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Bio 100

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Discovery of 105 Additional Genetic Errors that Cause Cystic Fibrosis



This article discusses how a group of researchers have made progress in figuring out which gene error mutations that cause cystic fibrosis and which are not harmful. The researchers say that by figuring out the certain mutations, it will be certainty about a diagnosis or carrier of the disease and it will speed up the design process for new drugs. The article states that cystic fibrosis is the most common lethal recessive genetic disease that affects Caucasians.

The team did the study by analyzing 159 different mutations in CF patients and looked at the impact of each mutation on patient’s health by seeing if they had high salt concentrations. They discovered that 127 of the 159 mutations were shown to cause CF.

The scientific methods used in this report were exploration and discovery, testing ideas, community analysis and feedback, and benefits and outcome. Exploration and discovery were used when they already knew which mutations were in CF patients and then they discovered which mutations directly linked it to the patient. They tested their ideas by doing the sweat study to look at salt concentrations in patients. The benefits and outcomes of this study are that they are closer to finding new medications and diagnosing CF early on.

This relates directly to my topic because I am researching CF. This is one of the many studies that have been done on CF and there will be many more to come. The article also directly relates to my life because the CF gene runs in my family and I have had 2 cousins with the disease.

http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/265247.php