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Look Back

A Behind-the-Scenes Story of Precision Medicine

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7	E-mail: mvo@u.washington.edu (Olson MV).
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9	Running title: Olson MV / Precision Medicine
10	
11	Note: The Chinese translation of this article is published as Forward for a book
12	republishing the two US National Research Council reports for the Human Genome
13	Project and the Precision Medicine Initiative in Chinese, which is entitled The 60-year
14	Metamorphosis of Genomics: Mapping and Sequencing the Human Genome and Toward
15	Precision Medicine translated by Yu J, Ren L, Yang Y, Wang X, Yin J, Ye J, et al.
16	Beijing: Science Press; 2016. The title of this article and author introduction is added by
17	the journal editor of Genomics Proteomics Bioinformatics.
18	
19	Let me start with a few words about the goals and intended audience for this introduction
20	to republication of two reports of the U.S. National Research Council (NRC) - Mapping

and Sequencing the Human Genome (1988) and Toward Precision Medicine (2011). I do not intend to summarize what the reports say. They are both short, well written, and can speak for themselves. I encourage readers who want a quick summary to read these reports the way most policy-makers do: start with the Executive Summaries, particularly the Conclusions and Recommendations. NRC committees write these summaries with great care since they are read far more widely, and by a more influential audience, than the bodies of the reports. With respect to audience, I assume this book will be of greatest interest to scientists and policy-makers interested in how the policy-making apparatus in the United States works and how it shaped two key initiatives in biology and medicine during their formative stages.

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