Chromosomes and Karyotypes

Review of Chromosomes

Super coiled DNA Structure: It may be A single coiled DNA molecule



Chromosomes



Or after replication, it may be two coiled DNA molecules held together at the center. – The area it is held together is called the "centromere." - Chromatid: Each DNA molecule in a double stranded chromosome (therefore, each replicated chromosome has 2 chromatids).

Chromosomes

Humans have 46 chromosomes
 – 23 chromosomes from Mom
 – 23 chromosomes from Dad

Two Types of Chromosomes:

1. Autosomes

ALL chromosomes except the sex chromosomes
 22 pairs (Chromosomes #1-22)



Two Types of Chromosomes:

2. Sex Chromosomes:

1 pair (human chromosome #23)

Determine the sex of an organism

– In mammals & fruit flies XX is female, XY is male







THE OTHER 22 OTHER PAIRS OF CHROMOSOMES ARE THE SAME.

Two Types of Cells

- 1. Somatic Cells:
 - All cells of the body
- 2. Sex Cells:
 - Egg and Sperm

1. Somatic Cells:

Chromosomes are Homologues:

"Homo" means same.

- Homologous chromosomes are the same size and shape, and carry genes for the same traits.
- Called a "homologous pair"

Figure B-11: Homologous Chromosomes

Homologous chromosomes contain DNA Homologous regions code that codes for the same genes. In this for the same gene. example, both chromosomes have all the same genes in the same locations (represented with colored strips), but different 'versions' of those genes (represented by the different shades of each color). 11 15 11 35 35 H 64 66 81 46 81 66 08 80 65 22 22 24 22 33 AA AA ## Sister chromatids are exact replicas but homologous chromosomes are not

Homologous Chromosomes

- Humans have 23 homologous pairs in all cells except sex cells
 - Cells with 23 homologous pairs care called "DIPLOID" or <u>2N</u>
 - N stands for number of unique chromosomes
 - Cells with 23 homologous pairs are called "somatic cells"
 - In humans, all cells except sperm and egg are somatic cells

2. Sex cells (sperm and egg)

- only have one of each chromosome
 - No homologous pairs
 - Called "<u>HAPLOID</u>" or <u>N</u> (think "half")
 - Sex Cells are called "<u>GAMETES</u>."



HUMANS, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH 46 CHROMOSOMES, REALLY HAVE 23* HOMOLOGOUS PAIRS: ONE FROM EACH PAIR COMES FROM MOM AND ONE FROM DAD.



*WITH ONE EXCEPTION, THE SEX CHROMOSOME. WE'LL EXPLAIN LATER!







THUS, THERE ARE REALLY ALREADY TWO COPIES OF EVERY CHROMOSOME IN THE CELL. THESE ARE CALLED "HOMOLOGOUS PAIRS"---"HOMOLOGOUS" MEANING "SAME SHAPE."

A picture of the chromosomes in which the chromosomes arranged in matching (homologous) pairs



- Arranged in size order from largest pair to smallest pair
- The sex chromosomes (X and Y) are usually the last pair, though they are not the smallest.









How are they used?

 They are used for diagnosis of genetic abnormality based on the number of chromosomes.

They are used to determine the sex of an unborn child.

How are they prepared?

- Cells are collected from a variety of sources:
 - Amniotic fluid via a pre-natal "amniocentesis"

Blood Sample



How are they prepared?

- Sample of cells are allowed to continue dividing
- Cells are stopped when in
 METAPHASE of MITOSIS.



- A photograph of the chromosomes is taken and enlarged.
- A trained technician matches the chromosomes into the homologous pairs based on three characteristics:
 - Size
 - Banding
 - Centromere position



Normal:

 Have 2 matching chromosomes for each of the 23 pairs

Aneuploidy:

 Having one more or one less of one of the chromosomes of the 23 pairs.

Monosomy: Missing one chromosome of one of the pairs

- Turner's syndrome; Monosomy 23
 - Missing one of the X chromosomes
 - Female who is X0 instead of XX



Symptoms:

- Short stature
- Webbed neck
- Lack of secondary sex characteristics
- A hollow appearance to the chest
- Lack of menstruation
- Low hairline
- "Droopy" eyelids



- Trisomy: An extra chromosome of one of the pairs
 - Down syndrome; Trisomy 21
 - Extra chromosome #21 (so, there are 3

chromosome #21)

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Incidence

- One of the most common chromosomal abnormalities
- Frequency varies a lot according to the age of the mother.
 - The rate is only 1 in 2,000 for women 20 years old
 - In those 40 or older, it is 1 birth in 100.



Genetic Disorders

Symptoms:

- Small head, flattened in the back
- Broad, flat face
- Relatively small eyes, turned up at the outer corners
- Oversize tongue in a small mouth
- Single horizontal line across the palm, instead of the usual "head" and "heart" lines
- Short stature, with short limbs and stubby fingers







Genetic Disorders

- Kleinfelter's
 Syndrome; Trisomy
 23
 - Extra sex chromosome
 - Male who is XXY instead of XY
 - The most common sex chromosome abnormality in males



Genetic Disorders

Symptoms:

- Arm span exceeds height by more that an inch.
- No or very little body hair and no facial hair.
- High voice
- Minimal muscle growth in arms/legs
- Small testicles
- Breast Tissue (not just fat, but actually firm breasts)
- Low Testosterone Level