Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

2020/2021

Medical Genetics

Code: 101970
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500890 Genetics	OB	3	2

The proposed teaching and assessment methodology that appear in the guide may be subject to changes as a result of the restrictions to face-to-face class attendance imposed by the health authorities.

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Vicenç Català Cahís
Immaculada Ponsa Arjona

Prerequisites

It would be appropriate to have passed and achieved the competences corresponding to the subjects: Cell Biology, Human Genetics, Molecular Cell Biology, Developmental Biology and Teratogeny.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The main objectives are:

Know the genetic basis of the main diseases with a base or genetic component.
Relate the genetic dysfunction with the pathological phenotype.
Perform the genetic interpretation of the diagnosis, prognosis, prevention and therapy of the most frequent genetic pathologies in the human population.
Understand the distribution of genetic-based diseases in a population taking into account their origin.
Analyze genetically the probands-family relationship that facilitates the offert of a genetic counseling.

Competences

- Apply knowledge of theory to practice.
- Appreciate the importance of quality and a job well done.
- Assume ethical commitment
- Be able to analyse and synthesise.
- Be sensitive to environmental, health and social matters.
- Describe epigenetic mechanisms.
- Describe the genetic bases of the development and control of genic expression.
- Describe the organisation, evolution, inter-individual variation and expression of the human genome.

- Design and interpret studies associating genetic polymorphisms and phenotypical characters to identify genetic variants that affect the phenotype, including those associated to pathologies and those that confer susceptibility to human illnesses or those of other species of interest.
- Develop analysis, synthesis and communication strategies to transmit the different aspects of genetics in educational settings.
- Measure and interpret the genetic variation in and between populations from a clinical, conservational and evolutionary perspective, and from that of the genetic improvement of animals and plants.
- Perceive the strategic, industrial and economic importance of genetics and genomics to life sciences, health and society.
- Perform genetic diagnoses and assessments and consider the ethical and legal dilemmas.

Learning Outcomes

1. Apply knowledge of theory to practice.
2. Appreciate the importance of quality and a job well done.
3. Assume ethical commitment
4. Be able to analyse and synthesise.
5. Be sensitive to environmental, health and social matters.
6. Describe the clinical consequences derived from epigenetic control mechanisms.
7. Describe the genetic and environmental causes of congenital defects.
8. Describe the role of genetic variation in the human species in the diagnoses, prevention and treatment of illnesses.
9. Describe the structure and variation of the human genome from a functional, clinical and evolutionary perspective.
10. Enumerate and describe the different techniques for analysing DNA polymorphisms that can be applied to studies of genetic variation associated to human pathologies.
11. Evaluate and interpret genetic variation in human populations and from a clinical and evolutionary perspective.
12. Explain how knowledge of human genetic variation is applied to personalised medicine, pharmacogenomics and nutrigenomics.
13. Interpret scientific publications, and solve problems and example cases in the fields of human and cancer genetics.
14. Prepare communication proposals in educational settings regarding the importance of the transfer of genetic progress to clinical practice.
15. Recognise the strategic importance of genetic progress in the field of human health, especially applications of the genomic to personalised medicine, pharmacogenomics and nutrigenomics.

Content

1. General principles
1.1. Basic introduction to genetic diseases
1.2. Predisposition or genetic susceptibility concept
1.3. Genetic counseling

2. Chromosome aberrations
2.1. Autosomal trisomies
2.2. Alterations of sex chromosomes
2.3. Chromosome microdeletions and microduplications

3. Neuromuscular diseases
3.1. Muscular dystrophies: definition and classification
3.2. Duchenne and Becker muscular dystrophies
3.3. Other muscular dystrophies
3.4. Myotonic dystrophy
3.5. Spinal muscular atrophy

4. Mental and behavioural disorders
4.1. Intellectual Disability
4.2. Fragile X syndrome and associated diseases
4.3. Rett syndrome
4.4. Autism
4.5. Schizophrenia

5. Central nervous system diseases
5.1. Huntington's disease
5.2. Alzheimer's disease
5.3. Parkinson's
5.4. Primary tumors of the central nervous system

6. Skeletal and connective tissue diseases
6.1. Osteogenesis imperfecta
6.2. Achondroplasia
6.3. Marfan syndrome
6.4. Sarcoma

7. Craniofacial diseases
7.1. Craniosynostosis

8. Dermatological diseases
8.1. Albinism
8.2. Skin cancer

9. Ophthalmological diseases and deafness
9.1. Color vision deficiency
9.2. Deafness

10. Cardiovascular diseases
10.1. Hypertension

11. Gastrointestinal diseases
11.1. Celiac disease
11.2. Colon cancer

12. Respiratory diseases
12.1. Lung cancer

13. Metabolic diseases
13.1. Alterations in glucose metabolism: lactose intolerance
13.2. Alterations in lipid metabolism: Hypercholesterolemia
13.3. Alterations in amino acid metabolism: Phenylketonuria

14.Hematological diseases
14.1. Hemoglobinopathies
14.2. Haemophilia
14.3. Leukemia and Lymphoma

15. Urogenital diseases
15.1. Polycystic kidney
15.2. Kidney cancer
15.3. Bladder cancer
15.4. Prostate cancer

16. Endocrinological diseases
16.1. Breast cancer
16.2. Diabetes mellitus

Note: ***Unless the requirements enforced by the health authorities demand a prioritization or reduction of these contents***

Methodology

Lectures: Systematic exhibition of the subject's programme, giving relevance to the most important concepts. The student acquires the basic scientific knowledge of the subject in theory classes, which will complement the personal study of the exposed themes.

Problem based learning (PBL): Students will work in small groups, under the teacher supervision, on specific problems during 3 sessions of 2 hours each one for each case, and a total of 2 cases. At the end of each case, the work will be exposed to the rest of the classmates.

In general, the platform for communication and material transfer used will be Moodle.

Note: The proposed teaching methodology may experience some modifications depending on the restrictions to face-to-face activities enforced by health authorities.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	34	1.36	3
Problem based learning (PBL)	12	0.48	1, 3, 5, 4, 2
Type: Supervised			
Face-to-face and virtual tutorials	6	0.24	1, 3
Work production	18	0.72	1, 3, 5, 4, 2
Type: Autonomous			
Documentation search	17	0.68	
Evaluation	6	0.24	
Reading of texts	19	0.76	4
Study	38	1.52	4

Assessment

The competences of this subject will be evaluated through: exams, group work and public presentations.

The evaluation system is organized in two modules, each of which will have a specific weight assigned in the final qualification:

- Problem Based Learning Module (ABP) (25%). The aspects that will be taken into account for the qualification will be: the interest and the quality of the work demonstrated throughout the development of the case for each one of the students and the group, and the final presentation. In the case of repeating students, if the qualification of this learning evidence in previous courses was equal to or greater than 5, they can renounce to repeat the activity and this qualification will be used to calculate the global grade of the subject. Due to the characteristics of the activity, this learning evidence is not recoverable.

- Written test module (75%). There will be two exams, each one corresponding to a half of the subject taught in lecture sessions. Exams will be test type with four multiple-choice options.

Evaluation activities	Recoverable	Value
1st part	Si	37,5%
2nd part	Si	37,5%
PBL case 1	No	12,5%
PBL case 2	No	12,5
Total*		100%

*Requirements to calculate the global qualification
The weighted average of the scores will be applied based on qualifications equal to or greater than 4 in each of the partial exams.

In order to pass the subject, it will be necessary to obtain a global qualification equal to or greater than 5.

Recovery exam / retake process
To be eligible for the retake process, the student should have been previously evaluated in a set of activities equalling at least two thirds of the final score of the course. Thus, the student will be graded as "No Avaluable" if the weighting of all conducted evaluation activities is less than 67% of the final score.

The partial exams can be recovered when the qualification of the exam has been less than 4. The student can do the recovery exam only of the partial suspended.

If the student has to recover both partial exams, the score obtained corresponds to 75% of the qualification of the subject, disappearing the requirement of having to obtain a score greater than or equal to 4 of each of the partial exams. This score will be used to calculate the global qualification along with the other evaluation activities.

Students who wish to improve the qualification of one or both partial exams may do it in the recovery exam, previously renouncing to the qualification obtained in the corresponding partial exam.

Copy and plagiarism
All forms of plagiarism in any evaluation activity and/or copying in an exam are reasons for being awarded an immediate suspend the subject.

Note: Student's assessment may experience some modifications depending on the restrictions to face-to-face activities enforced by health authorities.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exams	75%	0	0	11, 8, 9, 7, 6, 12, 15
Problem based learning (PBL)	25%	0	0	1, 3, 5, 10, 13, 14, 4, 2

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