



Vieira Lab Newsletter

Lab Meeting Schedule

- **When: January 9, 2007, 12:30**

Where: 403 Salk

Topic: Update on Research

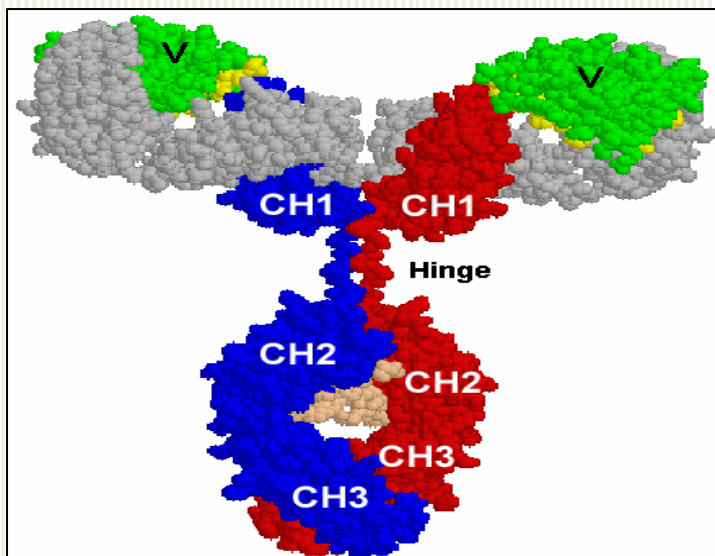
Presenter: Alex Vieira

- **When: January 23, 2007 12:30**

Where: 403 Salk

Topic: Update on 6q Study

Presenter: Ariadne Letra



Representation of an immunoglobulin*V: variable domain; CH1, CH2, CH3: constant domain of the heavy chain
The C-REGIONS, shown in red and blue for better view, are **identical**.
The V-D-J-REGIONS are shown in green (V) and yellow (D-J)

*Image modified from
IMGT Marie-Paule Lefranc
website

Lab News

PVRL1 (poliovirus receptor like-1 gene), a member of the immunoglobulin super family that acts in the initiation and maintenance of epithelial adherens junctions and is mutated in the cleft lip and palate/ectodermal dysplasia 1 syndrome (CLPED1), was shown to possibly make a minor contribution to isolated forms of clefts in a recent paper published in the American Journal of Medical Genetics, in which Dr. Vieira coauthors. Dr. Vieira's specific contributions to this work included testing if maternal viral infection during the prenatal period could adversely affect the frequency of clefting in the child. Over 1000 Iowan, Danish, Filipino, and South American families were studied. This paper is featured in the December issue of the journal and its complete reference is "Avila JR, Jezewski PA, Vieira AR, Orioli IM, Castilla EE, Christensen K, Daack-Hirsch S, Romitti PA, Murray JC. 2006. PVRL1 variants contribute to non-syndromic cleft lip and palate in multiple populations. Am J Med Genet Part A 140A:2562-2570.

Dental Registry and DNA Repository News

Having collected saliva samples from a total of 198 subjects, the Dental Registry and DNA Repository (DRDR) continues to steadily increase its number of willing participants. These patients donate both their DNA, and the use of their clinical chart information to serve as a research tool to study complex dental diseases and conditions.

The DRDR also featured a poster presentation in the Pennsylvania Cancer Control Consortium's (PAC³) annual Research Summit in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on November 30, 2006. There, the DRDR was presented as a dual-topic along with the Pittsburgh Oral Facial Cleft study. The abstract entitled, "Research Program on Craniofacial Genetics, A Two-Fold Initiative," discussed the ways in which the DRDR can be utilized to study the genetics of cleft lip and palate and oral cancer. The poster presentation and abstract also provide greater awareness for the connection between cleft lip and palate and the increased risk of several types of cancer. To view a picture of the poster presentation on the PAC³ website, visit: <http://www.pac3.org/events/researchsummit/2006summitweb/DSC00257.JPG>

If you have any questions, or if you would like to participate in the DRDR, please contact Jill Schaefer at 412.383.5944 or at jss73@dental.pitt.edu

For questions, comments or suggestions please e-mail Monica Varela at moc7@dental.pitt.edu

Happy Holidays!



Wishing you and your family a safe and Happy Holiday on behalf of the Vieira lab.