

Malfunctioning part of 'ADHD gene' identified, clearing way for specialized medications

ADHD is highly genetic, and [the ADGRL3 gene] in particular has long been implicated in its development...Now, a new study goes even further, finding a specific malfunction on the gene that is highly associated with [attention deficit hyperactivity disorder] and related disorders — clearing the way for specialized medications and greater understanding of the neural pathways behind ADHD.

Researchers identified one specific section of the gene...that worked differently in the brains of those with ADHD. They found that a malfunction in ECR47 caused the ADGRL3 gene to be expressed less in the thalamus...and was linked to decreased sensory processing abilities, as well as to classic ADHD symptoms like impulsivity and inattention.

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The results provide just a small piece of the puzzle of the genetic components that control ADHD, the researchers said, but the progress is promising — particularly when it comes to the development of new medications.

This means that medications could be created that specifically target the ADGRL3 gene — or even the ECR47 mutation — to benefit patients for whom traditional stimulants don't work.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [Another Piece of the Puzzle? New Research Zeroes In On the Specific Genetic Components of ADHD](#)