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Genetic Aspects of Development*: Vascular Anomalies & Overgrowth Syndromes

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* Thompson & Thompson: Genetics in Medicine, 8th ed., chapter 14

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Vasculogenesis and Angiogenesis

The diagram illustrates the process of vasculogenesis and angiogenesis in three stages: 1. **mesoderm**: A cluster of blue cells. 2. **blood islands**: A ring of blue cells with red cells in the center. Labels: Hematopoietic Precursors: Blood Cells (pointing to red cells), Hemangioblasts: Vascular Endothelial Cells (pointing to blue cells). 3. **primary capillary plexus**: A network of interconnected vessels. 4. **remodeling**: The network becomes more complex with red and blue vessels. Label: Vascular smooth muscle cells (pointing to blue cells). 5. **maturity**: A fully developed network. Labels: artery (red vessel), capillaries (purple vessels), + lymphatics (green vessels), vein (blue vessel).

mesoderm

primary capillary plexus

maturity

artery

capillaries

+ lymphatics

vein

blood islands

remodeling

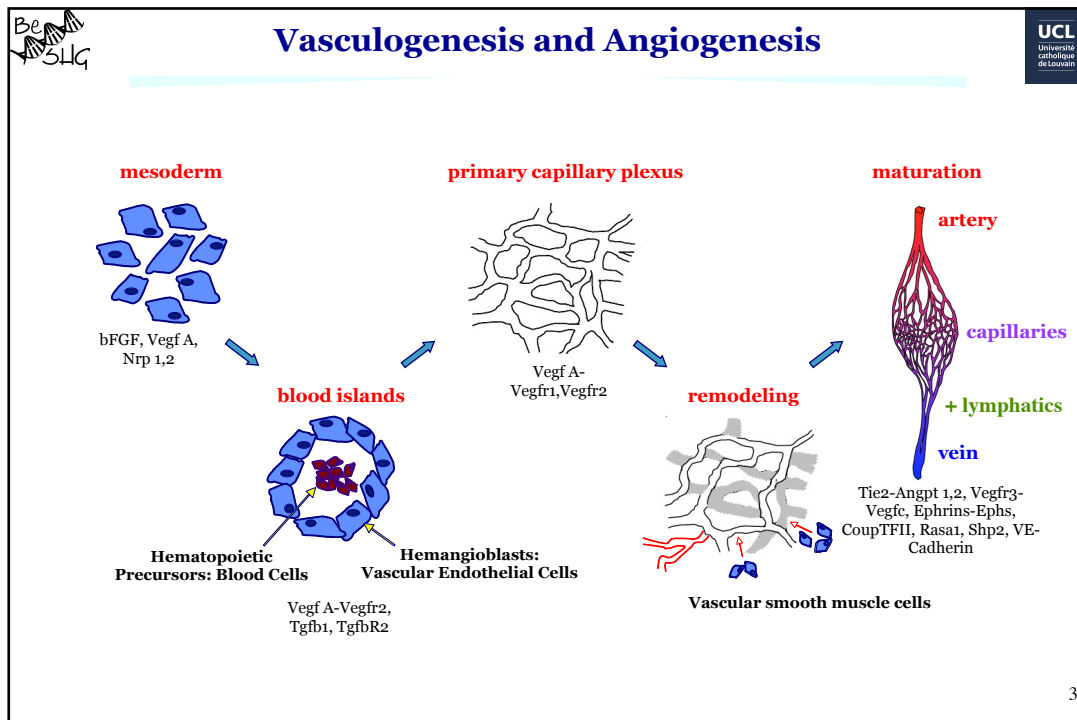
Hematopoietic Precursors: Blood Cells

Hemangioblasts: Vascular Endothelial Cells

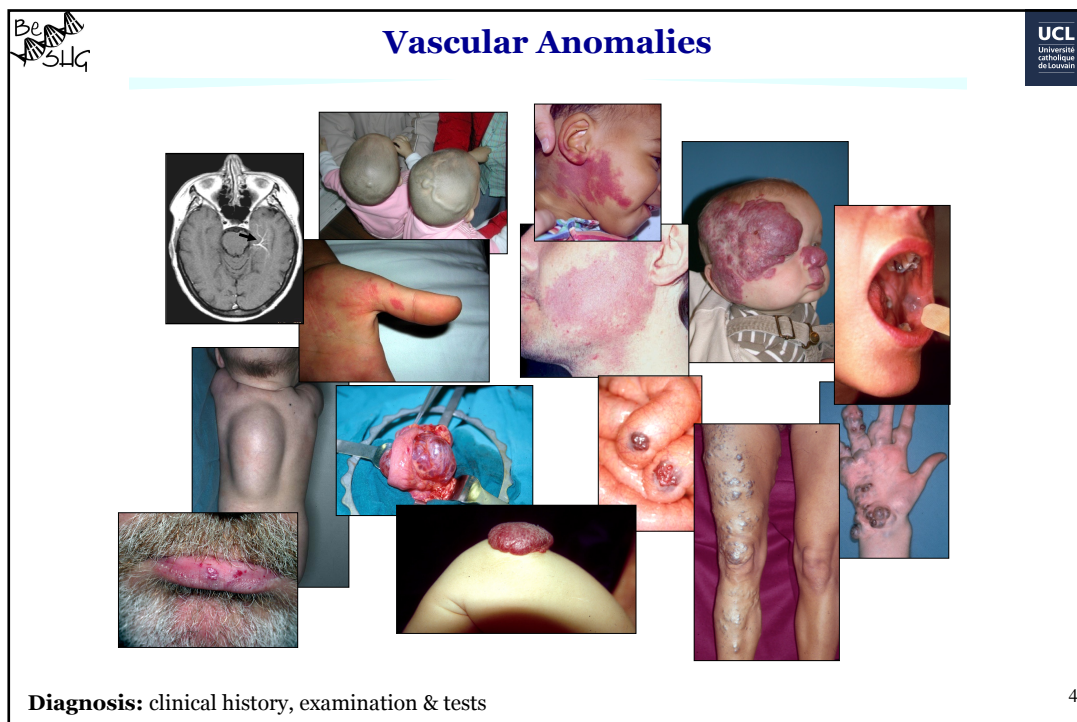
Vascular smooth muscle cells

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Diagnosis: clinical history, examination & tests

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Vascular Anomalies: characteristics

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- Large clinical variability
- Commonly sporadic; rare familial forms (*11 hereditary forms*)
- Localized lesions: Single (sporadic) or multiple (familial)
- Pure forms versus associations & syndromes

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Classification of Vascular Anomalies

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graph TD; Root[Classification of Vascular Anomalies] --- Tumors; Root --- Malformations;
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Tumors

Malformations

Mulliken JB and Glowacki, *Plast Reconstr Surg* 1982; Wassef et al, *Pediatrics* 2015; <https://www.issva.org/UserFiles/file/ISSVA-Classification-2018.pdf>

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Classification of Vascular Anomalies

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Tumors


Hemangioma

- Infantile hemangioma (IH)
- Non-involuting congenital hemangioma (NICH)
- Rapidly-involuting congenital hemangioma (RICH)
- Partially-involuting congenital hemangioma (PICH)

Hemangioendothelioma

Angiosarcoma

Lymphangiosarcoma



Malformations

Mulliken JB and Glowacki, *Plast Reconstr Surg* 1982; Wassef et al, *Pediatrics* 2015; <https://www.issva.org/UserFiles/file/ISSVA-Classification-2018.pdf> 7

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Classification of Vascular Anomalies

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Tumors


Capillary


- CCM
- CM-AVM



Venous

- GVM
- VMCM
- VM






Malformations

Lymphatic

- LE
- LM

Arterial

- CM-AVM
- HHT



Combined: AVM, CVM, CLVM, LVM, CLAVM ...
(Overgrowth) syndromes: Maffucci, KTS, PWS, MCLMR ...

Mulliken JB and Glowacki, *Plast Reconstr Surg* 1982; Wassef et al, *Pediatrics* 2015; <https://www.issva.org/UserFiles/file/ISSVA-Classification-2018.pdf> 8

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Genetic bases of vascular anomalies

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1. Predisposing susceptibility genes (vs. causative)
2. Locus heterogeneity
3. Inherited with reduced penetrance
4. Somatic mutations
5. Clinical phenotypic variability

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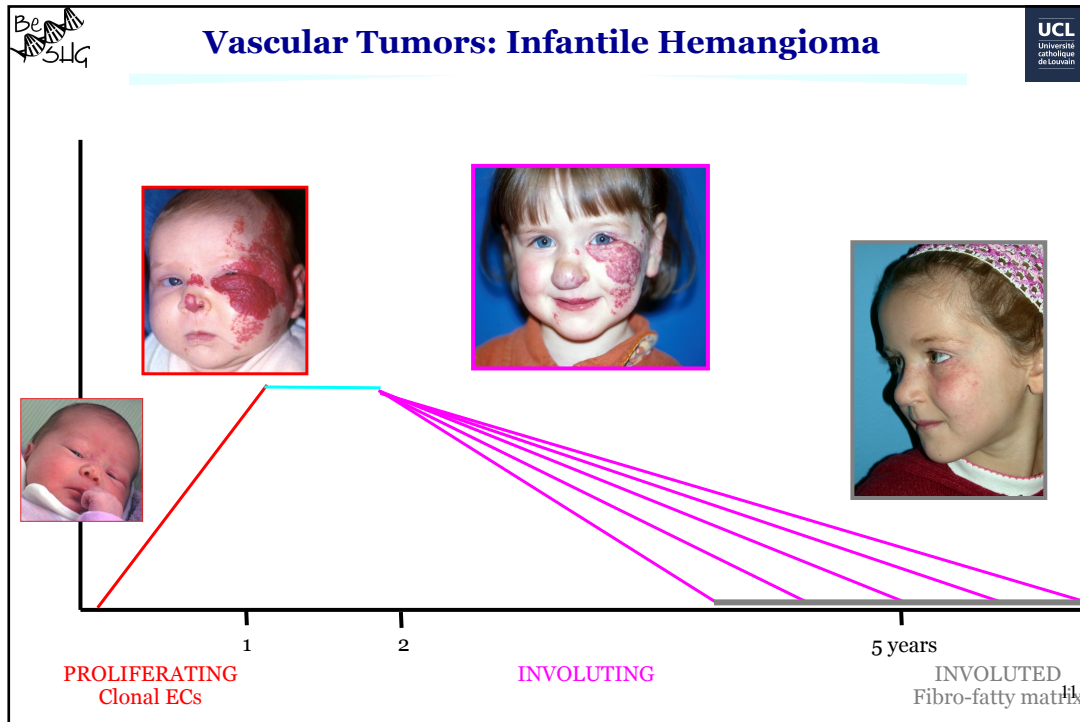
Genetic bases of vascular anomalies

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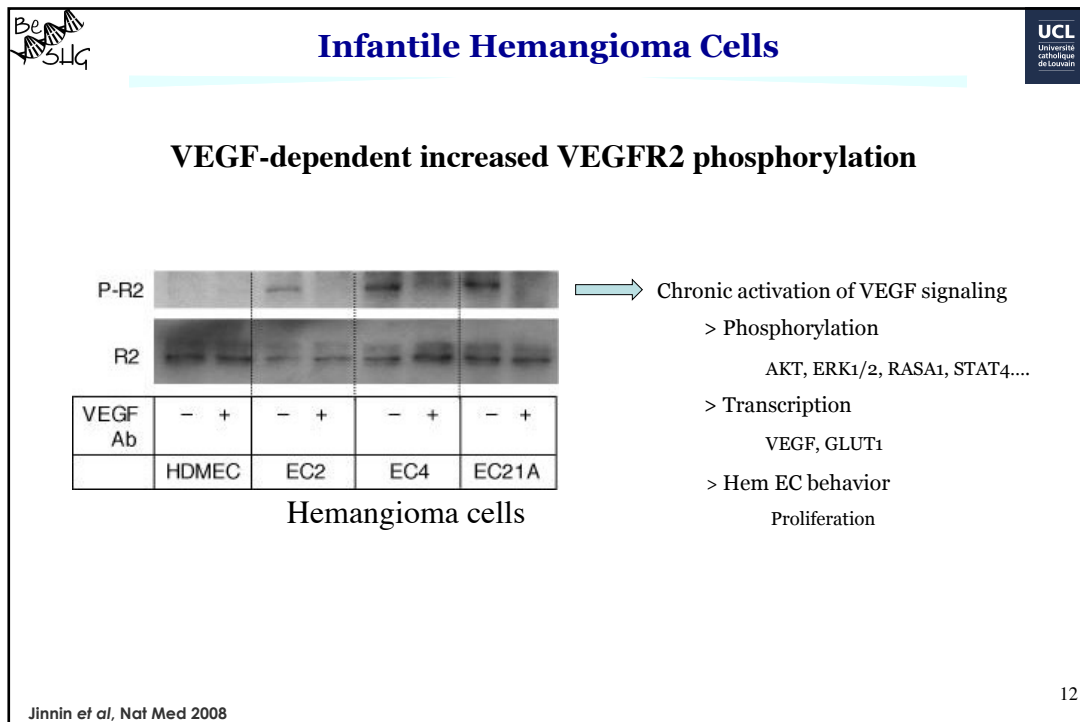
1. Predisposing susceptibility genes (vs. causative)
 - Multigenic (vs. monogenic)
 - Polymorphism (vs. mutation)

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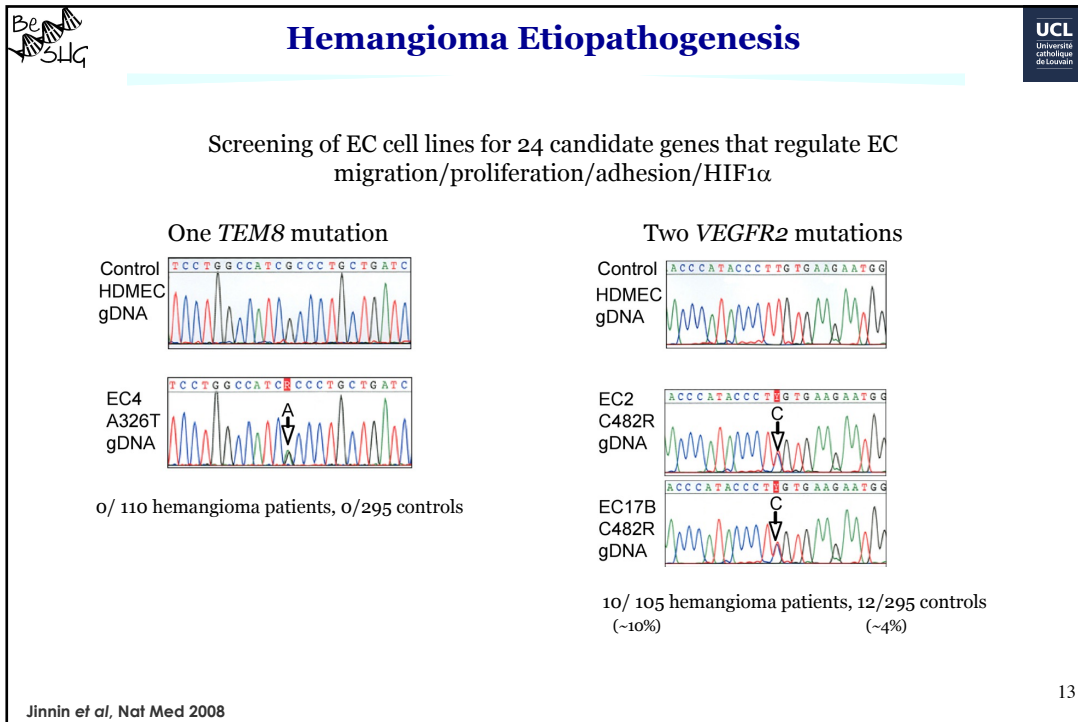
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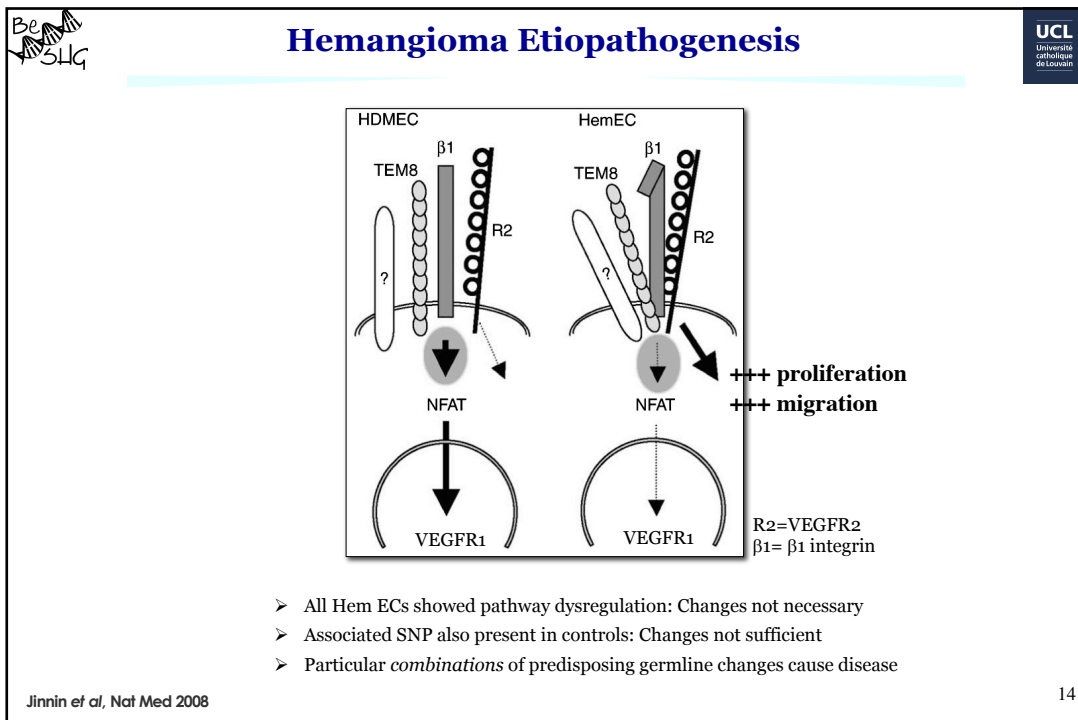
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2. Locus heterogeneity

- “One” phenotype, many causes
 - CCM
 - PLE

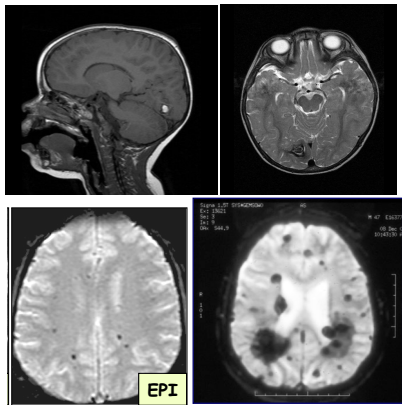
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Cerebral Cavernous Malformation (CCM)

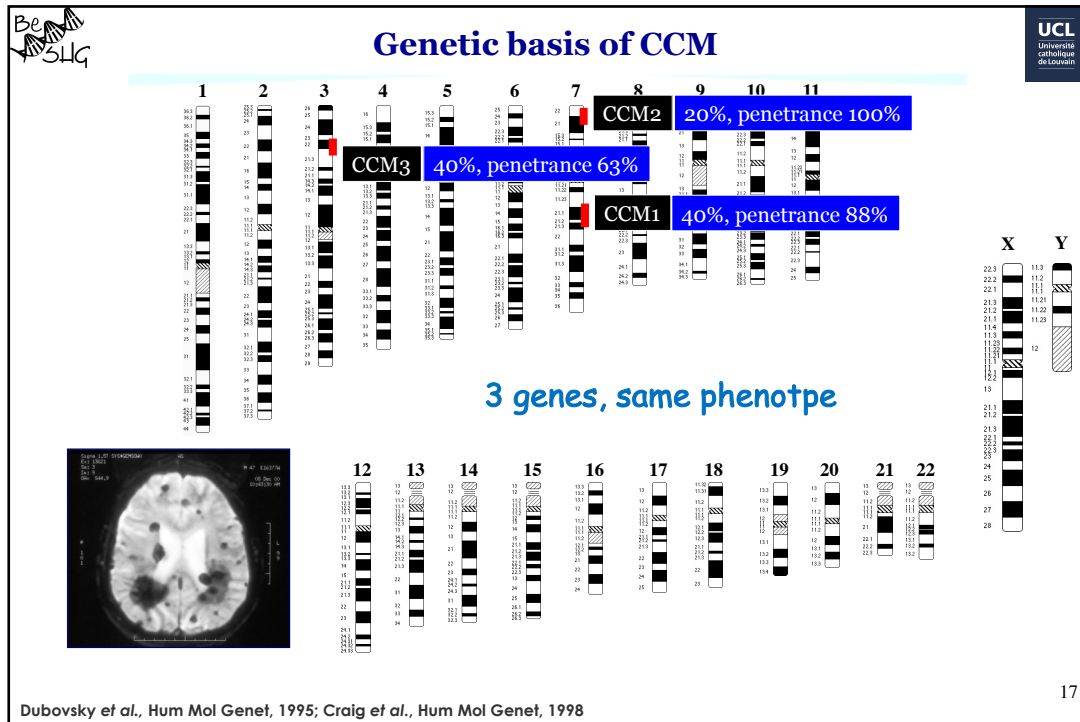
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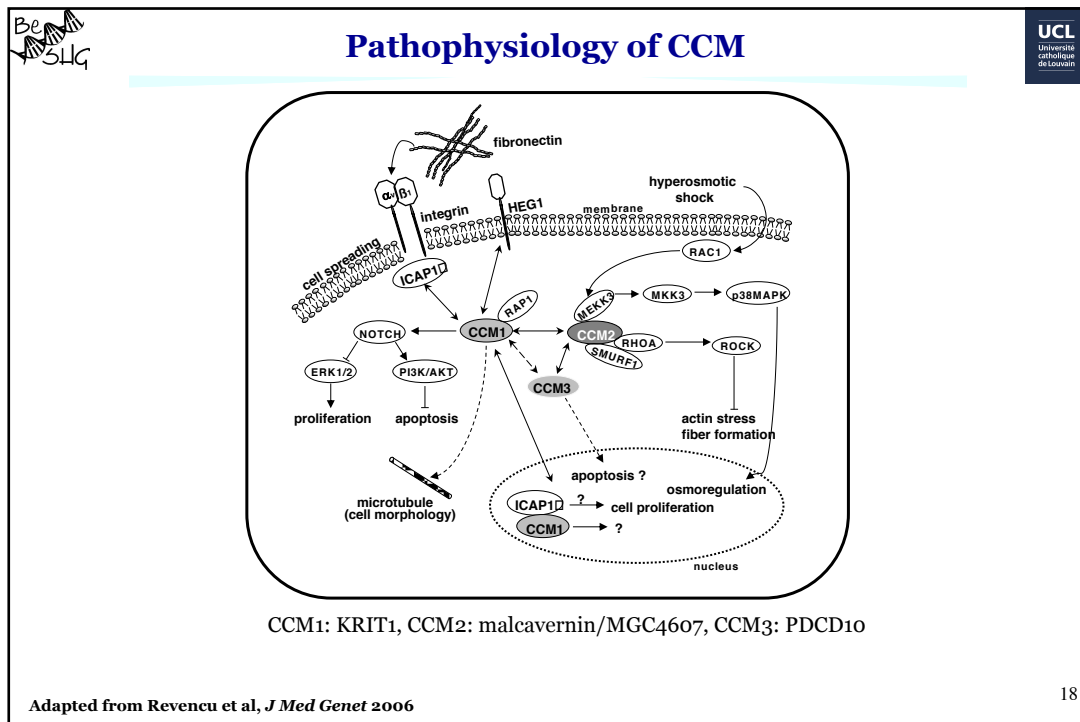
- Incidence: 0.1-0.5%
- Single or multiple lesions
- Epilepsy, headache, haemorrhage;
Asymptomatic: 15-20%
- Autosomal dominant inheritance (>80%)
- Variable expressivity

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2. Locus heterogeneity

- “One” phenotype, many causes
 - CCM
 - PLE

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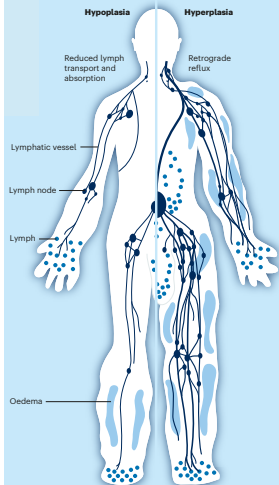
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Primary lymphedema (PLE)

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- Chronic accumulation of lymph within tissues
- Predisposition to infections
- Important dysfunction of **extremities**

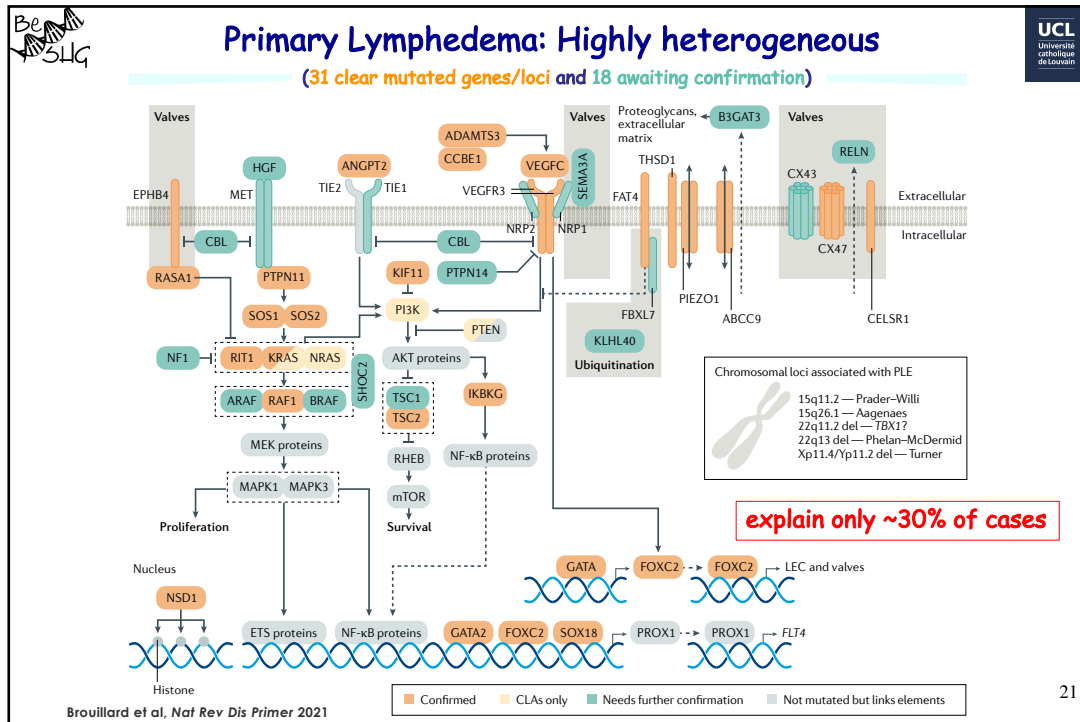
- **abnormal development and/or function of lymphatic vessels**
- **genetic predisposition**

Brouillard et al, *Nat Rev Dis Primer* 2021

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Genetic bases of vascular anomalies

3. Inherited with reduced penetrance

- Second-hits

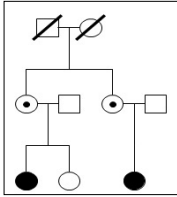
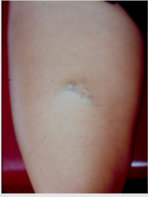
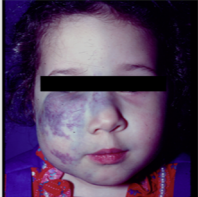

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Glomuvenous Malformation (GVM)

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- 5% of venous anomalies
- Caused by loss-of-function mutations in *glomulin*
- Autosomal dominant, with reduced penetrance & phenotypic heterogeneity

➤ Does lesion-formation require an additional somatic event? (*Knudson's hypothesis*)

Boon et al, *Hum Mol Genet* 1994; Brouillard et al, *Am J Hum Genet* 2002

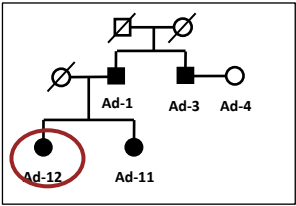
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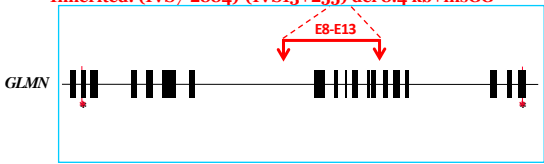
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First somatic 2nd hit identified in a vascular malformation

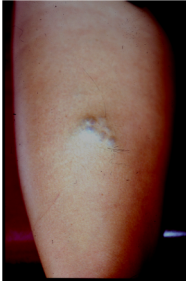
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Inherited: (IVS7-2884)-(IVS13+255) del 8.4 kb+insGG



GLMN



Brouillard et al. *Am. J Hum Genet* 2002

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First somatic 2nd hit identified in a vascular malformation

Inherited: (IVS7-2884)-(IVS13+255) del 8.4 kb+insGG

Somatic: 980delCAGAA (Exon 10)

GLMN

6 A A C A G A G G T

A G A A G A G T C T

E8-E13

Brouillard et al. *Am. J Hum Genet* 2002

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Complete local loss of glomulin

In all cells of the patient

wt
inherited mutation

2nd somatic mutation
inherited mutation

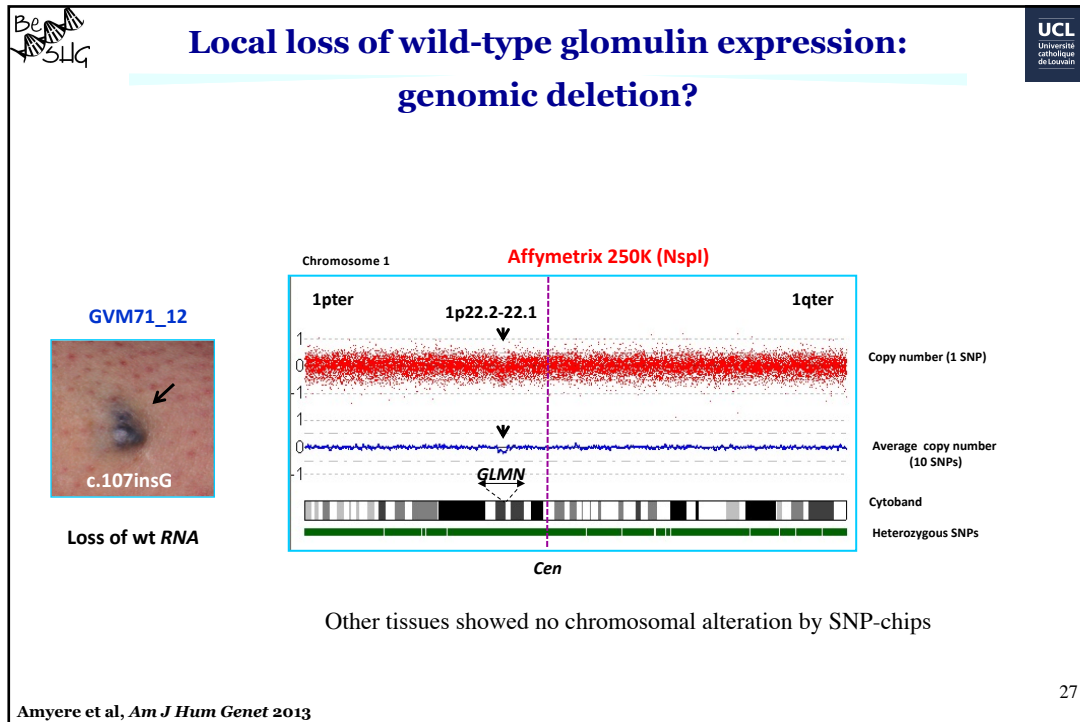
normal SMC → "glomus cell"

GVM lesion

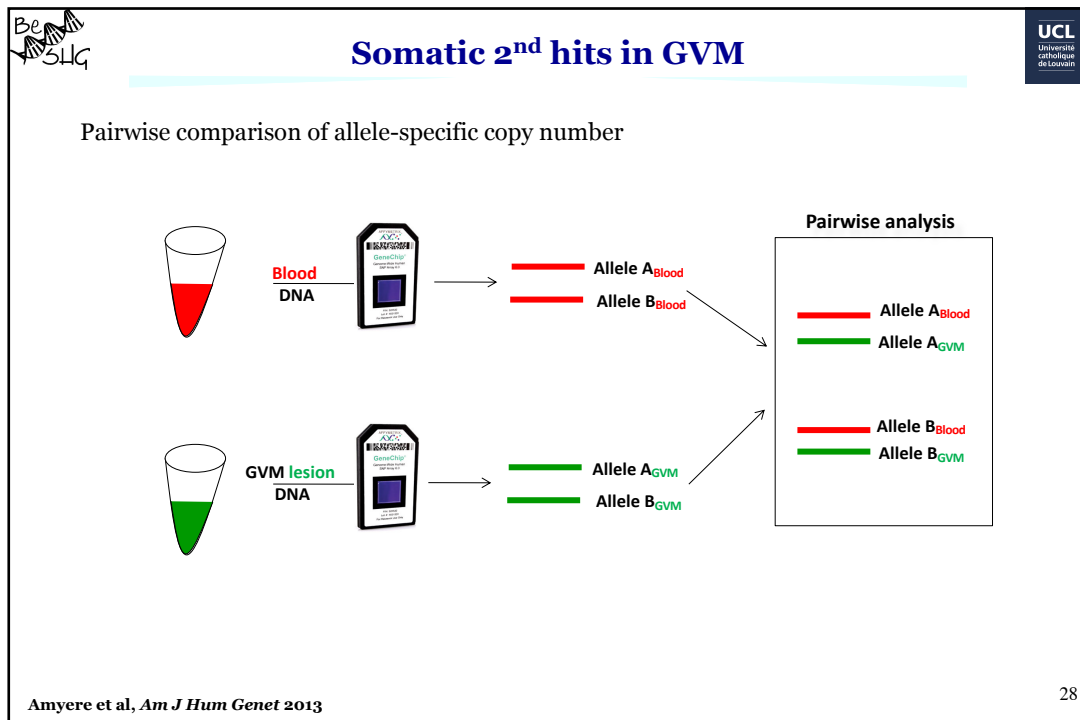
Normal vein

SMC α actin

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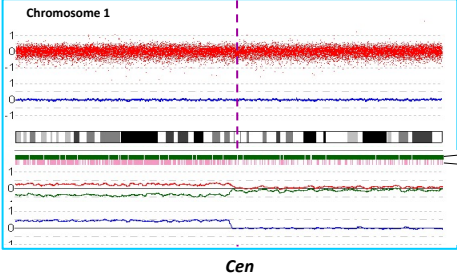
Somatic 2nd hits in GVM

GVM22



c.157delAAGAA

**Loss of WT allele RNA
in GVM tissue**



Chromosome 1

Cen

Copy number (1 SNP)

Average copy number (10X SNPs)

Cytoband

Heterozygous SNPs

Discrepancy calls

Pairwise CN

LOH

Similar observation in 11 other GVM lesions, not in controls

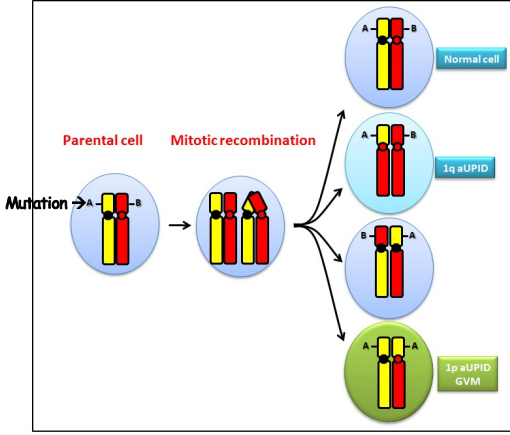
Amyere et al, *Am J Hum Genet* 2013

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aUPID: A novel mechanism for glomulin loss

Allelic imbalance (LOH) without copy number change in tissue:
acquired UniParental IsoDisomy



Amyere et al, *Am J Hum Genet* 2013

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Autosomal dominant with incomplete penetrance: “recessive” at the level of the cell!

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Since then, second hit mutations shown in

- Glomuvenous malformation
- Cutaneomucosal Venous Malformation (VMCM)
- Cerebral Cavernous Malformation (CCM)
-

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3. Inherited with reduced penetrance


- Second-hits
- Mosaicism/ tissue heterogeneity

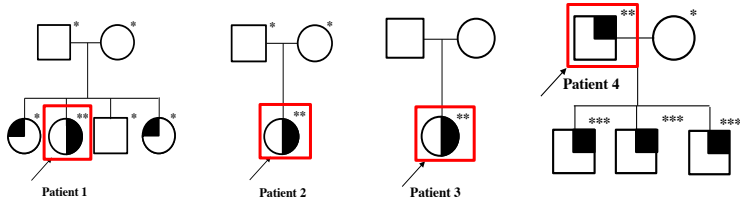
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


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Mosaicism in CM-AVM 1 (*RASA1*)





 multifocal CMs
 fast-flow vascular malformation
 solitary CM

* no *RASA1* familial mutation
**** *RASA1* mosaic mutation**
 *** heterozygous *RASA1* mutation

Patient	Tissue	<i>RASA1</i> variant	Allele frequency (read count) with AmpliSeq panel	Allele frequency (read count) with Sophia Genetics panel	Sanger sequencing	CMs	Fast-flow vascular malformations
Patient 1	Blood	<i>c.1879A>T</i> ; p.(Lys627*)	35.7% (10/28)	25.3% (164/649)	+	3 CMs	Parieto-occipital AVF/spinal AVM from T1 to T8
Patient 2	Blood	<i>c.2035C>T</i> ; p.(Arg679*)	2.7% (3/111)	3.1% (63/2011)	NP	4 CMs, Bier spots on hands and telangiectatic lesions on upper thorax, lower lip and tongue	Facial AVM
	AVM	<i>c.2035C>T</i> / <i>c.1507C>T</i> ; p.(Arg679*) (c) Gln503*)	13.6% (465/3407)+8% (171/2126)	NP	NP		
Patient 3	Blood	<i>c.1192C>T</i> ; p.(Lys398*)	NP	8.5% (101/1189)	+	More than 20 CMs	Soft tissue and fatty hypertrophy with multiple AV microstipulas in the right foot
Patient 4	Blood	<i>c.2707C>T</i> ; p.(Arg903*)	NP	6.1% (59/964)	NP	More than 10 CMs	-
	Saliva		NP	4.6% (36/783)	NP		
	CM		6.9% (21/305)	NP	NP		

→ Mosaic became germline

The symbol - denotes absent and + denotes mutation seen by Sanger sequencing.
 AV, arteriovenous; AVF, arteriovenous fistula; AVM, arteriovenous malformation; CM, capillary malformation; NP, not performed.


Revenu et al, J Med Genet 2019

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Genetic bases of vascular anomalies




4. Somatic mutations


- VMs & BRBN

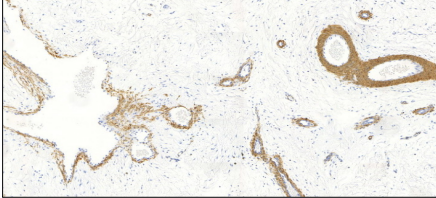

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Venous Malformations: mostly sporadic




- Enlarged venous channels
- Single EC layer, with patchy vSMC
- Typically sporadic (>98%)

• Familial forms caused by TIE2/TEK mutations → Somatic mutations in the same gene?


Vikkula et al, Cell 1996

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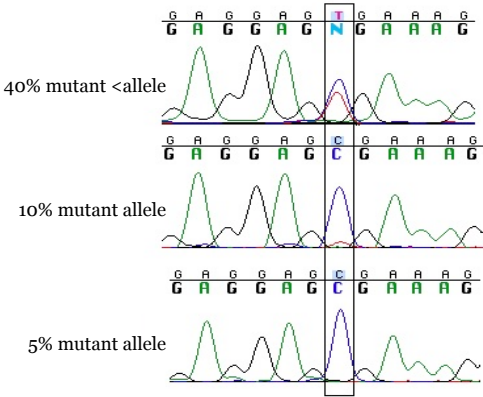
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Sporadic VM: Tissue heterogeneity may hide mutation



Sanger sequencing: cumulative signal



No gDNA change found in tissues
Mutations only in ECs?

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Overcoming tissue heterogeneity: cDNA-based screens

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DNA
cDNA
→ *TIE2* expression primarily from ECs

- = abnormal EC
- = normal EC
- = other cells

VM Tissue

	WT	Mutant
DNA	Peak at ~32	Peak at ~34
cDNA	Peak at ~32	Peak at ~34

(Semi quantitative minisequencing): SNaPshot

Limaye et al., Nat Genet. 2009

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Overcoming tissue heterogeneity: Deep (Next Generation) Sequencing

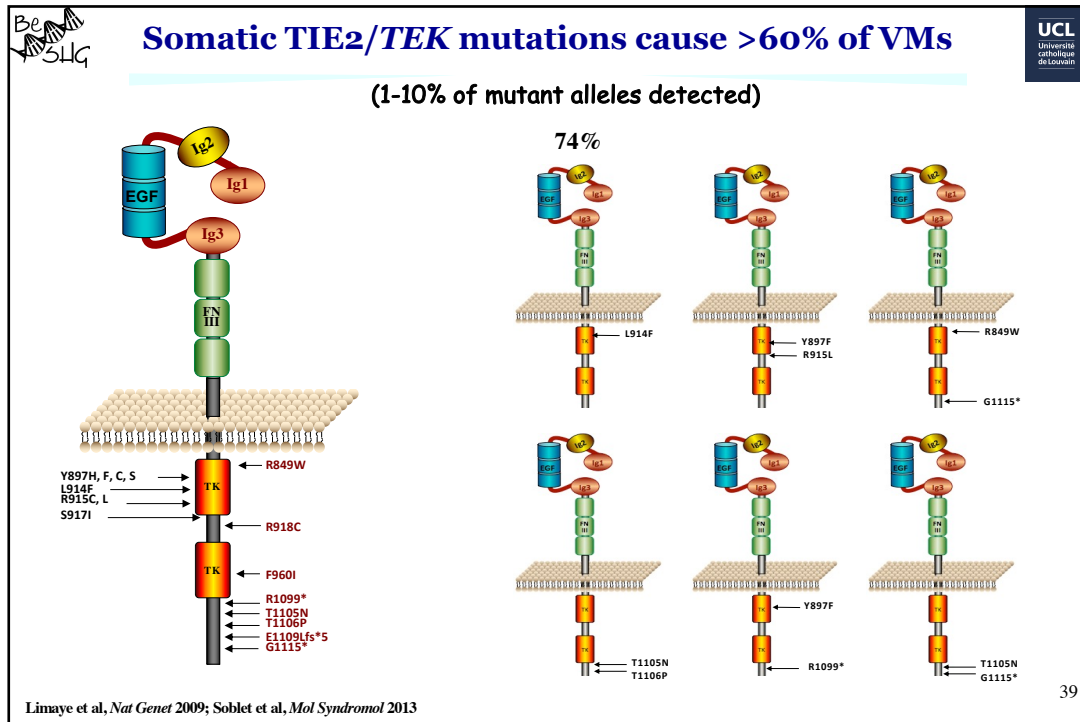
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9 mut (T): 170 wt (C)
(~5%)

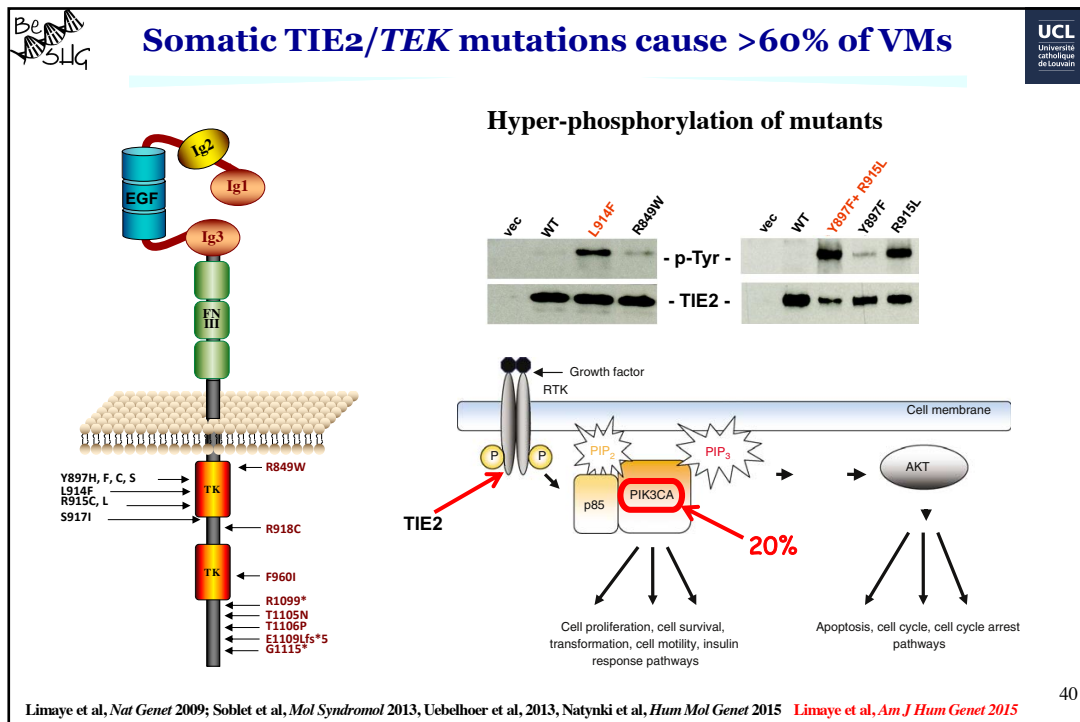
→ Should include negatives to distinguish low-freq alleles from background/noise!

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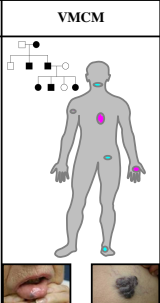
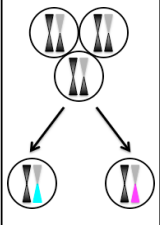


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TIE2 Mutations : Variable Phenotypes



Disease	VMCM
Phenotype	
Frequent mutations	R849W (germline) - Y1108* (somatic)
Mutational mechanisms	


Nätyнки et al, Hum Mol Genet 2015; Soblet et al, J Invest Dermatol 2017

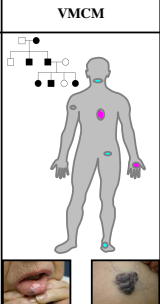
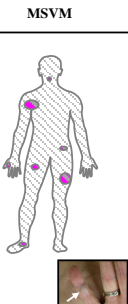
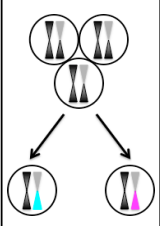
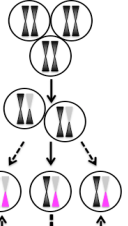
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TIE2 Mutations : Variable Phenotypes



Disease	VMCM	MSVM
Phenotype		
Frequent mutations	R849W (germline) - Y1108* (somatic)	R915C (mosaic) - Y897C (somatic)
Mutational mechanisms		

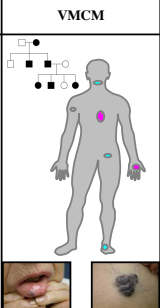
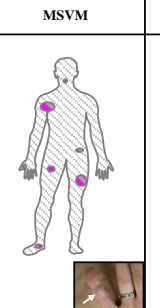
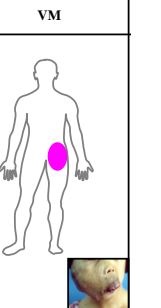
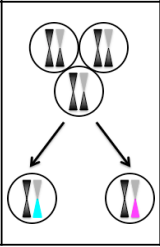
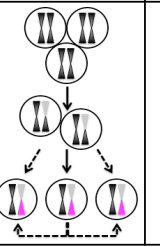
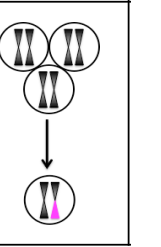
Nätyнки et al, Hum Mol Genet 2015; Soblet et al, J Invest Dermatol 2017

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TIE2 Mutations : Variable Phenotypes

Disease	VMCM	MSVM	VM
Phenotype			
Frequent mutations	R849W (germline) - Y1108* (somatic)	R915C (mosaic) - Y897C (somatic)	L914F (somatic)
Mutational mechanisms			

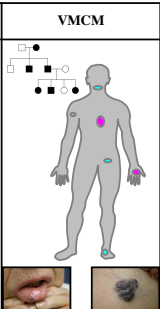
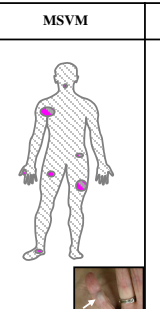
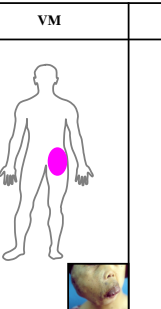
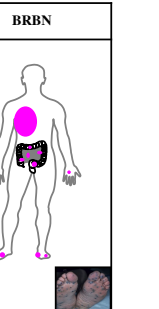
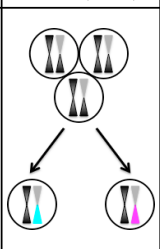
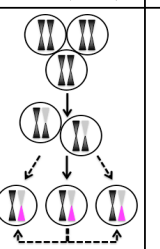
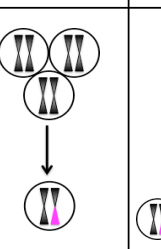
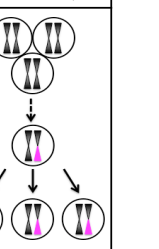
Nätyнки et al, Hum Mol Genet 2015; Soblet et al, J Invest Dermatol 2017

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TIE2 Mutations : Variable Phenotypes

Disease	VMCM	MSVM	VM	BRBN
Phenotype				
Frequent mutations	R849W (germline) - Y1108* (somatic)	R915C (mosaic) - Y897C (somatic)	L914F (somatic)	T1105N - T1106N (somatic, niche)
Mutational mechanisms				

Nätyнки et al, Hum Mol Genet 2015; Soblet et al, J Invest Dermatol 2017

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Genetic bases of vascular anomalies

5. Clinical phenotypic variability

- One gene, several clinical presentations
- Spatio-temporal distribution of mutations/stochastic effect

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Somatic *PIK3CA* mutations cause 20% of VM

(60% due to mutations in *TEK*)

A

B

C

D

E

Mutation detected	Number of individuals with Skin Involvement	Number of individuals with No skin Involvement
<i>TEK</i>	25	15
<i>PIK3CA</i>	0	25
N.D.	10	10

$p < 0.0001$ (TEK vs N.D.)
 $p < 0.0001$ vs. *TEK*
 $p = 0.035$ vs. N.D.
 $p = 0.0018$ vs. *TEK*

VM: Venous malformation

Limaye et al, Am J Hum Genet 2015


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Be
3HG

Somatic *PIK3CA* mutations also cause 75% of LM
(Lymphatic malformations)

- No-flow malformations
- Filled with lymph
- Macro- or micro-cystic
- Present in utero
- Grow with the individual



Boscolo et al, 2015; Osborne et al, 2015; Luks et al, 2015; Brouillard et al, *Orphanet J Rare Dis* 2021


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Be
3HG

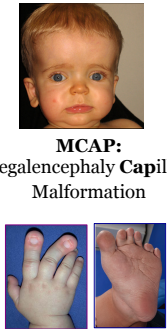
Somatic *PIK3CA* mutations also cause PROS
(PROS=PIK3CA-Related Overgrowth Syndromes)



KT:
Klippel Trenaunay
CLVM with overgrowth



CLOVES:
Congenital Lipomatous
Overgrowth, Vascular
malformation, Epidermal nevi,
Scoliosis



MCAP:
Megalencephaly Capillary
Malformation

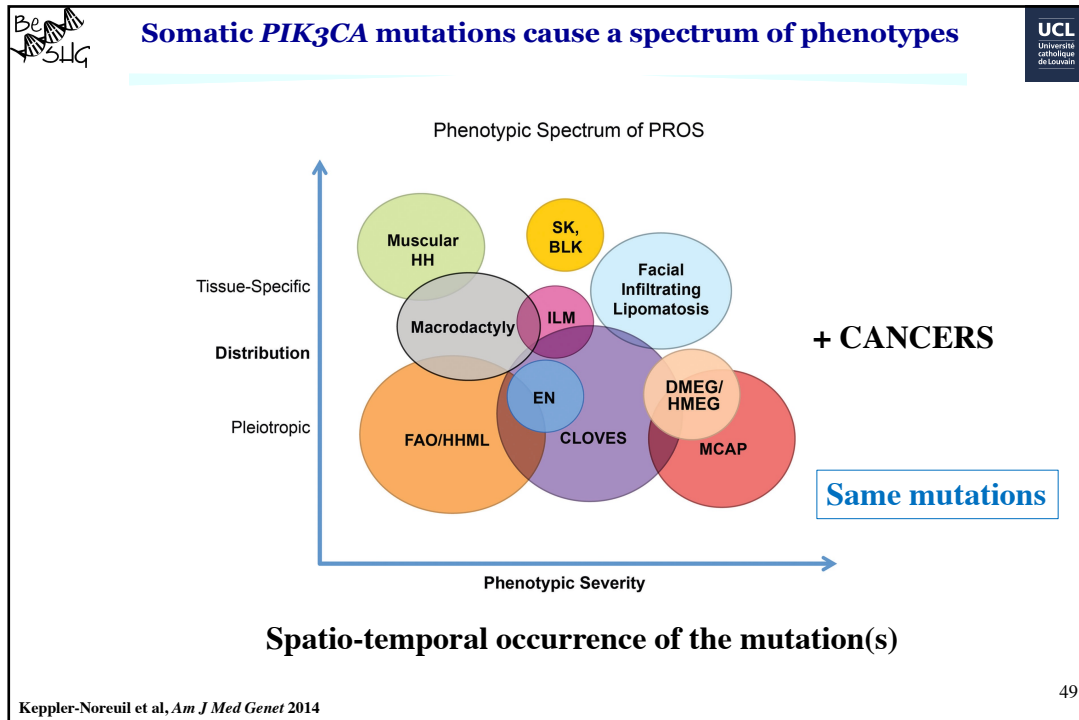
Macroductyly

Kepler-Noreuil et al, *Am J Med Genet* 2014; Brouillard et al, *Orphanet J Rare Dis* 2021

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Ben
SHG

Genetic bases of vascular anomalies

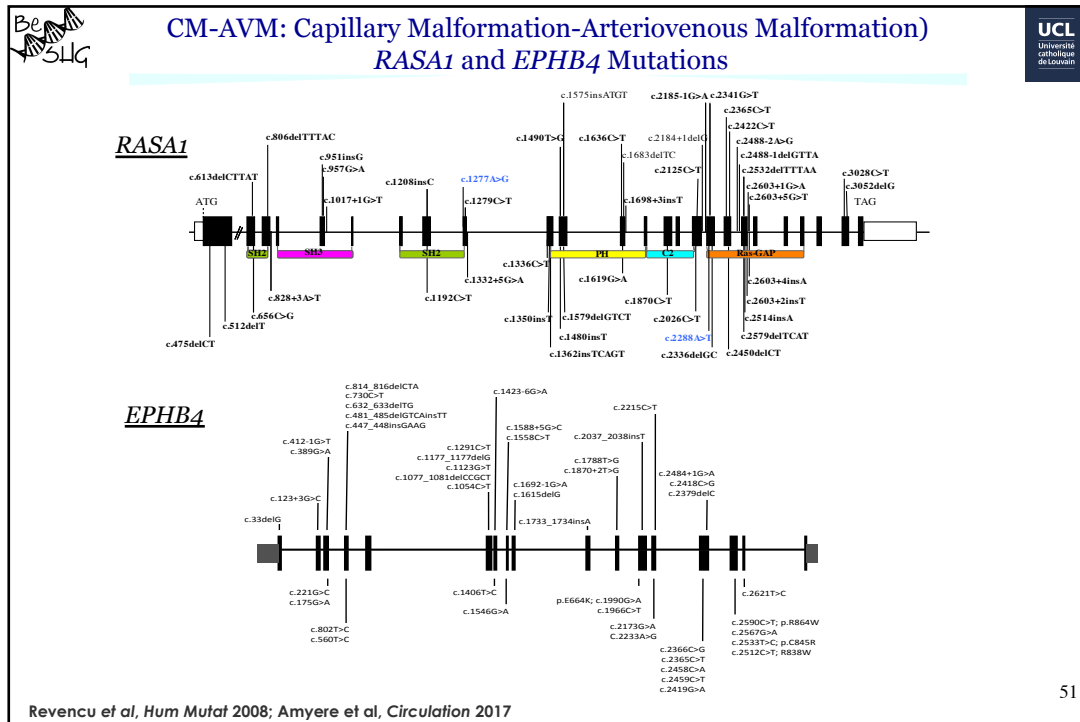
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5. Clinical phenotypic variability

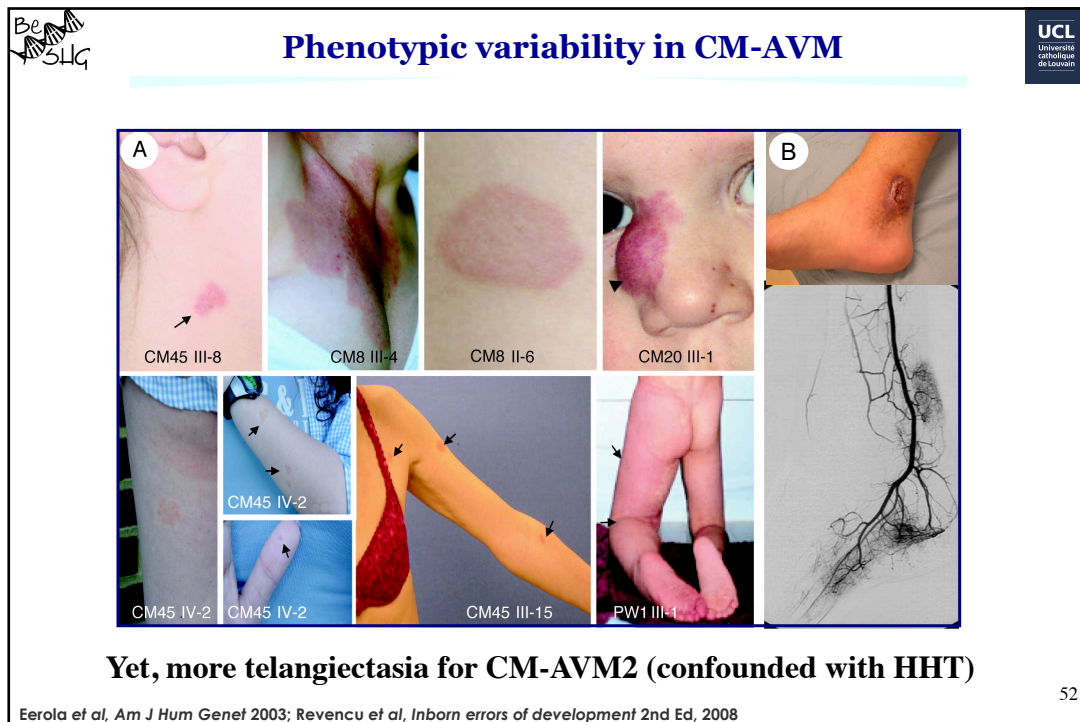
- One gene, several clinical presentations
- >> Spatio-temporal distribution of mutations/stochastic effect
- Two genes, several similar clinical presentations

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50



51



52

Be
34G

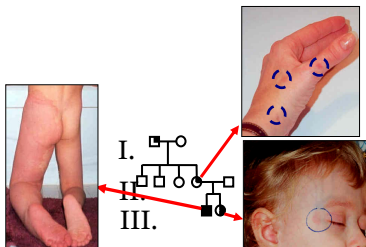
RASA1 Phenotypes

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314 individuals with RASA1 mutations (from 132 families)

306: multifocal CM (97%)
 101: Accompanying fast-flow lesions
 26 Parkes Weber syndrome (**8.5%**)
 32 Intra-CNS AVM/AVF (**10%**)
 43 Extra-CNS AVM/AVF (**13%**)

>> Large inter- and intra-familial variability



Revenu et al, Hum Mutat 2013

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53

Be
34G

Genetic bases of vascular anomalies

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1. Predisposing susceptibility genes (vs. causative)
 - Multigenic (vs. monogenic)
 - Polymorphism (vs. mutation)
2. Locus heterogeneity
 - "One" phenotype, many causes (CCM & PLE)
3. Inherited with reduced penetrance
 - Second-hits
 - Mosaicism/ tissue heterogeneity
4. Somatic changes (VM & BRBN)
5. Clinical phenotypic variability
 - One gene, several clinical presentations
 - Spatio-temporal distribution of mutations/stochastic effect
 - Two genes, several similar clinical presentations

• **Treatments for vascular anomalies ?**

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