Evaluating the outcomes associated with genomic sequencing: current evidence and next steps

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207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

Over the past decade, genomic sequencing research studies have increased in size and we are currently said to be living in the million-genome era. Some of these large-scale projects are now approaching completion, and national health services will soon have to decide whether sequencing technologies should be translated into clinical practice for specific disorders. However, the health economic evidence base to support the widespread use of these technologies is limited, and evidence on the outcomes associated with sequencing is in particularly short supply. This prevents decision-makers from making fully informed healthcare resource allocation decisions with respect to genomic technologies, potentially leading to the misallocation of scarce healthcare resources, reducing population health. In this talk I will summarise the current evidence on the outcomes associated with sequencing, outline the challenges that health economists face when generating such evidence, and propose a roadmap for future research to improve decision-making in this context.