CORRESPONDENCE

Cutting edge genetic studies in primary ciliary dyskinesia

We would describe our genetic studies in primary ciliary dyskinesia¹ as 'cutting edge', rather than 'beyond the fringe'.² Indeed, we predict that in 5 years genetic testing will be more readily available and used worldwide for diagnostic studies in primary ciliary dyskinesia than high speed ciliary waveform analysis. Would Drs Bush and Hogg like to make a wager?

Michael R Knowles,¹ Margaret W Leigh,² Maimoona A Zariwala³

¹Cystic Fibrosis/Pulmonary Research and Treatment Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA; ²Department of Pediatrics, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA; ³Department of Pathology and Lab Medicine, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

Correspondence to Dr Michael R Knowles, Cystic Fibrosis/Pulmonary Research and Treatment Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 7019 Thurston

Bowles Building, CB# 7248, Chapel Hill 27599, North Carolina, USA; knowles@med.unc.edu

Competing interests None.

Provenance and peer review Commissioned; internally peer reviewed.

Accepted 11 January 2012
Published Online First 10 February 2012

Thorax 2012;**67**:464.
doi:10.1136/thoraxjnl-2012-201609

REFERENCES

1. **Knowles MR**, Leigh MW, Carson JL, *et al*. Mutations of DNAH11 in primary ciliary dyskinesia patients with normal ciliary ultrastructure. *Thorax* 2012;**67**:433–41.
2. **Hogg C**, Bush A. Genotyping in primary ciliary dyskinesia: ready for prime time, or a fringe benefit? *Thorax* 2012;**67**:377–8.

Authors' response

We thank Dr Knowles and colleagues for their interest in our editorial.¹ The single gene locus responsible for cystic fibrosis was discovered more than 20 years ago, and the vast majority of patients with cystic fibrosis are still diagnosed on a functional measure, namely the sweat test. The issue for the diagnosis of Primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD)

is surely not what is available, but what is accurate. And in response to the proposed wager, we are always happy to take candy from babies!

Andrew Bush,¹ Claire Hogg²

¹National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College, London, UK; ²Paediatric Respiratory, Royal Brompton Hospital, London, UK

Correspondence to Dr Andrew Bush, National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College, London, UK; a.bush@imperial.ac.uk

Contributors AB and CH contributed equally to the manuscript.

Competing interests None.

Provenance and peer review Commissioned; internally peer reviewed.

Accepted 13 January 2012
Published Online First 10 February 2012

Thorax 2012;**67**:464.
doi:10.1136/thoraxjnl-2012-201620

REFERENCE

1. **Knowles MR**, Leigh MW, Zariwala MA. Cutting edge genetic studies in primary ciliary dyskinesia. *Thorax* 2012;**67**:464.