

# Pharmacogenomic Testing in the Hmong Community: Phase 1

- Partners: UMN and Hmong healthcare professionals, Hmong Genomics Board
  - ▶ Purpose
    - Create a partnership with community board. Explore cultural concepts of heredity
    - Identify how conducting genomic research could be acceptable to Hmong adults
  - ▶ Methods
    - Interview 5 community leaders as key informants. Interview 42 people in 5 focus groups
  - ▶ Results: [Publication – Leaves Imitate Trees](#)
    - ▶ Majority:
      - Did not know about genetics, but knew heredity. Were willing to have their blood drawn, analyzed, and stored for future testing. Believed that research could benefit community. Foresaw a personal benefit, especially those with diabetes or with family members with diabetes. Wanted individual results, not just group results. Not concerned about negative social stigma for or discrimination towards Hmong.
    - Minority:
      - Did not believe that diabetes or medication variation is inherited or that saliva samples could reveal heredity-- only blood. Were not willing to participate: concerned researchers know their results, concerned researchers keep their DNA, concerned about knowing the future. Willing to participate and not receive individual results. Concerned about discrimination towards Hmong
  - Funder: UMN CTSI
  - Application: Can create a genomic research project with an education project aimed at informed consent, with CBPAR and a Hmong Genomics Board.