

Review of: "[Perspective] Is There Any Reason to Stay in Human Genetic Societies as Cytogeneticists?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper presents a critical analysis of the current trends in human genetic societies, highlighting a shift away from a comprehensive approach to genetics towards a narrower focus on gene mutations. The concern expressed is that this shift might lead to a significant oversight in the field of molecular cytogenetics and the involvement of patient support groups in society meetings. The paper emphasizes the importance of cytogenetics and the presence of patient groups, arguing that their diminishing roles could result in a disconnection from the central subjects of genetic research: the patients themselves. The critique extends to the educational implications of this trend, noting a decrease in the emphasis on cytogenetics in university curricula. This shift could have long-term consequences for the training and preparedness of future geneticists, potentially impacting the field's ability to comprehensively address the complexities of genetic diseases. Furthermore, the paper calls for a reassessment by national and European societies of Human Genetics, urging a reintegration of the broader aspects of genetics into their agendas. The argument is made that a more inclusive approach, encompassing both cytogenetics and patient-centric perspectives, is essential for the holistic advancement of the field. Overall, the paper serves as a crucial reminder of the multifaceted nature of genetics and the ethical imperative to maintain a connection to patient experiences and needs. It challenges the current direction of genetic societies and underscores the need for a balanced approach that considers all aspects of human genetics, ensuring that the field remains comprehensive and patient-focused.