Researchers find 17 different genome locations associated with depression

A recent study...identified five independent gene variants from four genome regions that are associated with depression, raising hopes that we can get a better handle on the disorder.

The study used a meta analysis of data collected by consumer genetics company 23andMe as well as previously published studies of depression. These studies can identify regions of the chromosome—and sometimes individual genes—that are frequently inherited along with the disorder...

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In both data sets that were used, the 23andMe data set and the comparison data set, the authors saw that people who self-reported depression were considerably more likely to have the genes that were linked with depression...

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Overall, the study was able to identify 17 independent locations in the genome that are associated with a diagnosis of major depression. However, the study failed to replicate findings from previous genome-wide association studies in Chinese populations. The authors say that this discrepancy shouldn't be surprising, because these studies were in populations with different demographics—this one was conducted only in people of European descent.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: Consumer genetics company helps spot genes associated with depression