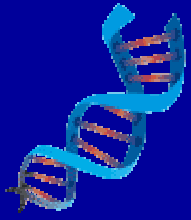


Practical Genomics for the Public Health Professional

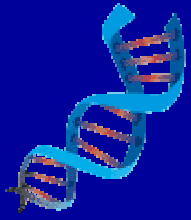
Keys to Collecting and Using Family
History Information



Medical Pedigrees

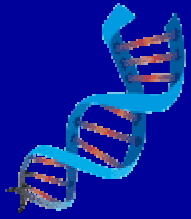
- “The family tree has become the most important genetic test of all. The more you know, the more tools you have to practice preventive medicine.”

Donna Russo, CGC, NY Presbyterian-Columbia Hospital



Pedigrees: Purposes

- To diagnose a current medical condition
- Risk assessment to anticipate and/or prevent potential medical conditions
- Risk assessment for family planning and pregnancy screening purposes



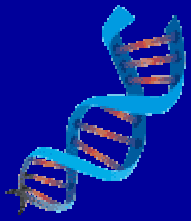
Help Your Clients!

- Educate them about the importance of family health history to their own future health
- Help teach them how to collect pertinent family health history
- Suggest they share their information with primary care providers

Instructions for collecting family health history:

www.nsgc.org, www.ashg.org

www.geneticalliance.org



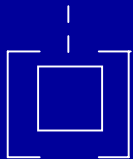
Standard Pedigree Symbols



Male / boy



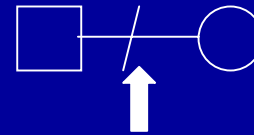
Female / girl



Adopted

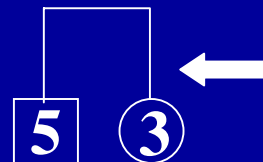


The diagonal line is used to show that the person has died.

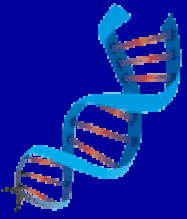


This line is used to show parents who are divorced/not together

➤ If you do not know names and ages of family members, but do know the number of males and the number of females, you can do this:



Example: This shows that there are 5 males and 3 females.



Standard Pedigree Symbols



Pregnancy loss.
Include number
of weeks, if known.

**If you know the number of
children in a sibship but do
not know the gender, do this:**



**Stillbirth (SB). Include
number of weeks, if
known.**

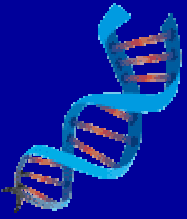


**Example: This shows that
there are 8 children.**

SB 34 wks

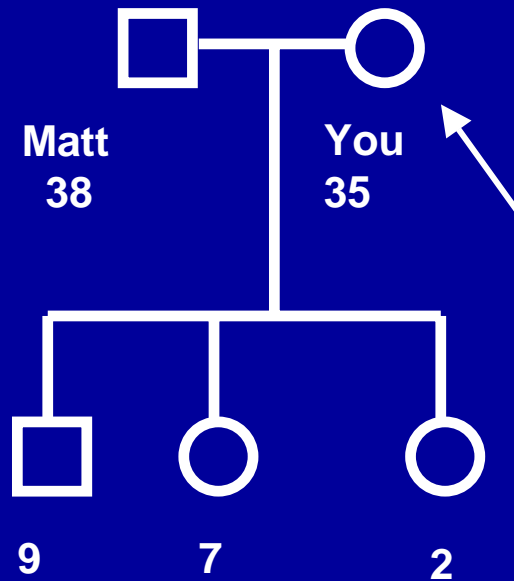


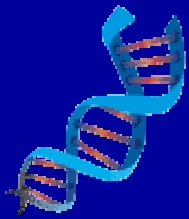
**P stands for current pregnancy,
either unknown sex (diamond),
boy (square), or girl (circle)**



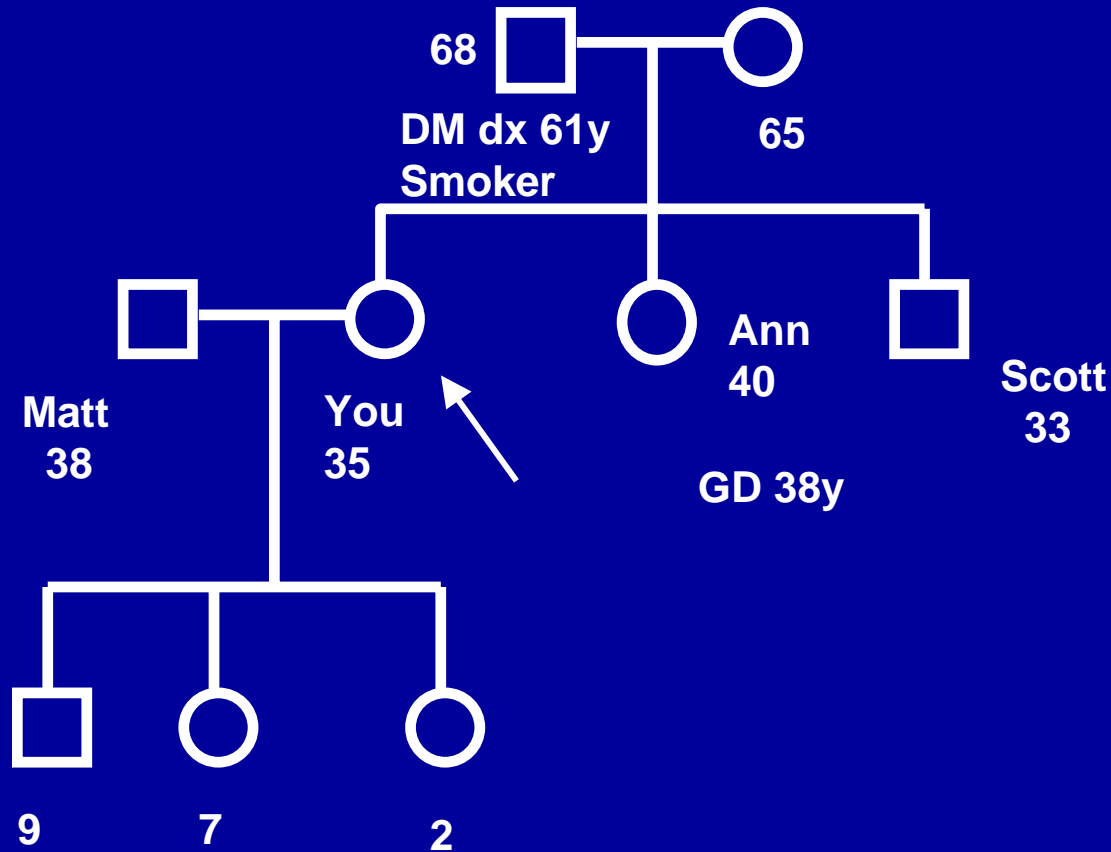
Drawing Your Own Pedigree

1. Start with yourself –
you are the “consultand” so draw
an arrow to your symbol.
2. Then add your spouse and children

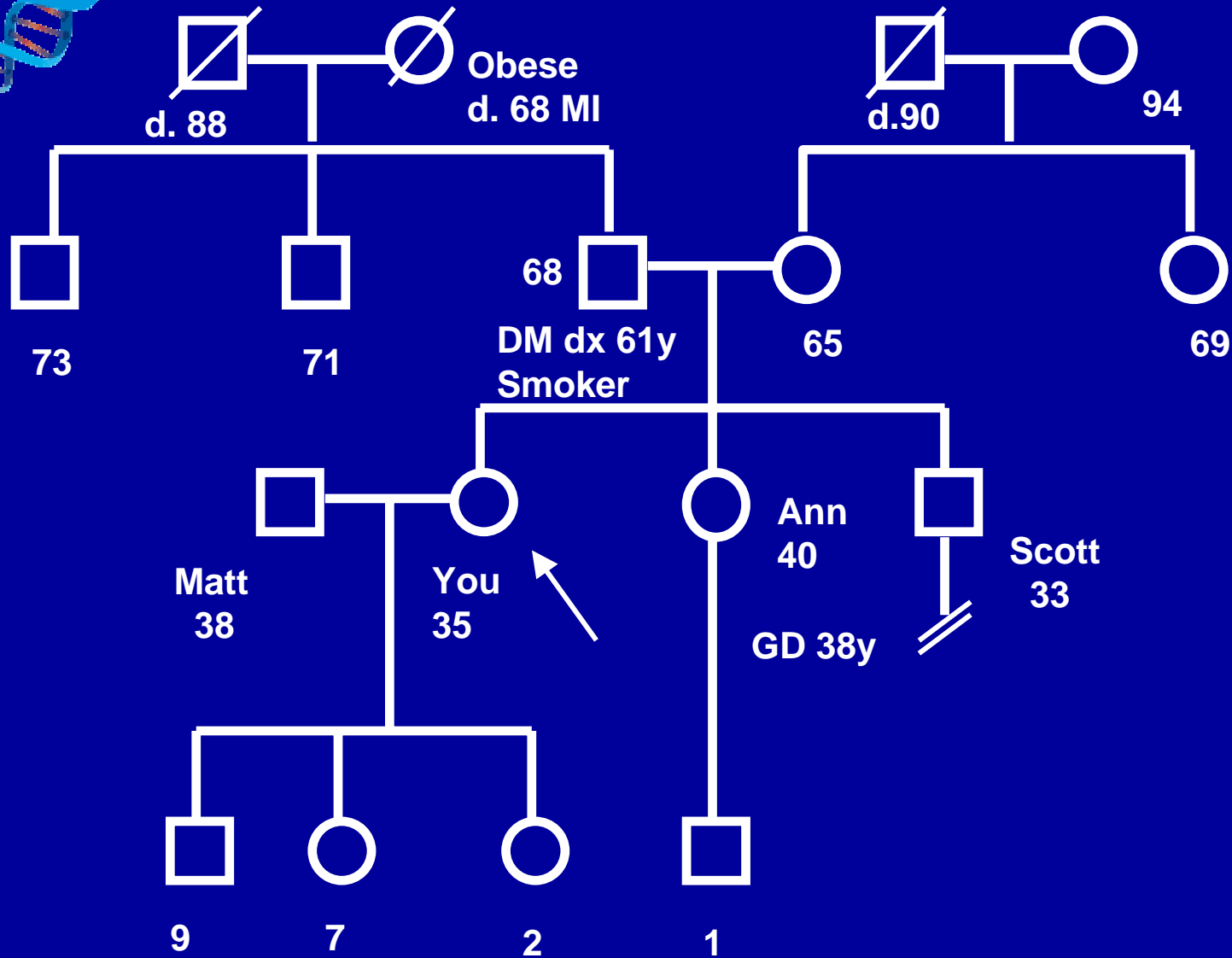
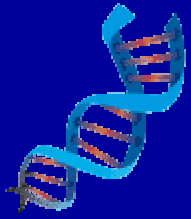


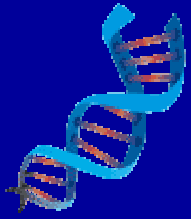


3. Add your parents and siblings
You now have all of your first degree relatives
4. Add relevant medical and lifestyle information



5. Add second degree relatives





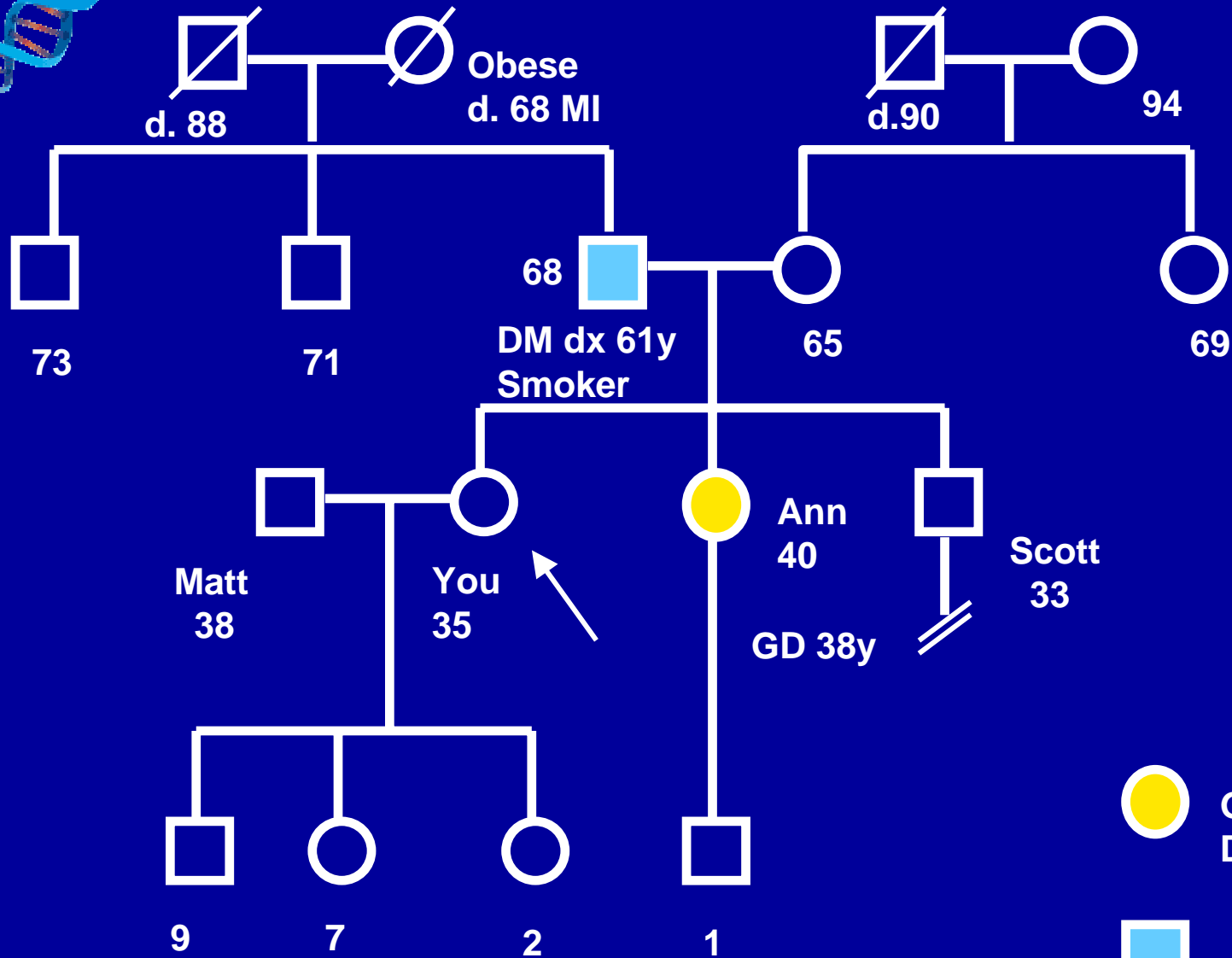
Final Touches

6. Add ethnic background on both sides of the family
7. Add designations for pertinent medical conditions and a key –
 - Use colors, patterns and/or sections within each symbol to designate specific medical conditions
 - E.g. Yellow = Type 2 diabetes; Blue = Gestational diabetes



Swedish/French

German



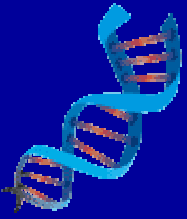
Key:



Gestational
Diabetes

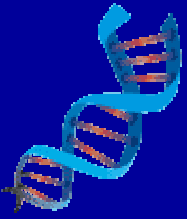


Type 2 diabetes
mellitus



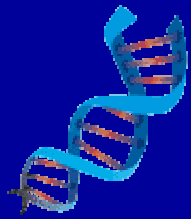
Family Information to Collect

- Learning disabilities, mental retardation, developmental delays
- Birth defects, multiple anomalies
- Stillbirths, miscarriages, infertility, neonatal death, SIDS
- Chronic childhood illness, known inherited conditions, metabolic disease

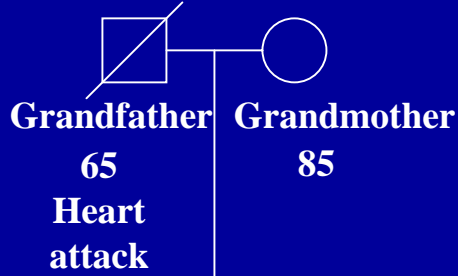


Family Information to Collect

- Common diseases with multifactorial etiology
 - Heart disease, stroke, clotting disorders
 - Mental illness, alcoholism, substance abuse
 - Diabetes, gestational diabetes
 - Cancer
 - Asthma/chronic respiratory disease
 - Vision/hearing loss
- Age of onset. If deceased - age at death
- Environmental or contributing health factors



Mexico



England and Germany

