

Understanding Hearing Loss in Children



We now know many cases of childhood hearing loss are linked to changes in a child's genes. That's why doctors often recommend genetic testing when hearing loss is diagnosed.

Why genetic research matters

We are still learning about what causes hearing loss in children. Sometimes genetic testing finds a genetic change that explains the hearing loss. Sometimes no genetic cause is found.

If no change is found, it may mean the hearing loss isn't genetic, or that current testing cannot yet detect the change.

About Genomic Answers for Kids

The Children's Mercy Research Institute started the Genomic Answers for Kids research study to learn more about genetic changes and childhood conditions.

The goal of the research study is to:

- Collect genetic and health information from 30,000 children and some family members
- Compare the results to find similarities and differences that may affect health or characteristics

If a genetic cause for your child's hearing loss is found, your child's doctor will be notified and you will be contacted.

How to take part

Participation in this study is voluntary and free of charge. Only a blood sample is needed, which can be taken during your child's regular health care visit.



Ask your doctor about joining or scan the QR code to contact the study team.

Email GA4K@cmh.edu,
call (816) 915-4200 (x14200),
or visit childrensmercy.org/genomicanswers



Built for kids.®