

Single

M

Explicit meaning

M-scientific *SEMA5A^a*

Not "funny"; usually acronym or concatenation of long descriptive scientific name

M-literal *drop dead^b*

Inherent meaning of words is sufficient to describe gene function in some way; no cultural knowledge is required

M-embed

Clever reference or allusion. Cultural savvy or other knowledge required to make sense

Literary *malvolio^c*

Acronym *LOV^d*

Historical *yuri^e*

Pop culture *tribbles^f*

~M

No explicit meaning

~M-outside *kuzbanian^g*

Some outside, non-obvious reason for name

~M-irrel *ring^h*

Irrelevant acronym; not tied to gene function

~M-nr *yippeeⁱ*

Silly or funny names. No relevance to underlying gene function

Multi

T

Transferred naming system

T-relation *kryptonite and supermanⁱ*

Naming ceases to make sense if names are shuffled among genes

T-norelation *arleekin
valiet
tungus^k*

Names could be shuffled among genes with no loss of meaning

P

Problematic relationships

P-clash *PKD1 and lov-1^l*

Analogous genes with very different names

P-confusion *MT-1^m*

Many genes with same name, or many names for one gene

P-defunct *BAF45 and BAF47ⁿ*

Gene named to reflect information later shown to be inaccurate or untrue