

Precision medicine: reading genes and treating people before they get sick

Doctors and researchers around Boston are working to make drugs and health care delivery more individualized than ever. And patients will play a bigger role both in medical research and in their own health care, experts told the Herald.

“With personalized medicine, we’re going to know what drugs work on certain people and what drugs don’t work on certain people,” said Robert Coughlin, president and chief executive of MassBio, the state’s biotech industry group.

“I think you’re going to see that for all therapies going forward,” he said.

At Brigham and Women’s Hospital, researchers in the year ahead will hone in on what’s known as precision medicine — decoding genes to identify people at risk of developing diseases and treating them before they get sick.

Read the full, original story: [Targeting individual health](#)