



Nome News Issue 35

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Upcoming Meetings

HGM2006

The 11th HUGO Human Genome Meeting, [HGM2006](#), will be held from 31st May-3rd June 2006 in Helsinki, Finland. The HGNC will be attending this meeting, please come and see us in booth number 27.

RNA 2006 Annual Meeting

The [11th meeting](#) of the [RNA Society](#) will be held from 20th-25th June in Seattle, USA. Kate will be representing the HGNC for the first time at this meeting. She will introduce the new nomenclature for genes encoding small nucleolar RNAs and canvas for opinion on gene nomenclature for 'Transcripts of Unknown Function' and other non-coding RNAs.

Meetings Attended

NC-IUPHAR Meeting

Matt was invited to attend the NC-IUPHAR Meeting (Paris, France) on 21st-23rd April 2006, where he gave a presentation. The HGNC have already successfully co-ordinated with members of the NC-IUPHAR on the nomenclature for several gene families (including the voltage-gated ion channels), and so discussions focussed on further improving this collaboration and strengthening links between our two committees.

snoRNA Gene Nomenclature Update

Recently the HGNC proposed a unified nomenclature system for genes encoding small nucleolar RNAs and small Cajal body-specific RNAs. Following discussion with the research community the following nomenclature has been adopted by the HGNC: SNORA# (small nucleolar RNA, H/ACA box #), SNORD# (small nucleolar RNA, C/D box #) and SCARNA# (small Cajal body-specific RNA #).

Blood Group Determination, Complement System and CD Molecule Genes

The approved nomenclature for the [blood group determination](#), [complement system](#) and [CD](#) molecule genes has been revised. This follows consultation with: Geoff Daniels (ISBT Committee on Terminology for Red Cell Surface Antigens), Bob Sim (MRC Immunochemistry Unit, Oxford), Laurence Boumsell (IUIS Nomenclature Committee) and many others.

The majority of designations for the genes involved in blood group determination are now based on known gene function, rather than the blood group antigen. All genes known to be involved in the complement system now have "complement" in the gene name. "Antigen" has been replaced with "molecule" in the gene name for approved CD#s. More information can be found by viewing these gene records in the [HGNC database](#).

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

NEW Hot Topic

Nomenclature in Other Species

The authority for HGNC to name human genes derived originally from the human genetics community and has, in general, been accepted by others with an interest in human genes. Working in parallel with the Mouse Genomic Nomenclature Committee we have developed nomenclature which has been adopted by the species-specific nomenclature committees of other mammals and some more distant species. However, there are several mammalian species which, as far as we are aware, do not have a dedicated gene nomenclature committee. Examples include the chimp, macaque and dog. In principle, should the HGNC take on the task of naming the genes in some of these species? And if so, which?

See here for details and email your comments and suggestions to us at hgnc@genenames.org

Human Gene Ontology Annotation (HUGOA)

During the past year the HGNC has been adding gene ontology (GO) terms to the Gene Ontology database using the Uniprot GO annotation tool at EBI. In recognition of the contributions being made to GO, HGNC is now listed as a [GO](#) associate.

Publications

Wright MW, Bruford EA. **Human and orthologous gene nomenclature.** *Gene*. 2006 Mar 15;369:1-6. PMID: [16431039](#)

Taylor TD...Bruford EA *et al.* **Human chromosome 11 DNA sequence and analysis including novel gene identification.** *Nature*. 2006 Mar 23;440(7083):497-500. PMID: [16554811](#)

Scherer SE...Lovering RC *et al.* **The finished DNA sequence of human chromosome 12.** *Nature*. 2006 Mar 16;440(7082):346-51. PMID: [16541075](#)

Zody MC...Sneddon KMB *et al.* **Analysis of the DNA sequence and duplication history of human chromosome 15.** *Nature*. 2006 Mar 30;440(7084):671-5. PMID: [16572171](#)