Dysregulated processes in NAFLD (BB103X)

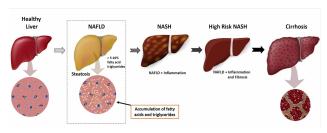
Hong Yang

26/01/2022

Background

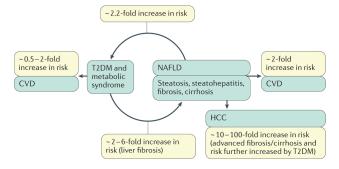
Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease $(NAFLD)^{12}$:

- affects $\sim\!25\%$ of the global adult population
- compasses NAFL (fatty liver) and NASH (steatohepatitis)
- can progress to cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)
- is the fastest growing cause of HCC



Relationships between NAFLD and other disease

- NAFLD is strongly associated with obesity, diabetes, CVD³
- Drastically increased in patient groups with these diseases



Mechanisms of NAFLD development and therapeutic strategies

Management strategies (lifestyle interventions)

- weight loss
- healthier life style habits (physical exercises, diet etc.)

Molecular aspects (heterogeneous):

¹Pharmacological Reports volume 72, pages1–12 (2020)

²Nature Reviews Gastroenterology & Hepatology volume 18, pages223–238 (2021)

³Nature Reviews Gastroenterology & Hepatology volume 18, pages24–39 (2021)

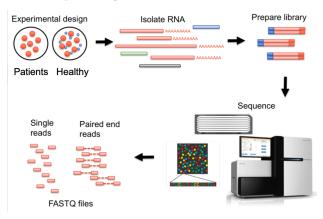
- many molecular pathways that contribute to the development of NAFLD
- pathogenic drivers are not likely to be identical among all patients

There are still no approved pharmacological therapies for NAFLD!!⁴

Aim & Method

• investigate the molecular mechanisms underlying NAFLD progression

RNA sequencing data⁵



Basic analysis and advanced analysis

- Raw sequencing reads in fastq format
- Mapped to the genome using alignment software
- Summarise reads over genes to generate a count table
- Determine differentially expressed genes using R
- Exploratory analyses: pathway enrichment and disease association analysis

Data

• Public datasets shared by other study⁶ and metadata can be found from GEO

GSE135251

• fastq files can be found in ENA database based on its projectID

PRJNA558102

Preparation

Software need to be installed on PC:

- R (https://ftpmirror1.infania.net/mirror/CRAN/)
- Rstudio (https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/)
- Filezila (https://filezilla-project.org/)
- $\bullet\,$ putty (https://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/latest.html) only if you are using windows

⁴Nature Medicine volume 24, pages908–922 (2018)

⁵Nature Reviews Genetics volume 20, pages631–656 (2019)

⁶Sci Transl Med 2020 Dec 2;12(572)