Pharmacogenomics highlights advances in GWAS

Pharmacogenomics, a peer-reviewed journal published by the Future Medicine (part of Future Science Group), is proud to present a special issue focusing on the future role of genome-wide association studies (GWAS) in pharmacogenomics and personalized medicine. The March 2013 issue highlights the commitment of the journal to evaluating the latest developments in the field and to improving healthcare worldwide by promoting research into pharmacogenetic testing.

The issue is guest edited by Professor Howard McLeod (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, USA) and Dr David Gurwitz (Tel-Aviv University, Israel) and features contributions from leaders in the field of pharmacogenomics.

GWAS have the potential to substantially improve healthcare as they pave the way to more personalized treatments for many common diseases. Information about genes involved in drug response will allow the most effective treatments for a patient to be chosen as well as allowing patients to avoid adverse effects.

Dr Gurwitz explains, “Accurate patient phenotyping will always remain the most crucial part of GWAS aimed at gaining insights on genomic markers for drug safety and efficacy for the individual patient.”

Elisa Manzotti, Publisher of FSG adds, In compiling this special issue, Howard Mcleod and David Gurwitz have convened a top team of opinion leaders to map the future for GWAS. Our strong focus on individualized therapies is a core element of the Future Medicine program and this excellent issue of our flagship title Pharmacogenomics reflects that.

The issue includes a range of editorials, interviews, research article and reviews examining the current and potential uses of GWAS. Hakon Hakonarson, a pioneer of genomic research, answers a series of GWAS on the importance of GWAS to pharmacogenomics. Another noteworthy article is an editorial by Janssen, Bakker and Kalf covering direct-to-consumer testing, an area which is progressing rapidly and which throws up many scientific and ethical queries. An editorial on the effect the rapid advances in DNA sequencing will have on pharmacogenetics and clinical decision making, written by Thomas Urban, is also included.

A full listing of articles included in the issue is available at: http://www.futuremedicine.com/toc/pgs/14/4

The editorial office is now actively soliciting contributions of reviews, perspectives and editorial article for Pharmacogenomics. If you are interested in contributing then please contact the Commissioning Editor, Sarah Jones, at s.jones@futuremedicine.com.

ABOUT PHARMACOGENOMICS
Pharmacogenomics (ISSN 1462-2416) is a peer-reviewed journal presenting reviews and reports by the researchers and decision-makers closely involved in this rapidly developing area. Key objectives are to provide the community with an essential resource for keeping abreast of the latest developments in all areas of this exciting field. Pharmacogenomics focuses on those aspects that have the most direct relevance to the pharmaceutical industry and wider clinical community. Pharmacogenomics is the leading source of commentary and analysis, bringing you the highest quality expert analyses from corporate and academic opinion leaders in the field. Impact Factor: 3.974. To find out more, please visit our website.

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