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Short presentation

Current research

Population and Forensic genetic applications of mtDNA

Research description
The use of mtDNA in forensic genetics has proven to be an important tool in the analysis of trace samples where nuclear DNA is often degraded and/or present in low amounts. However, the interpretation and reporting of mtDNA still faces challenges, particularly regarding inclusion/exclusion scenarios in inclusive cases, and concerning reporting heteroplasmy. With the emergence of massively parallel sequencing, the threshold for detecting and reporting mtDNA heteroplasmy are changing and becoming more sensitive. More data are needed to evaluate and determine new standards for forensic casework. Furthermore, the somatic mutation rates in different human tissues must be explored to improve the interpretation of forensic evidence.

Employment

PhD fellow
Section of Forensic Genetics
København Ø, Denmark
1 Jun 2023 → nu

Previous working experience

Jan. - Sep. 2022	Postgraduate intern in Genetics, University of Leicester, Department of Genetics and Genome Biology
Jun. - Jul. 2021	Research Assistant in Epigenetics, Erasmus MC, Department of Genetic Identification
Feb. - Jun. 2021	Undergraduate Intern in Epigenetics, Erasmus MC, Department of Genetic Identification
Sep. 2019 - Jan. 2020	Intern Forensic Investigations, Dutch Police

Education

2021-2022	MSc in Molecular Genetics, University of Leicester
2017-2021	BSc in Forensic Science, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences
2020	Exchange semester, Denmark technical University

Language skills

Dutch: Mother tongue
English: Fully proficient
German: Basic skills

Awards and Certificates

1. GE Healthcare Prize 2023, awarded by The University of Leicester.
2. Best graduating student 2020/2021, awarded by The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences