

# CYTOGENETICS '2'

Karyotyping, cell preparation and staining

# Chromosomes

- **1970 Banding techniques**
  - identification of individual chromosomes
- **Karyotype and FISH**
  - types of abnormalities;
    - . Extra copy of chromosome
    - . Missing copy of chromosome
    - . Structural abnormalities

# Chromosomes

- **Centromere**

- movement during cell division
- divides the chromosomes into **short (p)** and **long (q)** arms

- **Telomere**

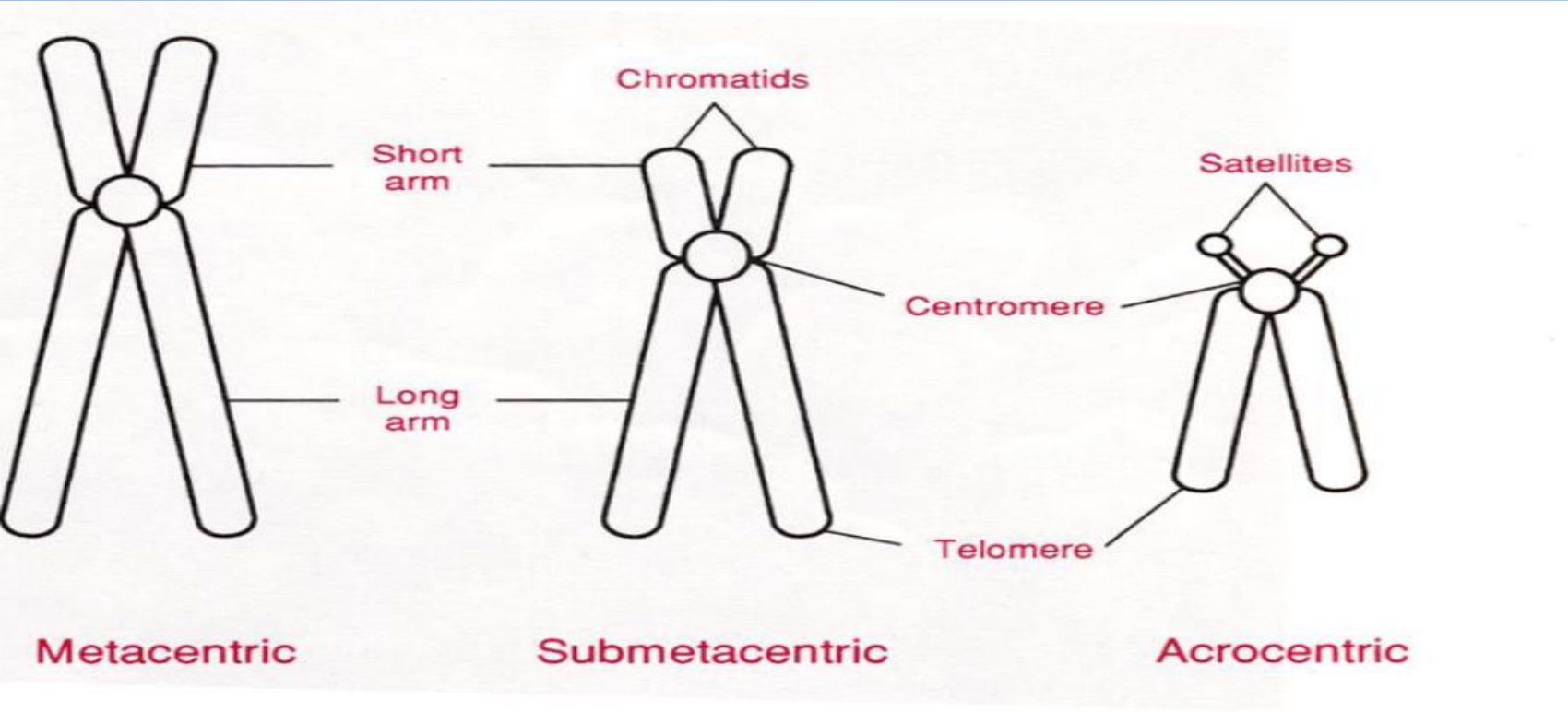
- Tip of each chromosome
- seal chromosomes and retain chromosome integrity
- consists of tandem repeats **TTAAGGG**
- maintained by enzyme; **telomerase**
- telomerase & in tandem repeats imp in aging & cell death

# Chromosomes

Classified according to position of centromere ;

- **Central centromere; metacentric**
- **Sub-terminal centromere ; acrocentric**
  - have satellites which contain multiple copies of genes for ribosomal RNA
- **Intermediate centromere; submetacentric**

# Chromosomes



Chromosomes ideogram

# Chromosomes

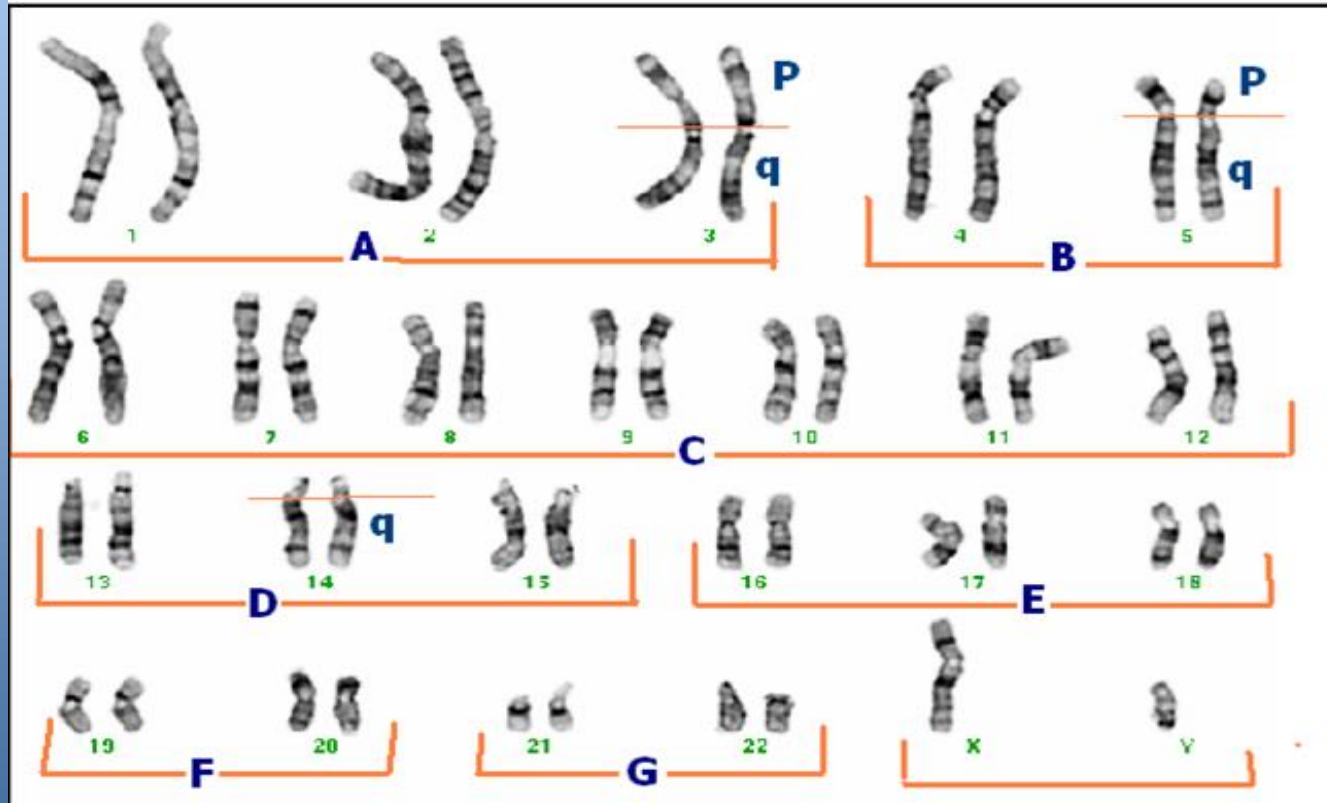
- **22 autosomal, and sex chromosomes in pairs**
- **Classified according to:**
  - Length
  - position of centromere
  - presence or absence of satellites
- **Chromosomes divided into groups labelled A-G**

# Chromosomes

-A	1-3	-E	16-18
-B	4-5	-F	19-20
-C	6-12 + X	-G	21-22 + Y
-D	13-15		

Chromosomes divided into groups labelled A-G

# Chromosomes



Chromosomes divided into groups labelled A-G



# Karyotyping

Staining method to identify chromosomes in a single cell

**G** banding .. Giemsa

**Q** banding .. Quinacrine, fluorescent stain (structural rearrangements)

**R** banding .. Reverse

**C** banding .. Centromeric (heterochromatin)

**Ag-Nor stain** .. Nucleolar Organizing Regions (active)

# Cell preparation

Required cell stage; **metaphase**

1. Culture cells until sufficient mitotic activity

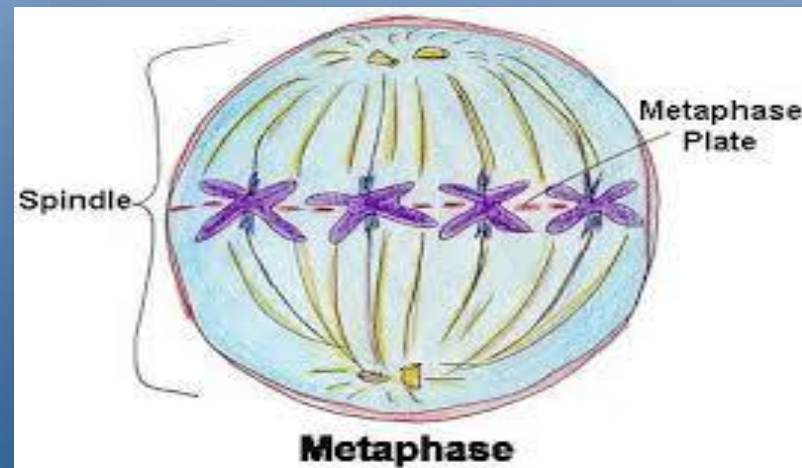
## 2. Harvest protocol:

- Mitotic arrest
- Add hypotonic treatment
- Fixation with mix of **methanol ; acetic acid**
- Want long chromosomes with non-overlapping

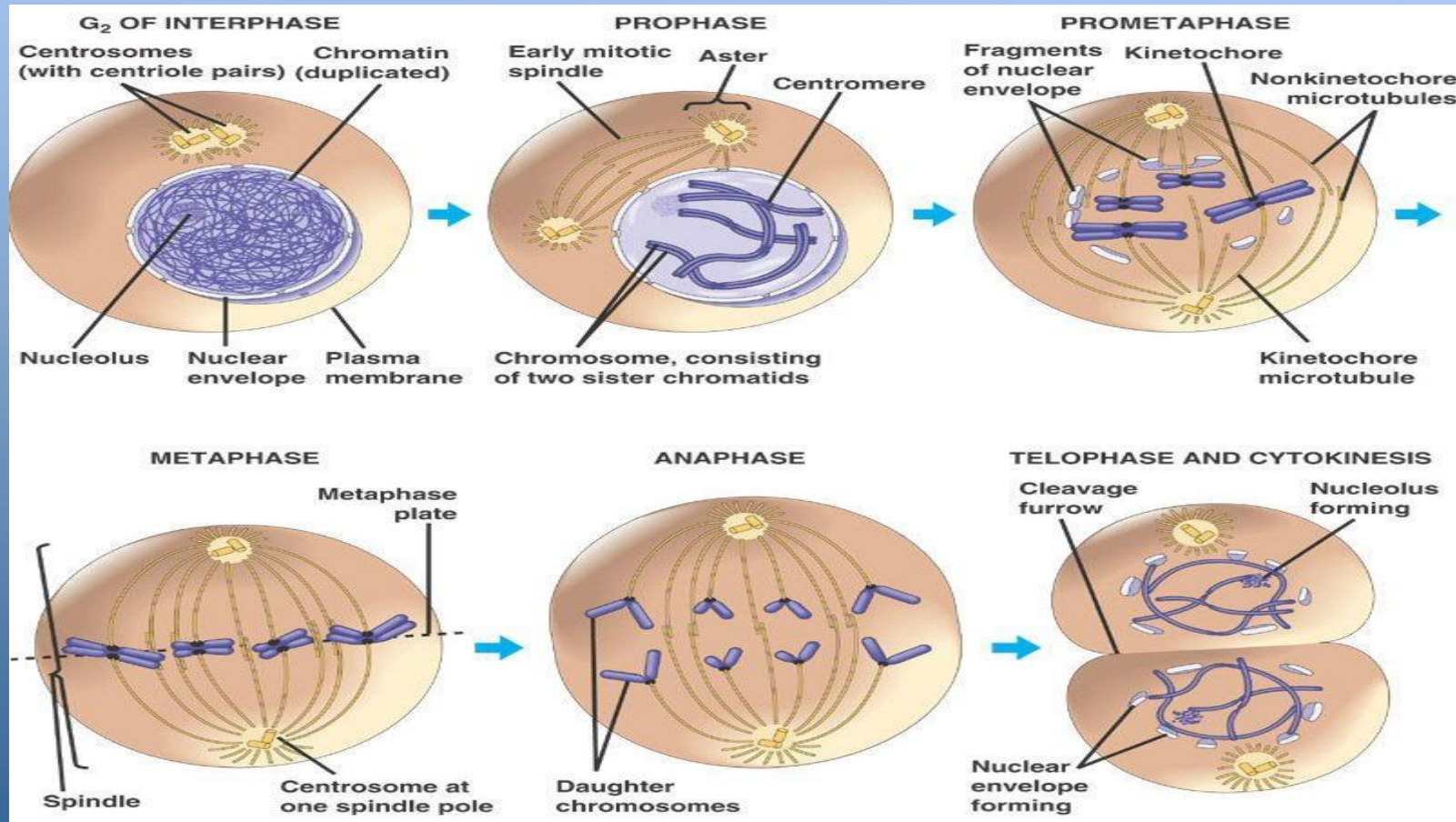
# Harvest protocol

## a. Mitotic arrest:

Colemid arrest cells at the equatorial plate by preventing spindle fibres formation



# Mitosis



Studyblue.com

# Harvest protocol

## b. Hypotonic treatment:

- Cells swell (osmotic potential):  
reduce cytoplasm & allow chromosome spreading
- RBCs lysis

# Harvest protocol

## c. fixation:

- Prevent further swelling
- Maintain good morphology

**Methamoglobin:** brown supernatant formed after addition of fixative

Multiple fixative -- **clear supernatant**

# Harvest protocol

## Harvesting procedure:

1. Add 100 $\mu$  colimid to the culture 20min at 37C
2. Spin; 8 min at 1000 RPM
3. Discard supernatant, add 10ml hypotonic solution
4. Incubate 20min at 73C
5. Add 5 drops fixative 3:1 methanol:acetic acid, spin
6. Discard supernatant & resuspend pellets
7. Add 10ml fixative 30min at RT
8. Repeat until clear solution
9. Preserve at fridge (-4C) not freezer

# Dropping protocol

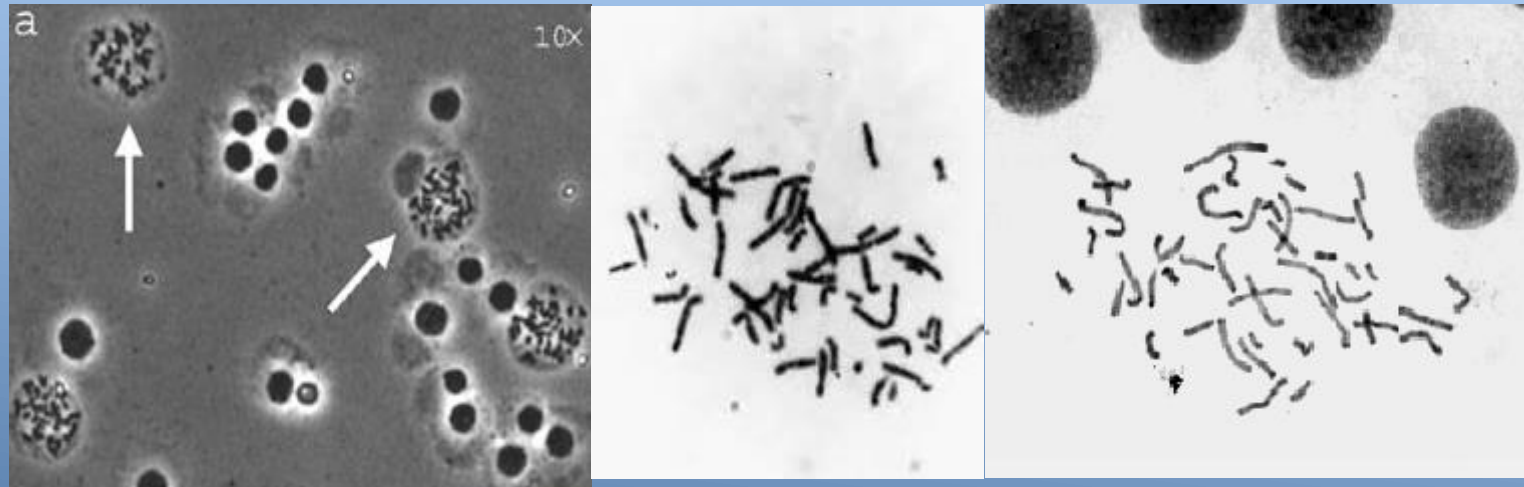
- 8 drops on slide
- dry in a controlled environmental evaporation chambers
- Observe mitotic index
- Aging: 60C over night Or 90C for 90min for better banding pattern



# Dropping

- Residual cytoplasm ↓ staining quality
- Dark chromosomes with sharp borders
- No overlapping, no burst

# Metaphase compactness



Natureprotocols

IMSTARA.com

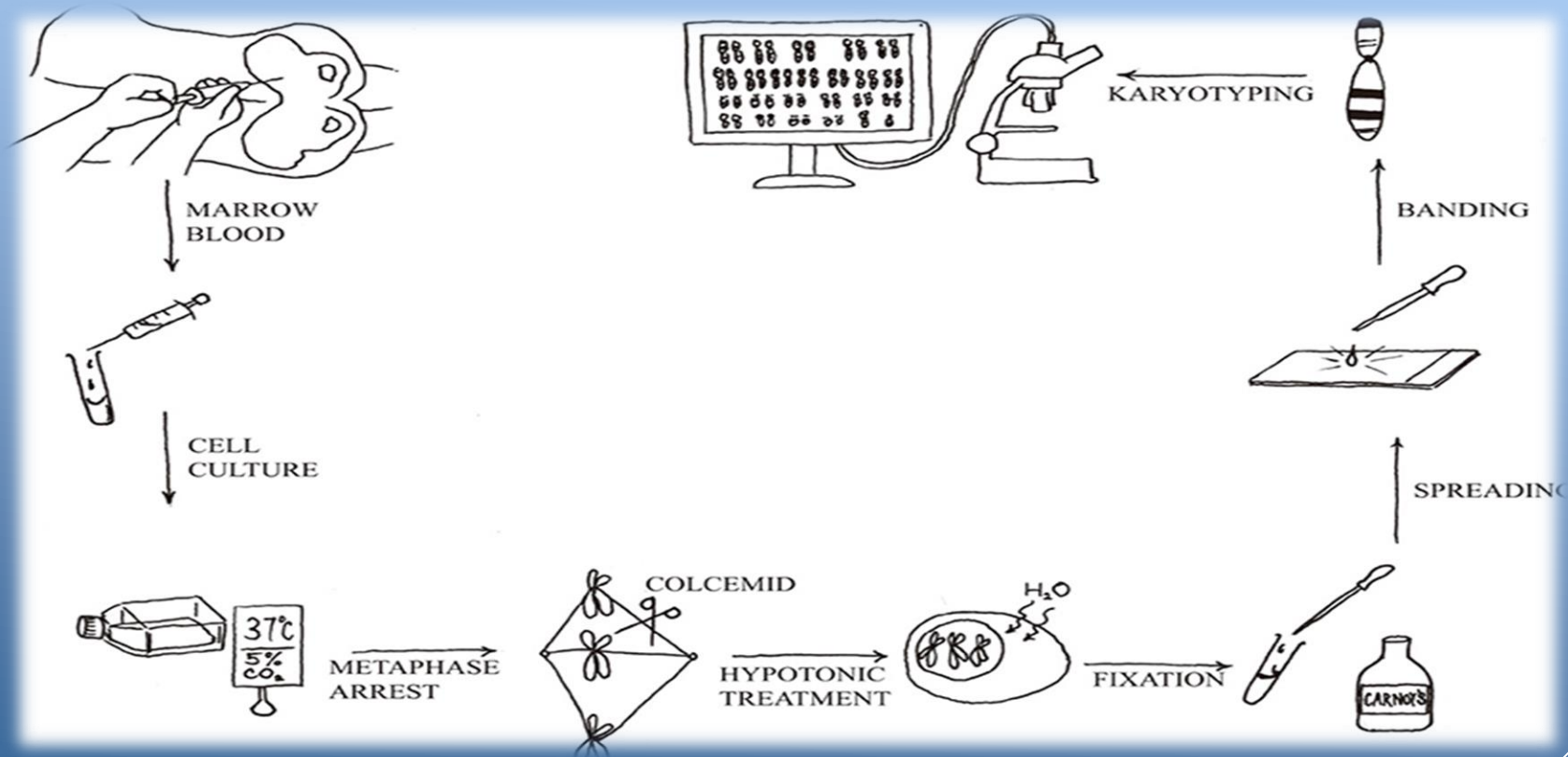
glown.com

Burst

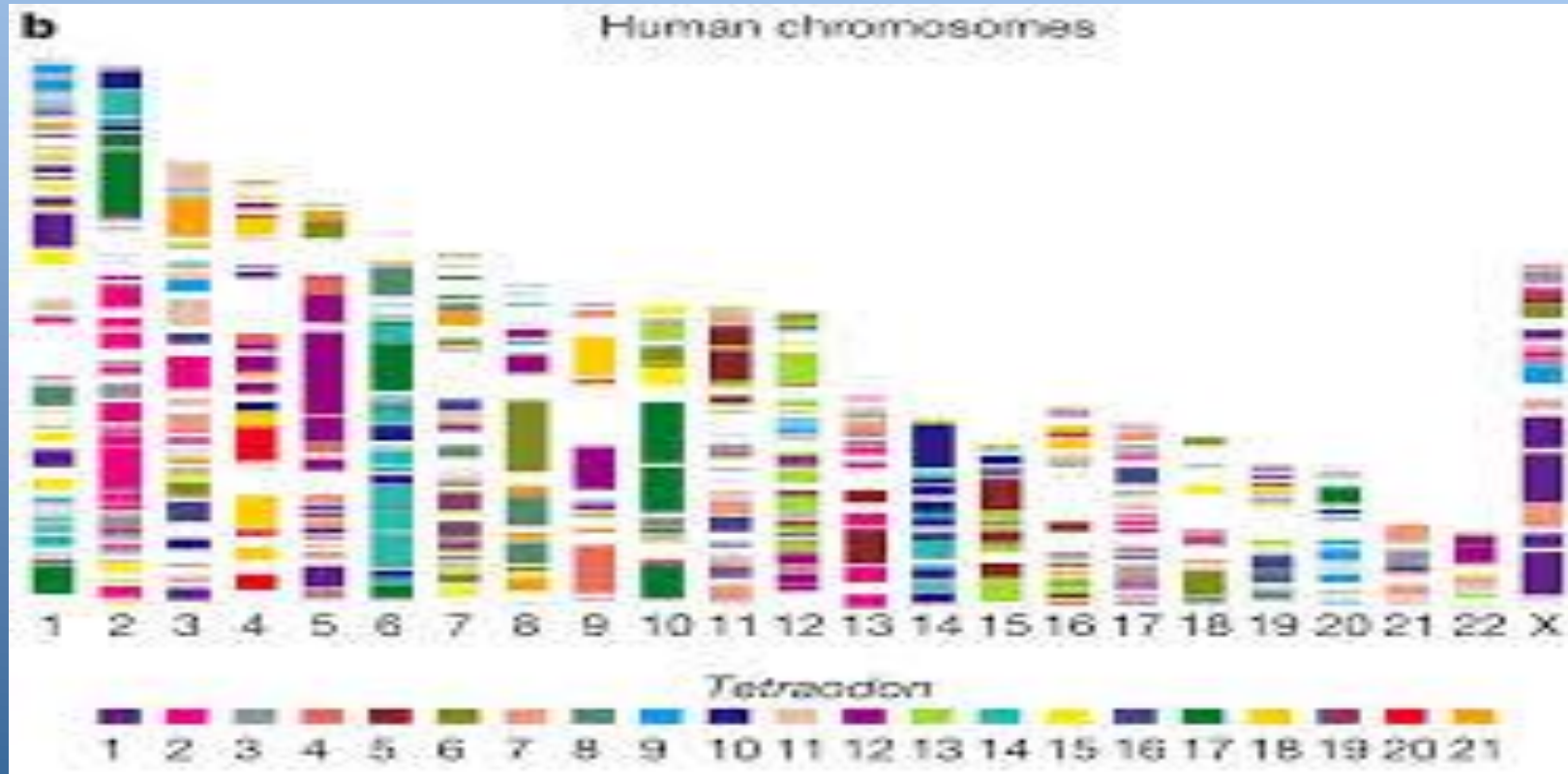
overlapped

good

# Cell preparation



# Banding (staining)



# G banding

- Most common
- Chromosomes treated with **trypsin**;
  - denatures protein
  - allow Gimsa react with exposed DNA (wang & Federoff)

# G banding

## Gimsa stain:

- Each chromosomes characterised by dark & light band
- 400 bands / haploid genome
- Dark bands are gene poor
- Appropriately stained chromosomes;  
**neither too dark nor too pale**

# G banding

**Under-trypsinized** chromosomes:

Indistinct bands, little contrast and fuzzy

# G banding

## Over-trypsinized chromosomes:

- Sharp bands and frazzled at the end
- Eventually become very pale (**ghost-like**) and very swollen
- Fetal calf serum immersion is recommended ( **$\alpha$ 1-antitrypsin**)



Broz. J et al, Scielo (2000)



# G banding

## Staining procedure:

- Slides must cool down to RT
- Immerse in trypsin solution 10-15 sec
- Wash in phosphate buffer or serum (stop trypsin activity)
- Transfer to Gimsa stain 90-120 sec
- Rinse in d-water
- Dry
- Examine under microscope

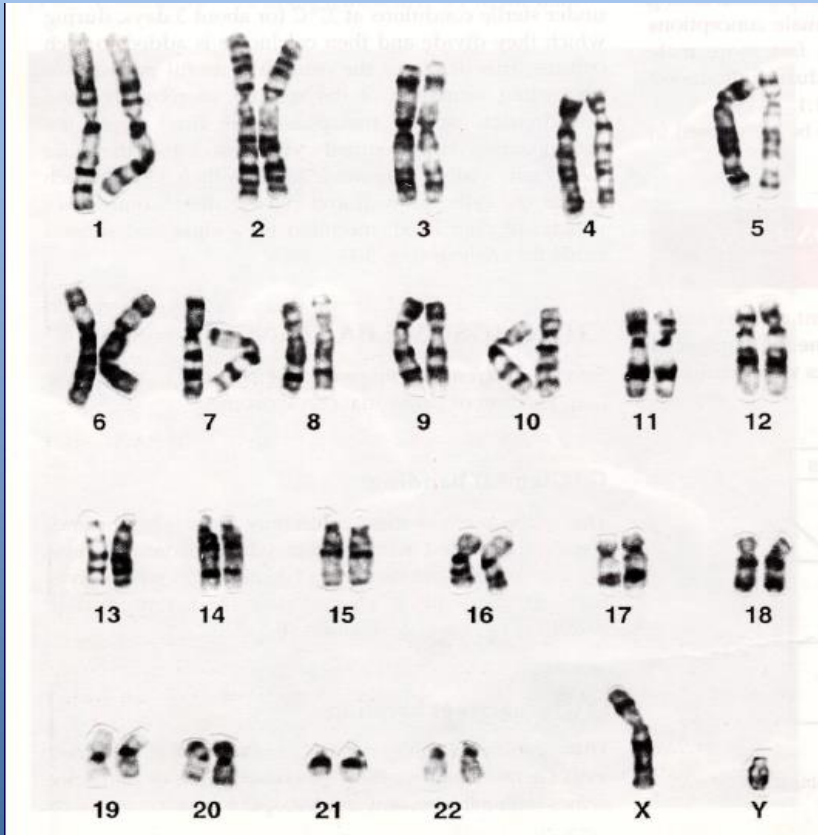
# G banding

- Count chromosomes in **10-15** metaphases
- Count **30** if **mosaicism** suspected
- Detailed analysis of **3-5** metaphase

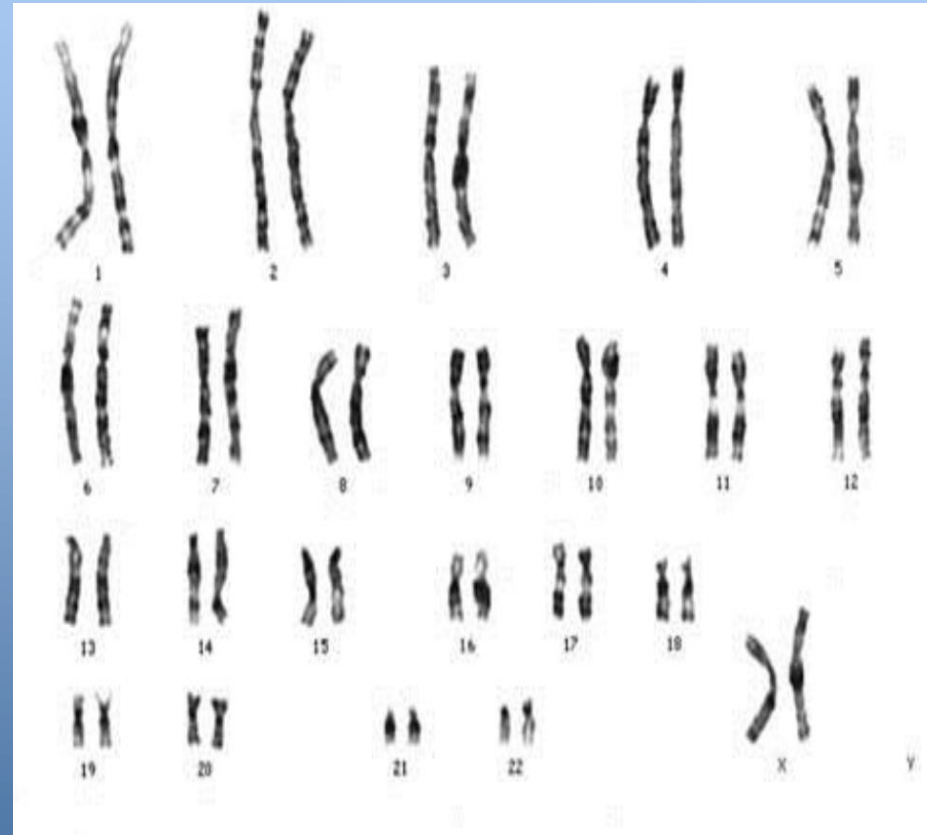
# G banding

- 13,18,21 gene poor (very dark chromosomes)
- 21 smaller than 22
- 21 (200 genes) twice as many as 22 (400 genes)
- Bands stain darkly with Gimsa DNA rich in AT pairs (genes poor)
- Pale bands (gene active)

# G banding



Normal Male Karyotype

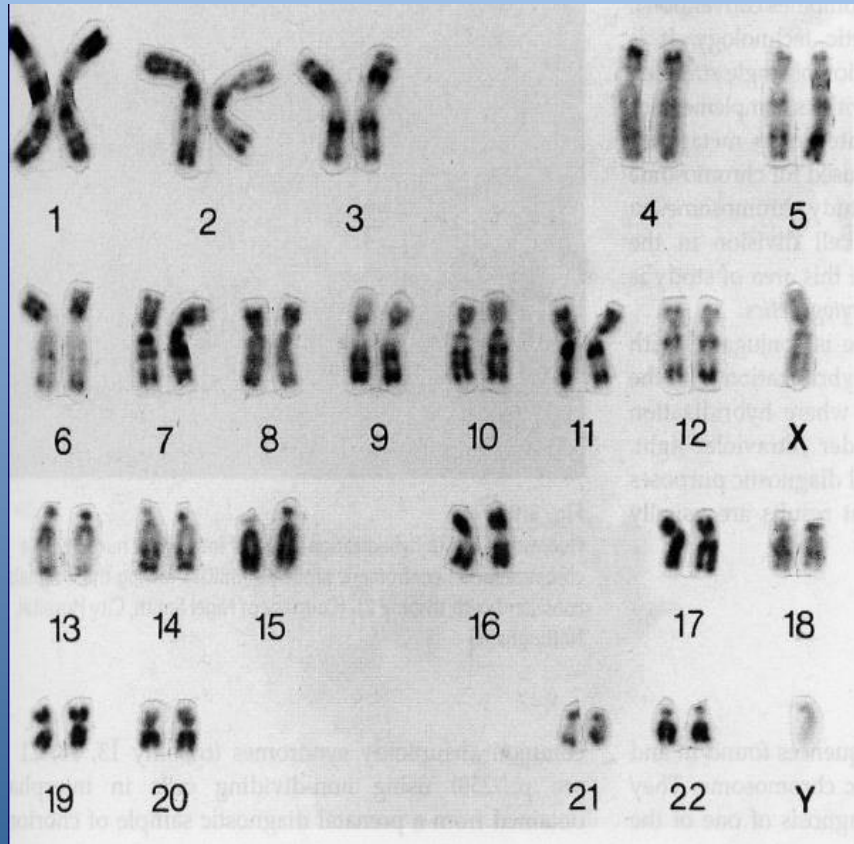


Normal Female Karyotype

# Q banding

- Especially used for **Y chromosome** abnormalities or mosaicism
- similar to G band (exp. It can detect polymorphism)
- Need **fluorescent** microscope

# R banding



- Used to identify X chromosome abnormality
- Heat chromosomes before treating with Gimsa
- Light and dark bands are reversed

# C banding

- To identify **centromere/ heterochromatin**
- **Heterochromatic region:**
  - contains highly repetitive DNA sequence
  - highly condense chromatin fibres
  - genetically inactive (structural elements)
- Treated chromosomes:
  - Acid
  - Alkaline
  - Then G band

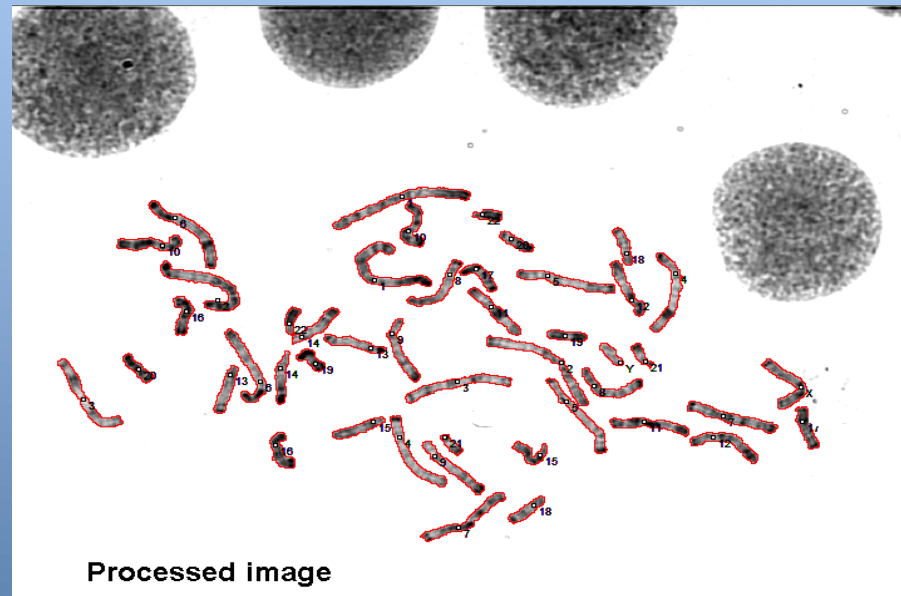
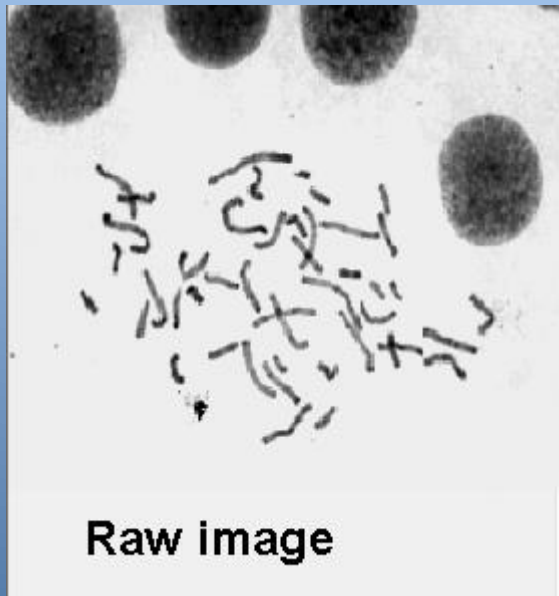
# Karyotyping

Organization of the chromosomes, lined up according to:

- Size
- Location of centromere
- Banding pattern

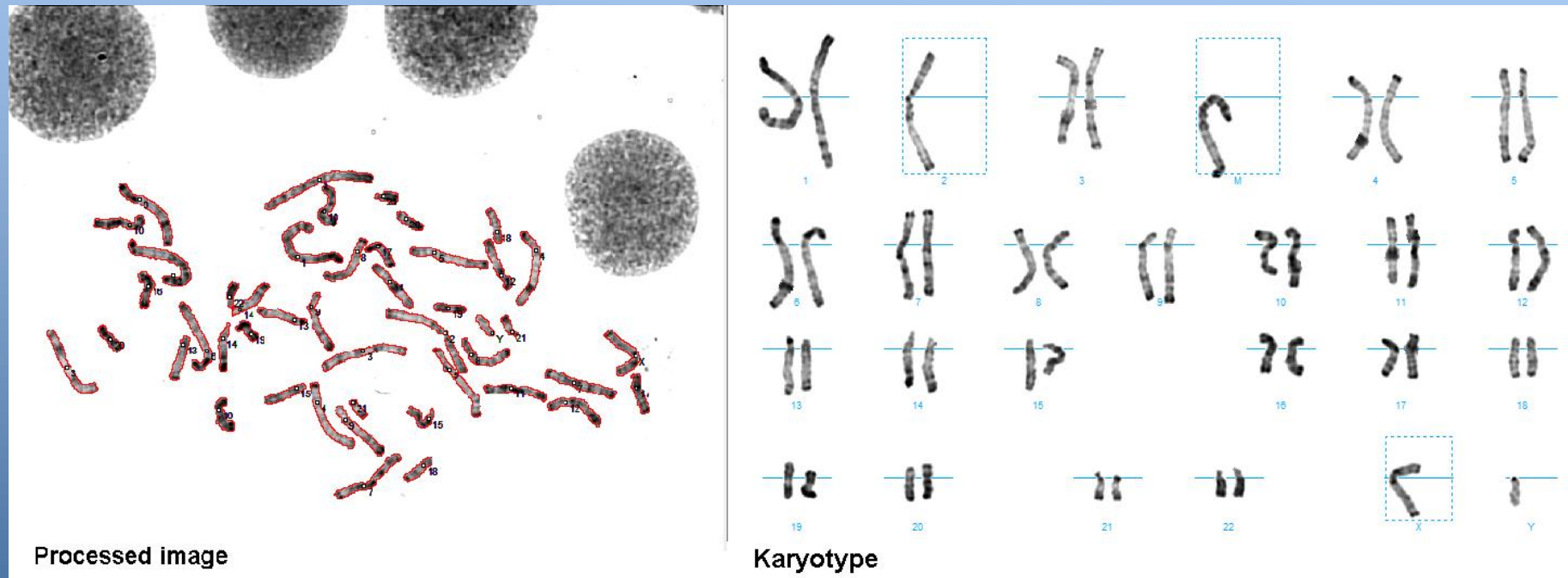


# Karyotyping



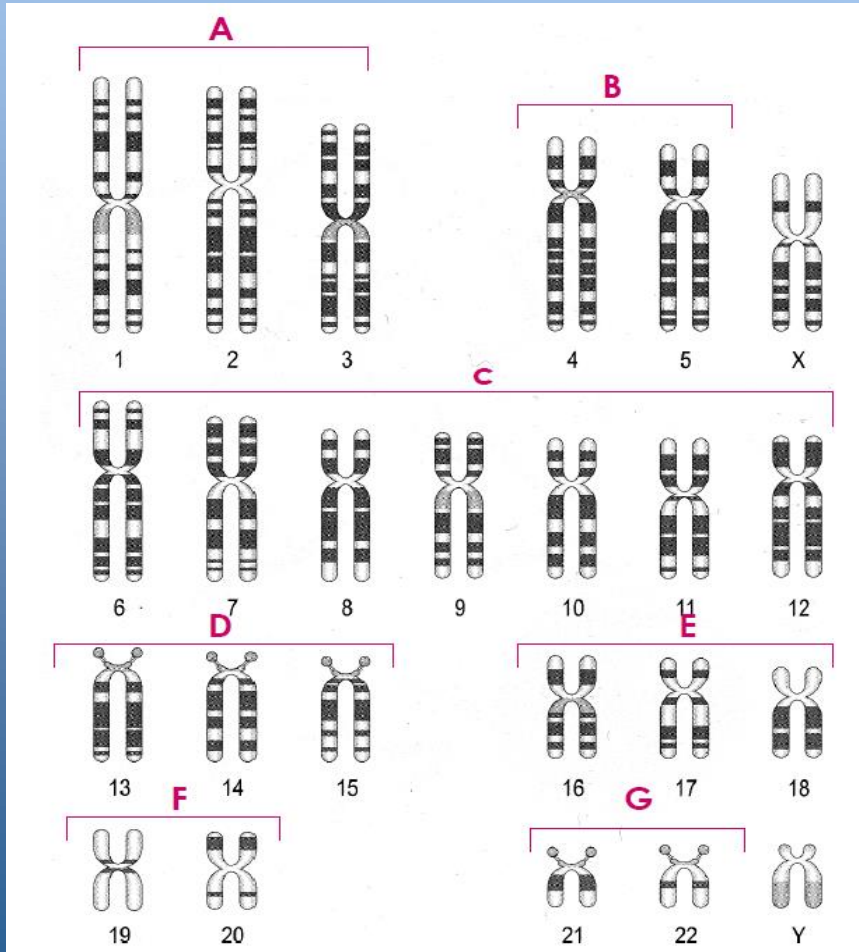
Natureprotocols.com

# Karyotyping



Natureprotocols.com

# Ideogram



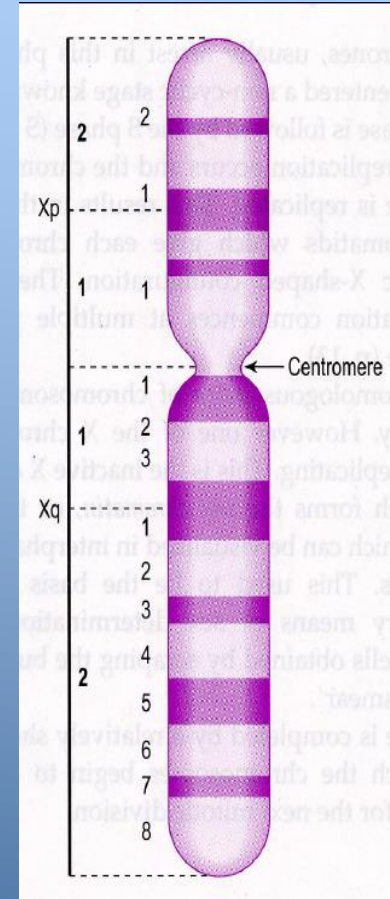
Is a schematic representation of chromosomes

Show relative size of chromosomes & their banding patterns

# ISCN

## International System for Human Cytogenetic Nomenclature

- Each area of chromosome given number
- Lowest number (proximal) to centromere
- Highest number (distal to centromere)



# ISCN

- **del** - deletion
- **dic** - dicentric
- **fra** - fragile site
- **i** - isochromosome
- **inv** - inversion
- **p** - short arm
- **r** - ring
- **der** - derivative
- **dup** - duplication
- **h** - heterochromatin
- **ins** - insertion
- **mat** - maternal origin
- **q** - long arm
- **t** - translocation

# ISCN



separates

- chromosome numbers
- Sex chromosomes
- Chromosome abnormalities

46,XX,del(5p)

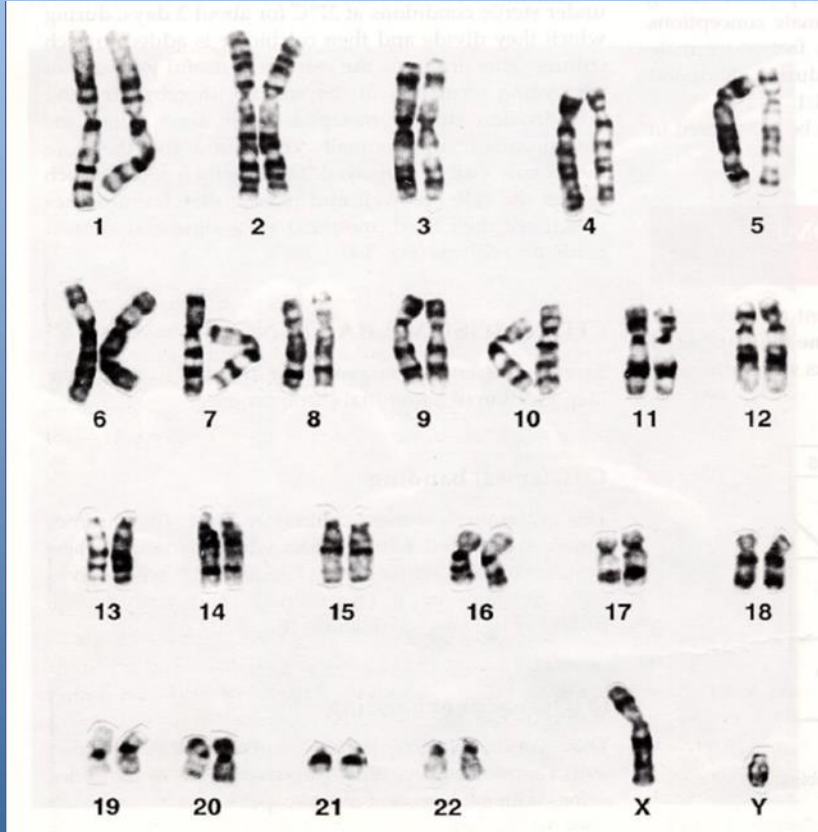


Separates

- Altered chromosomes
- Break points structural rearrangement involving more than 1 chromosome

46,XX,t(2;4)(q21;q24)

# ICSN

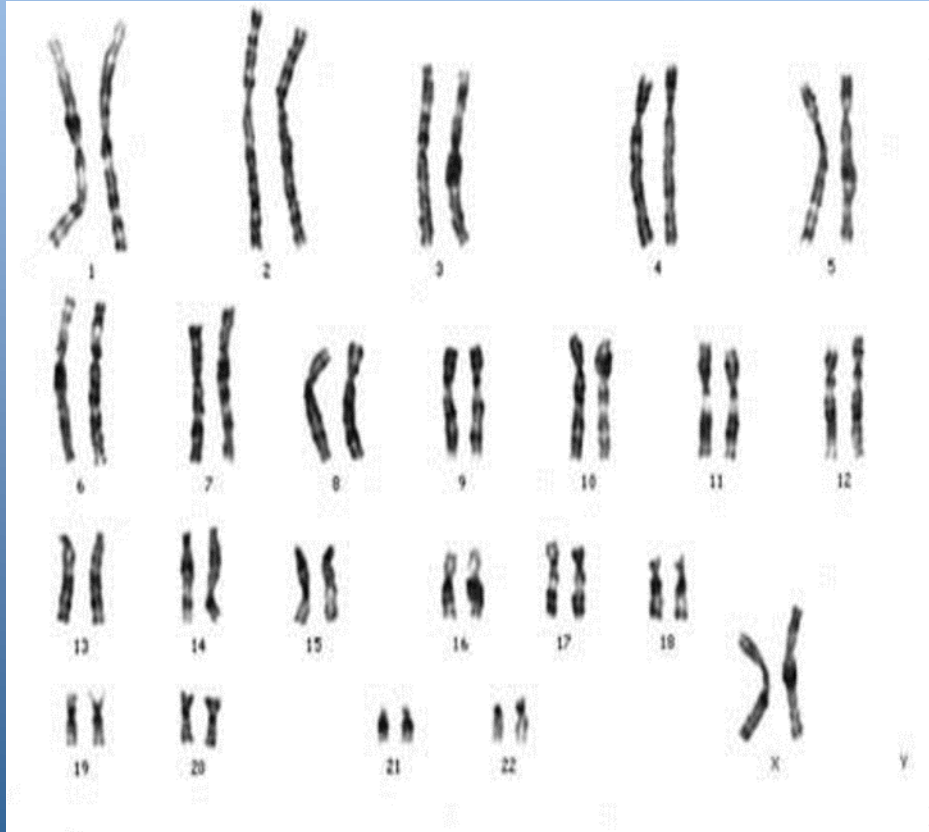


Normal Male

46,XY



# ICSN



Normal Female

46,XX

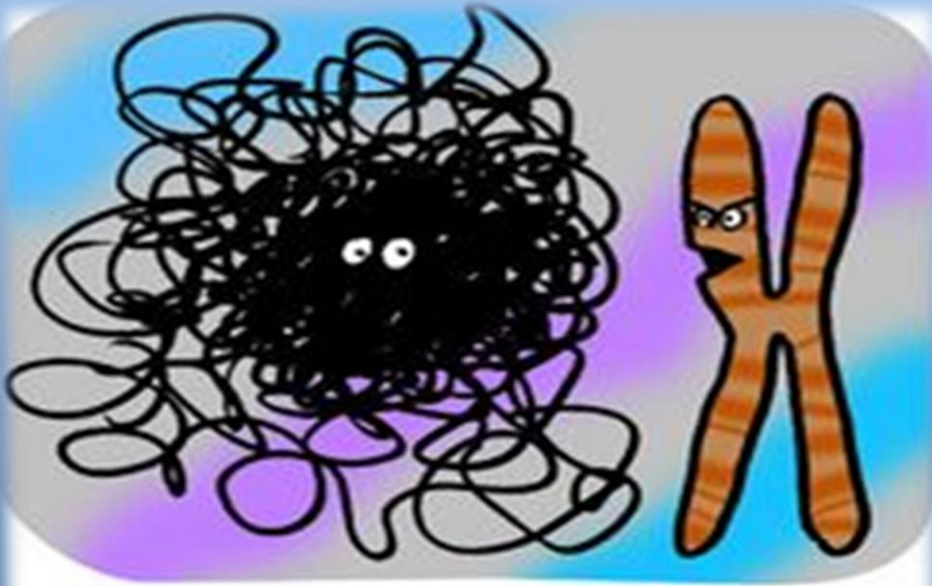


# Karyotyping activity

- Make a karyotype:

<http://mrforde.blogspot.com/2009/01/karyotype-game.html>

Have fun ;)



Dude, mitosis starts in five minutes...  
I can't believe you're not condensed yet.

# Thank You