

FDC Project

Genetics of Dilated Cardiomyopathy



What do we do?

1. We study the genetic cause of idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy (IDC).
 - 2 or more cases of IDC in a family is considered familial (FDC).
 - Recent data shows that FDC has a genetic basis.
 - Data also shows that some cases of IDC have a genetic basis, though large cohorts of non-familial IDC have not been evaluated.
2. We are now expanding our program to include a large cohort of both familial *AND* non-familial IDC.
3. Recruiting & screening (with echo and EKG) of participant's 1st degree relatives (parents, siblings, children) is also critical to our study design.

We need your help to do this.

1. Identify your patients with non-ischemic dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM).
2. Ask them if they and their family members would like to participate in a family-based genetic study.
3. Contact us with the referral — we do the rest.

What is the value of our study to your patients?

1. The cause of idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy remains enigmatic. If our hypothesis that IDC has a heritable genetic basis is proven true, this knowledge will improve the diagnosis and management of DCM, including the possibility for novel gene-based treatment strategies.
2. We may discover the cause of your patient's DCM. If we do, we will notify them, and with their permission, also notify you of our findings.
3. Then, their relatives (affected or unaffected) can have genetic testing to determine if they are at high risk for DCM. Those at high-risk can be managed more effectively.

What works the best for referring your patients to us?

We track all referrals for research purposes and keep you updated with progress reports of the families you refer to us.

Consents in three languages! We speak English. Hablamos Español. Nou pale Kreyol.

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