

Objectives:

1. To evaluate student's understanding of the concepts of genes, chromosomes, hereditary, phenotype and disorder in the context of 'Intersex Conditions' as well as their ability to convey/communicate scientific (genetic) concepts/ideas in an informative, relevant, accurate, clear and creative manner to the public.
2. Student will need to appreciate what are the important concepts/ideas that link genetics to society balanced with ethical sensitivity that need to be communicated to the public.

Mini Project Instruction

You work in the public education and relation department of a government-linked health organization that has been tasked to educate the public regarding certain rare genetic conditions. You have been assigned to produce an informational brochure/flyer designed to help the public better understand the genetic basis of '**Intersex Conditions**'.

In society, it is assumed and taught that sex of an individual is either male or female, however, this is not always the case. An estimated 1 in 2,000 children born each year are neither male nor female - they are intersex. This usually involves genes, chromosomes and sexual phenotype including gonad and/or genital ambiguity and hormonal variations that do not allow an individual to be distinctly identified as male or female. Recently, there has been greater recognition of intersex conditions in society (Read "The third sex: German intersex law draws attention to the biological facts of life" and APA_Intersex on the IVLE; Refer to notes for lecture 3). This, however, is not about sexual orientation and should not be confused with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender movement.

In order to help the public better understand that intersex condition is biological, the brochure need to provide information on the genetic basis of intersex conditions. While there is no need to be comprehensive in covering all intersex conditions, representative conditions as a result of different genetic aberrations and mutations involving chromosomes and genes ought to be highlighted. Additional information (e.g. medical, psychological, social etc.) that could help or support intersex individuals or related families will be useful and important in the brochure.

You can assume that the public (local or international) has little or no idea about intersex conditions. You need to make the brochure/flyer visually appropriate (sensationalism is to be avoided) and the content suitable so that a layperson would want to pick it up and read it. You need to decide what are the important content/concepts/information to be communicated to the public and present them in a creative and sensible (not offensive) manner that is clear and easy to understand when read by a layperson. The brochure/flyer needs to be written in English Language and presented in a way that can be understood by the public (you can assume that the public has secondary or higher education although not necessary science background).

The brochure/flyer must fulfill the following criteria:

1. Printed on both side of a single A4-size paper.
2. It can be tri-fold, bi-fold or whole-page or other creative forms (within single A4 size).
3. No restriction to font-type/size or margins.
4. No restriction to use of color or software.
5. Acknowledge sources of materials (images/figures) and information.
6. Remember to include **your name, matriculation number and Brochure Submission Number (a unique number is assigned for each student; see Brochure Submission No.pdf file in IVLE folder) in a box that is easily seen at the centre-bottom back of the brochure.**

The work will be assessed based on the following:

- a. **Presentation** [e.g. Suitably Appealing, Organization & Logical sequence, Clear & Neat (visually easy to read)]: **40%.**
- b. **Content** [e.g. Informative & Relevant, Accurate & Responsible (cite resources), Easy to understand]: **50%.**
- c. **Originality: 10%.**

Note that using sophisticated software need not translate to better scores, since marks are spread out among various criteria. Standard Microsoft office software can achieve the necessary effects; it is more of what and how you put them together.

This assignment is an individual effort and will account for 10% of your overall final grade. Submission of highly similar or identical brochures will be awarded zero.

Submission Instruction

1. Deadline and Venue of Submission of Assignment (Hardcopy): **5 pm on Feb 11, 2015 (Wednesday), into a pigeon hole at LS Lab 6 in Block S1A-Level 03-02 (in the Department of Biological Sciences near University Hall).** Your assignment will be marked based on the hardcopy submission (NO softcopy submission is require for this mini project).
2. **Late submission will not be entertained and zero/no marks will be awarded.**
3. Person in-charge: Madam Wong Wai Peng (dbswwp@nus.edu.sg)



Pigeon hole at LS Lab 6 in Block S1A-Level 03-02 (assignment submission venue)