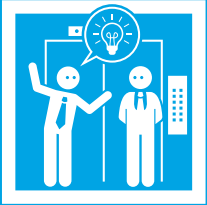


Quick Facts about Williams Syndrome

For more info, go to williams-syndrome.org



Williams syndrome is a deletion of approximately 26-28 genes on chromosome 7 that leads to a spectrum of challenges including serious heart and other internal and external issues, developmental and intellectual disabilities, but is often accompanied by a robust personality with empathy toward others and a deep connection to music.



The odds of having Williams syndrome are 1 in 10,000—the same as finding a four-leaf clover!



WS is a deletion of approximately 26-28 genes on the number 7 chromosome.

The genetic “address” for WS is 7q11.23.

WS occurs equally in males and females and in all cultures worldwide.



Many have a heightened sensitivity to music and may possess exceptional musical abilities.



People with Williams syndrome may have mild to moderate intellectual disabilities, with strengths in verbal skills and challenges in spatial reasoning.



Individuals tend to be very outgoing, friendly, and have a strong interest in people, often described as having a “hypersociable” personality.



A common health concern is supraventricular aortic stenosis (SVAS), a narrowing of the large blood vessel that carries blood from the heart.



Other challenges can include anxiety, attention deficit disorders, and sensitivities to loud noises.



Some may experience elevated calcium levels in infancy, which can cause irritability and feeding problems.

There are approximately 30,000 people in the US with Williams syndrome.



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