

# DNA typing for genetic diseases investigation and human identification



1893



2012

Institut Pasteur in Tunis

**Rym KEFI**

Associate Professor

[www.pasteur.tn](http://www.pasteur.tn)

# Outline

**I- Institut Pasteur in Tunis**



**II- Laboratory of Biomedical Genomics and Oncogenetics:**

➤ Molecular investigation of genetic disorders

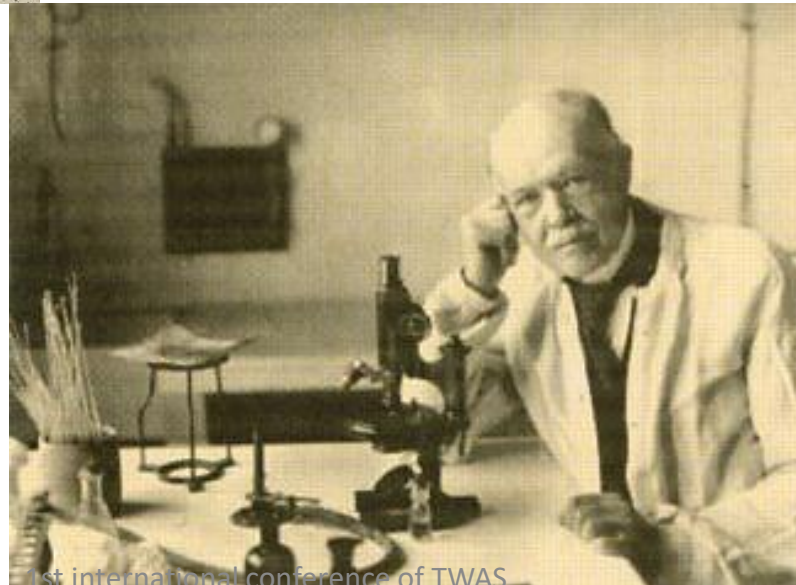
**III- Genetic typing core facility**

# I- Institut Pasteur de Tunis

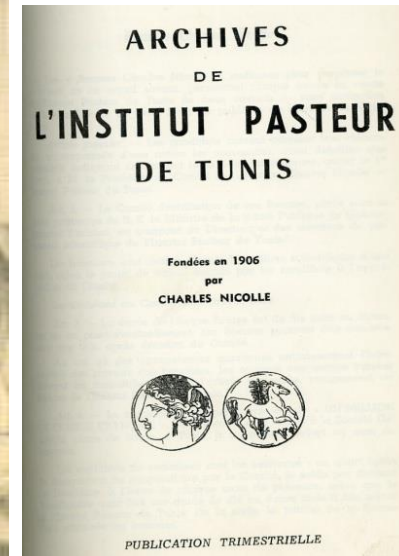
[www.pasteur.tn](http://www.pasteur.tn)



- **Founded in 1893 by Adrian Loir**
- **Directed from 1903 to 1936 by Charles Nicolle, Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1928**



1st international conference of TWAS  
young affiliates Network





Le Réseau International des Instituts Pasteur

**Institut Pasteur International Network consists of 33 institutes throughout the world.**

# Missions of IPT (1)

## 1- To provide diagnostic services in human and animal pathology

18 laboratories: biochemistry, hormonology, toxicology, hematology, immunology, genetic diseases, cellular pathology and food control

➤ National and International reference centers in many diseases (Leishmaniasis, Measles, Poliovirus, HPV, Salmonella, Cholera, Rabies, Malaria).

➤ International Vaccination centre

➤ Anti-rabies vaccination center



# Missions of IPT (2)

## 2- to product vaccines and therapeutic sera

- BCG
- anti- scorpion
- Anti-rabies



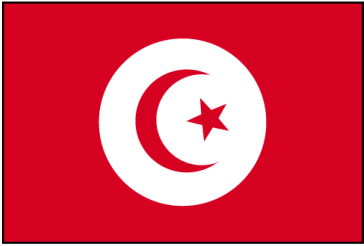
# Mission of IPT (3)

3- to conduct research and training in the field of public health

**9 research laboratories in IPT**

The present research activity focuses mainly on:

- *Epidemiology and Immunology of the infectious diseases (leishmanioses, tuberculosis, viral hepatites, rabies, papillomavirus, mycoplasmoses )*
- Molecular investigation in genetic disorders
- *Biotechnologic development (design of new vaccines and molecules therapeutic by the means of genetic engineering).*



Population: 10, 67 millions (2011)



Tunisia is located at a crossroads of Europe, the Middle East, and sub-Saharan Africa.



# Prehistoric period (40.000 years BP)

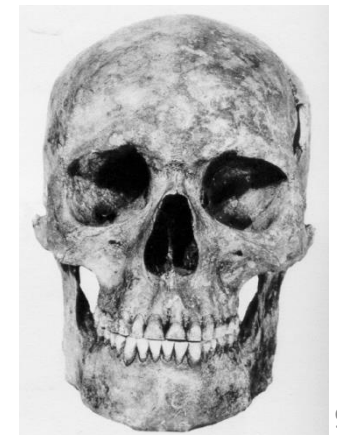
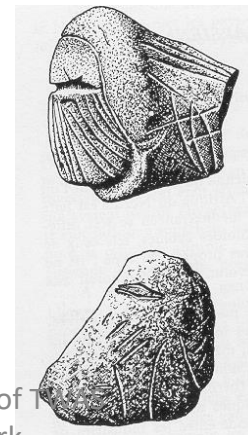
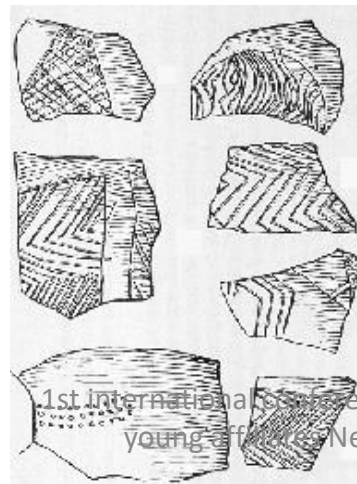
➤ Aterian civilization



➤ the Iberomaurusian civilization



➤ The Capsian civilization



# Historic period (3.000 years BP)

- **In the Historic period** : Berbers, called also “Imazighen”, belong to the most ancient group which seems to have Capsians as local ancestors



Along its 3000 years of history, Tunisia was successively under the reign of :

- the Phoenicians (3rd century),
- the Romans (starting from 154),
- the Vandals (beginning 6th)
- the Byzantine
- the Arab conquest (7th century)



Roman temple

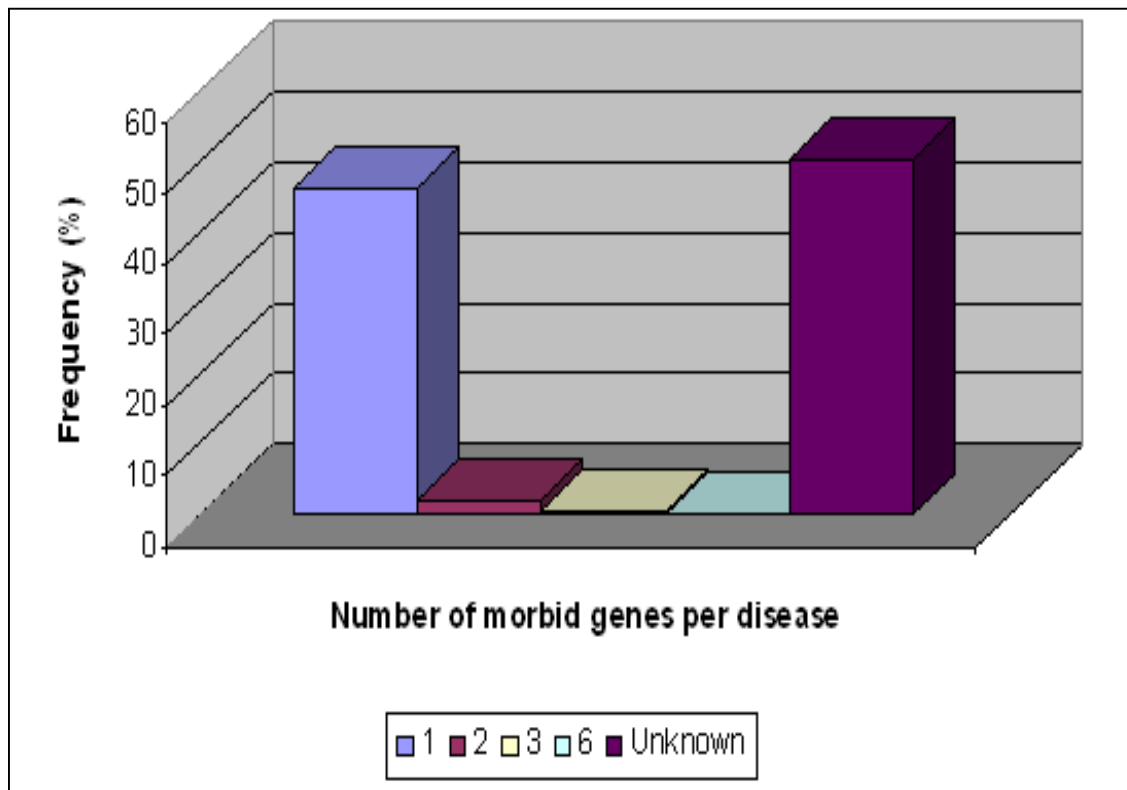
Currently Tunisia is witnessing an epidemiological transition.



- an improvement in the control of some infectious diseases
- decrease of child and maternal mortality.
  
- challenged by the increase of monogenic diseases

More than 340 genetic diseases

For >50% the molecular basis is still unknown!





T2diabetes 10 to 12 %  
Metabolic syndrome 30%



Fkih et al, 2013  
IDF Atlas diabetes 2016  
WHO reports



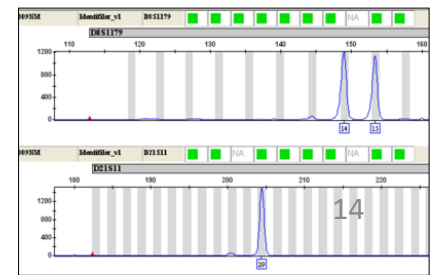
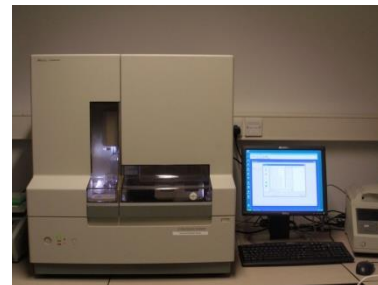
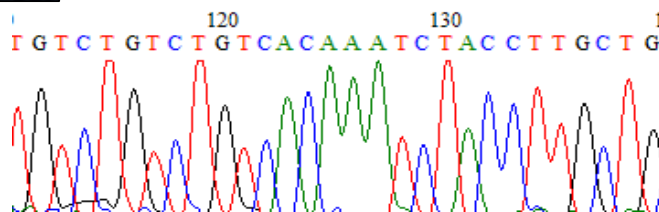
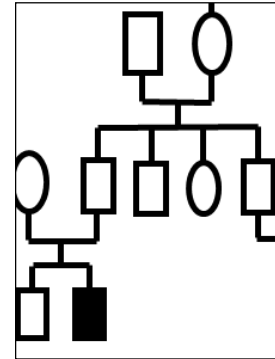
# (1) Investigation of genetic disorders

## Objectives

- Identification of mutations causing genetic disorders
- Development of simple molecular tools for the diagnosis of genetic diseases

## Strategy :

- Collection of clinical and genealogical data
- Collection of biological material
- Sequencing (classic or NGS)



- Metabolic disorders:
  - *Glycogenosis: G6PC*
  - *Gaucher: GBA*
  - *Wilson: ATP7B*
- *Renal diseases:*
  - *Distal renal tubular acidosis: ATP6V1B1, ATP6V0A4*
- Genodermatosis and DNA repair diseases
  - *Xeroderma pigmentosum: XPA, XPC, POLH*
  - *Fanconi Anemia: FANCA*
  - *EBD: COL7A1*
- Neurosensory disorders.
  - Hereditary hearing loss: *GJB2, GJB6*



## (2) Investigation of multifactorial diseases

### Objective:

the genetic characterization of T2D and metabolic syndrome in the Tunisian and North African populations .

# Strategy



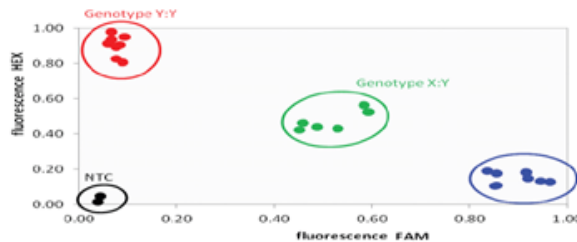
**340 patients**



**345 controls**



Collection of clinical and genealogical data and biological material



Genotyping of SNP



Comparison of the allelic and genotype distribution between patients and controls using statistical tools.

## Results

- Variants in the *KCNJ11* (ATP-sensitive potassium) gene and *IGF2BP2* (Insulin Like Growth Factor 2 mRNA Binding Protein 2) increase the risk of T2D in Tunisia and Mauritania  
Risk factor from 2 to 3.6 .
- New candidate genes for MetS in the Tunisian population such as *FTO* (fat mass and obesity-associated gene)
- The genetic basis of this syndrome is depend on gender and geographic origin
- Our study emphasizes the role of *APOA5* variants in the regulation of the triglycerides blood levels



Research Article

# Evidence for Association of the E23K Variant of *KCNJ11* Gene with Type 2 Diabetes in Tunisian Population: Population-Based Study and Meta-Analysis

Khaled Lasram,<sup>1,2</sup> Nizar Ben Halim,<sup>1,2</sup> Sana Hsoune,<sup>1,2</sup> **Rym Kefi**<sup>1,2</sup>,  
Imen Arfa,<sup>1,2</sup> Welid Ghazouani,<sup>1,2</sup> Henda Jamoussi,<sup>1,3</sup> Houda Benrahma,<sup>4</sup> Najla Kharrat,<sup>5</sup>  
Ahmed Rebai,<sup>5</sup> Slim Ben Ammar,<sup>2,6</sup> Sonia Bahri,<sup>2,6</sup> Abdelhamid Barakat,<sup>4</sup>  
Abdelmajid Abid,<sup>1,3</sup> and Sonia Abdelhak<sup>1,2</sup>

Mitochondrial  
**DNA**

<http://informahealthcare.com/mdn>  
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Mitochondrial DNA, Early Online: 1-6  
© 2013 Informa UK Ltd. DOI: 10.3109/19401736.2013.836508

informa  
healthcare

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Association study of mitochondrial DNA polymorphisms with type 2 diabetes in Tunisian population

Sana Hsoune<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Nizar Ben Halim<sup>1\*</sup>, Khaled Lasram<sup>1</sup>, Imen Arfa<sup>1</sup>, Henda Jamoussi<sup>1,3</sup>, Sonia Bahri<sup>4</sup>, Slim Ben Ammar<sup>4</sup>, Najoua Miladi<sup>2</sup>, Abdelmajid Abid<sup>1,3</sup>, Sonia Abdelhak<sup>1</sup> and **Rym Kefi**

<sup>1</sup>Biomedical Genomics and Oncogenetics Laboratory (LR 11 IPT 05), Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Université El Manar de Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia, <sup>2</sup>Child Neurological Diseases Unit (05/UR/08-02), Faculté de Médecine de Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia, <sup>3</sup>Service de consultation externe et exploration fonctionnelle, Institut National de Nutrition, Tunis, Tunisia, and <sup>4</sup>Department of Biochemistry, Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia

PRIMARY CARE DIABETES 7 (2013) 19-24



Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

Primary Care Diabetes



journal homepage: <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/pcd>

Original research

### Type 2 diabetes in Mauritania: Prevalence of the undiagnosed diabetes, influence of family history and maternal effect

Ghlana Meiloud<sup>a</sup>, Imen Arfa<sup>b</sup>, **Rym Kefi**<sup>b</sup>, Isselmou Abdelhamid<sup>c</sup>, Fatimetou Veten<sup>a</sup>, Khaled Lasram<sup>b</sup>, Nizar Ben Halim<sup>c</sup>, Abdoulaye Samba<sup>d</sup>, Sonia Abdelhak<sup>b</sup>, Ahmed Ould Houmeida<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Laboratory of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Faculté des Sciences et Techniques, B.P. 5026, Nouakchott, Mauritania

Int J Diabetes Dev Ctries

DOI 10.1007/s13410-013-0119-1

LETTER TO EDITOR

### mtDNA 16184–16193 poly-C tract does not predispose to type 2 diabetes in the Mauritanian population

G. Meiloud<sup>a</sup>, **A. O. Houmeida**, S. Abdelhak<sup>b</sup>, A. Samba<sup>d</sup>, S. Abdelhak<sup>b</sup>, Ahmed O. Houmeida

MITOCHONDRIAL DNA PART A, 2016  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/24701394.2016.1233530>

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Novel variants of mitochondrial DNA associated with Type 2 diabetes mellitus in Moroccan population

Hicham Charoute<sup>a,\*</sup>, **Rym Kefi**<sup>b</sup>, Safaa Bounaceur<sup>a</sup>, Houda Benrahma<sup>a</sup>, Ahmed Reguig<sup>a</sup>, Mostafa Kandil<sup>c</sup>, Hassan Rouba<sup>a</sup>, Amina Bakrhcane<sup>a</sup>, Sonia Abdelhak<sup>b</sup> and Abdelhamid Barakat<sup>a</sup>

Journal of Diabetes

Journal of Diabetes 7 (2015) 102-113

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Contribution of *CDKAL1* rs7756992 and *IGF2BP2* rs4402960 polymorphisms in type 2 diabetes, diabetic complications, obesity risk and hypertension in the Tunisian population

Khaled LASRAM,<sup>1</sup> Nizar BEN HALIM,<sup>1</sup> Houda BENRAHMA,<sup>2</sup> Sounnia MEDIENE-BENCHEKOR,<sup>3</sup> Imen ARFA,<sup>1</sup> Sana HSOUNA,<sup>1</sup> **Rym KEFI**,<sup>1,4</sup> Henda JAMOUSSE,<sup>1,4</sup> Slim BEN AMMAR,<sup>3</sup> Sonia BAHRI,<sup>5</sup> Abdelmajid ABID,<sup>1,4</sup> Soraya BENHAMMOUCHE,<sup>3</sup> Abdelhamid BARAKAT<sup>2</sup> and Sonia ABDELHAK<sup>1</sup>

## Association of rs9939609 Polymorphism with Metabolic Parameters and *FTO* Risk Haplotype Among Tunisian Metabolic Syndrome

Sahar Elouej, PhD,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Hanen Belfki-Benali, PhD,<sup>3</sup> Majdi Nagara, PhD,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Khaled Lasram, PhD,<sup>1,2</sup> Redha Attaoua, PhD,<sup>4,\*</sup> Om Kalthoum Sallem, MD,<sup>1,5,\*</sup> Ines Kamoun, MD,<sup>6,\*</sup> Mariem Chargui, MS,<sup>1,\*</sup> Lilia Romdhane, PhD,<sup>1</sup> Henda Jamoussi, MD,<sup>1,5,\*</sup> Zinet Turki, MD,<sup>6,\*</sup> Abdelmajid Abid, MD,<sup>1,5,\*</sup> Claude Ben Slama, MD,<sup>6,\*</sup> Sonia Bahri, MD,<sup>2,7</sup> Sonia Abdelhak, PhD,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Florin Grigorescu, MD,<sup>4,\*</sup> Habiba Ben Romdhane, MD,<sup>3</sup> and Rym Kefi, PhD,<sup>1,2,\*</sup>



## Association of genetic variants in the *FTO* gene with metabolic syndrome: A case-control study in the Tunisian population

Sahar Elouej<sup>a,f,1</sup>, Majdi Nagara<sup>a,f,1</sup>, Redha Attaoua<sup>b,1</sup>, Om Kalthoum Sallem<sup>a,c,1</sup>, Ines Kamoun<sup>a,f,1</sup>, Khaled Lasram<sup>a,f</sup>, Nizar Ben Halim<sup>a,f</sup>, Mariem Chargui<sup>a,1</sup>, Henda Jamoussi<sup>d,1</sup>, Zinet Turki<sup>d,1</sup>, Ines Kamoun<sup>d,1</sup>, Hanen Belfki-Benali<sup>g</sup>, Abdelmajid Abid<sup>a,c,1</sup>, Claude Ben Slama<sup>e,f</sup>, Dalenda Triki<sup>h</sup>, Habiba Ben Romdhane<sup>g,1</sup>, Sonia Abdelhak<sup>a,f,1</sup>, Rym Kefi<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Florin Grigorescu<sup>b,1</sup>



## Annales d'Endocrinologie

Volume 78, Issue 3, July 2017, Pages 146-155



Original article

## Association of *apolipoprotein A5* gene variants with metabolic syndrome in Tunisian population

### Étude d'association du gène *APOA5* au syndrome métabolique et à ses composantes dans la population tunisienne

Rym Kefi<sup>a, b, 1</sup>, Meriem Hechmi<sup>a, 1</sup>, Hamza Dallali<sup>a, c, 1</sup>, Sahar Elouej<sup>d, 1</sup>, Haifa Jmel<sup>a, c, 1</sup>, Yossra Ben Halima<sup>a, b, 1</sup>, Majdi Nagara<sup>d, 1</sup>, Mariem Chargui<sup>a, b, 1</sup>, Sihem Ben Fadhel<sup>a</sup>, Safa Romdhane<sup>a</sup>, Ines Kamoun<sup>e, 1</sup>, Zinet Turki<sup>e, 1</sup>, Abdelmajid Abid<sup>a, e, 1</sup>, Sonia Bahri<sup>f, 1</sup>, Afaf Bahlous<sup>f, 1</sup>, Ramon Gomis<sup>g, 1</sup>, Abdelhamid Baraket<sup>h, 1</sup>, Florin Grigorescu<sup>i, 1</sup> ... Sonia Abdelhak<sup>a, b, 1</sup>



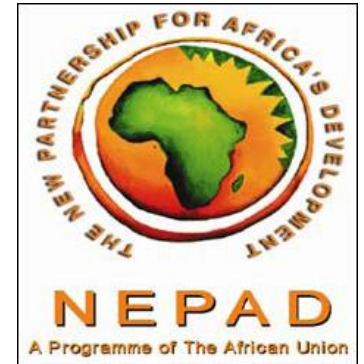
## Gender-specific associations of genetic variants with metabolic syndrome components in the Tunisian population

Sahar Elouej<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Ines Kamoun<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Redha Attaoua<sup>b,1</sup>, Majdi Nagara<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Om Kalthoum Sallem<sup>a,d,1</sup>, Ines Kamoun<sup>a,1</sup>, Mariem Chargui<sup>a,1</sup>, Henda Jamoussi<sup>d,1</sup>, Zinet Turki<sup>e,1</sup>, Abdelmajid Abid<sup>a,d,1</sup>, Claude Ben Slama<sup>e,1</sup>, Sonia Bahri<sup>f,1</sup>, Habiba Ben Romdhane<sup>g,1</sup>, Sonia Abdelhak<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Rym Kefi<sup>a,b,1</sup> and Florin Grigorescu<sup>c,1</sup>

# Regional collaborations

New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)  
North Africa Biosciences Network (NABNet)

<http://www.nrc.sci.eg/nepad/default.html>



“Multidisciplinary investigation of the genetic risk factors of type II Diabetes and its complications in North Africa”



# International collaboration



**Identification:** **MEDIGENE** – FP7-279171-1

**Title:** Genetic and environmental factors of insulin resistance syndrome and its long-term complications in immigrant Mediterranean populations

**Duration:** 56 months (January 2012-2016)

**Countries:** France, Italy, Spain, Turkey, Albania, Russia, Romania, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Finland and Hungary





**Acronym:** DiaBiomark

**Title:** Identification of biomarkers for Type 2 Diabetes through multidisciplinary investigations

**Start:** January 2018



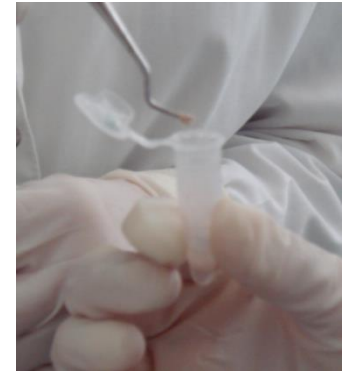
# Genetic typing core facility

DNA typing (genetic profiling or genetic fingerprinting ) is used :

- Paternity test
- to confirm the identity of living persons.
- To resolve criminal cases
- To identify victims of terrorist attacks both in Tunisia and Lybia

# Human Identification in forensic

We have developed a rapid and effective molecular protocol for human body identification in forensic using dental pulp.



This protocol provides a sufficient quantity and a good quality of DNA to establish a genetic profile of victims.



*twas*

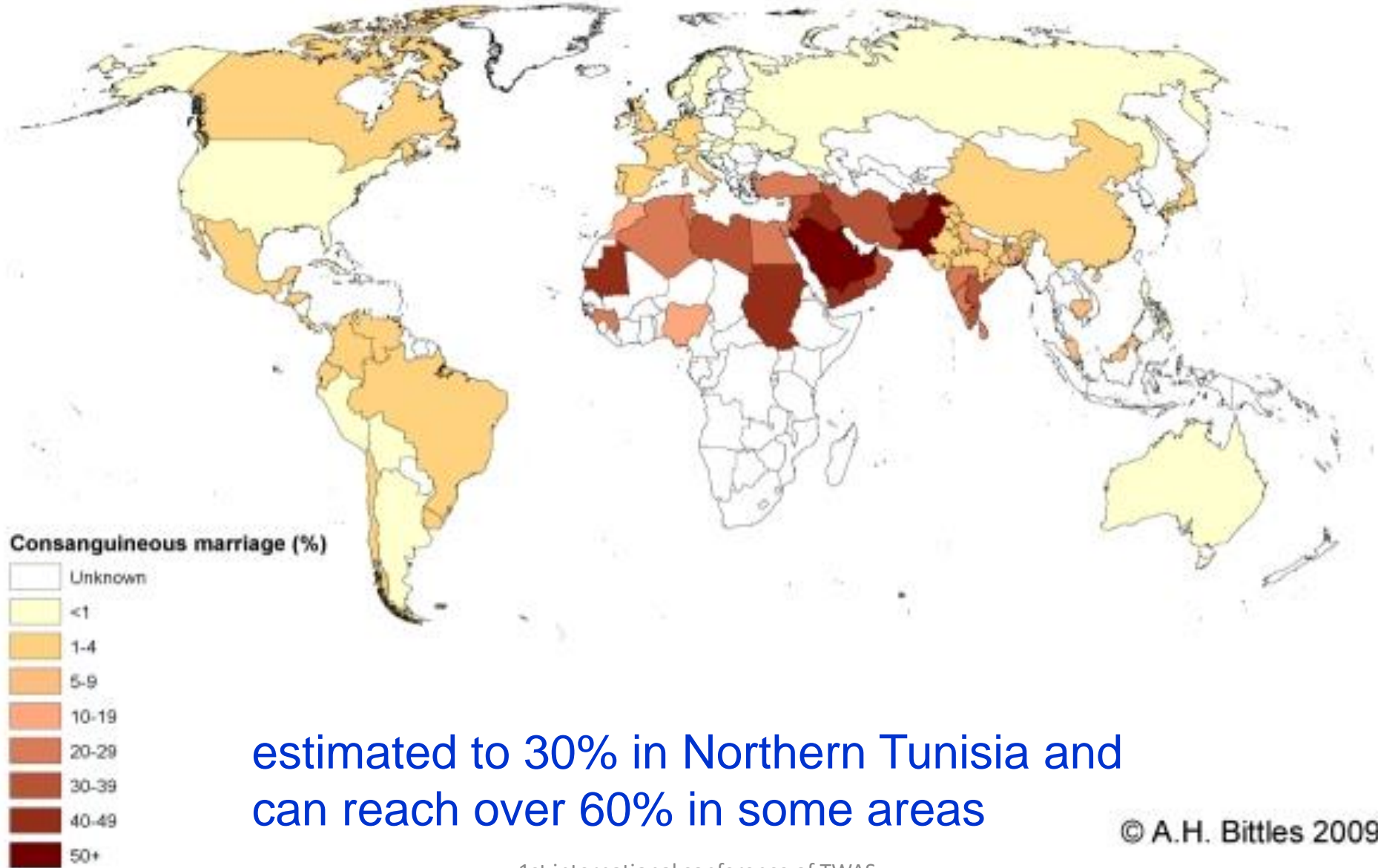


TWAS YOUNG  
AFFILIATE NETWORK

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[kefi\\_rym@yahoo.fr](mailto:kefi_rym@yahoo.fr)

## ➤ High level of consanguineous marriages



estimated to 30% in Northern Tunisia and  
can reach over 60% in some areas

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# LGBO staff

