

Scientists find genetic basis for slow metabolism, obesity

Obese people who claim they have a “slow metabolism” may have a point after scientists discover a gene that for the first time links being overweight with reduced metabolic activity.

Researchers from Cambridge University found that mutations in a gene known as KSR2 reduce the ability of cells to metabolise glucose and fatty acids, which provide energy.

These gene mutations are also more common in people with severe obesity than in the general, non-obese population, they found.

It has long been suggested that some people may be predisposed to obesity because of a “slow metabolism” but this is the first time that scientists have been able to identify a definite genetic basis for such an idea.

Read the full, original story here: [It is a slow metabolism after all: Scientists discover obesity gene](#)

Additional Resources:

- “[Single Gene Contributes to Childhood Obesity, Boosting Appetite and Slowing Metabolism](#),” Discover
- “[New Genes IDd in Obesity: How Much of Weight is Genetic?](#),” Time