Appendix C: Epidemiology of HFE hemochromatosis

HFE-HH is the most common genetic disorder in the western world. Approximately 1 in 300 individuals of European ancestry are homozygous for the C282Y *HFE* gene variant[11] (i.e., both copies of the *HFE* gene carry this genetic change) and 1 in 9 such individuals are carriers (see Table 2). *HFE*-HH is rare in individuals of other ancestries, including individuals of East Asian or South Asian descent, largely due to the rarity of the C282Y variant in these non-European populations.[12]

Table 1. Estimated number of people with *HFE* C282Y in the BC population based on the Canadian 2016 Census[13]

Genotype	Estimated # individuals in BC
Homozygote (C282Y;C282Y)	7846
Heterozygote	362,622

Table 2. *HFE*-HH-C282Y in different populations[11]

Population	Homozygote frequency (%)	Carrier frequency (%)
European	0.33	11.0
Latino	0.02	2.7
African	0.01	2.1
South Asian	~0	0.4
East Asian	~0	0.03