



Genetic Research

What is genetic research?

Genes carry the instructions for making proteins, which direct the activities of the human body. Genes are passed down from one generation to another. When genes are not working normally, they can cause disease. In genetic research, scientists look to discover ways that genes lead to disease.

How is genetic research used to help people with kidney disease?

Discovering genes involved in kidney disease may shine a light on the causes of the disease. This knowledge can lead to better tests to diagnose the causes and provide clues to better, safer, and more effective treatments.

What do NEPTUNE researchers expect to learn about genes in nephrotic syndrome?

Researchers expect to identify known, related, and possibly unknown genetic risk factors for nephrotic syndrome in NEPTUNE participants. Also, researchers expect to discover the impact of these genetic risk factors on disease.

What have researchers discovered already about known genetic factors for nephrotic syndrome in NEPTUNE patients?

Researchers have found that only 3-5% of all NEPTUNE participants have rare genetic factors related to nephrotic syndrome. Thus far, we have discovered that participants with identified genetic risk factors do as well as participants without genetic risk factors. In the future, we hope to learn much more about genes in nephrotic syndrome.