underpinned by a biomarker-driven hypothesis. “Epigenetics is a complicated area, and you can do clinical development for years without really getting good traction,” says Trojer. “And so we said to ourselves, let’s not do this again.”

Tazverik’s careful development sets an important precedent. “There are tons

of [epigenetic] targets out there,” says Melnick, “but not a great understanding of how they are working.” He laments a common “hit and run” mentality: “Find some drug that works and then make a big claim about epigenetic therapy. But we can’t do it that way. We have to do consistent, methodical analyses of these

systems to get a sense of where the true vulnerability lies.”

Ken Garber
Ann Arbor, MI, USA

Published online: 5 August 2020
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41587-020-0621-1>

Around the world in a month

Credit: Map: © iStockphoto; Flags: pop_jop / DigitalVision Vectors / Getty

Published online: 5 August 2020
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41587-020-0632-y>