



### **Darbro, Benjamin**

Ben Darbro grew up in Aurora, Nebraska and obtained his BS in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, Nebraska. Dr. Darbro obtained his MD and PhD from the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. He then stayed at Iowa for his residency in Clinical Pathology and subsequent fellowship in Molecular Genetic Pathology. He now is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in the Stead Family Department of Pediatrics at the University of Iowa as well as the Director of the Shivanand R. Patil Cytogenetics and Molecular Laboratory. Dr. Darbro's research focuses on the genetic determinants of neurodevelopmental disorders, molecular mechanisms of cancer, and how the two seemingly unrelated conditions overlap at a genetic-network level. He studies the roles of both germline and somatic sequence level and structural variations in the context of a "genomic mutational burden" hypothesis of both cancer and neurodevelopmental disorders. Dr. Darbro enjoys spending time with family, friends, his three miniature dachshunds, and playing open world, sandbox, PVP focused MMORPGs.