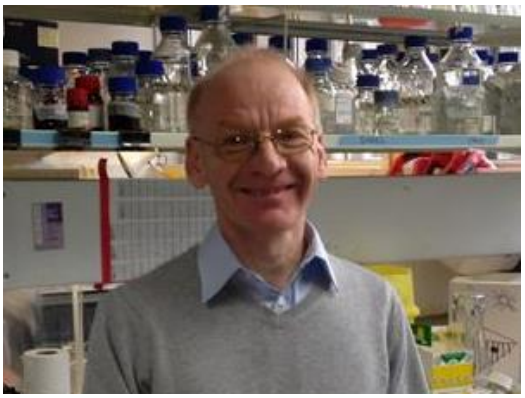
The International 22q11.2 Foundation Inc.

Hi,



I'm Pete Scambler, a scientist doing basic research into the syndrome, especially how it affects the developing embryo. I would like to send my best 15th anniversary wishes to the International 22q11.2 Foundation and congratulate all involved on a job well done.

Why have I been involved with 22q and The International22q11.2 Foundation?

I became interested in the syndrome in the late eighties, when it was called DiGeorge syndrome by most people, and before we knew how important 22q11.2 was for the syndrome. I had come across patients here at the genetics clinic at Gt Ormond St Children's Hospital in London UK. I had learned molecular techniques while working on the disease cystic fibrosis and thought they could be applied to DiGeorge. It wasn't long before 22q11.2 featured heavily at genetics conferences and the rest, as they say, is history.

A fact you might not know:

Of dubious practical use a little known fact is that some of the DNA sequences that predispose to the deletion are present in old world primates such as chimps, but they are not there in baboons or new world monkeys. Something to ponder on the next "zoo" day.

Pete Scambler, London UK