Biomedical Informatics Grand Rounds

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Every Cell Has a Sex:
Implications for Biomedical Research

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Health Science Center L2-3B

Abstract:
The sex difference in chromosomal complement (XY vs XX) dictates substantial genetic differences between men and women, which are compounded by differences in hormonal milieu and gene x environment interactions. Contrary to traditional thinking, these sex differences affect every organ system in the body and are not limited to the reproductive system. Consequently, there are significant differences between men and women in incidence, presentation, outcome and treatment response of neuropsychiatric, autoimmune and other disorders. When used as a research tool, sex differences can be useful in the recognition of novel treatment targets and development of new, possibly sex-specific treatment strategies.

Bio:
Anat Biegon, Ph.D., is a professor of Radiology and Neurology and the founding director of the Center on Gender, Hormones and Health at Stony Brook University School of Medicine. Dr. Biegon received her PhD in Neurobiology form the Weizmann Institute of science in Israel. Her research focuses on the development and application of new techniques and tracers for molecular imaging of brain and cancer. Dr. Biegon has authored more than 160 scholarly papers.

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