



Dr. Chiara Sabatti

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Genetics in a Finnish Birth Cohort

**NOTE ROOM
CHANGE!**

Friday
April 1, 2011
12:00–1:00 p.m.

The Hospital for Sick Children
Room 4704, Atrium Elevators, 4th Floor
170 Elizabeth Street, Toronto, ON

Seminar Abstract: As the cost of extensively surveying the genome of one individual has decreased substantially, genetic researchers have turned their attention to large collections of well phenotyped subjects. One example is the Northern Finland Birth Cohort 1966 (NFBC66), which has been used to study the genetic basis of a number of traits, ranging from height to lipid levels, and glucose concentration to temperament scales.

I will describe my experience with genetic association studies for lipid levels in NFBC66, some statistical methodology we develop to account for the observed population structure, and some of the most recent experimental directions. The work presented is joint with a large group of researchers that made possible the collection and genotyping of NFBC, as well as members of the Laboratories of Nelson Freimer and Eleazar Eskin from UCLA.

Speaker Bio: Chiara Sabatti is Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Statistics at Stanford University. Her undergraduate education was at the Bocconi University in Milan, where she worked with Eugenio Regazzini. She obtained her PhD from Stanford, with a thesis on MCMC methods, under the guidance of Jun Liu. Dr. Sabatti started working in genetics while a post-doc in Neil Risch's laboratory. Her first faculty appointment was at the University of California in Los Angeles, where she rose from assistant to full professor in the departments of Human Genetics and Statistics.

Dr. Sabatti develops methodology to analyze genomic data, trying to carefully incorporate the available biological information, and choosing statistical approaches that handle efficiently high dimensional data. She was the recipient of the NSF Career award in 2003.

Housed at the University of Toronto Dalla Lana School of Public Health, **CIHR STAGE** is a training program in genetic epidemiology and statistical genetics funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research through the Strategic Training Initiative in Health Research program. Seminars are sponsored by The Hospital for Sick Children, the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute of Mount Sinai Hospital, the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, the Department of Statistics of the University of Toronto, the Ontario Cancer Institute of the University Health Network, and the CIHR Institute of Genetics.

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