Minority populations have been historically under-represented in existing studies addressing how genetic variations may contribute to a variety of disorders. A new study from researchers at Children's Hospital Boston used deep learning to find genetic causes of mental health disorders in an understudied population.

Researchers from the University of Utah studied patients with a rare genetic condition known as neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1) to identify potential genetic risk factors for Alzheimer's disease. The findings could open new mechanistic insight into factors involved in Alzheimer's disease development, supporting the idea that multiple alterations at the genetic and other cellular levels may contribute to the disease.

Researchers from the University of Haifa in Israel question the idea that genetic mutations are always random, finding that the generation of the human hemoglobin S (HbS) mutation is not random. The findings could open new mechanistic insight into factors involved in Alzheimer's disease development, supporting the idea that multiple alterations at the genetic and other cellular levels may contribute to the disease.

A large genetic study tracking 150,000 subjects for over a decade has confirmed the direct causal link between drinking alcohol and developing cancer. The findings particularly link esophageal cancers to increased alcohol consumption.

CRISPR-Cas9, the “genetic scissors”, creates new potential for curing diseases; but treatments must be reliable. In a new study, researchers have discovered that the method can give rise to unforeseen heritable mutations.

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