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Education and Training

University of Alberta Edmonton, Canada	Posdoctoral Research Scientist	1984-87	Genetics, Medical Genetics
The Ohio State University Columbus, Ohio USA	Ph.D.	1984	Biological Anthropology Dissertation: “Development and Chronic Disease: Functional Adaptation in Cystic Fibrosis”
The Ohio State University Columbus, Ohio USA	M.A.	1979	Anthropology
The Ohio State University Columbus, Ohio USA	B.A.	1978	Physical Anthropology
Capital University Bexley, Ohio USA	ND	1972-74	History and Psychology

Research Focus

Dr. Mahaney has a broad educational background in genetics, human physiological and anatomical variation, and comparative primate biology and evolution, as well as 40 years of post-graduate research experience in quantitative biology and statistical genetics. His research since the late 1980s has focused on the genetics of complex traits related to human growth, development, aging and variation in susceptibility, severity, and progression of common diseases – especially cardiovascular disease and osteoporosis – in humans and nonhuman primates. A recurring interest has been identification and characterization of pleiotropic networks of disease risk factors, i.e., multiple traits affected by the same gene or set of genes.

More recent efforts have included participation in large studies of 1) the effects of a high cholesterol high fat diet, on atherosclerosis risk factors and cardiovascular disease endpoints in pedigreed baboons; 2) genetic effects on cardiovascular risk factors in large Mexican American families in San Antonio, Texas; and 3) the effects of genes on co-variation between biomarkers of calcification and bone quality phenotypes in members of the Jirel population of eastern Nepal. 4) Also, Dr. Mahaney also has "kept his hand in" hominid evolutionary evolutionary biolog, collaborating with colleagues in biological anthropology in the quantitative genetics of developmental variation in the dentition and craniofacial complex of nonhuman primates.

Currently, Dr. Mahaney is the Coordinator of the Pilot Studies Program for the Rio Grande Valley Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center for Minority Aging Research here at the UTRGV and member of the Research Education Core of the South Texas Alzheimer's disease Research Center, a collaborative effort with the Glean Biggs Institute for Alzheimer's & Neurodegenerative Diseases at UT Health San Antonio.

Research Foci (Current and Past)

Genetic Epidemiology:

Normal and pathological variation in complex phenotypes related to health and disease

General Categories	Specific Examples
Atherosclerosis and comorbidities	• Metabolism and transport of lipoproteins and lipids • Oxidative stress and inflammation • Atherogenesis and arterial calcification • Arterial compliance
Age-related changes/diseases in bone (osteoporosis, osteoarthritis)	• Bone mineral density • Bone quality (e.g., strength, elasticity, and stiffness) • Biomarkers of bone formation and turnover, and calcium metabolism
Craniofacial and dental variation and development	• cranial/cephalometrics • odontometrics

	• dental morphology

Comparative genetics/genomics	• <u>Species</u>
	• Humans
	  ○ Nonhuman Primates
	  ▪ Baboons, Rhesus Macaques
	  ○ Laboratory Opossum (*Monodelphis domestica*)

Publications

References to all of Dr. Mahaney's published peer reviewed research and review papers from 1983 through December 2024 can be found below. The majority of these and the references to newer peer reviewed papers can be found at the following link.

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5. **Mahaney MC**, Sciulli PW, Schneider KN. Hominoid dental systematics: Multivariate analyses of allometrically correct odontometrics. Anthropologie 1984; 22(3): 203-210.

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