

Resequencing of 40 candidate genes in 960 individuals with higher and lower urinary calcium excretion suggests association with Claudin14

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INTRODUCTION

1. Kidney stones affect ~10% of the population with increasing prevalence (men > women) and high recurrence rate (~50%)
2. Most common stone composition is calcium (Ca²⁺) oxalate (~80% in adult men)
3. Several factors affect stone formation, Hypercalciuria is the main factor, present in ~ 50%
4. Hypothesis: Do rare allelic variations in known candidate genes - associated with kidney stones - affect urinary Ca²⁺ excretion?

Table 1: Selected candidate genes

Candidate Genes	RefSeq ID	Exons			
1. Aconitase	NM_001098	18	20. PIK3C2G	NM_004570	32
2. CASR	NM_000388	7	21. PTH	NM_000315	3
3. Citrate lyase	NM_001096	29	22. PTHR	NM_000316	16
4. Claudin 2	NM_001171092	2	23. ROMK	NM_000338	4
5. Claudin 8	NM_001171092	1	24. SLC12A3	NM_000339	26
6. Claudin 10	NM_001160100	5	25. SLC13A2	NM_001145975	12
7. Claudin 14	NM_001146077	3	26. SLC13A3	NM_001193340	14
8. Claudin 16	NM_006580	4	27. SLC25A1	NM_005984	9
9. Claudin 19	NM_001123395	5	28. SLC26A1	NM34425	4
10. CLCN5	NM_000084	15	29. SLC26A2	NM_000112	2
11. CLCNKA	NM_001042704	20	30. SLC26A6	NM_001040454	21
12. CLCNKB	NM_000085	20	31. SLC34A1	NM_003052	13
13. FGF23	NM_020638	3	32. SLC34A3	NM_001177316	13
14. GCMB	NM_004752	5	33. SLC4A1	NM_000342	20
15. Klotho	NM_004795	5	34. SLC4A2	NM_003040	23
16. NHERF1	NM_004252	6	35. SLC4A3	NM_005070	23
17. NHERF2	NM_001130012	7	36. TRPV5 / CaT2	NM_019841	14
18. NKCC2	NM_000220	27	37. TRPV6 / CaT1	NM_018646	15
19. PDZK1	NM_002614	10	38. UMOD	NM_001008389	11
			39. VDR	NM_000376	11
			40. WNK4	NM_032387	19

Table 2: DNA pooling of 960 subjects with higher vs. lower urinary Ca²⁺ excretion

Cohort	# of pools (sets of 15 + 20 samples)	# of individuals
NHS I, high urinary Ca ²⁺	7 (4 x 15 + 3 x 20)	120
NHS II, high urinary Ca ²⁺	6 (6 x 20)	120
HPFS, high urinary Ca ²⁺	13 (4 x 15 + 9 x 20)	240
NHS I, low urinary Ca ²⁺	7 (4 x 15 + 3 x 20)	120
NHS II, low urinary Ca ²⁺	6 (6 x 20)	120
HPFS, low urinary Ca ²⁺	13 (4 x 15 + 9 x 20)	240

-> 52 sample pools

METHODS

1. Study population: 960 individuals with higher and lower urinary Ca²⁺ excretion selected from Nurses Health Study (NHS I&II; >236,000 females) and Health Professional Follow-up Study (HPFS; > 51,000 males) based on availability of DNA, 24h urine collection data (Ca²⁺, oxalate, citrate, phosphate) and medical history.
2. N = 40 candidate genes were selected based on disease-causing ability in human, feasibility to perform functional studies and preliminary genome wide association study (GWAS) data.
3. Re-sequencing technology: Target DNA enrichment utilizing RainDance (droplet-based) PCR technology (RDT) and next-generation sequencing (NGS) on the Illumina platform.

Figure 1: Droplet-based target enrichment

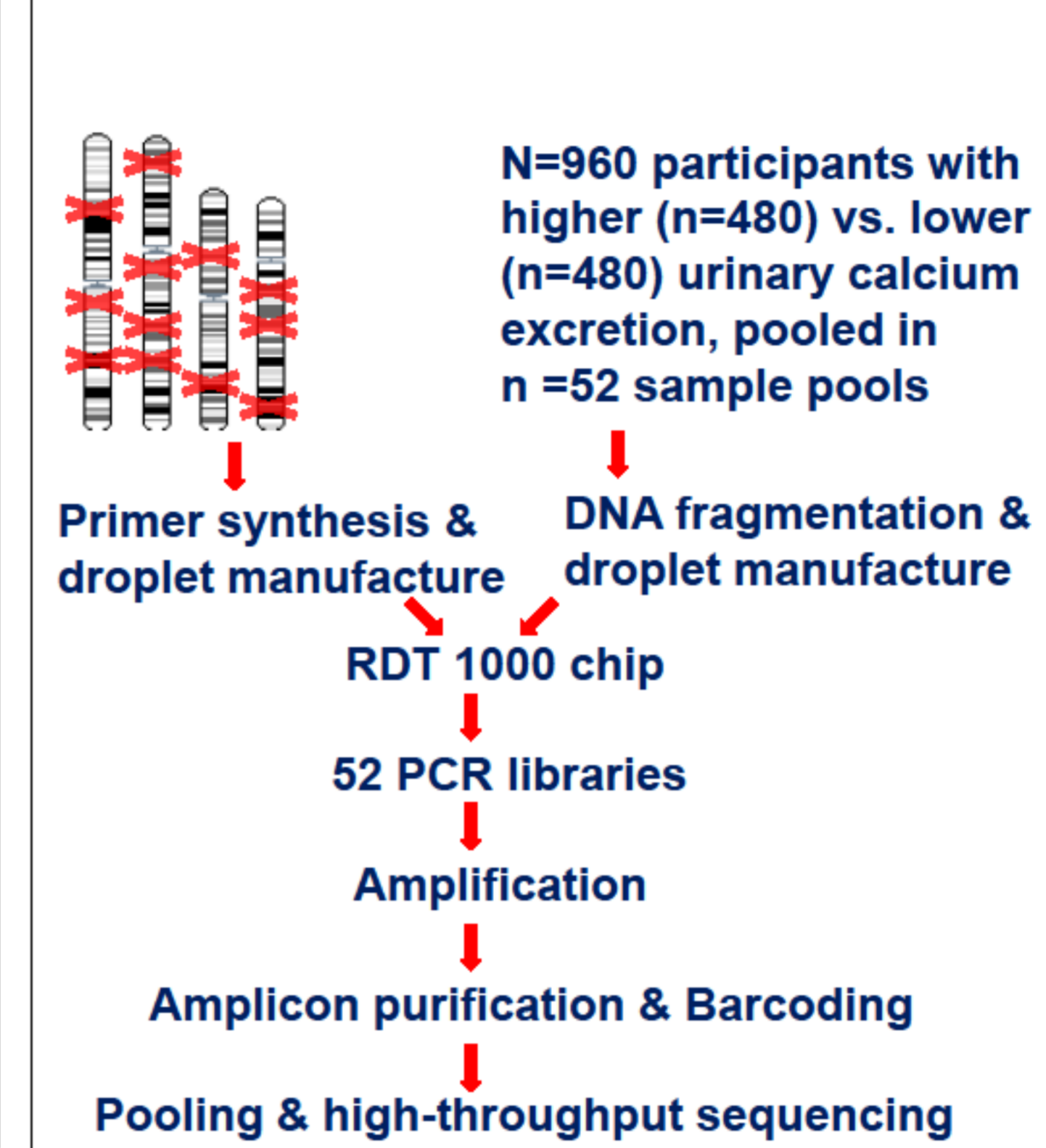
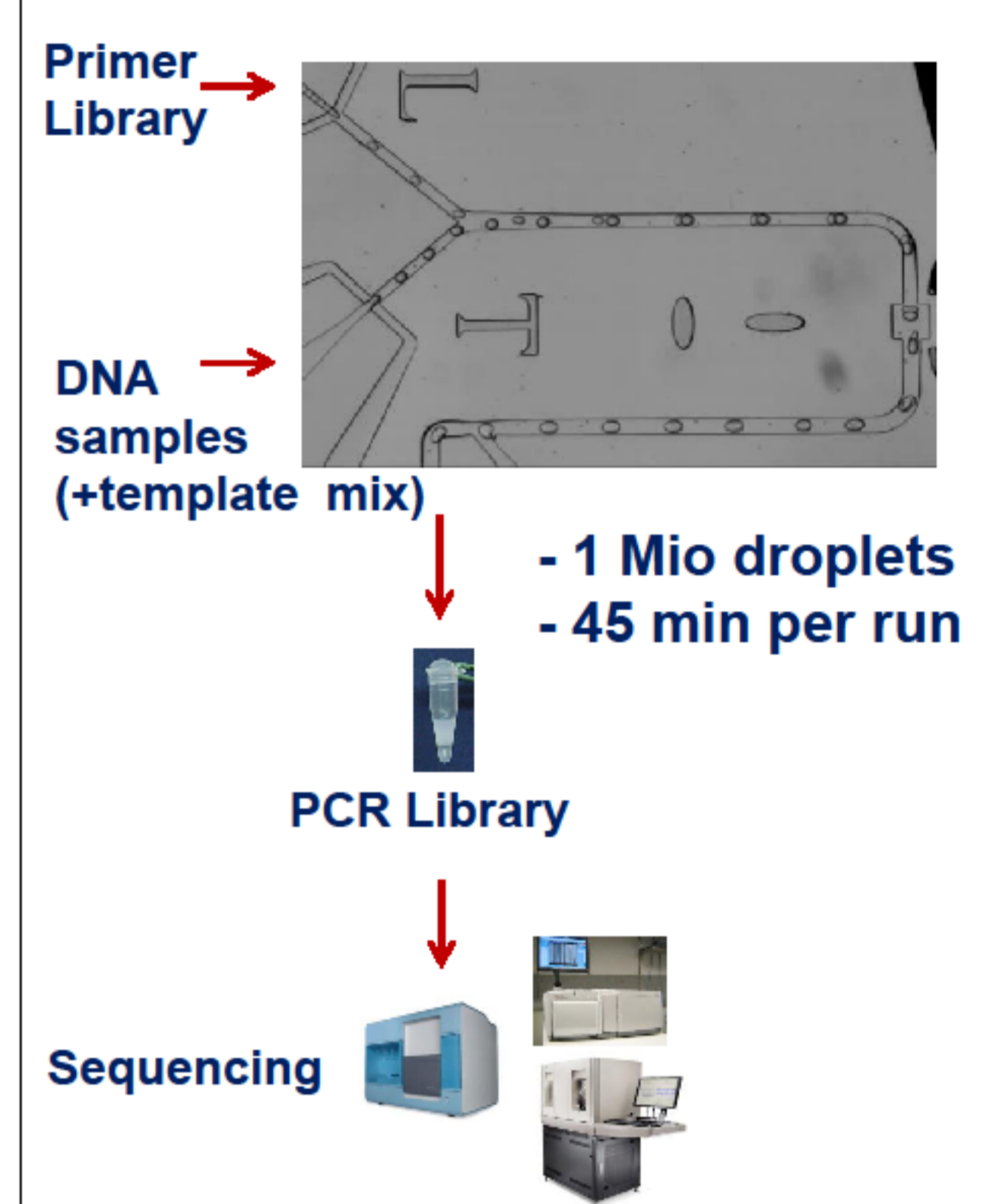


Figure 2: RainDance technology



RESULTS

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Table 3: N = 615 samples with successful > 20x sequence coverage

	Higher urinary Ca ²⁺ n=260 (210-465 mg/d)		Lower urinary Ca ²⁺ n=355 (18-165 mg/d)	
	Stone, n=164	No stone, n=96	Stone, n=182	No stone, n=173
Ca ²⁺ (mg/d)	319.5 57	309.4 55.9	99.7 36.7	100.9 35.2
Age	58.8 9.6	59.7 8.4	63.9 10.8	61.4 8.3
BMI	27.7 5.3	27.0 4.8	27.7 6.0	26.0 4.5

Figure 3: Total of 1,572 sequence nucleotide variants (SNVs) identified with Szygy software

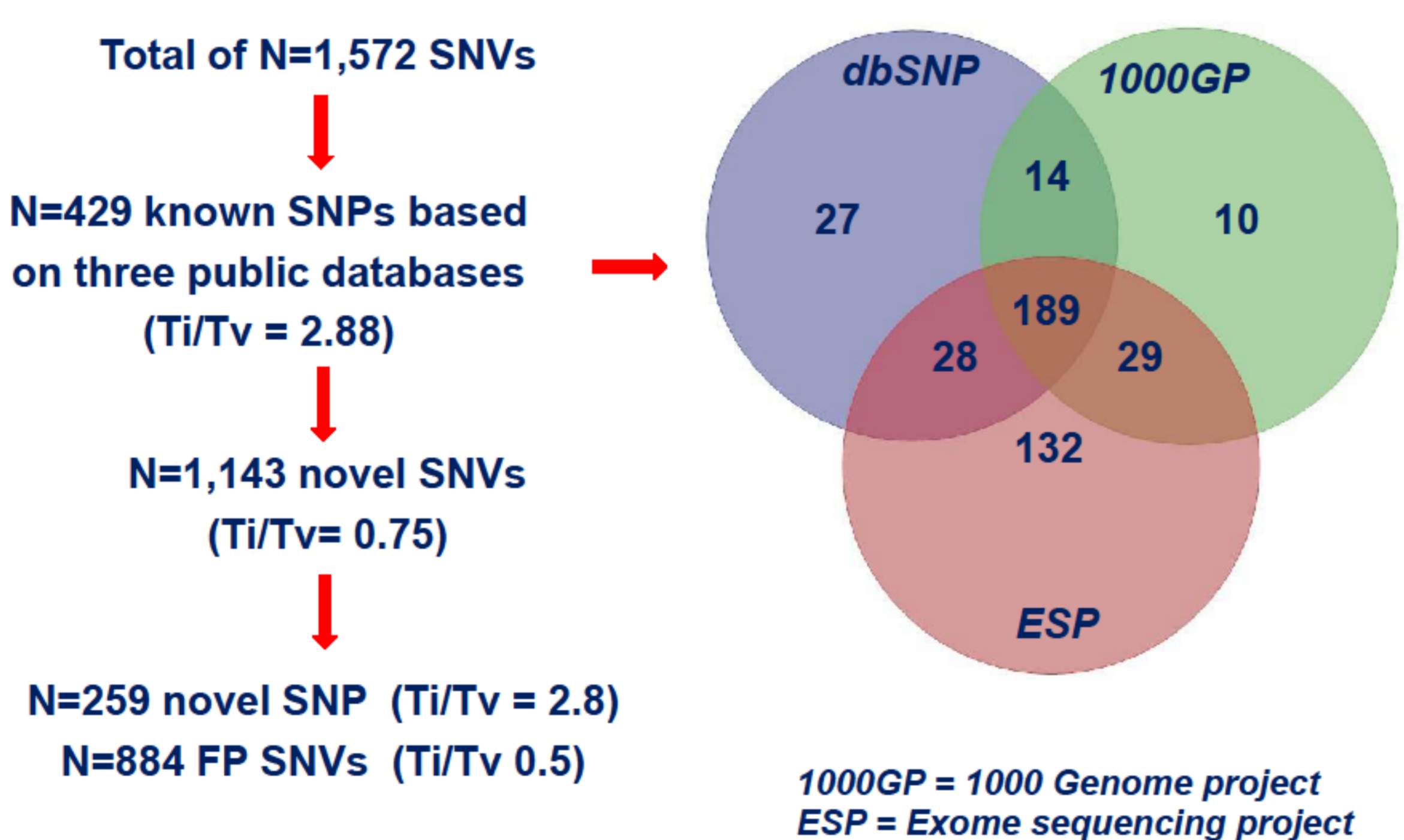


Figure 4: Known and novel SNVs

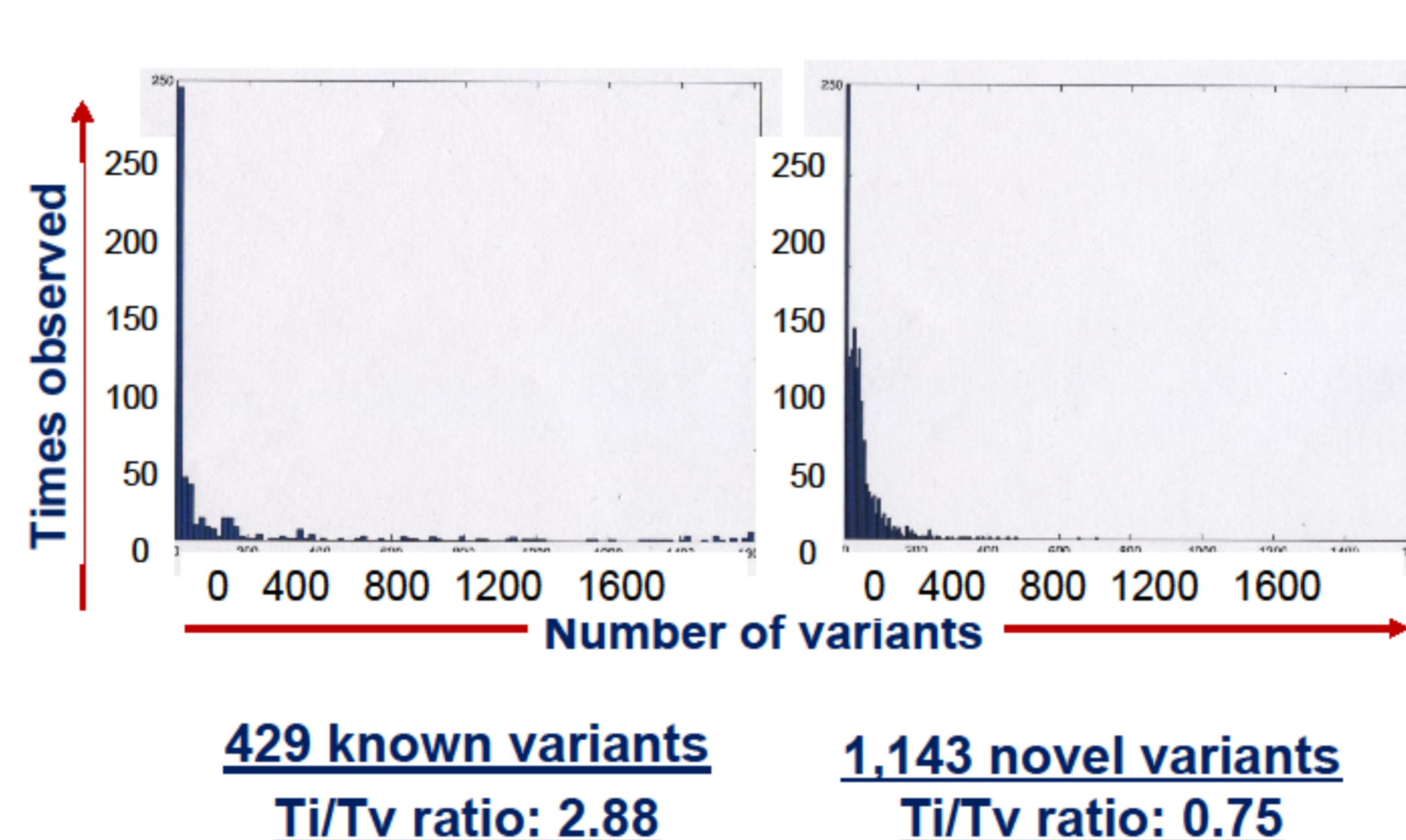


Figure 5: Distribution of SNVs seen ≤ 3 times versus > 3 times

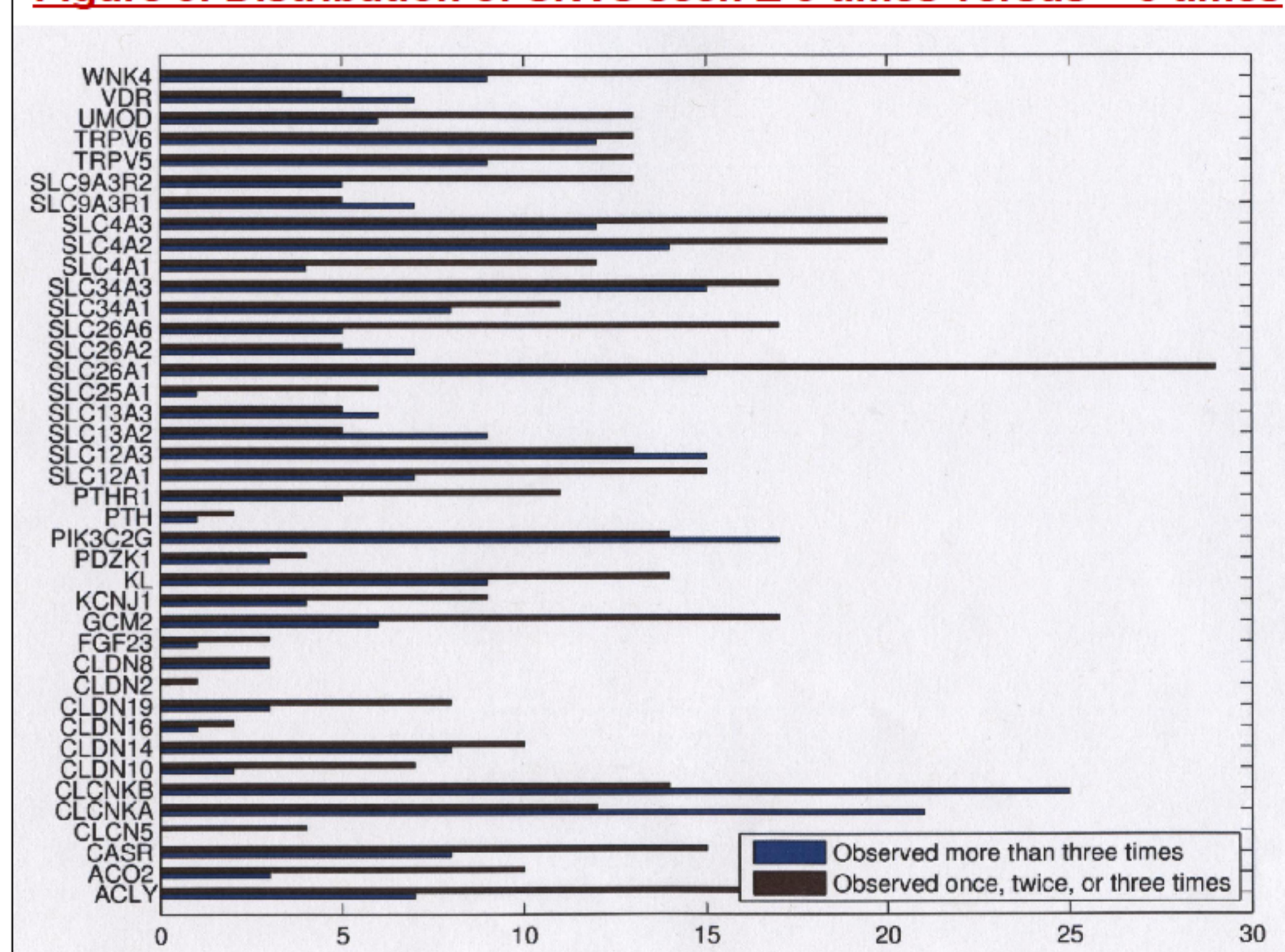


Table 4: Claudin14 SNPs with unadjusted Chi-square P values: rs113831133 suggests association with lower urinary Ca²⁺

SNP ID (rs..)	Class	Nucleotide	Lower Urine Ca ²⁺	Higher Urine Ca ²⁺	P value
-	Miss.	c.664G>T	2.2%(16/710)	1.5%(8/520)	0.41
219779	Silent	c.243C>T	24.2%(172/710)	23.8%(124/520)	0.89
113831133	Miss.	c.11C>T	4.1%(29/710)	1.1%(6/520)	0.003
74934405	Silent	c.333A>C	4.1%(29/710)	4.4%(23/520)	0.77
219780	Silent	c.687G>A	18.4%(131/710)	18.9%(98/520)	0.82

SUMMARY

1. Analysis of rare allelic variants (frequency<2%) in 40 genes associated with Ca²⁺ based kidney stone disease did not produce any significant results; no difference of SNP frequencies was observed in lower vs. higher urinary Ca²⁺ excretion groups in the tested population
2. Unadjusted analysis of more common variants (frequency 2-5%) suggested association with Claudin14 (CLDN14) SNP rs113831133 (P value = 0.003). When corrected for multiple comparison, this finding didn't reach statistical significance.
3. Two common synonymous SNPs (rs219779, rs219780) in CLDN14 were associated with kidney stones and bone mineral density in a large Icelandic GWAS (Thorleifsson et al, 2009); these SNPs did not show any association in our study. Furthermore, CLDN14 has been shown to be an important regulator of paracellular Ca²⁺ transport and re-absorption in the thick ascending limb. Our data combined with these studies suggest an important role for CLDN14 in urinary Ca²⁺ excretion.
4. Additional genes may need to be re-sequenced in appropriate sample sets to test the hypothesis that the combination of rare coding allelic variants determine predisposition to urinary Ca²⁺ excretion and/or kidney stones.

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