

**bloom**  
**syndrome**  
association

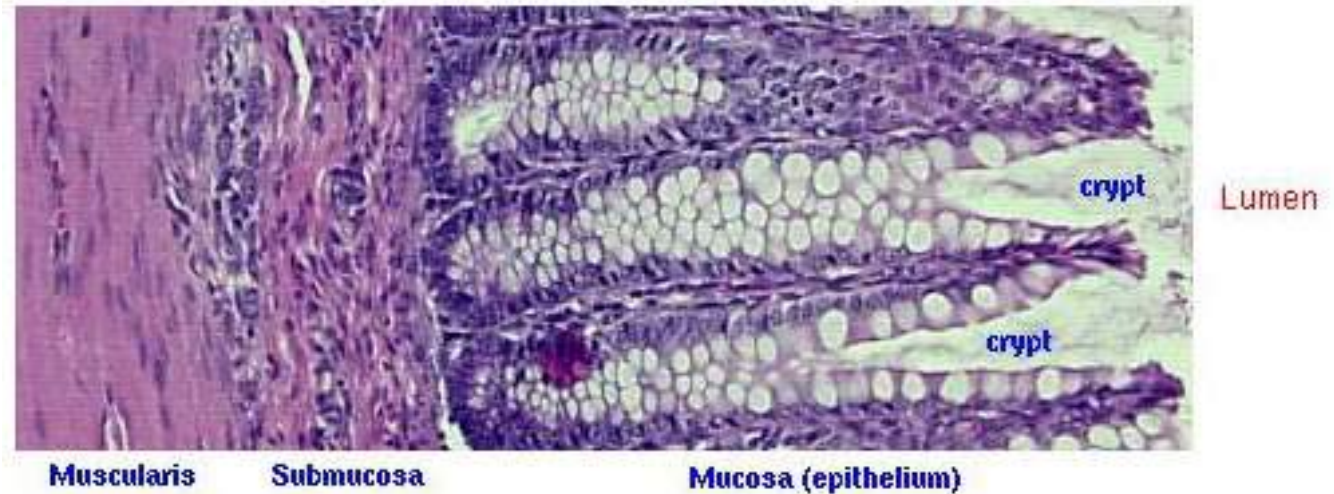
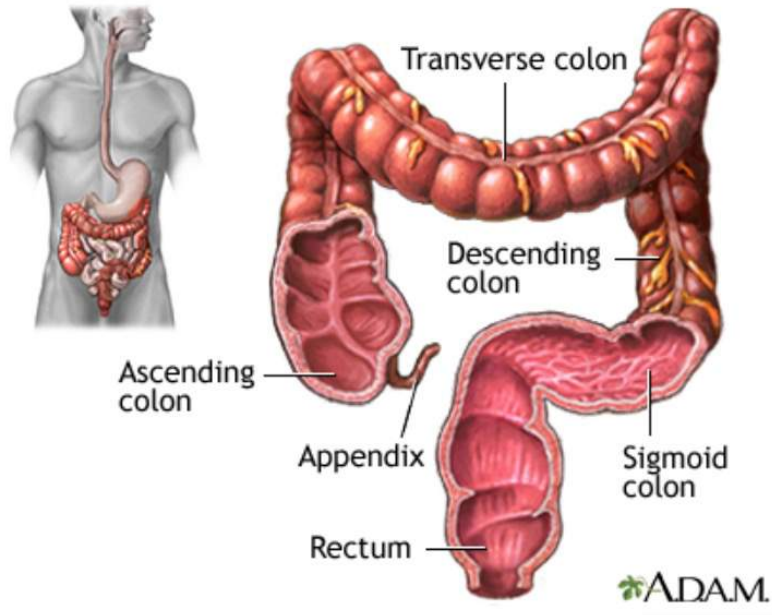
# Developing a Bloom syndrome biobank

Bloom syndrome webinar

Nathan Ellis

August 22, 2023

# Anatomy and function of the large bowel



## **ANATOMY**

Length – 1.5 m (150 cm)  
Circumference – 6.5 cm  
Surface area – 995 cm<sup>2</sup>

15 million crypts  
2000 cells/crypt  
12-18 stem cells each crypt

Slightly different numbers for  
the small intestine

## **FUNCTIONS**

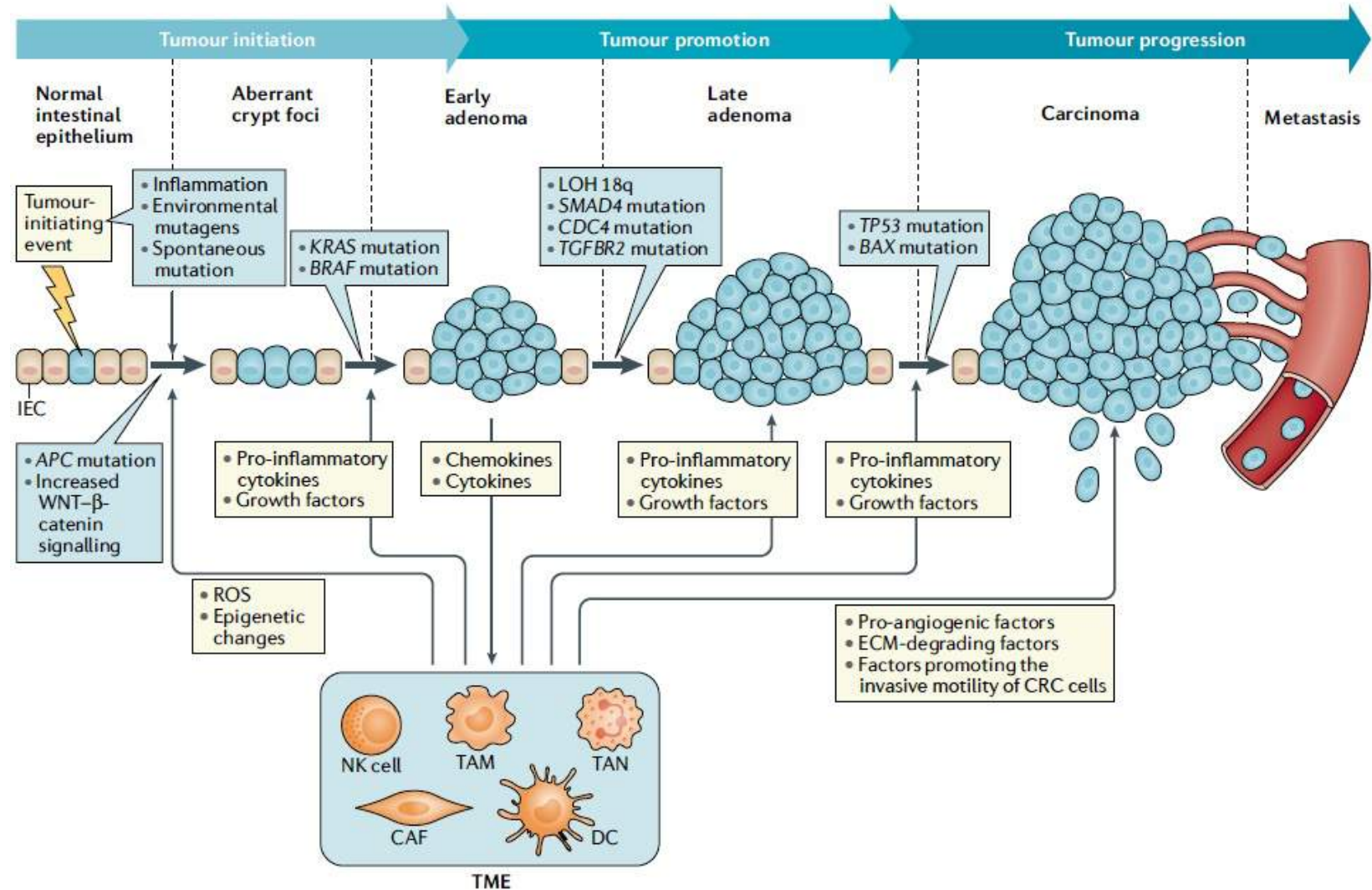
Water and bile resorption  
Fecal mass consolidation  
Barrier  
Peristalsis  
Highly vascularized  
Mesenteric lymph nodes  
Pathogen surveillance; defense  
against pathogens  
Microbiota

## **CELL BIOLOGY**

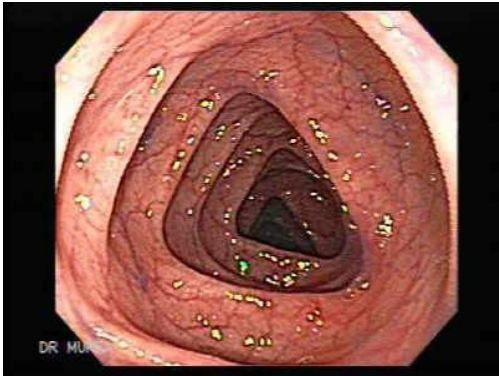
Differentiated cells types:  
Stem cells  
Colonocyte or enterocyte (absorptive)  
Paneth (secretory; small intestine only)  
Goblet (secretory)  
Enteroendocrine (secretory)  
Tuft (secretory)  
M cell (immuno-regulatory)  
Stroma – fibroblasts, smooth muscle,  
endothelial, and neuronal

# Colorectal Cancer

- Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the third most diagnosed cancer and third leading cause of cancer-related death in the US.
- Expected 153,020 new CRC cases in 2023 in the US, predicted 52,550 CRC-related deaths.
- CRC incidence is declining in older individuals (>65 years of age)
- CRC increases from 11% in 1995 to 20% in 2019 in persons under 50 years of age



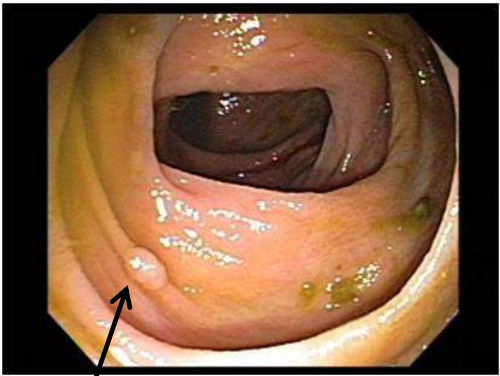
# Through the endoscope lens



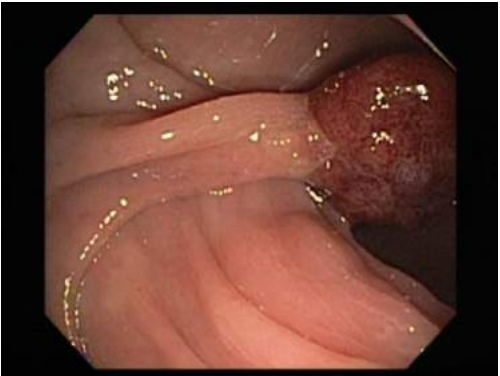
“clean colon”



Aberrant crypt focus



Early adenoma

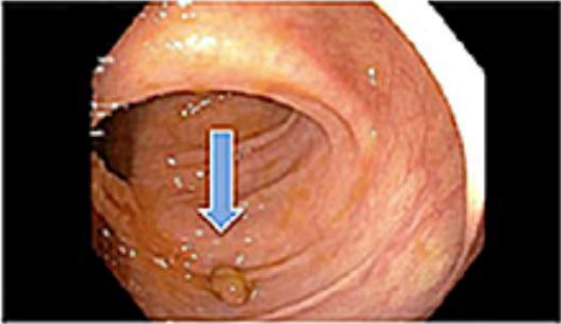


Advanced adenoma

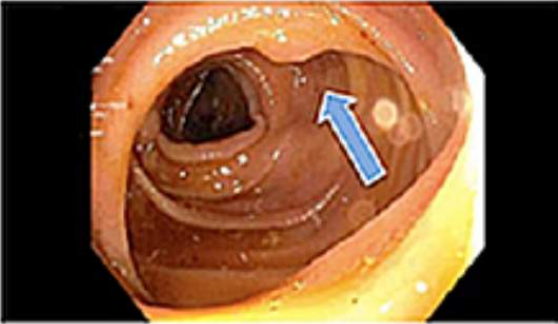


Colorectal cancer

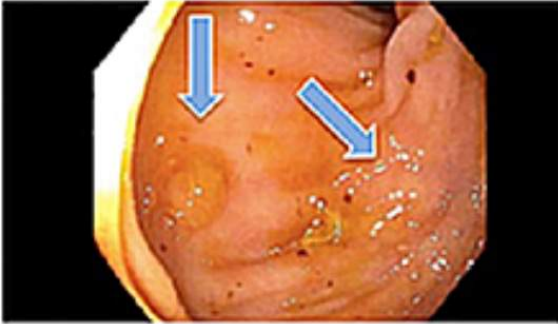
# Attenuated polyposis



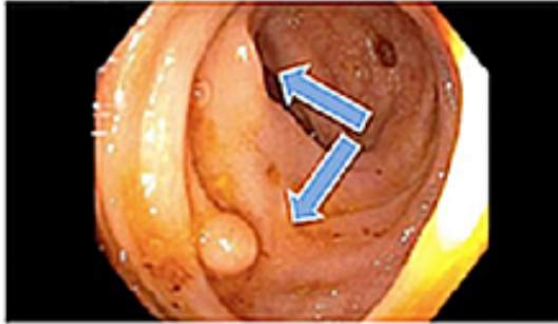
(A)



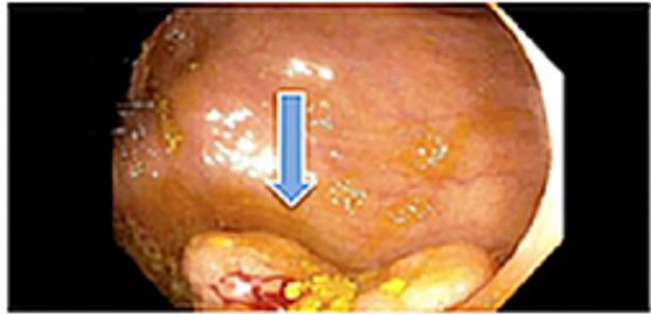
(B)



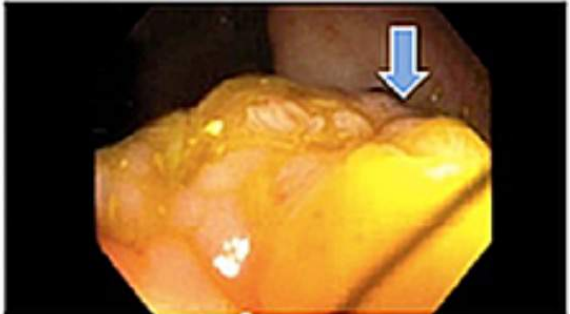
(C)



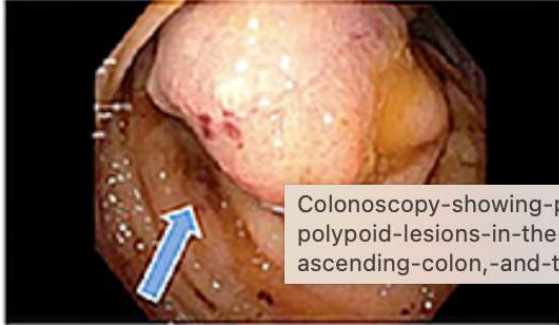
(D)



(E)



(F)



(G)



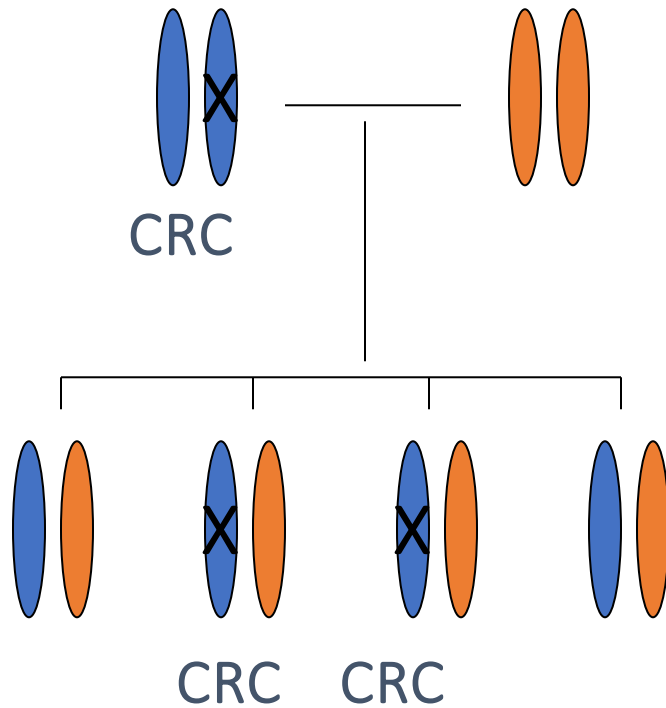
(H)

Colonoscopy showing polyposis with large polypoid lesions in the cecum, the proximal ascending colon, and the sigmoid colon.

# Inheritance patterns of CRC syndromes

## Autosomal dominant

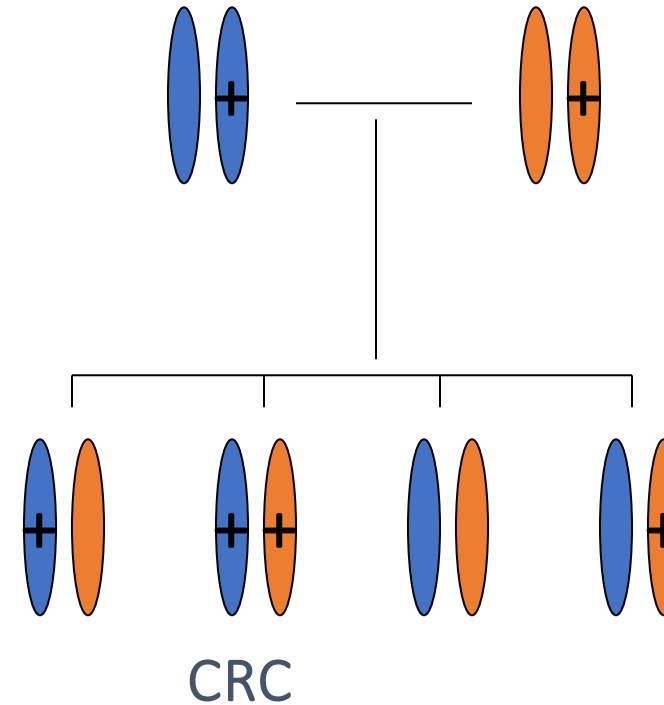
(FAP, AFAP, PPAP, Lynch Syndrome, Hamartomatous polyposis)



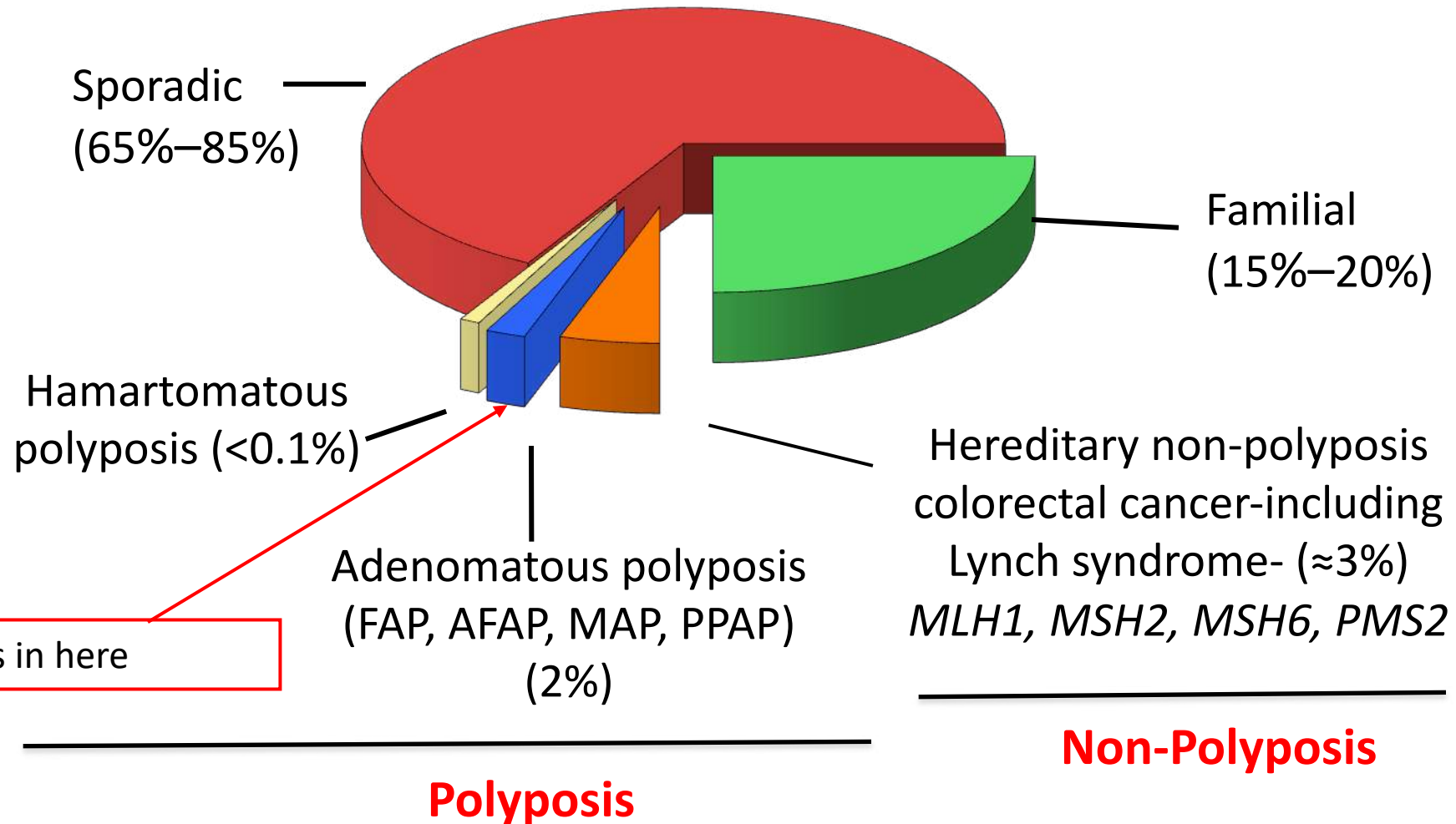
## Autosomal recessive

(MAP, *NTHL-1*, *MSH3*)

Bloom syndrome is here



# Hereditary Susceptibility to CRC



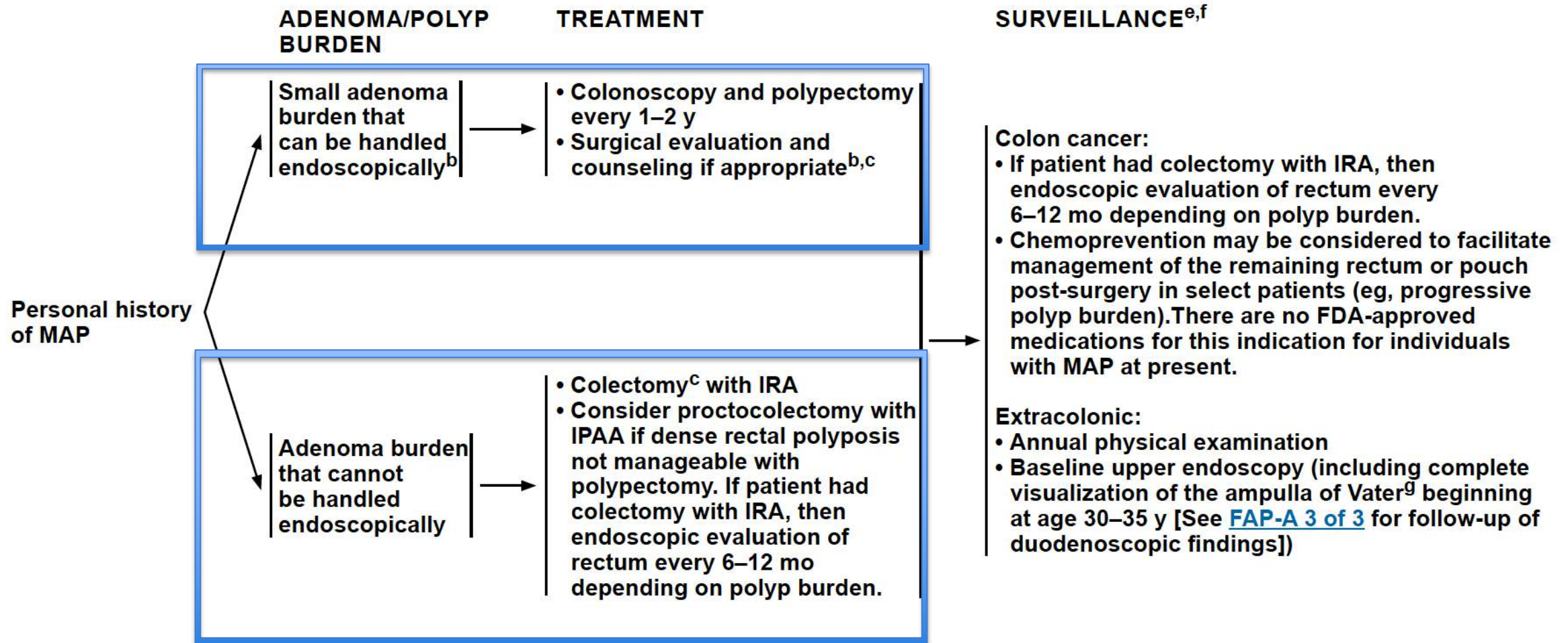
**TABLE 1** Recommendations for surveillance and treatment of people with BSyn

Clinical condition	Screening/prevention recommendations	Treatment recommendations
Leukemia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Awareness of symptoms of leukemia, such as pallor, abnormal bleeding, petechiae, fatigue, and unintentional weight loss</li></ul>	<p><i>For all cancers:</i> There is a possibility of increased risk for secondary cancers after chemotherapy/radiation. MRI and ultrasonography are preferred over CT scans, PET scans, and other radiography procedures. Chemotherapy should be adapted; BSR patients have typically tolerated 50% or below the normal regimen dosage. Ionizing radiation or alkylating agents (busulfan, melphalan, or cyclophosphamide) are not recommended.</p>
Lymphoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Awareness of symptoms, such as enlarged lymph nodes, unexplained fevers, night sweats, fatigue, unintentional weight loss</li><li>Whole body MRI scanning every 1–2 years, starting at age 12–13</li></ul>	
Colorectal Cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual colonoscopy and FIT every 6 months, starting at age 10–12 years</li></ul>	
Breast Cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual breast MRI scans, starting at age 18</li></ul>	
Skin Cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reduce excessive exposure to sunlight</li><li>Cover exposed skin</li><li>Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with SPF of 30 with application twice daily and every 2–3 hr if outdoors</li></ul>	
Wilms Tumor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Awareness of symptoms, such as hematuria and a painless abdominal mass</li><li>Abdominal ultrasound every 3 months, starting at diagnosis to age 8</li></ul>	



# MUTYH-associated polyposis (MAP): treatment and surveillance

## MAP TREATMENT AND SURVEILLANCE: PERSONAL HISTORY





Penn Medicine



the orphan disease center

\*\*\*\*\*NOTICE OF AWARD\*\*\*\*\*

**BLOOM SYNDROME GRANT PROGRAM**

Issue Date: July 27, 2022

Orphan Disease Center  
University of Pennsylvania  
TRL, Suite 1200  
125 S. 31<sup>st</sup> Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

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Pilot Award Number: **BLOOM-22-001-01**

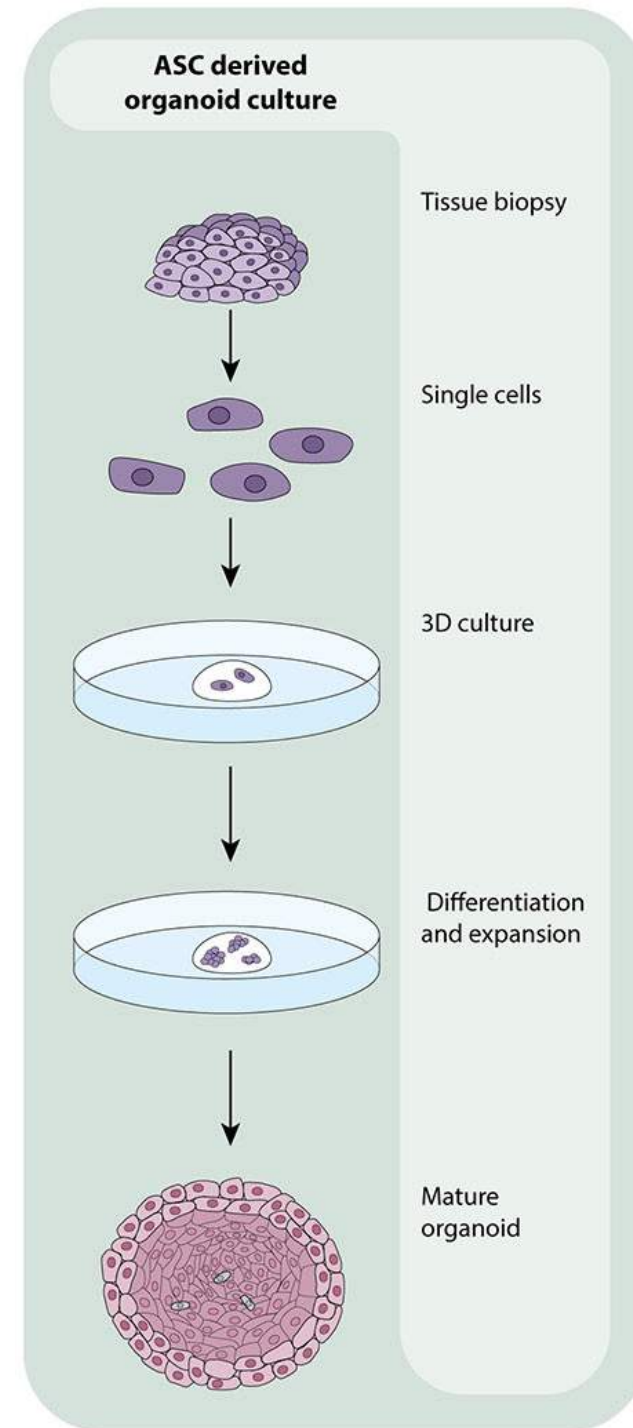
Principal Investigator: **Nathan Ellis**

Project Title: **Development of Normal and Tumor Organoids from Bloom Syndrome to Evaluate Responses to Pharmacological and Genetic Perturbations**

# Cancer Organoid Models: current best method to study human cancer



Human colorectal cancer organoids

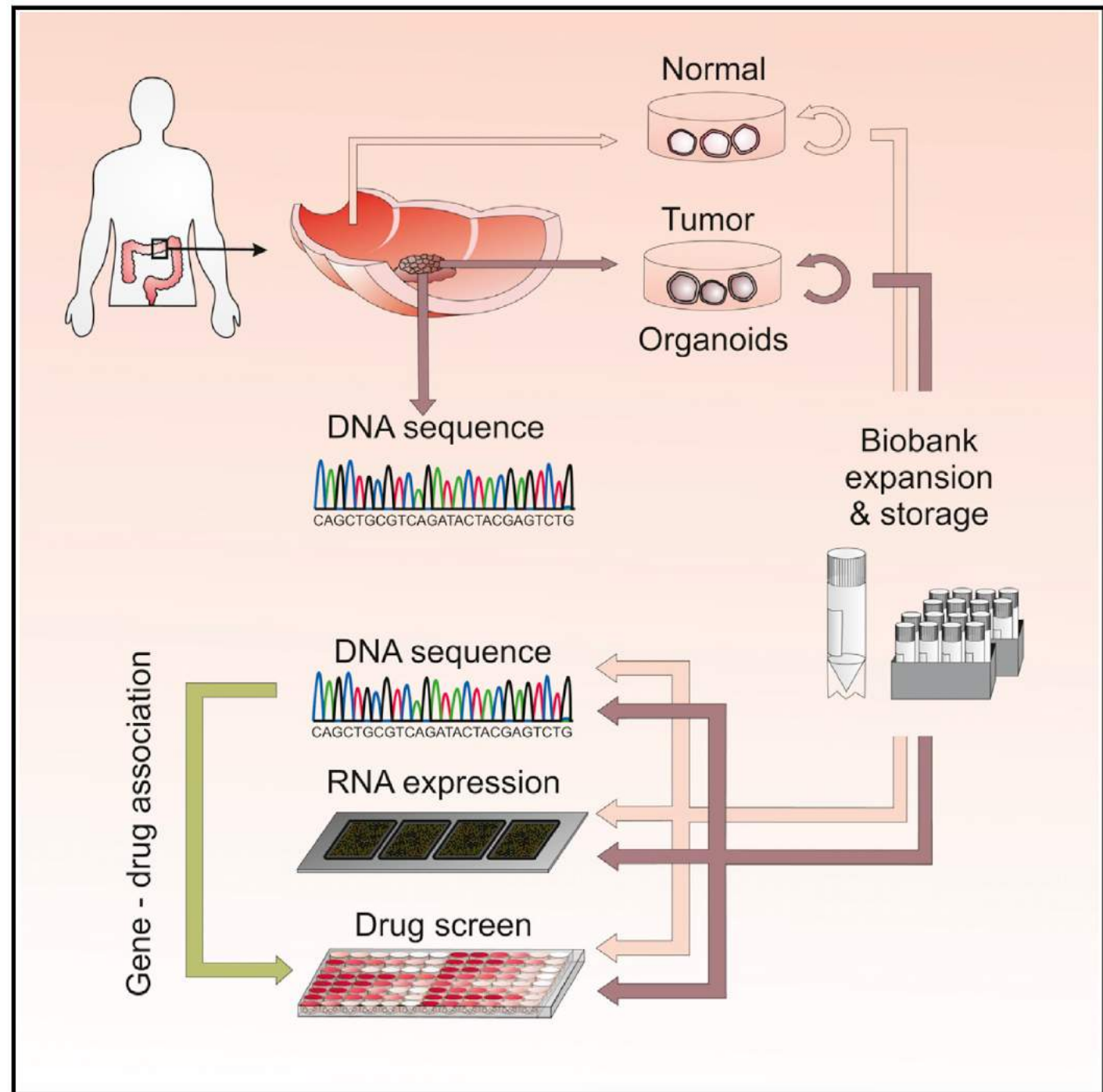


# Bloom syndrome organoid biobank

Cancer driver gene somatic mutations

Bulk and single-cell RNA expression profiles

Drug screening platform to identify cancer cell vulnerabilities and host sensitivities



# What can you do to help?

- We are making
  - Cancer organoids from any and all types of cancer from surgeries or biopsies
  - Normal tissue organoids from non-involved tissue from surgeries or biopsies
  - Normal and adenoma samples from endoscopies
- To make normal and cancer organoid models, **WE NEED FRESH CANCER and NORMAL TISSUES**
  - Samples from the GI lab or the surgical suite via pathology must be sent to Ellis lab in Arizona within 24 hours
  - Please alert your surgeon and his team, the BSR, and Nathan. We will coordinate the transport of specimens to the various interested parties
- **ORGANOID RESEARCH COULD BE TRANSFORMATIVE FOR TREATING BLOOM CANCERS!**

# *Thank you!!!*

2022 Bloom meeting



2008 Bloom meetings



We love you!



# Caretaker gene mutations change the mutation rate

## Tumor suppressor (TS) gene inactivation

