

# Should genome sequencing be introduced in newborn screening (NBS) programs?

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Eurordis, 9th February 2024





# INDICATIONS OF NGS IN PERINATALITY



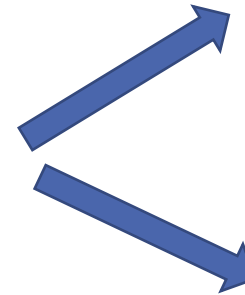
Preconception screening



~~Prenatal screening~~

Non Invasive Prenatal  
Testing (NIPT)

Prenatal diagnosis



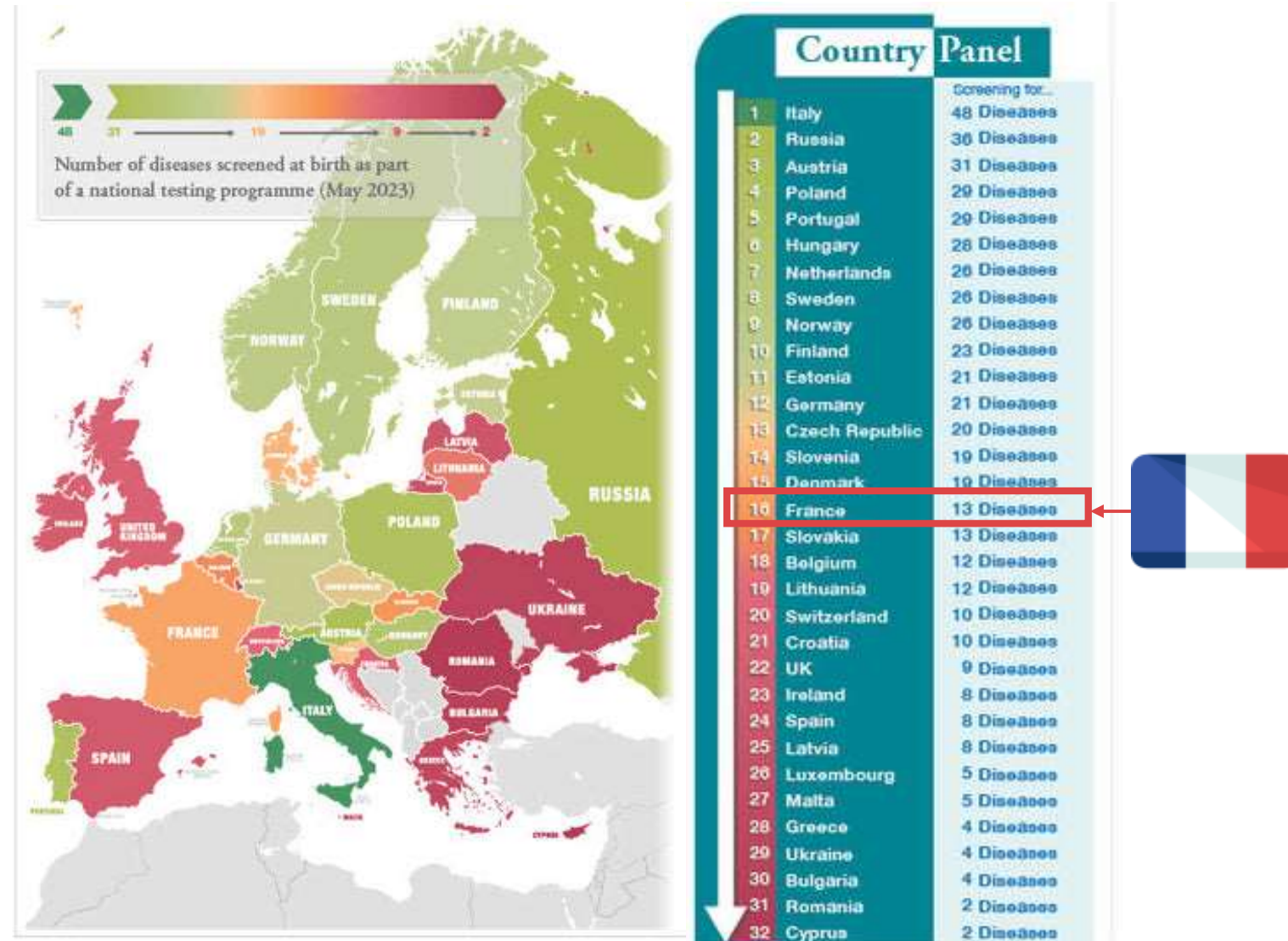
Newborn screening



Newborn diagnosis

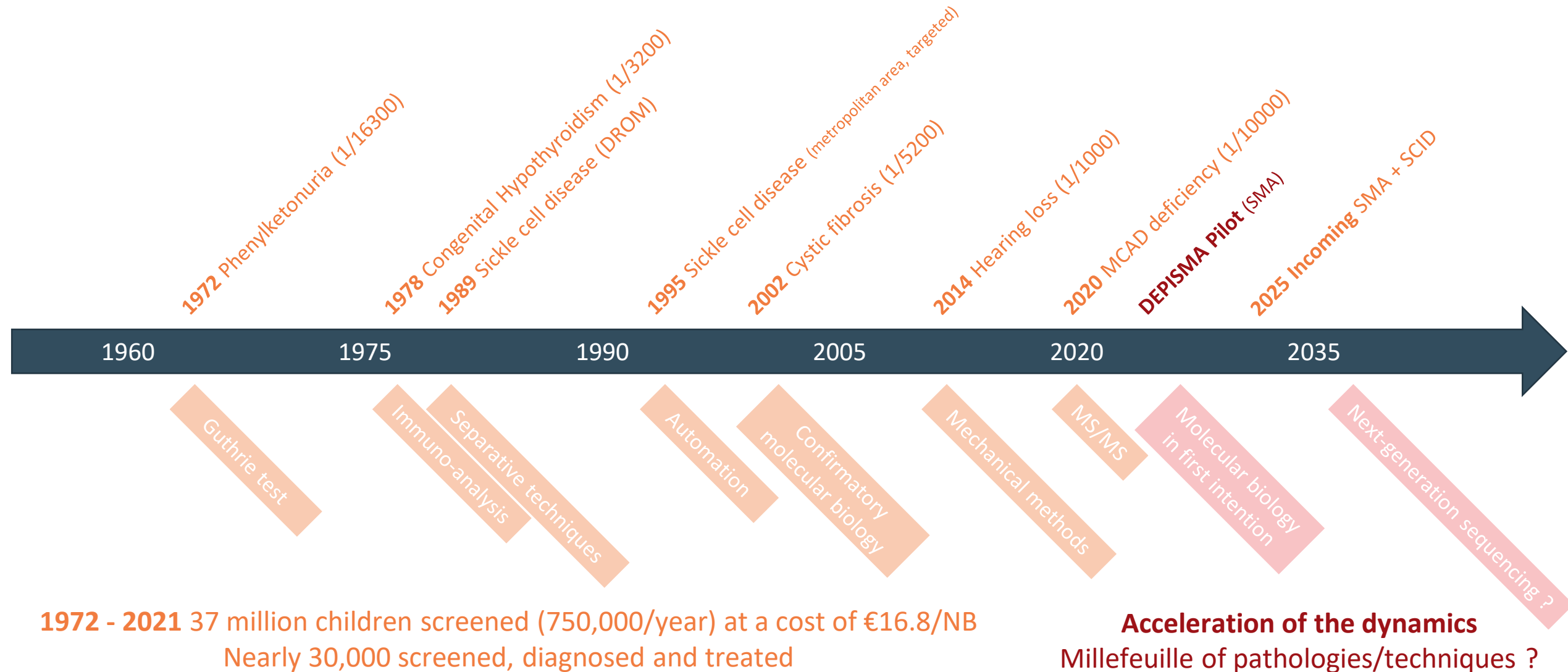


# NBS PROGRAMS IN EUROPE AND THE EXEMPLE OF FRANCE





# NBS PROGRAMS IN EUROPE AND THE EXEMPLE OF FRANCE







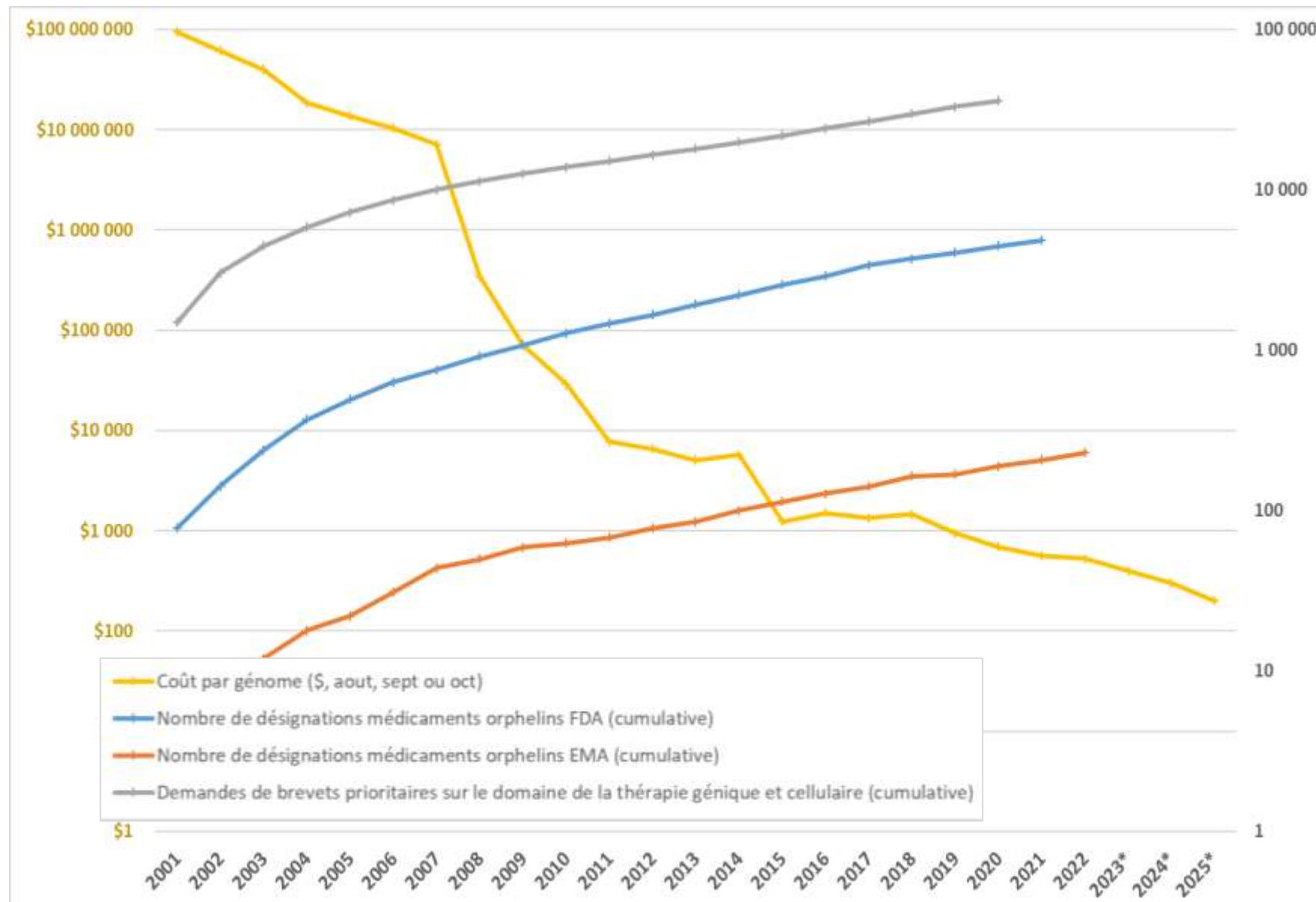
**WITH 72% OF RARE DISEASES HAVING A  
GENETIC ORIGIN, NEWBORN SCREENING CAN  
SAVE LIVES**



[WWW.EURORDIS.ORG/NBSCALLFORACTION](http://WWW.EURORDIS.ORG/NBSCALLFORACTION)



# ANTICIPATION OF THE FUTURE





# THE EXEMPLE OF CYSTIC FIBROSIS

2002

DNN Mucoviscidose  
Création des CRCM

2012

Kalydeco®

2015

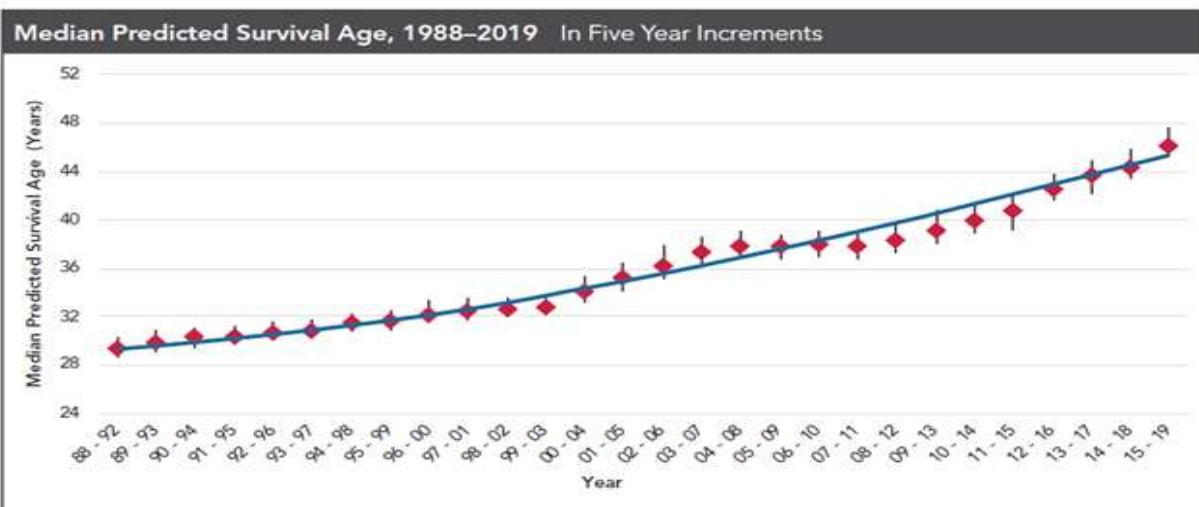
Orkambi®

2018

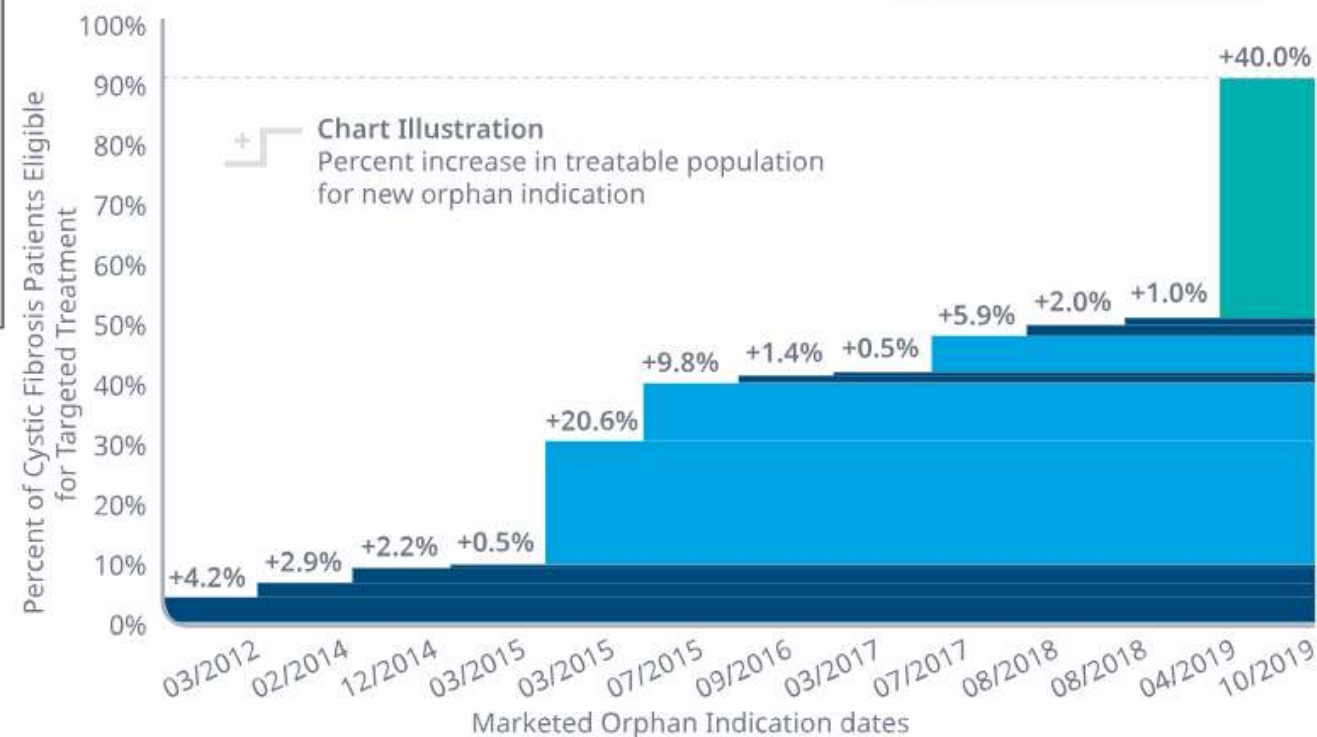
Symkevi®

2021

Kaftrio®



- Trikafta** F508del -/-, 12 y/o+
- Kalydeco** F508del -/-, 6-12 months  
F508del -/-, 1-2 y/o
- Orkambi** F508del -/-, 2-5 y/o
- Kalydeco** II-III additional, 2 y/o+
- Orkambi** F508del -/-, 6-11 y/o  
F508del -/-, 12 y/o+
- Kalydeco** II-III, 2 y/o+  
II-III, 6 y/o+  
III-IV, 6 y/o+  
G551D, 6 y/o+





# THE EXEMPLE OF SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY

2017

Spinraza®

2020




Zolgensma®

2021

Evrysdi®

2022

Projet pilote  
DEPISMA

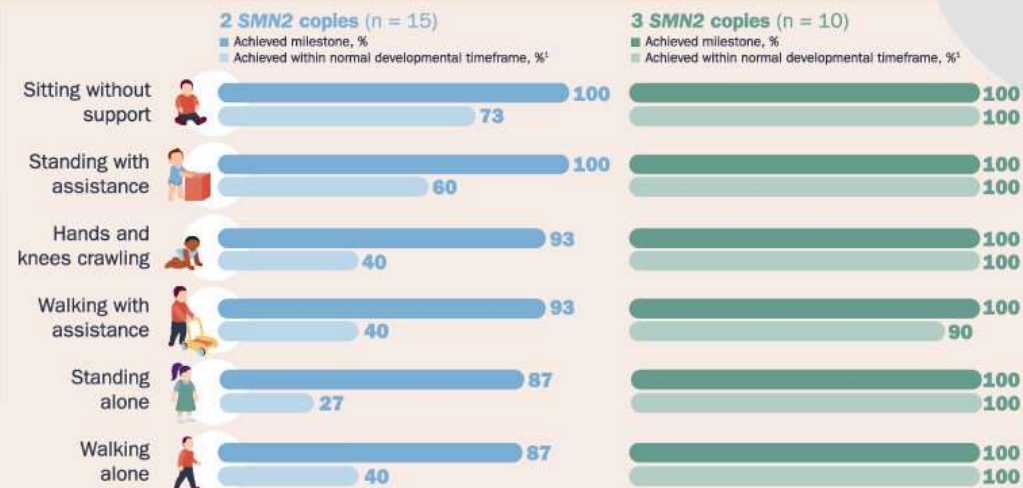
Essai FIREFISH		
62 nourrissons atteints de SMA de type 1 âgés de 1 à 7 mois		
Le risdiplam	1 <sup>ère</sup> partie	2 <sup>ème</sup> partie
		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administré par voie orale</li><li>• <b>AMM</b> en Europe</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Bonne tolérance</b> après un mois de traitement</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>61 %</b> peuvent s'asseoir sans aide pendant 5 secondes après 24 mois de traitement</li></ul>

## NURTURE Long-term follow up of nusinersen initiated in 25 infants in the presymptomatic stage of SMA<sup>a</sup>

- Results in the ongoing NURTURE study demonstrate continued benefit and a favorable safety profile over ~5 years after early initiation of nusinersen treatment in children with 2 or 3 SMN2 copies in the presymptomatic stage of SMA.<sup>b</sup>
- Children achieved previously unattainable motor milestones, many within normal developmental timeframes.<sup>1</sup>
- Subgroup analyses suggest inclusion/exclusion criteria and baseline characteristics should be considered when interpreting presymptomatic SMA trial data.



### WHO motor milestones



• Nusinersen was well tolerated; its favorable safety profile remains unchanged over ~5 years.<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Data cut: 15 February 2021. <sup>b</sup>Median (range) follow-up of 4.9 (3.9–5.7) years.

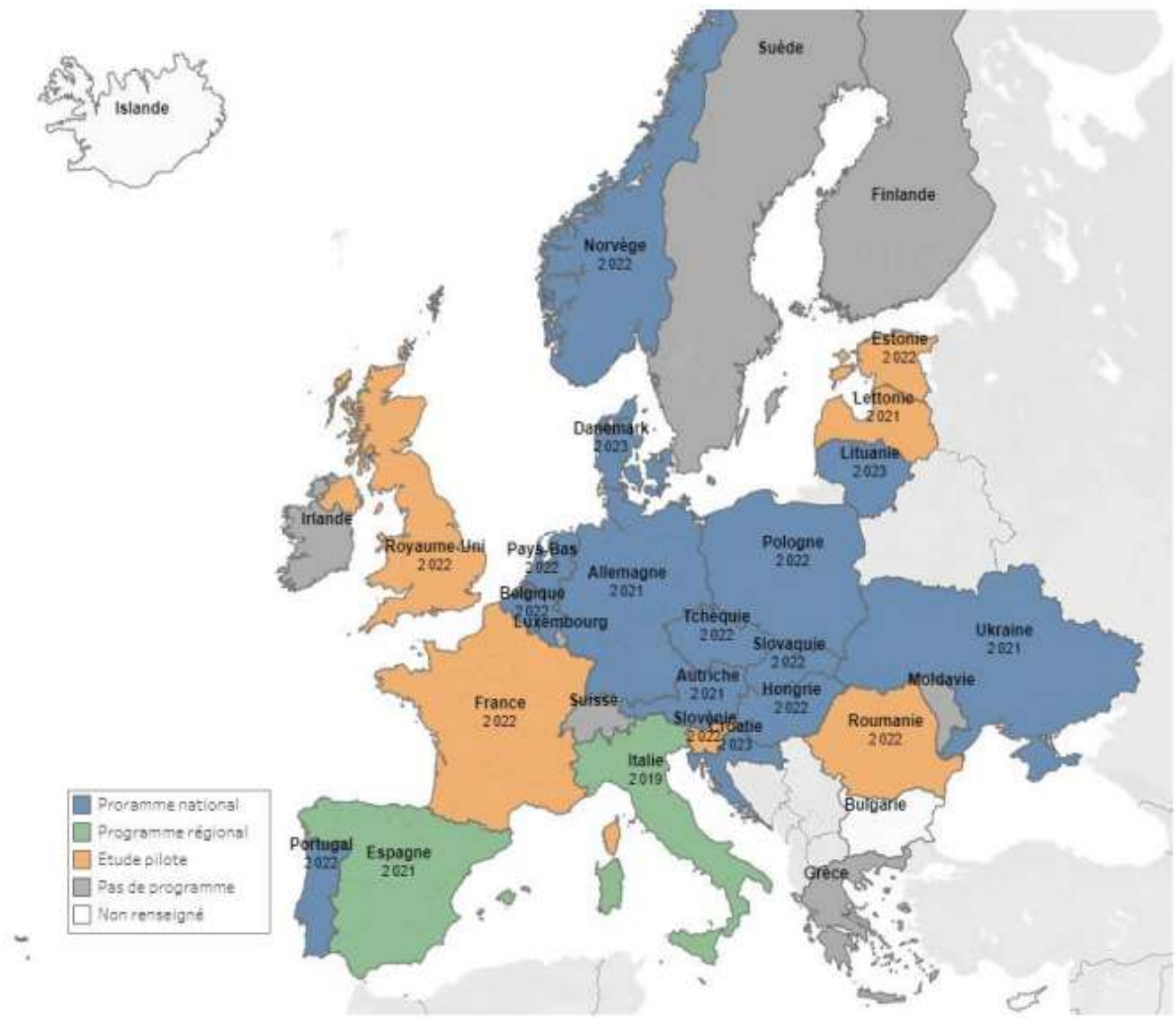
<sup>1</sup>World Health Organization Multicentre Growth Reference Study Group. *Acta Paediatr Suppl.* 2006;450:86-95.





# THE EXEMPLE OF SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY

	2017	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Spinraza®	Zolgensma®	Evrysdi®	Projet pilote DEPISMA	Autosaisine HAS + note de cadrage	CEESP Commission d'évaluation écon. et de santé publique	DNN <b>Amyotrophie spinale infantile</b>



Incidence de 1/6 000

Environ 120 nouveaux cas par an en France

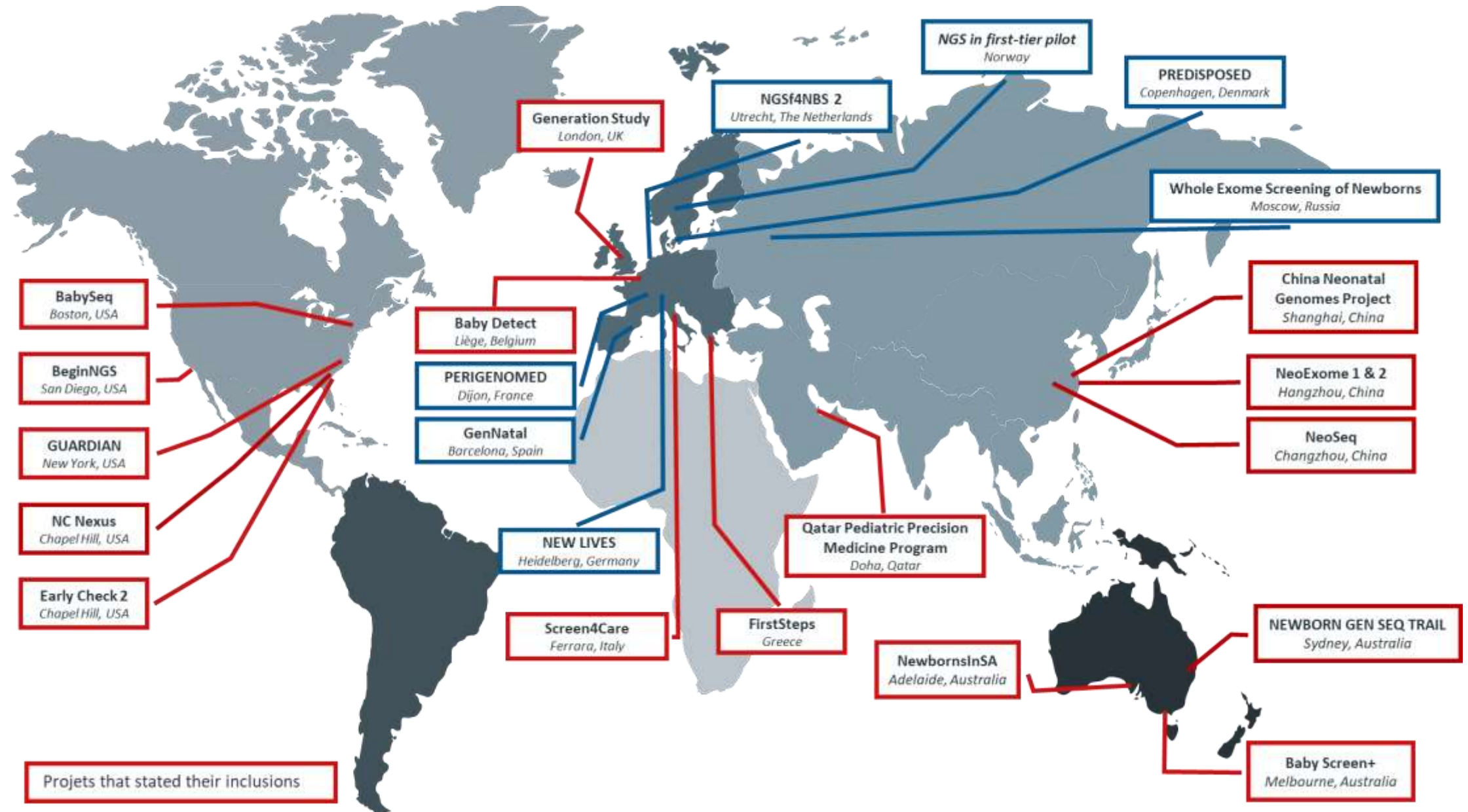


Figure 1: Programmes de dépistage de la SMA en Europe et année de mise en place (jusqu'à mars 2023)

Sources : HAS, AFM



# INTERNATIONAL gNBS PILOT PROJECTS





# INTERNATIONAL gNBS PILOT PROJECTS

Join us this October 5th & 6th for our annual International Conference on Newborn Sequencing

IC<sup>NS</sup>

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*One consortium* to unite a growing international movement.



# THE SCREEN4CARE PROJECT

**SCREEN  
4CARE**



Accelerating Diagnosis for Rare Disease Patients Through Genetic Newborn Screening and Artificial Intelligence



**START DATE**  
**1 OCTOBER 2021**



**DURATION**  
**5 YEARS**



**BUDGET**  
**25 MIO €**



**14 COUNTRIES**  
**35 PARTNERS**

In the genetic NBS: Two Panels and Whole Genome Sequencing

TREAT Panel

Treatable

ACT Panel

Non Treatable but Actionable

Whole Genome Sequencing

For Early Symptomatic Infants



BE SIGNING AN ADVISORY AGREEMENT. WILL BE SENT TO YOU IN THE COMING WEEKS



BE ABLE TO INFLUENCE PROCESSES THROUGH COMMENTING ON KEY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAC. UPCOMING WILL BE THE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE ACT PANEL



PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST 2 MEETINGS PER YEAR, ONE VIRTUAL AND ONE IN PERSON



CO-DESIGN THE AGENDA OF THOSE MEETINGS



RECEIVE ACCESS TO SCREEN4CARE INTERNAL DOCUMENTS AND STUDY RESULTS

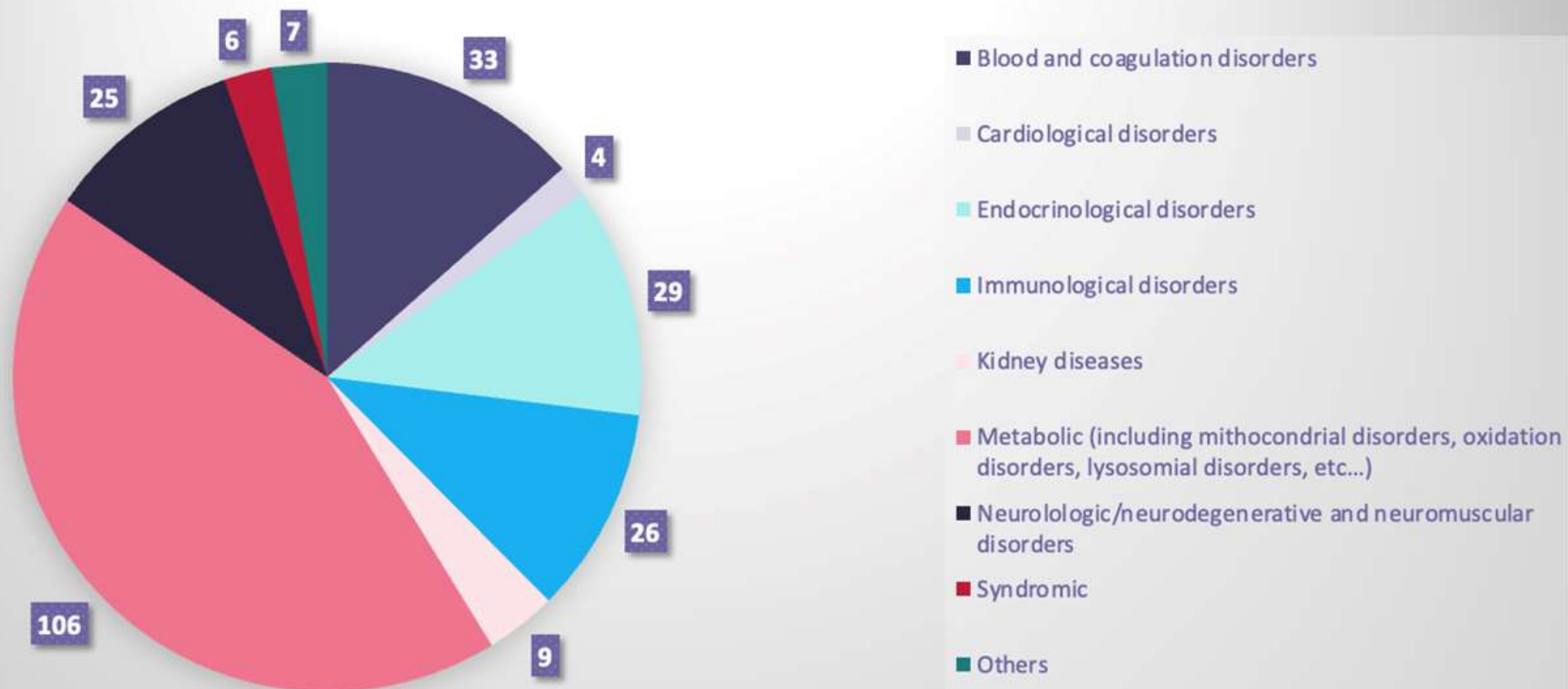


BE A "CRITICAL FRIEND" THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT - BRING YOUR EXPERTISE AND POSITIONS TO THE FORE

*Strategy : capturing panel*

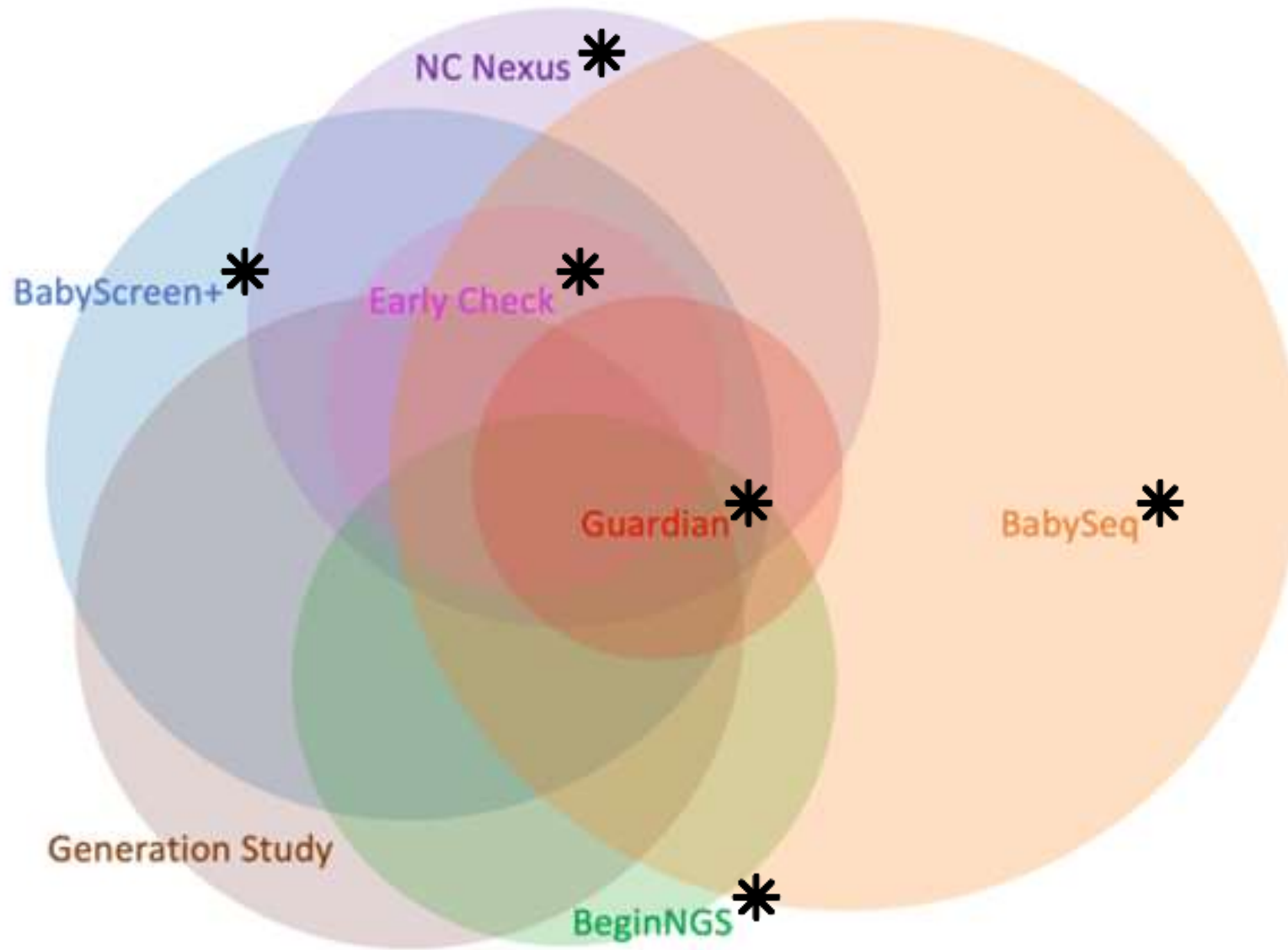


# THE SCREEN4CARE PROJECT





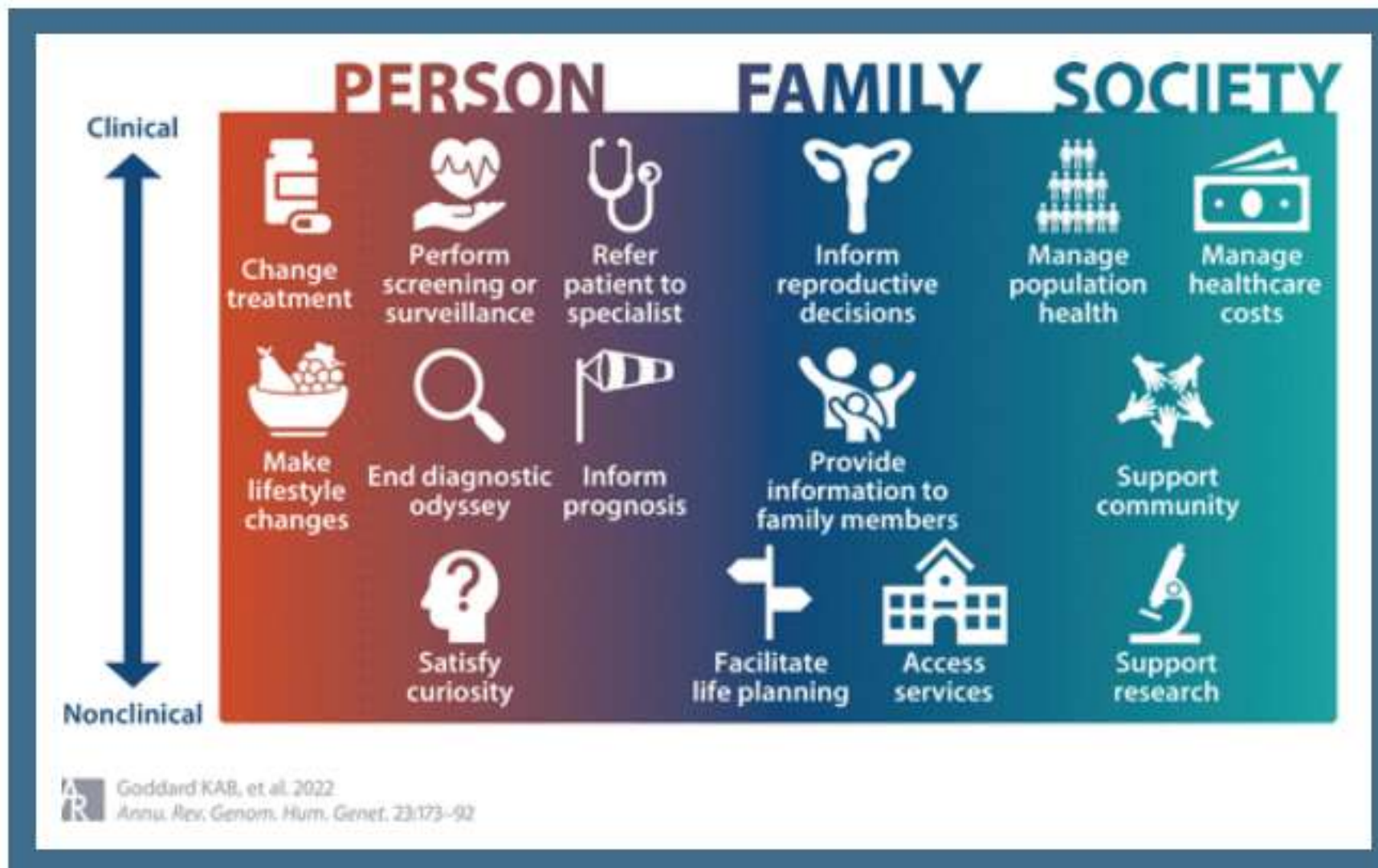
# THE QUESTION OF LISTS OF GENES



- Definition of treatability
- Age of onset of symptoms / intervention
- Specific local interest

\* More than one list

# ACCEPTABILITY FOR WHOM?



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DOI: 10.1002/ajmg.c.31988

## COMMENTARY

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF  
medical genetics  
DISORDERS OF METABOLISM  
WILEY

### Newborn screening for neurodevelopmental diseases: Are we there yet?

Wendy K. Chung<sup>1</sup> | Jonathan S. Berg<sup>2</sup> | Jeffrey R. Botkin<sup>3</sup> | Steven E. Brenner<sup>4</sup> |  
Jeffrey P. Brosco<sup>5</sup> | Kyle B. Brothers<sup>6</sup> | Robert J. Currier<sup>7</sup> | Amy Gaviglio<sup>8</sup> |  
Walter E. Kowtoniuk<sup>9</sup> | Colleen Olson<sup>10</sup> | Michele Lloyd-Puryear<sup>11</sup> |  
Annamarie Saarinen<sup>12</sup> | Mustafa Sahin<sup>13</sup> | Yufeng Shen<sup>14,15</sup> | Elliott H. Sherr<sup>16</sup> |  
Michael S. Watson<sup>17</sup> | Zhanzhi Hu<sup>14,15</sup>

**TABLE 1** Reasons to add highly penetrant neurodevelopmental disorders to newborn screening

- Provides equitable access to a diagnosis.
- Allows better preventives of associated medical issues such as seizures and hearing/vision impairment.
- Facilitates access to early intervention programs to build and maintain skills.
- Avoids a stressful and costly diagnostic odyssey.
- Prepares and empowers families to make more informed decisions and get support from other families with the rare disease.
- Informs family reproductive decision making.
- Catalyzes the development of novel treatments.







## A FEW EXAMPLES

#gene	Included in (/12)	Arguments
<b>DMD</b>	<b>8 lists</b> BabyBeyond BabyScreenP BabySeq BeginNGS Guardian Igenomix Optional: NCNexus NGP	Therapies only for some variants but therapies in development (exon skipping). Referral to specialists for surveillance and early management for severe cardiac events. Orthogonal test
<b>FBN1</b>	<b>4 lists</b> BabyBeyond BabyScreenP BabySeq NCNexus	The majority are adult onset diseases but beta blockers recommended at age 6 (>5) to reduce the risk of aortic dilatation
<b>LDLR</b>	<b>6 lists</b> BabyBeyond BabyScreenP BabySeq Guardian NCNexus Optional: NGP	For heterozygous, meet the Wilson and Junger principles. Lipid lowering therapies are considered by the age of 10 years (>5) in children with heterozygous FH, early education. Orthogonal test But will generate many positives (1/250), equity of access to physician?
<b>NF1</b>	<b>4 lists</b> BabySeq NCNexus Optional: Guardian, BabyBeyond	Early management of ADHD, but difficult to interpret



# ACCEPTABILITY STUDY IN PROFESSIONALS AND COUPLES : THE SeDeN STUDY

SeDeN-p2 : Professionals	SeDeN-p3 : Parents
1199 professionals involved in perinatality	1657 parents of a newborn or children of less than 3 years
81%	88%
in favour of analysing genes known to be responsible for a paediatric-onset disease that can be treated or managed	find it <b>acceptable to detect more diseases</b> at birth using a genetic test



**PERIGEN**  **MED**  
PERINATAL GENOMIC MEDICINE



# NON HYPOTHETICAL EXPERIENCE IS MISSING

**Decliners**



5 YEARS

Collection of reasons + socio-demographic characteristics + some interviews

Interview & PROM

Interview & PROM

Interview & PROM

Satisfaction and perceived utility

Interview & PROM

Satisfaction and perceived utility

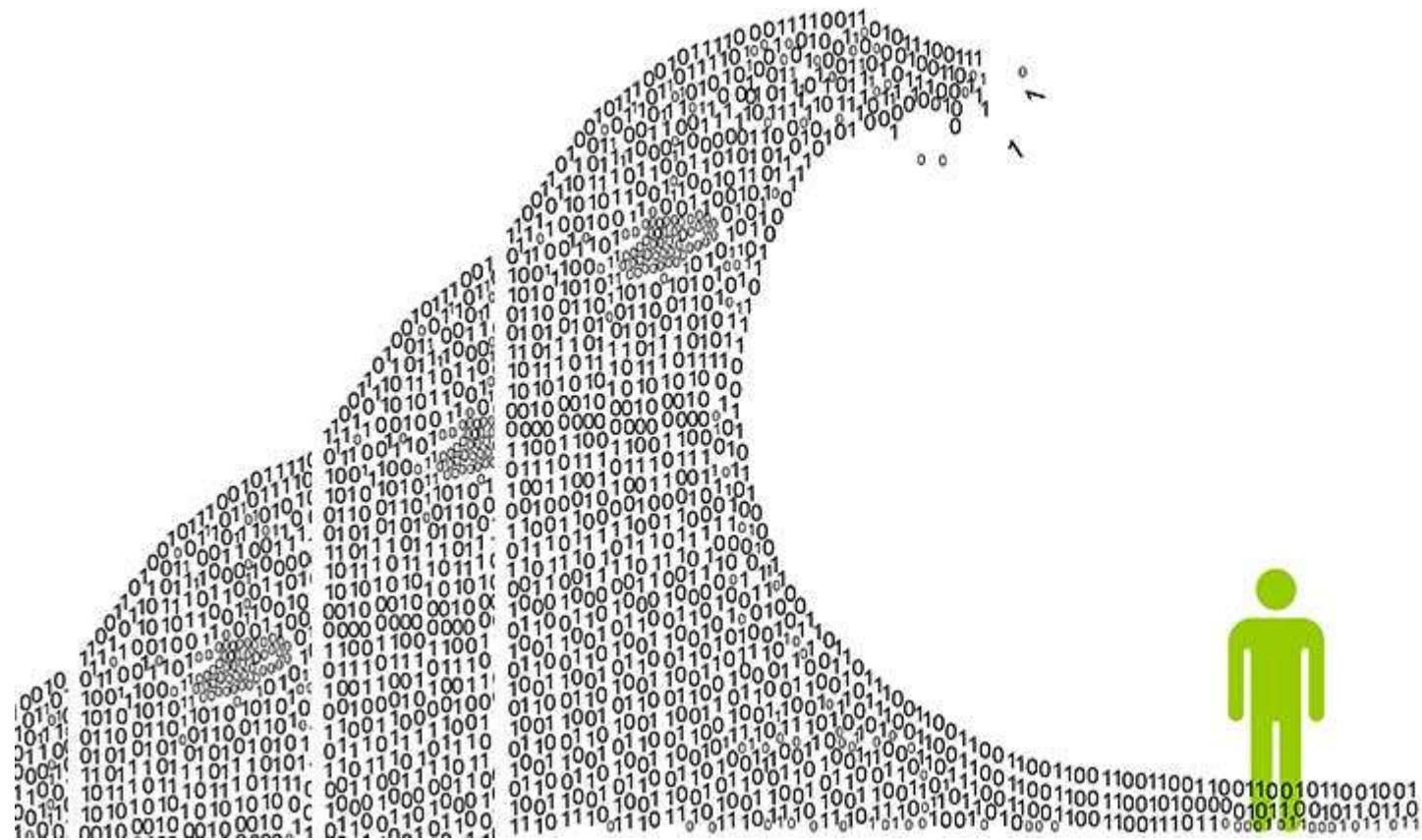
Interview & PROM

Satisfaction and perceived utility



**False +**

# HOW CAN COUPLES CHOOSE?





- **Child best interest**

- But child cannot easily give an opinion on the matter, mainly under the age of 5
- Must exclude diseases that reveal themselves in adulthood, based on experience of pre-symptomatic diagnosis
- But what about diseases with incomplete penetrance/variable expression?
- For treatable diseases, the argument for screening at birth because there is no other opportunity to screen later will probably no longer be valid in 30 years' time
- The question of insurance ?





# CONCLUSION



**gNBS : Need for anticipation, but a lot of questions remain unanswered:**

**Need for pilot projects and exchanges between them around the world**

# Questions?

