



GENETIC and DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS II.

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*250 years of EXCELLENCE
in medical education,
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and healthcare*

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Teratology

⇒ Teratogenesis means malformation caused by environmental effects

⇒ Forms:

→ Isolated developmental disorders (one organcomplex is usually affected)

» Malformations

» Deformations

» Dysruptions

» Field defect (e.g. Pachygyria, Agyria or Lissenzepahlia, Mikropolygyria, Teleenzepahalon dev. problems: diminished number of big commissura fibers: slim Corpus Callosum, Holoprosencephalia: uncomplete development of the brain, Zykloopia, cleft lip or palate)

» Sequences – Potter Sequence

» Syndroms

→ Multiple developmental disorders



Disturbed differentiation/development

- Agenesis - organ is completely missing
- Aplasia - primitive organ development is histologically detectable but no mature organ development
- Dysgenesis - maldevelopment of the organ
- Hypoplasia - smaller size than normal
- Stenosis - narrowing
- Atresia - completely closed opening/ending
- Dysraphia - disturbed closing of neural tube



Chromosomal Defects

↳ Numeric disorders

↳ Monosomy, Trisomy

Cause: no-disjunction, late of the Anaphasis

→ Mosaicism

Cause: damage in early embryogenesis

↳ Structural Disorders

→ Deletion, Addition

→ Inversion

→ Isochromosom, ringchromosom



Chromosome defects



Numerical alterations



Monosomy, Trisomy

» Cause: Non-disjunction,
delay of anaphasis

→ Mozaicism

» Cause: Damage in early
embryogenesis



Structural alterations

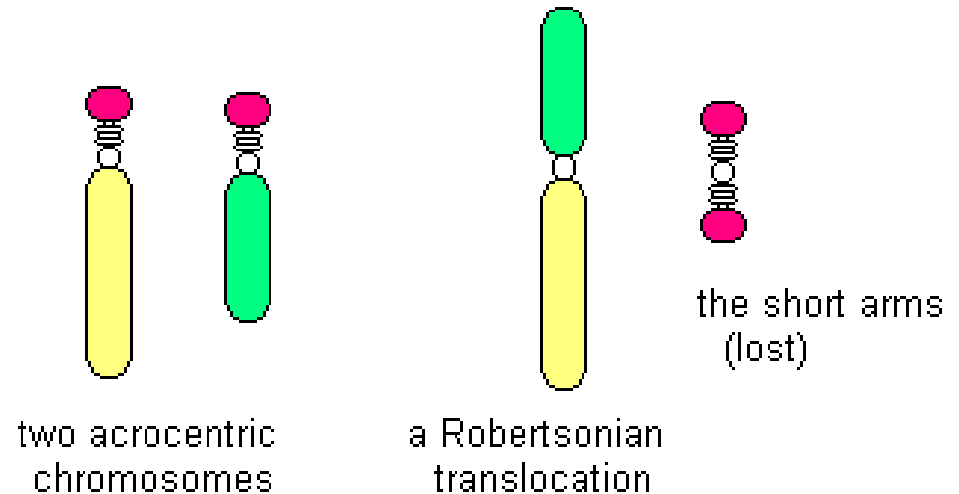
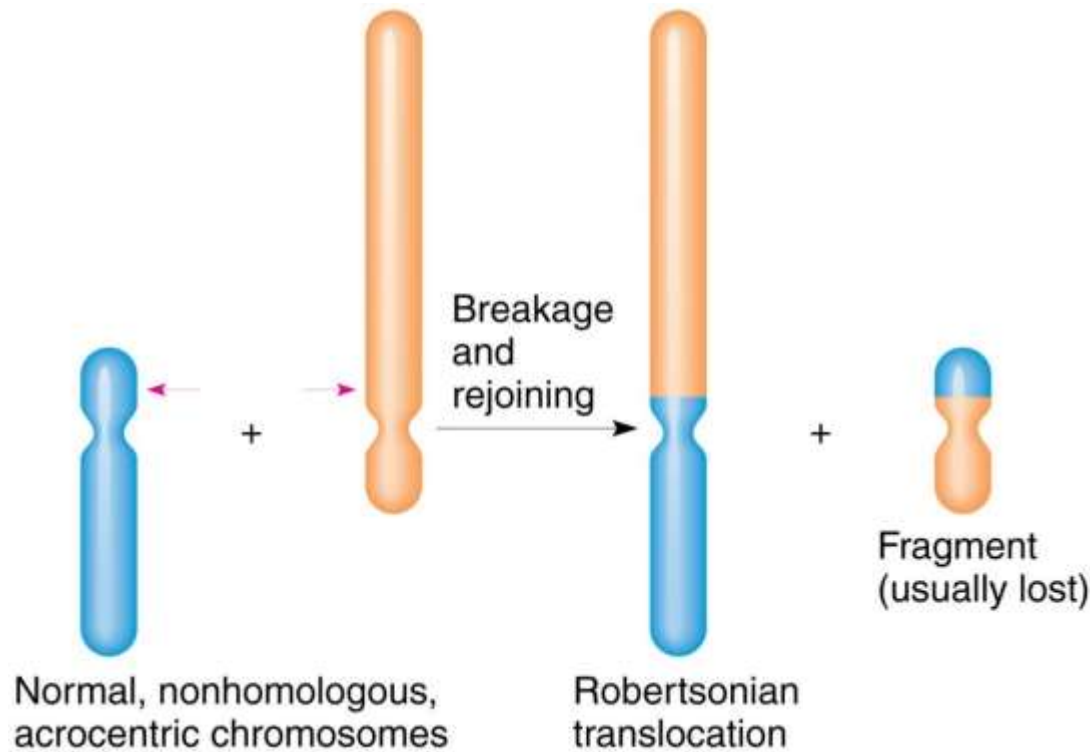
→ Deletion, Addition

→ Inversion

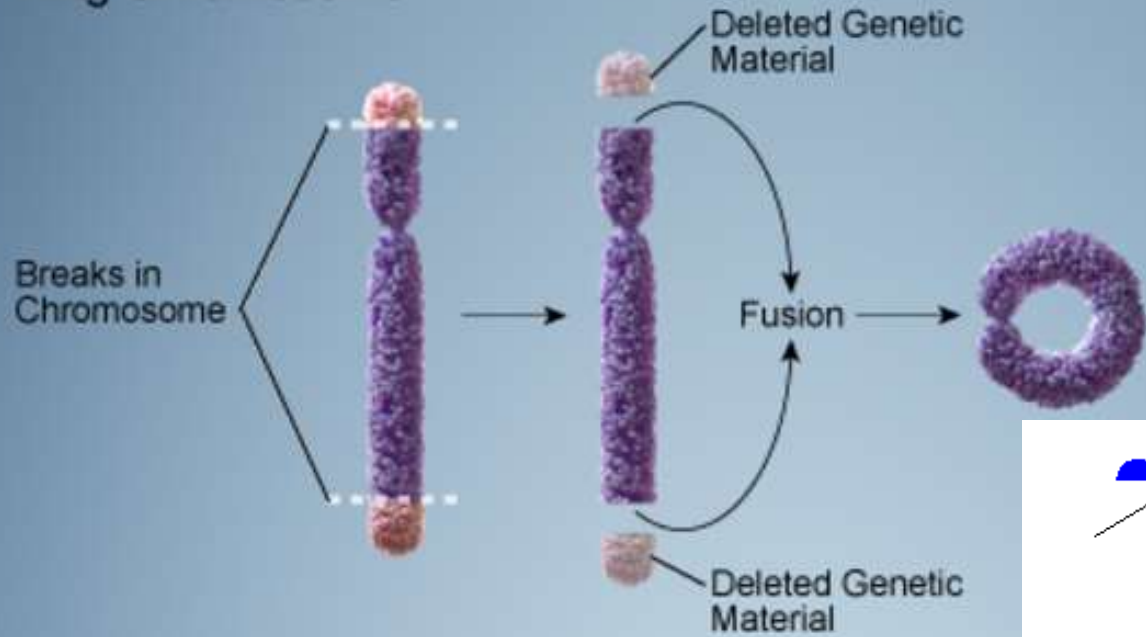
→ Iso-chromosome, ring chromosome



Robertson transzlokáció (akrális fúzió)

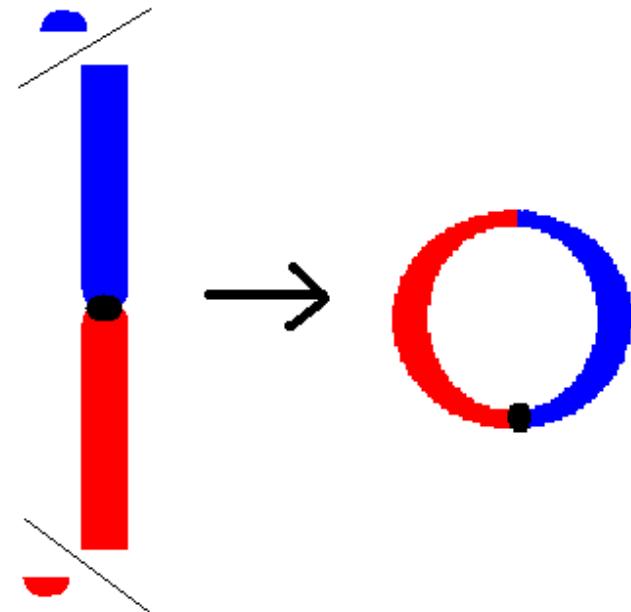


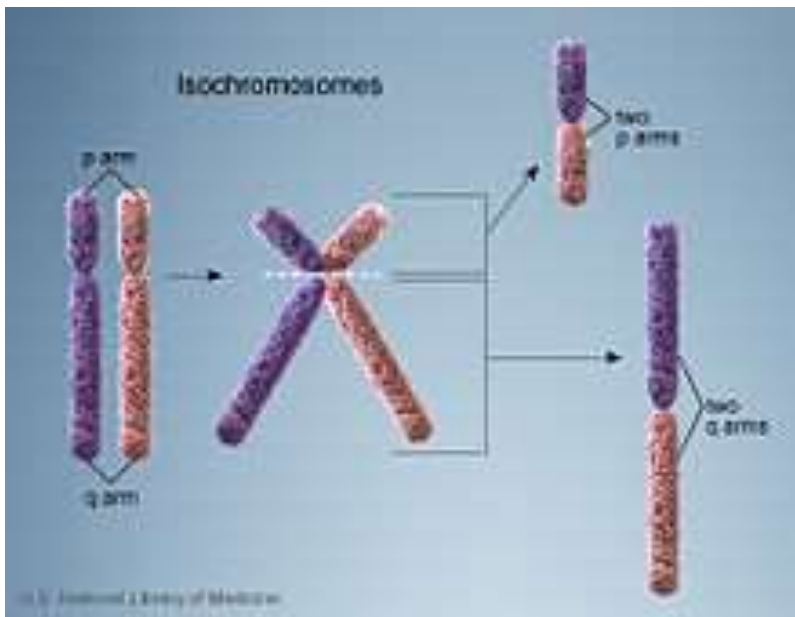
Ring Chromosome



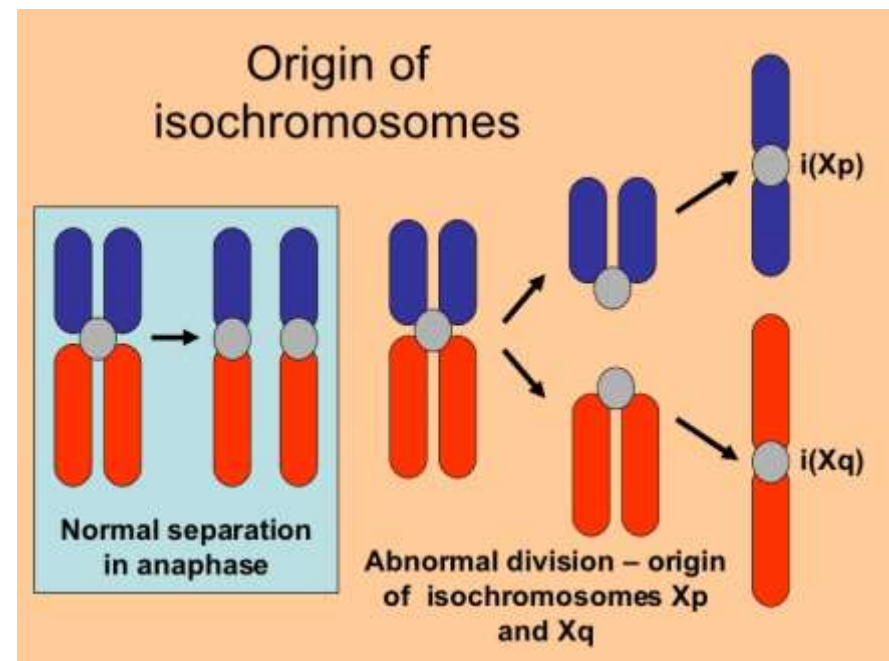
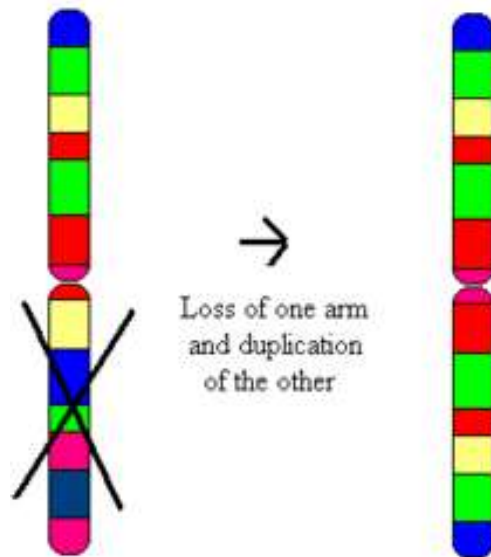
U.S. National Library of Medicine

ring
chromosome



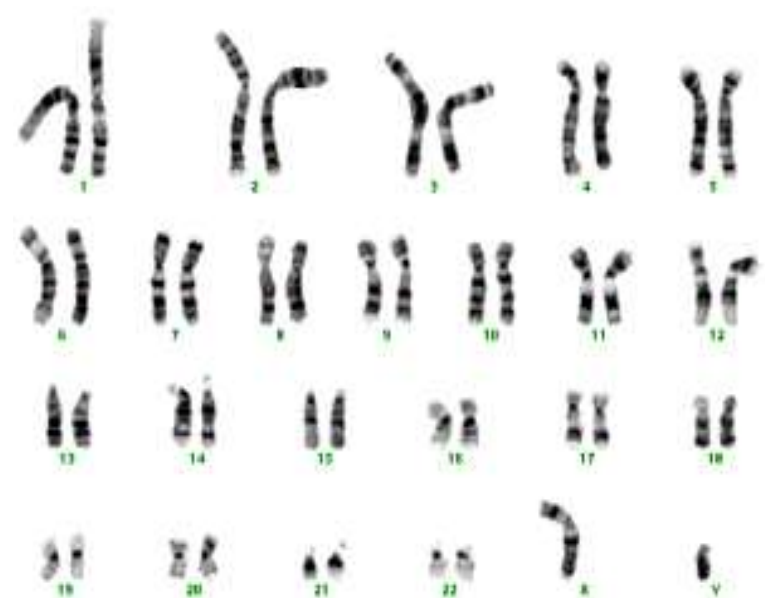
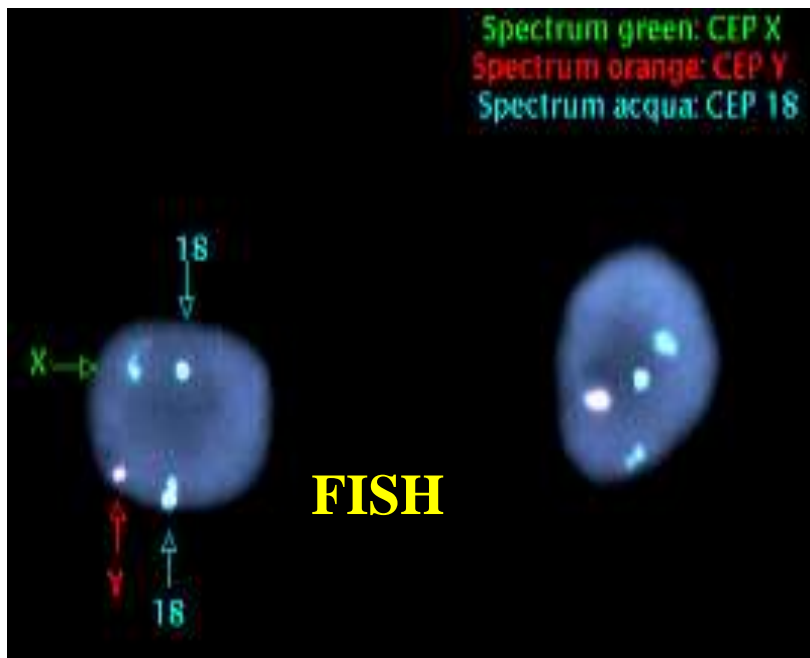


An **isochromosome** is an unbalanced structural abnormality in which the arms of the chromosome are mirror images of each other.^[1] The chromosome consists of two copies of either the long (q) arm or the short (p) arm because isochromosome formation is equivalent to a simultaneous duplication and deletion of genetic material. Consequently, there is partial trisomy of the genes present in the isochromosome and partial monosomy of the genes in the lost arm.



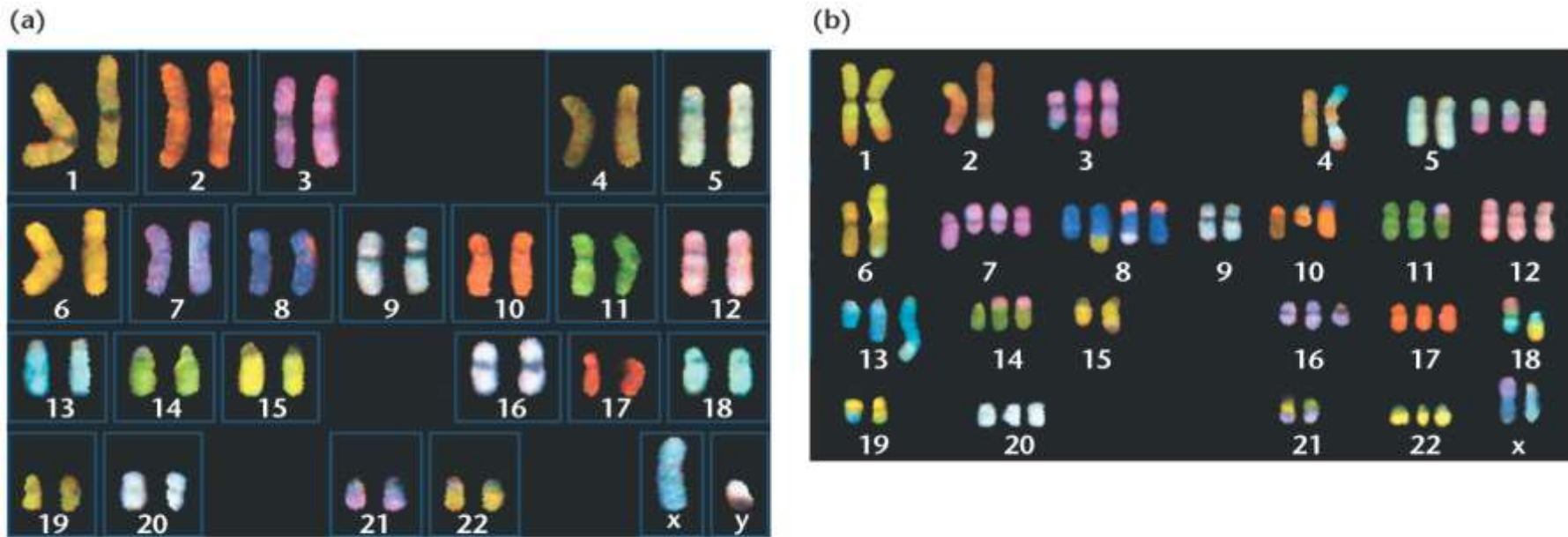
MOLECULAR MEDICINE

Cytogenetics



Cytogenetics- kariogram

Normal cell and tumor cell karyotypes



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- Whole chromosome painting
- (a) normal cell (b) tumor cell with several chromosomal rearrangement

Autosomal Defects

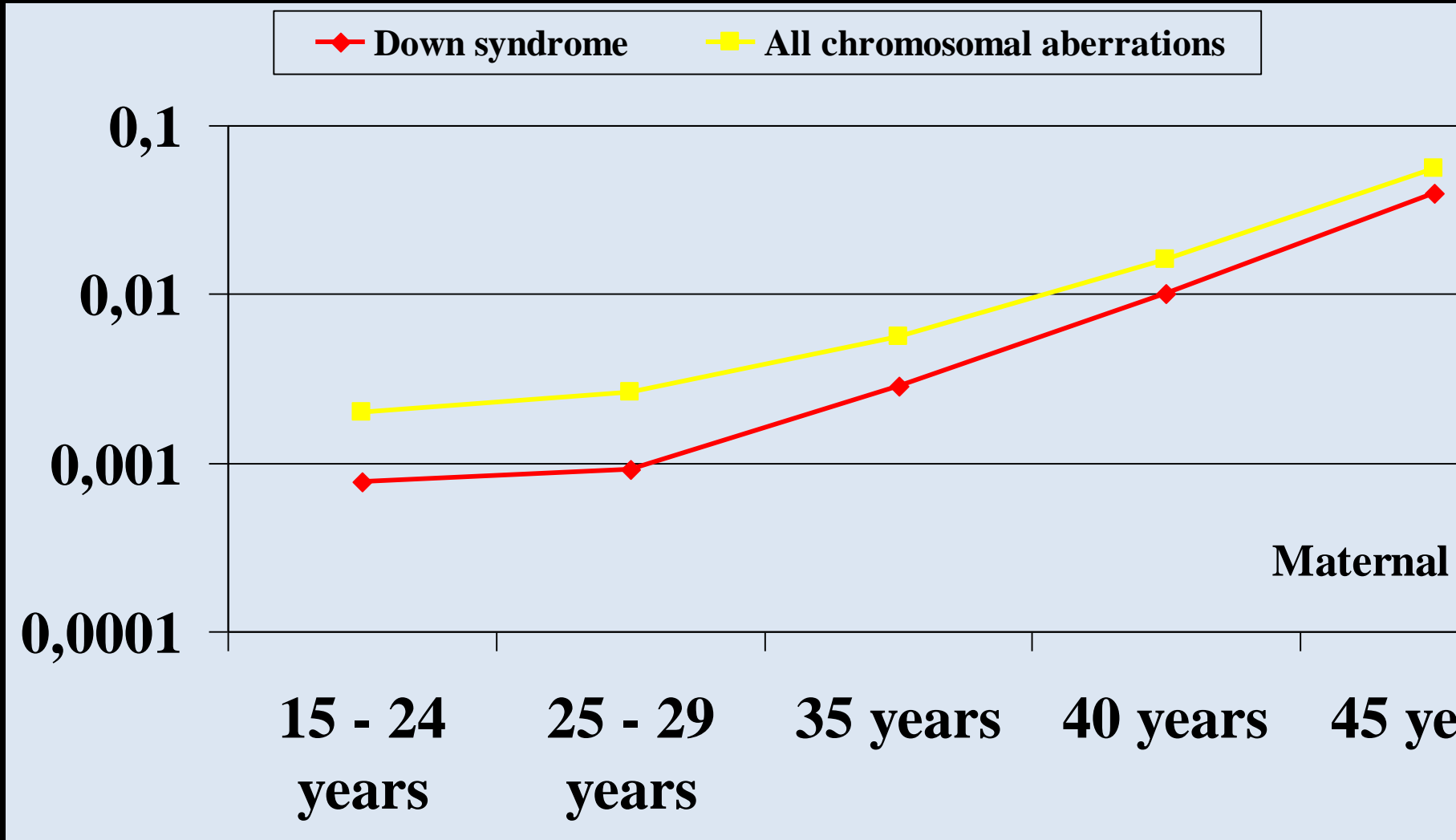
↙ Trisomy:

- Down syndrom (21 Trisomy)
- Edwards syndrom (18 Trisomy)
- Patau syndrom (13 Trisomy)

↙ Deletions

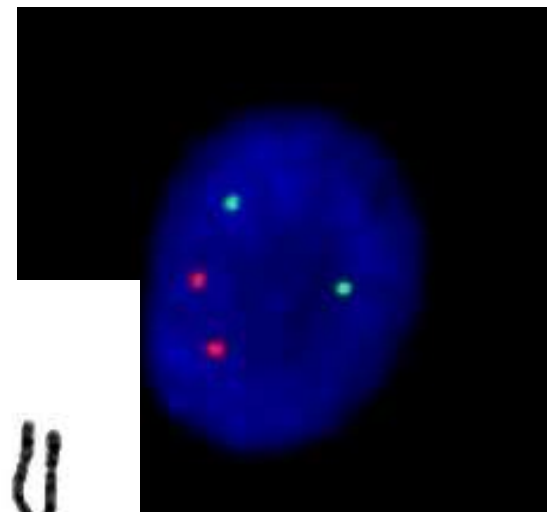
- Cri du chat syndrom (5p Deletion)
- 4p Deletion

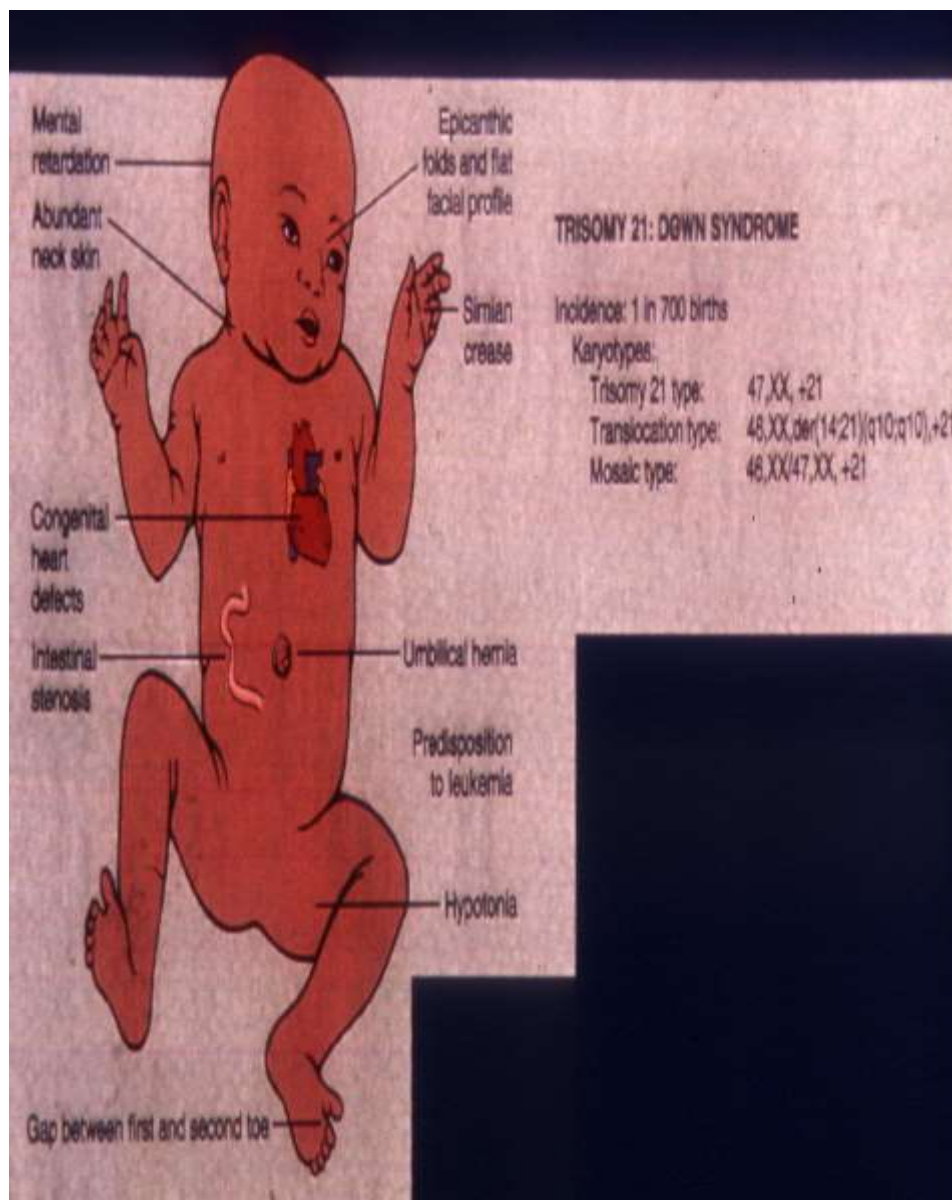
Frequency of the chromosomal Abnormalities





Trisomy 21
47,XX,+21





Down syndrom:

broad, flat face

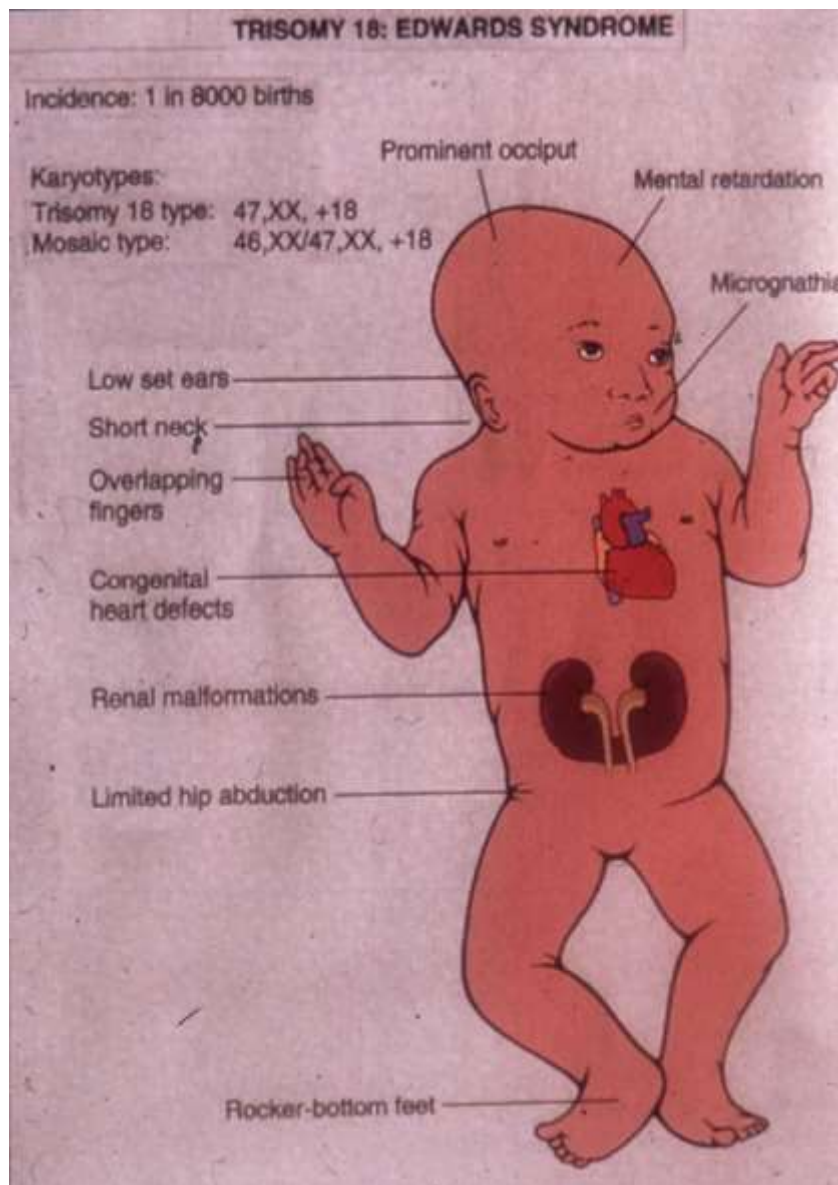
Epicanthus

Macroglossia

Simian crease

50 % heart dev. disorders
(VSD, ASD)

Increased risk for leukemia

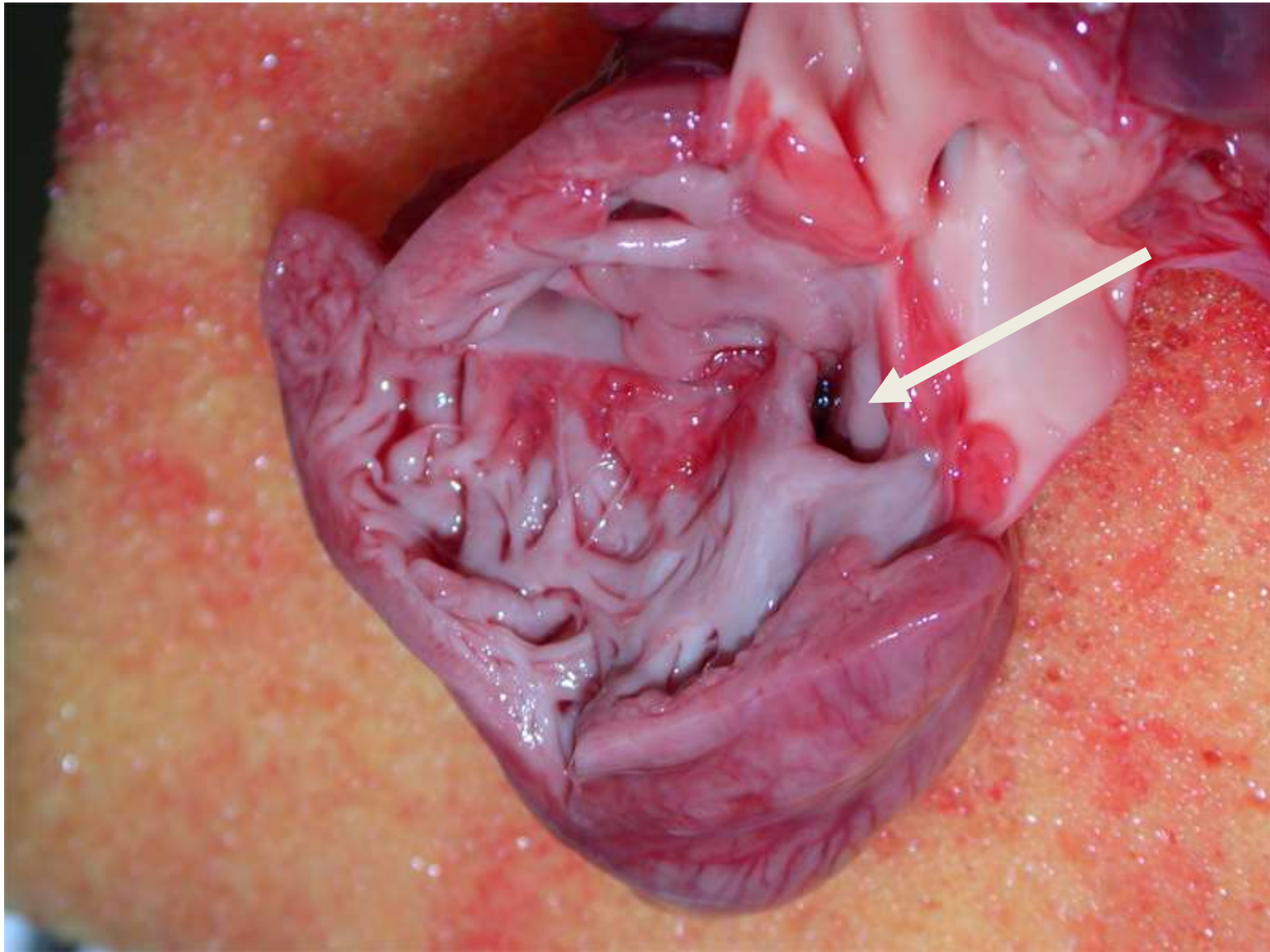


Edwards syndrom (surv.: 2-3 months):

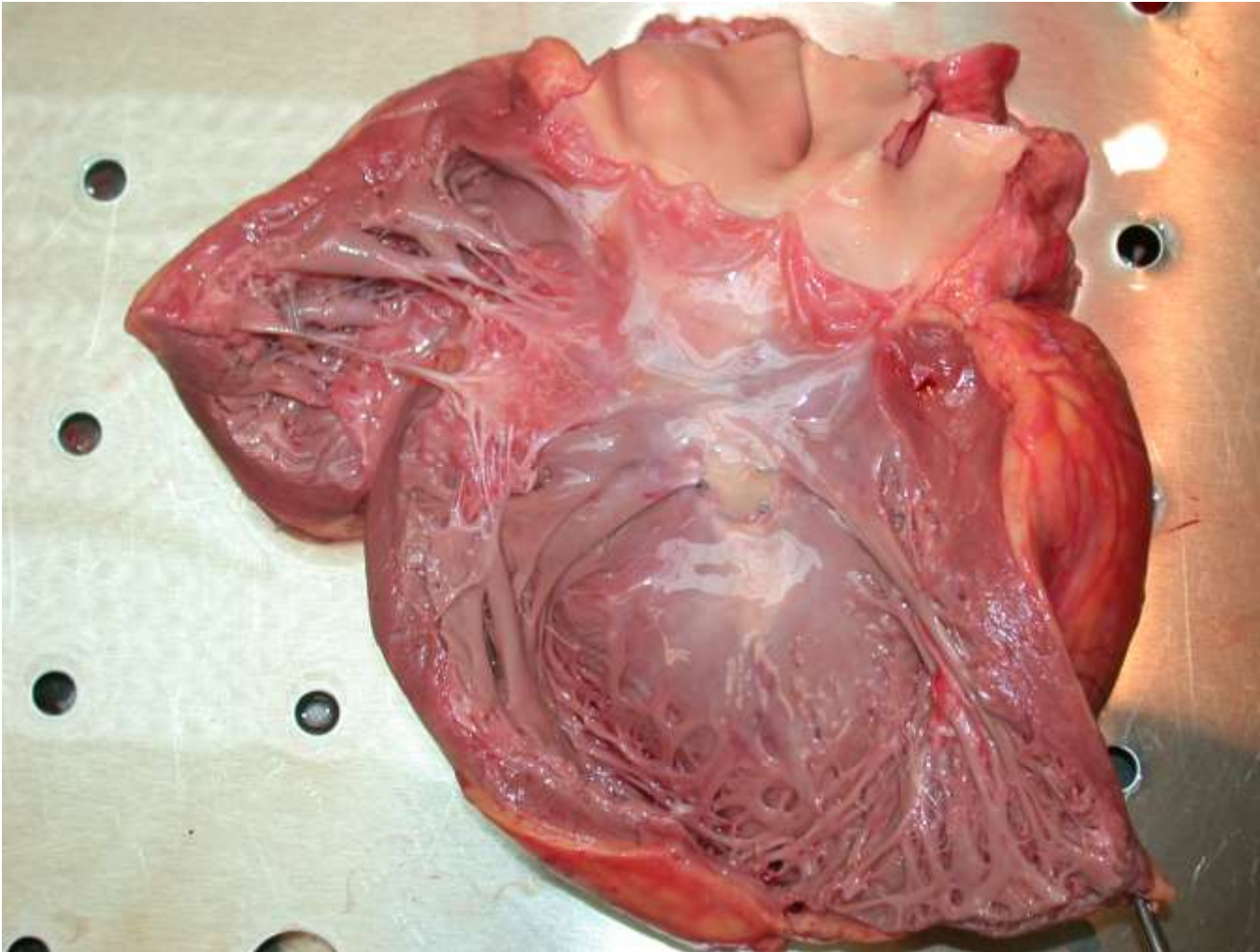
18 chr. trisomy
 Mental retardation
 Craniofacial dysplasia
 short neck
 heart defects (VSD)
 horseshoe kidney
 Mikropolygyri of temporal lobe

Patau syndrom (surv.: 2-3 months):

13 chr. trisomy
 Cleft lip and palate
 Rocker bottom feet
 Polidactylia
 Face deformity
 mental retardation
 cardiac defects
 Holoprosenzephalia, Agyria, Mikrozephalia



VSD
(ASD,
aorta
asc.
atresia)



tricusp. insuff.
dilatatio ventr. ,
fixed pulm.
hypertension
progr. circ.
insufficiency

Exitus: 31 years

Medical history: corrected transpositions of the major arteries
12 years of age: closing of VSD, not attending med. controls after

Defects of the sex chromosomes

↪ Monosomies:

→ Turner syndrom: 45 X

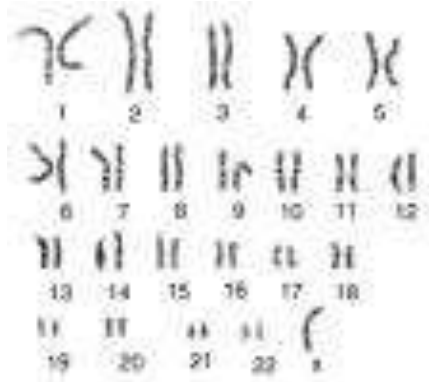
↪ Polysomies:

→ Klinefelter syndrom: 47 XXY
(48 XXXY, 49 XXXYY, etc.)

→ Superman: 47 XYY (48 XYYY, 49 XYYYY, etc.)

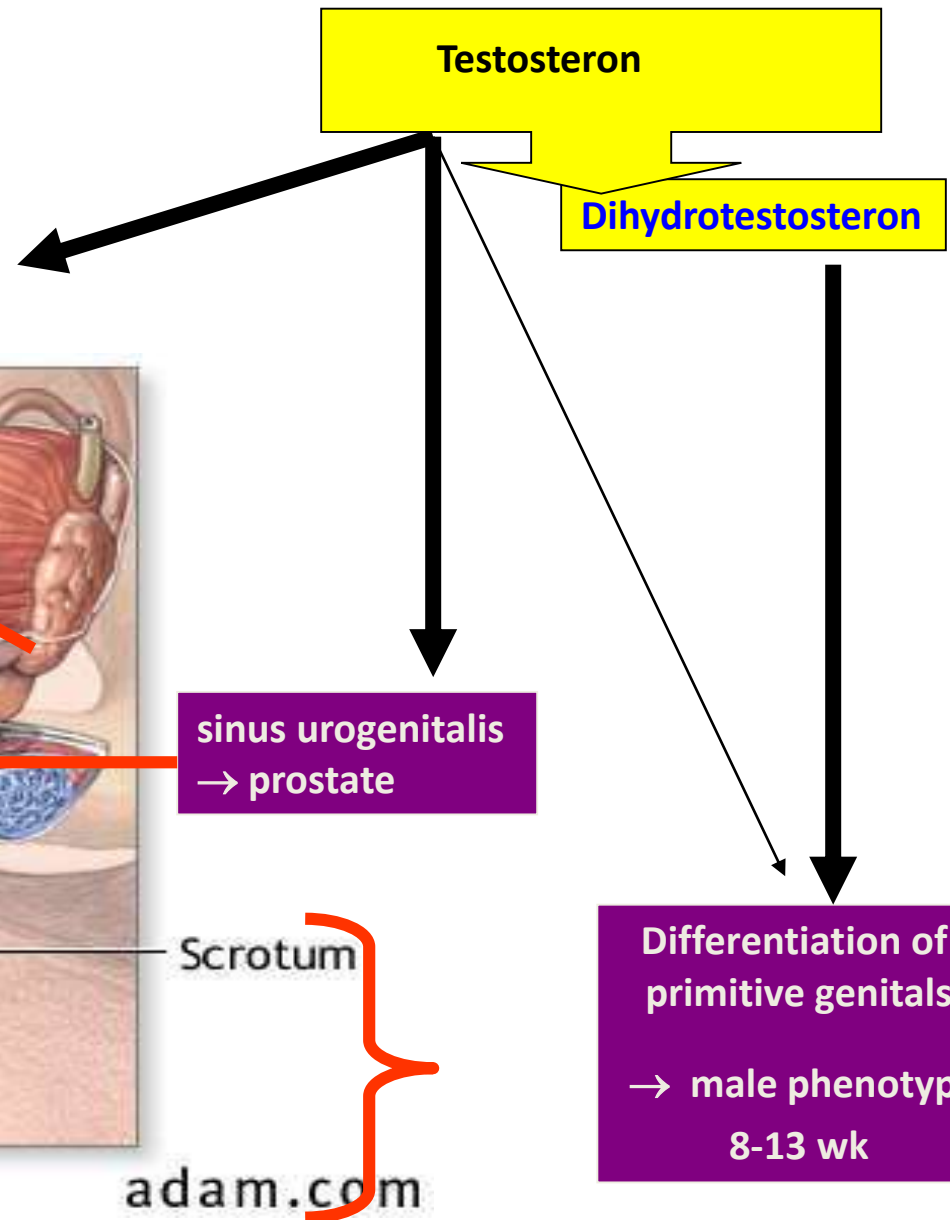


Turner syndrom: 45 X

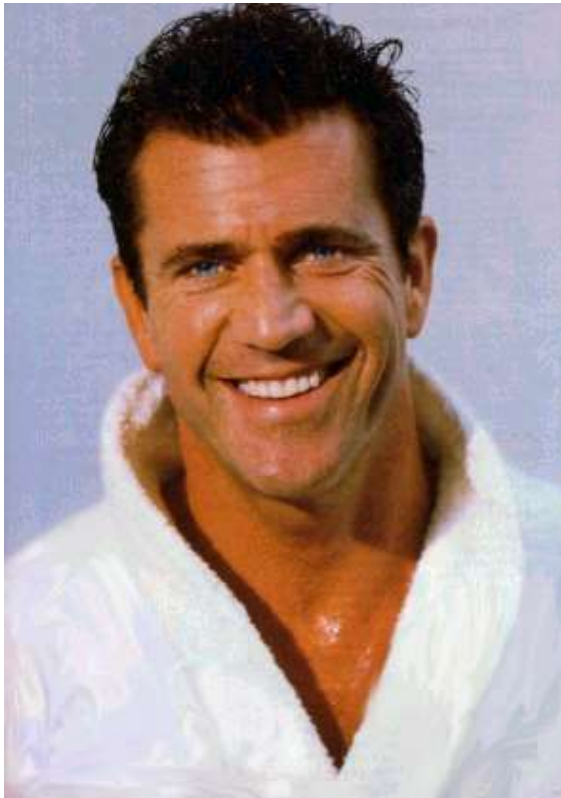


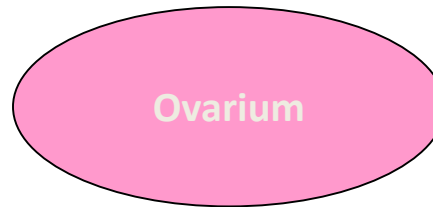
Short stature
Low posterior hairline
webbing of neck
streak ovaries
infertility
amenorrhea
coarctation of the aorta

Wolffs duct → (2x)
epididymis, vas deferens,
vesicula seminalis
9-13 wk



WHAT MAKES a WOMAN a WOMAN ? WHAT MAKES a MAN a MAN ?





Ovaries (XX phenotype) produce hormones which drive the sexual differentiation to female phenotype

NB: (maternal and fetal) oestrogens play a big role in sexual differentiation

Ovarium

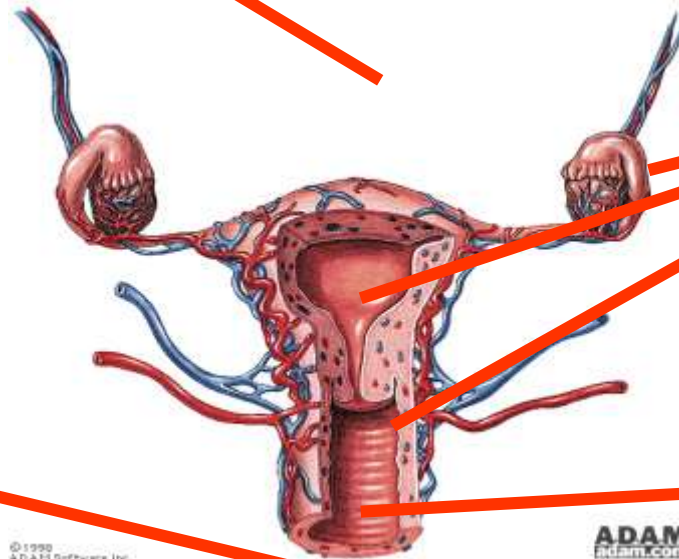
Regression of Wolffs duct
9-13 wk

Release of little testosterone

Differentiation of Mullers
duct
7-12 wk

Differentiation
of primitive
genitals
→ female phenotype
7-12 wk

Sinus Urogenitalis
→ distal vagina



Genetic causes of disturbed sexual Differentiation

TERMS

Sex Reversal: karyotype does not match the genitals (XY female, XX male)

Pseudo-hermafroditism: (male of female) karyotype matches the gonads, but not the genitals - disagreement between phenotypic and gonadal sex

Hermafroditism: presence of both ovarian and testicular tissue on different sides (contralateral) or combined ovotestis

Ambiguous genitals: does not resemble either male or female



Hermaphroditos was a handsome son of Hermes and Aphrodite.

He was loved by the Nympe Salmakis who prayed that she could be with him forever.

Some god, on hearing her prayer, merged their two forms into one, to form
a being that was both male and female



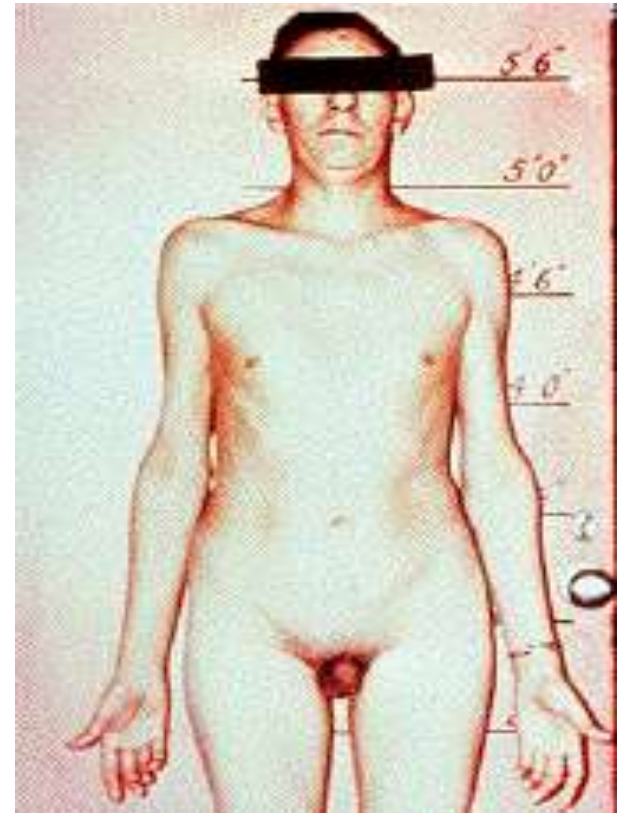
Klinefelter (XXY) syndrom

Bipotential gonads
XX



Testis: small,
little amount of SP

Eunuchoid body habitus with
abnormally long legs
infertility
small, atrophic testis
Klinefelter (XXY) syndrom



Pseudo-hermafroditism

karyotype matches the gonads, external genitalia are ambiguous or female

XY, testes, female or ambiguous genitals

Hormonal:

5-alpha reductase deficiency

Androgen receptor insensitivity

(testicular feminization)

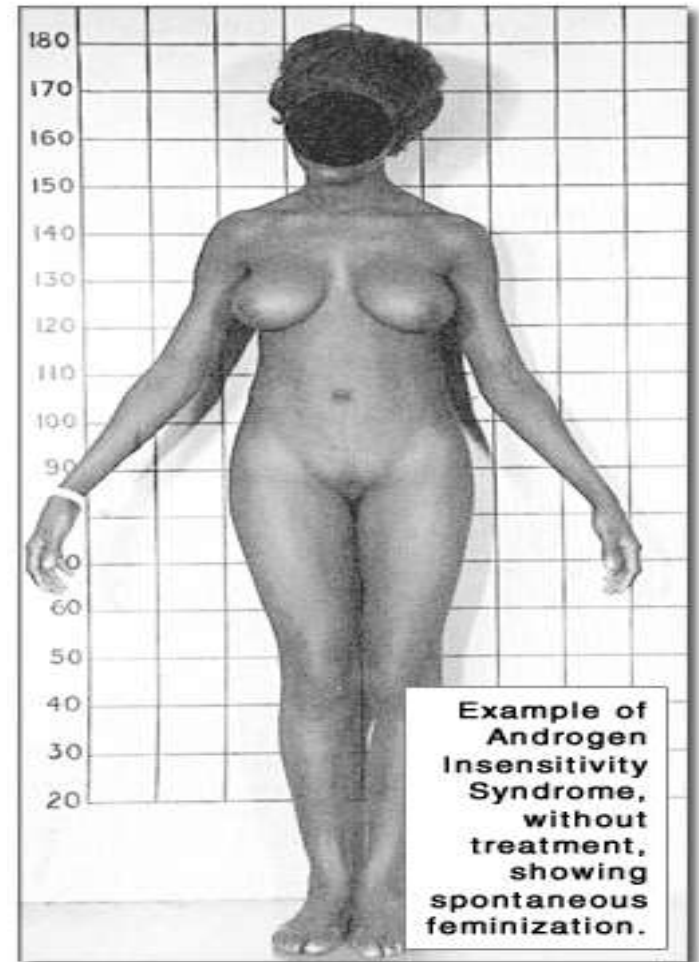
Persistent Mullerian Duct syndrom (I & II)

Leydig cell hypoplasia/agenesis

FTZF1 mutations

WAGR/Denys-Drash

Smith-Lemli-Opitz syndrom (I & II)



Androgen Receptor Insensitivity – Hairless Woman

Complete androgen insensitivity syndrome

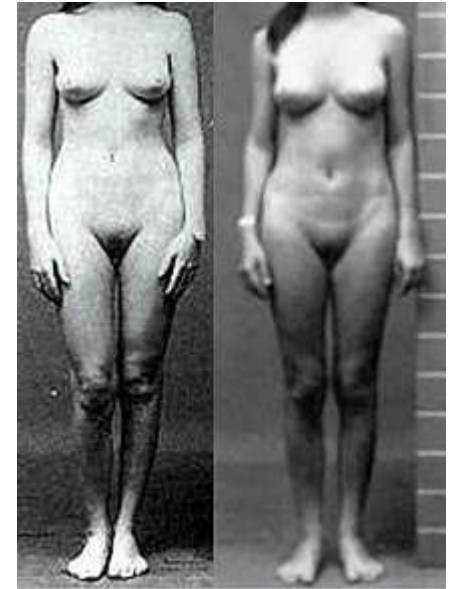
Complete androgen insensitivity syndrome (CAIS) is an [AIS](#) condition that results in the complete inability of the [cell](#) to respond to [androgens](#).^{[1][2][3]} As such, the insensitivity to androgens is only clinically significant when it occurs in individuals with a [Y chromosome](#) or, more specifically, an [SRY gene](#).^[1] The unresponsiveness of the cell to the presence of androgenic hormones prevents the [masculinization of male genitalia](#) in the developing fetus, as well as the development of male [secondary sexual characteristics](#) at [puberty](#), but does allow, without significant impairment, female genital and sexual development^{[3][4]} in those with the condition.

All human fetuses begin fetal development looking similar, with both the [Müllerian duct](#) system (female) and the [Wolffian duct](#) system (male) developing. It is at the seventh week of [gestation](#) that the bodies of unaffected individuals with the XY karyotype begin their masculinization: i.e, the Wolffian duct system is promoted and the Müllerian duct system is suppressed (the reverse happens with typically developing females). This process is triggered by androgens produced by the [gonads](#), which in individuals with the XX karyotype had earlier become ovaries, but in XY individuals typically had become [testicles](#) due to the presence of the Y Chromosome. The cells of unaffected XY individuals then masculinize by, among other things, enlarging the [genital tubercle](#) into a [penis](#), which in females becomes the [clitoris](#), while what in females becomes the [labia](#) fuses to become the [scrotum](#) of males (where the testicles will later descend).

Individuals affected by CAIS develop a normal external [female habitus](#), despite the presence of a Y chromosome,^{[1][5][6][7][8][9]} but internally, they will lack a [uterus](#), and the [vaginal cavity](#) will be shallow, while the gonads, having been turned into testicles rather than ovaries in the earlier separate process also triggered by their Y chromosome, will remain undescended in the place where the ovaries would have been. This results not only in [infertility](#) in individuals with CAIS, but also presents a risk of gonadal cancer later on in life.^[10]

CAIS is one of the three categories of [androgen insensitivity syndrome](#) (AIS) since AIS is differentiated according to the degree of [genital masculinization](#): complete androgen insensitivity syndrome (CAIS) when the external genitalia is that of a typical female, [mild androgen insensitivity syndrome](#) (MAIS) when the external genitalia is that of a typical male, and [partial androgen insensitivity syndrome](#) (PAIS) when the external genitalia is partially, but not fully masculinized.^{[1][2][5][6][7][11][12][13][14]}

Androgen insensitivity syndrome is the largest single entity that leads to 46, XY [undermasculinization](#).^[15]



Persons with a complete androgen insensitivity have a typical female external phenotype, despite having a 46,XY karyotype.^{[16][17]}

Model Hanne Gaby Odiele reveals she is intersex to help break stigma



Odiele's biological sex characteristics do not conform to typical notions of male or female. PHOTO: INSTAGRAM



Disturbed synthesis of sex hormones

21 hydroxylase deficiency (too much Androgens)



Multifactorial inheritance

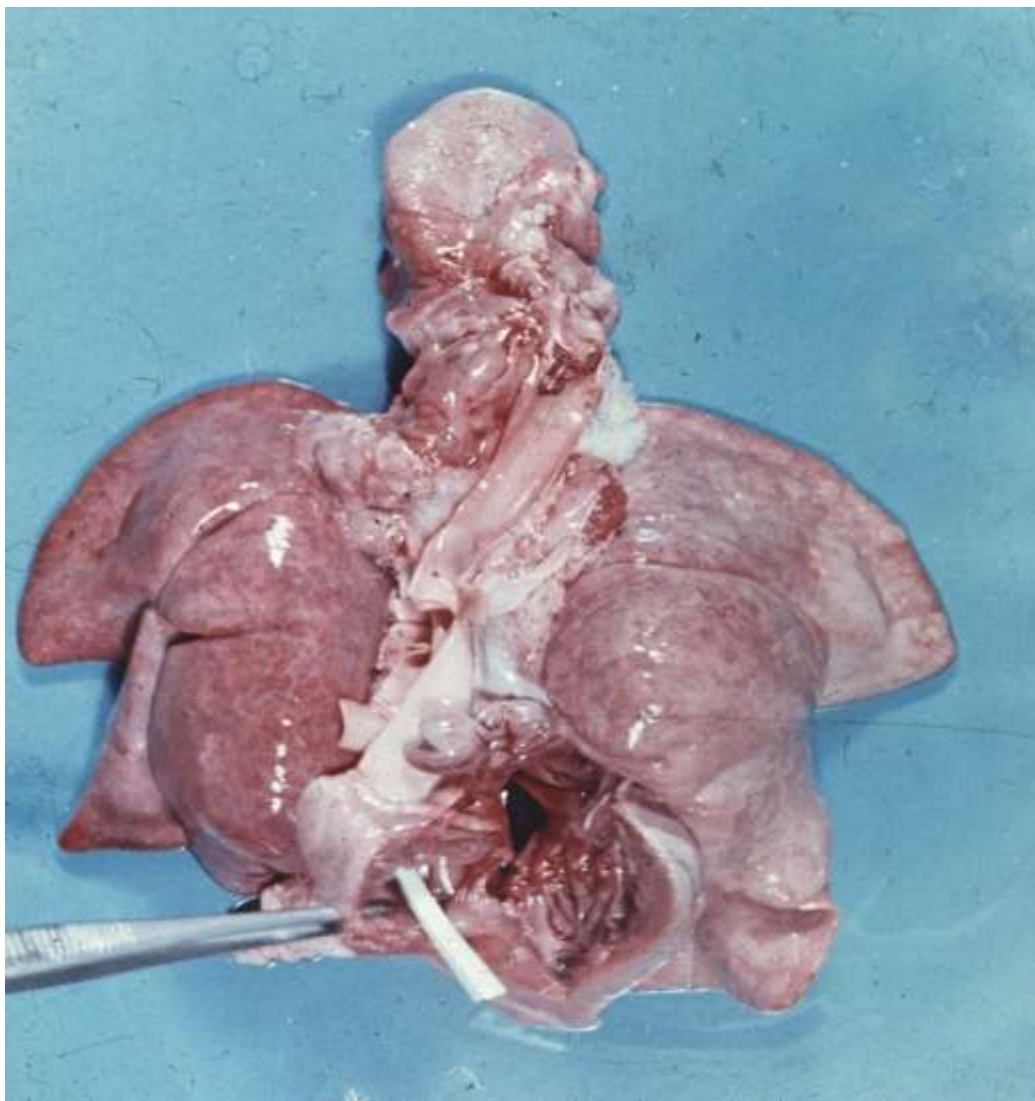
- ↪ joint effect of several (several hundred) genes (minor genes), together with exogenous factors
- ↪ different appearance in twins
- ↪ similar appearance compared to the autosomal diseases with low penetrance



Multifactorially inherited “diseases”

- ⇒ Figure, color of skin and hair
- ⇒ blood pressure, arteriosclerosis, diabetes mellitus type II.
- ⇒ connatal dislocation of the hip, cleft lip (hare-lip), cleft palate, heart septum defects, pylorus stenosis, neurogenous closing defects, club-foot (pes equinovarus)





Diseases associated with mitochondrial DNA

- ↪ Disease is inherited from the mother.
- ↪ all of the children of the diseased mother are sick, depending on the mitochondrial heterogeneity
- ↪ a few diseases are known, mostly affecting the eyes, brain and muscles
 - Kearns-Sayre syndrome
 - Inheritable neuropathy of Leber

Environmental faktors



according to the time of effect:

- Gametopathy: before fertilization
- Blastopathy: 0.-15. days
- Embryopathy: 16.-75. days
- Fetopathy: 75. day-birth



Factors of influence:

- Infection
- chemicals, mutagens





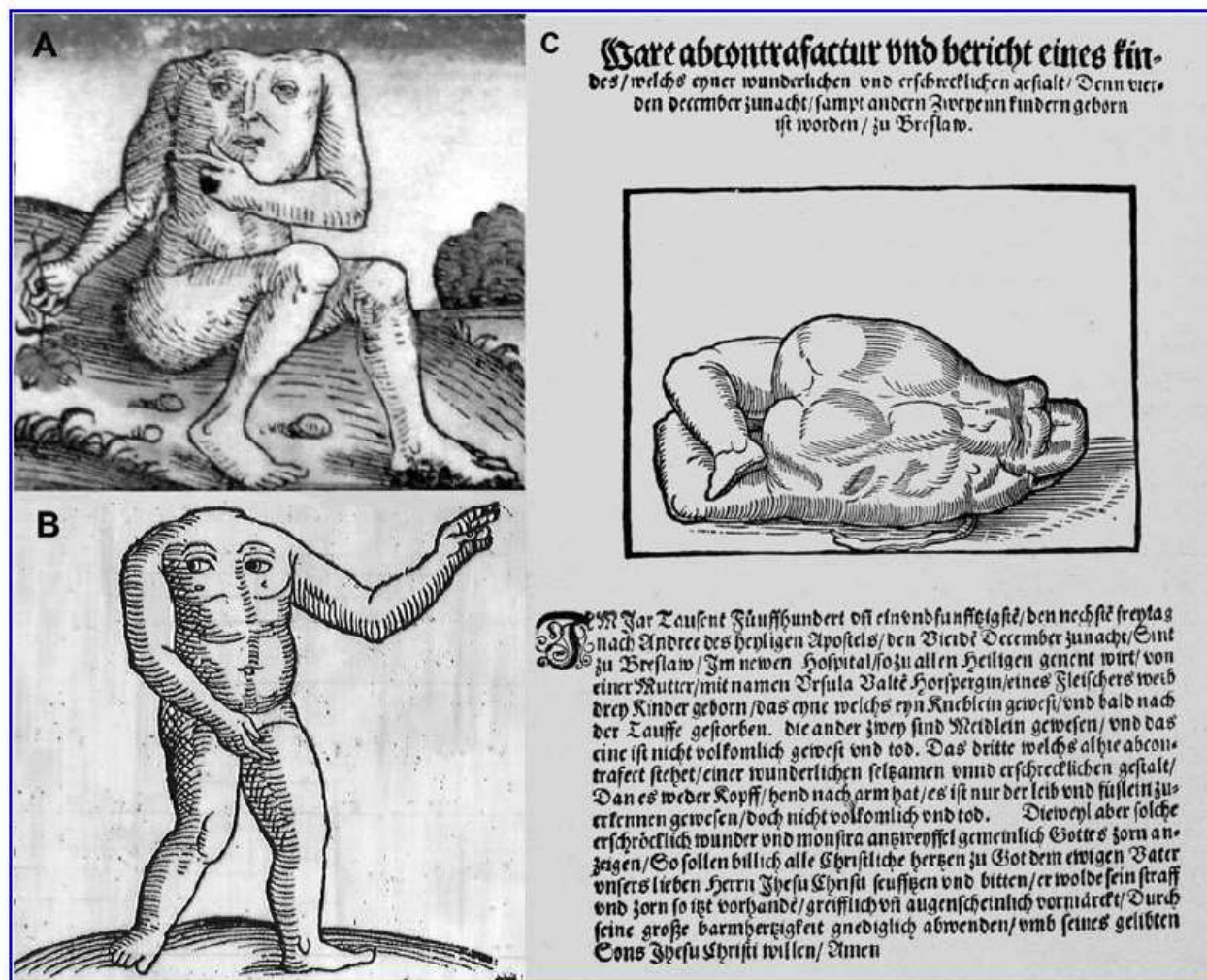


Figure 1 Pre-scientific accounts of acranius as a moral warning. (A) “Headless blemmye” from Schedel’s Weltchronik 1493 [39]; (B) “Brustbutzen” from Lycosthenes’ marvelous wonders 1557 [22]; (C) “Frightening prodigy” from a Breslau leaflet 1551, see text for details [17].

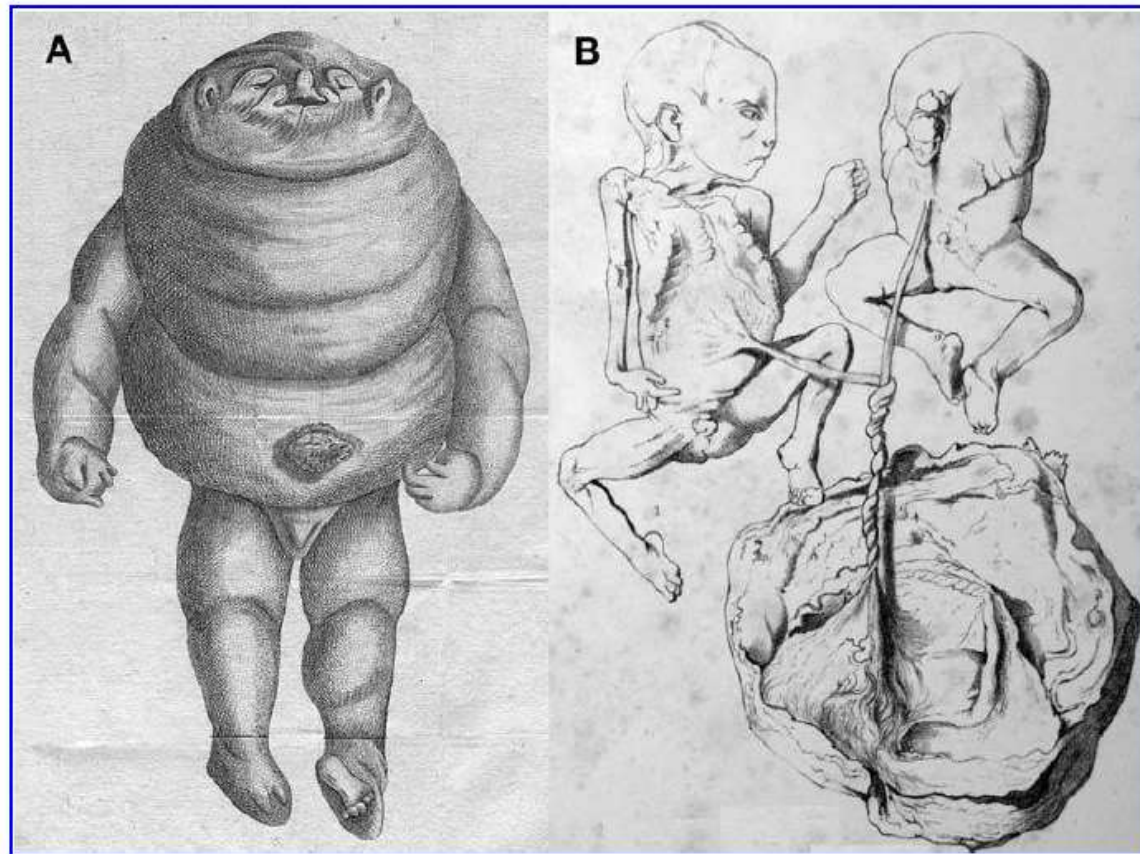


Figure 2 (A) Hydropic acardius anceps “larger and heavier than the accompanying twins”, described by Kähler 1777 [18], (B) acardius acranus with twisted cord depicted by Ahlfeld 1882 to “illustrate the connection of the acardiacus with his twin brother and the placenta” [1].

Teratology- teratogenesis

- ↪ Teratogenesis is a deformed development - resulting teratoids (monstert) because of environmental effects
- ↪ Forms:
 - Isolated deformations (one organcomplex is most frequently affected)
 - » malformations
 - » deformations
 - » dysruptions
 - » Sequences
 - several developmental disorders



Malformations

- congenital dislocation of the hip
- club-foot (pes equinovarus)
- hare-lip (cheiloschisis)
- cleft-palate (palatoschisis)
- heart septum defects
- congenital pylorus stenosis
- neurogenous closing defects





Club foot
Anus atresia
Dysruption – groove
by amniotic band

Deformations

↪ locomotor apparatus is most frequently involved

↪ Reason:

- disproportion of space (oligohydramnion, twin pregnancy)
- disorders of motoric innervation, central defekts
- inherited dystrophy of the muscles





anus atresia



Dysruptions

- ↪ Development of deformity because of total or partial damage of one organ after full development of the organs
- ↪ Reason:
 - compressed by amniotic band
 - intrauterine closure of a vessel and following infarction
 - » atresias, porencephaly





Hydrocephalus internus

Meningocele, spina bifida



atresias



multiple developmental disorders

↪ two or several organsystems are involved, the etiology of the damage is the same

↪ Reason:

- Infection (TORCH complex, varicella)
- Chemicals
- Aberration of chromosomes
- e.g.: rubella (German measles) syndrome, fetal alcohol (consumption) syndrome, thalidomide (Contergan)



Diagnosis of the developmental disorders



Prenatal Diagnostics - Prevention

- Ultrasonography, AFP, analysis of blood of the mother (non-invasive Methods)
- Definitive genetic diagnosis (invasive Methods)
 - » Amniocentesis
 - » Chorion biopsy
 - » Embryo Skin biopsy



Necessary to perform:

- » older mother
- » parents are carrier of diseased genes or chromosomes
- » previous pregnancy with malformations



Diagnosis

Postnatal screening

Routine tests: cystic fibrosis,
phenylketonuria, kretenism,
galactosaemia



Diagnosis of developmental disorders

- Pre und postnatal prevention
- Routine clinical tests: Cystic fibrosis, phenylketonuria, cretenism, galactosaemia
 - further tests: in case of visible disorders, not explained underdevelopment or mental retardation specific genetic tests are necessary/recommended



Therapy



Prenatal therapy

- abortions, induction of birth
- **Intrauterine surgery**



Postnatal therapy

- treatment of symptoms
- **gene therapy** („gene-surgery”)
 - DNA viral or retroviral vectors

