

IBKRWEBINARS.COM



January 26, 2022

# WisdomTree Europe

## Enter the BioRevolution

---

### Christopher Gannatti

CFA, Head of Research, Europe  
WisdomTree Europe

Exchange and Industry Sponsored Webinars are presented by unaffiliated third parties. Interactive Brokers LLC is not responsible for the content of these presentations. You should review the contents of each presentation and make your own judgment as to whether the content is appropriate for you.

Interactive Brokers LLC does not provide recommendations or advice. This presentation is not an advertisement or solicitation for new customers. It is intended only as an educational presentation.



## Disclosure:

Options involve risk and are not suitable for all investors. For information on the uses and risks of options, you can obtain a copy of the Options Clearing Corporation risk disclosure document titled [Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options](#) by calling (312) 542-6901.

Futures are not suitable for all investors. The amount you may lose may be greater than your initial investment. Before trading futures, please read the [CFTC Risk Disclosure](#). For a copy visit [interactivebrokers.com](http://interactivebrokers.com).

Security futures involve a high degree of risk and are not suitable for all investors. The amount you may lose may be greater than your initial investment. Before trading security futures, please read the [Security Futures Risk Disclosure Statement](#). For a copy visit [Interactivebrokers.com](http://Interactivebrokers.com).

There is a substantial risk of loss in foreign exchange trading. The settlement date of foreign exchange trades can vary due to time zone differences and bank holidays. When trading across foreign exchange markets, this may necessitate borrowing funds to settle foreign exchange trades. The interest rate on borrowed funds must be considered when computing the cost of trades across multiple markets.

The Order types available through Interactive Brokers LLC's Trader Workstation are designed to help you limit your loss and/or lock in a profit. Market conditions and other factors may affect execution. In general, orders guarantee a fill or guarantee a price, but not both. In extreme market conditions, an order may either be executed at a different price than anticipated or may not be filled in the marketplace.

There is a substantial risk of loss in trading futures and options. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

Any stock, options or futures symbols displayed are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to portray recommendations.

- IRS Circular 230 Notice: These statements are provided for information purposes only, are not intended to constitute tax advice which may be relied upon to avoid penalties under any federal, state, local or other tax statutes or regulations, and do not resolve any tax issues in your favor.
- Interactive Brokers LLC is a member of [NYSE FINRA SIPC](#)





# Entering the BioRevolution



# The Biology Revolution (“BioRevolution”)

“We're only a fifth of the way through the 21st century, but we've already sequenced the full human genome, figured out how to turn adult cells into stem cells, discovered ways to rewrite the genetic code of any living cell and brought down the cost of hacking genes by a factor of millions.

If the 19th was the century of chemistry and the 20th that of physics, **the 21st is the century of biology, in which we will aggressively reengineer biological systems to meet our needs.**”

Jamie Metzl

- + **Revolutionary advances across multiple fields** including computer science, artificial intelligence, big data analytics, automation, chemistry, biology, and engineering are **creating previously unimaginable new opportunities to re-engineer biological systems.**



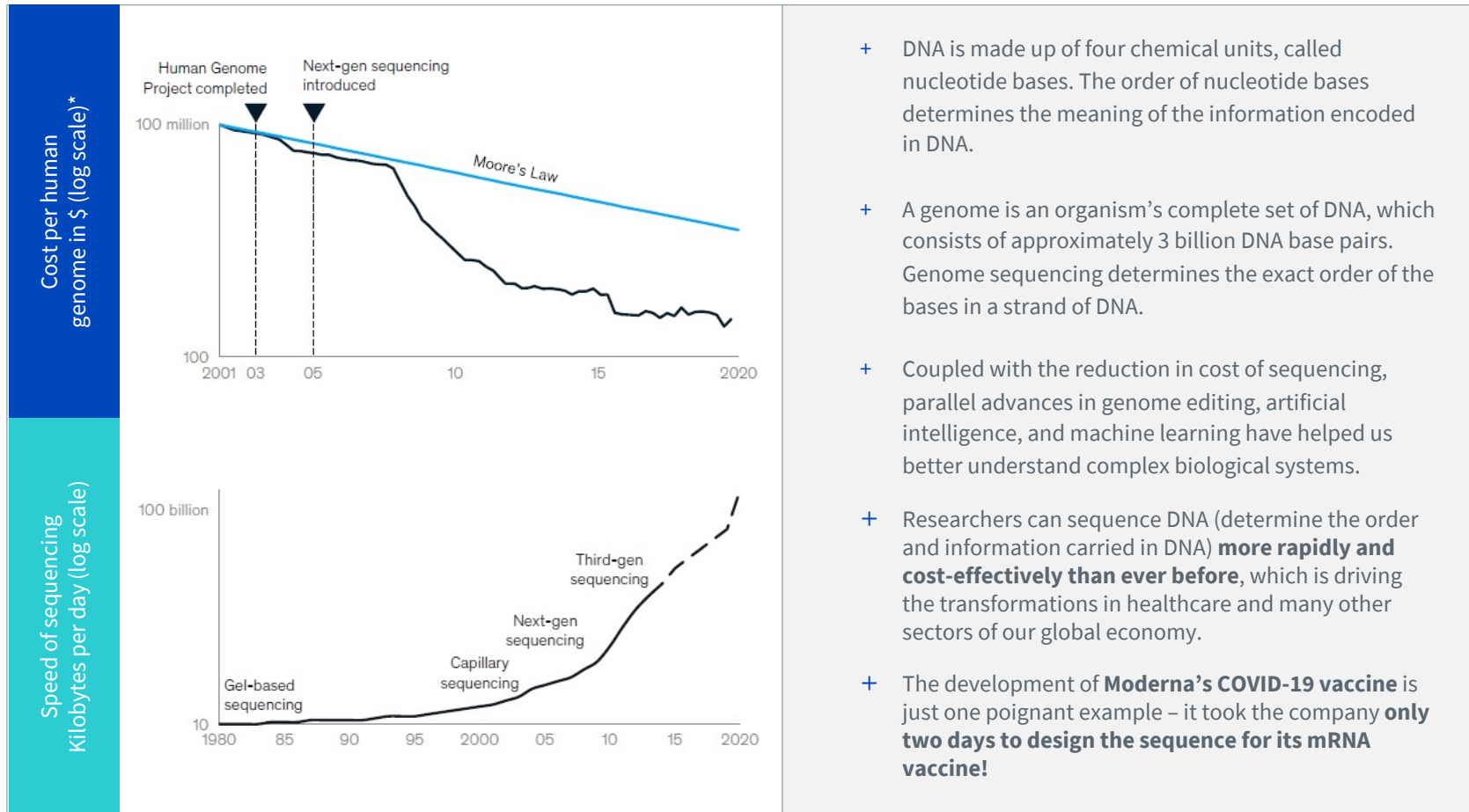
- + **The revolution** in our ability to read, understand, write and hack **DNA, the genetic code of all life**, will transform **healthcare, agriculture, manufacturing, energy production, consumer services, and data storage.**



Source: WisdomTree, Jamie Metzl from <https://www.newsweek.com/miraculous-mrna-vaccines-are-only-beginning-opinion-1567683>



# Genome Sequencing is Faster and Cheaper than Ever



Source: National Human Genome Research Institute; [www.yourgenome.org](http://www.yourgenome.org); McKinsey Global Institute analysis. Charts are from the McKinsey Global Institute report "The Bio Revolution: Innovations transforming economies, societies, and our lives" published in May 2020.

\* Data do not capture all costs associated with genome sequencing and include only production-related costs (labor, instruments, informatics, data submission).

# The BioRevolution Will Fundamentally Transform Healthcare

We expect our healthcare system to transition from generalized medicine to personalized, or precision, healthcare based on each person's individual biology.

The BioRevolution will pave the way for predictive, preventative healthcare that will help us live healthier and longer lives.



## Generalized Medicine

- + Healthcare and treatments based on population averages.
- + Example: Taking the common prescribed blood thinner Warfarin is effective for most of the population, but for a small percentage of the population it causes negative, potentially fatal, side effects.



## Precision Healthcare

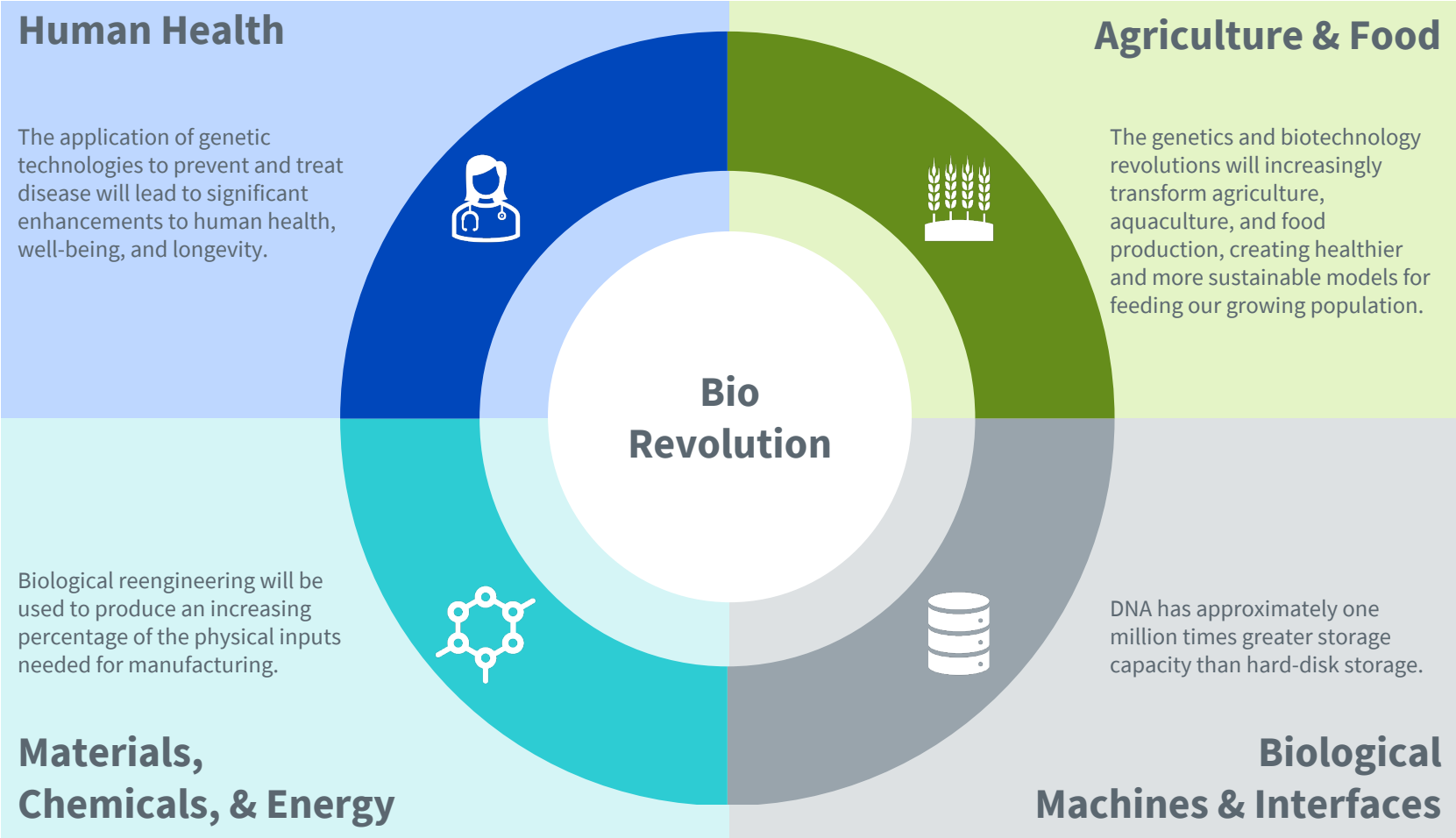
- + Healthcare and treatments based on a person's individual biology to provide the right drug or treatment.
- + Example: Taking a blood thinning medication and dosage level that is prescribed based on how well it will work for your specific genetic makeup.



## Predictive Healthcare

- + Anticipating and responding proactively to a person's genetic disposition based on artificial intelligence (AI) generated estimates of a person's future health state.
- + Example: Using AI to predict the genetic risk for a disease, disorder, or trait that may require a person to take blood thinning medication in the future, allowing the individual to take preventative measures early in life.

# The Technologies Underpinning the BioRevolution are Connected and Reinforcing Advancements Across Interdisciplinary Fields









Source: WisdomTree, Jamie Metzl.



# The Applications of the Genetics and Biotechnology Revolutions Will Extend Far Beyond Healthcare

The same **intersection of biology and technology** that is transforming the healthcare sector, is also **driving transformations across many sectors and industry verticals** of our global economy. Although **healthcare is the most mature market** for these technologies, **other sectors will catch up**.

Agriculture & Food	 <b>Precision Agriculture</b> Genome-enabled management of crops and livestock that leads to increased productivity, greater ability to meet demand of a growing population, and increased sustainability.	Materials, Chemicals, & Energy	 <b>Synthetic Manufacturing and Precision Fermentation:</b> Creating materials at scale by manipulating genetic code, rather than extracting them from nature.
	 <b>Plant-Based Meats</b> Vegetarian or vegan alternatives to traditional animal-based meats, derived from protein-rich seeds.		 <b>Biofuels</b> “...genomics-based research leading to improved use of biomass and plant feedstocks for the production of fuels.” <sup>2</sup>
	 <b>Cellular Agriculture</b> “...scientific advances in biology, biochemistry, and engineering that have led to the innovations enabling the growth of animal cells outside of the animal itself, in a controlled environment, for food.” <sup>1</sup>	Biological Machines & Interfaces	 <b>Biological Machines &amp; Interfaces:</b> Connection and communication between the biology of humans and computers, including the usage of DNA for computing and storage.

Source: WisdomTree, Jamie Metz, U.S. Food & Drug Administration, U.S. Department of Energy.

1. <https://www.fda.gov/food/food-ingredients-packaging/food-made-cultured-animal-cells>

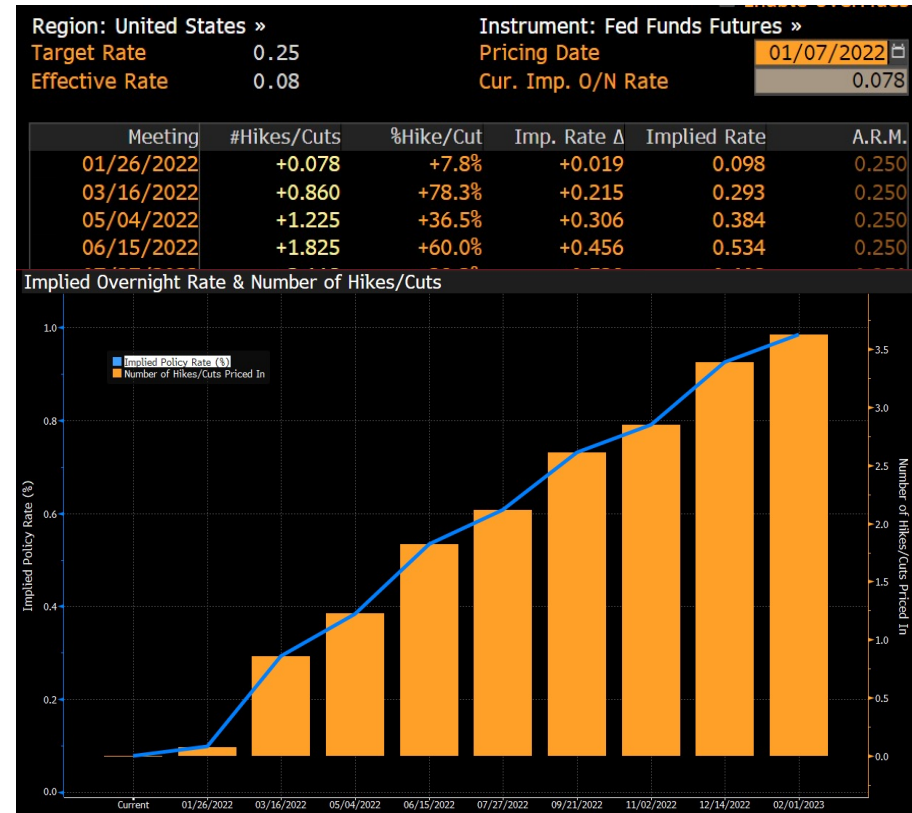
2. <https://genomicscience.energy.gov/research/DOEUSDA/index.shtml>

# Macro Picture

U.S. Federal Reserve

# Focus on the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) and Related Announcements

- + 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 – J. Powell’s renomination as Fed Chair
- + 30<sup>th</sup> November – Fed Chairman J. Powell testifies before Senate
- + 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 – Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting
- + 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – Fed’s December meeting minutes
- + 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – first jobs report



Source: Bloomberg, with data as of 7 January 2022.



# Agriculture

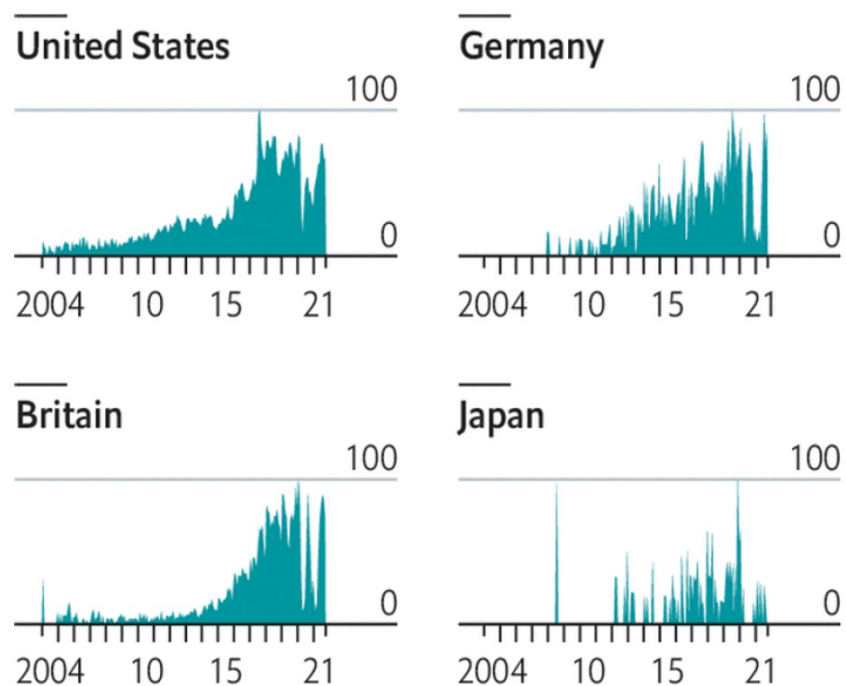


# Vegan is becoming 'Fashionable'

## Veggie burghers

Google searches for "vegan restaurants"

Maximum interest=100



Source: Google Trends

The Economist

Source: "Technology Can Help Deliver Cleaner, Greener Delicious Food." [Economist](#). 28 September 2021.



## Why do we need Breakthroughs in Crops? To feed more than 9 billion people...

- + Dr. Borlaug's advances in plant breeding are credited with enhancing the capability of the world to feed millions of people in Asia and Latin America.
- + Mexico & India, for example, through his work, became self-sufficient in feeding the populations through cereal grains.
- + Primary High Level Summary
  - Needed to increase the yield of wheat—led to much larger head on the plant.
  - Needed to strengthen the stalk so that the larger head of wheat would not fall over.



Dr. Borlaug with his wife, Margaret, after being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970.

STR/AFP/Getty Images

Source: Gillis, Justin. "Norman Borlaug, Plant Scientist Who Fought Famine, Dies at 95." [The New York Times](#). 13 September 2009.

# Will the market learn to love Genetically Modified Organisms (G.M.Os)?

- + Non-G.M.O products have seen market grow from \$350 million in 2010 to \$26 billion by 2018.
  - How Monsanto introduced its 'Roundup Ready Seeds' for corn and soybeans may have contributed to negative perceptions
- + Golden Rice in 1999 was developed to combat Vitamin A deficiency in Asia
- + Bt corn allows for 30% less insecticide usage per crop
- + Scuba rice allows for 14 days of submersion in water as opposed to 3 days—could lead to 4 million tonnes of rice to be saved annually in India and Bangladesh, which could feed 30 million people
- + A tomato has been grown that produces levodopa, the drug used for Parkinson's disease (cost, side effects—these are some reasons why one would do this)

# Agriculture and Food: Company Examples



## Agriculture & Food



### Precision Agriculture

#### Bayer

Portfolio of high-value seeds, improved plant traits, innovative chemical and biological crop protection products.



### Plant-Based Meats

#### Beyond Meat

Provision of plant-based meat.



### Cellular Agriculture

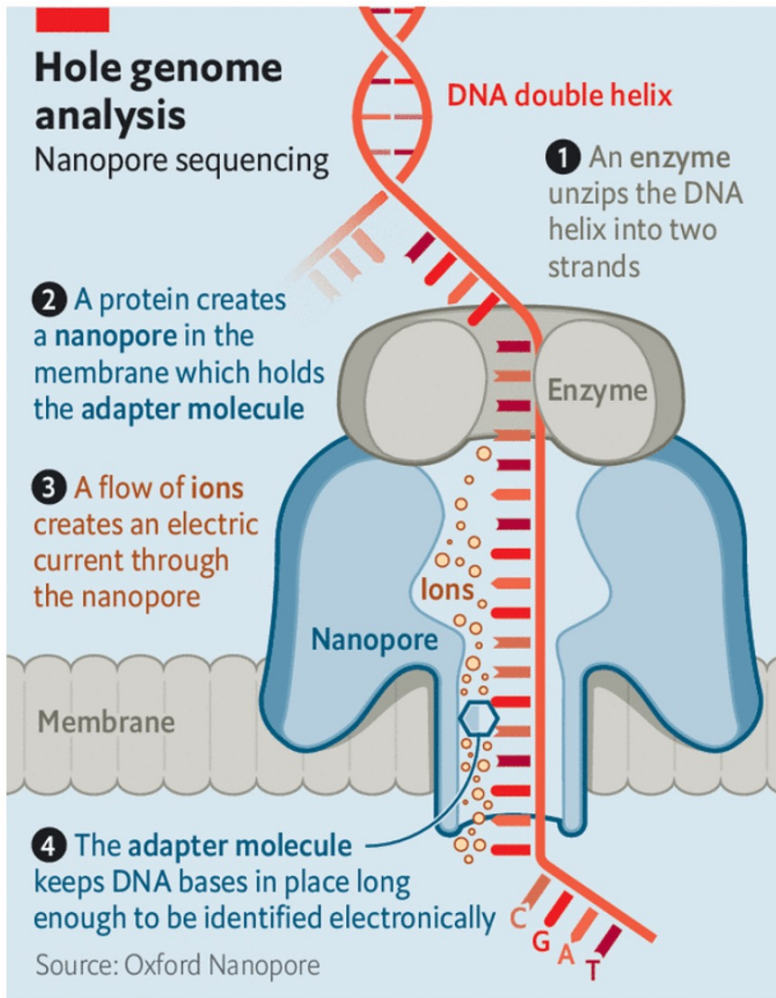
#### Precision Biosciences

Propriety genome editing platform, to develop food and nutrition products through collaboration agreements with consumer-facing companies.

Source: WisdomTree, Jamie Metzl, FactSet.

**You cannot invest directly in an index. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

# Nanopore Sequencing Could be Transformative



- + Oxford Nanopore is a company focused on 'nanopore sequencing'
- + The firm's 'Minion' product is the size of a large mobile phone, whereas the typical sequencers are the size of freezers or microwaves
- + The world market for gene sequencing is roughly \$7.5 billion, currently growing 10-15% per year

The Economist

Source: "An Ambitious Unicorn Hopes to Up-end DNA Analysis." [Economist](#). 2 October 2021.

# Human Health



# A Cure for Type 1 Diabetes?

## + Disease

- + Type 1 Diabetes most often occurs around age 13 or 14, when immune cells kill the insulin-producing islet cells on the Pancreas
  - 1.5 million Americans suffer from Type 1 Diabetes

## + Possible Treatment

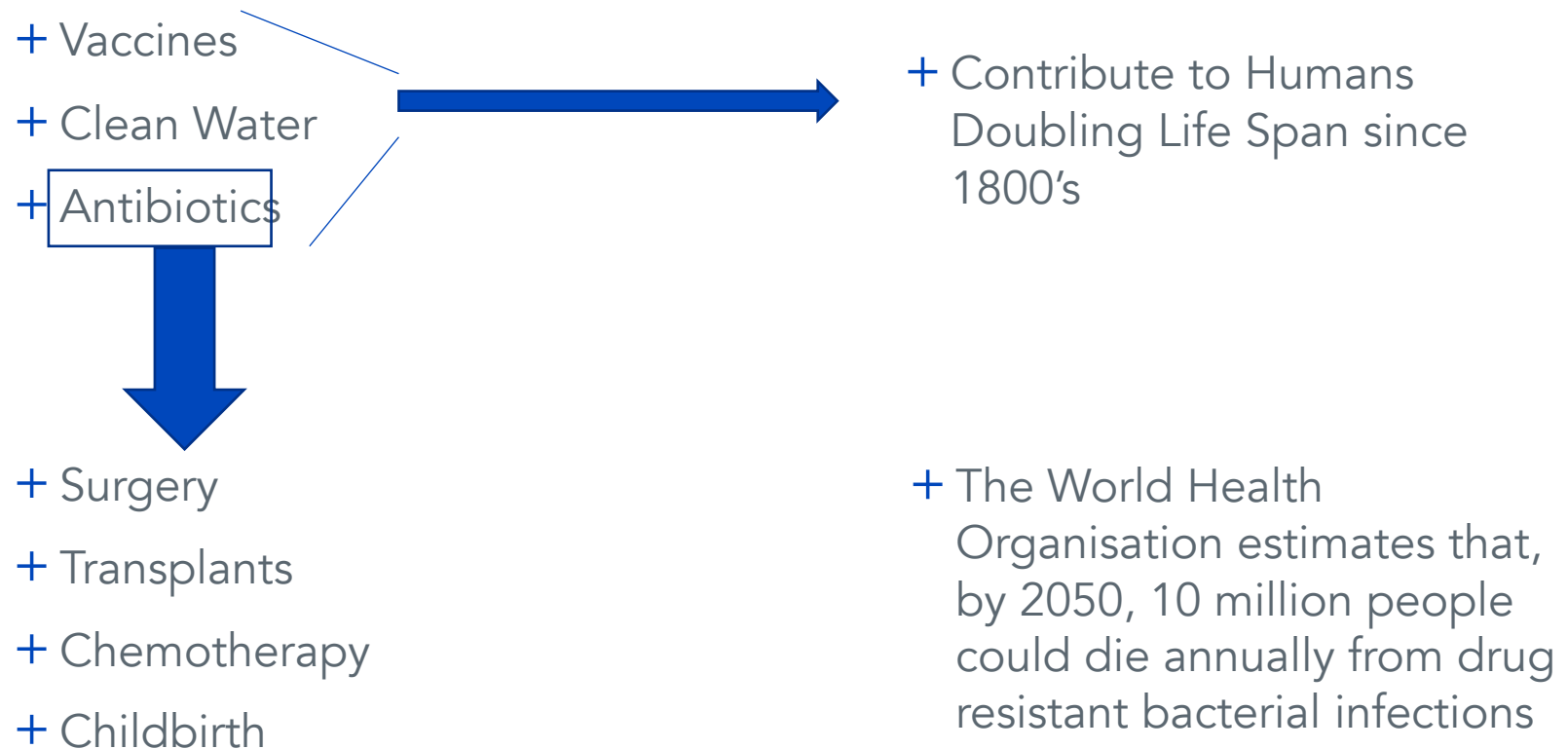
- + A new trial treatment from Vertex Pharmaceuticals gives patients an infusion of insulin-producing islet cells, grown from stem cells

## + Research Process

- + Approach took a team of 15 people more than 20 years at a cost of \$50 million: Difficulty was to get stem cells to grow into islet cells.
- + On initial success of the process, company Semma was founded in 2014
  - 2019: Vertex acquired Semma for \$950 million

Source: Kolata, Gina. "A Cure for Type 1 Diabetes? For One Man, It Seems to Have Worked." [The New York Times](#). 27 November 2021.

## Antibiotics cannot 'Stand Still'—As Bacteria Evolves, Treatments must Evolve



Source: Levy, Max G. "An AI Finds Superbug-Killing Potential in Human Proteins." [WIRED](#). 30 November 2021.

## AI intersects with the Biorevolution

- + **Question: Can peptides naturally-produced by people fight microbes?**
- + Researchers used an AI system to scrutinise the chemical makeup of each and every peptide in the human proteome (complete set of proteins that humans can produce)
  - 43,000 peptides initially screened
  - 2,603 antibiotic candidates
  - Researchers synthesised the most promising 55 for further testing
- + **Results?**
  - Promising capability seen to dissolve bacterial cell membranes
    - + Difficult for bacteria to resist this type of antibiotic attack

Source: Levy, Max G. "An AI Finds Superbug-Killing Potential in Human Proteins." [WIRED](#). 30 November 2021.

# Many High-Profile Preliminary Applications of the BioRevolution Have Been Healthcare-Related



## Human Health

<b>Diagnostics &amp; Surveillance</b>	<b>Precision Health /Gene Therapies</b>	<b>Regenerative Medicine/ Stem Cell</b>	<b>Vaccines</b>	<b>Assisted Reproduction /Fertility</b>	<b>Healthy Aging</b>	<b>Prediction &amp; Prevention</b>
Using biological data to screen and diagnose diseases, disorders, or traits.	Using biological data to screen and diagnose diseases and disorders + to enable more precise and beneficial interventions.	Treatments that repair disease-causing genetic disorders or empower natural defenses.	Using genetic sequencing in vaccine development and administration to enable new platforms and prevent or treat multiple diseases.	The use of assisted reproductive technologies to expand reproduction options and to prevent and treat disease.	Understanding biology of aging and developing genetics and epigenetic-based interventions that increase the potential to live longer and healthier lives.	Anticipating and responding proactively to a person's genetic disposition based on artificial intelligence (AI) generated estimates of a person's future health state.

Source: WisdomTree, Jamie Metzl, National Institutes of Health.

# Human Health: Company Examples



Diagnostics & Surveillance	Precision Health /Gene Therapies	Regenerative Medicine/ Stem Cell	Vaccines	Assisted Reproduction /Fertility	Healthy Aging	Prediction & Prevention
<p><u>10x Genomics</u></p> <p>Life science tools and integrated systems for large-scale analysis of genetic variation and function.</p>	<p><u>Moderna</u></p> <p>Develops transformative medicines based on messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA).</p>	<p><u>Athersys</u></p> <p>Stem cell product which provides biological potency and therapeutic effects for distinct diseases and conditions.</p>	<p><u>Regeneron</u></p> <p>Discovery, invention, development, manufacture, and commercialization of medicines.</p>	<p><u>Natera</u></p> <p><b>Discovery, development, and commercialization of genetic testing services.</b></p>	<p><u>Geron</u></p> <p>Immuno-oncology committed to improving and extending lives of patients.</p>	<p><u>Invitae</u></p> <p>Comprehensive panels for hereditary conditions in cancer, cardiology, neurology, pediatrics, and rare diseases.</p>

Source: WisdomTree, Jamie Metzl, FactSet.

**You cannot invest directly in an index. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Any trading symbols, entities or investment products displayed are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to portray recommendations.



# Zooming In: mRNA Vaccines & Covid-19

## Understanding the virus that causes COVID-19.

Coronaviruses, like the one that causes COVID-19, are named for the crown-like spikes on their surface, called **spike proteins**. These **spike proteins** are ideal targets for vaccines.

## What is mRNA?

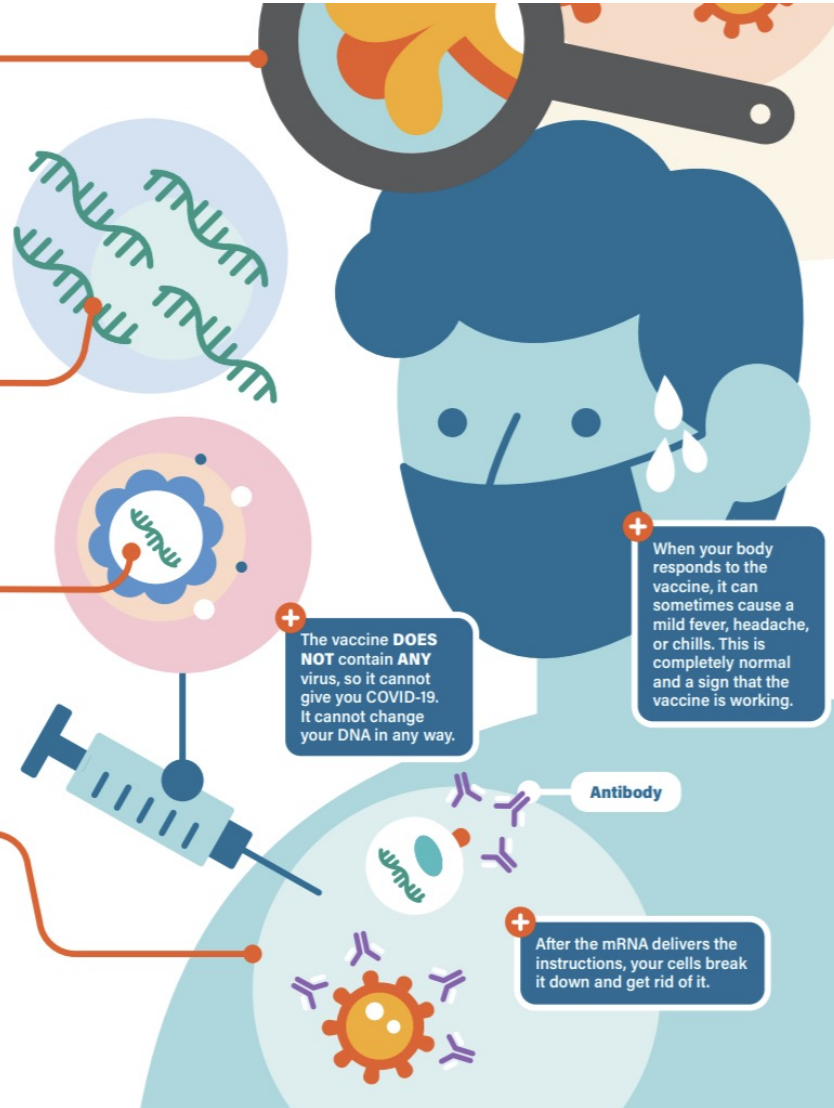
Messenger RNA, or mRNA, is genetic material that tells your body how to make proteins.

## What is in the vaccine?

The vaccine is made of mRNA wrapped in a coating that makes delivery easy and keeps the body from damaging it.

## How does the vaccine work?

The mRNA in the vaccine teaches your cells how to make copies of the **spike protein**. If you are exposed to the real virus later, your body will recognize it and know how to fight it off.



Source: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/vaccines/COVID-19-mRNA-infographic\\_G\\_508.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/vaccines/COVID-19-mRNA-infographic_G_508.pdf)

## mRNA is a Broader Technology than simply 'Vaccines'

- + Omicron had roughly 30 mutations, making it more challenging for existing vaccines to protect against the new variant.
- + BioNTech and Pfizer have indicated they could ship a modified vaccine within 100 days, whereas Moderna is already shipping vaccines to protect against mutations.
- + Conventional vaccine technologies could take six to 36 months to adjust.
- + mRNA technology is also involved in studies to:
  - Regenerate tissue in the heart muscle
  - Reprogram cells, meaning influence what the mature cells evolve into
  - Treatment of autoimmune diseases, like multiple sclerosis
  - Killing cancerous cells

Source: Finley, Allysia. "The Vast Promise of mRNA Technology." [Wall Street Journal](#). 3 December 2021.

# Data Storage

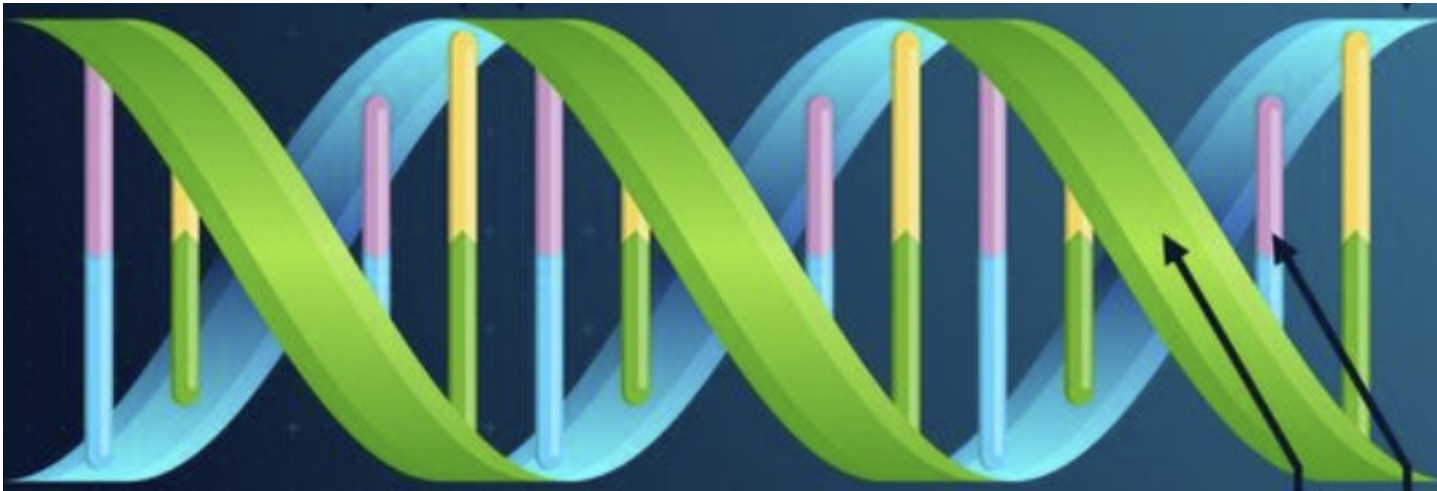
*“...DNA molecules can be the basis for an archival storage system potentially capable of storing all of the world’s digital information in roughly nine litres of solution, about the amount of liquid in a case of wine.”*



Source: Markoff, John. “Data Storage on DNA Can Keep It Safe for Centuries.” [The New York Times](#). 3 December 2015.

## DNA: Taking Data Storage to Unprecedented Levels

- + A hard drive could store something like 30 million gigabytes of data per cubic metre. DNA could store something closer to 600 billion gigabytes per cubic metre<sup>1</sup>.
- + DNA can store up to 215 petabytes of data into a single gram—10 million times what a modern hard drive could store<sup>2</sup>.
- + DNA is routinely recovered from bones that are thousands of years old—700,000 years is roughly the record. A hard drive warranty rarely exceeds five years<sup>2</sup>.



Sources: <sup>1</sup>"DNA may soon be used to store computer data." Economist. 20 October 2018. <sup>2</sup>"DNA could be used to embed useful information into everyday objects." Economist. 12 December 2019.



# Energy & Biofuels

# Will Supersonic Air Travel Return... ...with Sustainable Fuel?

## + Concorde

- Aluminium Alloy Construction
- Afterburners
- Conventional jet fuel: burns more than 1 tonne to arrive at the runway prior to take off.

## + Overture Jet

- Carbon Fibre Composite Construction
- More efficient turbofan engines.
- 100% sustainable aviation fuels: comprised of fatty acids to forest cover



Source: Vanderbilt, Tom. "Boom's Quest to Make Supersonic Flights a Reality (Again)." [WIRED](#). 20 December 2021.

“Humans dump an estimated 10 billion gallons of potential biofuel into landfills every year. Researchers found a way to capitalise on it.”

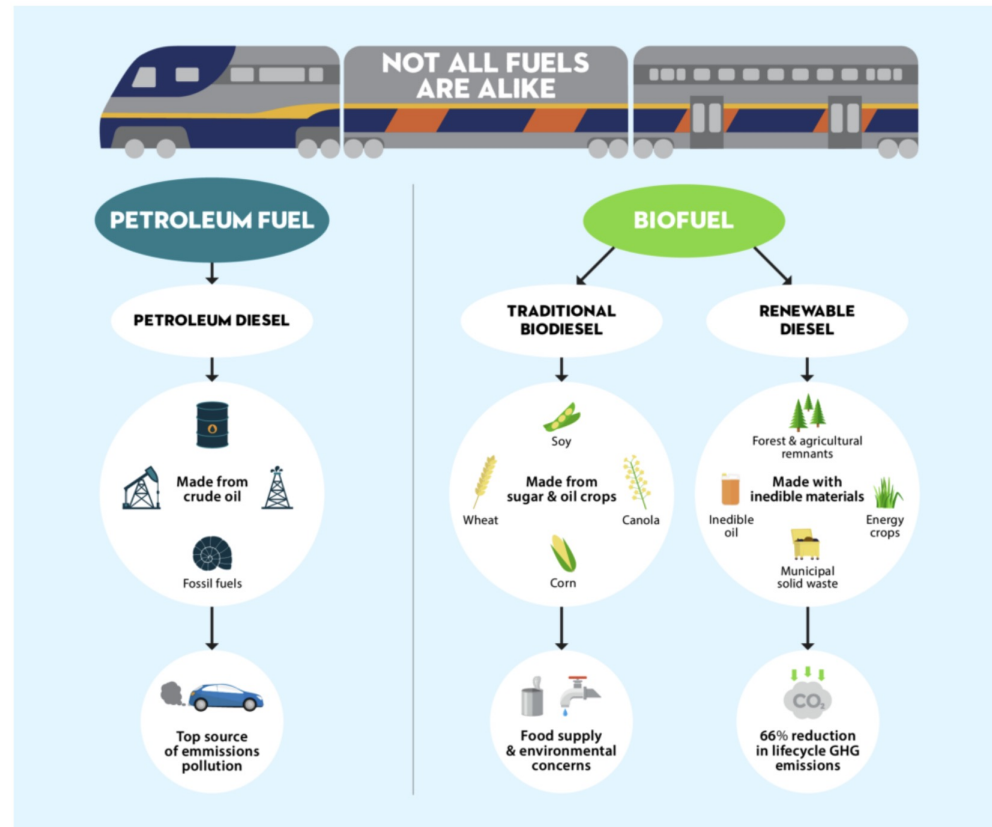
- + Food wastes, animal manure, sewage
  - Possible to put this in an oxygen-free environment and have bacteria convert it to methane
  - Researchers can interrupt this process
    - + Stop at a point where the carbon in bacteria is in chains 4-8 carbons long with a couple of oxygen atoms at the end to form weak acids
    - + Two weak acids can merge into a single molecule, so a 7-carbon molecule would have more similar properties to jet fuel
    - + Further chemical reactions can bring it even closer to the properties of jet fuel
    - + Using different reactions can mix jet fuel from biomass with different properties, getting to 70% total biofuel
  - 200 tonnes of food waste a day could get costs in the neighbourhood of \$2.50/gallon



Timmer, John. “How Food Waste Could be Turned Into Climate-Friendly Jet Fuel.” [WIRED](#). 19 March 2021.

# Renewable Diesel

- + Phillips 66, Marathon, HollyFrontier and several others are investing \$2 billion to retool refineries: **renewable diesel**
- + If current trends continue: 3.8 billion gallons of renewable diesel by 2025—more than 5% of the total diesel production in 2020.
- + Can be used in existing diesel engines without blending with standard diesel.
- + 50-80% less greenhouse gas emissions.



Source: [https://www.capitolcorridor.org/blogs/get\\_on\\_board/ccipa-tests-renewable-diesel/](https://www.capitolcorridor.org/blogs/get_on_board/ccipa-tests-renewable-diesel/)

Source: Krauss, Clifford. "Oil Refineries See Profit in Turning Kitchen Grease Into Diesel." *The New York Times*. 3 December 2020.



## Soybean Oil

- + U.S. Agriculture Department estimates the biofuels sector to consume 12 billion pounds of soybean oil (2021-22), up from 9.5 billion pounds in 2020-21.
- + Archer Daniels Midland Co. invested \$350 million into a new soybean crushing plant—capacity of 150,000 bushels of soybeans a day.
- + Cargill will spend \$475 million improving its soy crushing facilities across 4 states.
- + Animal fats make better renewable fuel but not enough of them
  - 40% of all beef tallow goes to fuel
  - 80% of all yellow cooking grease goes to fuel



Source: Maltais, Kirk. "Renewable-Fuel Push Drives Soyoil Prices to Record High." [Wall Street Journal](#). 6 June 2021.



# Materials, Chemicals, & Energy: Company Examples



Materials, Chemicals, &  
Energy



**Synthetic Manufacturing and Precision Fermentation:**

**Codexis**

Enzyme engineering company, which engages in the development and sale of therapeutics.



**Biofuels**

**Verbio**

Production and distribution of biofuels.

Source: WisdomTree, Jamie Metzl, FactSet.

**You cannot invest directly in an index. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Any trading symbols, entities or investment products displayed are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to portray recommendations.

# Conclusions

## Conclusions for the Upcoming Biorevolution

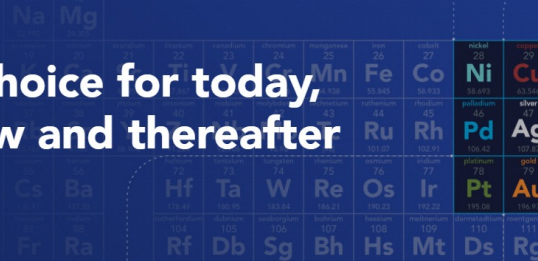
- + Costs and speed advantages bring a unique scalability to biological questions and research today (artificial intelligence, cloud computing, etc.)
- + In Agriculture—the driving force for greater research effort is the need to feed 9 billion people
- + In human health, new approaches could lead to different treatments do old diseases
- + While still early in its genesis, DNA may be the most efficient way for the world to store its data
- + Biofuels represent interesting options across the transportation spectrum

# Questions

For more information and insights please visit: [wisdomtree.eu](http://wisdomtree.eu)

**Metals:**

**A solid choice for today, tomorrow and thereafter**



[wisdomtree.eu/metals](http://wisdomtree.eu/metals)

INSIGHTS & STRATEGIES > ARTICLES

**WisdomTree Insights**



[wisdomtree.eu/blog](http://wisdomtree.eu/blog)

**A diversified approach to commodities**



[wisdomtree.eu/broad-commodities](http://wisdomtree.eu/broad-commodities)

**ETPedia**

The educational guide to Exchange Traded Products (ETPs)

[wisdomtree.eu/ETPedia](http://wisdomtree.eu/ETPedia)

# Disclaimer

**Communications issued in the European Economic Area (“EEA”):** This document has been issued and approved by WisdomTree Ireland Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

**Communications issued in jurisdictions outside of the EEA:** This document has been issued and approved by WisdomTree UK Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority.

WisdomTree Ireland Limited and WisdomTree UK Limited are each referred to as “WisdomTree” (as applicable). Our Conflicts of Interest Policy and Inventory are available on request.

**For professional clients only. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Any historical performance included on this document may be based on back testing. Back testing is the process of evaluating an investment strategy by applying it to historical data to simulate what the performance of such strategy would have been. Back tested performance is purely hypothetical and is provided on this document solely for informational purposes. Back tested data does not represent actual performance and should not be interpreted as an indication of actual or future performance. The value of any investment may be affected by exchange rate movements. Any decision to invest should be based on the information contained in the appropriate prospectus and after seeking independent investment, tax and legal advice. These products may not be available in your market or suitable for you. The content of this document does not constitute investment advice nor an offer for sale nor a solicitation of an offer to buy any product or make any investment.**

An investment in Exchange Traded Products is dependent on the performance of the underlying index, less costs, but it is not expected to match that performance precisely. ETPs involve numerous risks including among others, general market risks relating to the relevant underlying index, credit risks on the provider of index swaps utilised in the ETP, exchange rate risks, interest rate risks, inflationary risks, liquidity risks and legal and regulatory risks.

This document may contain forward looking statements including statements regarding our belief or current expectations with regards to the performance of certain assets classes and/or sectors. Forward looking statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions. There can be no assurance that such statements will be accurate and actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Therefore, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements.

The information contained on this document is not, and under no circumstances is to be construed as, an advertisement or any other step in furtherance of a public offering of shares in the United States or any province or territory thereof, where none of the Issuer or the Shares are authorised or registered for distribution and where no prospectus of the Issuer has been filed with any securities commission or regulatory authority. No document or information on this document should be taken, transmitted or distributed (directly or indirectly) into the United States. Neither the Issuer nor any securities issued by it have been or will be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933 or the Investment Company Act of 1940 or qualified under any applicable state securities statutes