



Pharmacogenomics

Individualized Care: Efforts and Effects

By:

Minal Mehta

Biochem 118

Spring, 2001

Current Scene

- People expect individual treatment in all spheres of life
- The “one-size-fits-all” approach to provision of drugs is clumsy
- Inter-patient variability in response to drugs is the rule and not the exception

Facts and Figures

- Only a third of patients taking prescriptive medicines actually derive their intended benefit
- Adverse drug reaction (ADR) is one of the top six leading causes of death in the U.S.
- Serious ADRs – 6.7% (2,216,000 people in 1994)
- Fatal ADRs – 0.32% (106,000 people in 1994)