

★ Facial attractiveness (Hu, 2019)

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PLoS Genetics

Appearance

STUDY SUMMARY

Identification of 2 novel genetic variants that are associated with facial attractiveness.

STUDY DESCRIPTION

Facial attractiveness is a complex human trait. Though commonly attributed to sociological factors, there are genetic influences on facial beauty in males and females. This genome-wide association study identified 2 sex-specific genetic variants associated with facial attractiveness by examining over 4,000 individuals of European ancestry. Additionally, the study uncovered associations between the identified variants and tissues involved in reproduction and *hormone* production. Furthermore, the study found that for females, a high body mass index (BMI) was correlated with lower facial attractiveness, while for males, facial attractiveness was correlated with blood cholesterol levels. The body uses cholesterol to produce the male sex *hormone* testosterone.

DID YOU KNOW?

Facial beauty tends to be positively associated with symmetry. People also tend to find familiar faces attractive.

YOUR DETAILED RESULTS

The variants highlighted in green have **positive effect sizes** and increase your genetic predisposition to a more attractive face. The variants highlighted in blue have **negative effect sizes** and decrease your genetic predisposition to a more attractive face. Variants that are not highlighted are not found in your genome and do not affect your genetic predisposition to a more attractive face. However, please note that genetic predispositions do not account for important non-genetic factors like lifestyle. Furthermore, the genetics of most traits has not been fully understood yet and many associations between traits and genetic variants remain unknown. For additional explanations, click on the column titles in the table below and visit our [Nebula Library tutorial](#).

VARIANT [ⓘ]	YOUR GENOTYPE [ⓘ]	COMMENTS	EFFECT SIZE [ⓘ]	VARIANT FREQUENCY [ⓘ]	SIGNIFICANCE [ⓘ]
rs2999422_T ★	G / T	Associated with attractiveness of males	-0.18 (↓)	43%	6.50×10^{-10}
rs10165224_A ★	G / G	Associated with attractiveness of females	-0.29 (-)	20%	2.30×10^{-8}



Facial attractiveness might be linked to the hormone system.