

The Human Genome Project 2 and Precision Public Health

A HUGO Workshop coordinated by HUGO Committee on Ethics, Law and Society and BGI

Human Genome Meeting 2026: “Bringing our Genomes to Medicine”

Workshops 21st April // Main Meeting 22nd to 24th April, 2026

Athens, Greece

<https://www.hugo-hgm2026.org/>



The Human Genome Organization (HUGO) was founded in anticipation of the public Human Genome Project (HGP) as a forum for international coordination of genomic research. HUGO has, over the years, provided guidance on genomic science. In 2000, the HUGO Ethics Committee statement on Benefit Sharing stated that “beyond the individual, the family, or the population, there is a common shared interest in the genetic heritage of mankind. Therefore, the Human Genome Project should benefit all humanity.” The HGP was declared completed in 2003. The Genomic Era has become a metaphor for ‘The Book of Life’: though the reference is merely a blueprint for the human species, developments in precision public health – disease prevention, diagnosis and treatment on a population level – has begun to see health improvements in some communities. However, the finished human reference genome was a composite of several individual genomes; it was not (nor was it meant to be) representative of every human being. The more recent, ongoing Human Pangenome Reference Consortium thus seeks to increase the representation of diverse populations’ reference genomes worldwide.

The aspirations for the international Human Genome Project 2 (HGP2) envisages bringing clinically actionable insights from global genomic knowledge to every person, everywhere, to empower all to live longer and healthier lives. The fruits of this endeavor include global representation and collaboration, and coordination at the scale and scope required to overcome challenges of access for all to the benefits. HGP2 aims to catalyze a paradigm shift in connecting the knowledge of the genome with enhanced public health and improved health economic outcomes.

In this workshop, we will discuss the principles that ground HGP2 in emerging practices, and how these benefit various aspects of global genome-stratified medicine and local clinical implementation of personalized medicine interventions.

Each session will have a short, high-level introduction, followed by open workshop discussion.

1. Note: workshops start on Tuesday 21st April
2. Programme subject to change
3. Venue to be confirmed
4. Participants for the ethics workshop will have to register for (and will have access to) the Human Genome Meeting: <https://congress.congressworld.gr/hugo-genome-2026/>
5. For more information, please email benjamin.capps@dal.ca

Tuesday 21st April

9.00am-9.30: Welcome and Opening Remarks – Introducing the Human Genome Project 2

Liu Weibin, BGI

9.30-10.00 Session 1: Collecting Genomes

Benjamin Capps, Dalhousie University, Canada

What Does One Health tell us About Genomics?

10.00-10.30 Session 2: Sharing Genomes

Deborah Mascalzoni, Uppsala University, Sweden & Eurac, Italy

Diversity and inclusion of different paradigm thinking towards HGP2

10.30-10.50 Break: Informal Meetups

10.50-11.20 Session 3: Accessing Genomes

Francis P. Crawley, CODATA IDPC, Belgium

Reflections on Data Visitation

11.20-11.50 Session 4: Precision Public Health

Johnathan LoTempio Jr., University of Pennsylvania, USA

What Does a HGP2 Biobank Look Like?

11.50-12.20 Future Directions: Open Discussion

Moderator: Dawn Chen, Harvard University, USA

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12.20-12.30 Concluding Remarks

Lunch: 12.30