

# Development of novel spatial genomics approaches to visualize mutant clones in normal human tissues

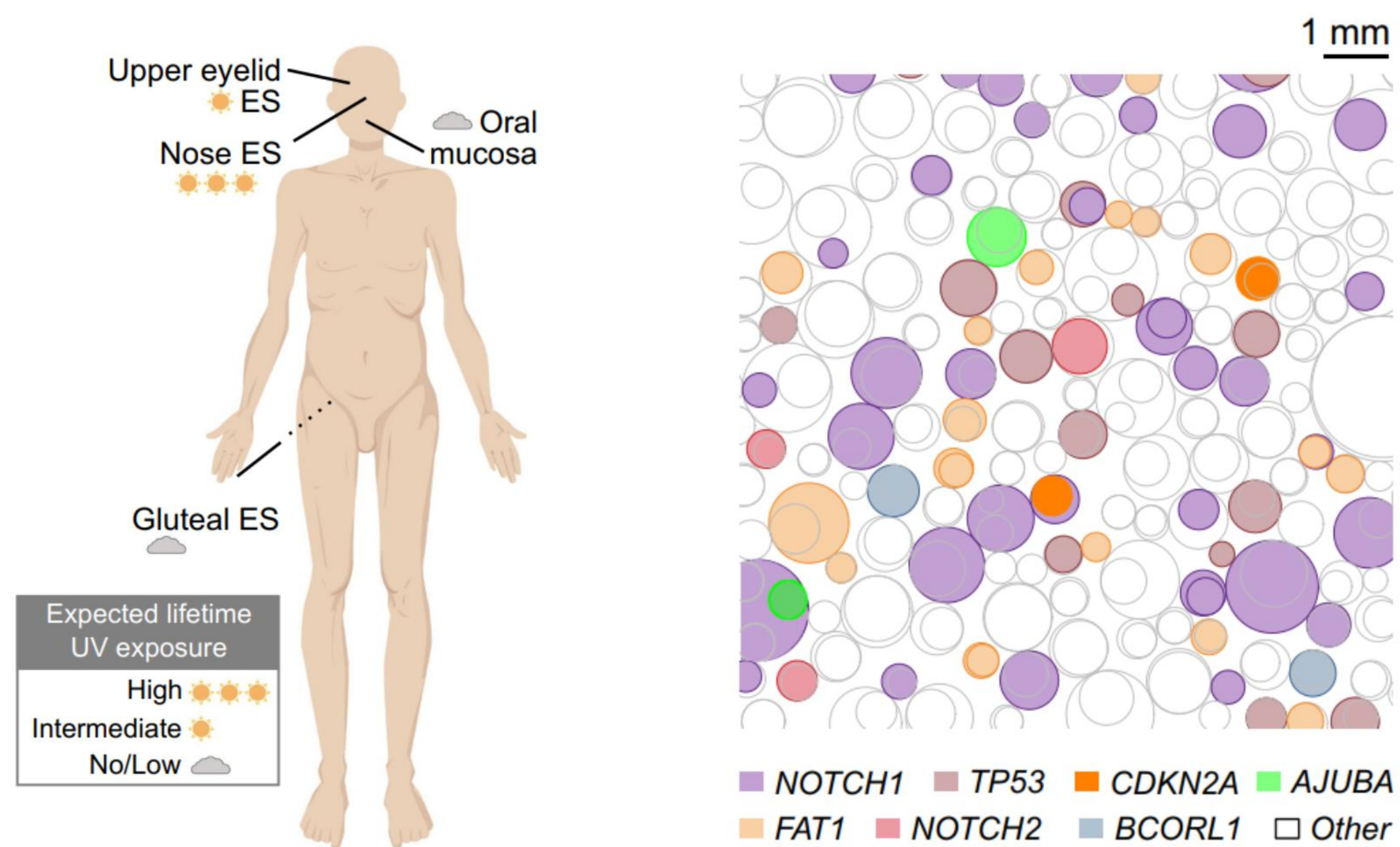
Quinn Crougns<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Hanne Van Droogenbroeck<sup>1,3</sup>, Franco Alexander Poma Soto<sup>1,3</sup>, Brecht Soulliaert<sup>1,3</sup>, Sofie Hoogstoel<sup>2,3</sup>, Tom Luijts<sup>2,3</sup>, Eden Pappaert<sup>2,3</sup>, Jo Vandesompele<sup>1,3</sup>, Jimmy Van den Eynden<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>OncoRNALab, Department of Biomolecular Medicine, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

<sup>2</sup>CCGG Lab, Department of Human Structure and Repair, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

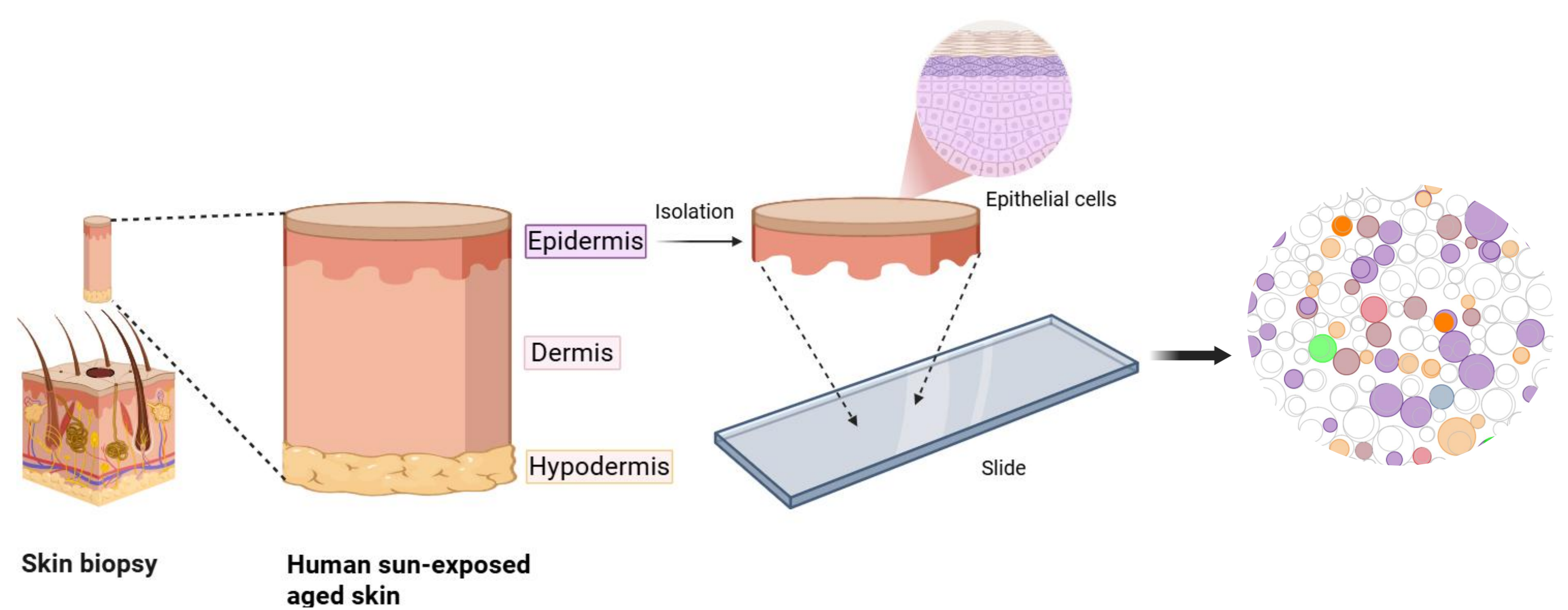
<sup>3</sup>Cancer Research Institute Ghent (CRIG), Ghent, Belgium

## Mutant clones in healthy tissue



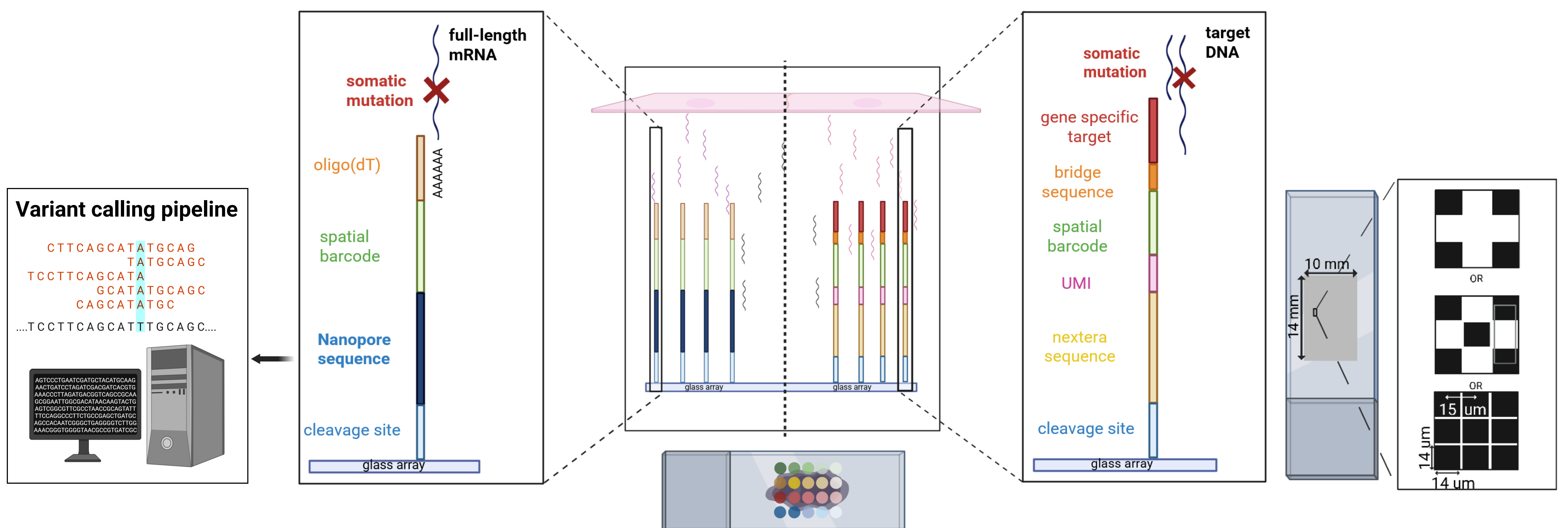
**Clonal alterations in healthy UV-exposed skin:** Expansion of clones is driven by somatic mutations in known cancer genes such as *TP53* and *NOTCH1*.

## Spatial profiling of longitudinal skin sections



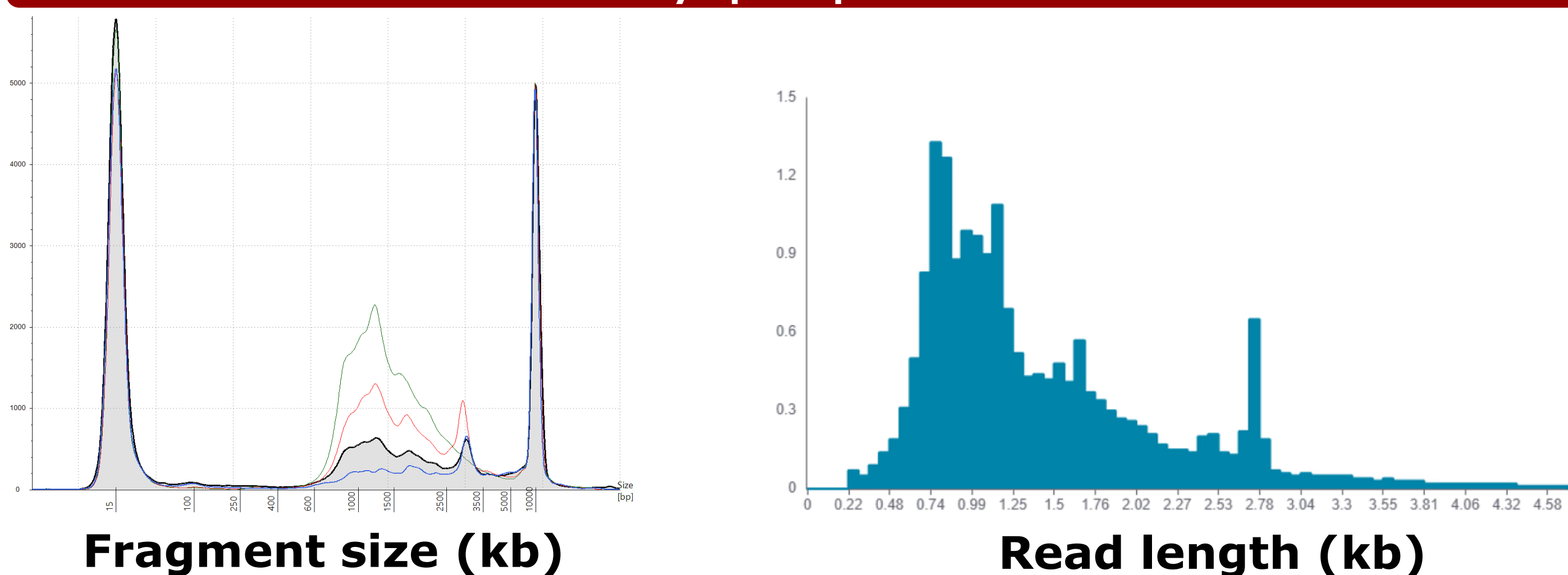
**Longitudinal skin sections:** Skin punch biopsies are obtained and the epidermal layer is isolated. These will then be transferred onto the in-house glass slides to visualize the mutational landscape.

## In-house spatial genomics array design strategies for mRNA and DNA targeting



**Microarray design:** Two array designs are explored to enable spatial genomics. In a first approach, the probes are designed to capture mRNA transcripts. Through a long-read library preparation strategy, full-length cDNA is sequenced using Oxford Nanopore Technology, followed by a variant calling pipeline (left). In a second approach, the probes are modified to target a gene region of interest and libraries are amplified using Illumina-short read technology (right). The platform features spot sizes of 14 x 14 μm, each spot containing 2-5 million capture probes. The spots can be printed in full design, 1/2 (checkerboard), or 1/4 density.

## In-solution library prep – *TP53* enrichment

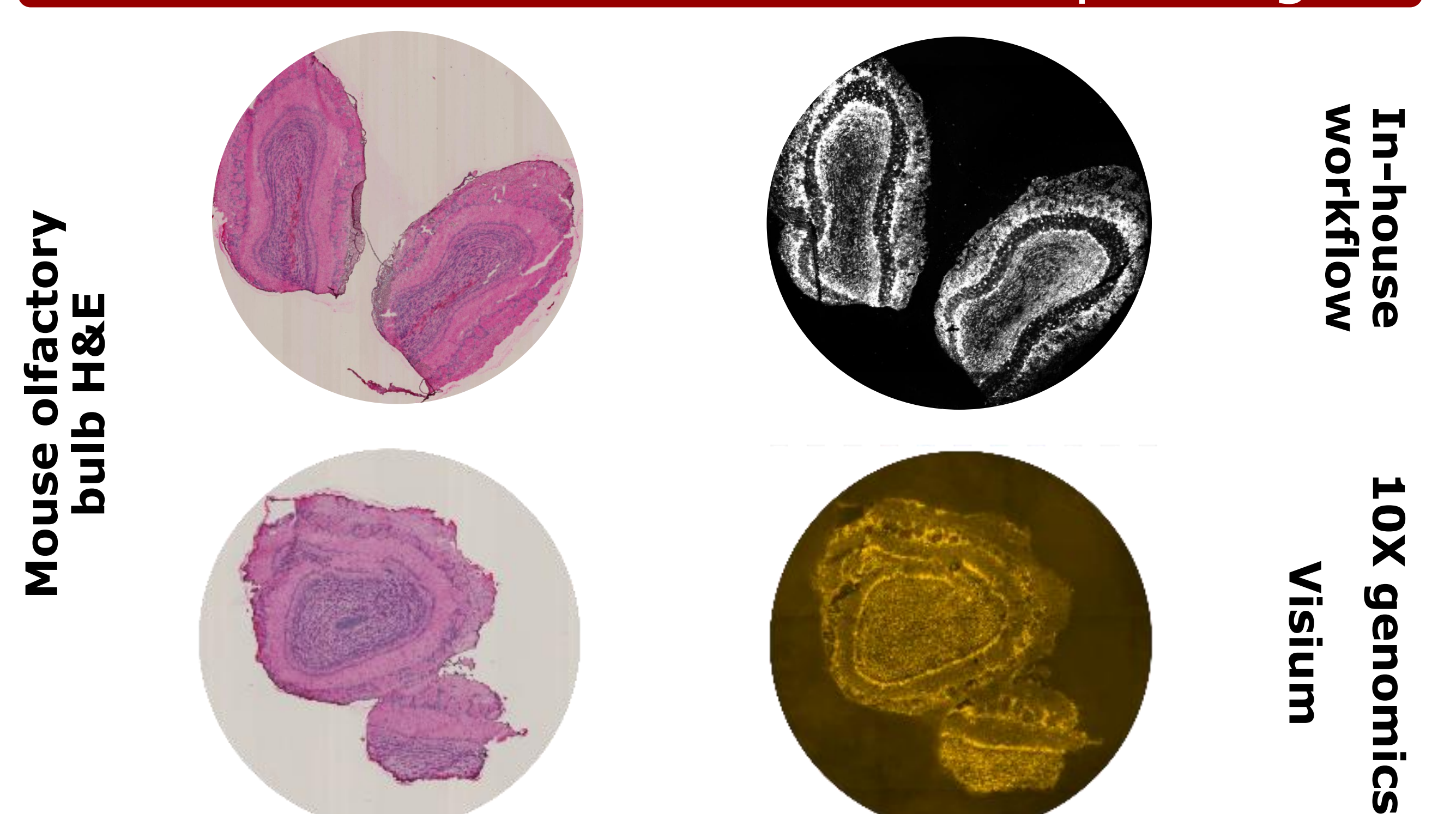


***TP53*-enriched long-read sequencing libraries:** libraries were generated using the cDNA-PCR barcoding kit modified with an in-house enrichment workflow for *TP53*, sequenced on ONT MinION MK1b.

## Future perspectives

- enriched library prep for other targets of interest
- DNA-targeted approach
- Optimization on-slide protocol

## On-slide fluorescent cDNA footprinting



**Fluorescent cDNA footprints:** footprints from olfactory bulb tissue were generated by incorporating Cy3-dCTP into the reverse transcription (RT) reaction mix. The top image was obtained using the in-house workflow, the bottom with Visium 10X Genomics reagents.