

NON-MENDELIAN GENETICS

Sex-Linked Traits



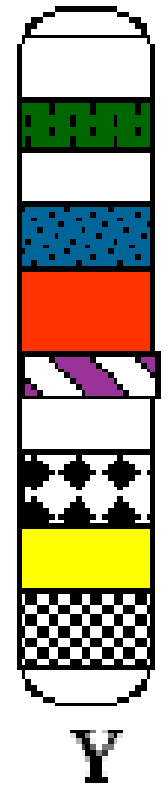
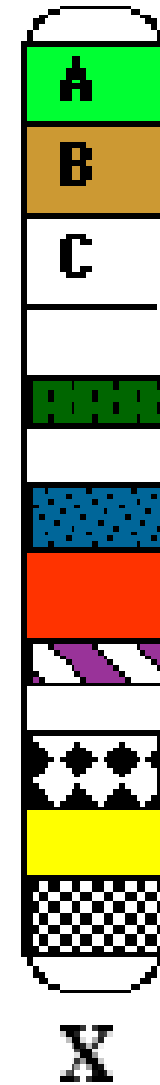
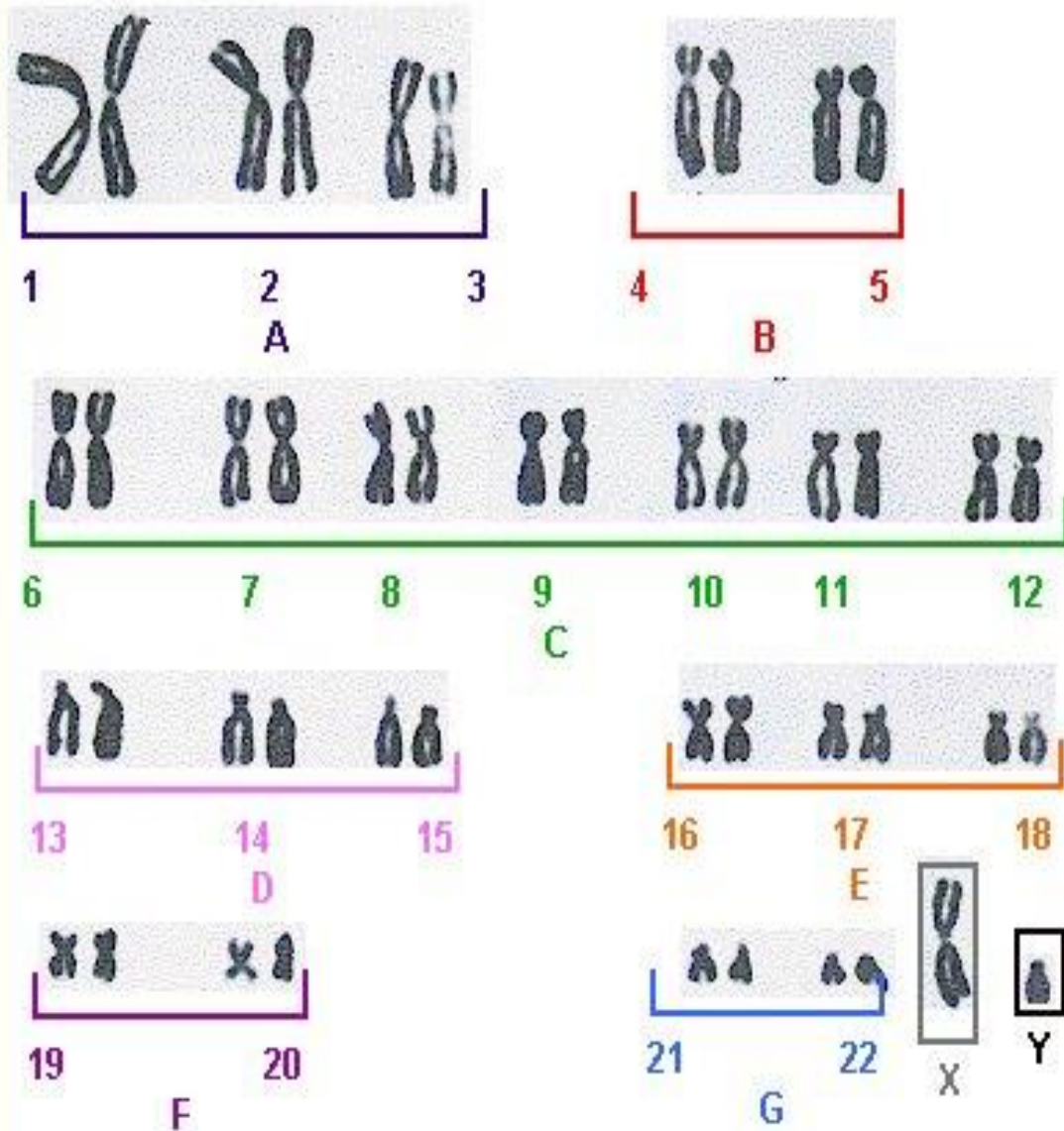
Sex-linked Traits

- Remember... humans have 23 pairs of chromosomes
 - last pair of chromosomes code for gender
 - Male: XY
 - Females: XX
- Genes on these chromosomes will code for the sex-linked traits

Sex-linked Traits

- chromosomes are paired based on being a similar length (homologous)
- This is NOT the case with the X and Y chromosomes
 - The X chromosome is longer than the Y chromosome

X and Y Chromosomes



X and Y Chromosomes

- Due to the X chromosome being longer any trait on that piece will be expressed in males
 - May be expressed in females IF the other X chromosome “allows”
- This means that males will exhibit sex-linked traits more frequently than females

- **Genes** that are located on the **X** chromosome are called **sex-linked genes**
- Traits determined by sex-linked genes are called **sex-linked traits**

(**b** = colorblind, **B**= normal)

Ex. Color blindness

female X^bX^b

male X^bY

Carriers

- A carrier is a person that has the trait on only one chromosome and does NOT express the trait. Carriers of sex linked traits are always women.

(**B**= normal, **b**= colorblind)

Ex. Color blind carrier $X^B X^b$ ← carrier

How to write Sex-Linked Traits

- Since traits are located on the sex chromosomes we do not use the usual single letter system for abbreviation
- must signify if the individual is male or female AND if they have the trait or not

Example

- Red-green colorblindness is a sex-linked trait resulting in the individual not being able to tell the difference between Red and Green
 - We will use "B" to indicate normal vision and "b" to indicate colorblindness

Example

- Must tell if male or female so:
 - Normal Vision Female
 - $X^B X^B$
 - Carrier Female (normal vision but can pass trait to offspring)
 - $X^B X^b$
 - Color-blind Female
 - $X^b X^b$

Example

- Normal Vision Male
 - X^BY
- Color-blind Male
 - X^bY
- Notice it only takes one recessive allele for the trait to be expressed in **males**. Why?
 - Due to shorter Y chromosome

Test Cross (Punnett Squares)

- As with all traits we can complete Punnett squares to determine the possibility that an offspring will exhibit a certain genetic trait.
- If a male with normal vision is crossed with a female that is a carrier for the colorblind trait:
 - What is the probability that their sons will be colorblind?
 - What is the probability that their daughters will be colorblind?

Test Cross

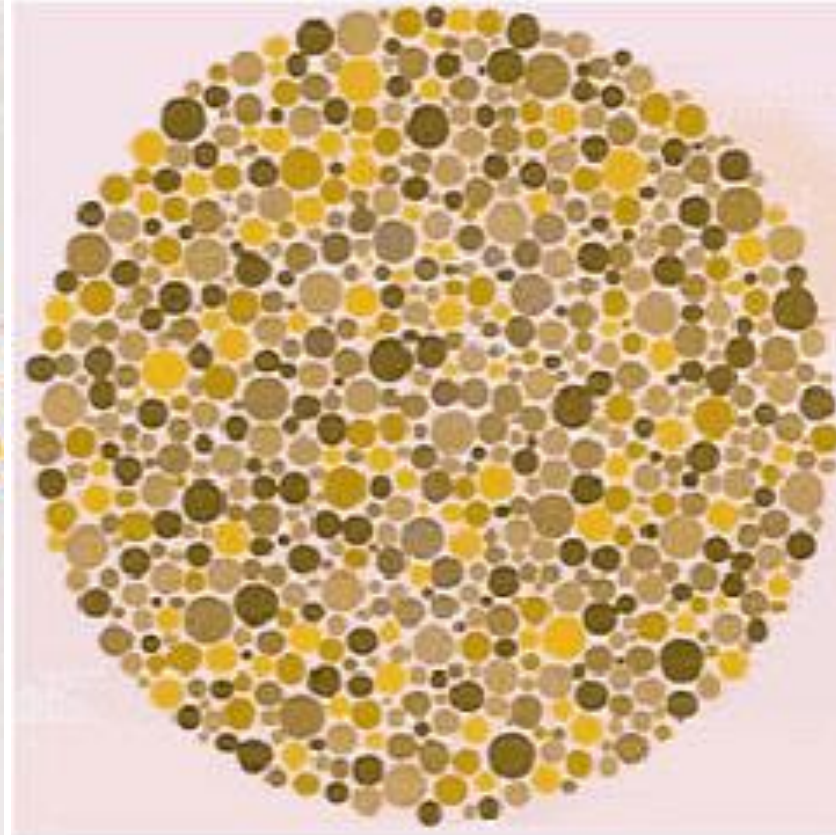
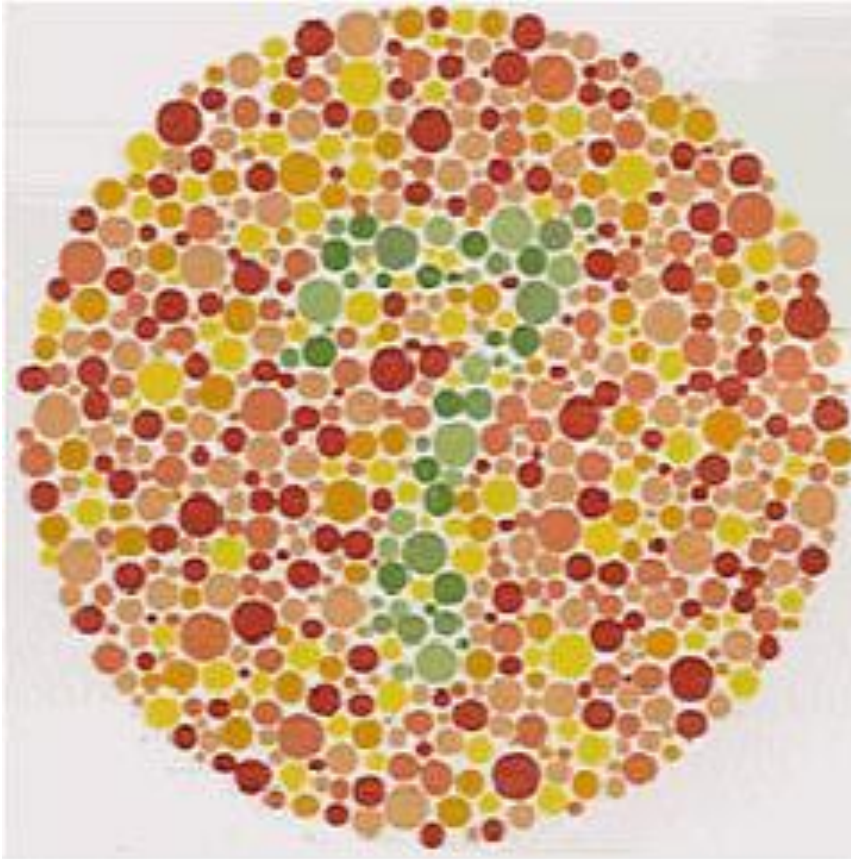
| | X^B | Y |
|-------|-----------|---------|
| X^B | $X^B X^B$ | $X^B Y$ |
| X^b | $X^B X^b$ | $X^b Y$ |

Probability Son
will be colorblind:
50%

Probability
Daughter will be
colorblind: 0%

| | X^B | Y |
|-------|-----------|---------|
| X^B | $X^B X^B$ | $X^B Y$ |
| X^b | $X^B X^b$ | $X^b Y$ |

Normal vs. Colorblind



Question

- A colorblind male marries a normal female. What are the offspring genotypes and phenotypes?

| | X^b | Y |
|-------|-----------|---------|
| X^B | $X^B X^b$ | $X^B Y$ |
| X^B | $X^B X^b$ | $X^B Y$ |

Genotypes:

$$X^B X^b = 100\%$$

$$X^B Y = 100\%$$

Phenotypes:

$$\text{Carrier female} = 100\%$$

$$\text{Normal male} = 100\%$$

Other Sex-Linked Traits

- Male Pattern Baldness
- Hemophilia
 - Disorder that results in poor clotting of the blood

Ameoba Sisters

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2xufrHWG3E>