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UNDERSTANDING GENES
& CHROMOSOMES

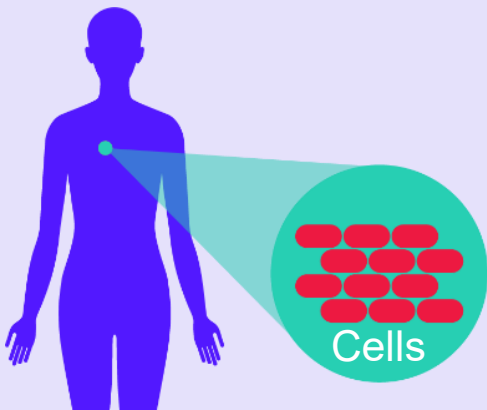
Easy read guide

Wiedemann-Steiner syndrome (WSS)

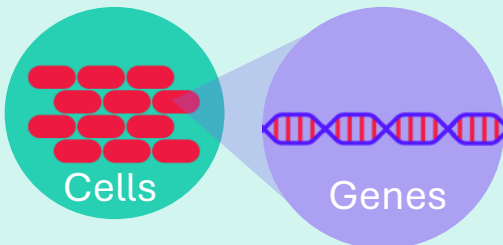
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Before we learn about WSS syndrome, first let us learn a little bit about our bodies.

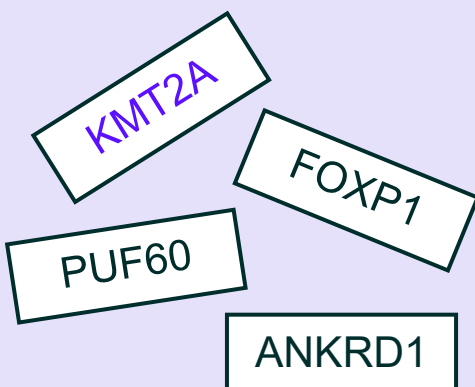


Our bodies are built from millions of tiny building blocks called cells.



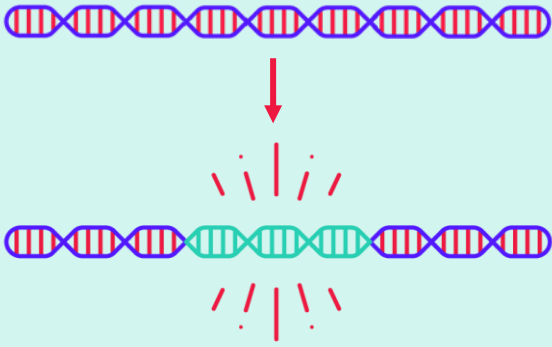
Our cells contain genes.

Genes are the instructions that tell our bodies how to grow and work.



We all have thousands of genes.

Each gene has its own special name and function.



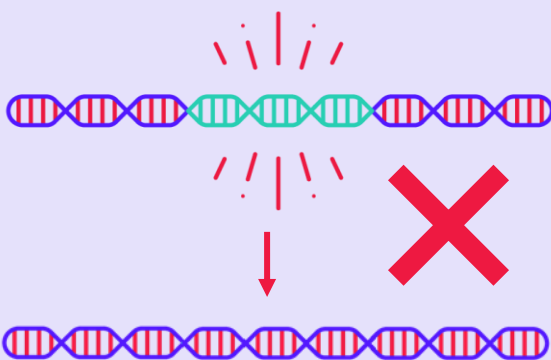
Sometimes we have a change in a gene.

KMT2A

WSS syndrome is caused by a change in a gene called KMT2A.



The change in the KMT2A gene can affect how the gene works.



The change in the KMT2A gene cannot be removed or replaced.



People with a WSS syndrome are all different from each other.



Some people with WSS syndrome find some things harder to do than other people with WSS syndrome.



Some people find it difficult to learn how to read.



Some people find it difficult to learn how to speak.



Some people need help to understand things.



Some people feel a bit sad or worry a lot.

There is help for people who are sad and worry a lot.



Some people do not sleep very well.



People with WSS syndrome can have different challenges and different strengths.



Why do I have WSS syndrome?

WSS syndrome often happens by chance. Most people are the first person in their family to have it.



Some people have WSS syndrome because their mum or dad have it.



If you have a child, they could have WSS syndrome too.



How do I know I have WSS syndrome?

You can only find out if you have WSS syndrome by having a genetic test.



It is good to know that you have WSS syndrome so you can get extra help if you need it.



If you would like to know more about WSS syndrome, you can talk to your doctor or a genetics specialist.



You can contact a WSS syndrome support group.



You can contact or [join](#) a charity, like Unique.



To find out more about Unique,
you can call us on the phone.

+44(0)1883 723356



You can email us.

help@rarechromo.org



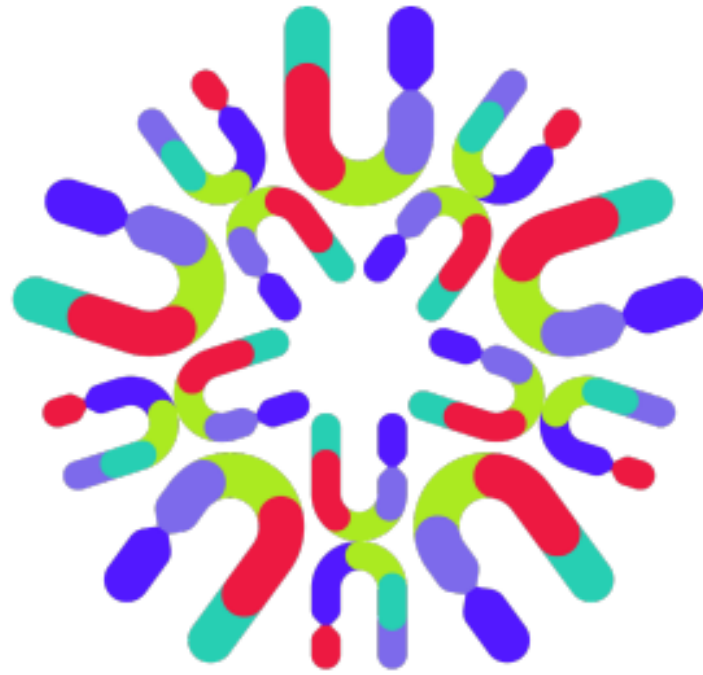
You can go to our website.

<https://rarechromo.org/>



You can send a letter to our office.

The Stables, Station Road West,
Oxted, Surrey, RH8 9EE, UK.



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