

Dr. A. Keith Stewart, Director
Mayo Clinic Center for Individualized Medicine.

Dr. Keith Stewart / Sound Bite #1 – Reaction to NIH Announcement (:54)

“The precision medicine initiative of the White House, President Obama and the National Institutes of Health released a report yesterday to examine the structure on how this important project might be conducted. This is a project to take the DNA of one million Americans, across all walks of life and diversity of populations, and to sequence the genome of each of those individuals and then follow them over time to understand what the genome could tell us and what it could predict about our future health. It’s a highly important project. It will be fundamental I think to our understanding of the human genome and its impact on human health. And, here at Mayo Clinic, we’ve long recognized that this is going to transform medicine and we’re very pleased to see this project moving forward and to be potentially part of that going into the future.”

Dr. Keith Stewart / Sound Bite #2 - Precision Medicine in Patient Care (1:01)

“Here at Mayo Clinic we’re already using precision medicine in our patient care. We’re use this to look at patients with cancer, to understand the susceptibilities of their individual tumor to certain drugs. We look at families with syndromes that run within the families that have never been diagnosed. We call that our diagnostic odyssey. Often they have gone many years without a diagnosis. And we use the genome to predict what kind of drugs patients should take, whether they can expect side effects or allergies. We call that pharmacogenomics. And, finally we use the genome to try and predict the future of human health, what we call predictive genomics and this is the area where the Precision Medicine Initiative at the National Institutes of Health will be critical in our development of our understanding of this field. Twenty years from now everybody will have access to having their genome sequenced at low cost. Between now and then we have a responsibility to better understand what that human genome will be telling us.”

Dr. Keith Stewart / Sound Bite #3 - Upcoming CIM Conference (:41)

“The Mayo Clinic Center for Individualized Medicine holds an annual conference to bring people in from across the world really to discuss the future of precision medicine, the power of the human genome and human health. This conference really brings together experts from around the world to debate, discuss and try and better educate the more general population in medicine about the potential to transform human health care. The conference will take place here in Rochester, Minnesota over the next few days and we’re really looking forward to bringing some top class speakers and beginning to further the process of understanding the human genome in human health.”