

**DEFINITIONS COMMON IN GENETIC GENEALOGY**

1C1R = First Cousin Once Removed

2C3R = Second Cousin Three Times Removed

Autosomal DNA = Wide view of the ancestral family tree. Each person gets 50% from each parent.

Best-Known Match = The Best-Known Match (BKM) is when you are grouping your DNA cousin matches into family branches of the tree, the DNA Cousin who has the highest cM count from that branch is your Best-Known Match. We use the BKM to then use the “Shared Matches” tool to see who we have in common with them.

Centimorgan (cM) = Unit of measurement of the amount of DNA shared.

Common Ancestors = Ancestors you share with a cousin or distant cousin. For example, you and your first cousins share grandparents in common on either your maternal or paternal side.

Daughtering out – Where there are no male descendants left to carry-on the family surname.

DNA Groups = You can identify DNA Cousins and put them into groups. This is commonly grouped by branches for ancestral couples. DNA cousins in these groups would descend from the ancestral couple.

Endogamy – Is like Pedigree Collapse but where this happens multiple times within a family such as populations that marry within their own group. You will see this with landlocked or isolated populations or communities who culturally stayed within their own. Examples, might be islanders, populations in isolated mountain regions, or cultures like Jewish populations, etc.

IBD = Identical by Descent – A true match part of your family with common ancestors.

IBS = Identical by State – False match – May be that you both have similar ethnicity but does not have common ancestors or that you have small segments of DNA because you are human.

Half 1C = Half first cousin, meaning that a grandparent had children with a second spouse/partner.

MRCA = Most Recent Common Ancestor – The most recent ancestors you share with another DNA cousin.

MPE = Misattributed Parentage Event. In other words, a branch does not belong biologically.

NPE = Non-Paternal Event – Unknown Parentage.

Longest Segment – Shows the longest single identical segment you share with another DNA match. This is an unweighted number represented in cM's. This helps to identify positive DNA results. Short segments could be false-positives.

Pedigree Collapse – Is when cousins married. Example, my great grandparents were second cousins when they married, meaning they same great grandparents in one branch.

Removed = Generational difference. For example, a second cousin once removed could be a second cousins' child or the parent of your third cousin. [Here is a great article explaining it from FamilySearch.](#)

Triangulation = where two or more DNA test takers share DNA on one or more specific chromosomes.

Y-DNA = Males only inherit 100% of the Y-DNA from father to son. Thus, a male has the same Y-DNA from the paternal line for hundreds of years.

For a more Glossary of Genetic Terminology https://isogg.org/wiki/Genetics_Glossary