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Your Genes on Record

Last week, The Wall Street Journal discussed gene mapping for use in regular medical care. Imagine your entire genetic code being placed in your permanent medical record – and likely online. This is where many scientists and doctors want to go, but do you?

The cost of a full genetic mapping is $3,000 and is expected to drop to $1,000, the price of an MRI. Many experts caution that much of your DNA cannot yet be deciphered, and major diseases result from reasons other than your DNA. But what would your insurer do if a genetic trait or marker for a costly disease was found in your DNA? And would you want to know? These are questions you should be thinking about now.