

Secondary Findings in Genomic Research

Edited by

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In recent years, nearly every domain of biomedical research has been transformed by the use of multiplex genetic technologies and whole genome sequencing. While these technologies have enabled remarkable scientific progress, they have also resulted in one of the thorniest and most persistent challenges in contemporary research ethics: secondary genomic findings—the discovery of genetic variants that may inform disease prevention or treatment strategies but are unrelated to the reasons patients or individuals were included as genomic research participants, or were subject to clinical genetic testing.

Secondary Findings in Genomic Research offers a single, highly accessible resource on interpreting, managing, and disclosing secondary findings resulting from genomic research. With chapters written by experts in the field, this book is the first to concisely explain the ethical and practical issues raised by secondary genomics findings for a multi- and interdisciplinary audience of genomic researchers, translational scientists, clinicians, medical students, genetic counselors, ethicists, legal experts and law students, public policy specialists, and regulators. Contributors from Europe, North America, and Asia effectively synthesize perspectives from a spectrum of different scientific, societal, and global contexts and offer pragmatic approaches to a range of topics including oversight, governance, and policy surrounding secondary genomic results; criteria for identifying results for return; communication and consent; stakeholders' attitudes and perspectives; disclosing results; and clinical, patient-centered protocols.

Key Features

- Thoroughly addresses the scientific, ethical, practical, and clinical issues raised by secondary findings resulting from genomic research, including active debate and challenges
- Provides researchers, clinicians, regulators, and stakeholders with a how-to guide for interpreting, managing, and disclosing secondary findings resulting from genomic research
- Synthesizes an enormous literature across multiple disciplines to provide other readers new to these issues
- Brings together expert analysis from scholars across Europe, North America, and Asia representing a wide variety of scientific and societal contexts.

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