

BIO 100 Biology Today – Exam 3 Study Guide

Pedigrees and Patterns of Inheritance

Need to Know:

- Autosomes vs sex chromosomes
- Properties of a pedigree
- Modes of inheritance
 - Autosomal Recessive, autosomal dominant, sex-linked recessive, sex-linked dominant
- Important questions to ask to determine inheritance patterns of disease

Central Dogma

- Layout of the central dogma
- Transcription
 - What is it.
 - What are the key biomolecules involved
 - Relationship between DNA and RNA
 - RNA polymerase is responsible for copying the DNA to RNA
 - Know what it means that the mRNA strand is complementary to the DNA strand
- Translation
 - What is it
 - Key biomolecules involved
 - Relationship between RNA and proteins
- Double-stranded nature of DNA
- Complementary nature of nucleotides in DNA
 - A complements T
 - G complements C
- RNA
 - different sugar group vs DNA
 - How many strands does it have
 - Is this different than DNA?
 - Contains Uracil instead of thymine
 - Know what base uracil is complementary to
 - Role of mRNA
 - Role of tRNA
- DNA vs RNA
 - Table of similarities and differences will be helpful to know
- Gene expression
 - Flow of genetic information from DNA to RNA to Protein
 - Where does transcription and translation fit into this flow
- Role of codons
 - What does the START codon do?
 - What does the STOP codon do?
 - Relationship between codons, tRNA, and amino acids

-***** You DO NOT need to know which codons code for which amino acids!

-***** You DO NOT need to know which codons are the start and stop codons

-mRNA Processing

-Know what introns and exons are

-Splicing

-How alternative splicing can create alternative proteins from the same transcript

-Ribosomes

-Know their role in translation

-Do not need to know APE sites

-Gene regulation

-What is a housekeeping gene?

-How is gene regulation involved in determining the “specialty” of a cell type?

-How is gene expression regulated by heterochromatin vs euchromatin?

Gene layout

-Promoter, coding region, enhancer

-What are the roles of promoters and enhancers in regulating gene expression?

-Role of transcription factors

-Bind to enhancers to speed up transcription

X-inactivation

-Occurs in females

-The inactive X-chromosome is greatly condensed

-What are the effects of condensing this particular copy of the X chromosome on gene expression from that chromosome?

Myotonic Dystrophy

-Myotonia

-Autosomal Dominant

-Linkage analysis

-What it is used for

-What are “genetic markers” used for

-How does the linkage of genetic markers with mutant alleles allow us to determine chromosomal location?

-Mutation that causes myotonic dystrophy

-Trinucleotide expansion

-Located in a coding region or non-coding region?

-Why was it perplexing to scientists when initially identified?

-Ways to test whether protein levels are involved

-Disease mechanism of myotonic dystrophy

-RNA gain of function means that the RNA that’s made from the mutant allele has gained a toxic function

-RNA accumulates and aggregates inside cell nuclei

-Splicing factor MBNL1 sequestered on RNA

-Impact that this has on splicing

-Relationship between mis-splicing and the phenotypes that affect many systems

-Genetic Anticipation

-What is it?

-Why does it occur in myotonic dystrophy?

-All you need to know about antisense morpholinos are that they act in the toxic transcripts in myotonic dystrophy and cause their degradation. This is why they are a potential therapy.