

Number of functional gene segments in human immunoglobulin loci			
Segment	Light chains		Heavy chain
	$\kappa$	$\lambda$	H
Variable (V)	40	30	40
Diversity (D)	0	0	25
Joining (J)	5	4	6

**Fig. 4.3** The numbers of functional gene segments for the V regions of human heavy and light chains. These numbers are derived from exhaustive cloning and sequencing of DNA from one individual and exclude all pseudogenes (mutated and nonfunctional versions of a gene sequence). As a result of genetic polymorphism, the numbers will not be the same for all people.