

The ecological footprint of liver transplantation

Paolo De Simone, MD PhD

Hepatobiliary surgery and liver transplantation

University of Pisa Medical School Hospital

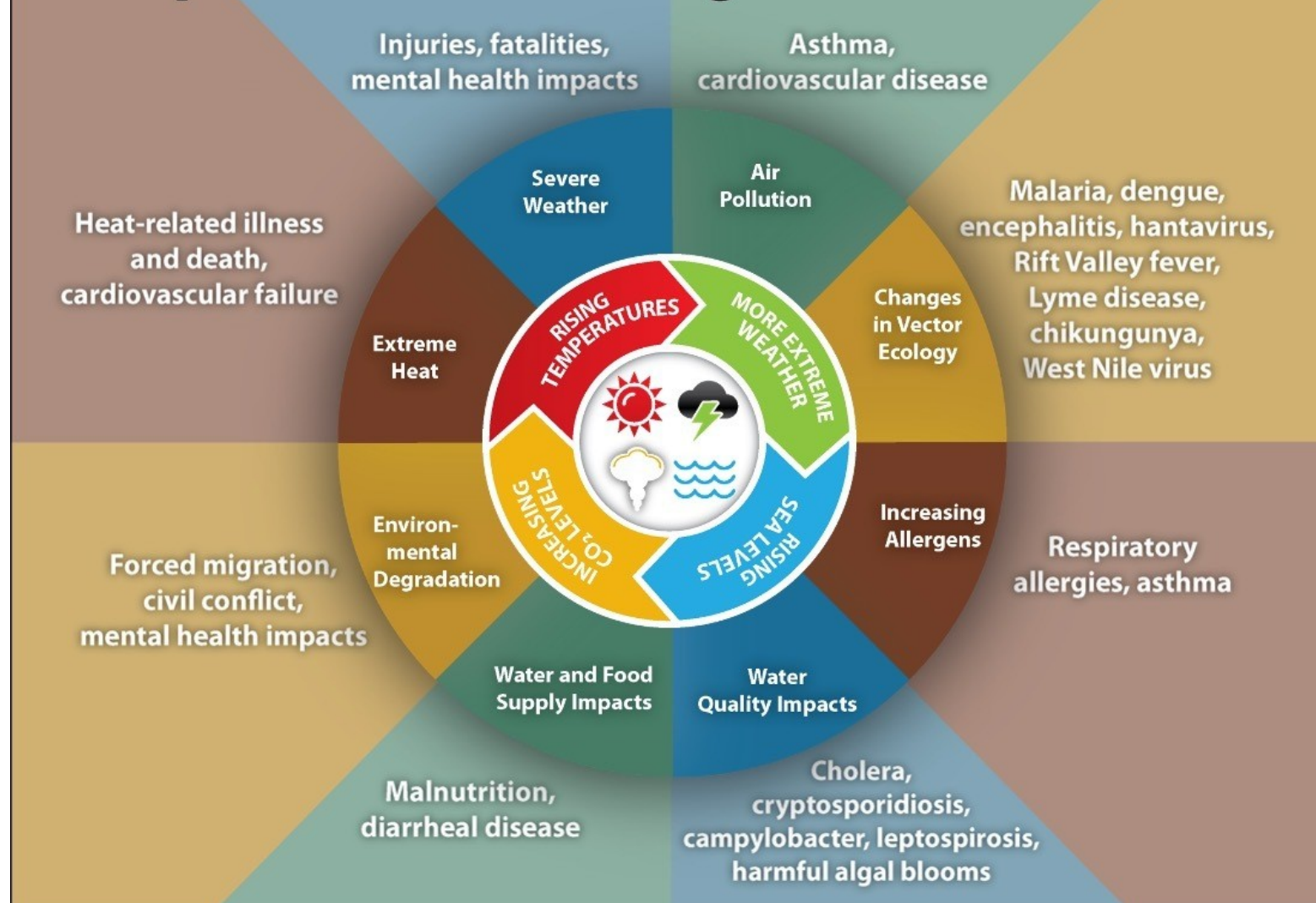
Pisa





Is there any link
between liver
transplantation
and drought?




Impact of Climate Change on Human Health



- On a global average basis, healthcare systems account for over 4% of global CO2 emissions
- For most industrialized nations, that figure is closer to 10% of national emissions
- That is more than the aviation or shipping sectors
- Hospitals have the highest energy intensity of all publicly funded buildings and emit 2.5 times more greenhouse gases than commercial buildings



Surgery is one of the clinical activities contributing to the carbon footprint and the contribution made is not limited solely to energy use in the operating theatre



Surgery and CO2 footprint

- Healthcare makes a major contribution to climate change through the procurement, use and disposal of products,
- through the running of facilities and
- through the means by which treatment or care pathways are accessed by patients
- Without intervention, contributions to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from healthcare are anticipated to rise owing to
 - increasing access to healthcare
 - advances in medicine
 - a growing population
 - and the increasing number of people living with multiple long-term conditions

Surgery and the NHS carbon footprint

Finding the right pathway to increase sustainable practices in healthcare.

Arwhiting Environmental Consultant¹

Tennison Strategy Advisor²

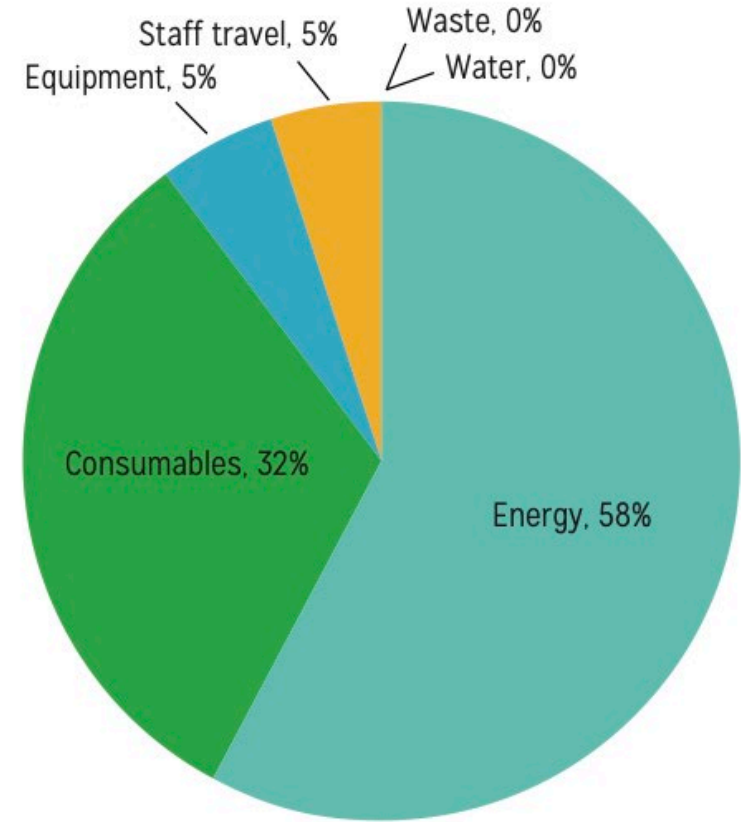
Roschnik Director²

Edwards Technical Director¹

Environmental Resources Management, UK

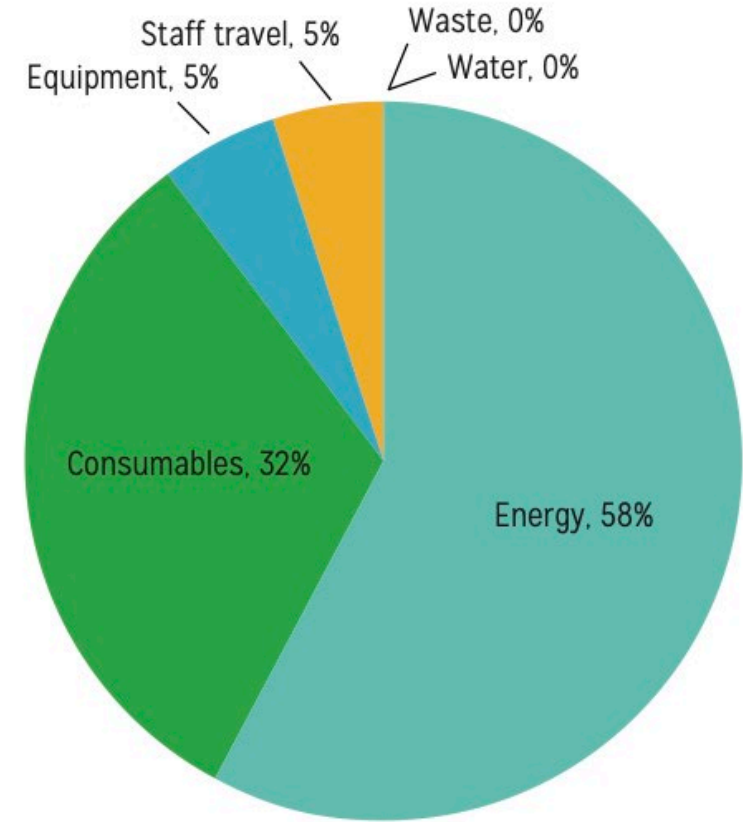
Sustainable Development Unit, UK

Surgical procedure module
carbon footprint results (per
hour of
surgery), excluding
anaesthetic gases



- Energy (14kg CO₂e)
- Consumables (7.7kg CO₂e)
- Equipment (1.2kg CO₂e)
- Staff travel (1.1kg CO₂e)
- Waste (0.06kg CO₂e)
- Water (0.05kg CO₂e)

Surgical procedure module carbon footprint results (per hour of surgery), excluding anaesthetic gases

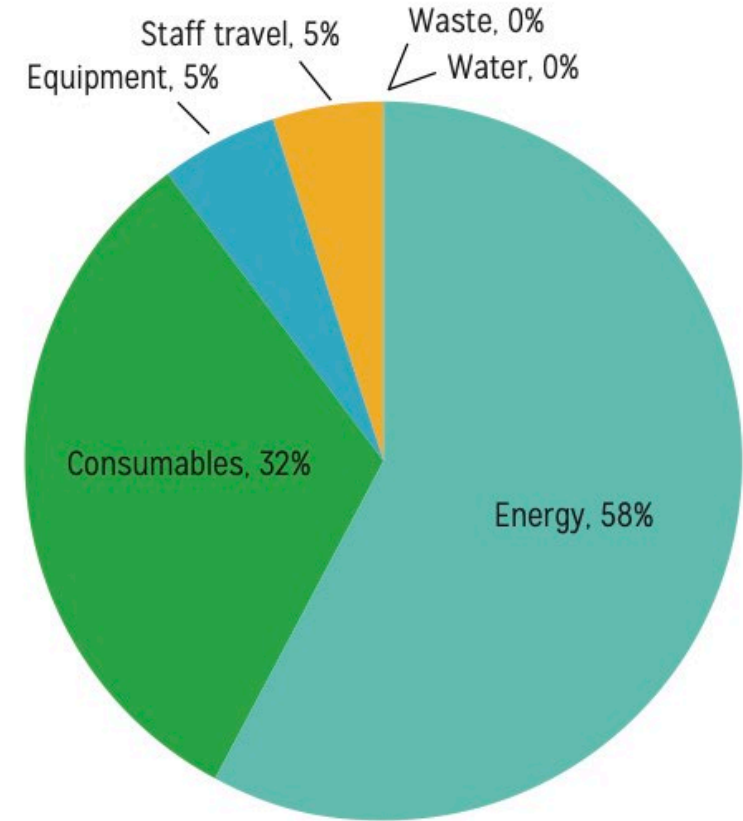


Category	Emissions	Contribution
Anaesthetic gases, excluding nitrous oxide	105kt CO ₂ e	22.2%
Nitrous oxide	95kt CO ₂ e	20.1%
<i>Anaesthetic gases total*</i>	<i>200kt CO₂e</i>	<i>42.3%</i>
Surgical procedures (excluding anaesthetic gases), from Figure 1	109kt CO ₂ e	23.0%
Patient travel	26kt CO ₂ e	5.5%
Surgical inpatient bed days	138kt CO ₂ e	29.2%
<i>Surgical procedures total, excluding anaesthetic gases</i>	<i>273kt CO₂e</i>	<i>57.7%</i>
Total	473kt CO₂e	100%

Surgical procedure module
carbon footprint results (per
hour of
surgery), excluding
anaesthetic gases



*Anaesthetic gases are likely, without
intervention, to become an even
more dominant contributor to the
climate change impact of surgery*



REVIEW PAPER

The Carbon Footprint of Surgical Operations

A Systematic Review

Chantelle Rizan, MRCS (ENT),†‡§✉ Ingeborg Steinbach, MA,§ Rosamond Nicholson, MBChB,¶
Rob Lillywhite, PhD,|| Malcolm Reed, FRCS,† and Mahmood F. Bhutta, FRCS*†***

TABLE 1. Study Characteristics and Scope of Product Inventory

					REVIEW PAPER	
The Carbon Footprint of Surgical Operations A Systematic Review						
<i>Chantelle Rizan, MRCS (ENT),*†‡§¶ Ingeborg Steinbach, MA,§ Rosamond Nicholson, MBChB,¶ Rob Lillywhite, PhD, Malcolm Reed, FRCS,† and Mahmood F. Bhutta, FRCS*†**</i>						
Study (yr)	Study Setting; Country	Focus of Study; Surgical Specialty	Carbon Footprinting Approach; Guideline			
Berner et al (2017) ²⁶	1 airforce teaching hospital; <i>Chile</i>	(a) Abdominoplasty versus (b) bilateral breast augmentation versus (c) rhinoplasty; <i>Plastic surgery</i>	Process-based <i>Nil</i>	1		
Campion et al (2012) ³¹	1 university hospital; <i>USA</i>	Childbirth: (a) cesarean section versus (b) natural delivery; <i>O&G</i>	Process-based <i>ISO 14040 and 14044</i>	Bi		
Gatenby (2011) ³²	21 hospitals; <i>UK</i>	GORD: (a) surgical versus (b) medical management; <i>GI</i>	EEIO <i>Nil</i>	1 reflux patient; <i>Start of secondary care for reflux-end of life</i>	CO ₂ <i>Nil</i>	
Morris et al (2013) ²⁷	1 university hospital; <i>UK</i>	Cataract surgery; <i>Ophthalmology</i>	Hybrid <i>PAS2050</i>	Cataract surgery 1 eye; <i>Referral to secondary care- discharge</i>	6 GHG <i>Kyoto</i>	
Thiel et al (2015) ⁷	1 university hospital; <i>USA*</i>	Hysterectomy: (a) abdominal versus (b) vaginal versus (c) laparoscopic versus (d) robotic; <i>O&G</i>	Hybrid <i>ISO 14040 and 14044</i>	1 hysterectomy; <i>Patient enter theatre-leave</i>	(91 GHG) <i>TRAC</i>	
Thiel et al (2017) ³⁴	2 tertiary care hospitals; <i>India</i>	Cataract surgery; <i>Ophthalmology</i>	Hybrid <i>ISO 14040</i>	Cataract surgery 1 eye; <i>Patient enter theatre-leave</i>	(91 GHG) <i>TRAC</i>	
Thiel et al (2018) ³³	1 university hospital; <i>USA*</i>	Hysterectomy: model interventions (a) anesthesia (b) surgical materials and equipment (c) energy for HVAC; <i>O&G</i>	Hybrid <i>ISO 14040 and 14044</i>	1 hysterectomy <i>Patient enter theatre-leave</i>	(91 GHG) <i>TRAC</i>	
Woods et al (2014) ³⁵	Not specified; <i>USA</i>	Endometrial cancer staging: (a) laparoscopy versus (b) laparotomy versus (c) robotic; <i>O&G</i>	Process-based <i>PAS2050, GGP</i>	1 endometrial staging procedure; <i>Patient enter theatre-leave</i>	(6 GHG) <i>GGP</i>	

*Inter-related studies.

CO₂, indicates carbon dioxide; EEIO, Environmentally extended input output; GGP, greenhouse gas protocol; GHG, greenhouse gas; GI, gastrointestinal; GORD, gastro-oesophageal reflux disease; HVAC, heating, ventilation and air conditioning; ISO, international standards organisation; O&G, obstetrics and gynecology; PAS, publicly available specification; SUD, single-use device.

TABLE 2. Comparison of Inventory Boundaries

Phase	Process/ Item	Berner et al ²⁶	Campion et al ³¹	Gatenby ³²	Morris et al ²⁷	Thiel et al ⁷	Th et	
Pre-op	Investigations			X				
	Outpatient appointments			X				
Operation	Outpatient building energy use			?	X			
	Patient/staff travel on day of surgery	X			X			
	Capital goods manufacture			?				
	Electronic equipment energy	X	X	?	?	X		
	Heating		X	?	?	X		
	Ventilation, air conditioning, lighting (Building energy use)	X	X	?	?	X		
	Water	Treatment before/after use			?	?		
		Heating (Water)			?	?		
	Anaesthetic gases	Production			?	?		
		Direct emissions			?	?		
	Intravenous anaesthetics	Production			?	?		
		Direct emissions			?	?		
	Gas insufflation	Production			?			
		Direct emissions			?			
	(Operation time)				X			
	Linen	Manufacture			?			
		Washing & drying			?	X		
Transport to linen facility		X		?	X			
Consumables production	Raw material extraction		X	?	X			
	Manufacturing		X	?	X			
	Transport in procurement		X	?	X			
Disposables EOL	Incineration		X	?	?			
	Landfill	?	X	?	?			
	Autoclave/ sterilisation		X	?				
Reusables processing	Recycling			?				
	Sterilisation		X	?				
	Repair			?				
Reusables EOL	Landfill & incineration	?		?	?			
	Recycling			?				
	Incineration			?	X			
(Unspecified theatre waste)	Landfill	X		?	X			
	Autoclave			?				
	Transport of (any measured) waste		X	?		X		
Peri/post-op	Recovery building energy & landfill waste	X		?				
	Postoperative inpatient care			X	X			
	Inpatient pharmaceuticals			X	X			
	IT, patient food & drink, stationary			?	X			
	Medical equipment			?	X			
	Outpatient follow up			X	X			
	Outpatient pharmaceuticals			X	X			

? indicates ambiguous; (), where likely includes other listed factors; EOL, end of life; IT, information technology; op, operative.

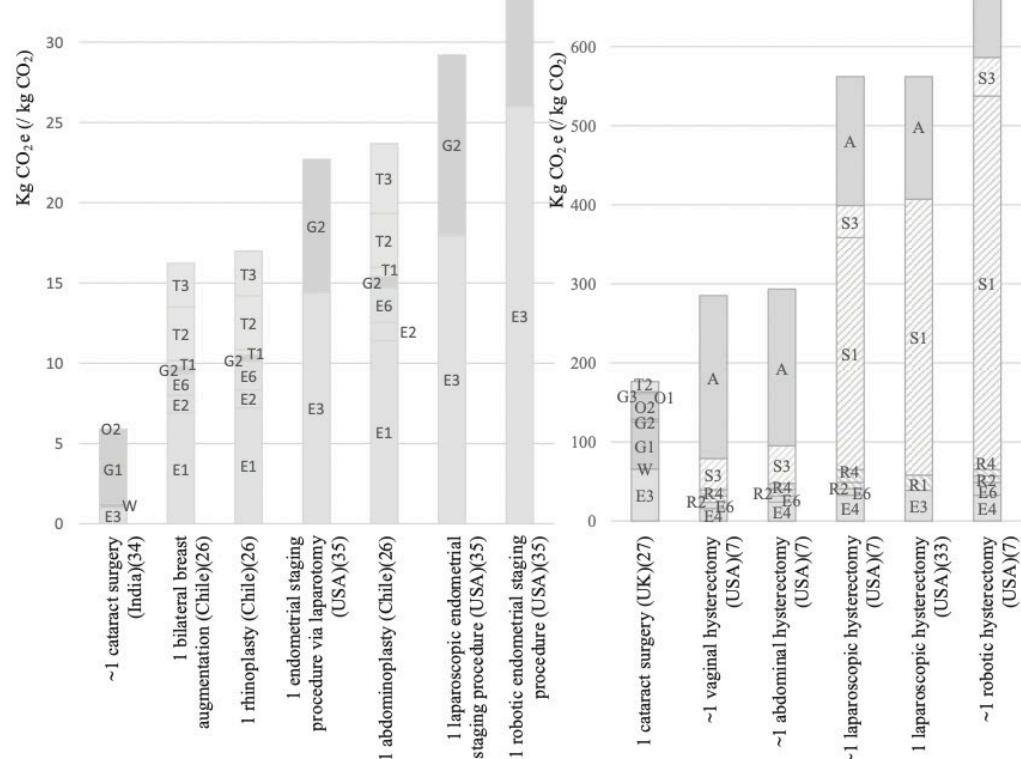
The Carbon Footprint of Surgical Operations A Systematic Review

Chantelle Rizan, MRCS (ENT),*†‡§¶ Ingeborg Steinbach, MA,§ Rosamond Nicholson, MBChB,¶
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- Inventory boundaries of CO2 footprint are largely variable as per
 - Anesthesia
 - Type of surgery
 - OR setting
 - Outpatient/inpatient clinic
 - Patient follow-up
 -
 -

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Legend for figures 2-4.

Bar colour	Category	Sub-category
Solid grey	Electricity	E1=Building energy (theatre)
		E2=Building energy (recovery)
		E3=Electricity use
		E4=HVAC
		E5=Lighting
		E6=Medical equipment energy
		E7=Operation time
White	Water	W=Water
Light grey	Consumables (General)	G1= Consumables procurement
		G2= Waste
Medium grey	Consumables (Other)	G3= Laundry
		O1=Other procurement
		O2=Pharmaceuticals
Dark grey	Reusables	O3= Pharmaceuticals (ongoing)
		R1=Reusable instruments
		R2=Reusables production
		R3=Reusables production & sterilisation
Hatched	Single-use items	R4=Reusables treatment & sterilisation
		S1=Single-use items production
		S2=Single-use instruments production
White	Travel	S3=Single-use materials (gowns, gloves etc)
		T1=Patient travel
		T2=Staff travel
White	Anaesthetics	A=Anaesthetics
White	Beyond operation	B1=Day case
		B2=Inpatient care
		B3=Outpatient appointment
		B4=Outpatient tests

FIGURE 2. Carbon footprint results of single operations. ~ = approximated from descriptive or graphical data, Thiel *et al.* (2015)⁷ cross referenced in Thiel *et al.* (2018)³³.

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- Robotic procedures (hysterectomy) have the highest carbon footprint
- Electricity and single-use items account for most of the carbon footprint of surgical procedures

The ecological footprint



The Earth Overshoot Day

Did you know that if everyone lived the lifestyle of the average American we would need **five** planets?

Simply put, we are using more than the Earth can provide

Today, it takes the Earth one year and six months to regenerate what we use in a year

The ***Global Footprint Network*** has created a topflight instrument that measures the amount of environment (in terms of planets) needed to support a particular lifestyle

Its ***Ecological Footprint Calculator*** looks at the balance between biocapacity, which represents Earth's biologically productive land areas, such as forests, cropland, and pastures, and our ecological footprint, or the demand that humans put on nature

The Ecological Footprint

MEASURES

how fast we consume resources and generate waste



Energy



Settlement



Timber & Paper



Food & Fiber



Seafood

COMPARED TO
how fast nature can absorb our waste and generate new resources.



Carbon Footprint

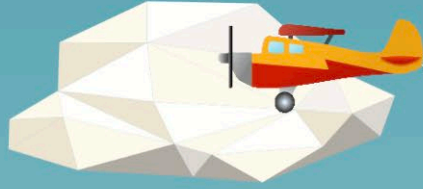


Forest



Cropland & Pasture

Fisheries



Earth Overshoot Day 2022 is July 28



WHAT IS YOUR

Ecological Footprint?

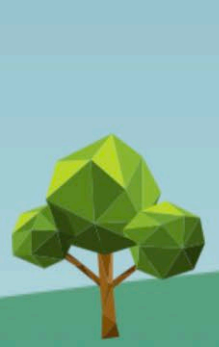
How many planets do we need if everybody lives like you?

When is your personal Overshoot Day?



TAKE THE

FIRST STEP



RESULTS

Your personal Earth Overshoot Day is:

21. Mar 

If everyone lived like you, we would need

4.6 Earths 

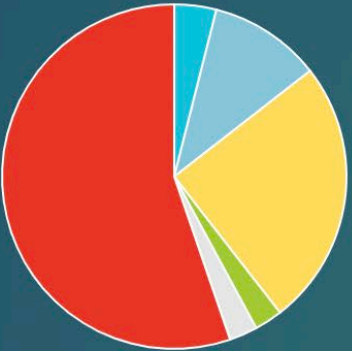


Why can't I get my Footprint score within the means of one planet? 

[See Details](#)

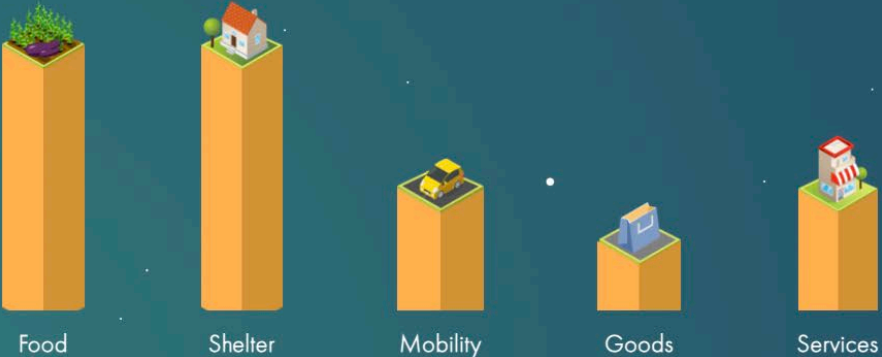


By Land Type



- Built-Up Land
- Forest Products
- Cropland
- Grazing Land
- Fishing Grounds
- Carbon Footprint

By Consumption Category



7.5

Your Ecological Footprint (global hectares or gha) *i*

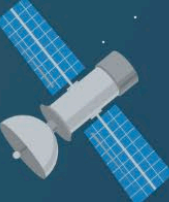
12.2

Your Carbon Footprint (CO₂ emissions in tonnes per year) *i*

56

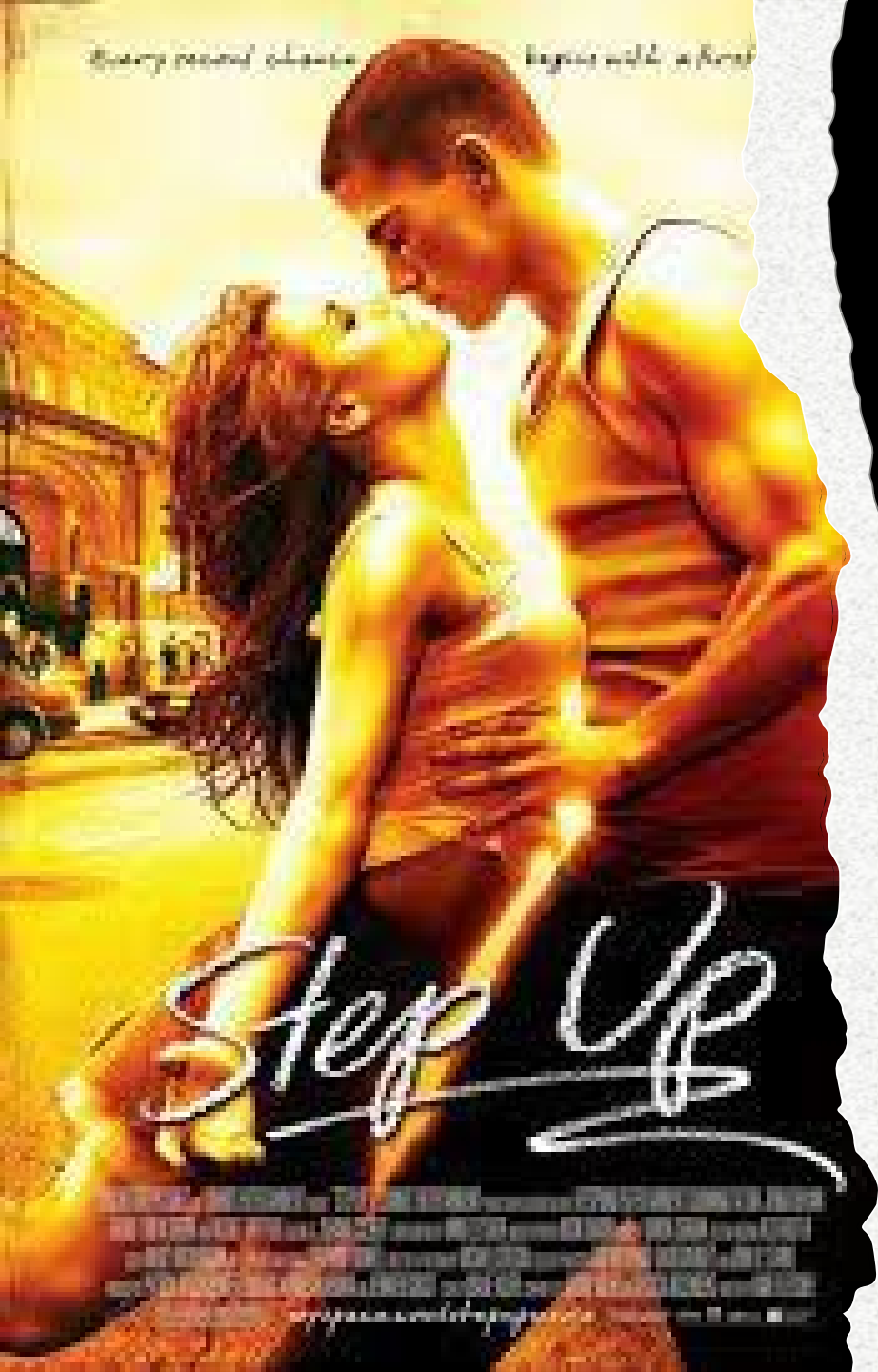
Your Carbon Footprint (% of your total Ecological Footprint)

How Do You Feel?



INITIATIVES

- Reduce direct power consumption and improve energy efficiency
- Reduce indirect emissions through sustainable use of materials and circular economy
- Digital tools and software support “dematerialization” by enabling the creation of virtual resources that deliver maximum value with minimum resources
- Drive a shift from resource-intensive clinical facilities to networked lower-cost settings and the home, thereby giving more people access to care
- Support preventive care and telehealth, or virtual care, by enabling remote interaction between patients and care givers, thus avoiding the related travel and CO2 emissions
- Radically optimize care along care pathways



INITIATIVES

Step up our action
together

—

Liver transplantation in Jehovah's Witnesses



KINGDOM
OF
HALL
JEHOVAH'S
WITNESSES

Case 1

- OS, male, 57 years
- HCV-RNA+ cirrhosis
- Severe portal hypertension with refractory ascites
- The patient was referred to bridging TIPS prior to LT
- Did not declare his faith prior to TIPS
- TIPS was performed uneventfully



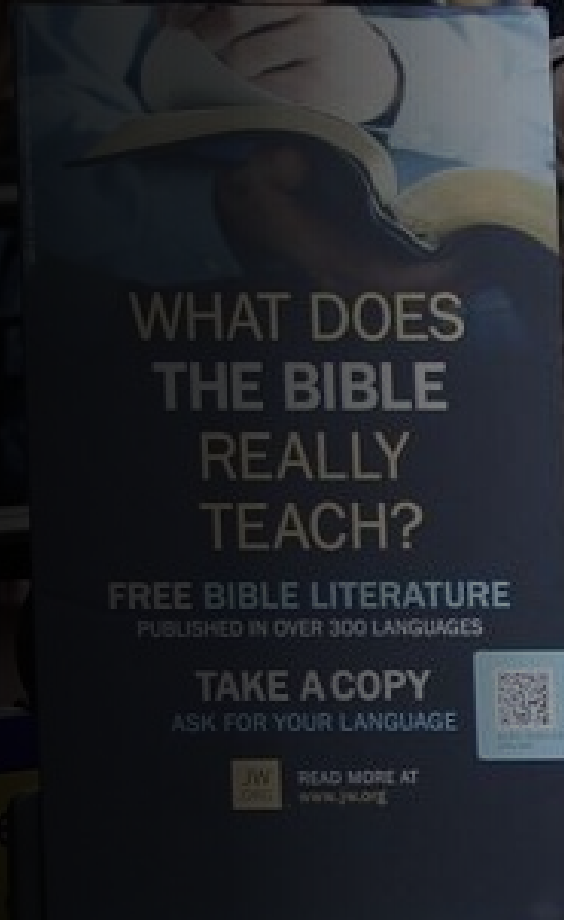
Case 1

- 3 months after TIPS, the patient declared his faith
- He underwent LT with no RBC utilization
- The patient died 7 years after LT due to chronic graft rejection (immunosuppressive drug non-adherence)



Case 2

- MM, male, 54 years
- HCV-RNA+ cirrhosis
- The patient consented to LT
- At surgery, hypertensive pneumothorax with cardiogenic shock
- 50 RBC/FFP/PLT transfused
- The patient survived surgery and died to Enterococci infection on day 40





Case 3

- JK, female, 32 years
- HBV-related ALF, intubated, ventilated, on RRT
- Her husband consented to LT
- Bloodless LT (lowest Hgb 5g/dL)
- Died 10 days after LT due to sepsis



The lessons learned

- There is huge variability across JW with regard to consent to blood transfusions
- All dimensions of care should be explored and discussed

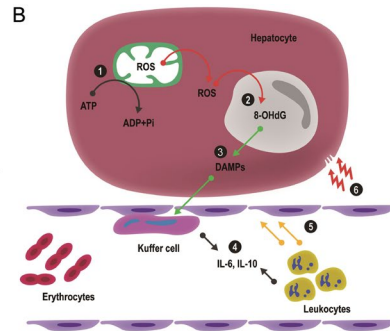
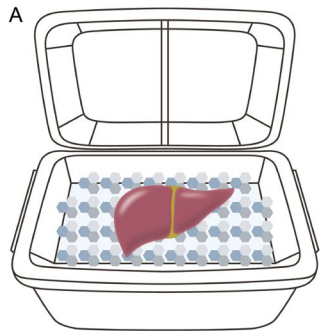


NORMOTHERMIC MACHINE PERFUSION

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Hepatobiliary surgery and liver
transplantation
University of Pisa Medical School
Hospital
Pisa



THE NMP CONUNDRUM



Viability

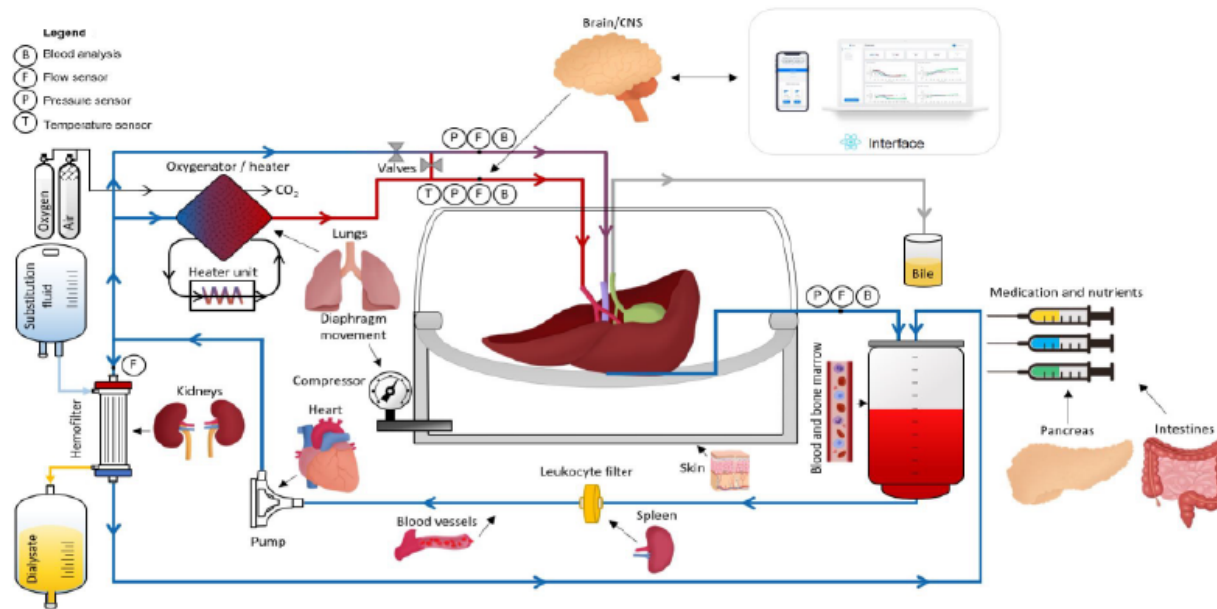
HEALTHY CELL VS. APOPTOTIC CELL

Viability is defined as the capability of a living or non-living thing to maintain itself and turn into a final manifestation.

CELL VIABILITY, FOR INSTANCE, REFERS TO THE NUMBER OF HEALTHY CELLS WITHIN A POPULATION OR THE PERCENTAGE OF VIABLE CELLS IN A CELL CULTURE.

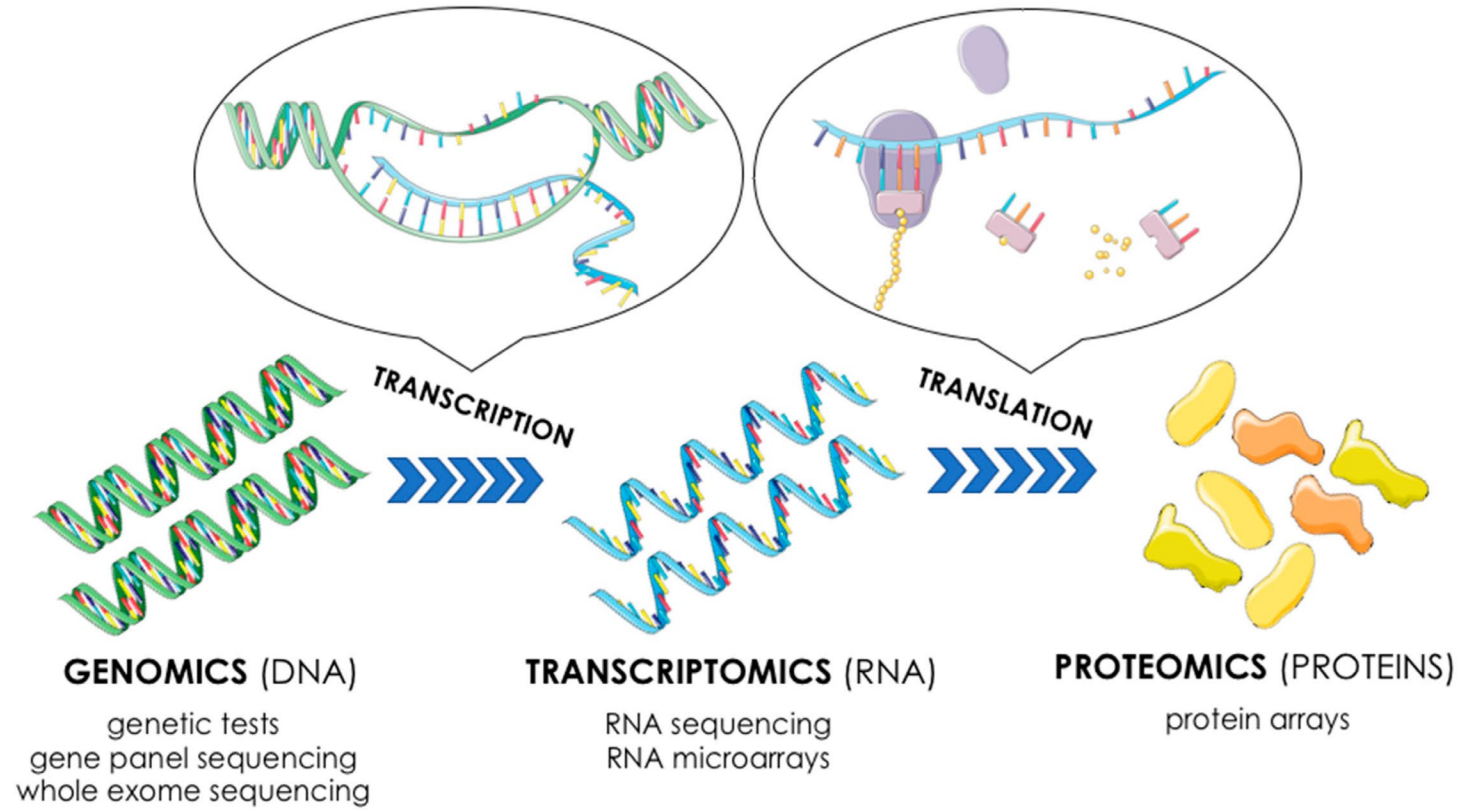
Author, Year, Ref	Country	n	Viability Parameter	End-Point	Threshold
Ravikumar et al., 2016 [7]	UK	20	Perfusate pH, bile production	30-day graft survival	Stable arterial and portal flow; pH between 7.2 and 7.4 without correction; bile production
Mergental et al., 2016 [32]	UK	6	Perfusate lactate, pH, glucose metabolism, bile production	ITU stay, in-hospital stay	<p>Within 3 h of NMP: Lactate clearance to <2.5 mmol/L or evidence of bile production combined with at least two of the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perfusate pH > 7.30 2. Hepatic artery flow >150 mL/min and portal vein flow > 500 mL/min 3. Homogenous perfusion with soft parenchyma consistency
Bral et al., 2017 [9]	Canada	9	Perfusate lactate, pH, transaminases, bilirubin Bile production	<p>Primary: 30-day graft survival Secondary: Patient survival at day 30, peak serum transaminase AST in first 7 days, EAD incidence in first 7 days, liver biochemistry in serum on days 1–7, 10, and 30, major complications defined by Clavien-Dindo score ≥ 3, patient and graft survival at 6 months, biliary complications at 6 months</p>	pH, Lactate, ALT, AST, bilirubin, perfusion vascular stability, hourly bile production
Watson et al., 2018 [11]	UK	47	Perfusate lactate, pH, transaminases, glucose metabolism Bile production, bile pH, bile glucose	PNF, EAD, biliary complications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peak lactate fall ≥ 4.4 mmol/L/kg/h 2. ALT <6000iU/Lat2h 3. Maximum bile pH > 7.5 4. Bile glucose ≤ 3 mmol/L or 10 mmol less than perfusate glucose 5. Maintain perfusate pH > 7.2 with ≤ 30 mmol bicarbonate supplementation 6. Falling glucose beyond 2 h OR perfusate glucose < 10 mmol/L with subsequent fall during challenge with 2.5 g glucose
Ghinolfi et al., 2018 [12]	Italy	10	Perfusate lactate	Graft and patient survival at 6 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lactate downtrend 2. S table flow 3. Acceptable gross appearance with uniform vascularization.

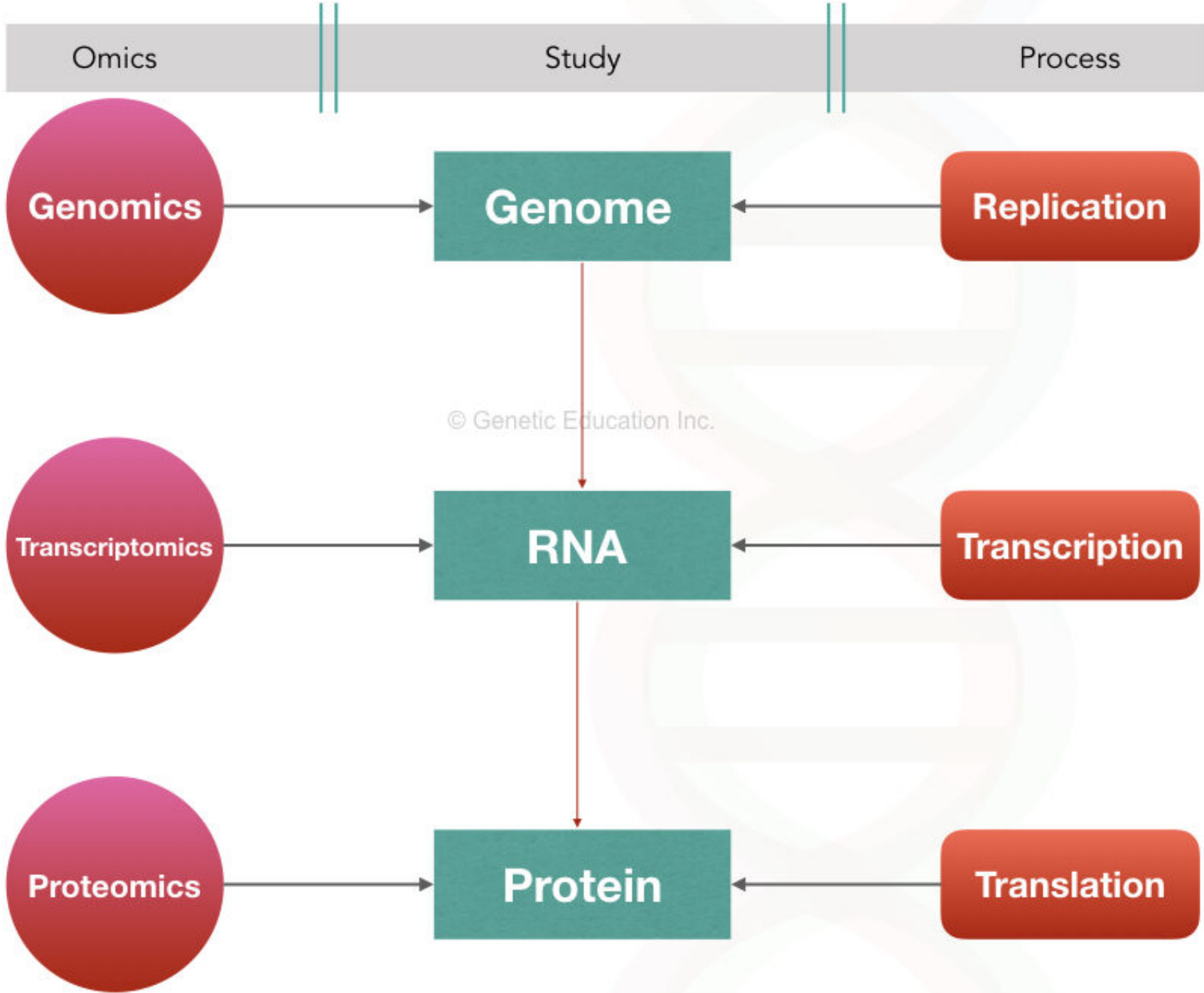
Long-term Normothermic Machine Preservation of human livers: *What Is Needed To Succeed?*



To accomplish long-term (>24 h) normothermic *ex-situ* liver preservation the perfusion machine should mimic the human body by integrating multiple core physiological functions.

NMP & TRANSCRIPT OMICS





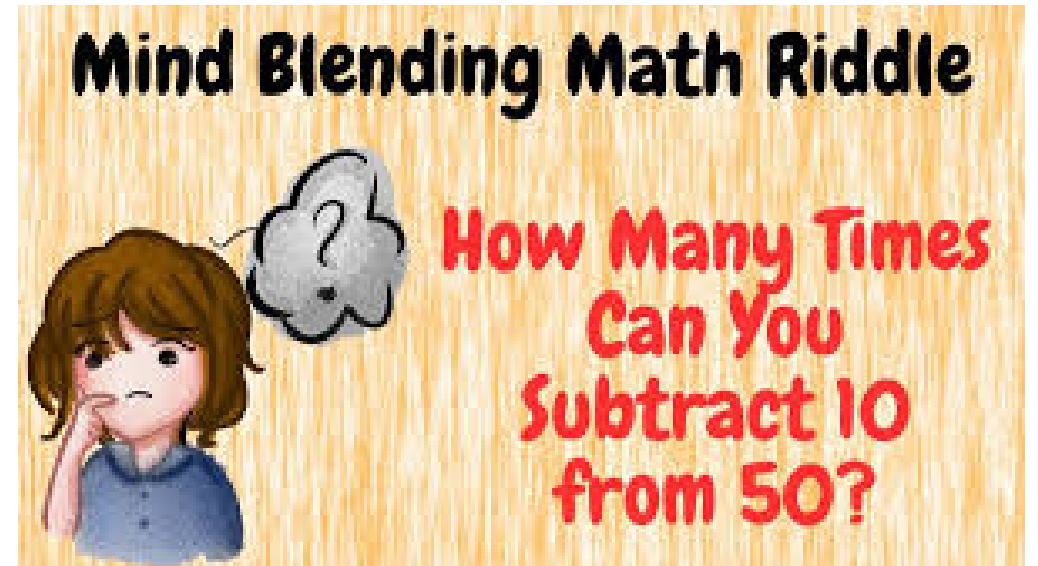
TRANSCRIPTOMICS

- Transcriptomics is the study of the 'transcriptome,' a term now widely understood to mean the **complete set of all the ribonucleic acid** (RNA) molecules (called transcripts) expressed in some given entity, such as a cell, tissue, or organism
- Transcriptomics encompasses everything relating to RNAs, and this includes their transcription and expression levels, functions, locations, trafficking, and degradation
- It also includes the structures of transcripts and their parent genes with regard to start sites, 5' and 3' end sequences, splicing patterns, and posttranscriptional modifications
- Transcriptomics covers all types of transcripts, including messenger RNAs (mRNAs), [microRNAs](#) (miRNAs), and different types of [long noncoding RNAs](#) (lncRNAs).



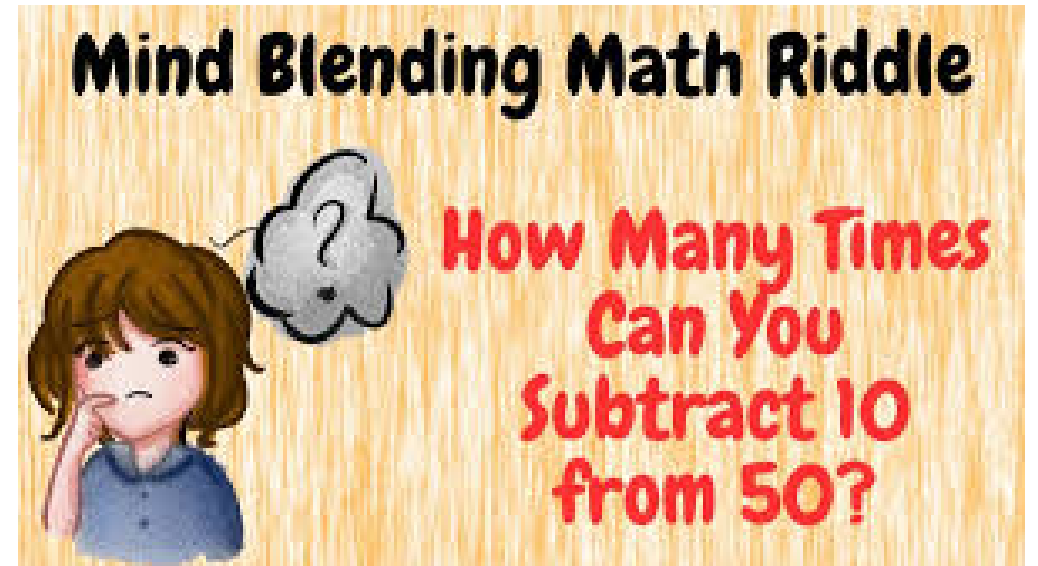
TRANSCRIPTOMICS CAN HELP SOLVE THE RIDDLE

- Characterize different states of cells (i.e. development stages), tissues or [cell cycle phases](#) by expression patterns
- Explore the molecular mechanisms underlying a phenotype
- Identify biomarkers differently expressed between the diseased state and healthy state
- Distinguish disease stages or subtypes (e.g. cancer stages)
- Establish the causative relationship between genetic variants and gene expression patterns to illuminate the etiology of diseases



TRANSCRIPTOMICS CAN HELP SOLVE THE RIDDLE

- Which molecule(s) is (are) a hallmark of liver graft repair/regenerative capacity?
- Which set of molecules indicate a poor prognosis (graft failure) or a good therapeutic response (graft function)?
- Which genes and pathways respond to gene perturbations and treatments?

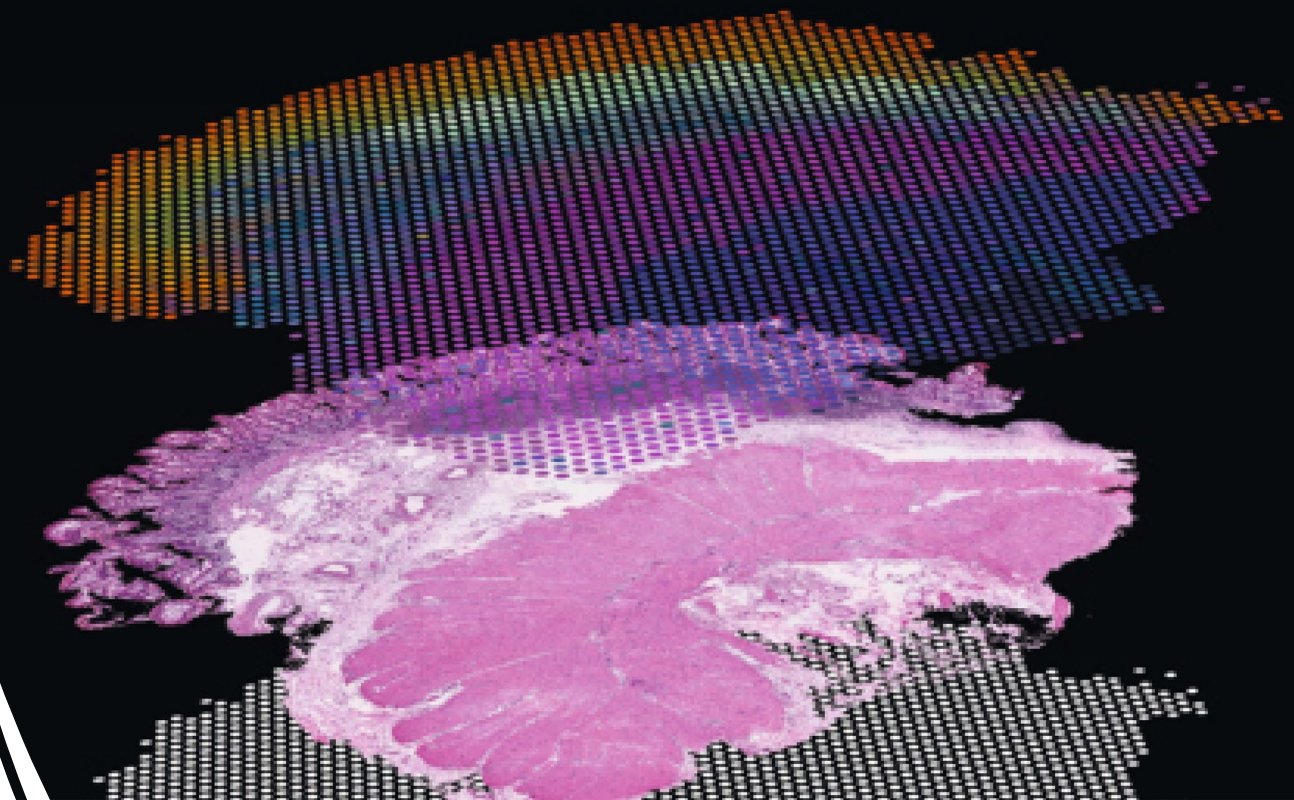


Spatial Transcriptomics

nature methods

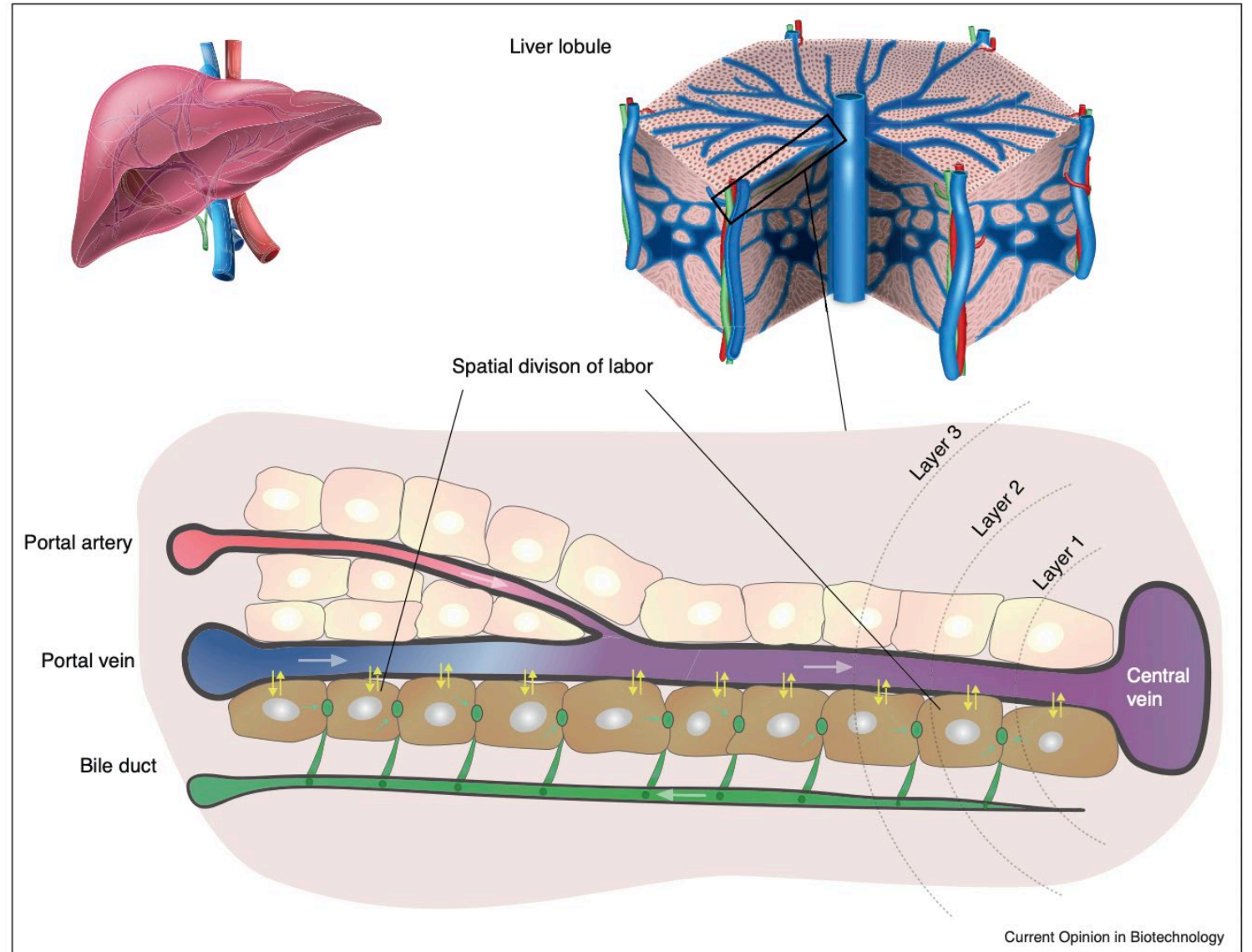
Method of the Year 2020:
Spatially resolved transcriptomics

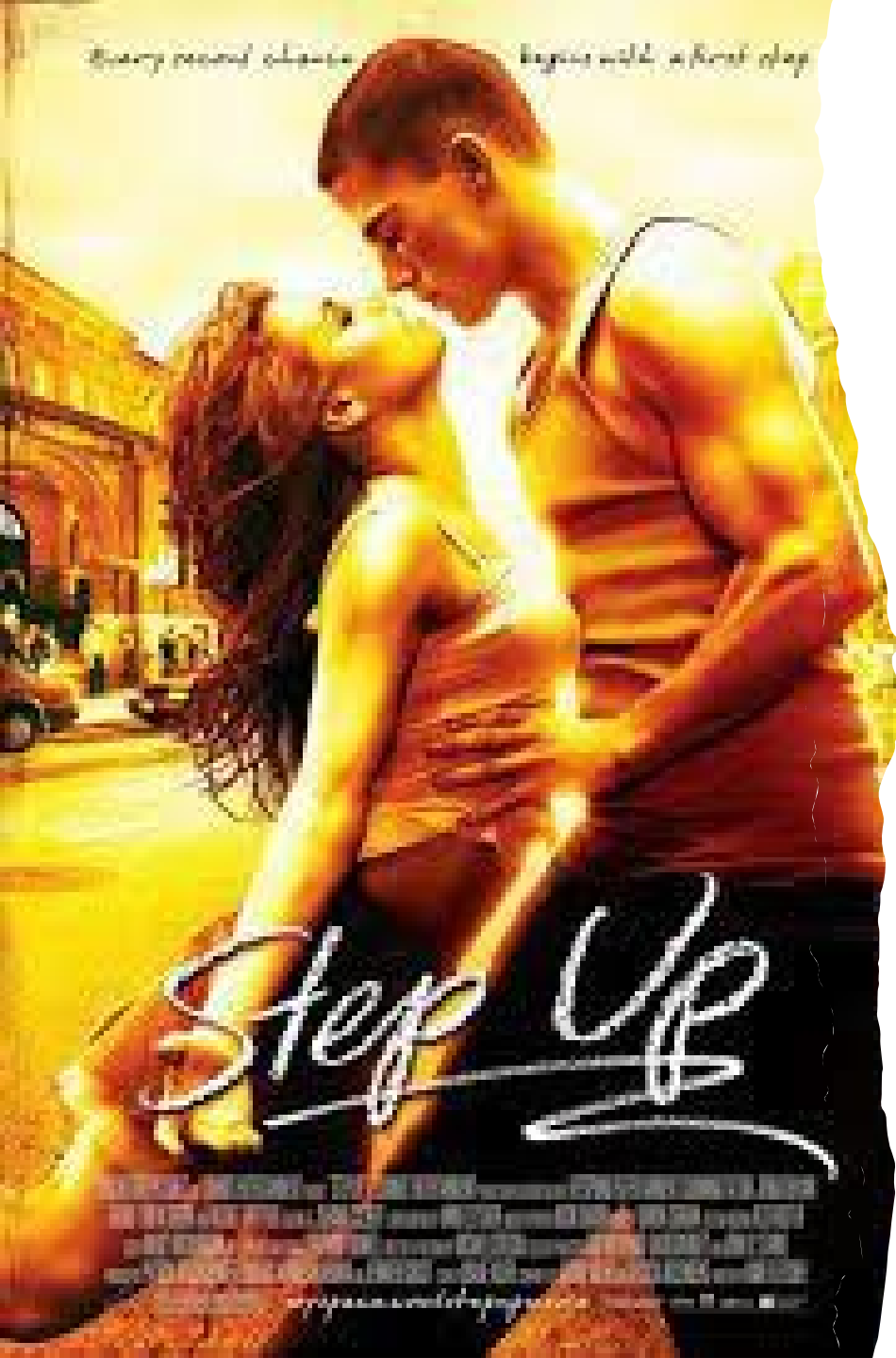
- Transcript analysis can be spatially resolved (located)
- Provides information on sites of phenotype activation
- Can help locate repair/regenerative process



Spatial transcriptomics: paving the way for tissue-level systems biology

Andreas E Moor and Shalev Itzkovitz





INITIATIVES

Step up our action
together