

Genetics of Psychic Ability

ABSTRACT:

Background

It is commonly believed that psychic ability, like many mental and physical traits, runs in families. This suggests the presence of a hereditary component. Using state-of-the-art genomic analysis techniques, such as Genome Wide Association Studies (GWAS), this project is exploring if psychic ability has a discernible genetic component using a small case-control study design. If such a component is found, it could potentially lead to a biological marker of people with psychic ability. Such information might also be used to provide environmental or pharmacologic interventions to enhance or suppress such abilities.

Aim

The objective of this study is to correlate psychic ability with specific genes.

Method

We screened over 3,000 psychic candidates around the world through two online surveys. The goal was to locate people with claimed psychic ability in themselves and their family members, to rule out exclusions (e.g., psychotic or delusional tendencies), and to collect measures that correlate with psychic ability (e.g. absorption, sensitivity, empathy). A subset of these volunteers was selected by the research team to be interviewed via telephone and to take screening tests of psi ability. Then, using a case-control study design, 13 individuals were selected as psychic cases, and 10 age and gender-matched individuals with no claims of psychic ability were selected as controls. Saliva was collected from these 23 participants, and DNA from the saliva was whole-genome sequenced and mapped using advanced BINA alignment algorithms. Bioinformatics analyses were blindly performed on these samples to see if there were genes that discriminated between the cases and controls.

Results

After the case-control unblinding, 7 of 9 (78%) of the psychic cases with high accuracy genomic data (out of the 13 candidates) contained a gene mutation with an unknown variant, whereas none of 9 control (0%) cases contained that gene.

Keywords

Genetics, Psychic ability, Hereditary, Case-control trial

Published Work:

Wahbeh, H., McDermott, K., & Sagher, A. (2018). Dissociative symptoms and anomalous information reception. *Activitas Nervosa Superior*, 60(3-4), 75-85. doi: 10.1007/s41470-018-0023-6

Os textos são da exclusiva responsabilidade dos autores
All texts are of the exclusive responsibility of the authors

Wahbeh, H., & Radin, D. (2018). People reporting experiences of mediumship have higher dissociation symptom scores than non-mediums, but below thresholds for pathological dissociation [version 3; referees: 2 approved, 1 not approved]. *F1000Research*, 6:1416. doi: 10.12688/f1000research.12019.3

Researcher's Contacts:

Dean Radin, PhD
Institute of Noetic Sciences
101 San Antonio Road
Petaluma, Ca 94952

Email: dradin@noetic.org