

SPRINGER HANDBOOK OF AUDITORY RESEARCH

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Bronya J.B. Keats
Arthur N. Popper
Richard R. Fay
Editors

Genetics of Auditory Disorders

With 40 Illustrations



Springer

Bronya J.B. Keats
Department of Biometry and Genetics
Louisiana State University
New Orleans, LA 70112, USA

Richard R. Fay
Department of Psychology and
Parmlly Hearing Institute
Loyola University of Chicago
Chicago, IL 60626, USA

Arthur N. Popper
Department of Biology and
Neuroscience and Cognitive Science
Program
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742-4415, USA

Series Editors: Richard R. Fay and Arthur N. Popper

Cover illustration: G-banded human male karyotype (46,XY), consisting of the normal complement of 46 chromosomes, including one X and one Y. This figure appears on p. 94 of the text.

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Series Preface

The *Springer Handbook of Auditory Research* presents a series of comprehensive and synthetic reviews of the fundamental topics in modern auditory research. The volumes are aimed at all individuals with interests in hearing research including advanced graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and clinical investigators. The volumes are intended to introduce new investigators to important aspects of hearing science and to help established investigators to better understand the fundamental theories and data in fields of hearing that they may not normally follow closely.

Each volume is intended to present a particular topic comprehensively, and each chapter will serve as a synthetic overview and guide to the literature. As such, the chapters present neither exhaustive data reviews nor original research that has not yet appeared in peer-reviewed journals. The volumes focus on topics that have developed a solid data and conceptual foundation rather than on those for which a literature is only beginning to develop. New research areas will be covered on a timely basis in the series as they begin to mature.

Each volume in the series consists of five to eight substantial chapters on a particular topic. In some cases, the topics will be ones of traditional interest for which there is a substantial body of data and theory, such as auditory neuroanatomy (Vol. 1) and neurophysiology (Vol. 2). Other volumes in the series will deal with topics that have begun to mature more recently, such as development, plasticity, and computational models of neural processing. In many cases, the series editors will be joined by a co-editor having special expertise in the topic of the volume.

Richard R. Fay, Chicago, IL
Arthur N. Popper, College Park, MD

Preface

The purpose of this volume in the *Springer Handbook of Auditory Research* series is to inform the reader about the many clinical forms of genetic hearing loss, the mutations that are responsible, and the functions of the proteins that are encoded by the mutant genes. This volume treats with equal importance the basic principles of genetics, the methods and techniques used in human molecular genetic studies, and the examples of how scientific results can be applied in patient care. An overview of the basic principles of genetics is provided in Chapter 1 (Keats and Berlin), together with citations to other chapters that expand on the topic. In addition, Chapter 1 ends with an extensive glossary of genetic terms with which some readers may be unfamiliar. Chapters 2 (Avraham and Hasson) and 5 (Giersch and Morton) describe the structure of genes and chromosomes, while Chapters 3 (Mueller, Van Camp, and Lench) and 5 explain the methodologies and the genomic tools used to find the chromosomal locations and identify disease genes. In Chapter 4, Nance and Pandya discuss the application of the laws of population genetics and models of genetic epidemiology to hearing loss, while Chapter 8 (Steel, Erven, and Kiernan) clarifies the relevance of mouse models to advancing understanding of hearing loss in humans. The clinical and genetic heterogeneity of genetic hearing loss are delineated in Chapters 6 (Griffith and Friedman) and 7 (Fischel-Ghodsian), with Chapter 6 providing an in-depth coverage of autosomal and X-linked forms of hearing loss and Chapter 7 concentrating on hearing loss due to mitochondrial DNA mutations. Finally, Chapter 9 (Arnos and Oerlich) illustrates the role of the genetic counselor in communicating knowledge about hearing loss to the patient, thus translating the findings of medical science into clinical care.

Bronya Keats, New Orleans, LA
Richard R. Fay, Chicago, IL
Arthur N. Popper, College Park, MD
April, 2001

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Contributors

Kathleen S. Arnos

Genetics Services Center, Gallaudet Research Institute, Washington, DC 20002, USA

Karen B. Avraham

Department of Human Genetics and Molecular Medicine, Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Ramat Aviv 69978, Israel

Charles I. Berlin

Department of Genetics and Department of Otolaryngology, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA 70112, USA

Alexandra Erven

MRC Institute of Hearing Research, Nottingham NG7 2RD, UK

Nathan Fischel-Ghodsian

Department of Pediatrics, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA 90048, USA

Thomas B. Friedman

Laboratory of Molecular Genetics, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, Rockville, MD 20850, USA

Ann B. Skvorak Giersch

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Biology and Pathology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA 02115, USA

Andrew J. Griffith

Laboratory of Molecular Genetics, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, Rockville, MD 20850, USA

Tama Hasson

Section of Cell and Developmental Biology, University of California at San Diego, San Diego, CA 92093-0368, USA

Bronya J.B. Keats

Department of Genetics and Department of Otolaryngology, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA 70112, USA

Amy E. Kiernan

MRC Institute of Hearing Research, Nottingham NG7 2RD, UK

Nick J. Lench

Molecular Medicine Unit, University of Leeds; St. James Hospital, Leeds, LS9 7TF, UK

Cynthia C. Morton

Departments of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Biology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA 02115, USA

Robert F. Mueller

Department of Clinical Genetics, St. James Hospital, Leeds, LS9 7TF, UK

Walter E. Nance

Department of Human Genetics, Medical College of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA 232980033, USA

M. Katherine Oelrich

Genetics Services Center, Gallaudet Research Institute, Washington, DC 20002, USA

Arti Pandya

Department of Human Genetics, Medical College of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA 232980033, USA

Karen P. Steel

MRC Institute of Hearing Research, Nottingham NG7 2RD, UK

Guy Van Camp

Department of Medical Genetics, University of Antwerp, 2610 Antwerp, Belgium