

International Genes for Stuttering
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Abstract

Persistent developmental stuttering affects 1% of the adult population world-wide. To date, the genes responsible for stuttering have yet to be identified in the non-consanguineous general population. Most current studies of stuttering use families with high-relatedness, and single ethnic backgrounds. This study will look across races at non-related family members to identify the genes responsible for the disorder. 350 saliva samples from individuals who stutter will be collected at the National Stuttering Association's Annual Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona. People who wish to donate saliva will be given details of the study, sign a consent form, answer a few brief questions about their stutter, and provide 2mL of saliva. The samples will be combined with other samples collected all over the world from people who stutter and will be analyzed for genetic variation affecting susceptibility to the disorder in a genome-wide association study with additional candidate gene mapping.