

Genetics of Hearing & Balance Research Study

*Mapping the traits of hearing and balance
through family trees*

We are working to identify and characterize genetic elements (genes) involved in controlling our ability to hear and maintain normal balance.

A gene is a sequence of DNA passed onto us by our biological mothers and fathers that occupies a specific location on a chromosome and determines a particular characteristic, such as eye color, foot size, and the way we hear.

Subtle changes in these genes may lead to hearing and/or balance problems that are passed through your family tree.



The Research Team:
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Participation involves:

- Interview and Questionnaire.
- Standard Hearing and/or balance testing. Or obtaining recent tests from your medical chart with your permission.
- Genetic information is collected either with a donation of

Eligible Volunteers have:

- **Large Families** located anywhere across the nation or world. Ideally 40-50 family members.
- **Runs in the Family** - At least 5 family members appear to have the same hearing or balance problem that started between 2 and 30 years of age.

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