

FIGURE 26.1. Typical patterns of inheritance for rare diseases caused by single alleles. *Circles*: females; *squares*: males; *red symbols*: affected. (*A*) Autosomal dominant: Affected individuals must have an affected parent; when one parent is affected, half of its offspring will be affected. (*B*) Autosomal recessive: Affected individuals typically have two heterozygous parents, each with normal phenotype; one-quarter of offspring from such matings are affected. Offspring from matings between relatives (e.g., at *left*) are much more likely to be affected, because they may inherit the disease allele from both their mother and their father (see Box 15.3). (*C*) X-linked recessive: Heterozygous mothers (e.g., *top left*) are normal, but one-half of their sons inherit the disease allele on their single X chromosome and are affected. Sons of affected males are not affected, but their daughters are all heterozygous, and so one-half of their grandsons are affected (e.g., *bottom row*).

Evolution © 2007 Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press