

Is it in the Family?



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Some rare syndromes and specific eye conditions have a genetic link, particularly if the children within the same family appear to have the same condition and genetic counselling may be offered. Genetic counselling is arranged through the GP or the hospital consultant by referral to your Regional Genetics Centre, where you will be able to discuss the eye condition, its genetic implications for your family and how this may affect your child/children's lives.

The Regional Genetics Centre may be able to offer testing in order to assist in providing a more specific diagnosis and information about the condition, how the condition was inherited, and the possibility of future children, or your children's children having the same condition; the cause of the genetic condition, due to chromosomal abnormality, a single abnormal gene, or a sporadic change in genetic material. Please be aware, this is not always possible for every condition and family. The Genetics Interest Group is a national alliance of voluntary organisations concerned with genetic disorders and may be able to provide a pack or information for siblings and parents.

Further information can be obtained from:

Genetic Interest Group
Unit 4D, Leroy House,
436 Essex Road
London N1 3QP

Phone 0207 704 3141 Fax 0207 359 1447

Disclaimer: Information sheets have been produced to provide information and advice for the parents of visually impaired children. Changes may occur in theories and legislation, however, the information sheets have been written in good faith, as a general guidance tool. If you have any questions with regard to issues raised by the information sheet, please contact the National Blind Childrens Society, National Family Support and Information Manager.