Genomics Education Programme

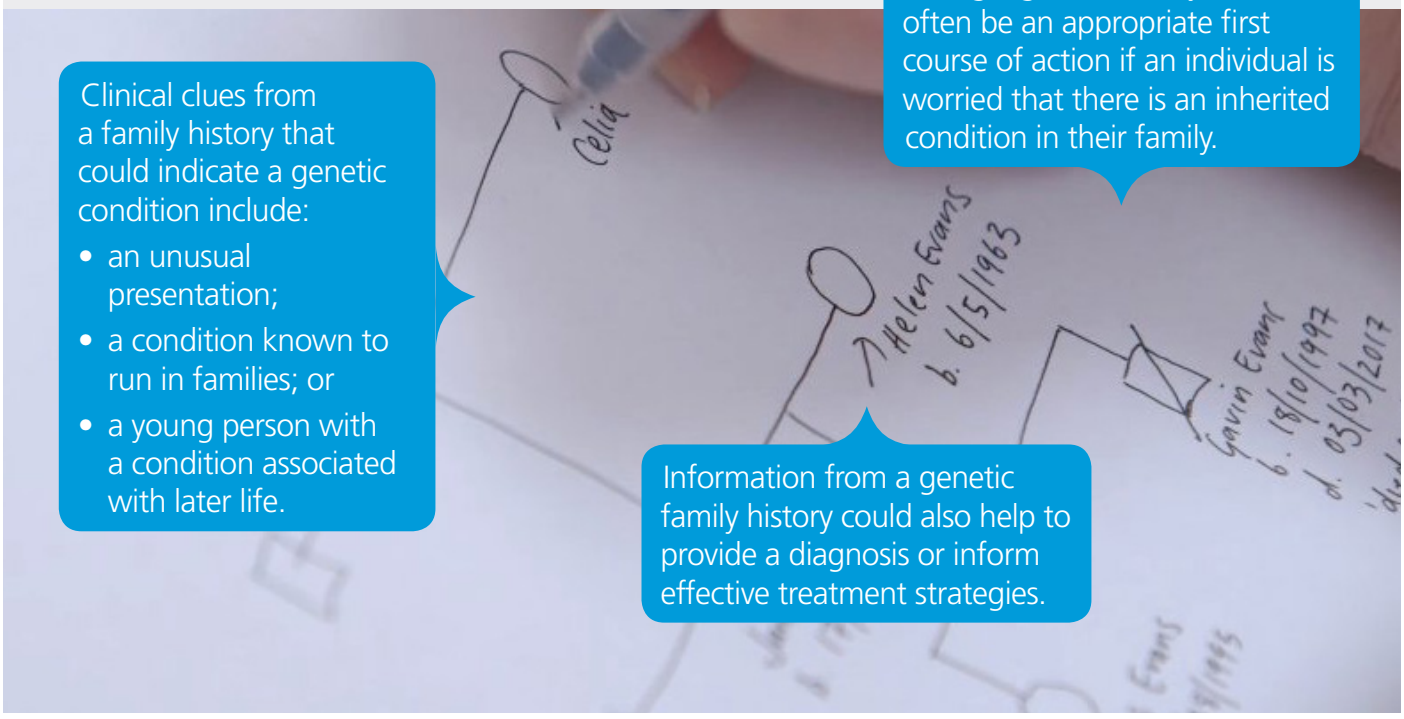
NHS
Health Education England

Family history and genomic medicine

Key facts

- A medical family history provides health information of an individual and their closest relatives.
- A genetic family history shows how family members are related to each other and any medical conditions they may have.
- It is usually presented in a pictorial diagram, using a collection of specific symbols and lines so that the diagram can be read by anyone.
- By drawing a genetic family history of an individual and their close family members, it may be possible to identify patterns or clues that could indicate an inherited condition.

Did you know?



Clinical clues from a family history that could indicate a genetic condition include:

- an unusual presentation;
- a condition known to run in families; or
- a young person with a condition associated with later life.

Taking a genetic family can often be an appropriate first course of action if an individual is worried that there is an inherited condition in their family.

Information from a genetic family history could also help to provide a diagnosis or inform effective treatment strategies.

Find out more

To view videos on how to take and draw a genetic family history, visit:
www.bit.ly/FamilyHistoryVids
To request a free family history template tool, email: **genomicseducation@hee.nhs.uk**

Developing people for health and healthcare

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