



Jackson Square Book Talks

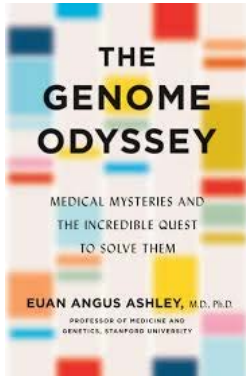
DR. EUAN ASHLEY: THE GENOME ODYSSEY

A Commonwealth Club Presentation sponsored by Jackson Square Partners

What does the human genome and genome sequencing mean for citizens today, and what will it mean for health care over the next several decades?

MARCH 3, 2021

[Watch the replay](#)



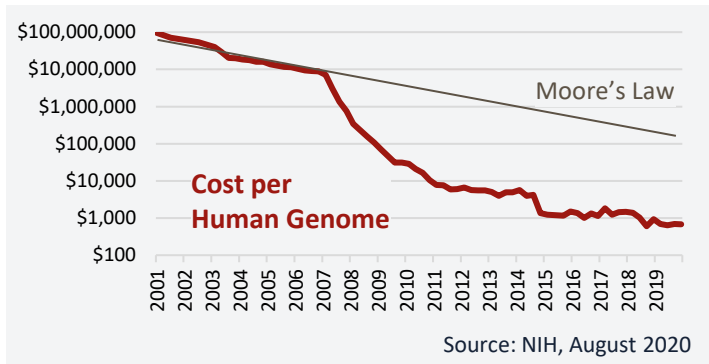
Dr. Euan Ashley
Professor of Medicine and Genetics,
Stanford University;
Author, The Genome Odyssey



In Conversation with
Anne Wojcicki
CEO and Co-Founder, 23andMe

OUR KEY TAKEAWAYS

Sequencing advances – a 40 cent Ferrari



Current breakthroughs - Rare disease

- Collectively, rare diseases impact 1 out of 10 people on earth
- Genomic sequencing has been transformative in identifying rare disease, allowing diagnosis 1/3 of the time

Work in progress - Inclusivity in medicine

- Multiple countries with massive sequencing projects of millions in progress
- Medical “norms” are often based off a homogeneous population, need to redefine normal in order to reduce disparity in medicine

- Initiatives in progress to sequence large, diverse populations to build better drugs and therapies for everyone

The future

Preventative care – staying healthy longer

- High confidence in genetic information as a predictor for heart disease, cancer, diabetes and other common diseases
- As the cost of sequencing falls to the price of a haircut, strong case for it to be used rather than relying on incomplete predictors like self-profiling and family history

Pharma – precision prescription

- Frontier of this science is using genomic information to precision prescribe medicine
- Identify “superhumans” (low cholesterol, better oxygenation) and use their genetic code to develop therapies

Digital – leveraging data and tools

- Integration with other health tools, e.g. a watch that can measure your ECG and knows your genetic predisposition for a heart attack

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