Single change in genetic sequence can significantly impact BMI variability

One small change to the DNA sequence can cause more weighty changes to the human body, according to a new study released today. The discovery comes thanks to a worldwide consortium of researchers that includes Professor and Chair of Quantitative Genetics at The University of Queensland (UQ), Peter Visscher, from the Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) and Diamantina Institute (DI) at UQ. He and his team have found a single change in genetic sequence at the gene FTO had a significant effect on the variability of body mass index (BMI). BMI is a commonly used measure of obesity. It measures someone's weight adjusted for his or her height.

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