

# The Leading Strand Educational Webinar Series



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## *Genomic Evolution and Adaptation in Africa: Implications for Health and Disease*

12PM, EST

Jan 28, 2022

Host: Dr. Monica Justice

Register in advance for this webinar: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_vXOheKQmTnOAG2Mt1BZbJw](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vXOheKQmTnOAG2Mt1BZbJw)

*Africa is thought to be the ancestral homeland of all modern human populations within the past 300,000 years. It is also a region of tremendous cultural, linguistic, climatic, and genetic diversity. Despite the important role that African populations have played in human history, they remain one of the most underrepresented groups in human genomics studies. A comprehensive knowledge of patterns of variation in African genomes is critical for a deeper understanding of human genomic diversity, the identification of functionally important genetic variation, the genetic basis of adaptation to diverse environments and diets, and the origins of modern humans. We have characterized genomic variation in thousands of ethnically and geographically diverse Africans in order to reconstruct human population history and local adaptation to variable environments and have identified candidate loci that play a role in lipid metabolism and skin color.*