

Comunicare o non comunicare: il problema degli *incidental o unexpected findings*

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Abstract: Handling incidental findings that may occur in genetic research is an issue of bitter debate, with two opposite approaches: an autonomy-focused and a result-evaluation approach. Many of the groups that have visited this issue have placed priority on the scientific validity, clinical significance, and availability of medical interventions, while some scholars and Courts claim that people should get all research results. The fact is that genome-wide association studies have been fruitful in identifying disease susceptibility loci, but quantifying individual disease risk based on genotype data is, at state, not satisfactory. Yet the conservative criteria proposed by U.S. and European guidelines seem to be appropriate.

Keywords: Genetic research, Incidental findings, Personal autonomy, Beneficence, Harm.