

# **Will a genetic test help us select treatment for individuals with depression?**

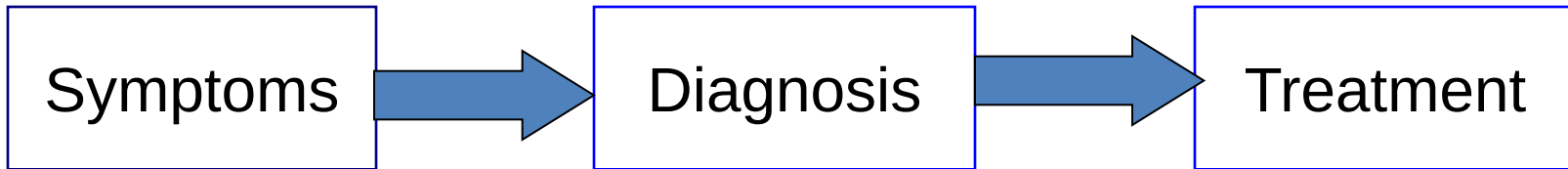
**Rudolf Uher**

Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, Canada

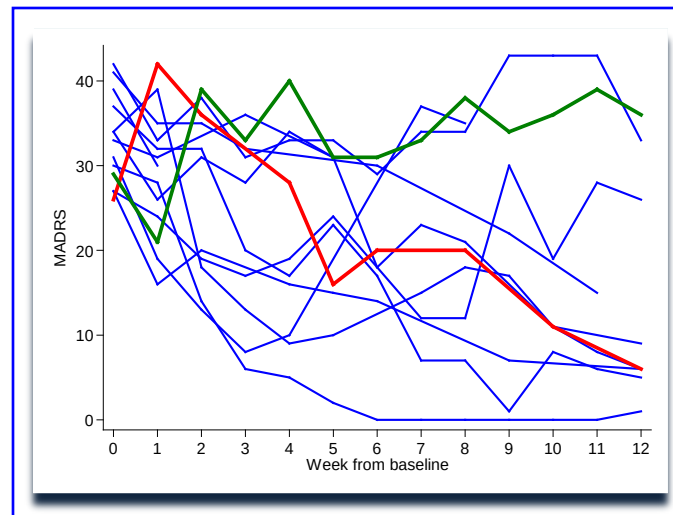
[uher@dal.ca](mailto:uher@dal.ca)

**THE NEED TO PREDICT**

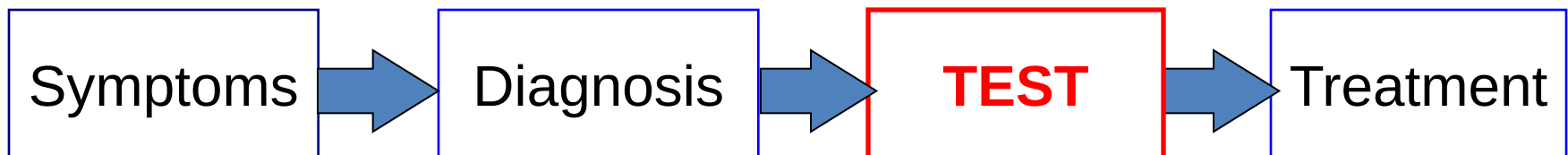
## Current Status: evidence based psychiatry



## Problem: individual heterogeneity in treatment effects



## Solution: personalized psychiatry?



# **What kind of test?**

# Predicting treatment response

- Environmental exposure history (E)
- Subtypes of depression
- Symptomatic predictors
- Genetic variation (G)
- Epigenetics
- Transcriptomics
- Combination of G and E

# Why a genetic test?

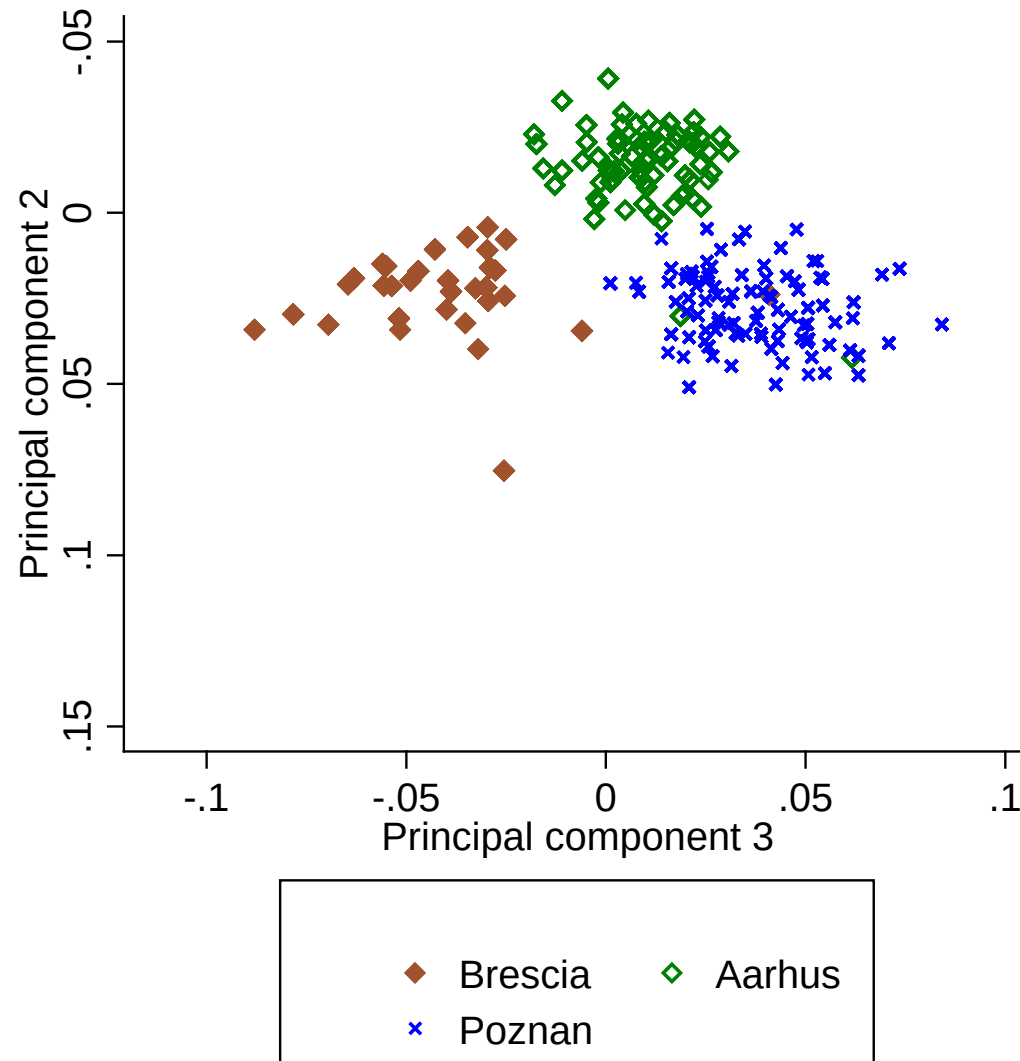
## **For**

- Minimally invasive
- Accessible
- Accurate
- Objective
- Single test good for life

## **Against**

- Only captures personally stable information

# Geography genetics

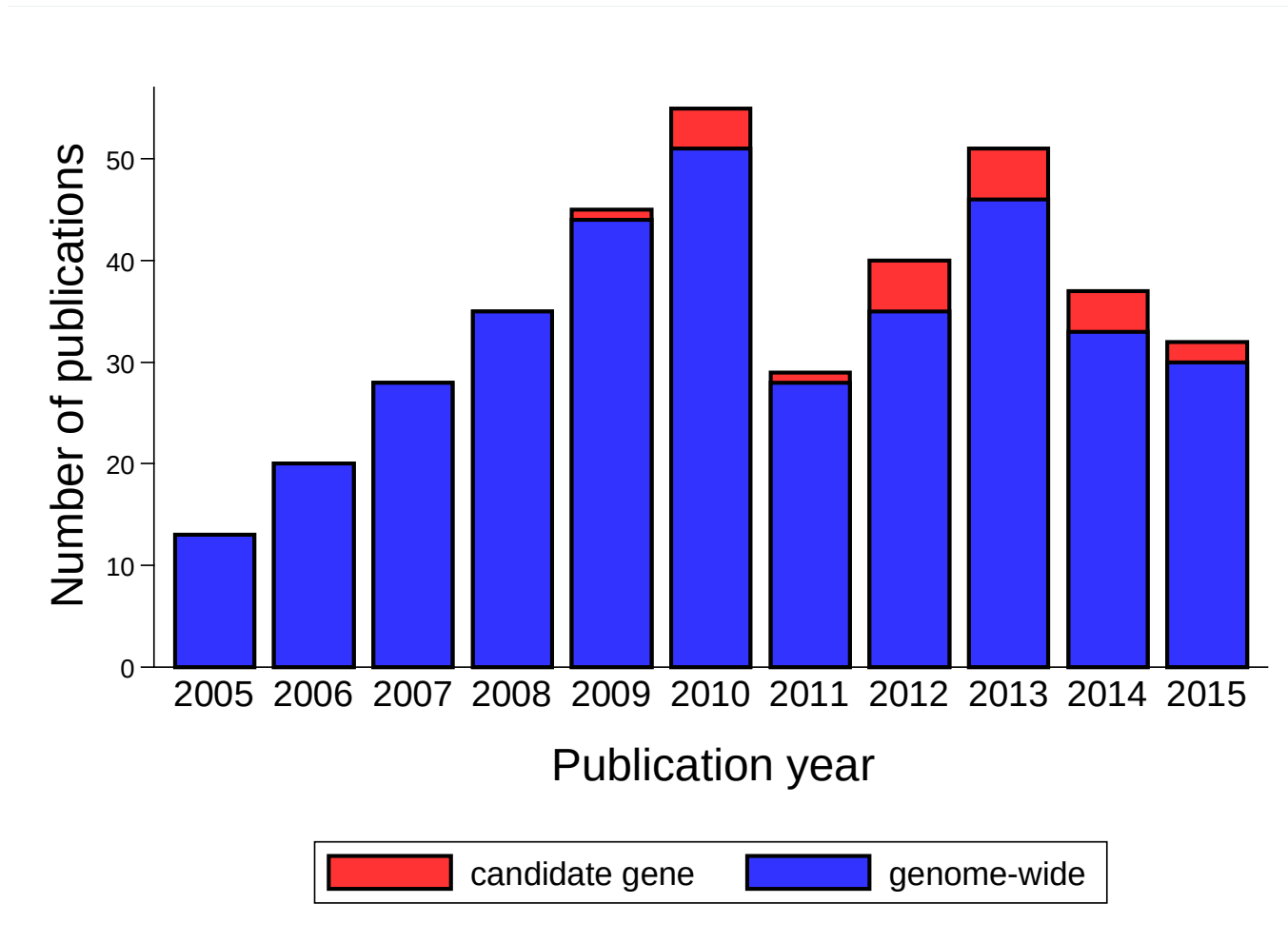


# **PHARMACOGENETICS**



# **PHARMACOGENETICS – THERAPYGENETICS**

# A decade of antidepressant pharmacogenetics



# Pharmacogenetics in GENDEP



*Uher et al 2009 British J. Psychiatry, 194: 252-259*

HYPOTHESIS

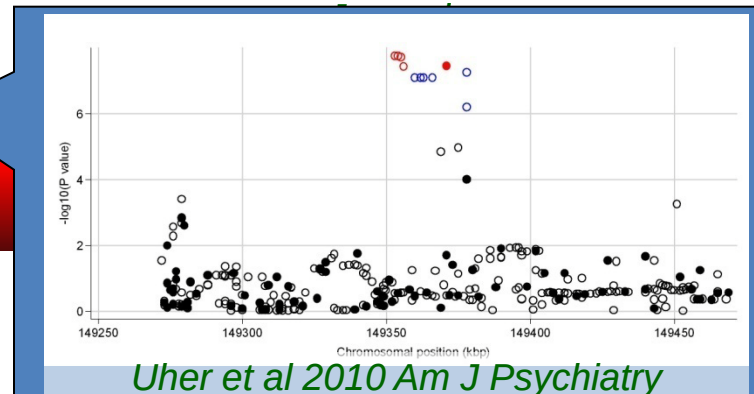
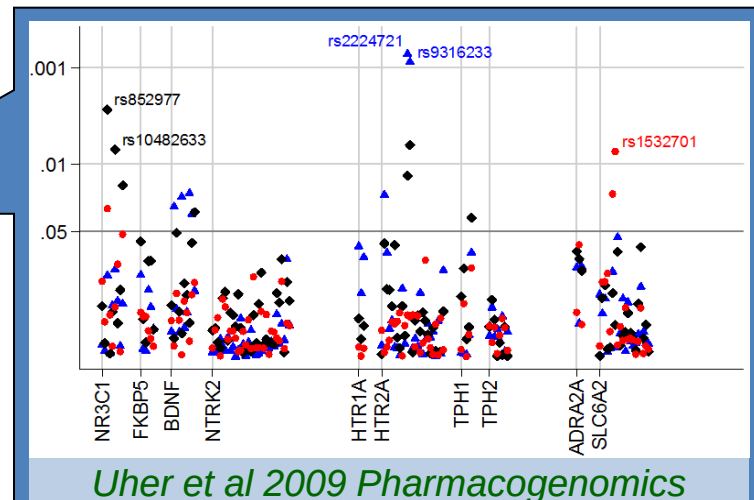
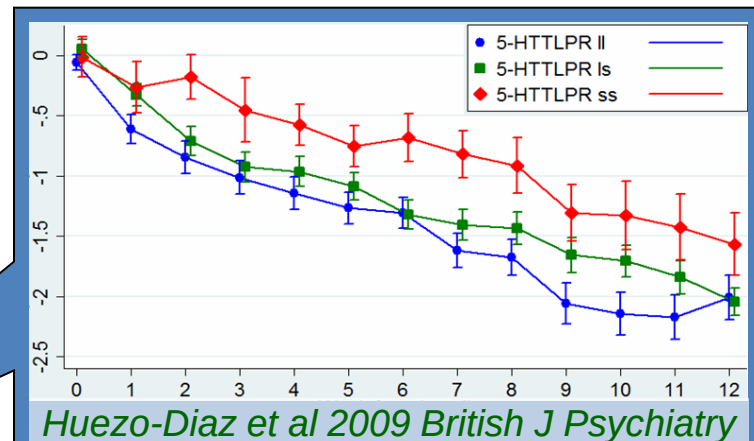
POWER

5-HTTLPR

116 SNP in 10 candidate genes with specific hypotheses

550,000 SNP tagging most common variants in human genome

DISCOVERY



**CANDIDATE GENES**

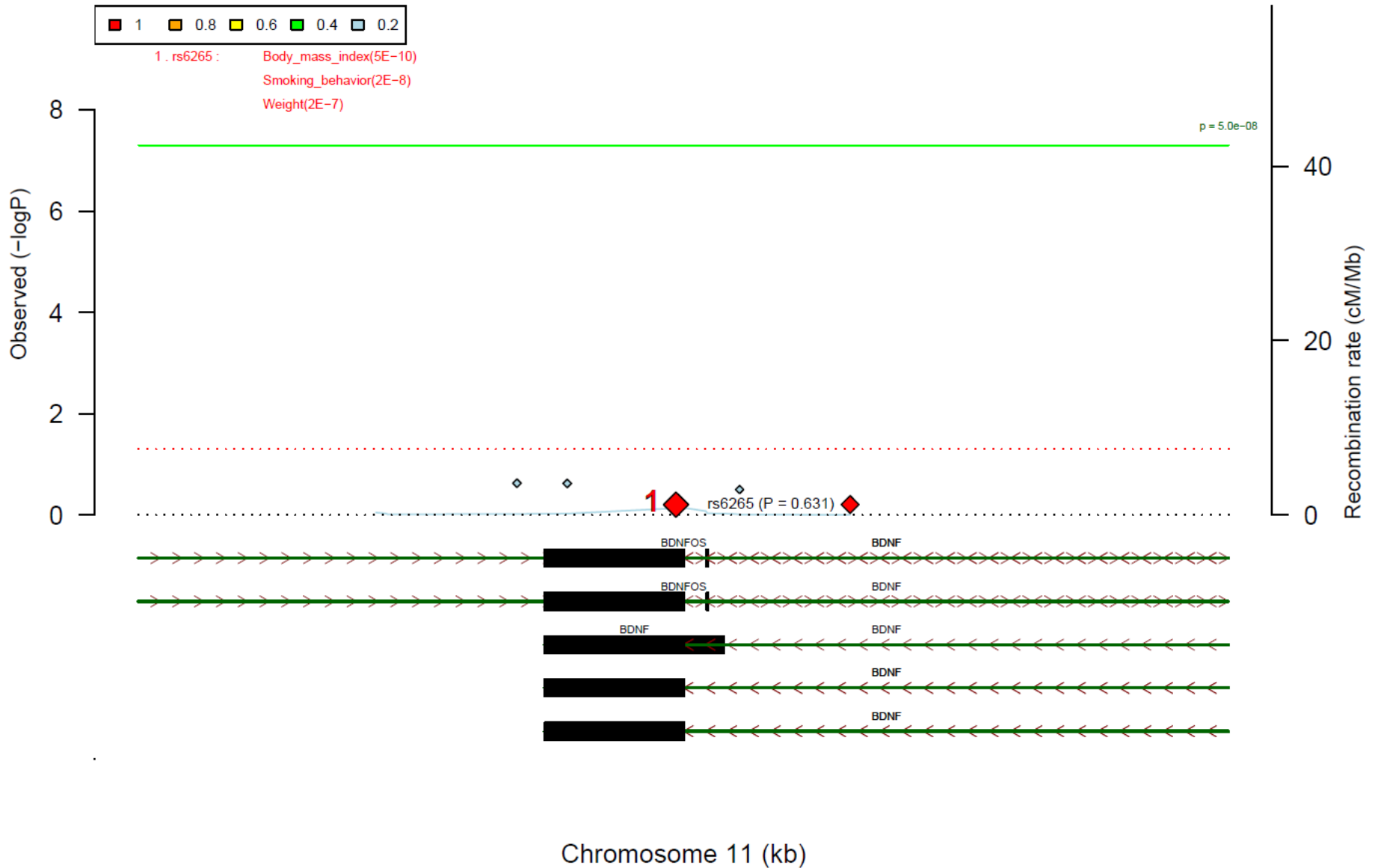
# Do candidate gene associations with antidepressant response replicate?

| Gene          | Variant    | Reference    | Previously reported |       |        | GENDEP-MARS-STAR*D<br>meta-analysis |       |
|---------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|-------|--------|-------------------------------------|-------|
|               |            |              | n                   | OR    | p      | n                                   | p     |
| <i>TPH1</i>   | rs1800532  | Kato 2010    | 754                 | 2.37  | 0.0001 | 2256                                | 0.544 |
| <i>BDNF</i>   | rs6265     | Kato 2010    | 490                 | 1.63  | 0.02   | 2256                                | 0.631 |
| <i>COMT</i>   | rs2075507  | Kocabas 2010 | 367                 | 1.90  | 0.005  | 2256                                | 0.273 |
| <i>PPP3CC</i> | rs7430     | Fabbri 2014  | 1861                | 4.35  | 0.0002 | 2256                                | 0.207 |
| <i>FKBP5</i>  | rs1360780  | Binder 2004  | 294                 | 14.96 | 0.0005 | 2256                                | 0.353 |
| <i>ABCB1</i>  | rs22032582 | Niitsu 2013  | 2112                | 1.33  | 0.03   | 2256                                | 0.243 |

GENDEP, MARS & STAR\*D Investigators 2013 *Am J Psychiatry* 170:207-217  
<http://www.broadinstitute.org/mpg/ricopili/> (dataset: PhaCoGe Quan12)

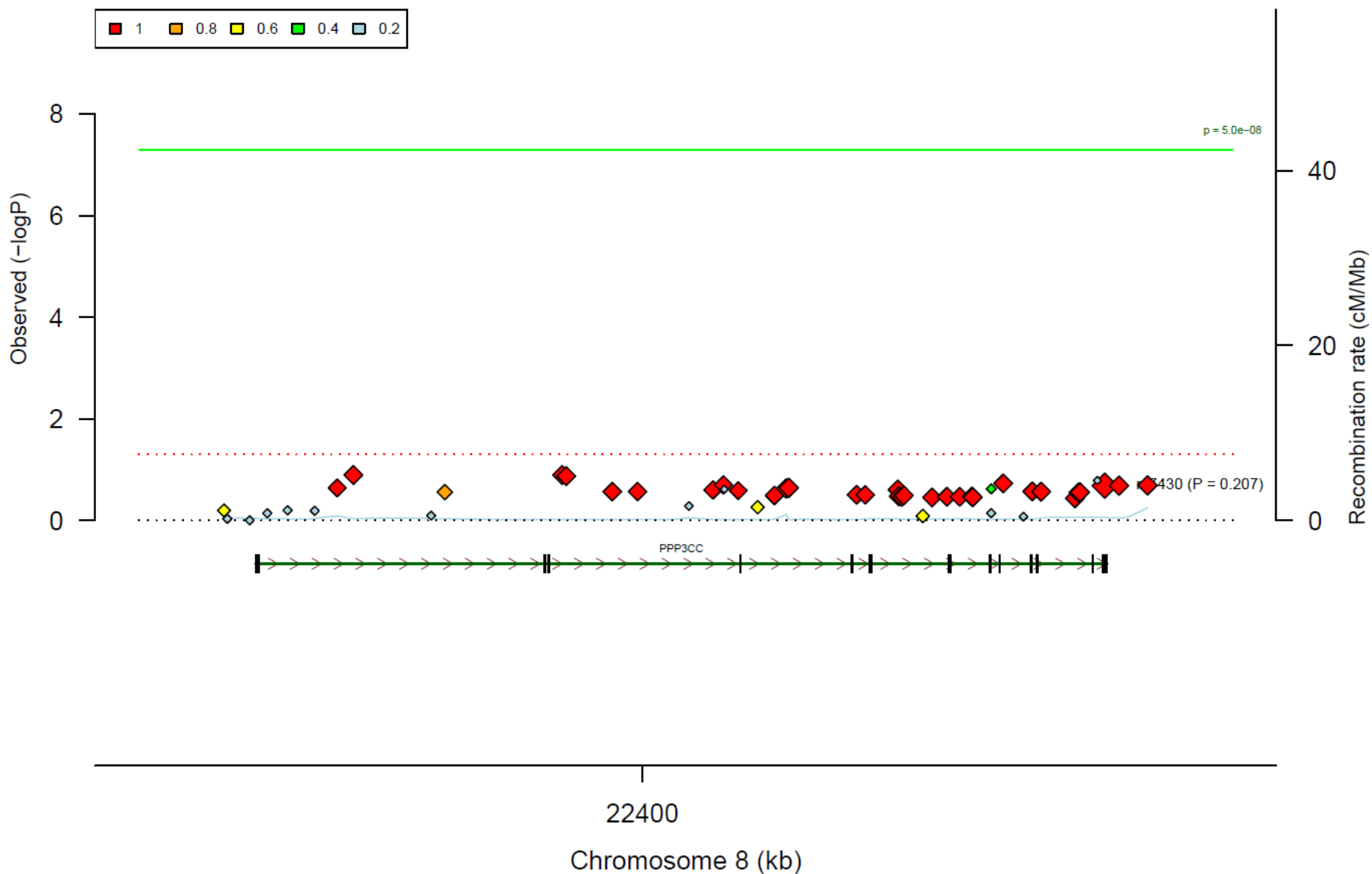
# BDNF

PhaCoGe Quan12 (Feb. 2013)



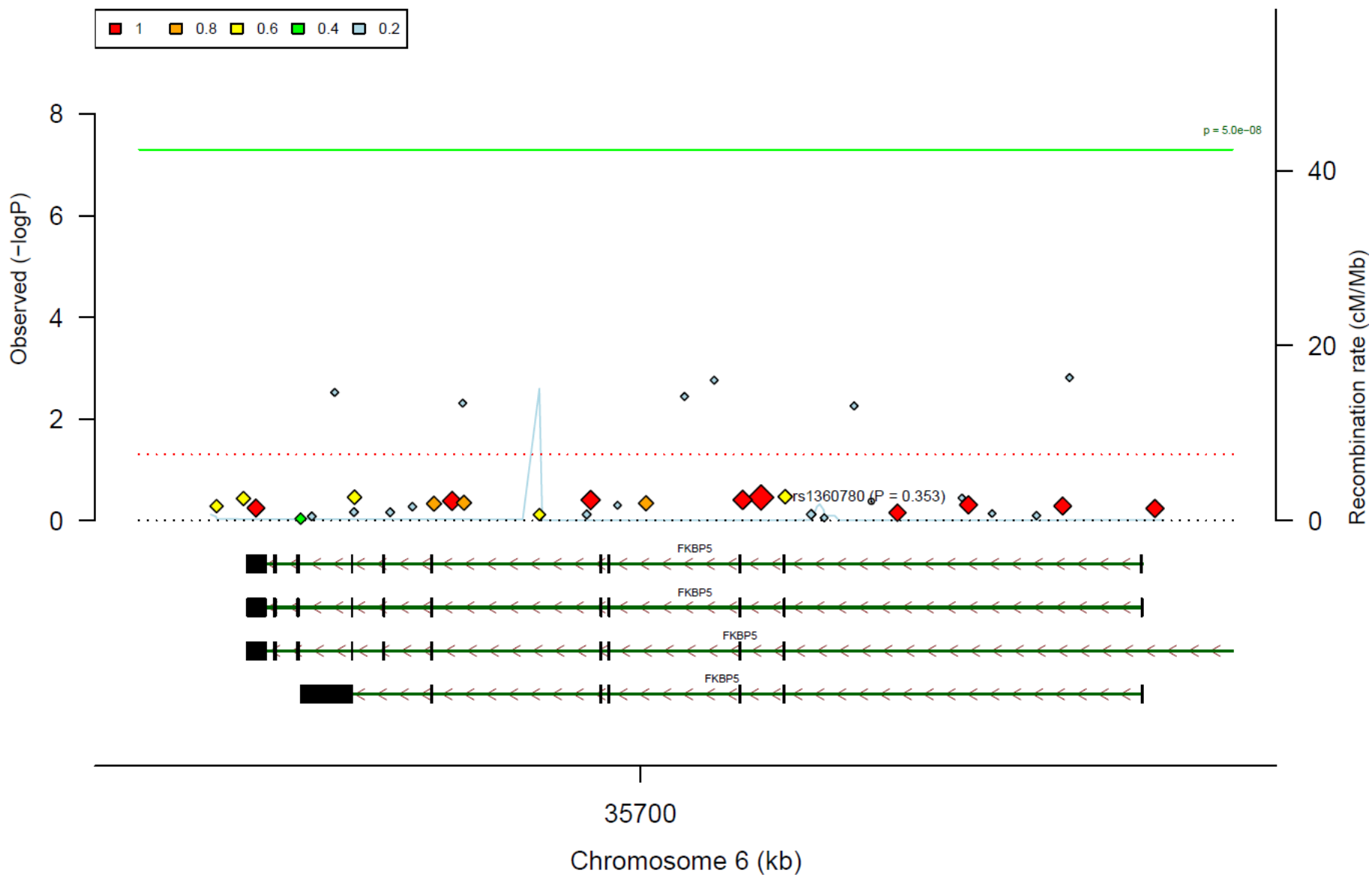
# PPP3CC

PhaCoGe Quan12 (Feb. 2013)



# FKBP5

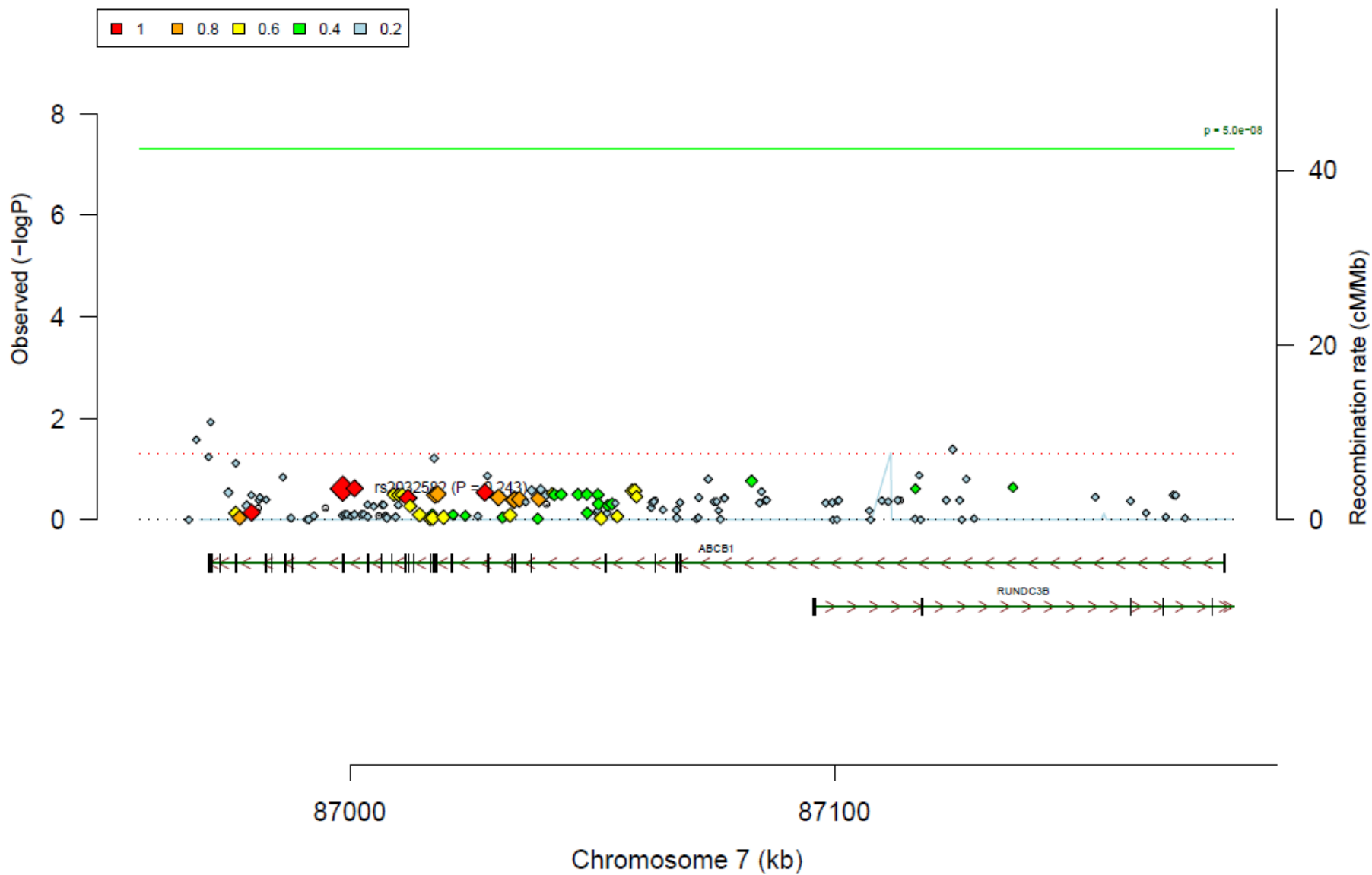
PhaCoGe Quan12 (Feb. 2013)





# ABCB1

PhaCoGe Quan12 (Feb. 2013)



# Do pharmacokinetic candidate genes (cytochromes) predict response?

OPEN  ACCESS Freely available online



## Pharmacokinetic Genes Do Not Influence Response or Tolerance to Citalopram in the STAR\*D Sample

Eric J. Peters<sup>1□</sup>, Susan L. Slager<sup>2</sup>, Jeffrey B. Kraft<sup>1</sup>, Greg D. Jenkins<sup>2</sup>, Megan S. Reinalda<sup>2</sup>, Patrick J. McGrath<sup>3</sup>, Steven P. Hamilton<sup>1\*</sup>

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[J Psychopharmacol](#). 2014 Feb;28(2):133–41. doi: 10.1177/0269881113512041. Epub 2013 Nov 20.

### **Genetic differences in cytochrome P450 enzymes and antidepressant treatment response.**

[Hodgson K<sup>1</sup>](#), [Tansey K](#), [Dernovsek MZ](#), [Hauser J](#), [Henigsberg N](#), [Maier W](#), [Mors O](#), [Placentino A](#), [Rietschel M](#), [Souery D](#), [Smith R](#), [Craig IW](#), [Farmer AE](#), [Aitchison KJ](#), [Belsy S](#), [Davis OS](#), [Uher R](#), [McGuffin P](#).

- CYP2C19 was significantly associated with escitalopram serum concentrations and desmethylescitalopram:escitalopram ratio
- CYP2D6 genotype was significantly associated with nortriptyline and 10-hydroxynortriptyline serum concentrations and 10-hydroxynortriptyline:nortriptyline ratio.
- no significant association was found between either CYP450 genotype and treatment response.

# **SEARCHING THE GENOME**

# Genome-wide studies

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

MARS

2009

## A Genomewide Association Study Points to Multiple Loci That Predict Antidepressant Drug Treatment Outcome in Depression

Marcus Ising, PhD\*; Susanne Lucae, MD, PhD\*; Elisabeth B. Binder, MD, PhD; Thomas Bettecken, MD; Margarete C. Keller, MD, PhD; Stephan Ripke, MD; Martin A. Kelly, MSc; Johannes M. Hoyer, MD; ...

## A Genomewide Association Study of Citalopram Response in Major Depressive Disorder

STAR\*D

2010

Holly A. Garriock, Jeffrey B. Kraft, Stanley I. Shyn, Eric J. Peters, Jennifer S. Yokoyama, Gregory D. Jenkins, Megha B. ...

Article

GENDEP

2010

## Genome-Wide Pharmacogenetics of Antidepressant Response in the GENDEP Project

Rudolf Uher, M.D., Ph.D.,  
M.R.C.Psych.

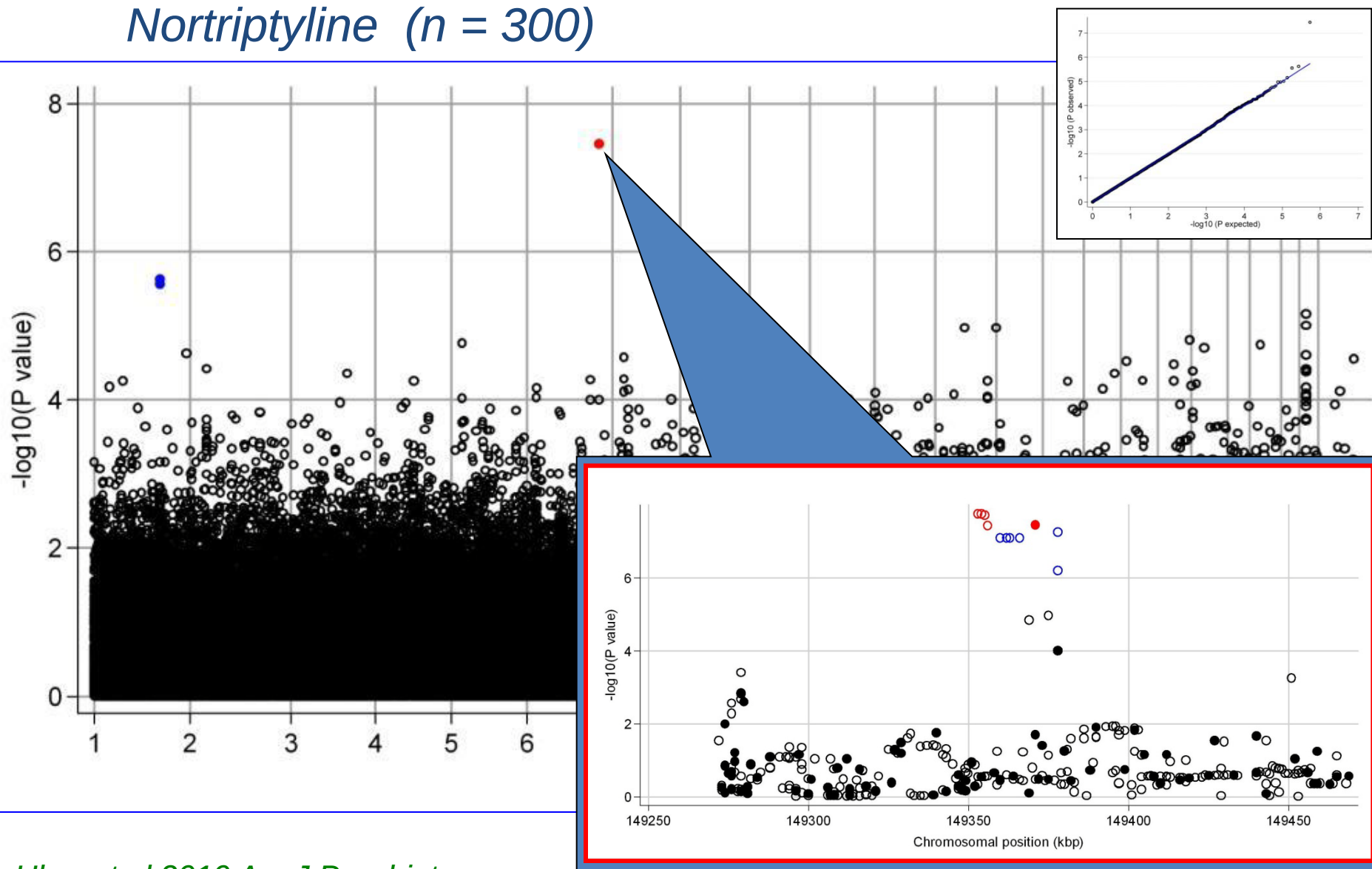
Katrina Pirlo, B.Sc.

Amy W. Butler, Ph.D.

of European ancestry treated for major depression with escitalopram (N=394) or nortriptyline (N=312) over a 12-week period in the Genome-Based Therapeutic

# Genotype & Response to Treatment: Genome-wide (GENDEP)

## *Nortriptyline* ( $n = 300$ )



*Uher et al 2010 Am J Psychiatry*

## **GENDEP** (n=706)

- Chromosome 1 and 10 regions containing structural variants
- NORTRIPTYLINE: uronyl-sulfotransferase gene
- ESCITALOPRAM: interleukine 11 and 6 genes

Uher et al (2010) *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 167:555-564.

## **STAR\*D** (n=1491)

- CITALOPRAM: ubiquitine-protein ligase gene (*UBE3C*)
- CITALOPRAM: bone morphogenic protein 7 (*BMP7*) gene
- CITALOPRAM: RAR-related orphan receptor alpha gene (*RORA*)

Garriock et al (2010) *Biological Psychiatry*, 2, 133-138

## **MARS** (n=339)

- Gene score predicted response in an independent sample

Ising et al (2009) *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 66, 966-975.

# How large a sample is needed to detect a clinically significant prediction ?

Sample size needed to detect an effect at genome-wide significance level ( $p < 0.00000005$ )

|                    |       | Tagging ( $R^2$ ) |             |             |             |             |
|--------------------|-------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                    |       | 1                 | 0.9         | 0.8         | 0.7         | 0.6         |
| Variance explained | 0.063 | <b>606</b>        | <b>752</b>  | <b>958</b>  | <b>1257</b> | <b>1718</b> |
|                    | 0.032 | <b>1231</b>       | <b>1525</b> | <b>1935</b> | <b>2534</b> | <b>3456</b> |
|                    | 0.021 | <b>1857</b>       | <b>2297</b> | <b>2913</b> | <b>3810</b> | <b>5193</b> |



# Power analyses

- To detect an effect explaining 6.33% outcome variance at tagging  $R^2 = 0.8$  as genome-wide sig. ( $p < 0.000000005$ )

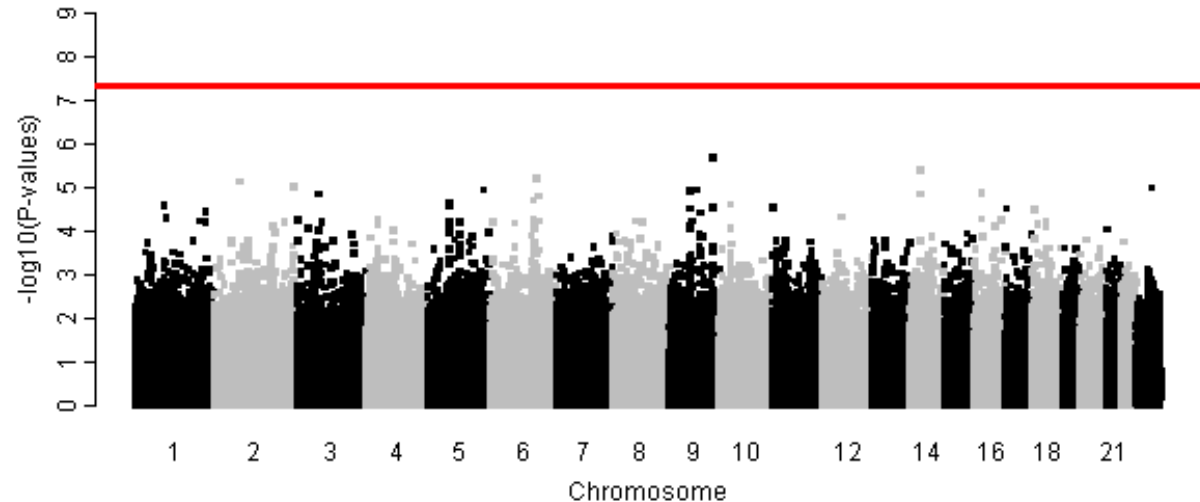
|                       | Sample<br>n | Variance explained |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
|                       |             | 6.33%              | 3.16%       |
| Any antidepressant    | 1790        | <b>1.00</b>        | 0.73        |
| SRI antidepressant    | 1222        | <b>0.95</b>        | 0.33        |
| NRI antidepressant    | 568         | 0.27               | 0.02        |
| Differential response | 949         | <b>1.00</b>        | 0.15        |
| SRI meta-analysis     | 2329        | <b>1.00</b>        | <b>0.93</b> |

# Genotype & Treatment Response: Genome-wide (NEWMEDS)

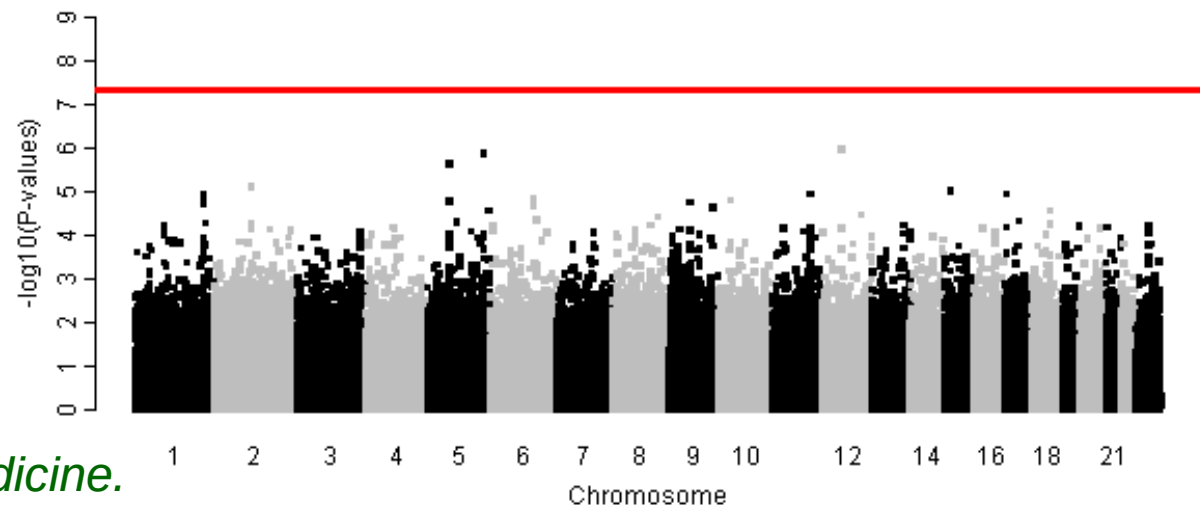
➤ No significant association in spite of adequate power to detect clinically significant effects.

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A. Whole Sample (n=1790)



B. Serotonergic Antidepressants (n=1222)



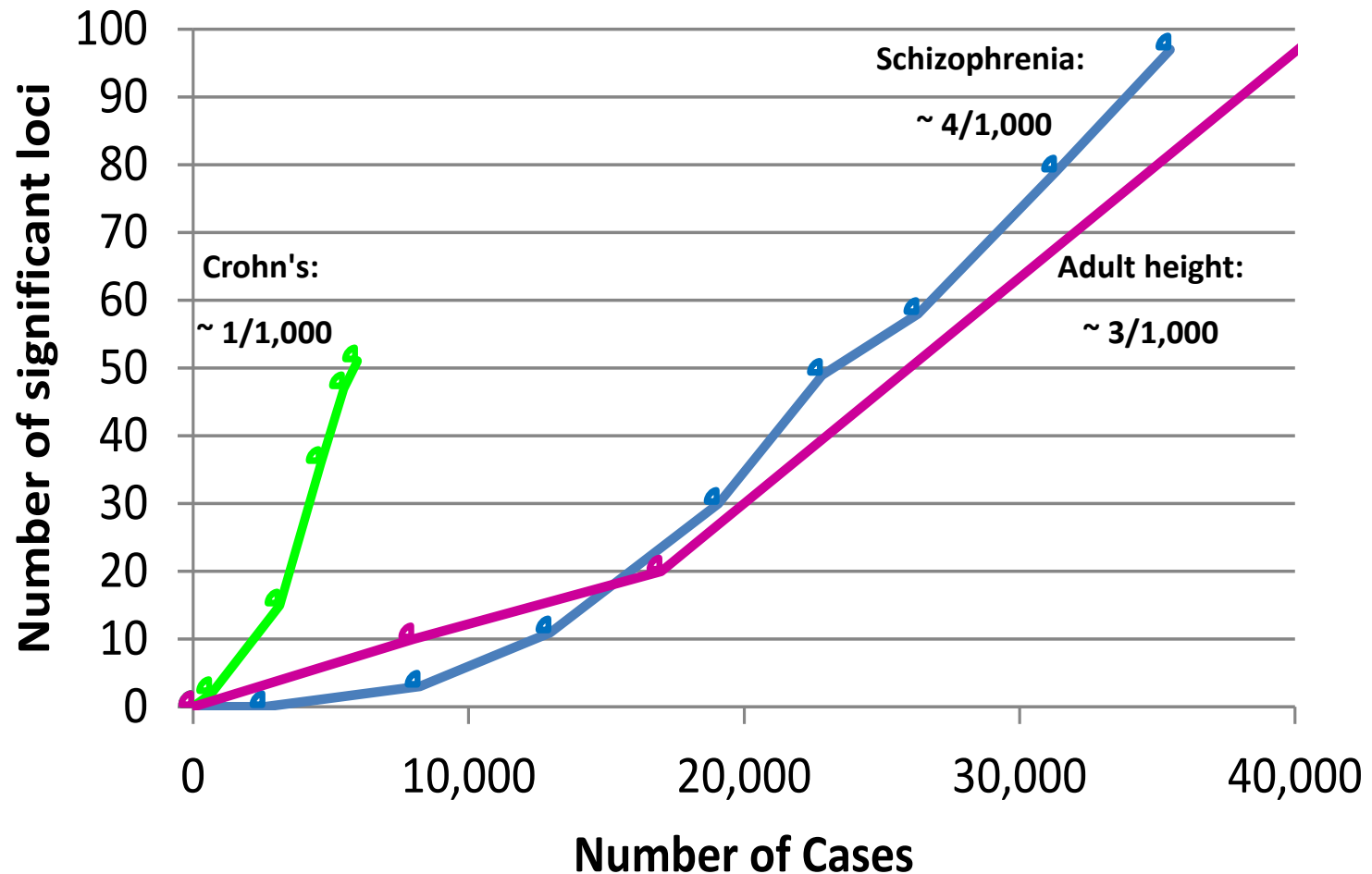
*Tansey et al 2013, PLoS Medicine.*

**WHAT NEXT?**

# What next in depression pharmaco/therapygenetics?

1. Larger samples
2. Combining predictors
3. Other treatments
4. Other phenotypes

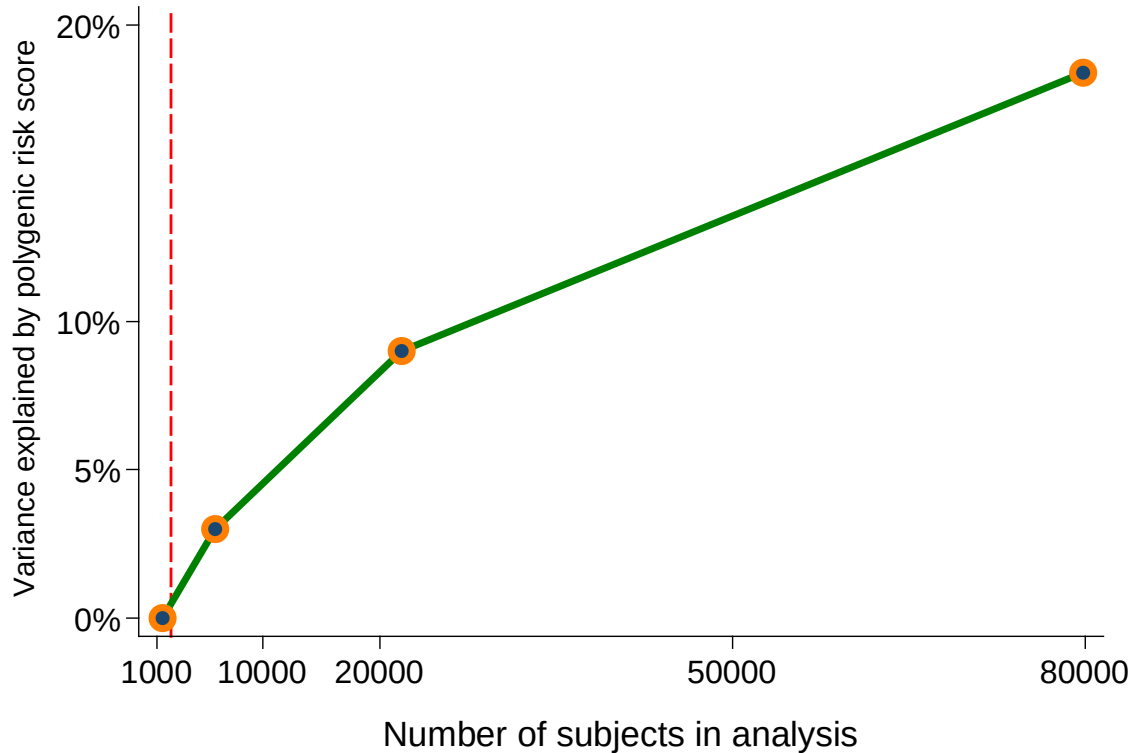
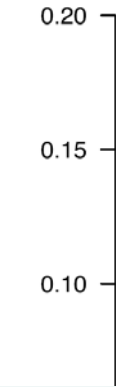
# Directions: Larger samples greater power



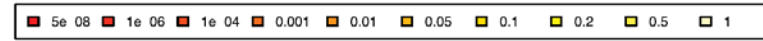
 Levinson et al *Biological Psychiatry* 2014 76, 510-512DOI: (10.1016/j.biopsych.2014.07.029)  
Copyright © 2014 Society of Biological Psychiatry.

# Schizophrenia GWAS

Nagelkerke R<sup>2</sup>



P-value threshold



1, 5\* < 1.0\*10<sup>-04</sup>, 6\* < 1.0\*10<sup>-08</sup>, 7\* < 1.0\*10<sup>-12</sup>, 8\* < 1.0\*10<sup>-50</sup>, 9\* < 1.0\*10<sup>-100</sup>

Schizophrenia Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium (2014) Nature, 511: 421-427.

# Proportion of variance in antidepressant response explained by common genetic variation ?

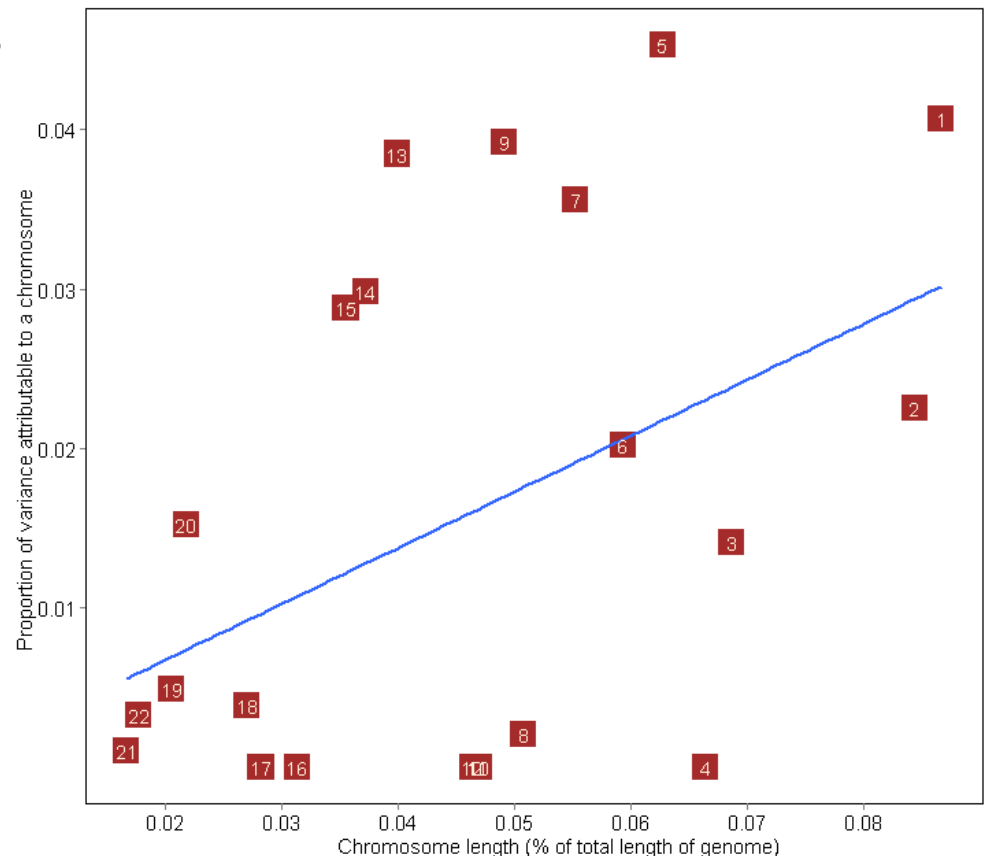
**n = 1790 (NEWMEDS) + 1009 (STAR\*D) = 2799**

Genome-wide Complex Trait Analysis  
(GCTA)

$$h^2_{\text{SNP}} =$$

**42%**

(SE = 0.18, p = 0.009)



*Tansey et al 2013 Biological Psychiatry 73: 679-682.*

# **COMBINING PREDICTORS**

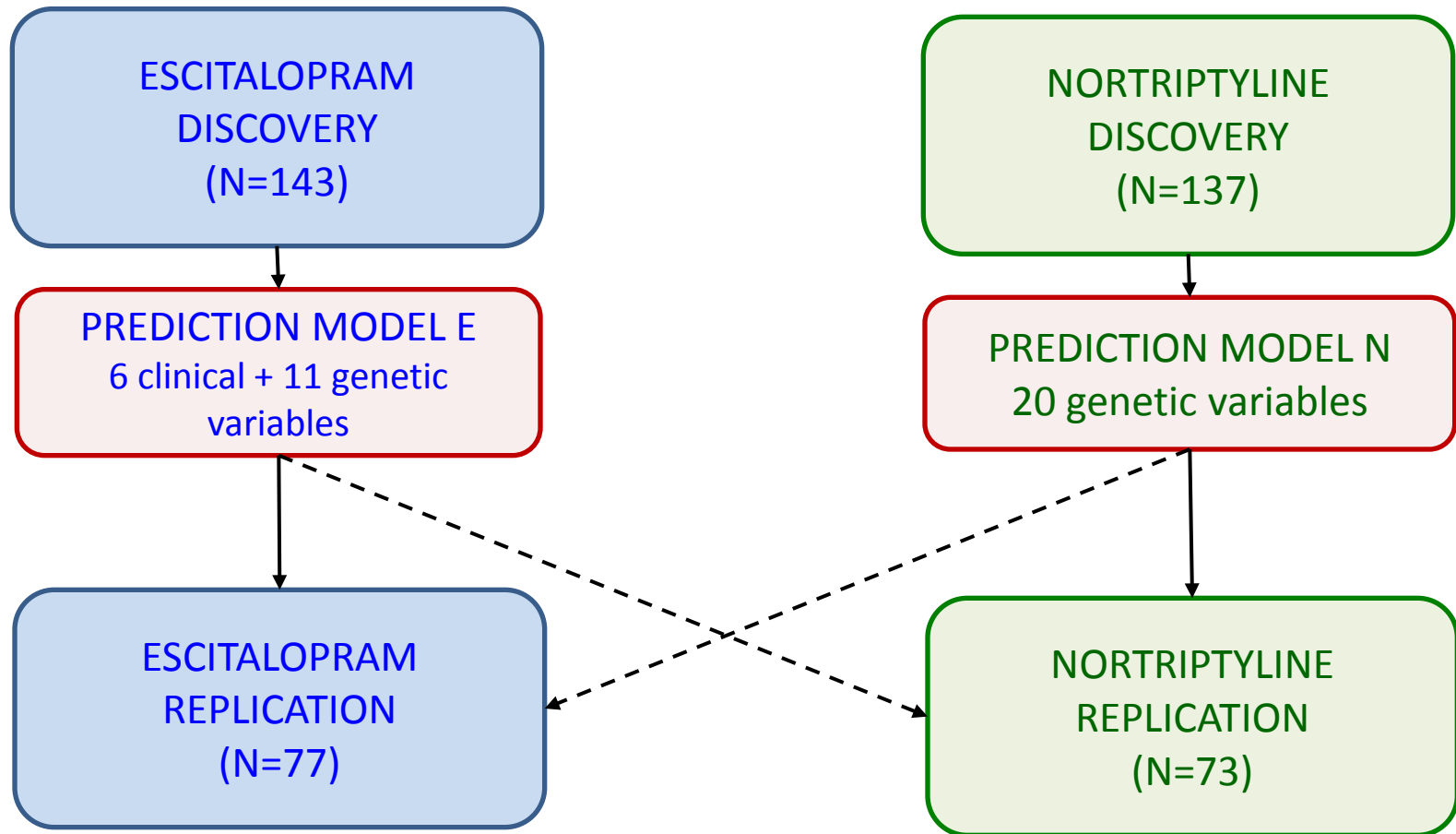


# Combining clinical and genetic predictors

- 430 adults with depression who were randomly allocated to escitalopram (n=220) or nortriptyline (n=210) and received 4-12 weeks of treatment
- 139 clinical and demographic predictors (severity, symptom dimensions, life events, ...) + 524,871 common genetic variants (single nucleotide polymorphisms)
- Non-overlapping discovery (n=280) and replication (150) samples
- Correlation-adjusted T-scores (CAT) variable selection in discovery sample
- Elastic net logistic models to predict remission ( $MADRS \leq 10$ )

Iniesta et al 2016, under review

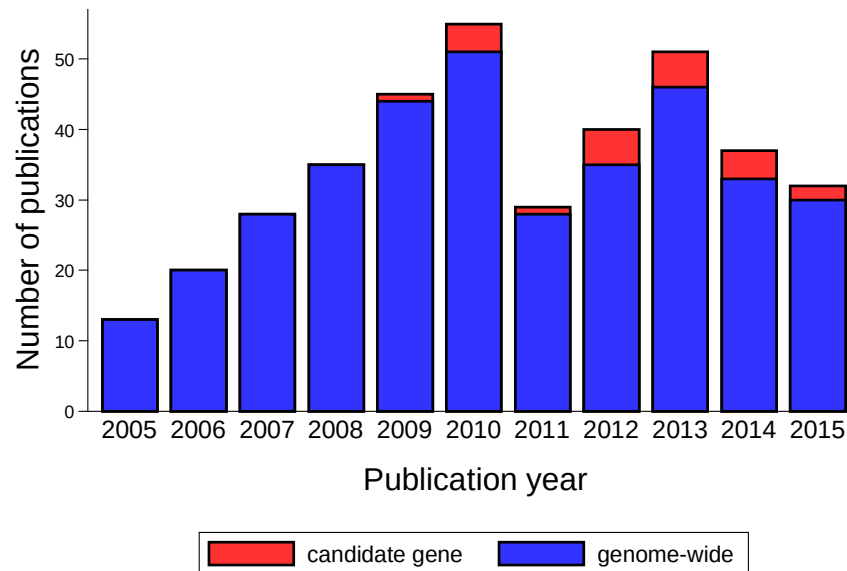
# Combining clinical and genetic predictors



Iniesta et al 2016, under review

# **OTHER TREATMENTS**

# A decade of pharmaco/therapy-genetics



## Published genetic studies

| treatment   | number of studies |
|-------------|-------------------|
| SSRI        | 233               |
| SNRI        | 44                |
| TCA         | 7                 |
| MAOI        | 0                 |
| mirtazapine | 20                |
| bupropione  | 1                 |
| agomelatine | 1                 |
| CBT         | 0                 |

# **COMBINING PREDICTORS**

# Which treatments ?

- Mono- amine oxidase inhibitors
- Lithium augmentation
- Repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation
- PharmacoRx post ECT
- Psychotherapy

# Overview

- Genetic test has potential for uptake
- Presently no meaningful genetic treatment selection
- Directions:
- Much larger samples (10,000<sup>+</sup> per treatment) needed
- Combination of clinical + genetic variables may efficiently predict