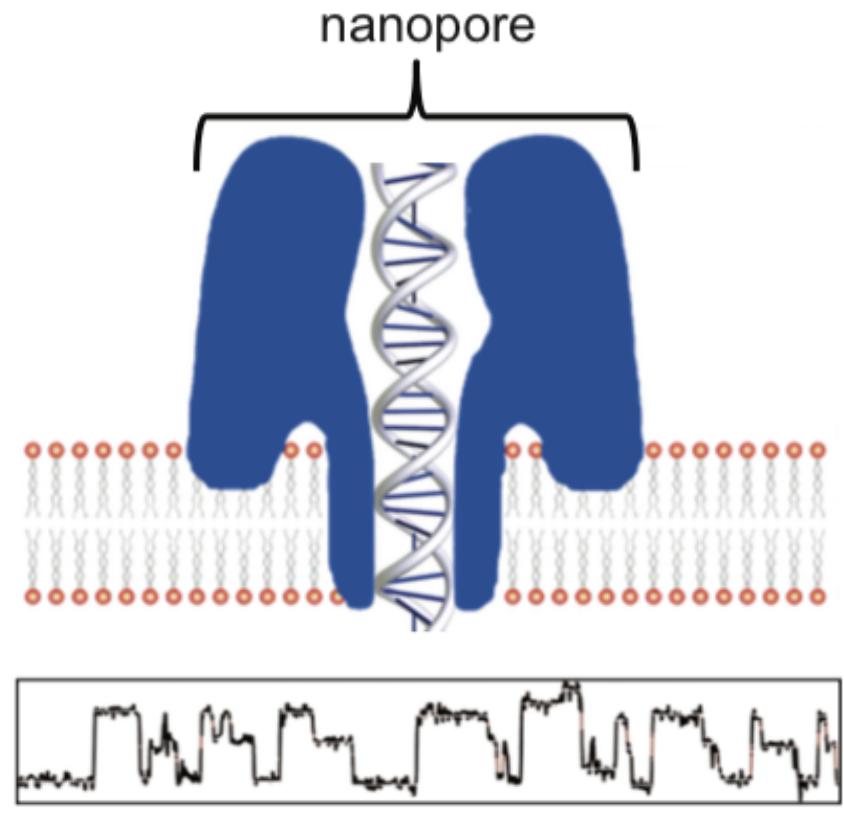


MinION (Oxford Nanopore Technologies)

# Nanopore Sequencing for Real-Time Pathogen Identification



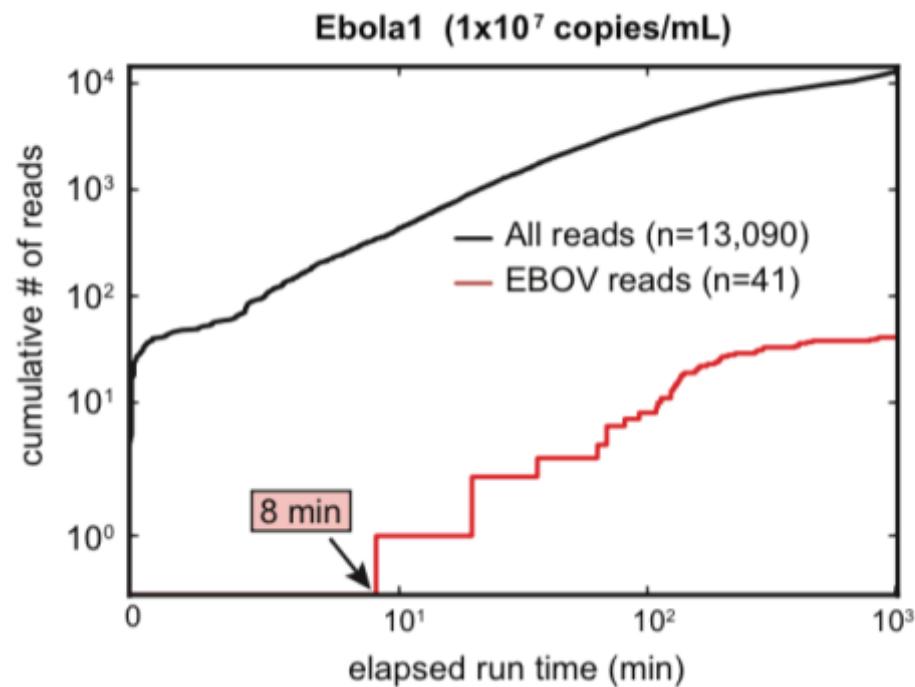
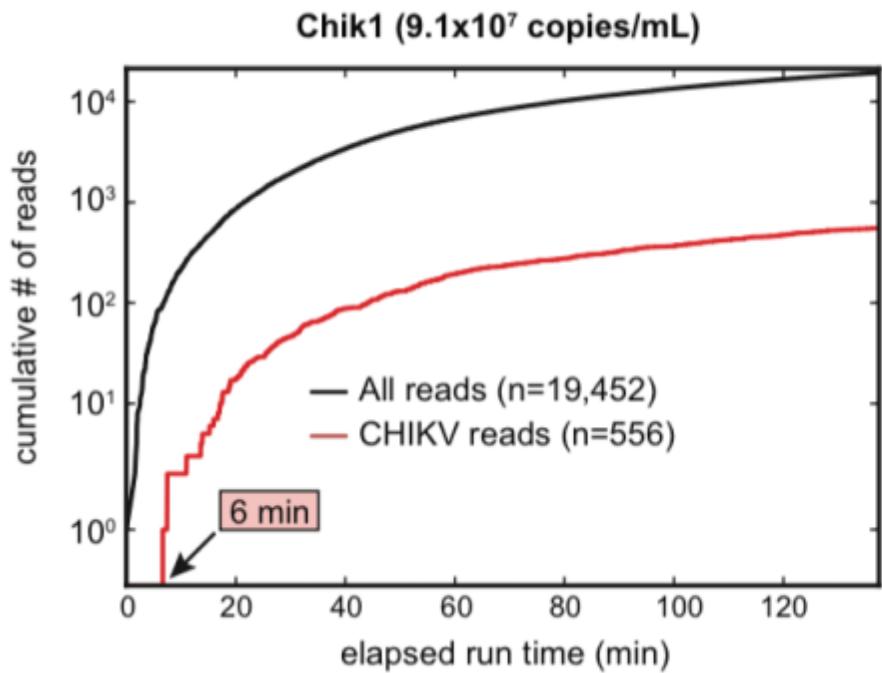
MinION (Oxford Nanopore Technologies)



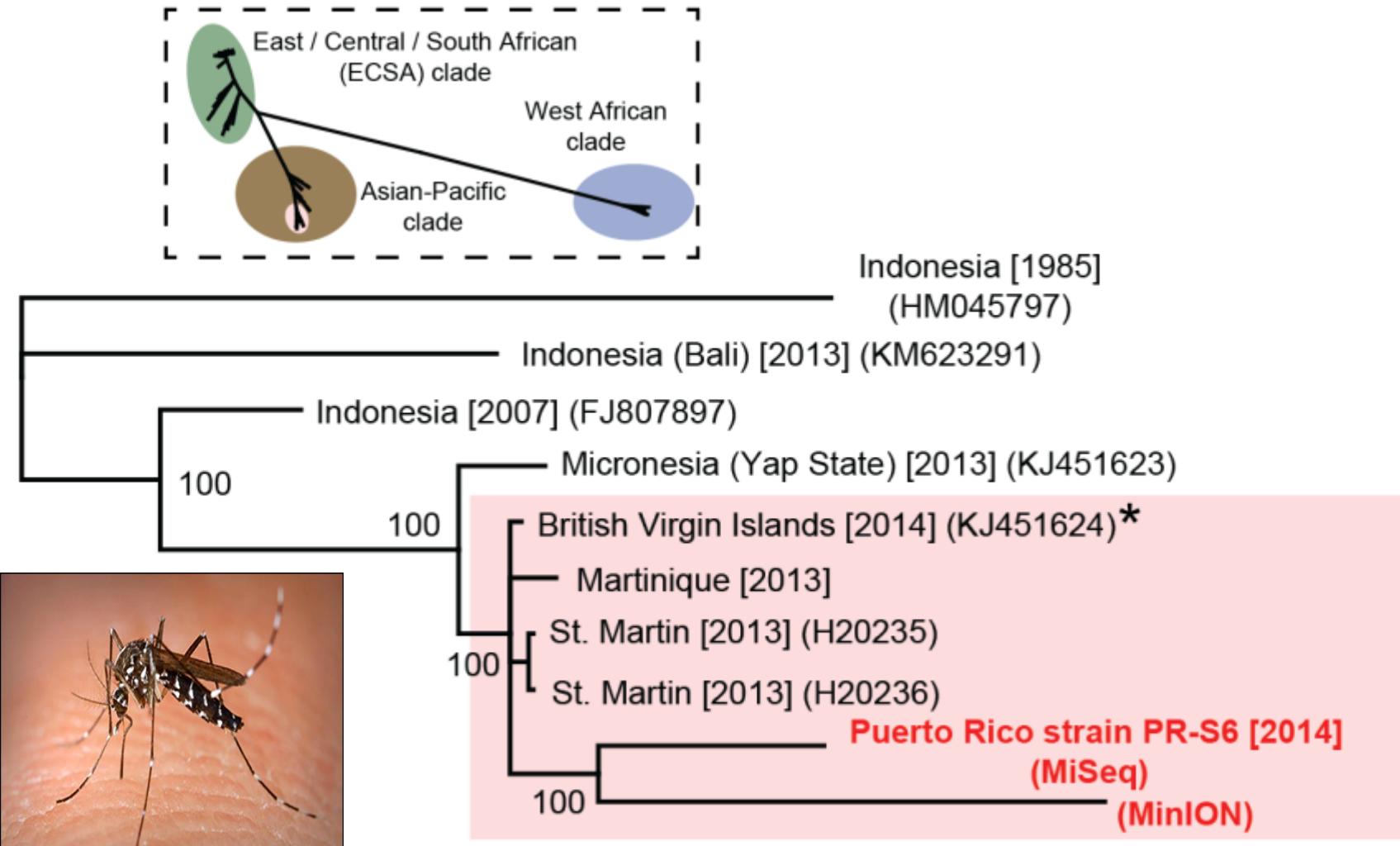
TTTCCGTCGTCGTTCCGACCACTCCATGTC  
(Greninger, et al., 2015, *Genome Medicine* 7:99)



# Viral Reads Detected <8 Min into Sequencing Run



# Tracking Emergence of *Chikungunya virus* in Puerto Rico by Nanopore Sequencing



(Chiu, et al., 2015, *Emerging Infectious Diseases*; Greninger, et al., 2015, *Genome Medicine*)

# mNGS surveillance of Zika virus

Sample #	# Raw reads	# Zika reads	mNGS	PCR
1	1,486,130	63	+	+
2	1,449,221	87	+	+
3	11,546	2	+	+
4	1,321,572	9	+	+
5	1,114,194	24	+	+
6	1,179,486	11	+	ND
7	6,903,397	419,115	+	+
*8	1,094,355	83	+	+
9	743,266	1,072	+	+
10	1,031,160	16	+	ND
11	933,134	125	+	+
12	1,727,181	33	+	+
13	1,180,561	2	+	ND
14	1,744,295	0	ND	+
15	1,353,875	11	+	ND

\*co-infection with chikungunya virus



(Sardi, et al., 2016, submitted)

# Summary

- Emerging genomic technologies, especially metagenomic next-generation sequencing, are promising for precision diagnosis of infectious diseases
- New bioinformatics pipelines such as SURPI greatly improve computational turnaround times and make data analysis accessible to clinical and public health laboratories
- Many regulatory and technical challenges remain, but next-generation sequencing technologies have evolved to where we can now implement them in clinical medicine and public health



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METABIOTA

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