GENETICS

MEN R'SPONDING TO WOMEN

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We know much about the differences between <u>men and women</u> – the <u>X is the default pathway</u> and the Y under the microscope looks as worn down and "<u>misshapen as a stubbed-out cheroot</u>". There turns out to be something really new. So far all effects of Y genes on sex determination have been attributed to SRY, the testis determining gene (NR0B1, FOXL2 and WNT04 are probably ovary-determining).

The careful analysis of an Italian pedigree now described a new gene that can reversal XX to male when being disrupted: It is R-spondin 1 (or RSPO1), a growth factor that may act through \(\mathbb{G}\)-catenin stabilization and synergize with Wnt.

Do you know renember the <u>nice cartoon</u> of the Y chromosome with the HUH? selective hearing loss;-) it is finally RSPO1. Yea, yea.

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