



Nome News Issue 8

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Draft Human Nomenclature Guidelines

The [draft human guidelines](#) are now online. This draft is a discussion document and any feedback and comments will be much appreciated, please send them to hgnc@genenames.org

The guidelines include a number of new ideas for assigning [symbols](#) to: polycistronic genes, [FAM genes](#) (families of unknown function), predicted genes (*in silico*), intronic transcripts, [antisense](#), and untranslated mRNAs, pseudogenes. They also include suggestions for naming [gene duplications](#), and [splice variants](#), and clarification on [species designation](#).

The guidelines will be proposed at the [Nomenclature Workshop](#) (preceding ASHG2001)

Meetings

Dr Hester Wain recently represented the HGNC at the Natural Killer Receptor polymorphism workshop at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, UK (27-29 July 2001). This has generated ratification of the approved nomenclature for the following gene families:

[KIR](#)

[KLR](#)

[LILR](#)

Public Accession IDs

We have updated the Genew database with sequence accession IDs that can be made publicly available. To maintain complete security of confidential data these were generated by mapping linked symbol and accession IDs from Genew to those with correct symbol/accession links already visible in either [LocusLink](#) or [SWISS-PROT](#). Initially, matched accession IDs for 5,411 symbols were generated and along with curated updates these are now exported weekly to:

<http://www.gene.ucl.ac.uk/public-files/>

[nomen/ens6.txt](#). These will eventually be searchable via our online database.

HGNC website

The HGNC homepage has been updated to incorporate more links and some new HGNC pages. These include:

[Public Understanding of Science](#)

We have developed this site to provide easy access to public understanding of science and related information on the Web. This includes typical questions the general public might ask and places they could find the relevant answers.

[Commercial Users](#)

We have had increasing numbers of enquiries recently about the use of our data by commercial organisations. Our policy on this is now clearly stated online.

[FTP](#)

We disabled our anonymous FTP site in February 2001, this webpage provides information for guest users and links to our downloadable database files.

[Perl codes](#)

This directory contains links to scripts used by HGNC.

[FAQs](#)

Twenty-four frequently asked questions about gene nomenclature.

New Gene Family Webpages

[secretoglobins](#)

[sodium channels](#)

HGNC Website Approval

We have indicated "**HGNC approved**" for consistent use of approved nomenclature in any website linked from our [Gene Family Webpage](#)

Please let us know if your website still needs approval.

If you would like to be added to our Nome News mailing list or if you have questions or comments on any human gene nomenclature issue, please email us at: hgnc@genenames.org