

Make sick people better again

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My work is about two types of studies. In one study we look at cells from a normal person and a sick person. We find out what is different between them. In the other study we look at many possible ways to make a person better again. You can not buy most of these in a shop as they have not been studied in all possible ways to be sure that they really do what they should. In a next step we use a computer to match what we know about sick people with the best possible way to make them better again. This best possible match becomes the starting point for coming up with a new way to get sick people better again. It does not happen very often at all, but sometimes we can even find something that you can already buy. In those cases we can help people very quickly (Lamb, 2006).

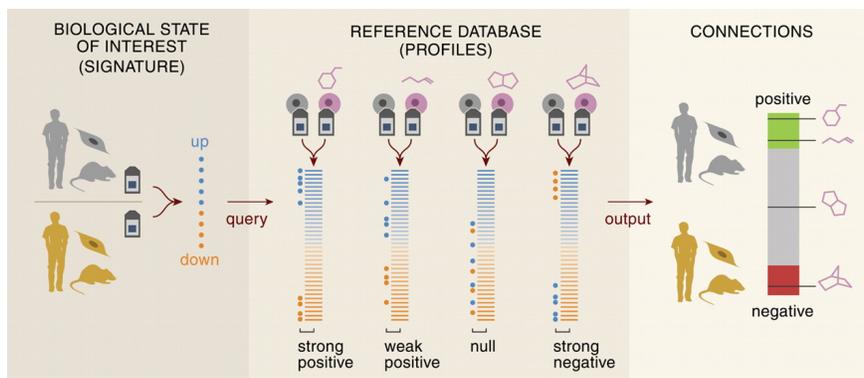


Figure 1: “Connectivity mapping”. Matching differences between normal and sick people with possible ways to make them better again.

References

J. Lamb. The Connectivity Map: Using Gene-Expression Signatures to Connect Small Molecules Genes, and Disease. *Science*, 313(5795):1929–1935, sep 2006. doi: 10.1126/science.1132939. URL <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1132939>.