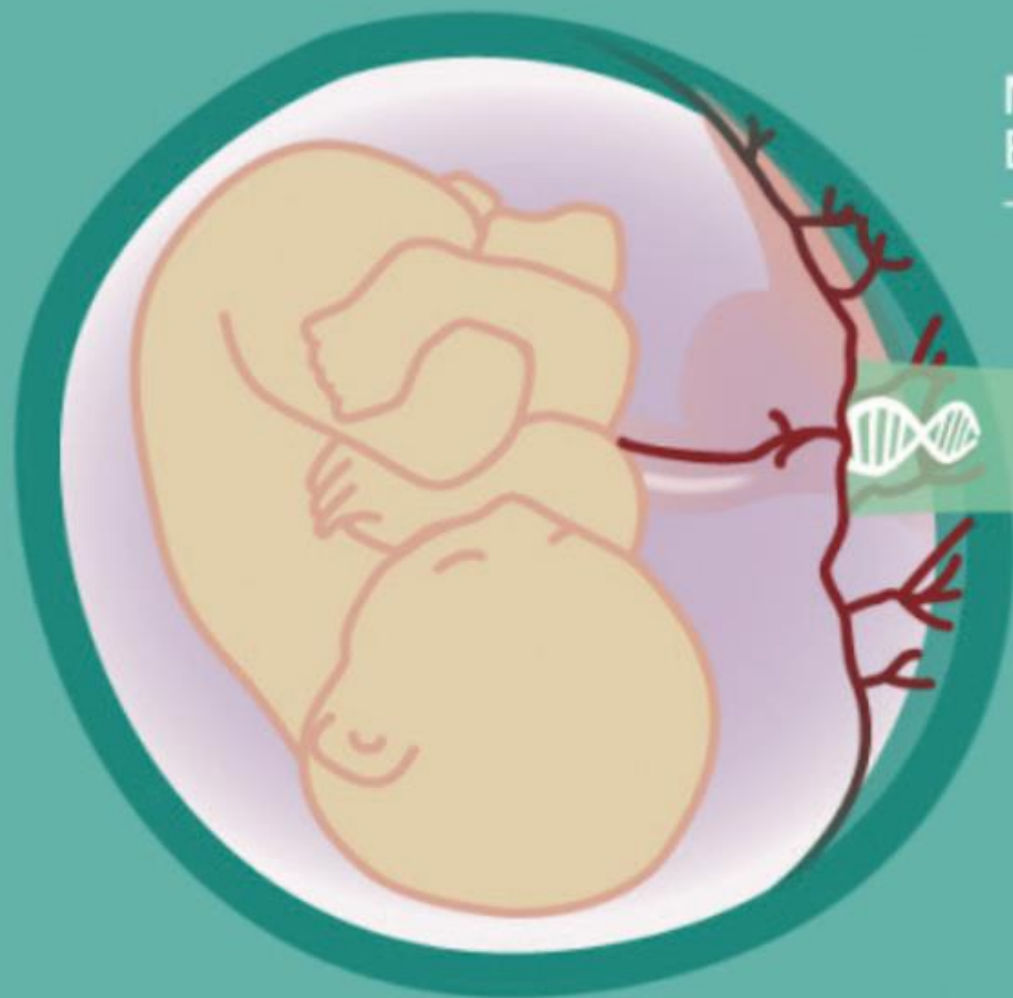


# NON-INVASIVE GENETIC TESTING IN PREGNANCY: LESSONS FROM GENETIC COUNSELLING PRACTICE



**Ellie Davies**  
**Genetic Counsellor**

**Festival of Genomics**  
**30<sup>th</sup> January 2020**



MATERNAL  
BLOODSTREAM

 FETAL DNA

 MATERNAL DNA



# NIPT OR NIPD? WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE??

Non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT) and non-invasive prenatal diagnosis (NIPD) both involve the analysis of cffDNA from a maternal blood sample.

- NIPT: **screening** test, commonly used for aneuploidy testing. An invasive test will still be necessary to confirm an abnormal result

**harmony**™  
PRENATAL TEST  
*performed in the UK*

diagnostic and an invasive test is not  
sult

**NIFTY**™

**serenity**  


**progenity**®  
Prepare for life.

planned (for couples with high risk  
t in first trimester)

**the IONA test**  
non-invasive prenatal screen: safe, fast, accurate

- NIPD has been slower

 **natera**®  
Conceive. Deliver.

**MaterniT**®  
21 PLUS



# UK GENETIC TESTING NETWORK (UKGTN)

## APPROVED NIPD FOR:

### ✓ **Fetal sex determination:**

- DMD (X-linked)
- Haemophilia A and B (X-linked)
- CAH (AR – management)

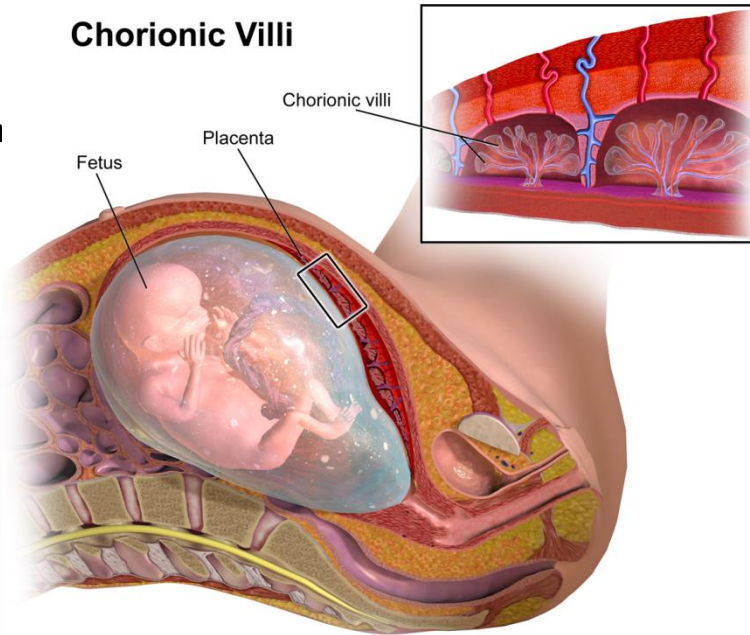
### ✓ **Single gene disorders:**

- *Dominant conditions* - inherited paternally or arising de novo: Achondroplasia & Thanatophoric dysplasia, Apert syndrome.
- *Recessive conditions*: CF, SMA
- *X-linked conditions*: DMD



Preimplantation  
Genetic  
Diagnosis

### Chorionic Villi



Chorionic  
Villus  
Sampling

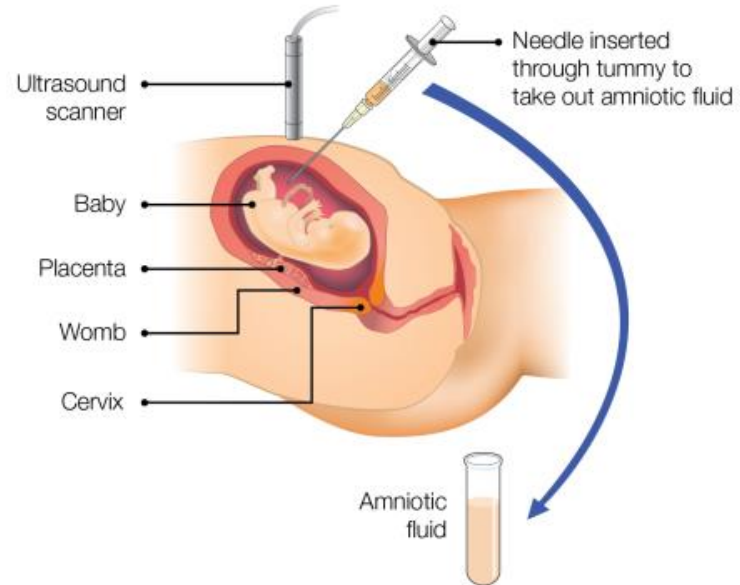
Umbilical  
Cord  
Sample

1

9 16 20-36 38



### Amniocentesis



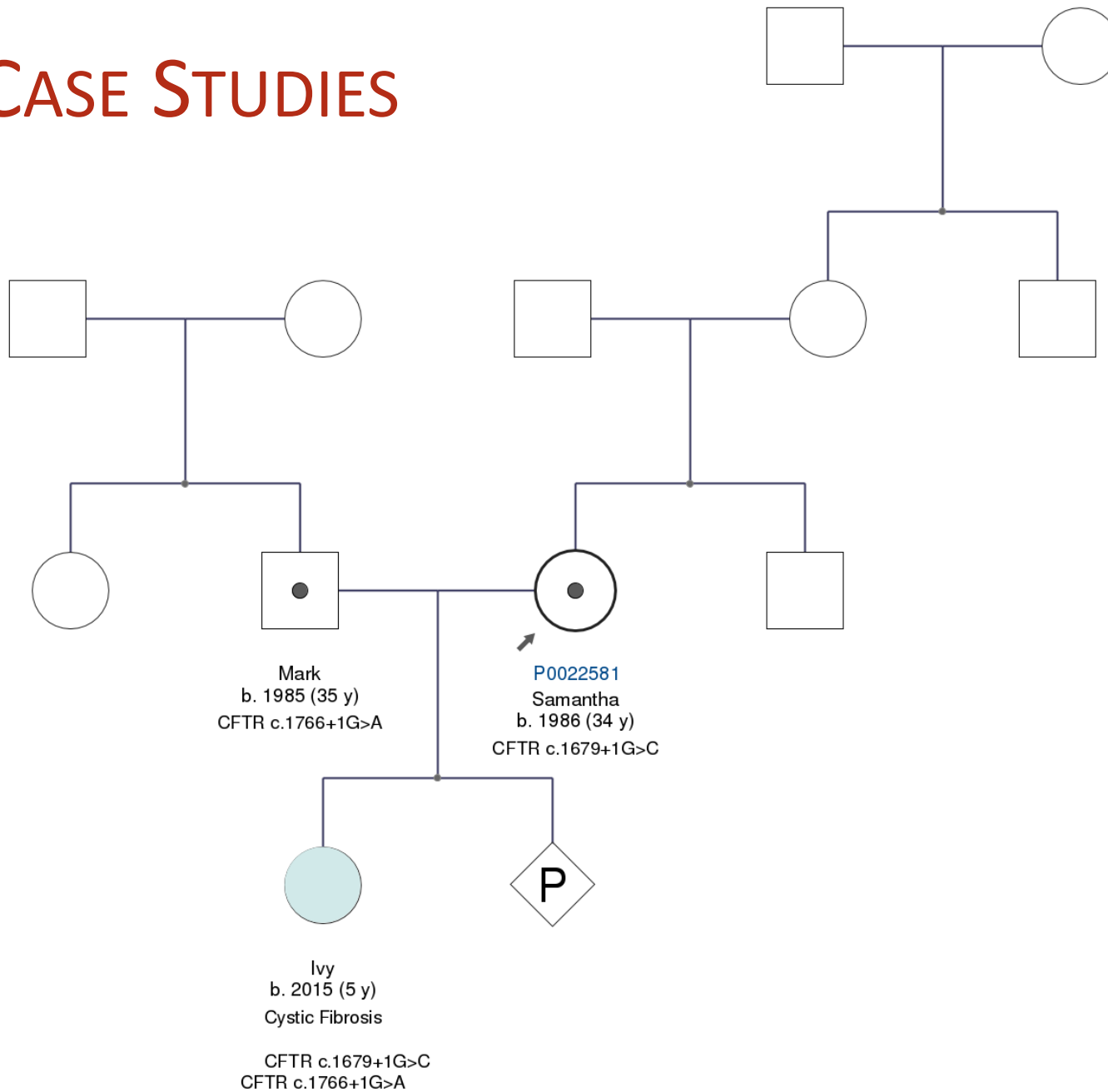
Confirmed gene  
mutation or  
chromosome  
anomaly

Free  
DNA

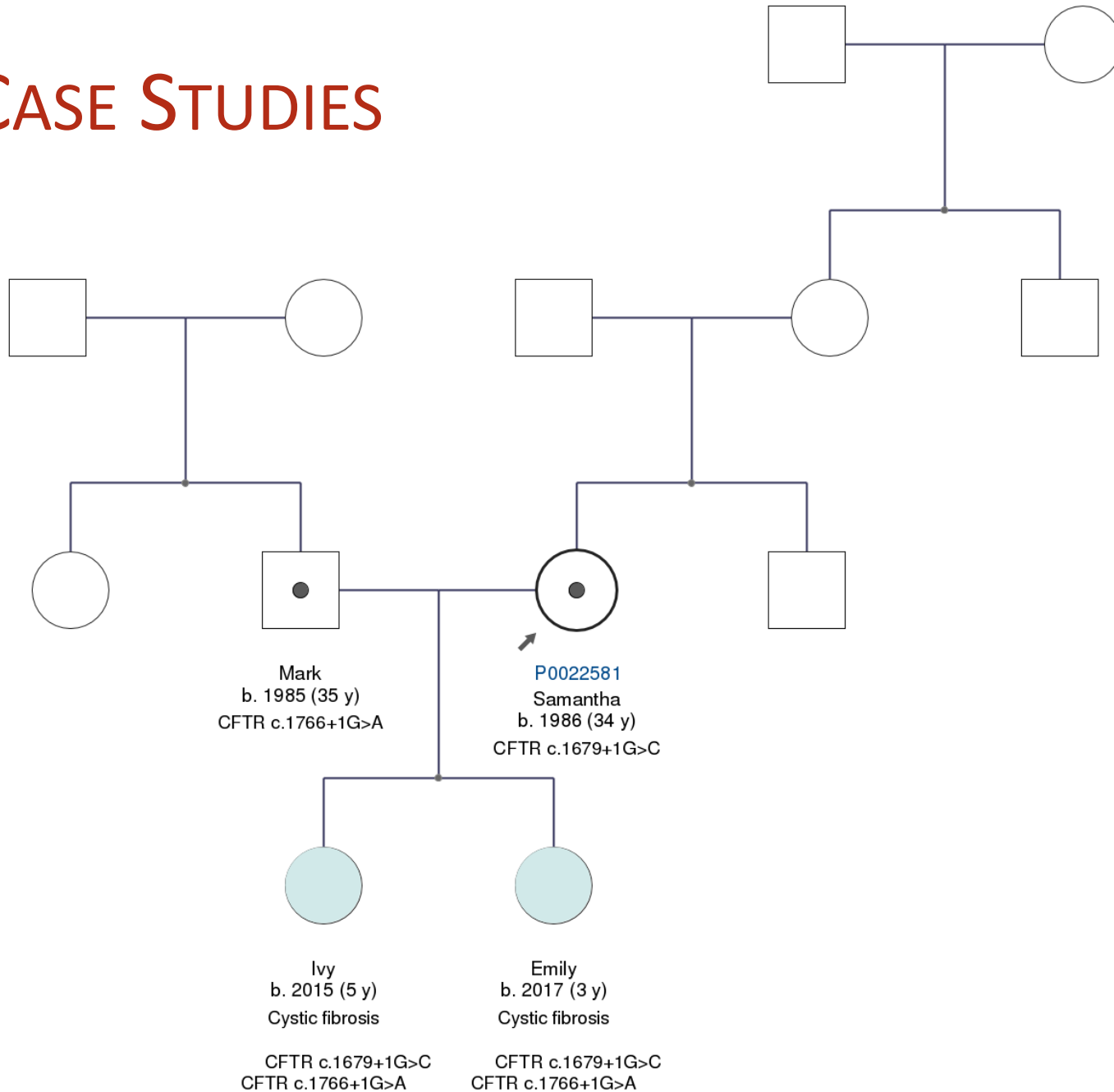
Newborn  
Screening



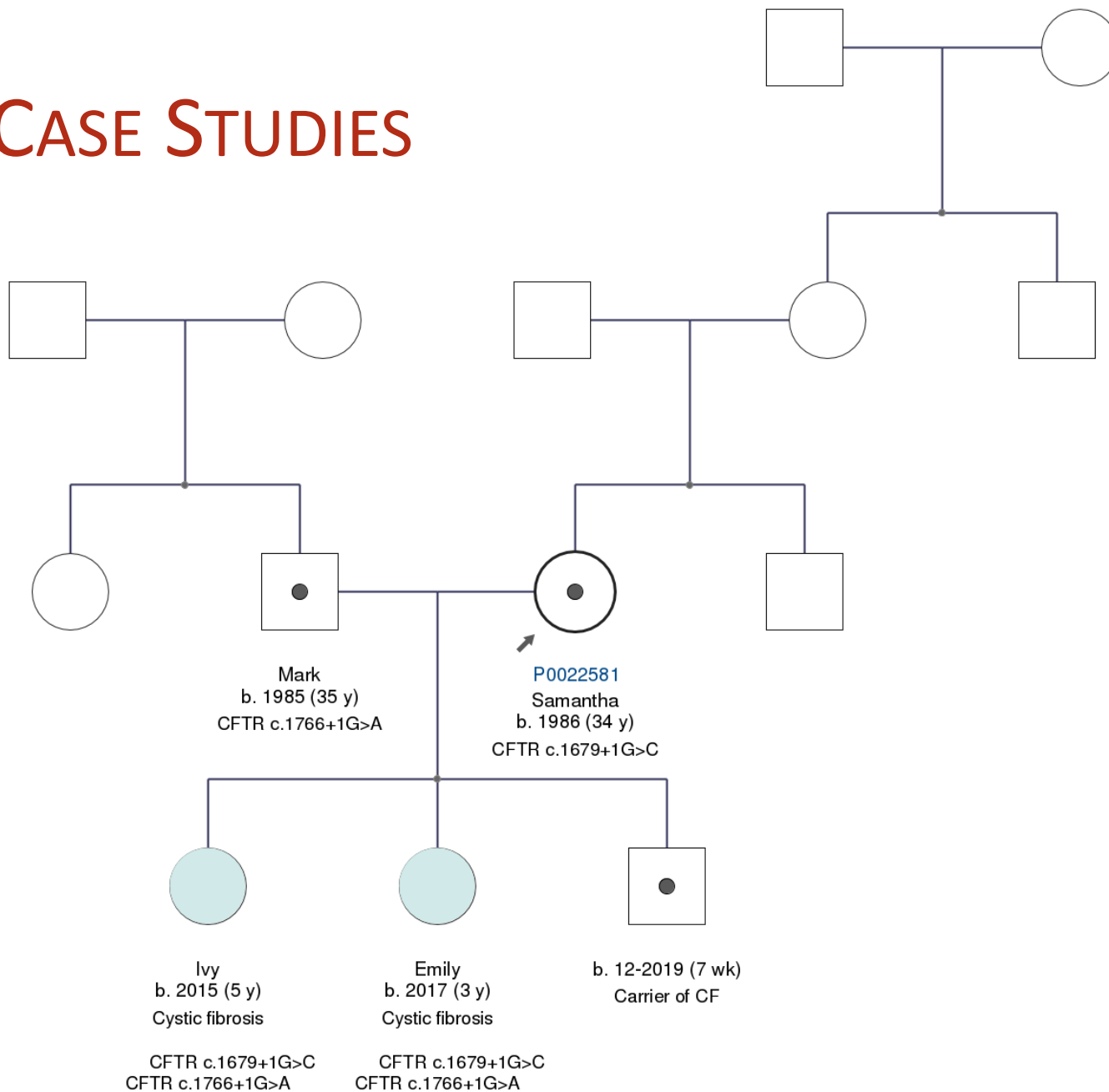
# CASE STUDIES



# CASE STUDIES



# CASE STUDIES



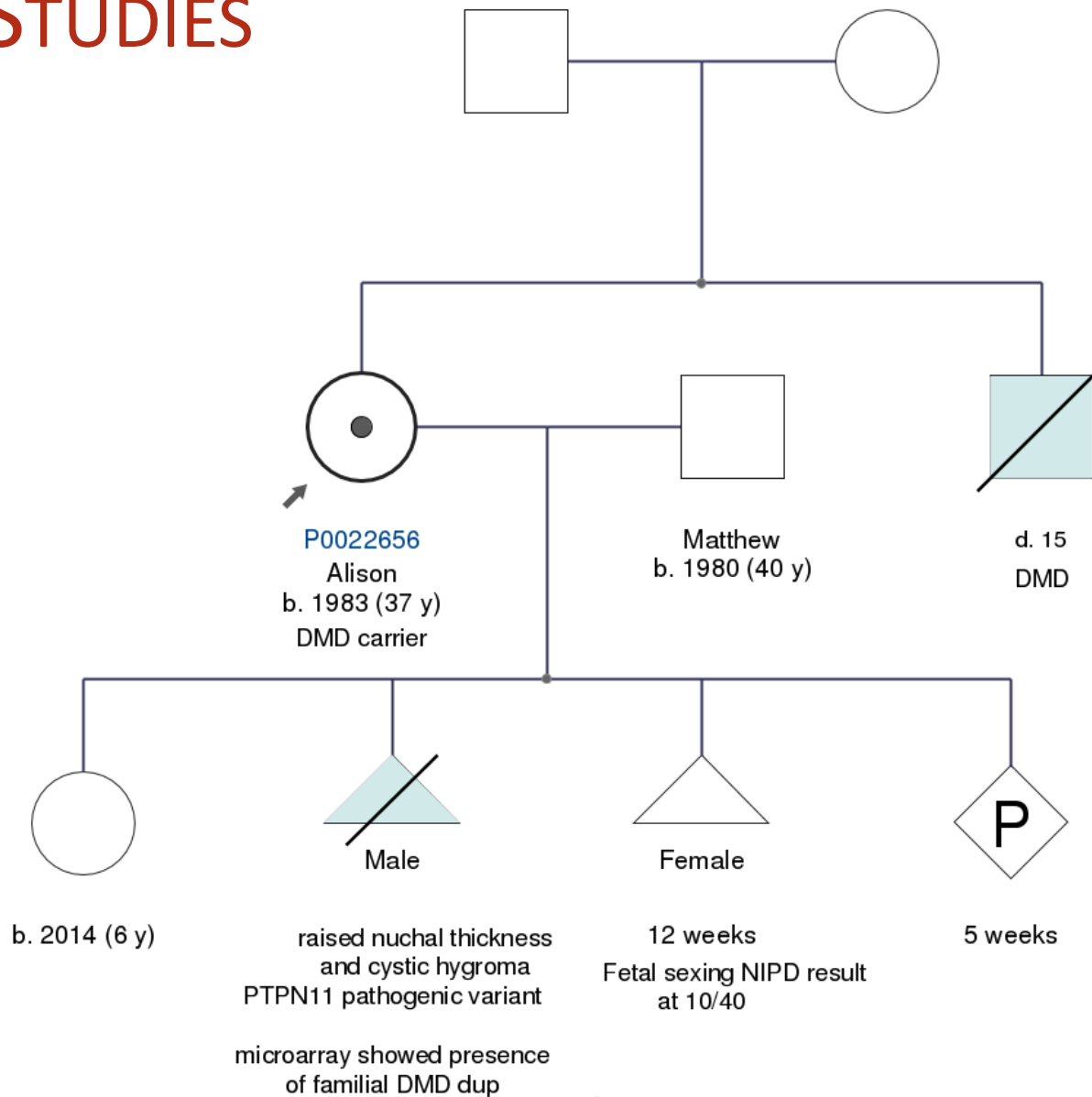


# LEARNING POINTS

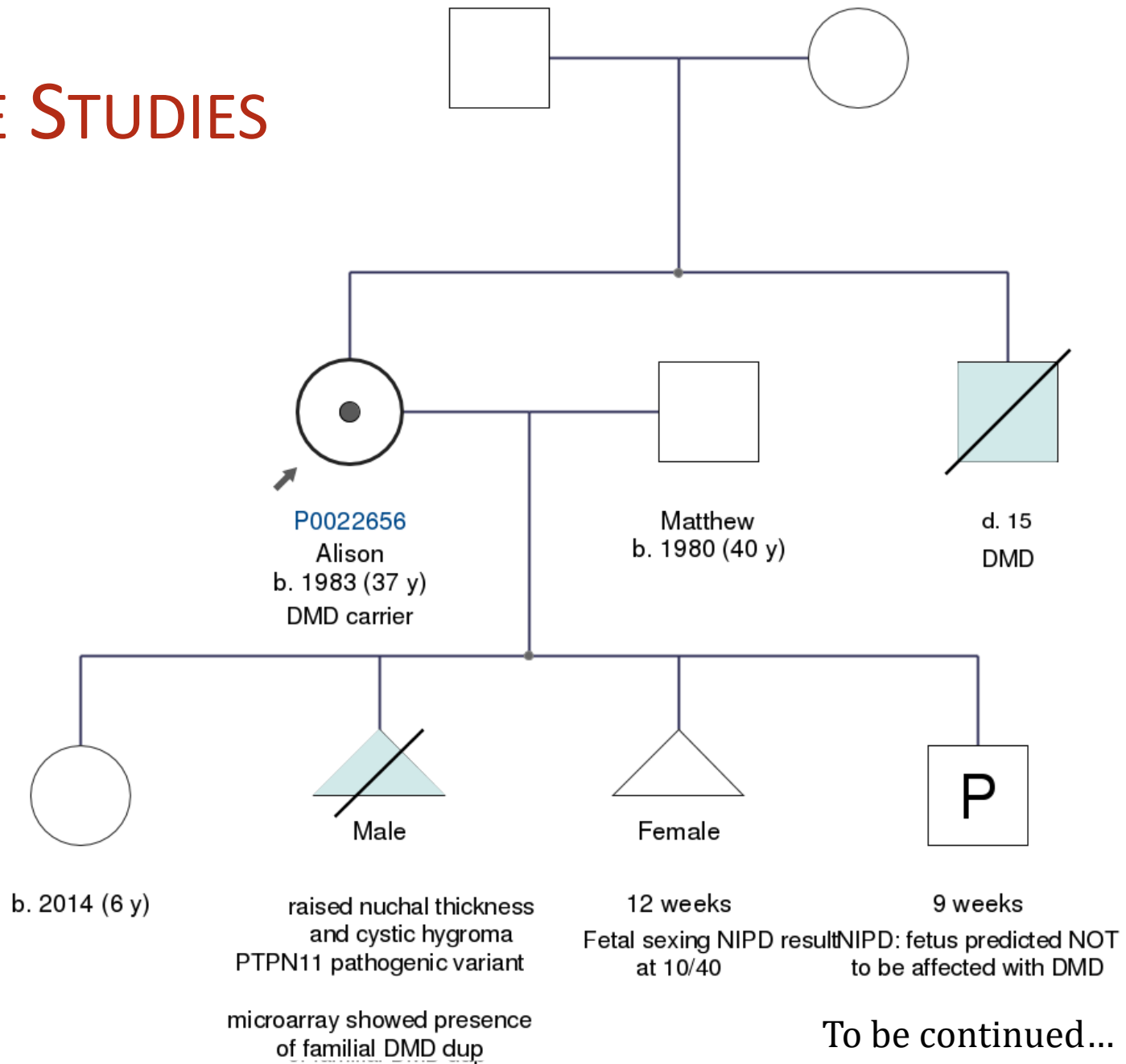
- Technology rapidly changing
- Couples have to be empowered to contact Clinical Genetics team early to access testing
- Importance of pre-test counselling
- Easier test but the same possible implications
- Demand for micro-management - close links with midwifery teams essential



# CASE STUDIES



# CASE STUDIES



## SOME POINTS TO CONSIDER

- Couples need to be aware of possible technical issues and inconclusive results

2  
gestational  
sacs

Insufficient  
informative  
markers

Insufficient  
cffDNA

Recombination

Multiple  
pregnancies

SNP in  
primer  
site

Missed  
miscarriage

- ...ing pregnancy with uncertainty
- Cost of ...
- ...s to test for
- Clinically established ...
- "Work up" time needed for ... and empowerment

# FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- Just another pregnancy blood test?
- Teaching, training and integrated working between Clinical Genetics and Fetal Medicine departments
- Moving towards WGS
  - WES/WGS for NIPD to assist in diagnosis along with scans
  - results much earlier
  - uncertain or incidental findings
- Commercial NIPD testing for low risk pregnancies
  - no pre-test counselling?
  - no “lived experience”?
  - implications for other relatives?



Clinical Chemistry 66:1  
53-60 (2020)

Mini-Reviews

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# Noninvasive Prenatal Diagnosis of Single-Gene Diseases: The Next Frontier

Elizabeth Scotchman,<sup>1</sup> Natalie J. Chandler,<sup>1</sup> Rhiannon Mellis,<sup>1,2</sup> and Lyn S. Chitty<sup>1,2\*</sup>

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Nov 2019



# THANK YOU

- Genetic Counsellors of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge
- Clinical scientists from the Genetic Laboratory Hubs offering clinical NIPD
- Fetal medicine and midwifery teams across East of England region.
- Patients and their families

Any questions?

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