

Module 5: Mendelian Genetics and Genetic Disorders

Topic 3 Content: Dominant Genetic Disorders Notes


Introduction

Dominant Genetic Disorders

Huntington's Disease

Achondroplasia

Introduction



Dominant genetic disorders only require a single copy of a damaged gene, which offspring inherit from only one parent. The gene with the disorder from one parent dominates the other parent's non-disorder gene. In this interactivity, click each tab to learn about two dominant genetic disorders, Huntington's disease and achondroplasia.

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Huntington's Disease

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Huntington's Disease



Huntington's Disease

Achondroplasia

Huntington's disease is a genetic disorder that causes nerve cells in some parts of the brain to degenerate. Symptoms usually appear when a person is between the ages of thirty and fifty years old and can include uncontrolled movements, moodiness, psychosis, loss of memory, and disorientation.

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Achondroplasia


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Achondroplasia

Achondroplasia

Achondroplasia is a genetic disorder caused by a defect in a gene that affects bone growth. People with achondroplasia have shorter arms and legs and a larger head.

A photograph of a person with achondroplasia standing on a large rock by the ocean. The person is wearing a red vest over a white long-sleeved shirt and blue pants. They have their arms raised in a celebratory gesture. The background shows a rocky coastline with waves crashing against the shore under a clear blue sky.

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