

Children's Hospital Boston

Harvard Medical School

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Who are we?

OPHTHALMOLOGY:

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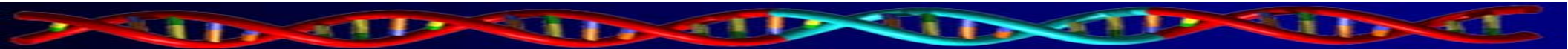
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Genetic Study of Strabismus Amblyopia & Ptosis

**Children's Hospital Boston
Center for Strabismus Research**

**Program in Genomics and
Department of Ophthalmology
Boston, Massachusetts**





Strabismus and genetics

Strabismus (“crossed” or “wandering” eyes) is a misalignment of the eyes that affects 2-4% of the population. Strabismus causes loss of binocular vision and amblyopia (vision loss in a structurally normal eye), which if not treated early in life, may eventually lead to blindness.

Researchers at Children’s Hospital Boston are investigating the causes of strabismus by identifying genetic variations that are associated with its occurrence. We hope that this study will lead to a better understanding of strabismus and to new forms of diagnosis and treatment.

Who is eligible to participate?

Families who have at least three members diagnosed with strabismus, amblyopia and/or ptosis are eligible to participate.

When possible, we would like to enroll the entire family. This would include the affected family member(s), in addition to their parents and siblings.

Participation

Participation is quick and easy simply requiring signed consent and a blood or saliva sample. We would also obtain details of your previous eye examinations and a medical/family history.

Cost/time commitment

Enrollment can be undertaken locally, there is no need to travel to Boston to participate. There is no fee to participate in this study.

What will we do?

We will obtain your family’s informed consent and medical/family history.

We will obtain a blood sample (about 2 tablespoons) or saliva from which we will later isolate genetic material (DNA).

Results

In this ongoing study, we are comparing the genetic makeup and medical information from different families to determine which genetic factors play a role in strabismus. We hope this work will enhance the identification of individuals at risk, improve our ability to detect and prevent amblyopia and loss of binocular vision, and provide insight into the causes of strabismus.

Since this is a research study, individual results will not be reported to families. However, families are encouraged to call or e-mail at any time to ask about the overall progress of this research. If desired, we would also notify participants if relevant genetic testing becomes available.

Confidentiality

Results obtained from this study are confidential and are not placed in the medical records of participating children or their families. Medical information and DNA samples obtained will be accessible only by researchers working on this project. Only at the participant’s request would we make this information available to others.

