

Frequency of the hypervariable DNA loci D18S849, D3S1744, D12S1090 and D1S80 in a mixed ancestry population of Chilean blood donors

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Blood donors (N = 150) at San José Hospital (Santiago, Chile) were typed for one VNTR locus (D1S80) and three STR loci (D18S849, D3S1744, D12S1090). A questionnaire was used to determine the socioeconomic level of the donors, because it is known that some genetic markers (e.g., the ABO and Rh groups) are differentially distributed between different socioeconomic strata. This methodology revealed that two of the three socioeconomic strata distinguishable in Santiago were present in our sample of blood donors, with stratum II representing the middle strata and stratum III the low strata. Allele frequency was determined for each locus and socioeconomic stratum, and it was found that the allele distributions of each locus in socioeconomic strata II and III were statistically similar. All loci conformed to the Hardy-Weinberg law and there was no evidence for association between the alleles of the four loci, allelic frequencies being similar to those found in North American Hispanic populati