



## Webcast

# New study published in *Cell* advancing functional classification of VUSs

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**Joshua Milner, MD**  
Columbia University  
Irving Medical Center



**Anurag Relan**  
Chief Medical Officer  
Pharming Group N.V.



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## ◆ Dr. Joshua Milner will:

- Present findings of a new study published in *Cell* titled “Scalable generation and functional classification of genetic variants in inborn errors of immunity to accelerate clinical diagnosis and treatment”
- Discuss how this study advances variant of uncertain significance (VUS) resolution, improves APDS diagnosis, and informs its true prevalence

## ◆ Q&A with Dr. Anurag Relan, Chief Medical Officer

# Large-scale functional classification of *PIK3CD* and *PIK3R1* variants to improve APDS diagnosis

**Joshua Milner, MD**

Director, Division of Pediatric Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology  
Chief, Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology Services New York-Presbyterian  
Morgan Stanley Children Hospital  
Columbia University  
New York, NY

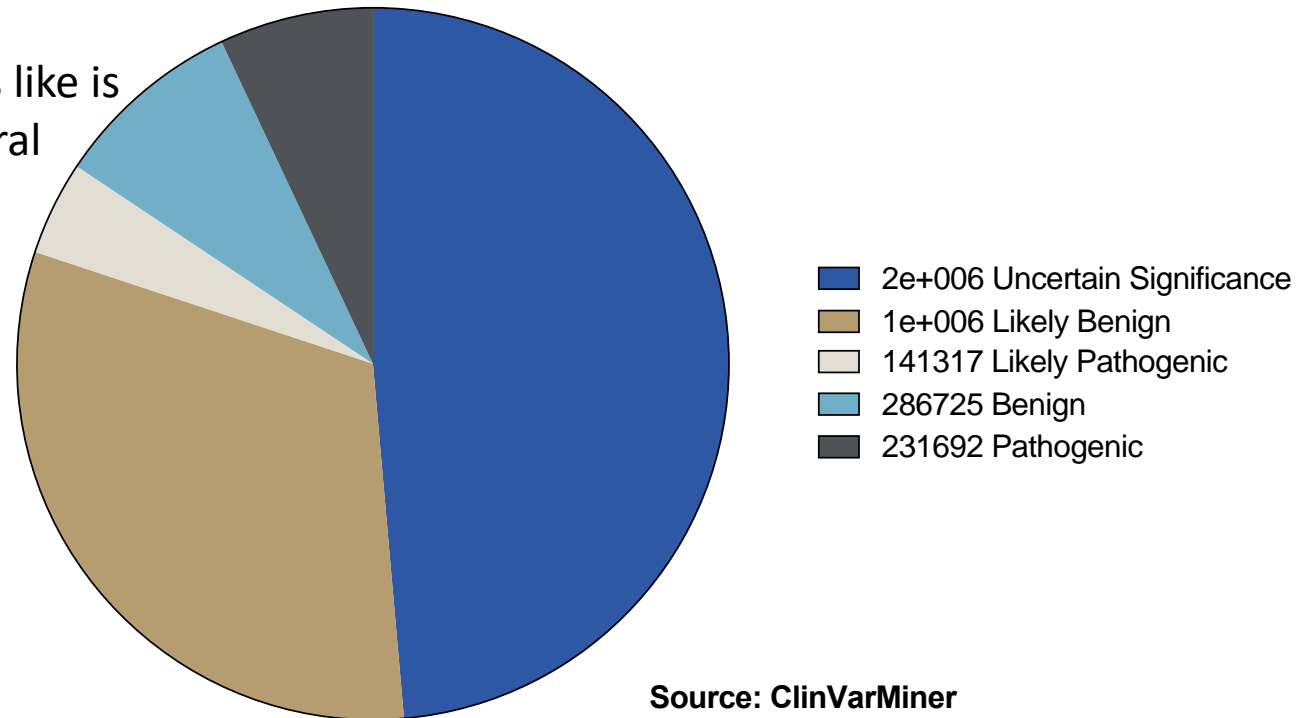


# Two major rate-limiting steps in genetic-based precision medicine

We often don't know that there is a genetic disease of the immune system right in front of us

\*Our concept of what a genetic syndrome looks like is largely the result of referral bias and extreme clinical presentations\*

If genetic testing is performed and a variant is found in a particular gene, there's a 50/50 chance we won't know how to interpret it



# Multiplexed functional assays

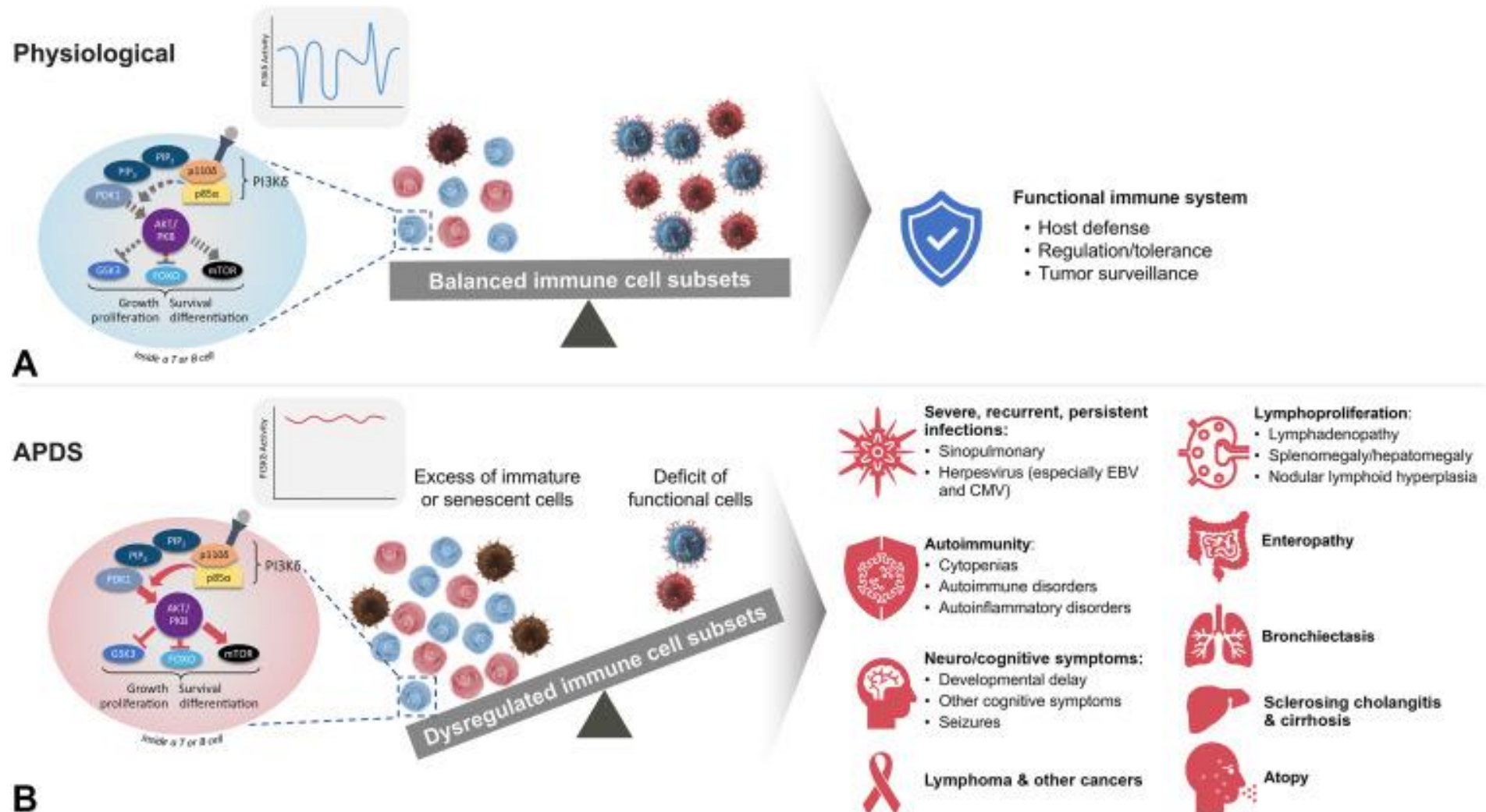
Clinically-relevant, high-throughput methods are required to resolve the VUS problem at scale

Multiplexed functional assays simultaneously evaluate the biological effect of thousands of different genetic variants by generating quantitative, functional data on how each variant affects gene activity, protein function, or cellular signaling

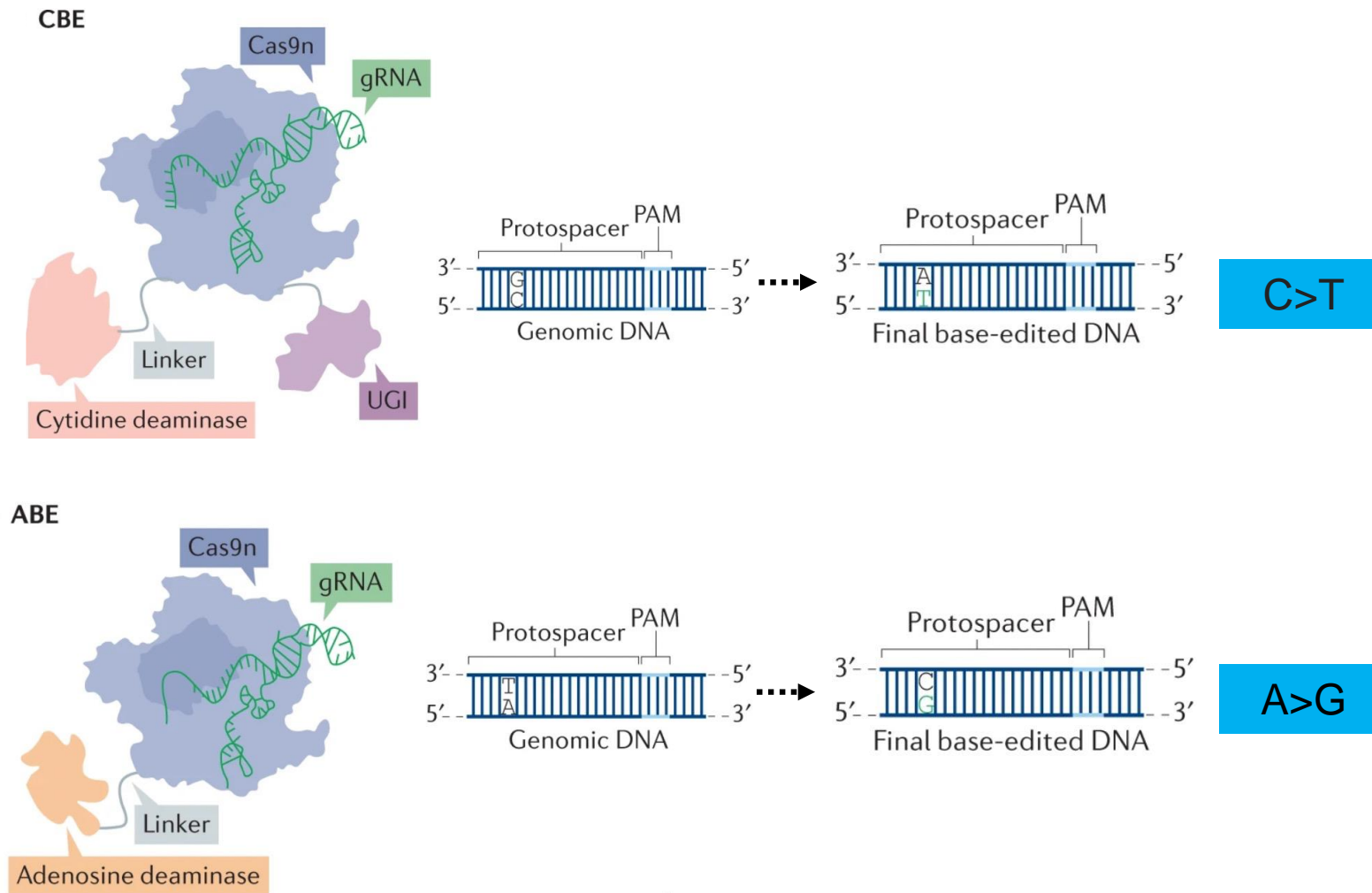
Data from validated multiplexed studies are considered strong functional evidence for variant interpretation by the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) / Association for Molecular Pathology (AMP) guidelines



# Activated PI3K $\delta$ syndrome (APDS): a genetic disorder of immune dysregulation caused by gain of PI3K $\delta$ function (GOF)

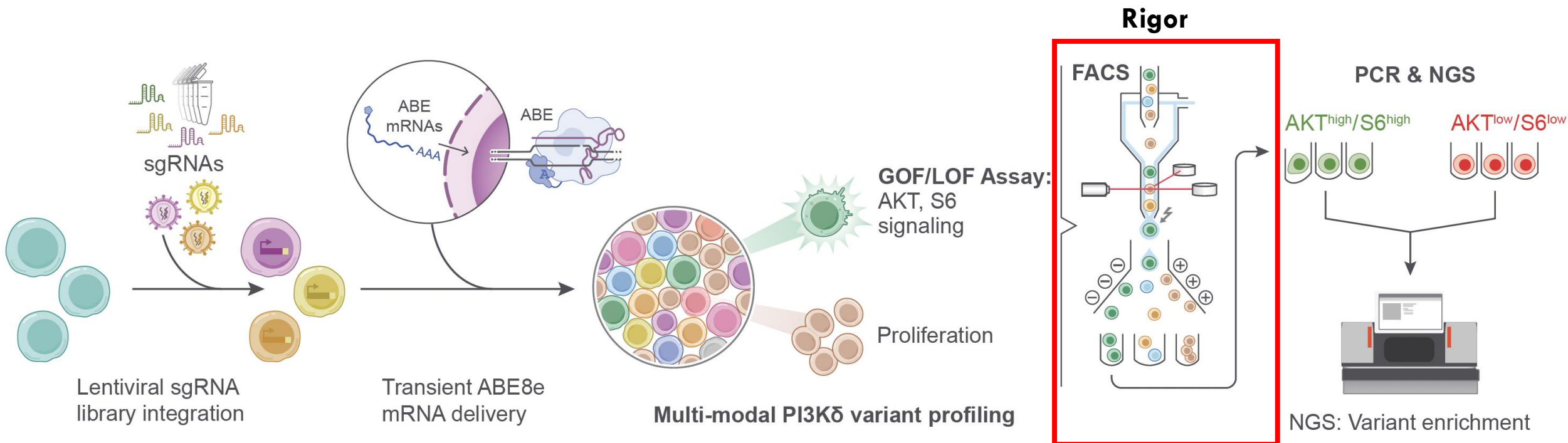


# Introducing precise variants directly in primary human T cells using CRISPR-dependent base editing

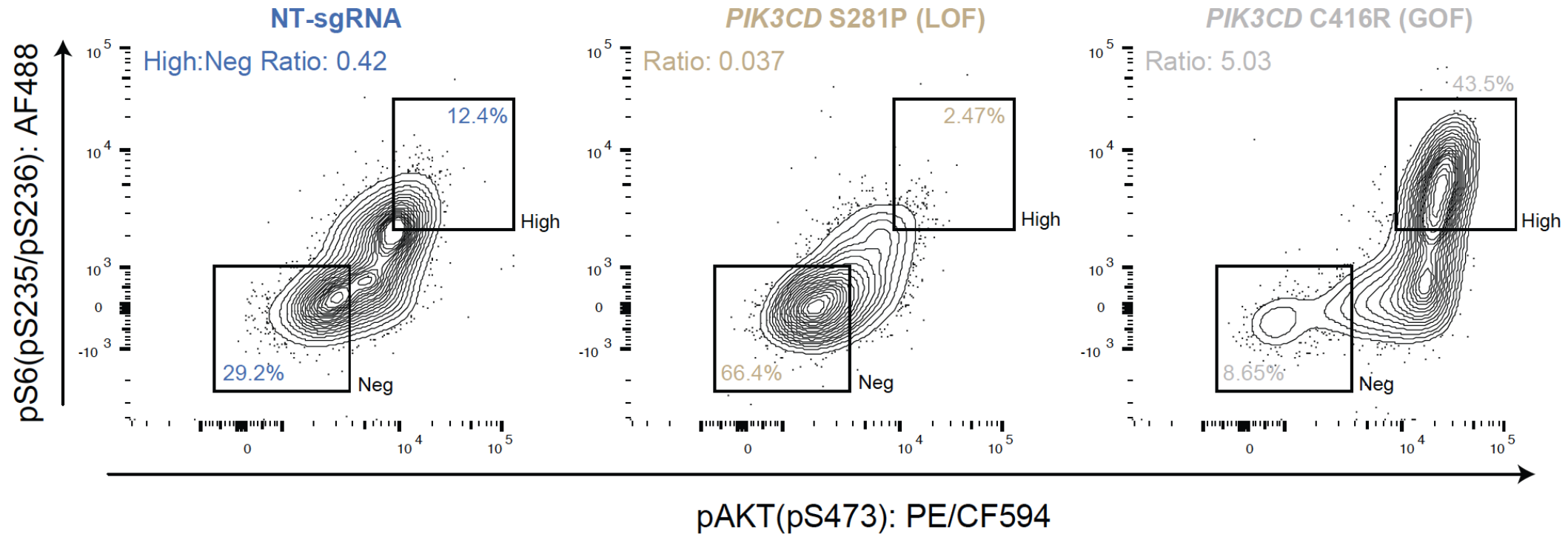




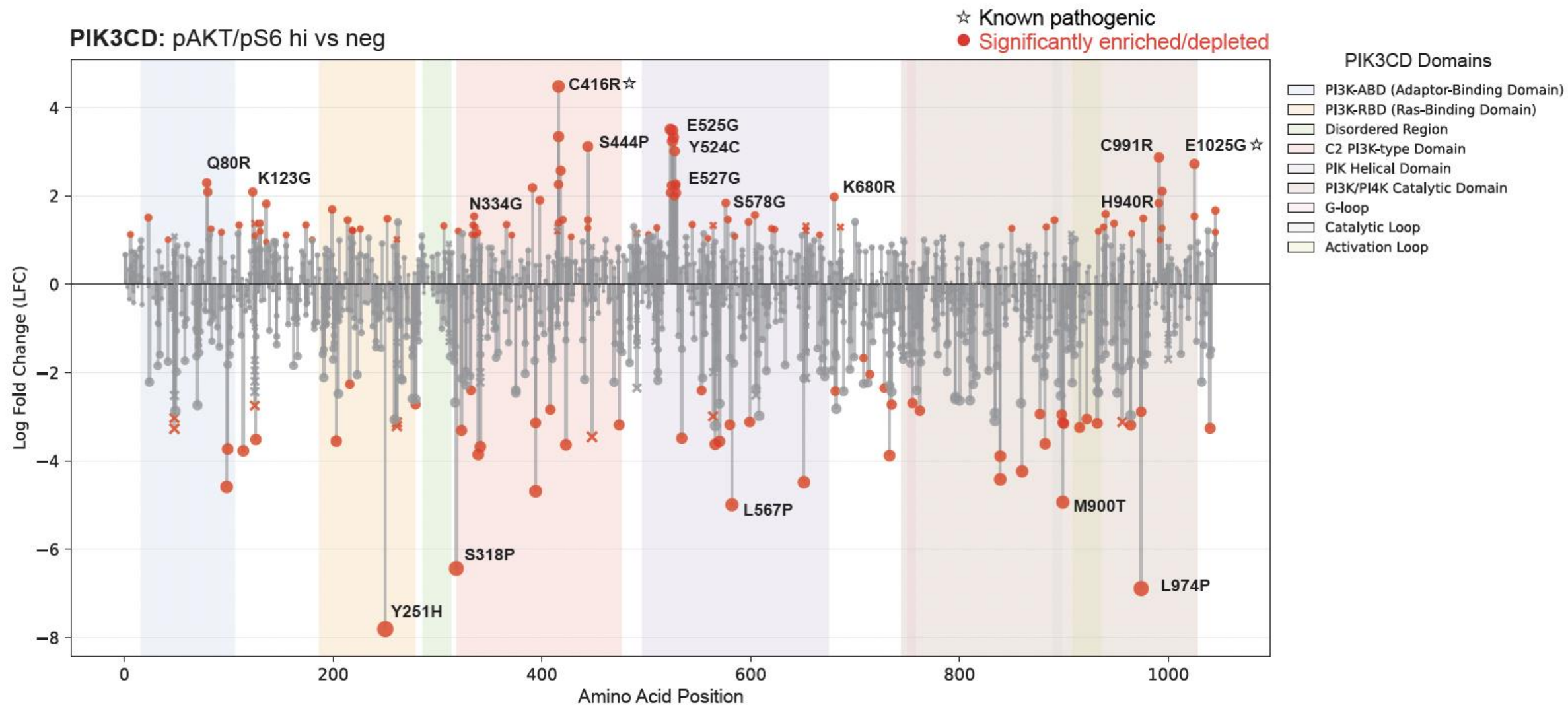
# Massively paralleled generation and functional mapping of APDS gene (*PIK3CD/PIK3R1*) variants



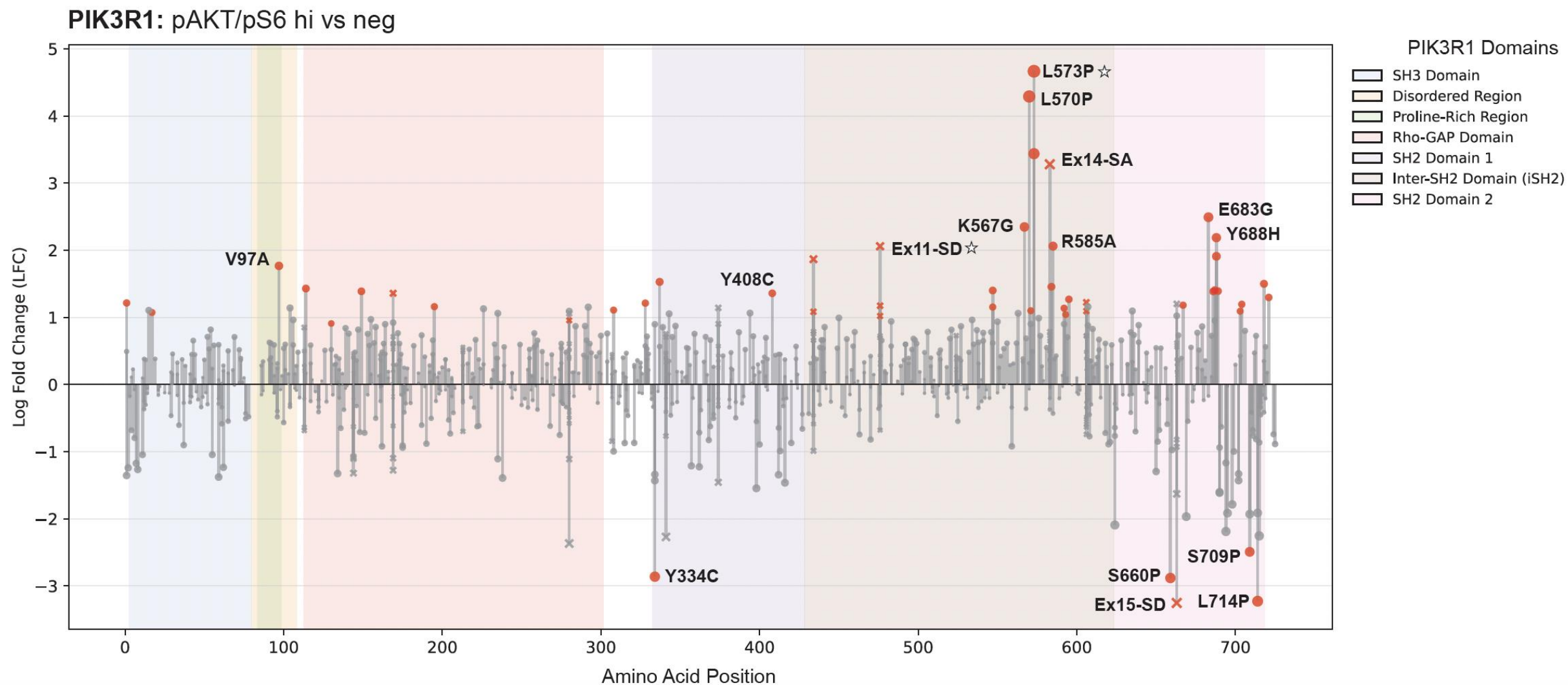
# Clinically-relevant assay discriminates between PI3K $\delta$ gain-of-function (GOF) and loss-of-function (LOF)



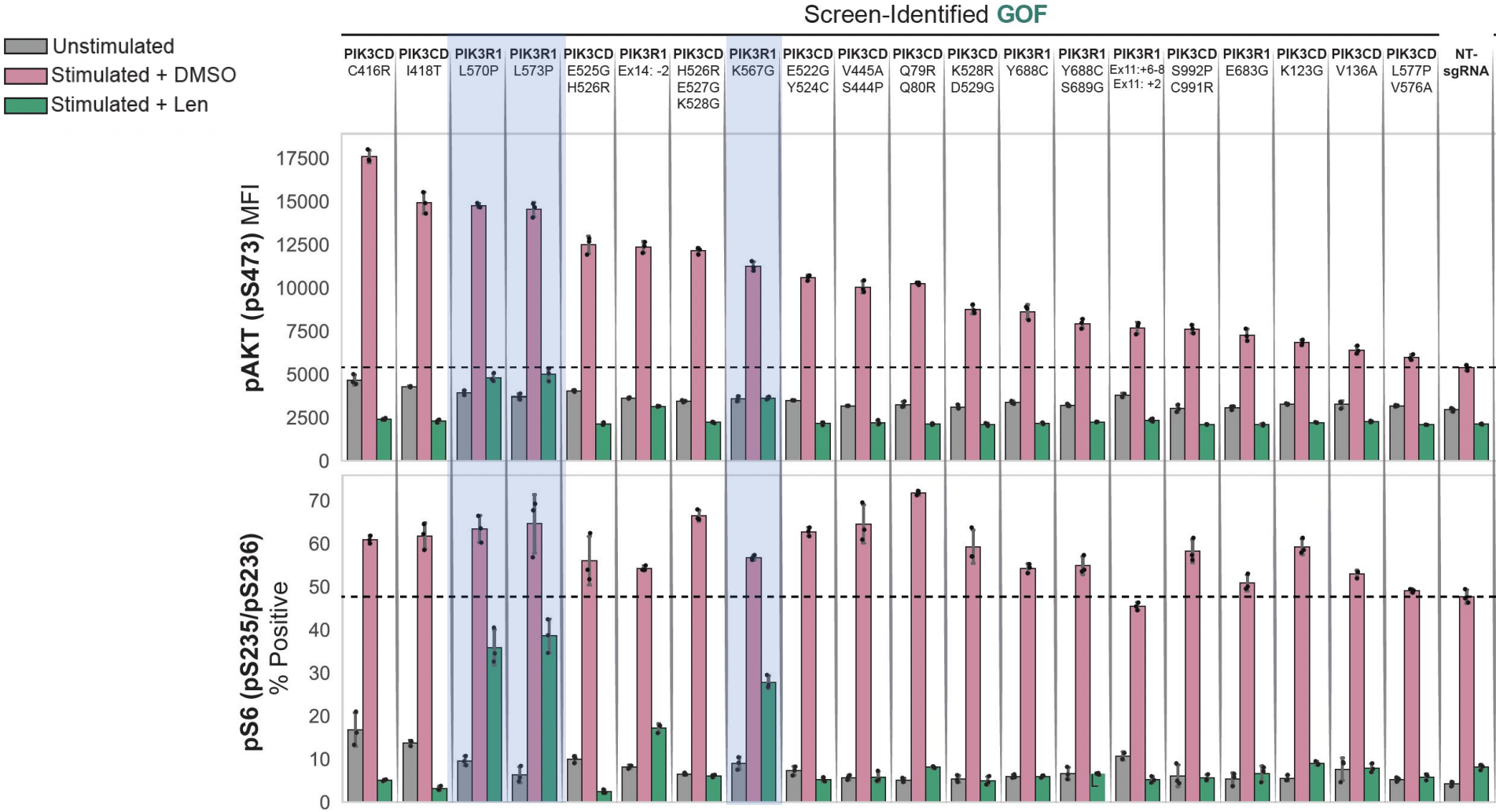
# Assay confirms known *PIK3CD* APDS-causing variants and uncovers new GOF variants



# Assay confirms known *PIK3R1* APDS-causing variants and uncovers new GOF variants

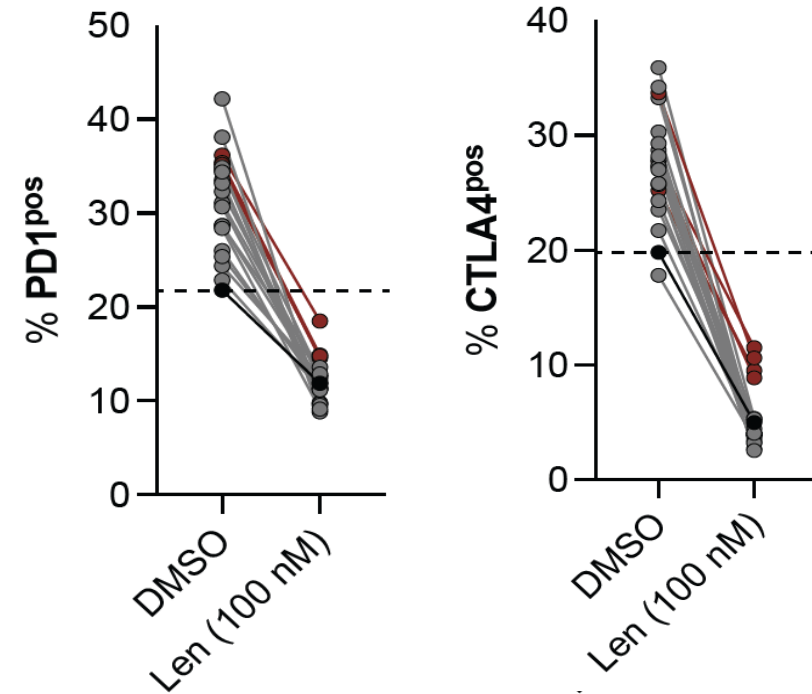
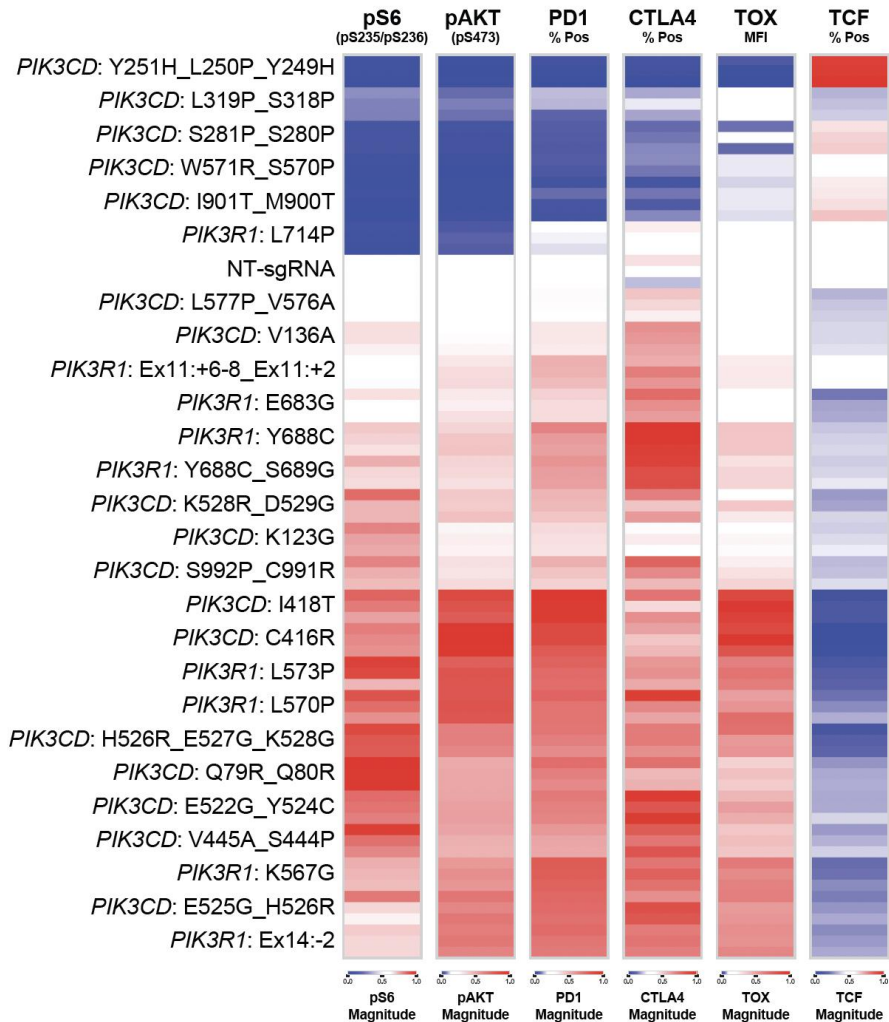


# Leniolisib normalizes PI3K $\delta$ hyperactivity in human T-cells and provides validation of study results





# Leniolisib normalizes APDS-associated T-cell abnormalities caused by GOF variants



REVIEW ARTICLE · [Articles in Press](#), June 17, 2025

## T follicular helper cells in primary immune regulatory disorders

[Sarah Chamseddine, MD](#)<sup>1</sup> · [Emily M. Harris, MD](#)<sup>2</sup> · [Janet Chou, MD](#)<sup>1</sup>



# Finding patients with GOF variants identified in this study

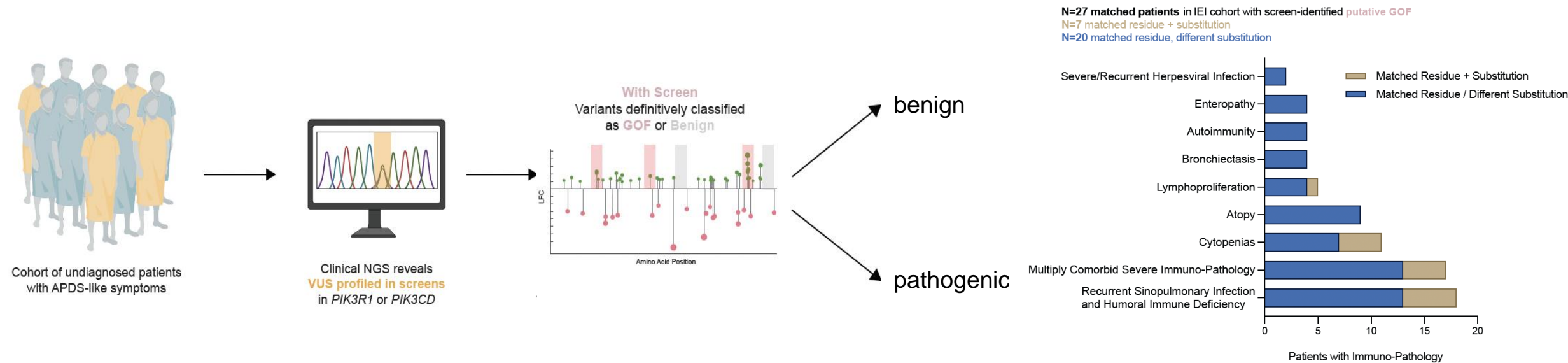
## 1. Patients who underwent genetic testing for IELs

- Data can be utilized by clinical laboratories to reclassify VUS results as APDS

## 2. General population

- Since the study identified many novel unannotated variants, we searched large-scale population databases to better understand the prevalence and full phenotypic spectrum of APDS

# GOF variants identified in the study are found in patients with VUS test results who have APDS symptoms



# Harnessing population databases to estimate genetic prevalence

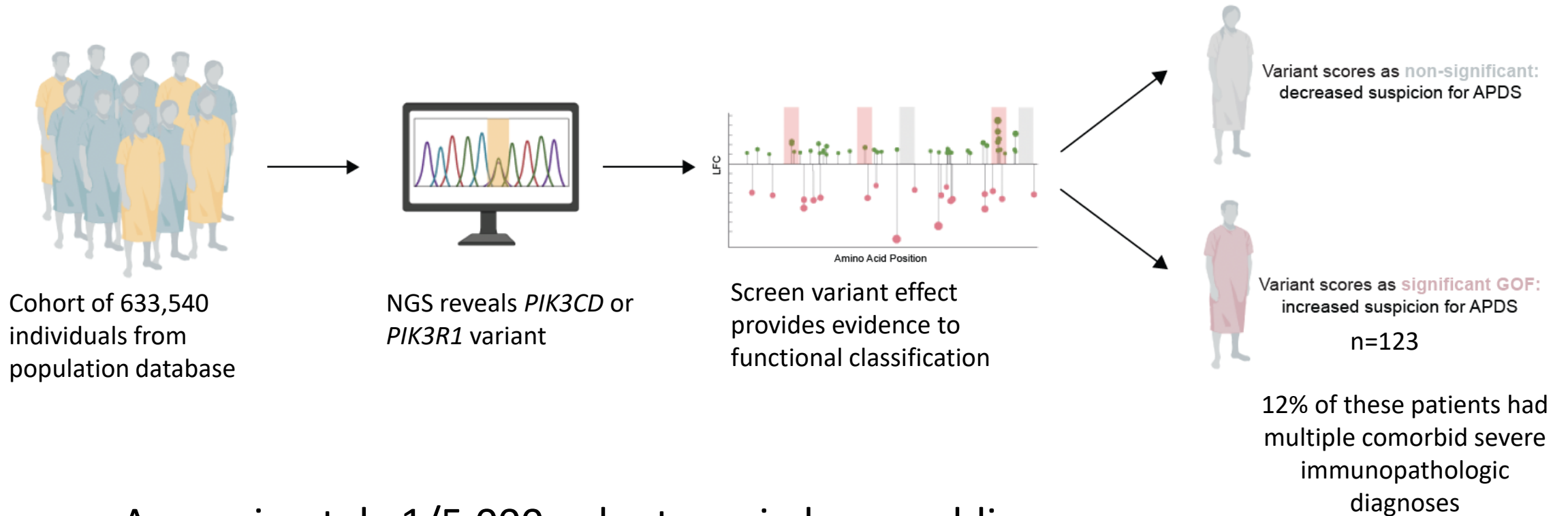


The **UK Biobank** is a large-scale biomedical database and research resource containing in-depth genetic, health, and lifestyle information from participants aged 40–69 at recruitment across the United Kingdom.



The **All of Us Research Program** is a U.S.-based initiative led by the **National Institutes of Health (NIH)** that aims to collect health data from people across the United States to advance precision medicine.

# Review of population databases suggests APDS may be significantly more prevalent than previously described



Approximately 1/5,000 volunteers in large public databases carry one of the newly found GOF variants

# GOF carriers in population databases more likely to exhibit GI, lymphoproliferative, and inflammatory phenotypes

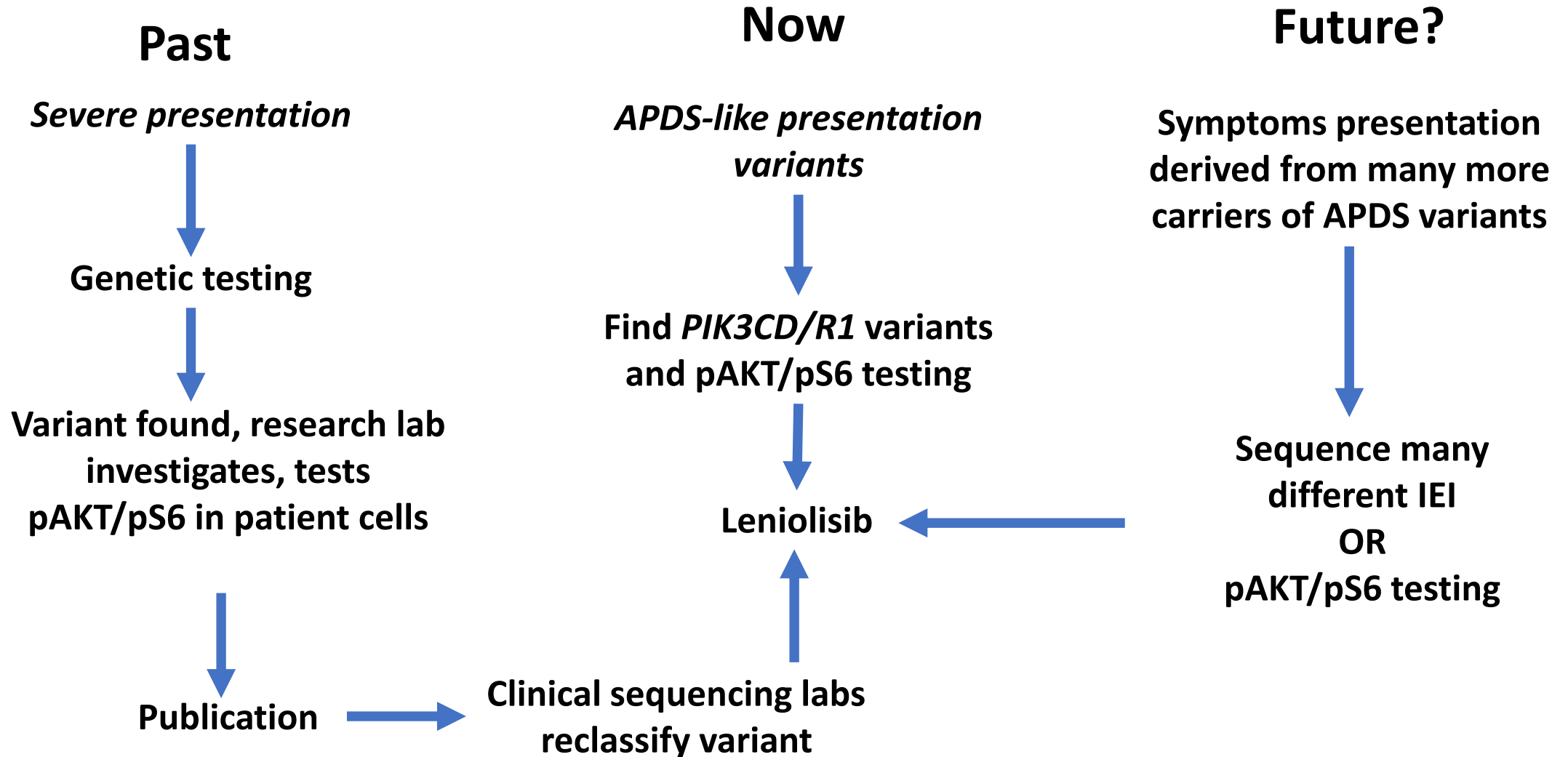
All of Us cohort (US)

System	Diagnosis	Odds Ratio	p value (raw)
<b>Gastrointestinal</b>	Biliary cirrhosis	inf	1.040E-06
	Cirrhosis - non-alcoholic	5.37	1.201E-03
	Persistent vomiting	9.43	7.930E-06
	Autoimmune hepatitis	14.75	5.053E-03
	Abscess of perineum	11.06	0.0134
	Primary biliary cholangitis	inf	0.0257
<b>Respiratory</b>	Chronic ethmoidal sinusitis	6.65	2.144E-04
<b>Infectious</b>	Osteomyelitis	4.87	7.132E-04
	Digitate wart		0.0257
	Orbital cellulitis	8.85	0.0272

UK Biobank

System	Diagnosis	Odds ratio	p-value (raw)
<b>Lymphoproliferative neoplasm</b>	non-Hodgkin lymphoma	15.08	0.0084
<b>Neoplasm</b>	Basal cell carcinoma	2.12	0.0094
<b>inflammatory</b>	Sarcoidosis unspecified	118.38	0.0086
<b>Gastrointestinal</b>	irritable bowel syndrome	3.53	0.0019
			0.000610
	bowel problem	2.66	1
	gastrointestinal abdominal	1.90	0.003
	Peritonitis	46.69	0.000931
<b>Inflammatory</b>	Gout	113.29	3 0.0092

# Toward pathway specific drug indications





# Summary

- MAVE study provides functional classification (e.g., GOF or LOF) for >2,000 *PIK3CD/PIK3R1* variants
- Assay confirmed known *PIK3CD/PIK3R1* APDS-causing variants and uncovered many new GOF variants
- Leniolisib can restore or improve PI3K  $\delta$  signaling defects and immune abnormalities caused by the new GOF variants
- APDS is a continuum of GOF magnitude, disease severity and population prevalence
  - **APDS may be orders of magnitude more prevalent than previously estimated**
  - **The clinical heterogeneity of APDS may be much broader than previously described.**
- There are many more immune-mediated symptoms— alone or in combination with other immune symptoms-- driven by these newly discovered variants which can be treated by leniolisib. This necessitates new ways of defining genetic diseases of the immune system

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Dev Biswas

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Josh Milner

Jay Levy

Lei Haley Huang

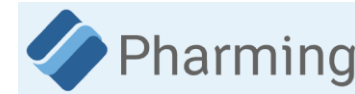
Ashley Lee

## Pharming Group

Anurag Relan

Heather McLaughlin

Dusan Bogunovic



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R01CA266446  
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Columbia NY ROYAL



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**HTI<sup>3</sup>** - Human Tissue Immunology and  
Immunotherapy Initiative

**Melanoma**  
Research Alliance

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CANCER RESEARCH ALLIANCE

**Patients & Families**

- ◆ Clinical genetic laboratories will utilize this data to independently re-assess *PIK3CD/R1* VUSs
  - These data may impact both patients with exact matches and patients with different genetic changes affecting the same amino acid as a known GOF variant
  - Expect reassessments to be completed in 2H 2025
- ◆ Additional multiplexed studies to functionally assess the remainder of all possible *PIK3CD/R1* variants
- ◆ Additional studies to refine the genetic prevalence and the full spectrum of clinical manifestations of APDS using biobanks that link genomic data with longitudinal EHR records



**Q&A**