Editor's Note

Almost one century after Fisher's proposal, the polygenic additive model remains extensively used by geneticists. Its application to vegetal and animal breeding has both offered very efficient tools and shown some limits. Its extension to human genetics, in particular for the study of complex traits or multifactorial diseases, is, in some respect, disputable. We believe there was a need for re-emphasizing the underlying assumptions, the situations in which this model is relevant and the ones in which its use is inappropriate.

We thus devoted this special issue of *Human Heredity* 'Beyond the Polygenic Additive Model' to open the debate. The set of manuscripts, introduced by John Ioannidis, is offering controversial points of view, clearly showing that this is a hot topic that needs more discussions. As editors of *Human Heredity*, we strongly encourage readers who want to take part in this debate to send us new manuscripts on the subject.

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