





 The study of the consequences of the influence of nutrients and other bioactive food components on the expression of the genetic material

### **DEFINITION**



- "Seeks to examine dietary signatures in cells, tissues and organisms and to understand how nutrition influences homeostasis" (Muller and Kersten, 2003)
- "The interface between the nutritional environment and cellular/genetic processes" (Kaput and Rodriguez, 2004)

### **NUTRIGENOMICS**

Nutrigenomics is a branch of nutritional genomics and is the study of the effects of foods and food constituents on gene expression.

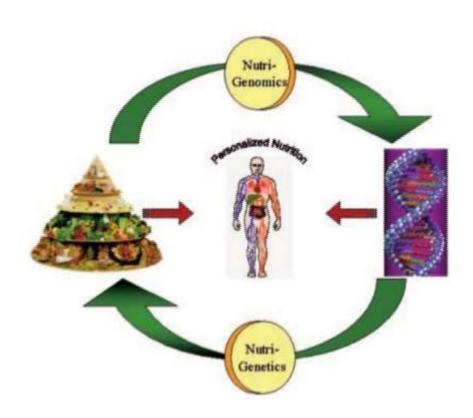
### Introduction

- Nutrigenomics is establishing the effects of ingested nutrients and other food components on gene expression and gene regulation
- It will also determine the individual nutritional requirements based on the genetic makeup of the person as well as the association between diet and chronic diseases
- It will identify the genes involved in physiological responses to diet and the genes in which small changes, called polymorphisms and the influence of environmental factors on gene expression

### **NUTRIGENETICS**

- Nutrigenetics identifies how the genetic make up of a particular individual co-ordinates his or her response to various dietary nutrients
- It also reveals why and how people respond differently to the same nutrient

### Nutrigenomics



#### THE FOUR BASIC TENETS OF NUTRIGENOMICS ARE:

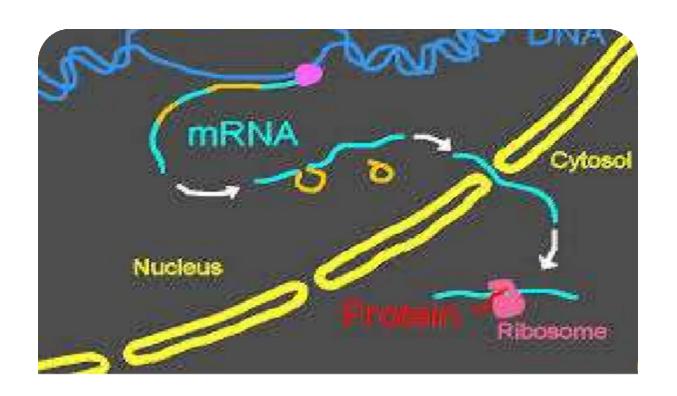
- i. Improper diets are risk factors for disease.
- ii. Dietary chemicals alter gene expression and /or change genome structure.
- iii. The degree to which diet influences the balance between healthy and disease states may depend on an individuals genetic makeup.
- iv. Some diet-regulated genes are likely to play a role in the onset, incidence, progression, and/or severity of chronic diseases.

# NUTRIGENOMICS/NUTRIGENITCS DEAL WITH FEW, THOUGH IMPORTANT, CONCEPTS

- 1. Specific dietary profiles can modulate the delicate balance between health and disease acting, either directly or indirectly, on gene expression.
- 2. The individual genetic makeup, that is, the presence of polymorphisms in nutrient regulated genes, affects individual risk of diseases.
- 3. Personalized diets, which take into account individual genotype, represent the ultimate goal of Nutrigenomics/Nutrigenites studies, as they can lower risk in genetically predisposed individuals or population groups.

## HOW DOES DIET AFFECTS OUR GENE EXPRESSION?

- Genes express themselves through proteins. Enzymes are special proteins designed to get things started.
- Our genome instructs ribosomes to produce many enzymes that destroy toxins.
- Some foods such as cauliflower, broccoli and brussels sprout contain chemicals that actually tell our gene to direct biosynthesis of these enzymes
- In some individuals genes give unclear instructions for making an enzyme that metabolizes the amino acid, phenylalanine. As a result this amino acid build up, thereby causing brain damage
- A diet restricting this amino acid will stop the damage if detected in early infancy



### Advantages of Nutrigenomics

- Increased focus on a healthy diet and lifestyle
- Increased awareness of risk of certain conditions
- Improved health quantity of life
- Focus on prevention of diseases
- Decreased morbidity and premature mortality
- Reduced health care costs
- Better understanding of the mechanisms involved in disease susceptibility

### **Disadvantages of Nutrigenomics**

- Attention is drawn away from other modifiable risk factors
- Focus only specific nutrients/foods
- Misleading claims
- Increased costs associated with personalized diets and designer foods

### REFERENCES

- http://nutrigenomics.ucdavis.edu/
- https://www.google.co.in
- Kathleen L M and Sylvia E (2008) edn 12, Krause's Food and Nutrition Therapy, p.365

### THANK YOU