DESCRIPTION

The *Annals of Human Genetics* is an international journal publishing rigorously peer-reviewed research. The principal aim of the *Annals* is to increase understanding of the causes and consequences of human genetic variation, particularly in relation to health, disease and evolution. In recent years it has become apparent that the study of population genetics is extremely relevant to molecular pathology. The interaction of these fields can greatly increase our understanding of the generation and maintenance of variation in the human genome.

The major topics covered in the *Annals* include:-

**Human genome variation** - its evolution and implications for human biology. Interpretations of the past, current or future state of the human genome sequence, including ancient DNA studies, are also welcomed.

**Human population and evolutionary genetics** - including studies aimed at inferring human demographic and adaptation history, at improving our understanding of chromosome evolution, and at describing the geographic distribution of biologically/medically-relevant genetic variation, worldwide. The journal will also consider studies on primate populations.

**Statistical genetics** - the application and improvement of mathematical approaches for analysis of genetic data, including linkage and association mapping of genes and QTLs. The journal also welcomes papers focussing on more general bioinformatic developments.

**Genetics of common multifactorial diseases and other complex traits and QTLs** - in general we expect these to be human but relevant animal models will also be considered. We also publish meta-analyses, provided they conform to specified requirements.
Mendelian disorders and their molecular pathology - the emphasis will again be on human disease but animal models or in vitro work may also be considered.

In each of these areas we welcome high quality articles providing original data and/or analysis, and also methodological papers, preferably including application to real data. Large datasets and additional material can be stored and made easily available through the journal web site. An absolute requirement of all papers will be that a general reader of the journal can understand from the summary of the paper what problem the authors are trying to solve.

Most articles published will be full-length research papers, and in each issue we aim to have at least one review article. Reviews are generally invited, but suggestions are very welcome and preliminary enquiries should be directed to the Editor-in-Chief. Short communications will also be considered if of sufficient interest.

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