

## Participate in the RENE B inter-laboratory comparison exercise 2021

Cytogenetic assays for biological dosimetry: dicentric chromosome assay [DCA] and cytokinesis-block micronucleus assay [CBMN] following telomere and centromere hybridization

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**Goal**

RENE B 2021 inter-laboratory comparison of three blinded samples exposed to x-rays had the purpose of simulating an emergency scenario in which early dose estimates are required for immediate medical management support. The participating labs were asked to provide fast analysis in a triage mode and report results in a quickly manner.

**Methods**

Single male donor (age 32)

3 blind doses (Gy) (x-rays)

- 0.0 (low exposed)
- 1.2 (medium exposed)
- 3.5 (highly exposed)

2.6 mL of Lithium-heparinized whole blood / sample

**2 Endpoints:**

- Cytokinesis-block Micronucleus Assay**
- Dicentric Chromosome Assay**

- 14 Laboratories
- 13 different countries
- 1000 BN cells in semi-automated mode
- 33 Laboratories
- 22 different countries
- 150 metaphases scored semi-automatically

### Dicentric Assay with Telomeres and Centromeres FISH improves Chromosomal Aberrations Detection

**Giema staining**

Underestimated dicentrics

**Improvement of chromosomal aberration detection**

**Evaluation of chromosomal aberrations : DIFFICULT requiring a high level of expertise**

**TC staining**

**Fish PNA**

- red
- green
- green
- red

**Dicentric**

**Evaluation of chromosomal aberrations : EASY not requiring a high level of expertise**

Dicentric chromosome assay was performed using telomere and centromere staining for chromosomal abnormalities scoring, allowing the improvement of the technique compared to uniform staining generally used by other participating laboratories (Giemsa or DAPI), mainly due to an underestimation by conventional techniques of the dicentric having a centromere and a telomere adjacent or with very close two centromere.

M'kacher R, El Maalouf E, Ricoul M, Heidingsfelder L, Laplagne E, Cuceu C, Hempel WM, Colicchio B, Dieterlen A, Sabatier L. Mutation Research/ Fundamental and Molecular Mechanisms of Mutagenesis 770 (2014) 45–53

### Micronucleus Assay following FISH with Telomere and Centromere

**Uniform staining**

DIFFICULT to detect cytoplasm

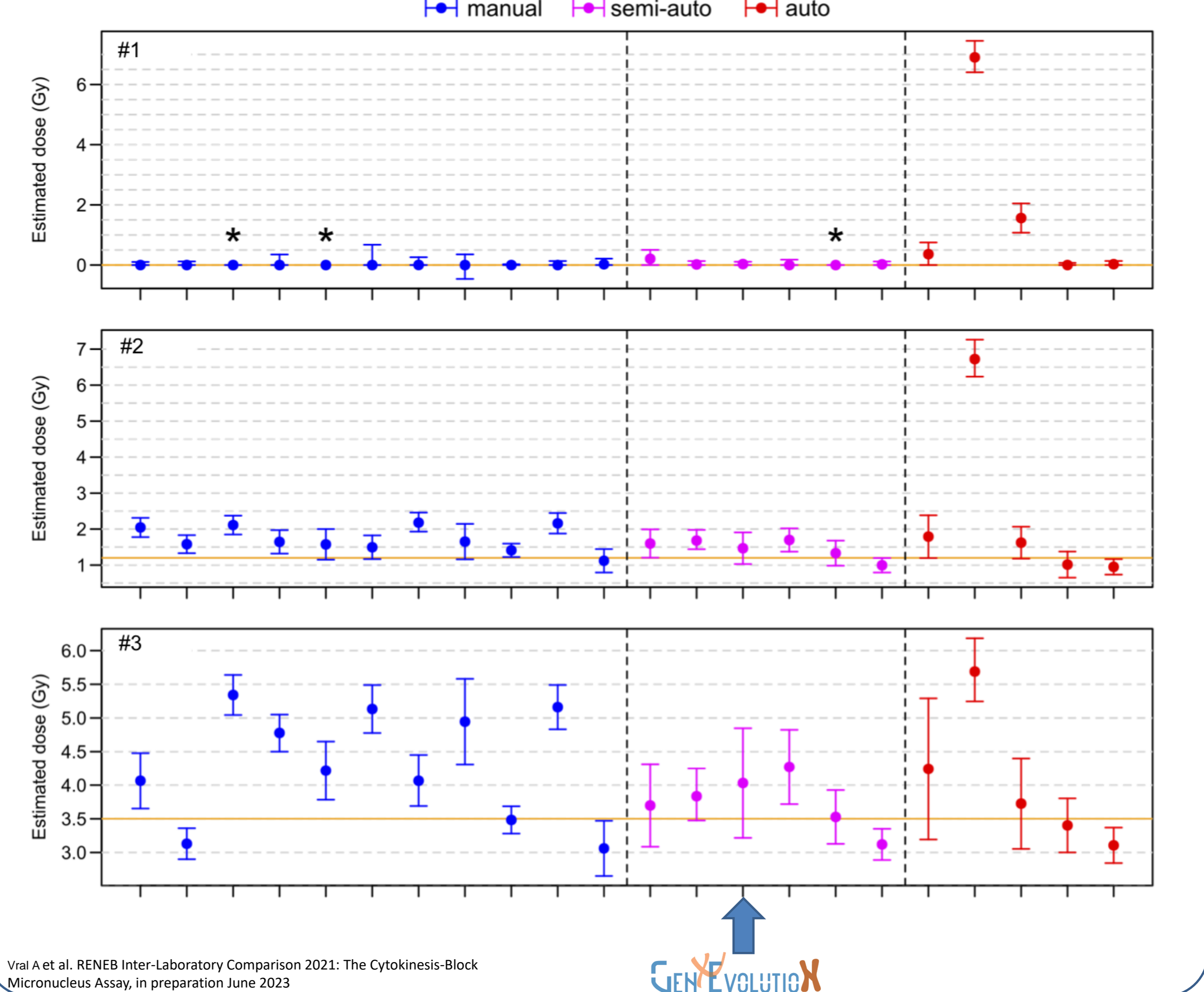
**TC staining**

EASY to detect cytoplasm

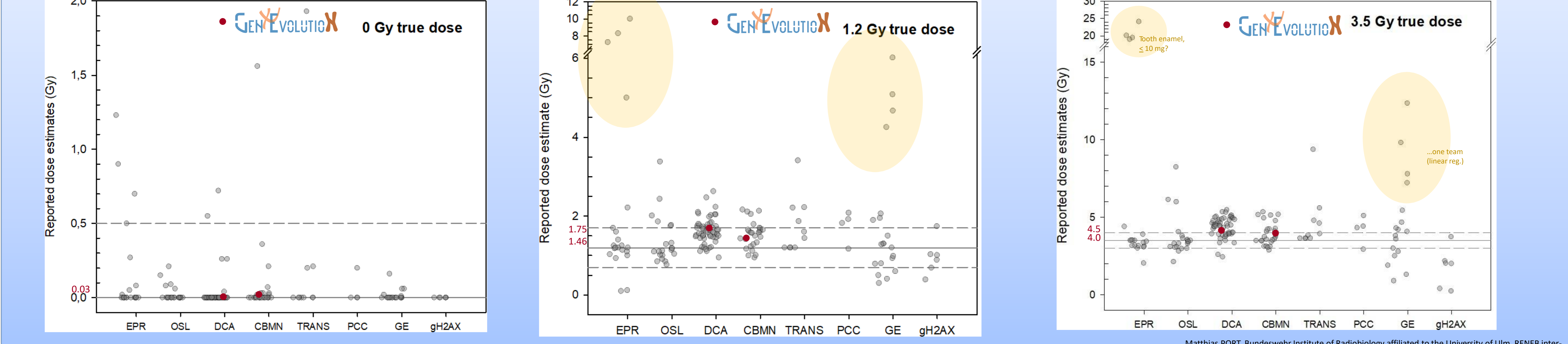
**Telomere centromere FISH staining allows discrimination between clastogen or aneugen effect**

Flowchart: x-ray → whole blood → PHA → medium → incubation at 37°C for 48h → Cytochalasin B at 37°C for 24h → KCl+Fixative → Lymphocytes → Slides → Scoring 1000 BN cells → Telomere Centromere FISH

### Results: Micronucleus Assay



### Reported dose estimates from all participants including DCA and CBMN Assays



**Conclusion**

Both The CBMN assay and the DCA assay allowed classification of samples in the correct triage categories. These new approaches can be used for biological dosimetry in radiation emergency medicine and to achieve high sample throughput for the processing of large cohorts of exposed populations to genotoxic agents and their follow-up.

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**Contact**

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