

# **CHRD 2023: Abstract Submission Form**

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**Research Category** Community Health / Policy Presenter Status Non-Trainee

**Role in the project** Design Analyze Data Write Abstract

# Title

Evaluating an "OMICS First" approach to the diagnosis of suspected inherited metabolic disorders: Preliminary analysis of the cost-efficacy of offering genome-wide sequencing early in the diagnostic workup of patients referred to the clinical metabolic service

# Background

The Canadian Prairie Metabolic Network (CPMN) provides patients suspected to have an inherited metabolic disorder (IMD) with timely access to genome wide sequencing (GWS) early in their diagnostic work-up – the "OMICS First" approach. The aims of "OMICS First" are to shorten wait-times, increase diagnostic yield, and lower clinical diagnostic costs.

# Objective

Herein we report the preliminary economic analysis of the "OMICS First" approach using a Markov economic model.

#### Methods

Whole Exome Sequencing (WES) and/or mtDNA sequencing were performed for consenting patients. Cumulative diagnostic costs and clinical wait-times for traditional testing were estimated by reviewing patient charts from 2018-2023 and approximating costs from published sources and local costs. The cost-efficacy of the "OMICs First" approach was examined using a Markov model for participants referred to the clinical Metabolic service after 2018 (n = 71), after which clinical access to GWS became more widely available to patients and families in Manitoba. A decision tree was used to describe the effectiveness of "OMICs First" approach in terms of diagnostic costs and diagnostic yield over the 5-year period from 2018-

2023 and was compared to standard of care (SOC) costs.

# Results

The "OMICs First" approach was found to be more cost effective than SOC, saving approximately \$43,600 for each positive WES or mtDNA diagnosis per 5-year period or \$8,715 for each positive diagnosis annually. The accumulated costs incurred for an "average" patient receiving "OMICs First" regardless of diagnostic outcome were \$9,703 per 5-year period, whereas the accumulated costs for an "average" patient receiving SOC were \$23,368. This translates to a cost-saving of \$13,664 per 5-year period. Diagnostic effectiveness was 31% better for the "OMICs First" approach.

# Conclusion

"OMICs First" WES and mtDNA sequencing improve diagnostic yield and are cost-effective for a cohort that closely resembles the population of patients commonly referred to the clinical Metabolic service.

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