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The CRISPR Generation:
The Story of the World's First Gene-Edited Babies
By Kiran Musunuru, MD, PhD, MPH, ML

"Rewriting Our DNA:
Gene Editing Will Change Humanity, But Are We Ready?"

Right now, scientists and policymakers are scrambling to monitor and regulate one of the most powerful and controversial breakthroughs in modern history. One year after Chinese scientist Dr. He Jiankui stunned the world by covertly creating the first gene-edited babies, more questions remain than answers. How was it possible for a scientist with no medical training to recklessly alter the genes of unborn human beings? What's next? Will "designer babies" become a normal option for future parents and if so, what if that technology gets into the wrong hands?

Enter Kiran Musunuru MD, PhD, MPH, ML, a highly sought-after world expert in genetics and gene editing and the first person in the world to publicly condemn Dr. He Jiankui's careless experiment on human embryos. In his new book, ***The CRISPR Generation: The Story of the World's First Gene-Edited Babies***, Dr. Musunuru dissects how a series of scientific breakthroughs led to the medical scandal of the decade. He reveals why Dr. He's CRISPR creation was deeply flawed and unethical, explains the value of publicizing Dr. He's scientific and ethical lapses, and then looks ahead to the consequences of gene editing for humankind.

"There are too many unknowns when it comes to genetics. We are just barely starting to understand how single genes affect the body, in good ways and bad ways, and there certainly will be many surprises to come," says Dr. Musunuru. "Rushing ahead, right now, with editing of any gene in babies for any reason other than an extremely compelling medical need seems like folly."

In ***The CRISPR Generation***, Dr. Musunuru explores the remarkable potential for gene editing to prevent diseases in adults like cancer, AIDS, and heart attacks. Readers learn how the technology works, what could happen if it's used irresponsibly, and the phenomenal life-changing benefits that gene editing can offer to people otherwise destined for disease and suffering.

"It's only natural to wonder whether it'd be possible to rewrite our own DNA—and, maybe, to take control of our own evolution," adds Dr. Musunuru. "If you had the chance to become a genetic superhero, or to ensure your child was a genetic superhero, would you take that chance? With gene editing, you might have that chance not too far in the future."

The CRISPR Generation brings much-needed analysis to the benefits and hazards of gene-edited humans, exploring:

- How an understanding of genetics, paired with the new technology of gene editing, will make it possible for responsible scientists and physicians to prevent and treat diseases like AIDS and heart attacks in adults
- CRISPR: A closer look at this innovative gene-editing technology, which has the potential to help many patients if used responsibly but to cause untold damage if used irresponsibly
- Why gene editing in adults, who can freely consent to the procedure and not pass on edits to future generations, is very different from human embryo editing
- Three reasons why future parents would choose to pursue gene editing on behalf of their unborn children
- Why Dr. He Jiankui's creation of the world's first gene-edited babies was not a historic scientific achievement but a historic ethical disaster
- The CRISPR Generation? What we need to know about gene-edited babies of the future
- How human embryo editing could someday help parents who would otherwise have no chance of having healthy biological children, but why it would be premature to do it now
- And much more!

KIRAN MUSUNURU, MD, PhD, MPH, ML, one of the world's leading experts in genetics and gene editing, is an Associate Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Genetics in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Musunuru studied and trained at Harvard University, Cornell University Medical College, The Rockefeller University, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Johns Hopkins University, and University of Pennsylvania. His research focuses on the genetics of heart disease and seeks to identify genetic factors that protect against disease and use them to develop therapies to protect the entire population. In his recent work he has been using gene editing to create a one-shot "vaccination" against heart attacks, the leading cause of death worldwide.

Dr. Musunuru is an actively practicing cardiologist as well as a committed teacher. He is a recipient of the *Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers* from President Barack Obama at the White House, the American Heart Association's *Award of Meritorious Achievement*, the American Philosophical Society's *Judson Daland Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Clinical Investigation*, the American Federation for Medical Research's *Outstanding Investigator Award*, and Harvard University's *Fannie Cox Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching*. He recently served as Editor-in-Chief of the scientific journal *Circulation: Genomic and Precision Medicine*.

Dr. Musunuru served as an independent expert for the Associated Press to evaluate the veracity of Dr. He Jiankui's claim of the first gene-edited babies, before the news broke last November. He was the first person in the world to publicly condemn Dr. He Jiankui's work resulting in the birth of the babies and was interviewed by numerous media outlets following the announcement of the babies.

Learn more about Dr. Musunuru at www.kiranmusunuru.com, and connect with him on Twitter.

***The CRISPR Generation* will be available on Amazon.**

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