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## Rare variant heritability of tobacco use: Evidence from deep whole-genome sequencing of up to 26,000 individuals

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While genome-wide association studies have successfully mapped hundreds of common loci to tobacco use, they collectively explain only 5-10% of the variance of tobacco use, compared to ~50% of heritability estimated from close relatives. Here, we examined the contribution of rare variants to heritability of tobacco use in up to 26,000 individuals of European ancestry in the Trans-Omics for Precision Medicine (TOPMed) program with whole genome sequence (WGS data (~30X coverage). Using GREML-LDMS-I, we found that rare variants with MAF 0.1% to 0.01% account for 26% of variation in age of smoking initiation (AgeSmk) and 15% for smoking cessation (SmkCes). Potential confounding was detected due to population structure at rare variants even after adjusting for principal components calculated from common variants,

accounting for about one-third of the estimated rare variant heritability. After further adjustment for this population stratification, we estimated the WGS-based heritability of 0.21 (SE=0.08) for AgeSmk, 0.11 (0.05) for Cigarettes per Day, 0.21 (0.09) for SmkCes, and 0.24 (0.07) for Smoking initiation. These values are 1.4-4.5 times higher than previous SNP-based estimates. We provide a new upper-bound for SNP-based heritability of tobacco use based on estimation in pedigree consisting of close relatives in TOPMed, ranging from 0.18-0.35. The substantial contribution of rare variants over and above common variants for several smoking phenotypes sheds light on the missing heritability and genetic etiology of tobacco use. It also informs fine-mapping strategies since the majority of the rare variant contribution was located in DNA regulatory regions.