



EUROPEAN MATERNAL RESULTS - WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Many people are confused as to how they received a non-African result. Please use the following information as a resource to help you explore your ancestry:

- Our “Ask Dr. Kittles” video series has a video that explains what it means to have non-African results. You can watch the video at <http://bit.ly/27RF01m>
- There are very few people of African descent (born in the Americas, Europe or elsewhere outside of Africa) that are 100% African. The Transatlantic Slave Trade and period of slavery created an environment in which people from all different countries and cultures mixed. In fact, America is known as the “Melting Pot.”
- Understanding that most descendants of enslaved Africans have some European ancestry, it should not be a surprise that we found some European ancestry for you. In your case, it exists on your maternal line.
 - Eight out of 100 people who take the MatriClan Test receive a non-African result.
 - Physical traits, such as skin color or hair texture, have no bearing on what the ancestry of a single lineage will be. You, your mother and/or grandmother can have dark skin and have European or Asian ancestry. Just as you, your mother and/or grandmother may not have the stereotypical long, straight hair and still have Native American ancestry.
- The MatriClan Test only analyzed ONE of the THOUSANDS of branches (lineages) of your family tree. That one lineage represents your mother’s mother’s mother’s mother, on back for a period of 500 - 2000 years ago.
 - Think of the fact that you have four grandparents.
 - Each of those grandparents represents a different lineage.
 - Each of those lineages will have a different ancestry.
 - Your maternal grandmother’s lineage is European, not African.
 - Each of the other grandparents’ lineages may be African. You would have to test them to find out.
- Having identified one European ancestral lineage does not mean that you are European. It simply means that you have a female European ancestor at some point on your mother’s line. It could be your grandmother, your eighth great-grandmother, or any grandmother in between or beyond. Scientists have defined your lineage as belonging to a particular haplogroup, which is found across regions. They cannot pinpoint specific countries for each haplogroup.
- To learn more about your haplogroup, we recommend:
 - Joining the African Ancestry Online Community, visiting the “Understand Your Results” Forum, and talking with others who have similar results.
 - Researching the Internet - <http://wikipedia.org> is a good resource for specific haplogroup descriptions.