

Where can I learn more?

Contact-a-family is an umbrella group listing many UK patient support groups. They can be contacted on:

Contact a Family,
209-211 City Road,
London
EC1V 1JN

Tel: 020 7608 8700
Fax: 020 7608 8701

Helpline 0808 808 3555 or
Text phone 0808 808 3556 Free phone for
parents and families (10am-4pm, Mon-Fri)

www.cafamily.org.uk

Leicester Genetics Centre:
Leicester Royal Infirmary
Leicester LE1 5WW
Telephone: 0116 258 5736

Acknowledgements:

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Clinical Genetics Service for allowing us to
use some of the information from their
leaflets.*

If you would like a written or taped
translation of this information please contact
the Service Equality Manager on 0116 258
4382.

यदि आप को इस लीफ़्लिट का लिखती या टेप पर अनुवाद चाहिए तो कृपया
डैब बेकर, सर्विस ईक्वालिटी मैनेजर से 0116 2584382 पर सम्पर्क कीजिए ।

જો તમને આ પત્રિકાનું લેખિત અથવા ટેપ પર ભાષાંતર જોઈતું હોય તો મહેરબાની
કરી કેમ બેકર, સર્વિસ ઇક્વાલિટી મેનેજરનો 0116 2584382 ઉપર સંપર્ક કરો.

Haddaad rabto warqadan oo turjuman oo
ku duuban cajalad ama qoraal ah fadlan la
xiriir, Maamulaha Adeegga Sinaanta 0116
258 4382.

আপনি যদি এই লিফলেটের অনুবাদ - লিখিত বা অডিও টেপ'এ চান, তাহলে অনুগ্রহ
করে সার্ভিস ইকুয়ালিটি ম্যানেজার ডেভ বেকার'এর সাথে 0116 2584382 নাম্বারে
যোগাযোগ করুন ।

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਲੀਫਲਿਟ ਦਾ ਲਿਖਤੀ ਜਾਂ ਟੇਪ ਕੀਤਾ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ
ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਡੈਬ ਬੇਕਰ, ਸਰਵਿਸ ਇਕੁਅਲਿਟੀ ਮੈਨੇਜਰ ਨਾਲ 0116, 2584382 ਤੇ
ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ ।

اگر آپ کو اس لیفلٹ کا تحریری طور پر یا ٹیپ شدہ ترجمہ درکار ہو تو برائے مہربانی سروس ایگوالٹی مینجر ڈیب بیکر سے
ٹیلیفون نمبر 0116 2584382 پر رابطہ قائم کریں۔

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Dominant Inheritance

Information for Patients

What are genes?

The body is made up of billions of cells. Contained inside each cell are our genes. The same set of genes is contained within all of our cells including our blood cells and our egg or sperm cells.

Genes are the unique set of instructions which make each of us an individual. There are many thousands of different genes, each carrying a different instruction.

If a gene is altered, it can cause a genetic condition or disease. This gene alteration is sometimes known as a mutation.

We have two copies of each gene. One copy is inherited from each of our parents. When we have children, we pass on only one copy of each of our genes.

What does dominant inheritance mean?

Some genetic conditions are passed on in the family in a dominant way. These conditions usually affect more than one generation.

These conditions are caused by an alteration in one copy of a gene.

They are called dominant because the altered copy of the gene is dominant over the other copy of the gene.

Both men and women can carry dominant gene alterations and can be affected by the condition.

Having children

If a parent carries an altered gene for a dominant condition, each of their children has a 50:50 (1 in 2) chance of inheriting the altered gene and being affected by the condition. For each child, regardless of their sex, the risk is the same – 50:50.

In some dominant conditions, it is possible to inherit an altered gene without showing any symptoms of the condition. Even within a family, some individuals may be affected by the same dominant condition in different ways.

Some dominant conditions are known as “late onset disorders”. In other words, they only affect individuals in adulthood.

In some families, an isolated case of a dominant disorder may be the result of a new gene alteration (a change which arises for the first time) in either the egg or the sperm that went to make that child.

When this individual has his / her own children there is a 50:50 (1 in 2) chance that each child will be affected.

