***ARTICLE***

**The impact of inversions across 33,924 families with rare disease from a national genome sequencing project**

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**ABSTRACT**

Detection of structural variants (SVs) is currently biased towards those that alter copy number. The relative contribution of inversions towards genetic disease is unclear. In this study, we analysed genome sequencing data for 33,924 families with rare-disease, from the 100,000 Genomes Project. From a database hosting >500 million SVs, we focussed on 351 genes where haploinsufficiency is a confirmed disease mechanism and identified 47 ultra-rare rearrangements that included an inversion (24bp to 36.4Mb, 20/47 *de novo*)*.* Validation utilised a number of orthogonal approaches, including retrospective exome analysis. RNAseq data supported the respective diagnoses for 6 participants. Phenotypic blending was apparent in 4 probands. Diagnostic odysseys were a common theme (>50 years for one individual) and targeted analysis for the specific gene had already been performed for 30% of these individuals but with no findings. We provide formal confirmation of a European founder origin for an intragenic *MSH2* inversion. For two individuals with complex SVs involving the *MECP2* mutational hotspot, ambiguous SV structures were resolved using long-read sequencing, influencing clinical interpretation. A *de novo* inversion of *HOXD11-13* was uncovered in a family with Kantaputra-type mesomelic dysplasia. Lastly, a complex translocation disrupting *APC* and involving 9 rearranged segments, confirmed a clinical diagnosis for 3 family members and resolved a conundrum for a sibling with a single polyp. Overall, inversions play a small but notable role in rare-disease, likely explaining the aetiology in around 1/750 families across heterogeneous clinical cohorts.

**Keywords:** Inversion; complex rearrangement; genome sequencing; *MSH2*; *MECP2*; *HOXD* cluster; *APC*; PacBio; RNAseq

**Introduction**

Genomic inversions are segments of DNA where the sequence is present in the reverse orientation compared with the reference. In human populations, such rearrangements are spread all over the genome and have a wide range of sizes.1 A range of complexity is typically seen2 and the mutational mechanisms underlying these types of rearrangement are becoming better understood.3 Inversions differ in frequency, ranging from benign common polymorphisms to private *de novo* variants that predispose to disease. Inversions can cause disease through both loss and gain-of-function mechanisms, the latter via creation of gene-fusions or by changing regulatory landscape which can lead to aberrant gene expression. Although inversions can be identified by traditional karyotyping approaches, such methods typically cannot identify rearrangements <10Mb in size. Over the last 20 years, karyotyping has gradually been replaced by copy number variant (CNV) analysis using array-based testing, or by multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification (MLPA, Note S1). Initially microarrays were constructed using large insert clones spaced at approximately ~1Mb intervals.4 Gradual improvements in resolution/throughput combined with reductions in cost have meant that array testing has been adopted by the majority of clinical genetics laboratories, often as the first-line genetic test.5 Therefore, whilst the rapid technical progress in array technologies has led to substantial improvements in diagnostic yields (and more generally in our understanding of the role of CNVs in human disease), copy neutral structural variants (SVs) such as inversions, have in comparison been overlooked by clinical testing laboratories. Consequently, the relative importance of inversions and other types of balanced rearrangement remains elusive.

The UK’s 100,000 Genomes Project (100kGP) was a large national study that aimed to uncover the genetic basis of disease for individuals with rare disease (RD) and cancer in whom a diagnosis had not been obtained by standard of care testing.6; 7 A secondary aim was to build upon evidence from previous studies8 and demonstrate the feasibility of genome sequencing as part of standard clinical practice within the National Health Service (NHS). More background about the 100kGP is provided in Note S2. The diagnostic yield obtained across 2,183 families with RD in the initial pilot phase of the 100kGP was 25%.6 However, this was only after significant input from the research community, which included the detection of 22 non-coding variants and a total of 40 SVs. Although SV calls from Manta9 (a split-read variant caller) were reviewed, none of the 40 SVs were inversions or complex SVs. For the 4 duplications identified, it was also not reported whether these were direct tandem repeats or whether the additional DNA segments were in another configuration, as is typically seen in ~20% of cases.10 These findings led us to question whether cryptic SVs (such as inversions) are ultra-rare in heterogeneous clinical cohorts such as the RD arm of the 100kGP, or if they are overlooked due to the SV filtering strategies employed.

Now that genome sequencing is more widespread, case reports describing inversions are becoming increasingly common in the literature.11-14 Larger studies involving pre-selected cohorts (i.e. ascertainment due to the presence of a balanced cytogenetic abnormality) have shown that short-read genome sequencing can find the breakpoints for >90% of individuals, with direct gene disruption/imbalance playing a likely role in disease etiology for 27%.15 However, to our knowledge there have been only limited systematic analyses performed across large unselected/heterogeneous RD cohorts. Thus, the overall impact of such variants in clinical settings is less certain.

In an earlier study using data from the main 100kGP programme, we assessed the clinical impact of inversions by focussing on 43 genes linked to autosomal dominant musculoskeletal syndromes.16 Presumed pathogenic inversions were detected in 10 individuals from 3 independent families. The aim of the present study was to extend our analysis to all 33,924 families from the 100kGP and across all RD areas by assessing an established set of genes that cause disease through haploinsufficiency (HI). As well as gaining a better understanding of the overall incidence of this class of variant on human disease, additional aims were to determine how commonly the inverted segments detected were part of more complex structural rearrangements (those that involve >2 breakpoints) and to make recommendations for the interpretation of such changes.

**Material and Methods**

The main clinical analysis pipeline utilised as part of the 100kGP has focussed largely on small variants called by Platypus.17 Variant prioritisation is based on gene-sets derived from PanelApp,18 a tool which uses crowdsourcing to gather expert knowledge and establish a consensus for high-quality diagnostic gene-panels. For the majority of 100kGP participants, DNA was extracted from EDTA blood. Library preparation used the TruSeq PCR-free high throughput kit and sequencing was performed using 150bp paired-reads on a HiSeqX machine (Illumina). SVs were called using both Canvas v1.3.119 and Manta v0.28.09 and combined into a single structural vcf file. As Canvas only detects CNVs, Manta calls were utilised for the present study. Genomic data available for the 100kGP cohort comprise a mix of genome builds (GRCh37 and GRCh38). For the inversion-positive individuals identified in the present study, 12/47 were originally analysed on GRCh37.

In order to prioritise SV calls from the 100kGP, we used SVRare20 (Web resources) and a MySQL database that hosted 554,060,126 SVs from 71,408 participants across 33,924 families with RD. Coordinates for the SVs called on the GRCh37 subset of genomes were converted to GRCh38 using the LiftOver tool (Web resources). Clustering the SV calls using an overlap threshold set to 80% allowed us to filter for ultra-rare inversion calls detected by Manta. Large multiplex families are uncommon in the 100kGP and so we prioritised variants observed with an apparent allele count of 5 or less.

Rare inversions were filtered for those likely to disrupt a set of 351 genes for which HI is a well-established disease mechanism. This gene set was taken from the NIH funded Clinical Genome Resource (HI=3 genes, downloaded November 2022; Table S1 and Web resources). At least one breakpoint had to lie within the gene region. Where both breakpoints lay inside the same gene, the inversion call had to span at least one coding exon, such that the SV would likely disrupt gene-function. Larger inversions that invert a HI gene, but leave it fully intact, were deprioritised. GRCh38 gene coordinates were based on ENSEMBL release v105. For higher confidence, we utilised “PairSupport” information available from the Manta output. One additional inversion was ascertained due to an unusual pattern of clustering for a filtered set of “TIERED” single nucleotide variants (SNVs).

Detailed manual review of around 250 bioinformatically filtered inversions involved: i) assessing whether the submitted diagnosis and associated HPO terms for the 100kGP participant were consistent with what was known about the disorder, based on OMIM and information from the Clinical Genome Resource, ii) visually reviewing 150bp read alignments at the locus of interest using the Integrative Genome Viewer (IGV)21 to determine whether the SV was likely genuine and how likely it was to disrupt gene function (especially for complex SVs), iii) assessing the mode of inheritance for probands where data for other family members were available and iv) using the TIERING table (a list of prioritised small variants based on inheritance, population allele frequency, predicted consequence and whether the gene in question is in the gene-panel linked to the participant’s condition) and exit questionnaire data (a table containing summaries of clinical laboratories’ final interpretation of the reported variant) to determine whether the genetic cause for the participant’s condition had already been uncovered.

Following manual review, all positive findings went through an internal review process at Genomics England and approved submissions were then entered into the “Diagnostic Discovery” pathway for feedback of the result to one of seven Genomic Laboratory Hubs (GLHs) for clinical assessment, validation and onward reporting. A summary of the clinical tiering and the clinical triage process for researcher identified variants has been described previously.16 Data analysis was performed inside the Genomics England’s research environment, a secure virtual desktop environment that hosts up-to-date genomic and clinical data.

**Long-read sequencing**

Release 17 of the 100kGP data contains Pacific Biosciences (PacBio) genome sequencing data for 91 participants from the RD arm of the project as an example dataset to help demonstrate the utility of HiFi technology. A subset of these 91 participants had been proposed for inclusion due to the presence of a complex SV, especially those involving duplicated segments and consequently ambiguous based on short-read genome sequencing data. Thus, in the PacBio pilot data release, 9/91 individuals were identified as part of the present study. Long-read sequencing was performed on the Sequel IIe system (2-4 SMRT cells per sample). Data analysis was performed by PacBio using a pipeline that utilised pbmm2 v1.9.0 for aligning reads to GRCh38, pbsv v2.8.0 for SV calling and DeepVariant v1.4 for small variant calling. GLnexus v1.4.1 was used for joint calling. Phasing was based on SNVs in reads rather than by inheritance. The reads that contain these variants were classified into haplotype group 1 or 2 based on the occurrence of shared variants by WhatsHap v1.0.22 Specific long-read sequences from the locus of interest were compared to the GRCh38 reference with FlexiDot23 using the settings wordsize=50 and --plotting\_mode=1.

**Transcriptomics**

For a subset of individuals entered into the RD domain of the 100kGP, RNA was collected at the time of recruitment using PaxGene blood tubes. For individuals that remained unsolved, RNAseq was performed. Following a standard RNA extraction procedure, whole blood RNA samples were depleted for rRNA and globin. Samples were sequenced by Illumina using 100bp paired-end reads, with a mean of 109M mapped RNAseq reads per individual. Alignment and transcript quantification were performed using Illumina’s DRAGEN pipeline (v3.8.4). Expression outlier analysis was performed using OUTRIDER24, which was run via the DROP pipeline v1.3.325 using default settings in batches of 500 individuals. By chance, the probands from several families harbouring inversions reported here had been included in this RNAseq cohort, allowing us to assess whether the observed SVs impacted gene expression.

**Haplotype sharing analysis and mutation age estimation**

Locus-specific joint variant calling was performed using Platypus v0.7.9.5 and the GRCh38 reference. Default settings were employed, except for minFlank=0. We filtered for PASS variants, removed indels and then calculated the absolute difference in B allele frequency (i.e. number of reads containing variant divided by number of reads covering variant). These values were plotted against genomic position using the ggplot package26 in R (Web resources), in order to identify regions where there was an absence of conflicting homozygosity. SNPs flanking the shared haplotype were assessed in IGV. Coordinates of the shared haplotype were converted to hg19 using the LiftOver tool and then run on the R Shiny app “Genetic Mutation Age Estimator”. This is a widely-used online tool which can be reliably applied to small numbers of samples and uses a method for estimating the age of a mutation based on the genetic length of ancestral haplotypes shared between individuals carrying the mutation.27-29

**Ethics declaration**

Ethics approval for 100kGP was from Cambridge South REC (14/EE/1112) and consent included a statement that “my samples can be used for collecting DNA for whole genome sequencing”. Approval for ongoing PacBio studies on Family 40 was from the North West 7–Greater Manchester Central Research Ethics Committee (10/H1008/74).

**Results**

***Overall results summary***

A total of 62 affected individuals from 47 independent families harbouring 46 different SVs were detected on account of a MantaINV call (Table S2). For all these variants “Researcher identified potential diagnosis” forms were submitted to be considered for entry to the diagnostic discovery pathway. Requests to contact the recruiting clinicians were made concurrently. Overall, six genes were hit twice and these included: *MSH2* (exemplar 1, MIM \*609309), *MECP2* (exemplar 2, MIM \*300005), *GLI3* (MIM \*165240), *AUTS2* (MIM \*607270), *CDKL5* (MIM \*300203) and *ARID2* (MIM \*609539). For 14/47 families (30%), the gene found to be disrupted had been strongly suspected, as evidenced by previous targeted sequencing or MLPA testing (Table S2).

The size of the inversions ranged over six orders of magnitude, with the largest two above 30Mb in size (Figure 1A). The mean and median sizes were 3.51Mb and 635kb, respectively. The largest inversion was a *de novo* 36.4Mb variant (chrX:18,472,998-54,910,892, GRCh38) that disrupts *CDKL5* in an individual with intellectual disability and seizures, consistent with a diagnosis of developmental and epileptic encephalopathy 2 [MIM #300672]. The second largest SV was a 30.7Mb inversion with a proximal breakpoint in intron 13 of *MLH1* (NM\_000249.4, MIM \*120436). This variant had been identified in parallel with the 100kGP by karyotyping and has now been confirmed by FISH (Figure 1B). This individual (Family 19) had been recruited to 100kGP due to early onset colorectal cancer (CRC, aged 27 years old) and this was assumed to be a cryptic form of Lynch syndrome due to the significant family history (Figure S1). Detection of the inversion resolved the diagnosis to Lynch syndrome 2 [MIM #609310].

For 87% of individuals (41/47), the inversion was below 10Mb in size, which is considered the typical resolution for being able to detect an inversion by karyotyping (Figure 1A). The smallest inversion was a 24bp segment in *NUS1* (NM\_138459.5, MIM \*610463) which inverts the splice acceptor site at the start of exon 3 (Figures 1C, S2). Notably this was the only SV identified using the small variant caller. It was not called as an inversion but detected due to an unusual clustering of tiered SNVs. This inversion was seen in a male (Family 45) with slowly progressive myoclonic epilepsy, ataxia and mild intellectual disability and overall his phenotype was considered a good match to previous reports of Intellectual developmental disorder, autosomal dominant 55, with seizures [MIM #617831].30 Prior testing had included assessment of repeat expansions in *HTT* (MIM \*613004)/*ATN1* (MIM \*607462), a screen for common mtDNA mutations and *POLG* (MIM \*174763) sequencing.

Across the 47 families, 20 of the variants were confirmed to have arisen *de novo* and in 11 families, the variant was inherited from an affected parent (Figure 1D). Support from co-segregation was strongest for two previously reported quad families with inversions that disrupt *GLI3* and result in clinical features consistent with Greig cephalopolysyndactyly syndrome [MIM #175700].16 Other families from this cohort described previously include individuals with SVs that disrupt *KMT2E* (MIM \*608444),31 *FBN1* (MIM \*134797) *16* and *TWIST1* (MIM \*601622).32

***Different categories of SVs detected due to MantaINV call***

Although all SVs were detected on account of a MantaINV call, there was a wide range of complexity seen across the cohort. Different categories of SV types identified are listed in full in Table S2 and summarised in Figure 1D.

* ***Simple inversions***

Overall, 24/47 SVs were relatively simple inversions with <10% loss at one end. An illustrative example of this class of SV was a 100kGP participant with lissencephaly 1 [MIM #607432] harbouring a 256kb inversion (Figure S3) disrupting *PAFAH1B1* (MIM \*601545; Family 13)*.*

* ***Inversions with loss (>10%) at one end***

Inversions with a significant loss (>10%) just at one end were seen in a further 3 individuals. Examples of this category include one boy with a phenotype consistent with Wiedemann-Steiner syndrome [MIM #605130] in whom a *de novo* inversion/loss disrupting *KMT2A* (MIM \*159555) was detected (Family 5). Another individual with syndromic cleft palate (Family 10) harboured an inversion disrupting *MEIS2* (MIM \*601740), a gene linked to cleft palate, cardiac defects, and impaired intellectual development [MIM #600987].

* ***Deletions with small internal segment(s) retained***

Some SVs picked up due to MantaINV calls were categorised as complex deletions with retained/inverted internal segments. Four such rearrangements were detected, which included Family 21 where a *de novo* SV disrupting *KMT2E* was identified in a female with delayed developmental milestones, autistic traits, postnatal macrocephaly and tall stature, consistent with a diagnosis of O'Donnell-Luria-Rodan syndrome [MIM #618512].31 A complex deletion involving *EFTUD2* (MIM \*603892; Family 12), identified in an individual with a blended phenotype (Note S3), also fitted into this subgroup. An adult male with multiple renal and hepatic cysts harboured a similar complex deletion involving *PKD1* (MIM \*601313; Family 11), whilst another participant recruited due to intellectual disability and short stature (Family 14) carried a similar *de novo* rearrangement involving *KMT2B* (MIM \*606834).

* ***Duplication-triplications***

Another class of rearrangement, observed in two families, was the duplication-triplication structure. Although this type of SV appears complex, only 2 breakpoints are involved. Such SVs are also known as “Carvalho” type rearrangements33 and can be hard to resolve as 4 configurations can be possible. In this study, we identified only one such rearrangement with an unambiguous effect on gene function. This duplication-triplication involved *COL4A5* (MIM \*303630)and was found in two affected family members recruited to 100kGP with familial haematuria (Family 25). The SV was prioritised due to the 7kb MantaINV call (exons 4-6 based on NM\_033380.3) which corresponds to the duplicated region at the proximal end of the SV (Figure S4). Inverted Alu elements present at the distal end of this rearrangement are notable given that duplication-triplication/inverted-duplications are thought to often be mediated by pairs of inverted low-copy repeats.34 As the SV was fully intragenic to *COL4A5* and involves multiple exons, it would likely disrupt gene-function whichever configuration is correct and so is consistent with a diagnosis of Alport syndrome 1, X-linked [MIM #301050]. A second duplication-triplication involving *PDHA1* (MIM \*300502; NM\_000284.4) in Family 41, prioritised due to a 4.5kb inversion call that involved exons 6-9 (Figure S5), was harder to interpret (Note S4).

* ***Interlinked duplications***

Whilst most rare duplications are arranged in a direct tandem repeat orientation, ~20% of the time there is a more complex structure.10 Such rearrangements can also result in MantaINV calls, Family 44 being a good example. The proband was recruited to the 100kGP with a diagnosis of classical Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome [MIM #130650]. Two Manta inversion calls of 635kb and 334kb were detected which lay close to *CDKN1C* (MIM \*600856; Figure S6)*.* Closer scrutiny of the short-read data indicated that this *de novo* SV involved three interlinked duplications of 15-63kb (Figure S7). Three possible configurations could explain the short-read data (Figure S8), only one of which lay within *KCNQ1* (MIM \*607542), which would likely disrupt methylation of the imprinting control region 2 (ICR2). To help resolve this structural ambiguity, the family was offered testing by Bionano optical mapping on a research basis, but declined. Despite having only short-read data for this family, phasing the *de novo* SV was possible using four informative SNPs that lie close to breakpoints (Figure S9). The SV was shown to have occurred on the maternal chromosome, which fits with the imprinted nature of this locus and the fact that *CDKN1C* is normally expressed exclusively from the maternal chromosome.35 A similar pattern of 3 interlinked duplications was observed in Family 31 (*KDM6A*, MIM \*300128) and Family 40 (*NF2*, MIM \*607379), described below.

* ***Other types of complex SV***

Other complex SVs were identified which did not fit into discrete subtypes. One such SV was identified in a female proband (Family 30) recruited to 100kGP due to a clinical suspicion of ectodermal dysplasia. Other features included bilateral talipes (from birth), conical teeth and slightly fine scalp hair. Height and head circumference were within the normal range. Nails were noted to be slightly thin, especially those of her great toes. Overall, there were clear, though mild features of ectodermal dysplasia and *EDAR* (MIM \*604095) variants had been excluded prior to recruitment to the 100kGP. A resemblance to the X-linked hypohydrotic ectodermal dysplasia form [MIM #305100] was noted, despite episodes of heat intolerance not being reported. Two MantaINV calls of 377kb and 340kb were identified, each with a breakpoint lying in intron 1 of *EDA* (MIM \*300451). Closer scrutiny of the data showed that the rearrangement involved two non-tandem duplications that had been inserted into *EDA* at the site of a 42kb deletion (Figure S10A,B). The rearrangement was ambiguous with short-read data, with 3 possible configurations (Figure S10C), although all would likely be disruptive for *EDA* function. The SV was also shown to have arisen *de novo* and occurred on the paternal chromosome, a finding which could be of value if accurate recurrent risk estimates are needed.36

Another unusual SV was identified in Family 39 where two immediately adjacent inversions of 3.9Mb and 1.4Mb had been detected. The middle of the three breakpoints disrupted intron 20 of *CUL4B* (MIM \*300304; NM\_003588.4) (Figure S11)*.* This boy had been recruited to the DDD study37 (which did not pick up any likely pathogenic variants) and then to the 100kGP, with a diagnosis of intellectual disability, severe global delay and seizures. His phenotype was considered to be consistent with “Intellectual developmental disorder, X-linked syndromic, Cabezas type” [MIM #300354].Although the father had been recruited to the 100kGP coded as affected, from the limited information available his condition appeared to be much less severe than that seen in his son. Given the *de novo* disruption of *CUL4B*, it may now be appropriate for the genome sequencing data for the father to be re-examined as a singleton, to search for an alternative genetic diagnosis.

The most complex SV in the present study was the translocation involving chromosomes 5 and 11, with 9 rearranged segments (Family 43) that disrupted *APC* (MIM \*611731). This rearrangement and how it resolved a clinical dilemma is described below (exemplar 4).

***Validation status***

Our analysis was performed on a clinical cohort spread across the UK and involving many different GLHs. Across these GLHs there was variable experience/resource available for validation and reporting of complex SVs from the 100kGP. These efforts are therefore ongoing and data on these aspects are incomplete. To the best of our knowledge, ~18 months after reporting this set of variants, 28/47 (60%) of the SVs reported here have now been confirmed at the DNA level, with a range of orthogonal approaches (Table S2, Table S3). The most commonly used approach was PCR/Sanger sequencing, which was undertaken in 17/47. For some individuals, more than one method was used (Figure 1D).

* **Retrospective analysis of exomes**

For six families (6, 12, 29, 36, 37 and 39), exome sequencing had been performed previously as part of the DDD study37 and read alignment data was available for review. For 2/6 participants, retrospective analysis of this exome data was able to validate the SV. The first of these was the individual with a blended phenotype (Family 12, Note S3). The complex SV involving *EFTUD2* (NM\_004247.4) removes exons 3-6 and partially deletes exon 7. As the exon 7 breakpoint lies right in the middle of the exon (Figure S12A,B), it is not surprising that it was captured by the exome data (Figure S12C).

The second participant where exome data could be used to confirm an inversion was a female recruited to 100kGP due to severe intellectual disability seizures (Family 6). Before the DDD study/100kGP, prior testing had included *TCF4* (MIM \*602272) and array-CGH. We identified a *de novo* 1.3Mb inversion with a proximal breakpoint lying in intron 3 of *SOX5* (MIM \*604975; NM\_006940.6), which resolved the diagnosis to that of Lamb-Shaffer syndrome [MIM #616803].38 Although that breakpoint lay almost 400bp from the exon boundary and despite only 5-6x coverage at the breakpoint, we identified one read mapping to the distal end of the inversion that contained inverted sequence from the proximal end (Figure S13). This helped confirm the findings from the genome sequencing data and resolved a 41-year odyssey. Clinical utility extends to the brother as we can now confirm low recurrence risk to his offspring.

* **Array testing**

Three complex SVs involving duplicated segments had already been identified by array testing prior to 100kGP recruitment, although the additional complexity had not previously been realised. This included the duplication-triplication involving *PDHA1* (Family 41, described below)*,* a participant with three interlinked duplications involving *KDM6A* (Family 31) and a rare 721kb duplication in a female with suspected Rett syndrome (Family 29) which was assumed to be a tandem event, but for which, the sequence data shows has been inserted into *CDKL5*.

* ***Long-read genome sequencing***

Of the 10/47 individuals followed up using long-read genome sequencing, 9 had been included in Genomics England’s pilot study using PacBio HiFi technology. For another participant, long-read genome sequencing was performed independently with nanopore sequencing. In every instance, all SV breakpoints were validated, with no additional complexity being identified.

In 4/10 individuals where the structure of the SVs had been interpreted as unambiguous from short-read data, long-read data helped confirm the prior SV interpretation. These included Family 43 with a complex but copy-neutral translocation disrupting *APC* (exemplar 4), Family 12 described above (*EFTUD2*) and Family 2 with a translocated inversion disrupting *FH* (MIM \*136850) (described below). For Family 37, unsolved following the Scottish Genomes Partnership’s analysis of 100kGP short-read data39, a *de novo* balanced 1.35Mb inversion disrupting *AUTS2* was identified as part of the present study and subsequently validated with nanopore genome sequencing (to be described elsewhere).

In contrast, for the remaining 6/10 participants where long-read data were available, there had been ambiguity regarding the precise SV configuration based on short-read data alone, due to duplicated segments. For two of these, the SV has now been resolved due to the long-read data. This includes two individuals (Families 33 and 47) with complex SVs involving the final exon of *MECP2* where PacBio data resolved the SVs and these findings directly influenced clinical interpretation. These results are described in more detail below (exemplar 2). The four remaining complex SVs could not be resolved with PacBio data. This was due to the presence of large duplicated segments that could not be spanned by HiFi reads, which typically extend to just above 20kb in length. These included complex SVs in Families 25, 30, 31 and 41, involving *COL4A5*, *EDA, KDM6A* and *PDHA1,* respectively. In future, we anticipate that these latter SVs could be investigated using Bionano optical genome mapping or by using long-read sequencing approaches, where library preparation methods are optimised to achieve ultra-long DNA fragments.

* ***Support from RNAseq studies***

RNAseq data were available for 11/47 participants and in six, this data helped further support pathogenicity (Table 1, Figure 1D). Most notable amongst these was Family 36 where the proximal breakpoint of a 764kb inversion (Figure S14) lay in intron 1 of *DYRK1A* (MIM \*600855; NM\_001347721.2). This individual was recruited to the 100kGP with a diagnosis of intellectual disability, but additional features included deep set eyes, a prominent nasal bridge, short stature, hirsutism and epilepsy. There was significant microcephaly (between -4 to -5 SDs) and MRI investigations demonstrated delayed myelination, especially subcortical white matter atrophy, pons and cerebellum.The SV had arisen *de novo* and theclinical features were thought to be consistent with Intellectual developmental disorder, autosomal dominant 7 [MIM #614104]. However, because the translation start site lies in exon 2, the coding sequence is intact and thus some diagnostic uncertainty remained. We speculated that the dislocation of the evolutionary conserved 5’-UTR exon from the remainder of the gene would result in reduced expression. There were no informative coding SNPs and so allelic imbalance analysis was not possible. However, OUTRIDER analysis indicated a 0.57 fold change in expression (adjusted p-value 3.7x10-27), helping confirm our hypothesis.

RNAseq data were available for an individual (Family 26) with suspected hypophosphatemic rickets [MIM #307800] in whom a *de novo* 2.6Mb inversion involving *PHEX* (MIM \*300550; NM\_000444.6) had been identified. Given the position of the proximal breakpoint in intron 15 (Figure S15), this inversion is highly likely to disrupt gene function. Unfortunately, the low expression in blood (e.g. TPM=0.03 in GTEx) and low data quality for this subject (only 35M mapped RNAseq reads) meant expression analysis was uninformative for *PHEX*. However, the distal breakpoint for this inversion falls within *SH3KBP1* (MIM \*300374) and OUTRIDER did detect a significant decrease of the expression of this gene (0.46 fold change, adjusted p-value 6.6x10-21), supporting the overall deleterious nature of this event. In two other individuals, heterozygous coding SNPs were used to demonstrate monoallelic expression (Figure 2A, S16) whilst for the *PTEN* (MIM \*601728) inversion described below, in-frame skipping of exons 6-8 was observed (Figure 2B).

In Family 35, we initially reported a 1.8Mb inversion involving *ARID2* in a male with﻿ intellectual disability and delayed motor development. Although inherited from his apparently unaffected mother, a recent report noted variable expressivity linked to a nonsense variant in this gene.40 We therefore considered that incomplete penetrance could be plausible and our initial interpretation was that the variant was likely to lead to gene disruption. However, closer scrutiny of read alignments supporting the MantaINV call (Figure S17), together with input from the diagnostic discovery review team, suggested that a more parsimonious explanation was that the SV was an inverted AluSc element integrated into intron 16 (NM\_152641.4). Long-read sequencing data was not available to confirm this alternative explanation and RNAseq did not obtain enough reads for OUTRIDER analysis to be possible.

***Final yield of likely diagnostic SVs***

In Family 41, the complex duplication-triplication involving *PDHA1* (mentioned above) was identified in a participant with exercise intolerance, intellectual disability and white matter abnormalities and so compatible with pyruvate dehydrogenase E1-alpha deficiency [MIM #312170]. Near-normal enzyme activity and immunohistochemistry results together suggest that the duplication likely has no consequences (Note S4). Discounting this and the participant with the *ARID2* variant of uncertain significance (Family 35) takes the overall incidence of likely diagnoses linked to this class of SVs in the set of prioritised genes to 1/754 (i.e. 45 across the 33,924 families contained in the SVRare database). This reported incidence will have been influenced by the degree of prior testing performed before families were recruited to the 100kGP. For many disease areas, ruling out the most likely candidate gene(s) was a prerequisite for enrolment and in the RD pilot, a median of 1 genetic test (range 0-16) had been undertaken.6 A similar analysis of complex SVs using genome sequencing data as a first-line test would likely result in a lower incidence of such SVs, as the cohort would still contain many cases with non-cryptic variants in strong candidate genes. Such an ascertainment bias might be particularly strong for familial cancer syndromes where there are well-established lists of candidate genes and the current standard of care testing is typically extensive. The wider clinical impact of inversions across the full complement of human genes is also unknown (see Discussion).

***Clinical impacts***

* **100kGP participants with blended phenotypes**

Several clinical exome sequencing studies have highlighted that 4.6-4.9% of diagnoses represent blended phenotypes due to variants in more than one gene.41; 42 In the cohort described here, there were four families where we propose that individuals express complex phenotypes due to involvement of two different genes. In two individuals, the genes involved lie at each end of the inversion, whereas the other two affected individuals harbour a second independent pathogenic SNV, unrelated to the inversion.

The first participant with a suspected blended phenotype involves *GLI3* and *HOXA13* (MIM \*142959; Family 22, described previously16). The 14.8Mb inversion disrupts *GLI3* and the affected individuals had features consistent with Greig cephalopolysyndactyly syndrome. However, several other features were more in keeping with hand-foot-genital syndrome [MIM #140000] and prior testing had focussed on *HOXA13*. The distal breakpoint of the inversion lay ~45kb upstream of *HOXA13*. Positional effects for *HOXA13* have been proposed to act over much longer distances.43

Anotherparticipant with a suspected blended phenotype was identified and this involved a *de novo* inversion on 22q13.2 in a girl (Family 18) recruited to 100kGP due to ocular coloboma and an abnormality of ocular abduction. As well as visual impairment, the participant had mild global developmental delay, kyphoscoliosis, morphological abnormality of the semi-circular canal and syndactyly. The proximal and distal breakpoints of this 1.0Mb inversion disrupt *EP300* (MIM \*602700) and *TCF20* (MIM \*603107) respectively (Figure S18). As these are both well-established OMIM morbidity genes and both are intolerant to loss of function variations (pLI=1), we considered that the individual’s phenotype could be due to HI of both genes. At the time of entry into the 100kGP, the individual was too young for it to be clear whether typical features of Rubinstein-Taybi syndrome 2 [MIM #613684] were present, but subsequent assessment has confirmed typical facial features and broad hallux.

Family 4 was recruited to the 100kGP as a parent-child trio, the proband and father with a diagnosis of ear malformations and hearing impairment. This family were already considered to be solved, due to an inherited likely pathogenic NM\_000248.4:c.662A>G, p.Asn221Ser variant in *MITF* (MIM \*156845), a gene associated with Waardenburg syndrome, type 2A [MIM #193510]. However, bone exostoses were an additional complication in both affected individuals and this feature is not typically observed in individuals with Waardenburg syndrome. Both individuals shared a 106kb inversion (Figure S19) that involves exons 2-10 of the 14 exon *EXT2* gene (MIM \*608210; NM\_207122.2) and hence is highly likely to disrupt gene function and result in the bone phenotype. This finding will facilitate genetic testing of an affected brother (not in the 100kGP) who has multiple exostoses, but not deafness. Confirmation of the inversion in this individual would help delineate the components of this blended phenotype. An additional example of a blended phenotype involving *EFTUD2* (Figure S12) and an inherited missense variant in *FGFR3* (MIM \*134934) is described in Note S3.

* **Inversions disrupting tumour suppressor genes**

A notable subset of the cohort (10/47 families) harboured germline inversions that disrupted tumour suppressor genes and resulted in well-known cancer susceptibility type conditions.

The 30.7Mb inversion disrupting *MLH1* (described above) will facilitate cascade testing in the 100kGP participant’s son and other at-risk family members in this large kindred. Positive history for cancer had gone back at least three generations and included an affected brother (CRC 28yo) and paternal uncle (CRC 42yo, Figure S1). Microsatellite instability had also been confirmed in two family members. Although immunohistochemistry indicated loss of MLH1, previous germline testing had not yielded a pathogenic variant. Original genome sequence data, generated in March 2016, was initially analysed using build GRCh37 and the 100kGP clinical pipeline had flagged only NM\_000535.7:c.86G>C (p.Gly29Ala) in *PMS2* (MIM \*600259)*,* which is likely benign (VCV000041721.56).

The proband in Family 1 was a young female with a classical juvenile polyposis phenotype [MIM #174900] who first presented with intussusception at 7 years. Recent colonoscopies demonstrated juvenile polyps. Targeted testing of *SMAD4* (MIM \*600993) and *BMPR1A* (MIM \*601299) had not identified any candidate germline susceptibility variants and therefore the individual was recruited to the 100kGP together with her similarly affected mother. A 1.4Mb inversion on 10q23 was identified in both affected individuals (Figure S20) for which the proximal breakpoint lies in intron 1 of *BMPR1A* (NM\_004329.3). As the first exon is 5’-UTR we intend to perform follow up studies using informative exonic SNPs (rs35572415 and rs7078571) for allelic imbalance experiments to confirm effect of this SV on transcription. The inversion has been validated using a triple-primer multiplex PCR assay and thus cascade testing can now be offered to at risk family members.

Family 2 comprised a proband and her daughter both recruited to the 100kGP due to cutaneous and uterine leiomyomas. Although no renal cancer had been reported in this family, there was a strong suspicion of an underlying germline variant in *FH*. Prior testing with targeted sequencing and MLPA did not uncover any likely diagnostic variants. We detected a complex SV with a breakpoint in the in the final intron of *FH* (Figure S21A), consistent with Leiomyomatosis and renal cell cancer [MIM #150800]. Although our prioritisation was due to the Manta algorithm which called this SV as a 3.6Mb inversion, the actual structure was an intrachromosomal translocation of a 193kb segment, in combination with a 188kb deletion (Figure S21B-C). The consequence of the insertion on the *FH* transcript would require RNA studies. However, the inserted sequence contains one +ve strand RefSeq annotation for “POTE ankyrin domain family, member F pseudogene” (NR\_027247.2) and so we speculate that the SV may result in a fusion transcript. As the variant was also detected in the proband’s affected daughter, there is support from co-segregation. Cascade testing is now being extended to include other affected family members. We anticipate that this finding will be important for prioritising renal cancer surveillance, especially for male relatives where the endometrial phenotype cannot act as a give-away clue about whether individuals are likely carriers and thus at risk of the more aggressive cancer type.

Family 3 comprised an individual entered into the 100kGP as a singleton with a diagnosis of “genodermatoses with malignancies”. Other features included punctate palmoplantar hyperkeratosis, thyroid adenoma, macrocephaly and tongue nodules. Although the phenotype was considered classic for Cowden syndrome [MIM #158350], previous testing of *PTEN* using targeted sequencing and MLPA approaches had not picked up any variants of significance. We identified a balanced 14kb inversion involving exons 6-8 of *PTEN* (Figure S22) (NM\_000314.8). As above, it is anticipated that this finding will facilitate cascade testing for other at risk family members.

Family 8 comprised an individual with multiple tumours recruited to the 100kGP as a singleton. She was diagnosed with unilateral retinoblastoma [MIM #180200] in 1971 and subsequently osteogenic sarcoma of the left tibia in 1981. Malignant melanoma and uterine leiomyosarcoma were also reported more recently. Although the pedigree was not available to review, extensive family history of osteosarcoma, retinoblastoma and breast cancer was noted. Several malignancies were reported to have somatic mutations in *RB1* (MIM \*614041), but targeted sequencing of *RB1* in constitutional DNA did not pick up any pathogenic variants. Our analysis identified an 18.1kb inversion, with the distal breakpoint lying in intron 2 of *RB1* (NM\_000321.3) and a 2,246bp loss at the proximal end (Figure S23). Unfortunately, the individual is now deceased, which makes it difficult to re-contact this family to offer validation/cascade testing.

Family 40 comprised a male recruited as singleton to 100kGP under a diagnosis of familial tumour syndromes of the central and peripheral nervous system. SVRare had prioritised a 15.1Mb inversion call that involved *NF2*. Closer scrutiny of the MantaINV call and read alignments around this locus indicated that the SV comprised three interlinked duplications of 19.5kb, 10.1kb and 1,329bp in size (Figure S24). Although linkage analysis had already revealed a risk haplotype for markers around *NF2*, detection of this SV will facilitate cascade testing in other at-risk family members. This rearrangement had already been uncovered independently by the clinical team responsible for this individual, following discussions at an MDT meeting, and has been be described in more detail elsewhere.44

As described above, Family 4 harboured an inversion that disrupts *EXT2,* likely resulting in multiple bone exostoses described in 3 family members*.* Although multiple bone exostoses [MIM #133701] are typically benign and often asymptomatic, in some affected individuals they can result in pain/deformities and can be surgically removed. One important complication is the increased risk of malignant transformation to a secondary chondrosarcoma45 and so our findings could help inform surveillance. One such (unrelated) participant with a germline deletion-inversion in *EXT2* from the cancer arm of the 100kGP is shown in Figure S25.

The last 3 families with inversions disrupting tumour suppressor genes include a founder inversion involving exons 2-6 of *MSH2* in two apparently unrelated individuals (Families 16 and 17) and the complex translocation disrupting *APC* (Family 43). These are described in more detail below.

***Selection of illustrative exemplars***

* **Exemplar 1: An intragenic *MSH2* founder inversion**

We identified two apparently unrelated individuals from the 100kGP harbouring a 19.1kb inversion that involves exons 2-6 of *MSH2*, with a 1.2kb loss at the distal end (Figure 3A). The first individual (Family 16) is a male recruited to the 100kGP with reported transitional cell cancer of bladder at 42 years and cecal cancer at 45 years. Positive family history of early onset cancer stretched back at least three generations (Figure 3B) and led to a strong clinical suspicion for Lynch syndrome. Microsatellite instability was demonstrated in DNA from cecal tumour (5/5 markers). Immunohistochemistry highlighted a complete loss of MSH2 expression and reduced MSH6 expression in both bladder TCC and cecal tumours. Germline testing using both targeted sequencing and MLPA approaches was unrevealing. Karyotyping (46XY) and array-CGH had also returned normal results. There was no evidence for loss of heterozygosity at any of the *MSH2*, *MLH1* or *MSH6* loci. However, somatic testing identified a single *MSH2* variant in 20% of reads. This NM\_000251.3:c.508C>T transition predicts a nonsense allele p.(Gln170\*) and has been reported multiple times in ClinVar (VCV000091117.20). In summary, despite the strong clinical suspicion for a germline variant in *MSH2*, i.e. Lynch syndrome 1 [MIM #120435], both prior testing and the initial report from the 100kGP had not identified any variants of significance.

The second 100kGP participant who carried the same inversion (Family 17) was a female with leg sarcoma at 44 years, endometrial cancer at 55 years and renal pelvis cancer at 60 years. Bowel cancer was also reported in her now deceased father and brother (Figure 3B) and so the family background was again considered to be classic for Lynch syndrome. Given the complexity of the rearrangement and the identical breakpoints shared between both individuals, we speculated that the variant was a founder variant. Although haplotype analysis was limited by the fact that genome sequencing in each family was performed on just the proband, a 3.2Mb region where there is absence of conflicting homozygosity (Figure 3C) was identified, supporting a founder origin. The maximal coordinates of this shared region are defined by A>C transversions at rs115321698 and rs13420048, where the alternate allele was homozygous in Family 16 but not detected in Family 17 (Figure S26). Analysis of ultra-rare variants further supported the founder origin hypothesis and the 13 shared SNVs identified (Table S4) may be useful to screen for other individuals carrying this inversion. Assuming a 'correlated' genealogy, we estimate that the mutation arose 29.9 generations ago (95% CI: 9 - 112.7). Neither the founder *MSH2* inversion, nor any of the inherited SVs reported here were detected in the gnomAD SV v4 database.

* **Exemplar 2: Complex *MECP2* rearrangements resolved by PacBio sequencing**

Rett syndrome [MIM #312750] is a neurodevelopmental disorder caused by *MECP2* variants that mainly affects females. After a period of normal or slow development (7-18 months), individuals show arrested development, regression of acquired skills and loss of speech. Ataxia, stereotypic movements (e.g. distinctive uncontrolled hand clapping/rubbing), acquired microcephaly, seizures, intellectual disability and autistic-like behaviours are often reported. The same variants that cause Rett syndrome in females are considered lethal or else result in a much more severe presentation in males. Classically affected males have been described harbouring mosaic variants or in individuals with an extra X chromosome (i.e. Klinefelter syndrome, 47,XXY). In this study, two 100kGP participants with MantaINV calls were identified in which small inverted segments were part of more complex rearrangements and both involved the final coding exon of *MECP2*.

For Family 33, the male proband was recruited to the 100kGP with a diagnosis of intellectual disability. Other features included microcephaly, seizures, delayed motor development and ataxia. Autistic behaviour, recurrent hand flapping and inappropriate laughter were also noted. Although Manta detected two overlapping inversions, closer scrutiny of the locus suggested a complex maternally inherited SV involving a 1,130bp deletion and a 681bp duplication (Figure 4A). Due to the size of the duplication, which could not be spanned using short paired-read data, the configuration of this SV was ambiguous. Using HiFi long-read genome sequencing data, we showed that the correct configuration was the one that led to the later truncation, p.(Leu336Profs\*18). A dotplot showing a representative 22kb read is shown in Figure 4B. A similar dotplot (using hypothetical sequence) shows the alternative structure that would also have been a potential solution to the short-read data (Figure 4C) and this would have led to much earlier truncation of *MECP2* at codon 137, within the Methyl-CpG binding domain.

In contrast, Family 47 comprises a female with whom underwent an initial period of normal development followed by regression, especially of speech, from age 3 onwards. There was significant global development delay and microcephaly. She demonstrated periods of fast irregular breathing and there were no purposeful hand movements. At the time of last review age 8 she was able to walk a few steps aided. She had no meaningful words and communicates through picture exchange. She developed multi-focal seizures from 5 years. Array testing in 2013 (80x60K v2.0, ISCA platform) had identified a maternally inherited microduplication at 7q36 considered not to be significant. Sequence analysis and MLPA of *MECP2* a year later identified no pathogenic variants. In 2015 a differential diagnosis of Angelman syndrome was pursued, which included testing with methylation specific PCR methods. However, there was no evidence of a deletion, uniparental disomy or of an imprinting defect at the *UBE3A* locus. The family was then recruited to the 100kGP as a parent-child trio and genome sequencing performed in 2017. The 100kGP clinical pipeline picked up a maternally inherited NM\_001099922.3:c.1210G>A (p.Glu404Lys) in *ALG13* (MIM \*300776) of uncertain significance (VCV000982621.4) for which further co-segregation/glycosylation studies had been considered. Although the MantaINV call in *MECP2* prioritised by SVRare suggested an inversion of 209bp, close scrutiny of the locus with short and long-read data available suggested a complex rearrangement comprising a 76bp inverted duplication close to a similar sized deletion. However, MantaBND calls also showed the presence of a 14.5kb duplicated segment from 19qter had inserted into the middle of the SV (Figure S27A-B). Similar to the situation for Family 33, this complex SV was ambiguous with short-read genome sequencing data alone (Figure S27C) as the rearrangement could also be a result of a translocation (i.e. two derivatives chromosomes with a duplication at the site of the breakpoint). The presence of 2 PacBio reads of >20kb spanning the 14.5kb duplicated region (Figure S27A, Figure S28) confirmed the structure to be an inter-chromosomal duplication and not a translocation. This finding helps confirm the disruption to *MECP2* and alters the clinical interpretation of this variant.

***Exemplar 3: Resolving a long diagnostic odyssey - regulatory inversion in the HOXD cluster***

Family 42 were recruited to the 100kGP due to mesomelic limb shortening, most pronounced in the upper limbs. Radiological findings included severe shorting of radius/ulna with bowing of the radius and dislocation of radial head. Detailed clinical information for this family was reported in 2004 and at that time the authors suggested this to be only the second family ever described with Mesomelic dysplasia, Kantaputra type [MIM %156232].46 The molecular basis for the *ulnaless* mouse model was shown in 2003 to be a 770kb inversion of the *HOXD* gene cluster.47 These mice show striking mesomelic shortening, especially in the forelimbs, and this prompted Sanger sequencing of *HOXD11* (MIM \*142986) in Family 42 which (along with karyotype testing) had not detected any variants of significance.46 In addition, 244k Agilent array-CGH had not detected any gross structural changes.48 We identified a 22.9kb inversion involving the *HOXD* gene cluster (*HOXD11-13*) that had arisen *de novo* in the proband and had been transmitted to the proband’s similarly affected son (Figure 5A). It is notable that twice in the literature it has been suggested that this family may harbour a regulatory SV involving the *HOXD* cluster,46; 48 but at those times, genome sequencing technologies were not available. Even once the genome sequencing data became available in 2018 it has taken another 3 years before this inversion was uncovered (Figure 5B). In addition to the resolution of a long diagnostic odyssey, this finding could be of direct clinical utility for the son in terms of family planning.

In contrast to Family 42, the original family with Mesomelic dysplasia, Kantaputra type, first described in 1992,49 was a much larger kindred and linkage to 2q24-32 was demonstrated in 1998.50 In 2010, two rare duplications involving 2q31.1-q31.2 and encompassing approximately 481kb and 507kb were identified. Without genome sequencing data or another method for breakpoint characterisation, it is impossible to assess whether these two duplications are independent direct-tandem repeats or whether the two segments are interlinked. Nevertheless, we note that the 22.9kb inversion described here overlaps the smaller of the two duplications in the earlier family.

Although the proximal breakpoint of the 22.9kb inversion disrupts the 5’-UTR region of non-canonical *HOXD13* transcripts (XM\_011511068.2 and XM\_011511069.2), the canonical transcript (NM\_000523.4) remains intact, as does *HOXD11* (NM\_021192.3) and *HOXD12* (MIM \*142988, NM\_021193.4). We therefore hypothesise that the biological mechanism leading to the mesomelia dysplasia is due to a positional effect. The new chromosome structure would mean *HOXD13* (MIM \*142989) is under the control of more proximal promoters, i.e. those that normally control *HOXD11* and *HOXD10* (MIM \*142984). This could result in the aberrant expression of *HOXD13*. It has been shown in the chick51 and other models that mis-expression of *HOXD13* orthologs can result in shortening of the long bones.

***Exemplar 4: A complex translocation disrupting APC helps resolve a clinical conundrum***

The proband in Family 43 (I-1; Figure 6A) first presented with tiredness and shortness of breath aged 25 and over the next 5 years lost considerable weight. He had stomach cramps and was diagnosed later with hundreds of polyps and colorectal cancer, requiring colectomy. This presentation was thought to be in alignment with familial adenomatous polyposis syndrome (FAP, [MIM #175100]). This was investigated using MLPA and an 18 gene bowel panel test, but no likely-pathogenic variants were found. Although the proband’s oldest son (II-1) was asymptomatic, at age 15 years an endoscopy was performed to exclude any polyposis similarly to his father. At the hepatic flexture, a single sessile serrated polyp was detected. No other polyps were identified and so the significance of this single polyp was unclear. The second oldest son (II-2) was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes mellitus (MIM %222100) aged 3 years and autism spectrum disorder aged 11. At 13, he experienced intermittent bouts of diarrhoea (no blood and no mucus) and sometimes reported stomach pain. Gastroscopy and colonoscopy were performed to investigate a polyposis syndrome as well as celiac disease for the diarrhoea. The colonoscopy showed multiple small polyps. The microscopic pictures show some lymphoid tissue from the Peyer’s Patch in the terminal ileum as well as several large colon mucosa focal tubular adenoma and low-grade dysplasia identified in several biopsies. Over 100 adenomas were identified aged 15 years (including focal tubular adenoma). Follow up endoscopies confirmed polyposis and tubular adenoma and low-grade dysplasia. A number of investigations to identify a genetic cause (in particular *APC* variants) were unrevealing. The youngest son (II-3) also underwent a colonoscopy aged 10 and >100 adenomas were identified, confirming polyposis with histology tubular adenoma and low-grade dysplasia.

In summary, the family pedigree (Figure 6A) strongly suggested a dominant genetic cause and family history was consistent with a clinical diagnosis of FAP. The endoscopic (Figure 6B) and histological features (Figure 6C) were also consistent with FAP but multiple genetic investigations including the targeted testing described above, as well as the initial analysis of genome sequencing data from the 100kGP, did not reveal a genetic cause. A further complication was the fact that the oldest son had just a single polyp and so it was unclear whether this was a chance finding, or represented delayed progression of a genetic polyposis syndrome. Given this uncertainty, this elder brother had not been recruited to the 100kGP.

Re-analysis of genome sequencing data using SVRare revealed a 4.2Mb MantaINV call with a breakpoint in intron 4 of *APC* that was predicted to disrupt gene function. However, manual assessment of read-level data detected additional split read-pairs mapping to multiple junction sites (Figure 6D). Overall, the pattern of 9 rearranged genomic segments was suggestive of a complex chromosomal translocation (Figure 6E). A translocation involving chromosomes 5 and 7 was subsequently confirmed by FISH. Long-read genome sequencing using PacBio HiFi reads helped validate all respective breakpoints (Figure 6F). Finally, PCR analysis using two sets of primers, followed by nanopore sequencing, confirmed the two clinically-relevant breakpoint junctions (Figure 6G).

RNAseq data available for the proband (II-2) indicated *APC* to have a 0.65 fold change in expression (adjusted p-val 1.51e-10). Other genes disrupted or lying to close to breakpoints were also downregulated (Table 1). The presence of a common 6 SNP haplotype (rs2229992-rs351771-rs41115-rs42427-rs866006-rs465899) in the coding region of *APC* allowed us to assess allelic imbalance. RNAseq for the proband (II-2) indicated that only the non-reference alleles were expressed (Figure S16). Phasing was not possible by inheritance as the haplotype was heterozygous in all genome sequenced family members. However, PacBio data (available for I-1) confirmed that this non-reference SNP haplotype involved the non-rearranged copy of *APC*, i.e. with the complex translocation lying *in trans*.

The finding of a complex translocation, now validated using multiple methods, allowed us to make a definitive genetic diagnosis in the 3 affected individuals from Family 43. Furthermore, the diagnosis facilitated accurate genetic counselling of the family and the initiation of screening, which then excluded this genetic polyposis condition in the family member (II-1) who had presented with a single polyp. This finding will inform clinical management in terms of the regularity/necessity for ongoing colorectal cancer surveillance.

**Discussion**

In this study, we utilised data from 33,924 families in the RD programme of the 100kGP with the aim of investigating the role of inversions in genetic disease via HI. Our study also included complex SVs that were detected due to an inversion call. Although 62 individuals from 47 families were nominated for inclusion into the diagnostic discovery pathway for follow up, 2 were subsequently refuted and so the final yield was 45/33,924 families. This represents only 1-2% of the total diagnoses across the 351 genes assessed. A notable finding was that for the vast majority (87%) of SVs, the inversion was below 10Mb in size and thus would be too small to be detected by karyotyping (Figure 1A). We also found that 20/47 of the SVs reported here were confirmed to have arisen *de novo*. This was not a requirement for the initial SV prioritisation steps (which only needed an allele count of 5 or lower), so this is strong evidence supporting pathogenicity for this collection of variants.

Our reported incidence (~1/750 families) likely represents an underestimate of the overall impact of inversions in RD for several reasons. Firstly, our analysis was limited to inversions that disrupted known HI genes. Our list of 351 genes (Table S1) represents <10% of the 4,836 genes known to harbour phenotype-causing mutations listed in OMIM (31st August 2023) and was taken from the Clinical Genome Resource, whose curations are conservative and do not include disease gene associations described recently. For instance, *SRRM2* (MIM \*606032) was not included in this list despite good evidence for a role in intellectual disability via HI52; 53 and we note three participants with deletion-inversions (likely palindrome-mediated) involving this gene were identified recently in the 100kGP.54

Secondly, this study did not scrutinise SVs that disrupt genes linked to autosomal recessive conditions. Two such examples from the 100kGP are described in Note S5. Performing a systematic analysis of inversions across the entire 100kGP for genes linked to recessive conditions is confounded by several factors: i) unless the SV is homozygous, one has to identify a second hit variant and assess pathogenicity for both variants in tandem, ii) even if one finds a strong second hit, not all families from 100kGP are parent-child trios, so with limited access to long-read sequencing data, phasing information is incomplete and iii) allele frequency filtering would need a less stringent cut-off. In the future, long-read genome sequencing will largely solve the problem of phasing rare variants and may also help identify additional SVs where breakpoints lie in repetitive regions. The 150bp reads used here could potentially have missed inversions where the breakpoints lie in Alu/LINE1 elements, pseudogenes or any region where there is high sequence homology.

Several genes were recurrently impacted by inversions in this cohort. Families 37 and 38 both harboured inversions disrupting *AUTS2* (NM\_015570.4). The respective breakpoints in intron 2 and 5 are not nearby and so there is no indication of a mutational hotspot (Figure S29). *AUTS2* has a large genomic footprint of 1.2Mb so simply represents a greater mutational target for rearrangements to occur. Several structural rearrangements in this gene linked to Intellectual developmental disorder, autosomal dominant 26 [MIM # 615834] have been reported previously.15; 55

In contrast, the recurrent disruption of *MSH2* was due to the same founder variant being detected in two independent families from the UK. An identical *MSH2* rearrangement was identified in an Australian proband by cDNA sequencing and inversion PCR in 2016, with an AluY-mediated recombination model being hypothesized to explain its origin.56 The same primers used in that study were used for validation for the individuals identified here. A second proband was subsequently detected as part of a replication effort that tested 55 individuals with unsolved Lynch syndrome56 and that individual was re-reported by Brennan *et al*.57 The 3.2Mb haplotype shared between Family 16 and Family 17 described here (Figure 3C, Table S4) represents formal confirmation of a founder origin. Recent genome sequencing of the second proband described by Liu *et al*57 has confirmed that the inversion in that individual lies on the same founder haplotype (Table S4). This exon 2-6 *MSH2* inversion was estimated to have arisen around 30 generations ago. As a rule of thumb, shared segments of 2-5Mb are most likely inherited from a common ancestor >20 generations ago58, but this depends on local recombination rates. The two families reported here and the second individual reported by Liu *et al56* all have recent ancestors from the same region in northern England. Further genealogy studies linking the two UK families with both Australian families or else performing additional analyses of identity-by-descent would give a more precise estimate. Given the founder origin and cryptic nature of this rearrangement, it is important that the prevalence of this inversion is assessed in other suitable populations where i) Lynch syndrome is suspected and ii) loss of MSH2 has been confirmed at the protein level. In one follow up study, Morak *et al* screened 48 MSH2-deficient affected individuals from a German population but did not find this exon 2-6 inversion59 suggesting this founder variant to be of more westerly European origin. MRC Holland are investigating whether probes for this inversion can be incorporated into one of their probe-mixes in future (pers. comm. Jelger van der Meer). A larger overlapping 10Mb inversion60 involving *MSH2* exons 1-7, explained 60% of affected individuals in a cohort of suspected cryptic Lynch syndrome61 and consequently that inversion is now being captured by MLPA testing (Note S1).

The proband in Family 33, where a complex deletion and duplicated inversion was inherited from an unaffected mother represents atypical (male) Rett syndrome. In contrast, the second *MECP2* family comprised an affected female, where classical Rett syndrome had long-been suspected. In the second participant (Family 47), we found a duplicated segment from 19qter had inserted into *MECP2*. Both SVs occurred at a similar position within the last exon of *MECP2* (Figure 4A and Figure S27), a known mutational hotspot for complex SVs.62 The structural ambiguities for both of these SVs from the short-read data could be resolved with long-read PacBio data (Figure 4B and Figure S28) and determining the precise nature of these rearrangements influenced the respective clinical interpretations. The major functional domain encoded by *MECP2* is the methyl-CpG-binding domain (MBD) which involves residues 102-174 (NM\_001110792.2; or 90-162 on UniProt accession P51608). To date, the reported truncating variants in affected males (non-mosaic) always lie after this domain. The earliest non-mosaic truncation to be described in a male individual that we are aware of is NM\_001110792.2:c.524\_525del (p.Gly175Glufs\*11) and that was associated with a very severe presentation, involving neonatal encephalopathy, bilateral polymicrogyria and the individual died at 13 months.63; 64 For Family 33, the alternative SV configuration would have led to an earlier truncation at codon 137 (Figure 4C) and hence would be expected to result in lethality for males. So a genuine germline truncation at p.Ile137 seems unlikely and may have led to a suspicion of mosaicism. In Family 47, the presence of a classical translocation would have altered how the family was counselled and determined which methods would be viable options for validation/cascade testing. Together with a similar case report,65 our work poses the question of whether other unsolved individuals with Rett syndrome might be explained by cryptic SVs involving *MECP2.*

Although the present study only aimed to identify inversions that disrupt the coding sequence of genes known to cause disease through HI, large SVs can also alter chromatin structure, which in turn can lead to changes in gene expression. A good example of this phenomenon from the 100kGP include several families with complex duplication-inversions on chromosome 17 that create new Topological-Associated Domains and result in a dominant form of Retinitis Pigmentosa.66 The bioinformatic filtering steps performed in our study meant that for most participants, the inversion breakpoints lay between coding exons. For this class of balanced inversion, the ACMG criteria PVS167 can typically be applied. However, there were notable exceptions to this rule. For the individual with craniosynostosis 1 [MIM #123100] and an inversion involving *TWIST1* (Family 24), the closest breakpoint lay 18kb downstream of the disease-relevant gene and so a position effect needs to be invoked. Pathogenicity was supported from a combination of co-segregation together with clinical specificity.32 In the present study, this inversion was identified due a longer overlapping transcript isoform (ENST00000443687.5) in the ENSEMBL v105 annotation set. Similarly, the proximal breakpoint for the inversion involving *HOXD11-13* (Family 42) was exonic only for non-canonical *HOXD13* isoforms. This variant was supported by *de novo* occurrence, onward transmission to an affected son and by a high degree of clinical specificity. Several studies have investigated the chromatin domain boundaries at the *HOXD* locus. Detailed characterisation of CTCF sites suggests this locus is divided into two, a proximal domain and a distal domain. Division between both likely occurs between *HOXD13* and *HOXD11*.68 The inversion described here would turn the CTCF sites around and would likely have an impact on gene expression during critical stages of limb development. A third exception was the complexSV in Family 44 involving interlinked duplications on 11p15.4. *CDKN1C* is a well-known locus for Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome associated rearrangements - the first balanced rearrangements clustering 100kb from *CDKN1C* were described nearly 30 years ago.69 Our hypothesis is that this SV disrupts the maternal methylation status of the IC2 region, upregulating expression of *KCNQ1OT1* (MIM \*604115; KCNQ1 opposite strand/antisense transcript 1), and consequential repression of *CDKN1C*. Although no epigenetic data was available for this individual, studies have shown that methylation signatures can be critical for helping confirm or propose new diagnoses for a range of genetic conditions.70 In general, the effect of complex SVs on methylation status is poorly understood. However, a recent study used array and nanopore technologies to confirm that a DUP-TRP/INV-DUP on chromosome 14 resulted in a methylation pattern consistent with UPD(14)mat [Temple syndrome, MIM #616222].71 For our last two families (Families 42 and 44), the target genes are small and so there were far fewer SVs listed in the SVRare report. In combination with the highly specific phenotypes, these SVs were able to be detected prior to the final filtering step, in which unequivocal gene disruption was a requirement. These highlight the importance of future work towards prioritising SVs with position effects in a more systematic fashion.

The balanced rearrangement involving *APC* (Family 43, Figure 6A) resolved a long-standing clinical conundrum and allowed us to determine that the single polyp seen in the elder brother was simply a chance finding. In addition to impacting disease surveillance decisions, the finding may be useful in future for family planning. We note a recent study describes a largely balanced chromothripsis event involving the *APC* locus as a germline cause of a colon cancer predisposition.72 Although that rearrangement involved the translocation of 10 fragments from 5q22.1q22.3 into 10q21.3 and showed similar level of complexity to the rearrangement seen here, it was not a translocation in the classical sense and so would not have been identified by karyotyping. Other examples of cryptic *APC* variants are provided in Note S6. Our results therefore strengthen the rationale that individuals with a strong clinical suspicion for a germline *APC* variant that remain unsolved following standard testing approaches should be considered for genome sequencing to uncover potential cryptic variants. The complex translocation identified here poses the related question of, how often translocations uncovered by karyotyping have this degree of complexity. An earlier study found that 26% of balanced SVs detected by karyotyping involved three or more breakpoints.15

For 8/47 families we are still not in touch with the recruiting clinician, despite repeated attempts to make contact over an ~18 month period. Similar difficulties were also noted in a recent commentary where a response rate of 20% was noted.73 The reasons for this are often due to the time gap between recruitment and the research finding being uncovered (>5 years for several participants). In that time an appreciable turnover of clinicians is to be expected. At the time of writing, 60% of these SVs reported here have been confirmed by an orthogonal approach. The validation results summarised in Table S2 are intended to give a snapshot of an ongoing process. Our experience highlights variable levels of expertise and resources across different GLHs to perform validation, with many clinical laboratories having significant backlogs for validation of 100kGP findings considered non-urgent. Overall, validation efforts were split across research and clinical settings and involved a range of approaches. Once a complex SV is validated, interpretation also comes with difficulties. Whilst the ACMG/AMP variant classification guidelines have been adapted for single-gene CNVs,74 clinical reporting guidelines currently do not cover complex SVs in detail.

Although exome sequencing can detect SVs in a small fraction of affected individuals,75 the non-uniform coverage makes this approach non-optimal. For 100kGP participants who had previously been entered into the DDD study, retrospective analysis was only able to confirm SV breakpoints for 2/6 of these. We note that for the *SOX5* rearrangement (Family 6), exome data only captured the breakpoint for 1/6 reads and so the SV would not have been called robustly without prior knowledge. Although the inversion disrupting *DYRK1A* (Family 36) was not captured by exome data due to breakpoints lying in intronic regions, a different inversion disrupting the same gene was identified in another individual from the DDD Study as both breakpoints happened to lie in exonic regions.76

For one of the two families with SVs involving *ARID2,* the SV was interpreted as an inversion at the time of initial review, but was later considered more likely to be an integration of an S group subfamily Alu element. The pattern of read alignments was very similar to that seen for a putative inversion involving *CASK* (MIM \*300172)*,* from a recent study using genome sequencing on 465 families with neurodevelopmental short-read data.77 In that study, the SV could not be confirmed by long-range PCR or by long-read genome sequencing, suggesting it to be a false positive. Other examples of complex SVs with incomplete interpretation are provided in Note S7. In combination, these reports highlight that even with full genome sequencing data, careful scrutiny of read alignments is critical. Together with the initially ambiguous SVs involving *MECP2* described in Families 33 and 47, these data highlight that, where duplicated segments are involved, genome analysts should always consider whether other potential SV configurations could explain the short-read data. In situations where gene disruption (i.e. PVS1) cannot conclusively be inferred, additional testing is often needed to achieve diagnostic levels of certainty. The 681bp duplicated segment found in Family 33, was not spanned by Illumina read-pairs and so clinical interpretation was uncertain until PacBio data was obtained (Figure 4B). In contrast, a similar complex SV involving a 406bp duplication in *SCN5A* (MIM \*600163)*,* found in a participant from the 100kGP pilot study with suspected Brugada syndrome and who had remained unsolved from initial analysis,6 was resolved (Figure S30). The threshold for resolving duplicated segments in complex SVs using current Illumina 150bp genome sequencing data is likely around 500bp. In contrast, we showed that for a proportion of individuals, the ability of long-read genome sequencing to span larger segments can help resolve complex SVs. The duplicated segment of 14.5kb in Family 47 was able to be spanned using PacBio HiFi data and this influenced how the SV was interpreted clinically. Due to limitations of current HiFi technology, segments of >20kb would be difficult to resolve and other methods may need to be employed. We recently resolved a complex SV using a combination of simple RNA methods and Bionano optical genome mapping, the latter in which a high fraction of molecules >500kb were obtained.78

Although the majority of variants described here were identified via bioinformatics prioritisation steps, Families 23 and 40 were initially identified as a consequence of MDT review meetings which led to manual scrutiny of read alignment data. In clinical laboratories with limited bioinformatics capabilities, this can be a fruitful way to reanalyse data from affected individuals where there is a strong clinical suspicion pointing to a specific gene. It is important that clinical laboratories gain extensive experience with complex variants to maximise the utility of WGS data and some useful tips are provided in Note S8.

In clinically accredited NGS laboratories, studies have shown that some classes of SNV/indel have such high accuracy that validation using an orthogonal approach is not essential for the variant to be reported.79-81 We speculate that the same will soon be true for SVs. Genome sequencing is the optimal approach to detect complex rearrangements and so in our view, the failure of a poorly-designed PCR-Sanger assay (or the inability to design suitable primers due to repeats) should ideally not delay reporting. At least two 100kGP participants were deceased before the results were able to be reported, making it hard to recontact families for appropriate follow up. Also relevant to this discussion is one 100kGP participant (Family 15) harbouring a *de novo* 1.22Mb inversion that disrupts *SATB2* (MIM \*608148; NM\_001172509.2) in intron 2. This result was returned to the family before validation, on the basis of inspection in IGV (Figure S31A-B) and a phenotype (absent speech, history of persistent drooling and dental abnormalities that include a gap between the maxillary central incisors) which was felt to be a strong match with published cohorts of individuals with Glass syndrome [MIM #612313].82 Future studies measuring specificity and sensitivity of SVs across large cohorts such as the one described here will shed light on whether validation is always necessary.

In conclusion, our study demonstrates that, although relatively rare in comparison with other classes of variant, genomic inversions play an important role across a range of RDs. As well as many instances where our findings end long diagnostic odysseys, several results impact immediately on clinical management. This is most notable for the subset of diagnoses involving tumour suppressor genes, where cascade testing and disease surveillance is now being implemented. In 30% of families, the disrupted gene had previously been nominated as a strong candidate gene, as evidenced by prior testing using targeted methods. The lengthy delays in obtaining a diagnosis (even after genome sequencing became available) is therefore notable, given that detection of complex SVs is a significant raison d’être for genome sequencing. Consequently, it is important that future clinical analysis pipelines in the NHS and in similar programmes worldwide are adapted to prioritise these types of variant (in combination with better workflows for confirmation and reporting) as genome sequencing becomes commonplace.Critical to the success of this project was the development of the SVRare and a large database of SVs called in a consistent way that facilitated the aggregation and subsequent filtering steps to minimise the number of candidate variants that required manual review.

**Data and code availability**

Illumina and PacBio (HiFi) genome sequencing and RNAseq data relating to this study is held in the National Genomic Research Library (<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.4530893.v7>). Details of how to access this data are available at www.genomicsengland.co.uk/research/academic/join-gecip. Access is currently provided via Amazon WorkSpaces. For academic researchers, host institutions also need to sign a formal agreement. SVRare code is available on github (see Web resources).

**Acknowledgements**

We thank all 100kGP participants for their involvement in this study. This manuscript is dedicated to Maria Bitner-Glindzicz who recruited several of the families reported here. We also thank Stefan Mundlos for reviewing the *HOXD11-13* inversion. This research was made possible through access to the data and findings generated by the 100,000 Genomes Project. The 100,000 Genomes Project is managed by Genomics England Limited. The 100,000 Genomes Project is funded by the National Institute for Health Research and NHS England. The Wellcome Trust, Cancer Research UK and the Medical Research Council have also funded research infrastructure. The 100,000 Genomes Project uses data provided by participants and collected by the NHS as part of their care and support. Additional funding was from the MRC (MR/W01761X/1) and the Oxford and Manchester NIHR Biomedical Research Centres (NIHR203308). HHU is supported by The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust and support for MJS is from USAMRAA CDMRP Neurofibromatosis Research Program, Investigator-Initiated Research Award (W81XWH1910334). We acknowledge the contributions of the Oxford GI biobank and the Oxford IBD cohort investigators. DGE is supported by the Manchester National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Biomedical Research Centre (IS-BRC-1215-20007). DB and JL are supported by an NIHR Research Professorship to DB (RP-2016-07-011). JL is also supported by an Anniversary Fellowship awarded by the University of Southampton. AJ and SB acknowledge the support of Solve-RD. The Solve-RD project received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program (779257).

**Declaration of Interests**

HHU declares research support or consultancy fees from Janssen, UCB Pharma, GSK, Eli Lilly, Bristol Myers Squibb BMS, OMass and Mestag. JY is now employed by Novo Nordisk. Other authors declare no conflicting interests.

**Web resources**

[https://clinicalgenome.org](https://clinicalgenome.org/) - Clinical Genome Resource

<https://www.uniprot.org> - UniProt

<https://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgLiftOver> - LiftOver tool

[https://shiny.wehi.edu.au/rafehi.h/mutation-dating](https://shiny.wehi.edu.au/rafehi.h/mutation-dating/) - Genetic Mutation Age Estimator

<https://www.omim.org> - OMIM

<https://panelapp.genomicsengland.co.uk> - PanelApp

<https://vimeo.com/709549654#t=13m40s> - participant perspective for Family 16 (Genomics England Research Summit, May 2022)

<https://www.genomicsengland.co.uk/research/members/research-registry> - Research registry

[https://gtexportal.org](https://gtexportal.org/) - The Genotype-Tissue Expression (GTEx) Project

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/genomics/genomic-laboratory-hubs> - Genomic Laboratory Hubs

<https://emea.illumina.com/products/by-type/informatics-products/basespace-sequence-hub/apps/edico-genome-inc-dragen-rna-pipeline.html> - DRAGEN pipeline

<https://github.com/Illumina/manta> - Manta

<https://github.com/Oxford-Eye/SVRare-GEL> - SVRare

<https://www.r-project.org> – the R Project

**Table 1: Summary of six 100kGP participants with inversions that are supported by RNAseq data.** aComparison of genomic and fusion transcript breakpoint available in UCSC session https://genome.ucsc.edu/s/AlistairP/PHEX\_INV\_RNA\_coords. TPM, transcript per million (data obtained from GTEx v8). DDD, Deciphering Developmental Disorders Study ([www.ddduk.org](http://www.ddduk.org)). FC, fold change.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Family | GRCh38 coordinates of inversion | Segment size (bp) | Imbalance/complexity | Affected family members (structure, inheritance) | Gene (median blood TPM) | Recruitment diagnosis | RNAseq result | Additional comments |
| 3 | chr10:87949156-87963156 | 14,000 | NA | 1 (singleton, unknown) | *PTEN* (40.27) | Genodermatoses with malignancies | Skipping of exons 6-8 supported by 38 reads/read-pairs (Fig 2B). OUTRIDER expression not an outlier. | Consistent with the inversion of exons 6-8 of this 9 exon gene (NM\_000314.8, Fig S22). NMD not expected as reading-frame maintained and prediction is of 178 deleted amino-acids p.(Gly165\_Lys342del). |
| 14 | chr19:35717452-35725612 | 8,160 | Deletion of 8185bp (chr19:35717427-35725612) and 1 retained/inverted internal segment of 94bp at proximal end (chr19:35717452-35717546) | 1 (trio, *de novo*) | *KMT2B* (21.37) | Intellectual disability | Monoallelic expression for rs11670414 (T-maternal) and rs231591 (G - unphased). SV occurred on paternal chromosome. Variant read support in RNA data is 47T/0C and 13G/0A (Fig 2A). | Breakpoint delineating end of deleted region in exon 12 of this 37 exon gene (NM\_014727.3). Coding SNPs in exons 16 and 30 respectively. OUTRIDER expression data unavailable. |
| 19 | chr3:6352714-37035341 | 30,682,627 | NA | 1 (singleton, unknown) | *MLH1* (6.61) | Familial colon cancer (Fig S1) | Although OUTRIDER expression is not an outlier, manual review indicates reduced expression after exon 13 (breakpoint in intron 13). | There is transcript annotation ending in *MLH1* exon 13 (ENST00000674107.1), potentially explaining the stability of this truncated transcript. Manual review suggests fusion transcript. |
| 26 | chrX:19564733-22210246 | 2,645,513 | 11/12bp lost at each end. | 1 (trio, *de novo*) | *PHEX* (0.03) | Renal tract calcification | OUTRIDER expression uninformative for *PHEX*. Distal breakpoint disrupts *SH3KBP1* (GTEx TPM = 49.34), for which OUTRIDER did detect a decrease of expression (0.46FC, adjusted p-value 6.6x10-21) | *SH3KBP1-PHEX* fusion transcript detected by DRAGEN (Fig S15)a. *PHEX* expression elevated at 3’ end after breakpoint. |
| 36 | chr21:37377983-38142066 | 764,083 | NA | 1 (trio, *de novo*) | *DYRK1A* (7.42) | Intellectual disability | OUTRIDER expression analysis shows a 0.57 FC, with adjusted p-value 3.7x10-27 | Breakpoint is in intron 1 and exon 1 is non coding 5'-UTR therefore impact confirmed only with RNA data; however truncation in this intron was reported previously in case with translocation.83 |
| 43 | chr5:112769977-116946042 | 4,176,065 | 11.9kb deletion (chr5:111440257-111452111) but otherwise this complex translocation involving 9 rearranged segments is balanced (Fig 6E). | 3 (father and 2 sons, from affected parent) | *APC* (1.82) | Multiple bowel polyps (Fig 6B-C) | OUTRIDER expression analysis shows a 0.65 FC, with adjusted p-value 1.5x10-10. Monoallelic expression confirmed using 6 SNP haplotype (rs2229992-rs351771-rs41115-rs42427-rs866006-rs465899; C-A-A-A-G-A; Fig S16). Haplotype phasing with PacBio. | OUTRIDER also detected significant downregulation of *CAMK4* (FC = 0.53, padj = 2.0x10-3) which is disrupted directly (Fig 6D). Downregulation of *DCP2* (FC = 0.75, padj =2.7x10-5), which lies 207kb from the *APC* breakpoint, highlights potential for complex SVs to result in long-distance position effects. |

**FIGURE LEGENDS**

**Figure 1: Size range and summary of detected inversions.** A) Size distribution of inverted genomic segments in 47 families from the 100k Genomes Project. For complex SVs, the largest of the MantaINV calls is plotted. Family ID and gene symbols are shown in X-axis labels. The dotted red line represents a size threshold of 10Mb which is the typical limit below which karyotyping is unlikely to detect an inversion. Exemplars are highlighted in orange (*MSH2*), salmon (*MECP2*), blue (*HOXD*11-13 cluster) and green (*APC*). B) FISH images for metaphase spread showing normal and inverted chromosome 3, where commercial breakapart probes confirm disruption of *MLH1* in the proband from Family 19. Red and green probes hybridise adjacent to the 5’ and 3’ ends of *MLH1*, respectively. C) Data supporting 24bp inversion (NM\_138459.5:c.542-13\_552inv) involving exon 3 of *NUS1* seen in an individual with epilepsy. GRCh38 coordinates are chr6:117,694,018-117,694,041. Upper track shows 20 “SNVs” called by Platypus, of which 15 had a predicted consequence type prioritised by the interpretation pipeline (2 stop-gain: RED, 2 splice acceptor, 5 missense, 6 splice region). *NUS1* was not on Genetic Epilepsy syndromes (v.1.13) or Intellectual disability (2.597) panels applied at initial analysis and so these variants were flagged as TIER3. Middle track shows alignments from the proband in Family 45 and lower track are alignments for a control subject sequenced in the same batch. This variant was not detected by Manta or by using the Illumina small variant caller. D) Summary of SV type, inheritance pattern, validation status, structural ambiguity, RNAseq data availability and final assessment, across all 47 families. Order of families is identical to Table S2. \*For 2/10 families (Families 16 and 7), inheritance is inferred from haplotype studies due to the *MSH2* inversion being a founder variant. †PacBio analysis for Family 40 is ongoing.

**Figure 2: RNAseq data for Families 14 and 3 showing examples of allele imbalance and exon skipping.** A) *De novo* deletion/inversion in Family 14 results in monoallelic expression of *KMT2B* (NM\_014727.3). RNAseq data for the proband (upper track) is compared to the genome sequencing data (lower). Monoallelic expression is apparent for 2 common SNPs in exons 16 and 30; rs11670414 (T allele, phased as maternal by inheritance) and rs231591 (G allele; not possible to phase by inheritance as both parents are heterozygous). Both c.4257C>T (p.Gly1419=) and c.7091A>G (p.Asp2364Gly) are common SNPs and have been assessed as benign in multiple submissions to ClinVar (VCV001230475.12; VCV001262833.10). B) Sashimi plot showing that the inversion in Family 3 leads to skipping of *PTEN* exons 6-8. Viewing settings are minimum 10 reads and only junctions in the forward direction are shown. There are 38 reads/read-pairs which support the exon 5-9 junction and this pattern is not seen in two other representative control RNAseq datasets analysed using an identical pipeline. Genome sequencing data for this proband is shown in Figure S22 and the inversion involves the same three exons. The HGVS annotation and predicted consequence of this change is therefore NM\_000314.8:c.493\_1026del, p.(Gly165\_Lys342del). In frame skipping would not be expected to activate the NMD process and explains the normal OUTRIDER expression results seen for this gene in this individual.

**Figure 3: Identification and haplotype analysis of founder *MSH2* inversion.** A) IGV screenshot showing read alignments supporting inversion of *MSH2* exons 2-6 in Family 16 (upper) and 17 (lower). Viewed using the “view as pairs” and “collapsed” options and reads are sorted by insert size. Coordinates for two MantaINV calls (blue) are chr2:47,406,871-47,425,914 and chr2:47,408,111-47,425,934 (GRCh38). A drop in coverage at the distal end reflects a 1.2kb deletion which was not called by CANVAS. Transcript shown is NM\_00251.3. B) Pedigree and clinical information for Families 16 and 17. Symbol shading is only for cancer onset under the age of 70. Cascade testing not possible for deceased individuals. C)Conflicting homozygosity analysis for high confidence SNVs shows evidence for a shared ~3Mb haplotype (blue shading) surrounding the *MSH2* locus. The region shown corresponds to the *MSH2* locus, with 10Mb added at each end (chr2:37,401,067-57,485,228).

**Figure 4:** Complex rearrangement involving*MECP2* solved by long-read sequencing. A) Read alignments from short-read (150bp pared-end, upper) and long-read (PacBio, lower) analysis supporting complex DEL-INV-DUP involving *MECP2* in Family 33. Reads areshown in IGV using the collapsed setting. Illumina data is shown using the “view as pairs” option, whilst PacBio reads are shown using the “link supplementary alignments” option. The SV was called by Manta as deletion and two overlapping inversion but was missed by Canvas. The transcript shown is NM\_001110792.2. B) Dotplot constructed using single representative +ve strand PacBio read sequence 21,614bp read shown in panel A, compared to the GRCh38 reference. Red shading represents deleted regions whilst blue shading indicates a duplicated region. C) Dot-plot (as above) showing a hypothetical rearrangement which highlights the alternative structure that would have been possible from the short-read data alone. The X-axis in all panels corresponds to chrX:154,028,301-154,034,315 (GRCh38). Grey and green lines indicate sense/antisense matches to the reference, whilst the blue arrows (sequence present) and orange lines (junctions) help explain how these segments are connected. BP, breakpoint.

**Figure 5:** A *de novo*inversion of the *HOXD* cluster linked to a historical description of Mesomelic dysplasia, Kantaputra type. A) Read alignments supporting an inversion of *HOXD* gene cluster present in the proband and her son but not in the proband’s parents. Coordinates for two MantaINV calls (blue) are chr2:176,087,987-176,110,607 and chr2:176,087,748-176,110,599. Although the rearrangement does not disrupt the MANE transcript for *HOXD13* (ENST00000392539.4 / NM\_000523.4), the other annotated transcripts displayed (XM\_011511069.2 and XM\_011511068.2) are disrupted. The inversion overlaps one of the duplicated segments identified in the original family, see <https://genome.ucsc.edu/s/AlistairP/HOXD_cluster_SVs>. B) Timelines relating to Family 42 (blue) and the original family (green) are shown alongside relevant mouse studies (red). Speech bubbles show quotes from Shears *et al* 2004 and Kantaputra *et al* 2010.46; 48

**Figure 6:** Clinical and genetic characteristics of Family 43 with a complex translocation involving the *APC* locus. A) Pedigree including proband and the three male offspring of whom two share the complex translocation (INV). NA, not tested. WT, wild-type. B) Endoscopy images showing polyps in all three siblings II-1, II-2 and II-3. For individual II-1 endoscopy detected just single sessile serrated polyp and so affection status was clinically uncertain. For II-2 and II-3, a single representative polyps is shown. C) Histological images showing H&E staining of a solitary polyp without dysplastic changes in II-1 and an example of APC-like polyps II-2 and II-3. D) Subway plot showing the complex structure of the translocation. The rearrangement involves 9 segments and is largely balanced, with the exception of 11kb and 25bp deletions. Breakpoint positions on chromosomes 5 and 11 are labelled using hg19 coordinates (GRCh38 coordinates are in Table S2). Segment sizes are not to scale. Segment “F” was called as a 4.18Mb inversion by Manta which is how the SV was first identified. Approximate positions of PCR primers used to validate the clinically relevant breakpoints BP1 (EF-CR) and BP2 (XR-FR) are shown by red arrows. Genes disrupted by breakpoints are highlighted. E) Schematic diagram of the derivative chromosome structures. The position of the *APC* disruption is indicated. F) Comparison of Illumina and PacBio read alignments shown using IGV and the “show soft-clipped reads” option. The breakpoint in intron 4 of *APC* (NM\_000038.6) is indicated. G) Read alignments from nanopore sequencing of PCRs product using two junction specific primers and DNA from individual II-3. Sequence was generated for both breakpoint 1 (406bp) and breakpoint 2 (361bp) and reads were merged into a single BAM file. Results were consistent with Illumina/PacBio data.

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