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**Prof. Dr. Ralf Jacob**, University Marburg, Department of Clinical Cytobiology and Cytopathology, Marburg, Germany

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Genetic variation—differences in both the coding and noncoding portions of our DNA—is what makes each human being a unique individual. It also can determine our unique susceptibility to disease. Exhaustive analysis of human single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) has led to the identification of interesting SNP markers for certain disorders. But these small changes are not the whole picture. Copy number variations (CNVs)—gain or loss of segments of genomic DNA relative to a reference—have also been shown to be associated with several complex and common disorders. Using array-based comparative genomic hybridization (CGH) techniques, CNVs at multiple loci can be assessed simultaneously allowing for their identification and characterization. CNV microarrays allow exploration of the genome for sources of variability beyond SNPs that could explain the strong genetic component of several of these disorders. Now, advances in microarray probe density have provided more comprehensive coverage of CNVs, enabling more in-depth genotyping research.

In this webinar, our panelists will:

- provide a general introduction of SNP and CNV technologies
- discuss how these technologies can be applied in disease research
- share data on recent CNV studies using CGH techniques
- answer your questions live!

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Participating Experts:

Charles Lee, Ph.D.
Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

Lars Feuk, Ph.D.
The Hospital for Sick Children
Toronto, Canada

Dr. Alexandra Blakemore, Ph.D.
Imperial College of London
London, United Kingdom

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AAAS invites nominations of prominent behavioral scientists to deliver the John P. McGovern Award Lecture in the Behavioral Sciences at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Chicago (12–16 February).

The John P. McGovern Award Lecture, first delivered in 1990, honors outstanding behavioral scientists from around the world. The lecture was endowed by the John P. McGovern Foundation to enable scholars to learn and explore the accomplishments and challenges of the behavioral sciences. Dr. McGovern was an internationally recognized physician, scientist, scholar, educator, and humanitarian.

Previous lecturers have included Nobel laureate Daniel Kahneman, Ph.D., Princeton University; Robert M. Sapolsky, Ph.D., Stanford University; and Huda Akil, Ph.D., University of Michigan.

For this important lecture, we seek a very well-respected, accomplished scientist who is an engaging, dynamic public speaker.

» The deadline for nominations is Friday, 1 August.

For more information and to send your nominations, please email Anne Moraske at amoraske@aaas.org or call (202) 326-6636.
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Amplification of cDNA from the Mouse gene YWHAZ using Takara’s Thermal Cycler Dice® Real Time System®. 6.4 pg-100 ng of total RNA from mouse liver was used to transcribe cDNA for amplification. (*Not available in Europe*)

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